Patricia J. Matson is assistant press secretary to the First Lady.

Prior to joining the White House staff, Miss Matson served as administrative aide to Rep. John Y. McCollister (R-Nebr.), with administrative duties in an office of ten and responsibility for press relations. She came to Washington, D.C. in March, 1971 as press aide for Congressman McCollister.

Her previous experience includes three-and-a-half years with Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. in Omaha, Nebr., as editor of a bi-weekly, five-state newspaper and supervisor of a staff of six in a three-state area, and as a writer-photographer for the company's magazine; and a year as associate communications director for the Omaha National Bank.

Miss Matson graduated with distinction with a B.S. in Journalism from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1966. She was the 1973 recipient of the University's Journalism Alumni Award and won the Republican Communications Association Award for Innovation in Congressional Communications for the McCollister office in 1973.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Matson of Omaha, she was born Sept. 3, 1945 in Peoria, Ill. She lives in Washington, D.C.

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