

# Mann Reported Quitting State Dept. After Latin Area 'Hard-Line' Career

By Robert H. Estabrook  
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Under Secretary of State  
Thomas C. Mann, the No. 3  
official in the State Depart-  
ment whose economic views  
on Latin America have

brought him a controversial  
reputation as a hard-liner, is  
planning to resign shortly, it  
was reported yesterday.

Mann, a 53-year-old career  
diplomat from Laredo, Tex.,  
is understood to want to re-  
tire from the Foreign Service  
for reasons of health and to  
have submitted his resigna-  
tion to President Johnson.

There has been no indica-  
tion from the White House  
whether the resignation has  
been accepted or, if so, when  
it will be effective. Mann was  
picked personally by Presi-  
dent Johnson as Under Secre-  
tary for Economic Affairs in  
March, 1965, after 14 months  
as Assistant Secretary for In-  
ter-American Affairs.

Despite frequent criticism  
of some of his policies toward  
Latin America, Mann is said  
not to want to leave on this  
account. He has told friends  
that if criticism were the only  
consideration he would stay  
and "take the lumps."

But he has said that he is  
genuinely tired after long  
hours in positions of exacting  
responsibility, and that he  
would like to take a long va-  
cation and then write a book.

Mann is known to have first



United Press International  
THOMAS C. MANN  
reportedly quitting

submitted his resignation  
three and one-half years ago  
when he was serving as Presi-  
dent Kennedy's Ambassador  
to Mexico.

Particularly Mann is said to  
reject the implication that he  
is resigning because of dis-  
agreement with other top offi-  
cials of the State Department.

See MANN, A6, Col. 2

He is reported to be on good  
terms with Secretary Rusk  
and Under Secretary George  
Ball.

There were some frictions  
between Mann and Jack Hood  
Vaughn, former Assistant Sec-  
retary for Inter-American Af-  
fairs who recently became di-  
rector of the Peace Corps.  
But Mann is said to get along  
well with Vaughn's succes-  
sor, Lincoln Gordon.

Much of the criticism has  
been directed at what some  
have regarded as Mann's over-  
strict standards for economic  
aid, an overfondness for pri-  
vate enterprise and some ten-  
dency to excuse dictatorial re-  
gimes in Latin America.

## Diplomats Complain

Foreign diplomats have oc-  
casionally complained that his  
abhorrence of communism  
sometimes led him into un-  
sympathetic positions toward  
left-wing democratic govern-  
ments.

He has been accused of be-  
ing a key figure in the Bay of  
Pigs operation in 1961, of hav-  
ing been instrumental in the  
decision to send Marines to  
the Dominican Republic last  
year, and more recently of  
having upset an accord at  
Panama on revision of the  
inter-American charter.

Mann has emphatically re-  
jected many of these charges.  
Arthur Schlesinger recounts  
in "A Thousand Days" a re-  
mark by Mann at a critical  
White House meeting that he  
would have opposed the Cuban  
invasion at the start although  
he then favored going ahead.

Mann also has denied that  
he made the decision to go into  
the Dominican Republic. Al-  
though he supported the Presi-  
dent's course, he once re-

marked that in retrospect he thought the American action premature.

**Worked on Wording**

On the recent controversy in Panama, State Department aides say that Mann did not get into the act until a late stage, and that his role was

confined to trying to devise language that both Congress and the Latin Americans would accept.

Mann has not hidden his conviction that in some Latin American situations there has been no alternative to military governments as the base

for stability and reform. He has been critical of former President Juan Bosch in the Dominican Republic.

At the same time he has repeatedly stated his belief that tax reform and family planning are the two most urgent needs in Latin America. He

has insisted on self-help as a prerequisite for American aid.

Mann, a law graduate of Baylor University, joined the Foreign Service in 1942 as special assistant to the American Ambassador in Uruguay. His service was almost entirely in Latin American affairs

until he went to Greece as counselor of embassy in 1953.

Subsequently appointed counselor in Guatemala, he cooperated closely with the successful Central Intelligence Agency operation to oust the leftist regime of Col. Jacobo Arbenz Guzman.

In addition to serving as Assistant Secretary for Economic Affairs and as Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs on two separate occasions, Mann has been Ambassador to El Salvador and to Mexico.