

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 12, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Viron P. Vaky of Corpus Christi, Texas, a Foreign Service Officer of the Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Venezuela. He will succeed Harry Shlaudeman, who is being reassigned. Mr. Vaky has been serving as Ambassador to Colombia since 1974.

Born September 13, 1925, he received his B.S. degree from Georgetown University in 1947 and his M.A. degree from the University of Chicago in 1948. He served in the United States Army from 1943 to 1946. He was appointed to the Foreign Service in 1949 and his first assignment was Administrative, Consular and Economic Officer in Guayaquil.

From 1951 to 1955, he was Economic Officer in Buenos Aires. From 1955-58, he was Argentine Desk Officer at the State Department, and in 1958 and 1959, he was an Information Specialist in the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs.

In 1959, he was named Chief of the Political Section in Bogota, Colombia, and served in that post until 1967. In 1967 and 1968, he was a member of the Planning and Coordination Staff at the State Department, and in 1968, he was named Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, a post he held until 1970.

In 1969 and 1970, he was a member of the National Security Council staff. During 1970 and 1971, he was Diplomat-in-Residence at Georgetown University. In 1972, he was appointed Ambassador to Costa Rica, serving in that post until 1974.

He is married to the former Luann Colburn.

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