Biographies of Non-Cabinet Members Who Regularly Attended Cabinet Meetings during the Gerald R. Ford Presidency, 1974-1977

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View biographies A-G

These press release biographies are from the White House Press Release Unit Files or the Presidential Personnel Office Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced the appointment of Rogers C. B. Morton, of Easton, Maryland, as Counsellor to the President with Cabinet rank. He has been Secretary of Commerce since May 1, 1975.

Secretary Morton's duties will encompass several areas of responsibility in domestic and economic policy. He will retain his membership on the Economic Policy Board, the Energy Resources Council and the Domestic Council. He will also direct the liaison with the Republican National Committee and the President Ford Committee. In addition, the Secretary will be available to take on such specific assignments as the President may direct.

Born on September 19, 1914, in Louisville, Kentucky, Secretary Morton received his B.A. degree from Yale University in 1937. He served with the United States Army from 1943 to 1945, attaining the rank of Captain.

Secretary Morton was elected to the 88th Congress from Maryland's First District in 1962 and subsequently elected to the 89th through 92nd Congresses. He was Secretary of the Interior from January, 1971 until May, 1975. He also served as Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

While serving in the Congress, Secretary Morton was a member of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs (1963-1968), the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries (1963-68), the Select Committee on Small Business (1967-68) and from 1969 until he became Secretary of the Interior, he was a member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Secretary Morton is married to the former Anne Jones and they have two children.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced the appointment of Ron Nessen of Maryland as Press Secretary to the President.

Mr. Nessen joined the staff of United Press International in Washington in 1956, working there until 1962, when he joined the National Broadcasting Company.

His first NBC assignment was in Washington, where he served from 1962-65 as a White House correspondent during the term of President Johnson. He was assigned to Southeast Asia by NBC in 1965 and covered Vietnam until he was wounded by a grenade fragment in 1966. He returned to Washington and later that year was assigned to New York, where he anchored a weekly Vietnam television report and a five-minute daily Vietnam report on the "Today" show.

In 1967, Mr. Nessen received a series of foreign assignments from NBC, covering Latin America, Asia, Africa and then London. He returned to the United States, where he covered the Presidential campaign of 1968. After that, he was based in Washington, specializing in urban affairs. When Gerald Ford became Vice President, Mr. Nessen was assigned to cover most of the 118,000 miles traveled by the Vice President. When President Ford took office in August, 1974, Mr. Nessen became NBC's White House correspondent.

He was born in Washington, D. C., May 25, 1934. Mr. Nessen attended American University, where he majored in history.

He is married to the former Young Hi Song of Seoul, South Korea, and has two children, Edward, 1 1/2, and Caren, 18. The Nessens live in Bethesda, Maryland.

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced the appointment of Warren S. Rustand of Tucson, Arizona as Appointments Secretary to the President. He had served as Director of Scheduling and Advance Operations on the staff of the Vice President since December 18, 1973.

From 1970 to 1973, Mr. Rustand was President of Executive Analysts, Inc., of Tucson, Arizona, an asset management firm. In 1969, he became President of Warren Rustand Associates, an insurance and mutual funds company. From 1965 to 1968, he was a faculty member at the University of Arizona and was a high draft choice of the San Francisco Warriors and played basketball for the Phillips 66'ers.

He was born in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, on January 3, 1943. Mr. Rustand received his B.S. degree in 1965 and his M.A. degree in 1971 from the University of Arizona. He was selected as an All-American basketball player and received the Merrill Freeman Award as the University's outstanding graduate.

Prior to coming to Washington, Mr. Rustand was a member of the Board of Directors of the Tucson Y. M. C. A., Chairman of the Recreation Planning Commission and member of the Master Planning Commission.

He is married to the former Carson Boice of Phoenix, Arizona and they have three children. They reside in McLean, Virginia.



THE WHITE HOUSE

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON LIEUTENANT GENERAL BRENT SCOWCROFT

General Scowcroft has been Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs since April 6, 1973.

General Scowcroft was born in Cgden, Utah, on March 19, 1925. He was educated in Ogden City schools then received an appointment to the United States Military Academy, at West Point, New York, where he graduated in 1947. He received a master's degree in 1953 and a doctorate in 1967 in international relations from Columbia University; attended Lafayette College, Georgetown University School of Language and Linguistics, Armed Forces Staff College, and the National War College.

He graduated from pilot training in October, 1948, and then served in a variety of operational and administrative positions from 1948 to 1953. In July 1953 he was assigned to the Department of Social Sciences at the U.S. Military Academy, where he was appointed assistant professor of Russian history. He remained there until August, 1957, when he entered the Strategic Intelligence School in Washington, D. C.

From June, 1959, to August, 1961, General Scowcroft was assigned as Assistant Air Attache in the American Embassy, Belgrade, Yugoslavia. He then returned to the United States and entered the Armed Forces Staff College. In February, 1962, he was transferred to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado and served as professor and Acting Head of the Political Science Department.

From September, 1964 to June, 1966, General Scowcroft was assigned to Headquarters U.S. Air Force in the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Plans and Operations, and served in the Long Range Planning Division, Directorate of Doctrine, Concepts and Chiectives. He next attended the National War College at Fort McNair, Washington, D. C.

General Scowcroft was assigned in July, 1968, to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs and served in the Western Hemisphere Region. In September, 1969, he was reassigned to Headquarters U.S. Air Force in the Directorate of Plans as Deputy Assistant for National Security Council Matters. In March, 1970, he joined the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and became the Special Assistant to the Director of the Joint Staff.

General Scowcroft served as Military Assistant to the President from February, 1972, until August, 1973.

He has an aeronautical rating as pilot, and his military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal (Air Force design) with one oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

General Scowcroft is married to the former Marian Horner. They have one daughter.

THE WHITE HOUSE

L. WILLIAM SEIDMAN Biographical Data

L. William Seidman has been Assistant to the President for Economic Affairs, Executive Director of the Economic Policy Board and a member of the Energy Resources Council since September 28, 1974.

Prior to these appointments, Mr. Seidman was Assistant to the Vice President for Administration in the Office of Vice President Gerald R. Ford. Before entering government service, he was National Managing Partner of Seidman & Seidman, Certified Public Accountants in Grand Rapids, Michigan. From 1963 to 1968, he was Special Assistant on Financial Affairs to the Governor of Michigan. He was a member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Detroit Branch) and its Chairman in 1970.

Mr. Seidman was born on April 29, 1921, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He received his A.B. degree (Phi Beta Kappa) in 1943 and his LL.B. degree in 1948 from Harvard Law School. He received an M.B.A. degree from the University of Michigan in 1949. He served in the United States Naval Reserve as a Lieutenant from 1942 to 1946.

He is married to the former Sarah Berry and they have six children. They reside in McLean, Virginia.

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced the appointment of Mary Louise Smith, of Des Moines, Iowa, as a member of the National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year, 1975. She succeeds Barbara Walters who resigned effective July 18, 1975.

Mrs. Smith is the Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

The Commission was established by Executive Order No. 11832 of January 9, 1975 and consists of not more than 35 members appointed by the President from among citizens in private life. In addition, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives were invited to designate two Members of each House to serve on the Commission.

The purpose of the Commission is to promote the national observation in the United States of International Women's Year, 1975.

The Commission shall conclude its work by the end of the year 1975 and make a report to the President within 30 days thereafter. The Commission shall then be terminated.

Office of the Wnite House Press Cacretary (Key Biscayne, Florida)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WILLIAM E. TIMMONS Biographical Data

William E. Timmons has been a member of the White House Staff since January of 1969, and served as Director of Congressional Relations for the Nixon-Agnew Campaign in 1968. Mr. Timmons was Deputy Assistant to the President for Congressional Relations from 1969 to 1970, when he became Assistant to the President for Congressional Relations.

Mr. Timmons was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, on December 27, 1930, and was educated at Georgetown and George Washington Universities in Washington, D.C. He served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean conflict.

From 1955 to 1962 he was an aide to the late Senator Alexander Wiley, and from 1962 to 1968 was Administrative Assistant to Congressman William Brock. Long active in Party affairs, Bill was selected the "Outstanding Young Republican" by the national Young Republicans in 1965. He holds memberships in, and is a past officer of, many fraternal, service and social organizations.

Mr. Timmons is married to the former Mimi Bakshian. They have three children and reside in Bethesda, Maryland.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Russell E. Train to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency. He will succeed William D. Ruckelshaus, who resigned April 30, 1973, to become Acting Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Robert E. Fri, Deputy Administrator of EPA, has served as Acting Administrator since that time.

Mr. Train became the first Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality on February 9, 1970. As Chairman of the CEQ, Mr. Train heads the U.S. side of the U.S.-USSR Joint Committee on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection, and has represented the U.S. at a number of international environmental conferences.

From February 7, 1969, until he became Chairman of the CEQ, Mr. Train was Under Secretary of the Interior. He served from 1965 1969 as President of the Conservation Foundation. He was also Vice President of the World Wilflife Fund (1959-69) and the President of the African Wildlife Leadership Foundation (1959-69). From his appointment by President Eisenhower in 1957 until 1965, Mr. Train was a Judge of the Tax Court of the United States.

He was born on June 4, 1920, in Jamestown, Rhode Island. Mr. Train received his A.B. degree in 1941 from Princeton University and his LL.B from Columbia University in 1948. He served as an officer in the U.S. Army from 1941 to 1946. From 1949 to 1956 Mr. Train served on the staffs of several Congressional committees and from 1956 to 1957 he was Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Train is married to the former Aileen Bowdoin. They have four children and reside in Washington, D. C.



THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Frank G. Zarb of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Federal Energy Administration. He will succeed John T. Sawhill who has resigned.

Mr. Zarb is currently Associate Director of the Office of Management and Budget and Executive Director of the Energy Resources Council. Prior to assuming his present positions, he was in charge of OMB's Management and Operations activities.

Mr. Zarb joined the Administration in 1971 as Assistant Secretary of Labor, after serving as Executive Vice President and Chairman of the Executive Committee of Hayden Stone, Inc.

Mr. Zarb was born on February 17, 1935 in New York City. He received his B.B.A. degree from Hofstra University in 1957 and M.A. degree in 1961 also from Hofstra. In 1974, the faculty of Hofstra conferred the University's Distinguished Scholar Award to Mr. Zarb.

He is married to the former Patricia Koster and they have two children. They reside in McLean, Virginia.