

Kissinger Sworn Into Cabinet

By John P. Wallach
Examiner Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Henry A. Kissinger was sworn in yesterday as the nation's first foreign-born naturalized secretary of state at what President Nixon called a "watershed time in American foreign policy."

In a moving White House ceremony, Nixon praised Kissinger as "superbly qualified" for the "historic opportunity" of building a structure of peace.

Kissinger was flanked by his white-haired father, Louis, and his short, red-haired mother, both of whom fled Germany to escape Nazi persecution in 1938.

"There is no country in the world where a man of my origin could be standing here next to the President of the United States," Kissinger said beaming at the large and enthusiastic crowd of cabinet officials, diplomats and friends of the Kissinger family.

The only conspicuous absence was that of Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, who previously indicated he would attend. There was no explanation for the Vice President's absence.

"The Old Testament Bible on which Kissinger took his oath of office from Chief Justice Warren Burger was held by his father as his two children, Elizabeth, 14, and David, 11, of Boston, watched.

"If my origin can contribute anything," Kissinger said, "I have seen at an early age what a society torn apart by hatred and mistrust is like ... and what America means to the rest of the world. America has never been true to itself unless it meant something beyond itself," Kissinger said standing almost directly under large paintings of the nation's founding father, George Washington and his wife, Martha.

"In five years we have

gone through some turbulent times," Kissinger said, "but the objective of this administration has never wavered.

"When we speak of a structure of peace, we mean a world which has not just eased tensions but overcome them ... not just used strength but justice as well ... not sought to find a balance but an equilibrium in the world."

Difficult Peace

Nixon said Kissinger was assuming office at a time "when keeping the peace is as difficult as getting the peace."

The Chief Executive kidded Kissinger about the rough time he had in confirmation hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"I'm sure he must have felt like Winston Churchill, who once said, 'The most exhilarating thing in life is to be shot at without result,'" Nixon said.

The Senate committee,

with only one dissenting vote approved Kissinger's nomination and the full Senate confirmed his appointment Friday by a 78-7 vote.

The crowd in the East Room interrupted the brief ceremony several times with applause.

The happy mood was a striking contrast to the recent somber attack and counter-attack sparked by the Watergate investigations. Kissinger's first major speech as secretary of state is scheduled for the United Nations tomorrow. He also expects next month to take a trip to China that was postponed from mid-August.

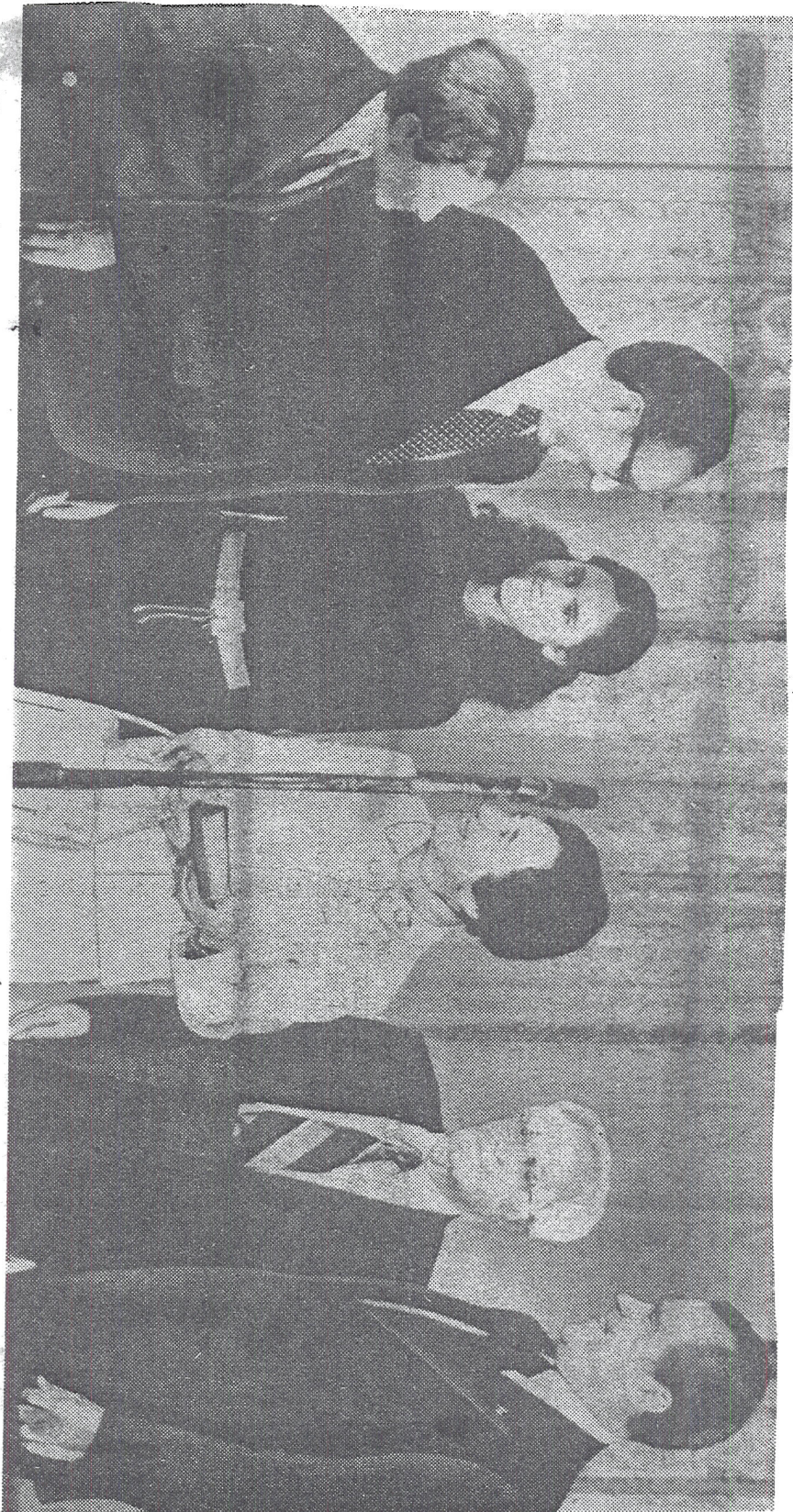
Career

The new secretary of state will be feted in New York Tuesday night at a dinner hosted by many of the world's leading foreign ministers.

Kissinger's appointment is the culmination of a career that took him from Harvard

professor to chief foreign affairs advisor to New York Gov. Nelson Rockefeller during the governor's presidential campaigns and later to the number one White House foreign policy post.

Nixon cited the fact that Kissinger was the first secretary of state "who has already been to Moscow and Peking," and jokingly said he is "the first secretary since World War II who doesn't part his hair."



—AP Photo
President Nixon and the new secretary of state, Henry A. Kissinger, posed for pictures yesterday in the East Room of the White House with members of Kissinger's family just after he was sworn in. From left are his son, David; daughter, Elizabeth; his mother, Mrs. Paula Kissinger and his father, Louis Kissinger. Story on Page 8.