

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 21, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate John H. Holdridge, a Foreign Service Officer of Class One, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Singapore. He will succeed Edwin M. Cronk who is retiring from the Foreign Service.

Since 1973, Mr. Holdridge has been Deputy Chief of the United States Liaison Office in Peking, China. From 1969 to 1973 he was on the staff of the National Security Council at the White House. He became Deputy Director in 1966 of the Office of Research-Analysis for East Asia-Pacific and later Director, serving until 1969. In 1962 he was Chief of the Political Section, Hong Kong until 1966.

While serving at the Department of State from 1958 to 1962, Mr. Holdridge served successively as an International Relations Officer and then as Officer in Charge of Political Affairs, Office of Chinese Affairs. From 1956 to 1958, he was Chief of the Political Section, Singapore. He was a Political Officer in Hong Kong from 1953 to 1956. While in Bangkok, Thailand, he was an Information Officer from 1950 to 1953.

Mr. Holdridge was born on August 21, 1924, in New York, New York. He received his B.S. degree from the United States Military Academy in 1945. He served in the United States Army from 1942 to 1948, as a First Lieutenant. After entering the Foreign Service in 1948, he did additional graduate work at the Foreign Service Institute, and the Chinese Language and Area Study at Cornell University. He also studied at Harvard University.

Mr. Holdridge is married to the former Mary Jane McKelvey and they have three children.

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