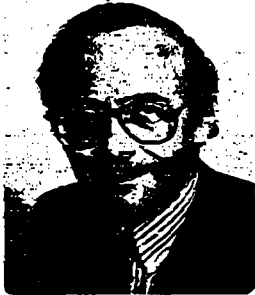
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of
SectionBritish Embassy
Washington3100 Massachusetts Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20008-3600Telephone: (202) 462-1340
Facsimile: (202) 898-4273Sir John Kerr, KCMG
HM Ambassador
to the United States

Sir John Kerr is a Scot, born in Grantown-on-Spey in February 1942 and educated at Glasgow Academy and Pembroke College, Oxford.

He joined the Foreign Service in 1965 and served in the Foreign Office from 1966 to 1967, in Moscow from 1967 to 1968 and in Rawalpindi from 1969 to 1971. Promoted to First Secretary in 1971, he worked on NATO issues in the FCO from 1972 to 1974, accompanying the then Defence Secretary, Lord Carrington, to meetings of the NATO Defence Planning Committee and Nuclear Planning Group. His first official visits to Washington date from this period: he worked with the Department of Defense on NATO papers on tactical nuclear weapons.

After serving in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as Private Secretary to successive Permanent Under-Secretaries (Lord Brimelow and Sir Michael Palliser) from 1974, he was seconded in 1979 to head the Defence Division in HM Treasury. From 1981 to 1984 he served as Principal Private Secretary to successive Chancellors of the Exchequer (then Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr Lawson), visiting Washington for meetings of the IMF and its Interim Committee (which Sir Geoffrey Howe chaired).

As Head of Chancery and Politico-Military Counsellor, he served in the Washington Embassy from 1984 to 1987, accompanying the Prime Minister, then Mrs Thatcher, at the 1984 and 1986 Camp David meetings with President Reagan.

He returned to the FCO in 1987, as the Assistant Under-Secretary responsible for European Community matters, and moved to Brussels in 1990 to be the United Kingdom Permanent Representative to the European Union. He was the Foreign Secretary's Personal Representative in the Inter-Governmental Conferences which negotiated the Maastricht Treaty in 1991, and was Chairman of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in the UK Presidency in 1992.

He returned to Washington, as Ambassador, on 1 September 1995.

In 1965 he married Elizabeth Mary Kalaugher. They have two sons (born in 1967 and 1968) and three daughters (1970 and - twins - 1976). From 1984 to 1987 the twins attended Annunciation School on Massachusetts Avenue NW.

September 1995

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