

# Nitze, a Democrat, Scheduled for Key Pentagon Post

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 8—In a move that may affect the balance of influence on national security issues within the Administration, President Nixon is expected to nominate Paul H. Nitze to a high Pentagon post next week.

Mr. Nitze, 66 years old and a lifelong Democrat with wide experience in government, is scheduled for the job of Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs or head of what is known as the "Pentagon's State Department."

The appointment is expected by some Congressmen and others in Washington to strengthen the Pentagon's hand in the Congress, where Mr. Nitze is regarded as a strong advocate of increased defense spending, and against the State Department.

He is expected to be another skeptic in the Administration, along with Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger, of Secretary of State. Kissinger's policy of giving relations with the Soviet Union and China, top priority in foreign affairs.

### Containment Doctrine

One of the framers of the original containment doctrine during the Truman Administration, Mr. Nitze is well known for his belief that relations with Communist superpowers are inherently unstable and competitive, and that Communist countries ultimately respond only to strength.

Some of his former associates believe that he will argue for again giving relations with the North Atlantic Treaty allies and Japan top priority in foreign policy. The Nixon Administration's relations with this country's principal allies have been strained over the last five years, in part because they have been bypassed in the increasing direct contacts with Moscow and Peking.



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**Paul H. Nitze**

Given Mr. Nixon's views, there has been speculation among those in the Congress who have known of the impending appointment about its significance.

Does it signify a shift in President Nixon's own thinking about foreign policy priorities? Is it a move not to shift, but to balance the Kissinger views? Did the President have much to say about the appointment or was it something that Mr. Schlesinger insisted on? Or is the move without policy significance and merely one that makes use of Mr. Nitze's long-established expertise.

### Opposed Vietnam War

One former colleague of Mr. Nitze called him "the smartest, most knowledgeable hawk in town." Whatever his reputation as a hawk, he was one of the earlier opponents of the Vietnam war. As a high Pentagon official during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, he argued that the Vietnamese should fight their own war and that direct participation by the United States

weakened its position in the rest of the world.

With his experience as vice chairman of a United States strategic bombing survey conducted after World War II, Mr. Nitze also argued against the prevailing belief in the effectiveness of bombing North Vietnam into submission.

Mr. Nitze is a member of the American delegation at the talks on the limitation of strategic arms. In this role, he has been seen as a proponent of the "bargaining chip" approach to negotiations with Moscow, as a supporter of the antiballistic missile system, and as an advocate of increasing reliance on missiles launched from submarines rather than Minuteman land-based missiles.

Mr. Nitze, if confirmed by Congress, will be stepping back

into a job that he held in the early '60's. From 1967 to 1969 he was Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Mr. Schlesinger had been searching for several months for a man to fill the fourth highest job at the Pentagon, expressing to many colleagues his wish to restore the Office of International Security Affairs to the influential role that it played in the 60's. For the last five years, it has generally been viewed as moribund.

The office has a critical position within the national security bureaucracy. All formal communications coming into or going out of the Pentagon must be screened it.

This allows it to represent diplomatic considerations to the military and military interests to the State Department.