

AMBASSADOR RICHARD H. MELTON

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Background

Born in Maryland; raised in Washington, DC area
Cornell University, University of Wisconsin (1971)
U.S. Army
Library of Congress
Entered Foreign Service - 1961

State Department - Operations Center 1961
Duties and issues

Congressional Fellowship 1962-1963
Senator Claiborne Pell
Duties

Managua, Nicaragua - Labor Officer
Political scene
Somoza's military
Alliance for Progress
AFL-CIO interests
Ambassador Aaron Brown
Sandinistas
Economy

Santo Domingo - Dominican Republic - Consular Officer 1965-1967
U.S. forces and OAS
U.S. debt claims
Elections
Sugar
Ellsworth Bunker
Corruption

Recife, Brazil - Political Officer 1968-1970
USAID
Military government
Duties - responsibilities
Catholic Church
U.S. policy
Democracy
Security
U.S. priests held
Military attaches

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brazilian military Brazilian unity 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Wisconsin - Latin America Studies Vietnam issue Anti-government atmosphere Faculty problems 	1970-1971
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Department - Bureau of Inter American Affairs Country Analysis and Strategy Program (CASP) U.S. resources to Latin America Duties Territorial waters limits Allende overthrown 	1971-1975
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lisbon, Portugal - Political Officer Salazar aftermath Leftist influence Political contacts Democracy Socialist Party American Portuguese community Ambassador Carlucci Reporting “Captain’s Movement” Soviet influence U.S. attaches NATO connection “Armed Forces Movement” Mario Soares Felipe Gonzales Embassy staffing Environment African ex-colonies 	1975-1978
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National War College 	1978-1979
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> London, England - Political Officer Labor Party and Latin American issue Political party relations Duties Socialist International Ambassador Kingman Brewster Northern Ireland Falklands issue 	1979-1982

Montevideo, Uruguay - Deputy Chief of Mission	1982-1985
Embassy operations	
Falklands/Maldives issue	
Embassy officer "persona non grata"	
Military control	
Human rights	
Central American concerns	
State Department - Office of Central American Affairs - Director	1985-1987
Assistant Secretary Elliott Abrams	
Panama	
Barletta-Noriega struggle	
Costa Rica	
Ambassador Lew Tambs	
Sandinistas	
Nicaragua	
El Salvador	
Religious organizations	
Honduras	
Guatemala	
Belize	
Oliver North	
Aid to Contras	
Hassenfus detained	
CIA Contra assistance	
Sandinistas' support in U.S.	
Congressional interest in Nicaragua	
President Reagan involvement	
Ambassadorial appointments	
Interim charge duties in Honduras	
Honduran government and military	
San Jose, Costa Rica - Charge d' Affaires	1987-1988
Environment	
USAID	
Managua, Nicaragua - Ambassador	1988
Persona non grata by Sandinistas	
Violeta Chamorro	
Environment	
Sandinistas	
Vilification	
Congressional questioning	
Contra scandal	

State Department - Assistant Secretary for Mexico, Caribbean,

and Regional Economic Affairs	1988-1989
Legal complications of Contra affair	
U.S./Mexico binational commission	
Drug war	
Mexican politics	
Haiti issue	
Cuba influence in area	
Economic changes	
Democracy	
Brazil - Ambassador	1989-1993
Background of appointment	
Trade relations	
Carla Hills	
“Dumping” issues	
Coffee	
Debt	
Environment issues	
Global warming	
Rio Environmental conference - 1992	
U.S. position	
Rainforest issues	
Treaty of Plateloco	
Nuclear and space issues	
Human rights	
Brazil’s Foreign Service	
German reunification efforts	
U.S. official visitors	
President Collor inauguration	
Brasilia isolation	
NAFTA	
Brazil’s importance	
State Department - Inspector	1993-1995
Egypt	
Philippines	
International Organizations (IO)	
Canada	
Africa	
ACDA	

Summary Comments on Foreign Service Career