

UN-Secretariat matters - Committee of Experts 1960-1961 and Appointment of ...

HS L 179:99b



Dag Hammarskjöld's samml.

Appointment of senior staff

19 June 61

Cordier, Andrew W. (Exec. Assist. to D.H.)

- 1 letter from D.H.

Dear Mr. Cordier,

You have recently informed me of your wish to resign as Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General in order to assist in the adjustment of posts at the Under-Secretary level, taking into account the much enlarged and revised geographical character of the membership of the United Nations. You have also indicated that this action would be in accord with your view regarding the disposition of your personal efforts during the coming years.

In view of the outstanding contribution you have made to the development of the United Nations and your most distinguished record as an international civil servant, carrying the greatest responsibilities, it would be for me a source of great regret to see you leave the Organisation. It would also be a serious loss for the Organisation not to be able to rely any longer on your wide experience and deep knowledge of its problems. On the other hand, I appreciate your motives, and I have therefore given careful thought to how, while meeting your viewpoints, the interests of the work of the Organisation can best be met.

In our talks on this matter you have been responsive to my request that you might continue for a temporary and transitional period to assist us in some aspects of our work. I refer particularly to your willingness to assume responsibility for General Assembly Affairs and related matters as a special assignment, at least, over the sixteenth session of the General Assembly. In due course, and as necessary, we could revert to the question of adjusting our needs and your anticipated outside obligations.

Naturally this assignment would maintain you on the basis of your present contract with the United Nations as senior official on the Under-Secretary level.

In case you confirm your acceptance of the post of Under-Secretary for General Assembly Affairs on a temporary and transitional basis, I would entrust one of the other Under-Secretaries, with the probable title of Chef de Cabinet, to assume the responsibilities -- aside from General Assembly Affairs matters -- which you have carried in the past as Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General.

As I sincerely hope that this arrangement will be agreeable to you, I will not on this occasion express what I otherwise would have liked to say concerning the unique quality of your work and the invaluable assistance which you have given so generously to the Organisation and from which I have profited so much as Secretary-General.

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Mr. Andrew W. Cordier,
Executive Assistant to
the Secretary-General,
United Nations,
New York.

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Dag Hammarskjöld.

UNITED NATIONS

Press Services
Office of Public Information
United Nations, N.Y.

(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Press Release SG/1040
26 June 1961

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN SECRETARY-GENERAL DAG HAMMARSKJOLD
AND ANDREW W. CORDIER, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Letter dated 19 June from the Secretary-General to Mr. Cordier

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Letter dated 26 June from Mr. Cordier to the Secretary-General

Dear Mr. Hammarskjöld,

I thank you for your letter of 19 June which reflects the talks that we have had regarding my relations with the Secretariat. I will be glad to accept the post of Under-Secretary for General Assembly Affairs on the basis outlined in your letter.

I am most grateful for your kindly remarks regarding my work as a member of the Secretariat. Although I shall revert to the matter at the time of my actual separation from the Secretariat, I take the occasion now to tell you that it has been a priceless privilege to have had you as my chief during these years.

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