

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FEBRUARY 10, 1969

FOR THE PRESS

NO. 30

U. ALEXIS JOHNSON SWORN IN AS  
UNDER SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS  
February 7, 1969

LIBRARY

U. Alexis Johnson, of California, a Career Ambassador in the Foreign Service, was sworn in Friday as Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs. Mr. Johnson served as United States Ambassador to Japan from October 10, 1966 until today.

Born on October 17, 1908 at Falun, Kansas, Mr. Johnson is a graduate of Occidental College (A.B. 1931) and studied at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service (1931-1932). In 1957 Occidental College granted him an LL.D. degree.

Mr. Johnson entered the Foreign Service in 1935 and was assigned to Tokyo as a Japanese language officer. He was transferred as Vice Consul to Seoul in 1937 and then temporarily to Tientsin in 1939. He was assigned to Mukden in 1940 where he was interned at the outbreak of World War II in 1941.

Mr. Johnson was exchanged in the summer of 1942 and was assigned to Rio de Janeiro. In 1944 he was assigned to the Army-Civil Affairs Training School Program and was posted to Manila in March 1945 as Consul.

At the time of the surrender of Japan he was assigned to General MacArthur's staff and served in Japan and Korea. In October of 1945 he was also assigned as American Consul at Yokohama and was named Consul General in 1947. He was decorated with the Medal of Freedom for his work in connection with the repatriation of prisoners of war and civilian internees from the Philippines, Japan and Korea.

In 1949 Mr. Johnson became Deputy Director of the Office of Northeast Asian Affairs in the Department of State, and subsequently Director of that office (1949-1951).

In 1951 he was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs. During this period he was also a member of the United States Delegation to the Japanese Peace

*America  
Bio Doc*

Treaty Conference at San Francisco.

In 1953 he was appointed by President Eisenhower as United States Ambassador to Czechoslovakia. During the following year he was detailed as Coordinator of the United States Delegation to the Geneva Conference on Korea and Indochina. In 1955, concurrent with his duties as Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, he was designated also as United States Representative to the Ambassadorial level talks with Communist China at Geneva.

Mr. Johnson served as Ambassador to Thailand, (1958-1961) and United States SEATO Council Representative. In May 1961 he was appointed Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs. He served as Deputy Ambassador to Viet-Nam from July 1, 1964 to September 27, 1965, when he was re-appointed as Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs.

In July 1964 he was appointed by the President to the permanent rank of Career Ambassador in the Foreign Service. He has also received the National Civil Service League's Career Service Award and the Rockefeller Public Service Award in the field of foreign affairs.

Mr. Johnson is married to the former Patricia Ann Tillman and they have four children: Judith (Mrs. Mason S. Zerbe, Jr.) of Omaha, Nebraska, Stephen Tillman, William Theodore of Washington, D. C., and Jennifer (Mrs. Maitri Moj dara) of Bangkok, Thailand. Stephen is a Foreign Service Officer presently serving at the Embassy in Saigon.

\* \* \* \*

# DEPARTMENT OF STATE

## FOR THE PRESS

Library Copy

MAY 2, 1961

NO. 280

### U. ALEXIS JOHNSON IS SWORN IN AS DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS

U. Alexis Johnson was sworn in at noon today as Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs. He succeeds Raymond Hare who has been named United States Ambassador to Turkey. Mr. Johnson served for three years as United States Ambassador to Thailand before his present appointment.

Born at Falun, Kansas, on October 17, 1908. Mr. Johnson attended Occidental College where he received his bachelor's degree in 1931. During the following school year he studied at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. Mr. Johnson was granted an LL.D. degree by Occidental in 1957.

After working for three years in private business following the completion of his studies at Georgetown, Mr. Johnson joined the Foreign Service in 1935, and was assigned to Tokyo as a Japanese language officer. He was transferred to Seoul two years later and then reassigned to Tientsin in 1939. During the next year Mr. Johnson was transferred to Mukden where he was interned at the outbreak of war in 1941.

He was exchanged in the summer of 1942 and assigned to Rio de Janeiro. In 1944 he was assigned to the Army Civil Affairs Training School Program and, immediately following the fall of Manila, was assigned in March 1945 as Consul in that city.

At the time of the surrender of Japan he was assigned to General MacArthur's staff and served in Japan and Korea. In October of 1945 he was also assigned as American Consul at Yokohama and was named Consul General in 1947. He was decorated with the Medal of Freedom for his work with General MacArthur's headquarters in connection with the repatriation of prisoners of war and civilian internees from the Philippines, Japan and Korea.

In 1949 Mr. Johnson became Deputy Director of the Office of North-east Asian Affairs in the Department of State, and subsequently Director of that Office.

In 1951 he was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs. During this period he was also a member of the United States Delegation to the Japanese Peace Treaty Conference at San Francisco.

In 1953 he was appointed by President Eisenhower as United States Ambassador to Czechoslovakia. During the following year he was detailed as Coordinator of the United States Delegation to the Geneva Conference on Korea and Indochina. In 1955, concurrent with his duties as Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, he was designated also as United States Representative to the Ambassadorial level talks with Communist China at Geneva.

Mr. Johnson was named Ambassador to Thailand and United States SEATO Council Representative in 1958.

Mr. Johnson

Library Copy

Mr. Johnson is married to the former Patricia Ann Tillman and they have four children: Jennifer, William, Stephen and Judith (Mrs. Mason S. Zerve, Jr., of Omaha, Nebraska). Stephen has recently been appointed to the Foreign Service and is now a student at the Foreign Service Institute of the State Department.

\* \* \*

State--RD, Wash., D.C.