

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 9, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Melissa F. Wells, of Brewster, New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau and to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cape Verde. She will be the first American Ambassador appointed to serve in these countries which she will serve concurrently.

Mrs. Wells was born on November 18, 1932, in Tallinn, Estonia, and became a naturalized citizen in 1941. She received her B.S.F.S. degree from Georgetown University in 1956. During 1957-58, she was employed with the Bolivian Embassy in Washington, D.C.

From 1958 to 1961, Mrs. Wells was an Intelligence Research Specialist at the Department of State. She was assigned to the Port of Spain as a Political and Consular Officer in 1961 and served in Paris from 1964 to 1966 as a Economic-Commercial Officer. She went to London in 1967 as an Economic and Commercial Officer, prior to returning to the Department of State in 1971 as a Personnel Officer. She became an International Economist for the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs at the State Department in 1972, and was assigned as a Commercial Officer in Brasilia in 1975.

Mrs. Wells is married to Alfred W. Wells and they have three children.

# # #