

AMBASSADOR ARTHUR W. HUMMEL, JR.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Bio Sketch

The Early Years

Return to China – September 1940

After Pearl Harbor, Interned by Japanese

Escape from Internment Camp: Joining Chinese Guerrillas

End of War: Work with UNRRA – Return to US

Completion of Education; Employment in Department of State Far East Bureau, Information (FE/P) Predecessor of USIA – 1950

Nature of Early Work in FE/P

Hummel and His Associates in Department of State Information Work Little Affected by McCarthy Persecution

1952 – Assignment to USIS, Hong Kong

After a Few Months, Becomes PAO, Hong Kong

Hong Kong Program Heavily Oriented Toward Overseas Chinese Throughout Southeast Asia in 1950s

The 1952 PAO Regional Conference in Rangoon; Incompetence of Director Compton

Hummel Becomes Deputy PAO, Japan 1955

1957 – PAO, Burma

Gradual Decline of Burmese Government and Social Structure: Alternations of U Nu and Ne Win, Culminating with Permanent Ne Win Takeover in 1962; Subsequent Descent into Chaos

National War College – 1961; VOA Deputy Director, 1962-1963

Difficulties of Trying to Negotiate for VOA Transmitters in Foreign Countries

1963 – Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Cultural Affairs: Beginning of Transition from USIA to Foreign Service Officer (State) Status

1965 – Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM,) Taiwan with Long Period as Chargé

Keys to Taiwan's Success Story

Cultural ethnic traits of Chinese people
Land reform in Taiwan²
Assuring that main economic ventures were left to native Taiwanese

1968 – Hummel Becomes Ambassador to Burma

Major Problems in Burma

Country's economy in shambles: survives only because of flourishing black market
Narcotics problem – Hummel's dealings with Ne Win on issue

1971 – Back to Department of State; Initially to Handle Micronesian (Trust Territory)

Negotiations

1972 – Back to Mainstream: Deputy Assistant Secretary of State East Asia and Pacific

Development of 1972 China Policy – Nixon role
Association with Kissinger: difficult to work with
Establishment of US liaison office in Beijing

1975 – Hummel Requests and is Made Ambassador to Ethiopia

1976 – After Somewhat Over One Year, Brought Back to Washington as Assistant Secretary of State, East Asia and Pacific

Within Six Months, a New Administration Takes over: Hummel Replaces as Assistant Secretary

Change in Administration is Always Very Disruptive for Foreign Policy and Department of State

1979 – Phil Habib Assists Hummel in Becoming Ambassador to Pakistan

Arrives just in time to see Bhutto government overthrown by Zia's military coup
Conflict between US Nuclear Proliferation Policy and US need to assist Pakistan in the face of Soviet Afghanistan invasion
Pakistanis burn US Embassy in Islamabad
Comments on Bhutto and Zia Characters

1981 – Ambassador to China

Downturn in US-Chinese relations due to Chinese insistence on US termination of arms sales to Taiwan

1982 – Chinese escalate complains over trade issues
Relations improve – 1983 – as US makes trade concessions
Chinese as negotiators: sophisticated, world-wise