

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

OCTOBER 29, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary  
-----THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Mary S. Olmsted, of Signal Mountain, Tennessee, to be Ambassador to Papua New Guinea. She will be the first United States Ambassador to Papua New Guinea.

Currently, Miss Olmsted is Charge d'Affaires, ad interim, in Port Moresby, after serving as Consul General in Port Moresby during 1974-75. From 1972 to 1974, she was Deputy Director of Personnel for Policy, Classification and Evaluation at the Department of State, after serving as Deputy Director for Personnel Management Services during 1971-72. She was detailed to the Office of Economic Opportunity from 1969 to 1971 and then served as a Supervisory Economic Officer at the Department from 1966 to 1969. She attended a Senior Seminar in Foreign Policy at the Foreign Service Institute during 1965-66. From 1960 to 1965, she was an Economic Officer in New Delhi.

Miss Olmsted went to the Department of State in 1958 to serve as an International Economist until 1960. She was on detail to the Department of Commerce during 1957-58 and later became an Intelligence Research Specialist during 1956-57. She was an Economic Officer in Vienna, Austria from 1951 to 1955. From 1949 to 1951, she was a Political Officer in Reykjavik, Iceland.

Miss Olmsted was born on September 28, 1919, in Duluth, Minnesota, and received her B.A. degree from Mount Holyoke College in 1941. She received her M.A. in 1945 from Columbia University. She was a statistician from 1941 to 1943 and later became a research assistant with the National Bureau of Economic Research in New York, New York from 1943 to 1945. She entered the Foreign Service in 1945.

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