RIDGWAY BREWSTER KNIGHT SWORN IN
AS UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM

Ridgway Brewster Knight, of the District of Columbia, was sworn in today as United States Ambassador to Belgium. Presently United States Ambassador to the Syrian Arab Republic, Ambassador Knight will replace Douglas MacArthur II, who is now Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations.

Born on June 12, 1911, in Paris, France, of American parents, Mr. Knight attended the University of Paris, graduating in 1928 with the B.S. degree and receiving a Ph.B. degree in 1929. In 1931 he received the M.B.A. degree from the Harvard Business School.

Mr. Knight entered the Foreign Service in 1941 and served as Vice Consul and Technical Adviser on Robert Murphy's mission to French North Africa. He resigned in January, 1943, to enter the Armed Services. He participated in the Salerno, Anzio and SouthernFrance landings. After his discharge from the Army in 1945, he returned to the Foreign Service and served as Special Assistant to the Ambassador of the American Embassy in Paris.

In 1949 he was assigned to the Department as Officer-in-Charge of Politico-Military Affairs in the European Bureau, becoming Director of Western European Affairs in 1953. In 1954 he went to Berlin as Deputy Assistant U. S. High Commissioner for Germany. In 1955, he was assigned to Paris, where he served as Political Adviser to General Gruenther and General Norstad at SHAPE.

In 1957 he went to Karachi as Minister Counselor. In 1960 he was assigned to Damascus as Consul General with the personal rank of Minister. On December 7, 1961 he became United States Ambassador to the Syrian Arab Republic.

Today, shortly before being sworn in, the new Ambassador to Belgium received from Secretary Rusk the State Department's Superior Service Award in recognition of his services in Syria.

Ambassador Knight is married to the former Colette Lalier and they have five sons, four of whom were present today.

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