

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 12, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
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The President today announced his intention to nominate Arthur W. Hummel, Jr., of Chevy Chase, Maryland, a Foreign Service Officer of the Class of Career Minister, to be an Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. He will succeed Philip C. Habib who is being nominated to be Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs. Mr. Hummel has been Ambassador to Ethiopia since 1975.

Born June 1, 1920, in China of American parents, Ambassador Hummel attended Antioch College from 1937 to 1939 and the College of Chinese Studies in Peking from 1940 to 1941. He received a master of arts degree in Chinese (Phi Beta Kappa) from the University of Chicago which he attended from 1947 to 1949.

Between 1938 and 1941, Ambassador Hummel worked successively as a hospital orderly, a salesman, and a laboratory assistant. He was teaching English in Peking, China, from 1940 to December 8, 1941, when he was interned by the Japanese. He escaped from the internment camp in 1944 and joined a unit of Chinese guerrillas, which he remained with, in Eastern China, until V-J Day, 1945. In 1945 and 1946, he worked as a Liaison Officer at Tientsin, China, for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. Also in 1946, he was a staff lecturer in New York City for United Service to China until 1947, when he entered the University of Chicago Graduate School.

Ambassador Hummel began his career with the Department of State in 1950 as a Foreign Affairs Officer. In 1952, he went to Hong Kong as Public Affairs Officer, and in 1955 he was transferred to Tokyo as the Deputy Public Affairs Officer. From 1957 to 1960, Ambassador Hummel served at Rangoon as Country Public Affairs Officer. He returned to Washington in 1960 and after attending the National War College was assigned as Deputy Director of the Voice of America. He served as Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs from 1963 to 1965, when he went to Taipei as Deputy Chief of Mission. From 1968 to 1971, he served as Ambassador to Burma. He was Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs beginning in 1971.

Ambassador Hummel is married to the former Betty Firstenberger.

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