

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 31, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Thomas R. Byrne, of Hatboro, Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. He will succeed Albert Sherer, Jr. who has been reassigned. Mr. Byrne was Ambassador to Norway from 1973 until March, 1976.

Mr. Byrne was born on February 4, 1923, in West Englewood, New Jersey. He received his A. B. in 1945 and M. A. in 1946 from Loyola University. He also holds a Ph. L. (1947) from West Baden University and a Ph. D. (1951) and M. A. (1952) from Georgetown University.

Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Mr. Byrne was a professor at Canisius College (1947-1948), a television director at NBC in New York (1951), administrative assistant to the Glass Bottle Blowers Union (1952-1954), professor at St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland (1955-1956), and research director of the Teamsters Union (1957-1959). During 1954-1955, he was a consultant on international trade union operations, Paris, OECD. From 1959 to 1962 he was Labor Attache at Accra, and from 1962 to 1964 he was Deputy Chief of Mission in Dar es Salaam. In 1964, he was assigned as Labor Attache in London, where he remained until 1969.

Mr. Byrne served as Deputy Coordinator of International Labor Affairs in the Office of the Secretary during 1970-1971, and became Special Assistant to the Director General for Employee Management Relations in 1971.

Mr. Byrne is married to the former Margaret McDevitt and they have six daughters.

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