

Strausz-Hupe Named New Envoy to Sweden

By Carroll Kilpatrick
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Nixon yesterday announced that he would nominate Robert Strausz-Hupe to be the new ambassador.

Strausz-Hupe, a former ambassador to Ceylon and now ambassador to Belgium, is regarded as an extreme conservative, yet the left-of-center Swedish government agreed to accept him in order to restore normal relations.

In Stockholm, Premier Olof Palme said: "It has always been our wish that there should be normal diplomatic relations between Sweden and the United States. We therefore greet with satisfaction the American decision to appoint an ambassador to Stockholm."

In return, Palme announced the appointment of Count Wilhelm Wachtmeister, a 50-year-old career diplomat, as ambassador to the United States.

In Brussels, Strausz-Hupe said that his nomination "signifies the mutual desire for normal relations between our two countries."

The United States and Sweden have not exchanged ambassadors since 1972. In December, 1972, after Palme compared the American bombing of North Vietnam to Nazi atrocities in World War II, Mr. Nixon recalled the U.S. charge d'affaires in Stockholm and informed the Swedish government that he would not accept a new Swedish ambassador.

Ingve Moeller, a Social Democratic newspaperman, had been designated then as ambassador.

In 1969, Strausz-Hupe was President Nixon's first choice to be ambassador to Morocco, but Chairman J. W. Fulbright (D-Ark.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee blocked confirmation on the grounds that Strausz-Hupe was a Vietnam hawk and right-winger.

The President withdrew the nomination and then nominated Strausz-Hupe to be ambassador to Ceylon.

He is a native of Austria who became an American citizen in 1938. He will be 71 years old on Monday.