

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 24, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced that he will appoint Donald Rumsfeld as Assistant to the President with Cabinet rank and with responsibility for the coordination of White House operations.

Mr. Rumsfeld is presently U. S. Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) with the rank and status of Ambassador, a position he has held since February 1973. He will assume his duties on Friday while concurrently completing his assignment in Brussels over the coming month.

Born on July 9, 1932, in Chicago, Mr. Rumsfeld was elected to Congress from Illinois' 13th Congressional District in 1962 and was re-elected three times. From 1969 to 1973, he served in various executive positions, including Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity, Counsellor to the President, and Director of the Cost of Living Council during Phase II.

After graduation from Princeton University in 1954, Mr. Rumsfeld served in the U. S. Navy as a pilot and flight instructor. He was also associated with an investment banking firm in Chicago prior to his first election to Congress.

Mr. Rumsfeld is married to the former Joyce Pierson and they have three children.

The President plans to nominate a successor for Ambassador Rumsfeld in the near future.

# # #