

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 12, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Philip C. Habib, of San Francisco, California, a Foreign Service Officer of the Class of Career Minister, to be Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs. He will succeed Joseph John Sisco who resigned effective July, 1976, at which time he becomes President of American University. Mr. Habib has been Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs since September, 1974.

Born on February 25, 1920, in Brooklyn, New York, Ambassador Habib received his B.S. degree from the University of Idaho in 1942. He attended the University of Paris during 1942 and received his Ph.D. in 1952 from the University of California. After serving in the United States Army from 1942 to 1946, he became a Teaching Assistant at the University of California in 1947.

While serving as a career Foreign Service Officer, Ambassador Habib was an Assistant Agricultural Attache, an Economic Analyst and in 1960 to 1961, he served as the Officer-in-Charge for Under-Developed Areas in the Office of the Under Secretary's Special Assistant for Communist Economic Affairs. In 1967 he was a Political Officer, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, and from 1967 to 1969, he was Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs. From 1969 to 1971, he was Senior Advisor, with the Personal Rank of Ambassador, to the United States Delegation at the Paris Meetings on Vietnam. He served as Ambassador to Korea from 1971 to 1974.

Ambassador Habib is married to the former Marjorie W. Shlightham and they have two children, Phyllis and Susan.

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