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Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

The President today announced his intention to nominate Army Vice Chief of Staff General Fred C. Weyand to be Chief of Staff of the United States Army. He will succeed General Creighton W. Abrams who died on September 4, 1974.

General Weyand was born in Arbuckle, California, on September 15, 1916. He was commissioned a second lieutenant on graduation from ROTC at the University of California in Berkeley in 1938 and entered on active duty in December 1940. In 1944 and 1945, he served successively in India, Burma and China. During the Korean conflict, he served with the 3rd Infantry Division in 1950 and 1951 as a battlefield commander and operations officer. From 1954 to 1957, he served as military assistant and executive officer to the Secretary of the Army.

From 1958 to 1960, General Weyand was assigned in West Berlin as a commander of U. S. troops and then in France as Chief of Staff for the principal U. S. Army logistics command in Europe. He then served as the Army Chief of Legislative Liaison. From 1964 to 1967, General Weyand commanded the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii and in South Vietnam. He served as Military Advisor to Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, the Chairman of the U. S. Delegation engaged in the early stages of negotiation with the Hanoi Delegation in Paris, France in 1969 and early 1970.

He returned to Vietnam in September 1970 as Deputy Commander of the U. S. Military Assistance Command. In June 1972, he succeeded General Abrams as Commander, USMACV, and was responsible for the final disengagement and return of the U. S. forces to the United States. In March 1973, after withdrawal of U. S. forces from the Republic of Vietnam, he assumed command of the United States Army, Pacific. General Weyand was sworn in as the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army on August 1, 1973.

He is married to the former Arline Langhart and they have three children.

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