

A Kissinger Aide To Be Replaced

Washington

George Vest, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's special assistant for press affairs and his main spokesman, is being replaced after less than six months in the post.

Sources said yesterday Vest is leaving because of health problems caused by job pressures and because Kissinger appeared unable to delegate full responsibility for dealing with the press to the spokesman.

The State Department said in a brief statement that Kissinger himself made the decision to replace Vest. The statement said Robert Anderson, a career Foreign Service officer and ambassador to Dahomey, will succeed Vest.

Kissinger is considered by his aides as an extremely difficult man to work for, and is said to feel he is his own best press secretary.

Vest was not included in policy-making enough to provide newsmen with con-

stantly meaningful information, these sources said. Nevertheless, they stated that Kissinger held Vest strictly responsible for resulting problems in press relations.

For example, three weeks ago Kissinger made critical remarks about European leaders to a group of congressional wives not knowing that reporters were listening.

Sources say the secretary became extremely angry after realizing the reporters were present and accused the press office of stabbing him in the back.

Vest, 55, was named to head the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs.

Vest's predecessor as press spokesman, Charles W. Bray, resigned his position at the time of Kissinger's nomination because of disagreement over the new secretary's style and method of conducting business.

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