

PAUL G. HOFFMAN

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Paul G. Hoffman, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, has led two distinguished careers: first in American industry, and subsequently in international affairs.

Mr. Hoffman assumed his current post as head of the world's largest single source of multilateral pre-investment assistance on 1 January 1966. For seven years prior to that date, he served as Managing Director of the United Nations Special Fund, which was merged with the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, to form the new United Nations Development Programme.

The UNDP helps nearly 150 low-income countries and territories speed their economic and social progress by co-operating with their governments in more than 3,000 development projects. These projects demonstrate new possibilities for natural resource development, establish facilities for education and training, strengthen administrative and planning services, and promote and apply scientific and technological research. Through these activities, carried out in collaboration with the United Nations family of Agencies, the Programme helps developing countries attract capital investments, use these investments productively, and move towards self-sustaining economies.

Mr. Hoffman's involvement in international development began with his appointment by President Truman in 1948 as the first Administrator of the Marshall Plan (ECA). Resigning from this position in September 1950, he served for two years as President of the Ford Foundation. In 1956, he was a member of the United States Delegation to the Eleventh Session of the United Nations General Assembly, concentrating his activity in the work of the Committee on Economic and Financial Questions.

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He served three terms (March 1963 - March 1966) as President of the Society for International Development, a leading professional organization in the field.

Starting his business career in 1911 as a salesman for the Studebaker Corporation in Los Angeles, Mr. Hoffman had risen by 1925 to the position of Vice-President of Studebaker. In 1935 he was named its President, an office he held for thirteen years. He played a leading role in organizing the Automotive Safety Foundation, and served as its Chairman from 1936 to 1948.

From 1942 to 1948 he was Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Committee for Economic Development. The CED, in whose founding he was a prime mover, was originally organized to help American industry plan for smooth conversion from war-time to peace-time production.

Mr. Hoffman, who studied at the University of Chicago, holds a number of honorary degrees. He is the author of Seven Roads to Safety (1939), Peace Can Be Won (1951), One Hundred Countries - One and a Quarter Billion People (1960), World Without Want (1962), and many magazine articles. He has received numerous national awards, including that of Freedom House in 1951, and has been decorated by several foreign governments.