

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 2, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Walter J. Stoessel, Jr., of Santa Monica, California, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany. He will succeed Martin J. Hillenbrand who has resigned and who has agreed to remain at his post, at the President's request, until after the German national elections on October 3. Mr. Stoessel has been Ambassador to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics since December 1973.

Mr. Stoessel was born on January 24, 1920, in Manhattan, Kansas, and received his B.A. degree from Stanford University in 1941. He served in the United States Navy from 1944 to 1946. He did additional graduate work at Lausanne University during 1939-40 and at the University of Colorado during 1944-45.

In 1942, Mr. Stoessel joined the Foreign Service and was assigned to Caracas as Consular and later Economic and Political Officer. He was an assistant to the Country Specialist for Eastern European Affairs at the Department of State during 1946-47. He became Chief of the Consular Section in Moscow in 1948. He became Officer in Charge of USSR Affairs for the Bureau of European Affairs from 1952 to 1956. He was Special Assistant to the President's Advisor on Foreign Affairs beginning in 1956 and later during 1959-60, he attended the Harvard Center for International Affairs. He was Deputy Director and later Director of the Executive Secretariat for the State Department in 1961, prior to becoming a Political Officer for POLAD/SHAPE in Paris.

Mr. Stoessel is married to the former Mary Ferrandou and they have three children.

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