

AMBASSADOR DAVID MICHAEL RANSOM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Background

Born in Missouri, son of a US Air Force Officer family
Raised in the US and abroad
Princeton University; Johns Hopkins School of International Studies
US Marine Corps, Vietnam
Entered the Foreign Service in 1965
Family

Taiz, Yemen; General Officer 1966-1967

Family
Mission closed
Personal losses
Environment
Government
Egyptian intervention
Aden
Saudi Arabia role
Yemeni Americans
Move to Sanaa

Teheran, Iran; Consular Officer 1967-1968

Shah's "White Revolution"
Environment
Personnel

Beirut, Lebanon; FSI; Arabic language Study 1968-1969

Lebanese politics
Environment
Family

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia; Consular/Economic Officer 1969-1970

Environment
Family
Saudi stability
The "White Army"
Saudi government
Relations

State Department; Jordan Desk Officer 1970-1973

King Hussein
Israel sensibilities

Hawk missiles 1973 Arab-Israeli War Nuclear Alert US role Jordan's role	
National Security Council, Crisis Management Group Security and Military Assistance Defense/State relations CIA Decision to Evacuate Vietnam Henry Kissinger Brent Scowcroft Nixon resignation drama Ford's Nixon pardon	1973-1975
Sana'a, Yemen; Deputy Chief of Mission Wife Marjorie's tandem assignment South Yemen Environment Saudi relations AID Divided Yemen Soviets USIA Tribalism Government Assassinations Yemeni Jews	1975-1978
Defense Department; Acting Director, Near East & Africa, International Security Agency Somalia Military Access Agreements Afghanistan Iran Israel Egypt Military Assistance Congressional briefings Defense-State rivalry	1978-1982
National War College	1982-1983
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, Deputy Chief of Mission Environment	1983-1985

Dubai relations	
Government	
Iran-Iraq	
US interests	
Tandem assignment	
Damascus, Syria; Deputy Chief of Mission	1985-1988
Soviets	
Hafez al-Assad	
Iraq relations	
Iran relations	
Terrorism	
Break in relations	
USIS	
Visas	
Israel relations	
Contacts with government	
US-Syria relations	
CIA	
Palestinians	
Golan Heights	
Iran-Contra	
Lebanon war	
Khalil Hadam	
Syria's views on Lebanon	
Syria/Israel	
Strained US/Syrian relations	
Syria plot to destroy El Al aircraft	
US hostages in Lebanon	
NSC in hostage crisis	
Syrians target US Ambassador in Lebanon	
Ambassador John Kelly	
Syrians support Hezbollah	
Syrian-Iran connection	
Syria/Israel combat	
US bombs Libya	
Anti-US demonstration	
British foil Syrian El Al plot	
US interests in Syria	
Sanctions against Syria	
President (Ex) Carter's Syrian visit	
Abu Nidal	
Hafez al Assad	
State Department; Director, Arabian Peninsula Affairs	1988-1990
Saddam Hussein	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kuwait Saudi Arabia Near East Bureau Assistant Secretary John Kelly Secretary of State Baker 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Department; Director, Southern European Affairs John Kelly Greece and the Gulf War Turkey and the Gulf War Turkey relations Kurds Iraq “no fly zones” Kurdish refugees Secretary of State James Baker Turkish politics Turgid Ozal F-16s to Turkey Bush visit to Turkey Russia Greek-Turkish relations Cyprus Albania Macedonia 	1990-1993
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambassador to Bahrain Disturbances Shia US military presence Shaikh Isa bin Salman al-Khalifa Relations with government Comments on the Peace Process Population Islamic Republic idea Oil production Security Fundamentalism Iraq war Kuwait relations Iran 	1994-1997
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retirement 	1997
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post Retirement Wife Marjorie appointed Ambassador to Yemen Private consulting 	

