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New Man On Ford Staff

Washington

President Ford added a Harvard professor to his White House legal staff yesterday and elevated a onetime law partner to cabinet rank.

Acting press secretary John W. Hushen said Phillip E. Areeda, a Harvard professor since 1961, will become counsel to the President on October 14, serving until then as a part-time consultant.

Philip W. Buchen, the former law partner who holds the title of counsel to the President, was given cabinet rank by Mr. Ford.

Hushen said Buchen, who played a major role in events leading to the pardon for former President Nixon, will continue to report directly to Mr. Ford, while Areeda will report to the President through Buchen.

Areeda is described as an expert on antitrust law, but Hushen said this wasn't the reason for the appointment. He said Areeda will be "a prime assistant to Mr. Buchen in all areas."

Areeda, 44, was an assistant special counsel to President Dwight D. Eisenhower and in 1969 served as executive director of the cabinet task force on oil import control.

Mr. Ford also named holdover White House aide William J. Baroody Jr. as a presidential assistant and placed him in charge of a new office of Public Liaison.

Baroody will provide White House liaison with such major non-governmental organizations as farm, labor, veteran, business and consumer groups, a spokesman said.

Associated Press