

Educator John Hannah Is Named to Head AID

By Warren Unna

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Michigan State University President John A. Hannah has been selected by the Nixon Administration to head the U.S. foreign aid program.

It was also learned that Harvard economics professor Raymond Vernon will be named to the newly recreated job of Deputy Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs.

Hannah, 66, has been president of Michigan State University for the past 27 years and is a year past regular retirement.

Hannah also has enjoyed a long acquaintance with President Nixon. He served as As-

sistant Secretary of Defense for manpower during the early years of the Eisenhower Administration and more recently has been chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission and a member of the President's Council of Equal Opportunity.

But, more pertinent to his present appointment, Hannah is regarded as the academic pioneer in involving universities in the Government's foreign aid program so that Government could benefit from academic expertise and the universities could expand their international horizons.

Hannah's university was the

first to undertake Government contracts in South Vietnam to help build up the nation under the late President Ngo Dinh Diem. Currently, his university has active programs in the Philippines, Thailand, Nigeria, Vietnam, Pakistan and India.

Hannah also has had a personal working relationship with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee which must approve his nomination as administrator of the Agency for International Development. He conducted an Asian study for the committee in the spring

of 1957.

Since the foreign aid program has been under severe attack by Congress in recent years, and most recently by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the Nixon Administration will be needing a friend in court.

Hannah is to succeed AID Administrator William S. Gaud, who resigned after seven years in top AID jobs under the Democratic Administration.

Hannah, in turn, is to be succeeded as MSU President by G. Mennen Williams, a former Governor of Michigan, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs and, currently, Ambassador to the Philippines.

Vernon, 55, was being interviewed by State Department officials yesterday for the recreated job of the department's top economist.

Recently, there had been a Deputy Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs, usually the Foreign Service's top career diplomat. But the incumbent, Charles E. Bohlen, retired, and his functions are being absorbed by U. Alexis Johnson in the new post of Under Secretary for Political Affairs.

Vernon also is no stranger to Washington. He was a statistician with the Securities and Exchange Commission during President Roosevelt's New Deal days and later moved to the State Department's Office of Economic Defense and Trade Policy.

He is considered an expert on tariffs, a key problem in his proposed job, and has had extensive experience with economic issues in Japan and Mexico. Vernon has been director of Harvard's Development Advisory Service since 1962, as well as acting director of Harvard's Center for International Affairs.

Also yesterday, Agriculture Secretary Clifford M. Hardin formally announced four previously reported appointments: James V. Smith, former Oklahoma Congressman, to be Administrator of the Farmers Home Administration; Everett G. Weitzell, a career Agriculture employe, to be deputy administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration; Roy W. Lennartson, another career man, to be Administrator of the Consumer and Marketing Service; and E. F. Behrens, Hardin's transition representative and former staff member of the Senate Government Operations Committee, to be the Secretary's executive assistant.