HENRY A. KISSINGER

WELCOME

Henry A. Kissinger was sworn in on September 22, 1973, as the 56th Secretary of State, a position he held until January 20, 1977. He also served as Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs from January 20, 1969, until November 3, 1975. At present, Dr. Kissinger is Chairman of Kissinger Associates, Inc., an international consulting firm. For a detailed list of Dr. Kissinger’s other activities, please see his biography.

The purpose of this website is to bring together in one convenient location Dr. Kissinger’s recent writings and statements. These include his numerous articles on United States foreign policy, international affairs and diplomatic history syndicated by Tribune Media Services International; speeches delivered by Dr. Kissinger during his travels in the U.S. and abroad; interviews and remembrances of late friends and colleagues. In addition to his detailed biography mentioned above, this website provides a list of the books Dr. Kissinger has published over the years.

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HENRY A. KISSINGER

BIOGRAPHY

Henry Alfred Kissinger was sworn in on September 22, 1973, as the 56th Secretary of State, a position he held until January 20, 1977. He also served as Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs from January 20, 1969, until November 3, 1975. In July 1983 he was appointed by President Reagan to chair the National Bipartisan Commission on Central America until it ceased operation in January 1985, and from 1984-1990 he served as a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. From 1986-1988 he was a member of the Commission on Integrated Long-Term Strategy of the National Security Council and Defense Department. He is currently a member of the Defense Policy Board.

At present, Dr. Kissinger is Chairman of Kissinger Associates, Inc., an international consulting firm. He is also a member of the International Council of J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.; a Counselor to and Trustee of the Center for Strategic and International Studies; an Honorary Governor of the Foreign Policy Association; and an Honor Member of the International Olympic Committee. Among his other activities, Dr. Kissinger is a member of the Board of Directors of ContiGroup Companies, Inc. and an Advisor to the Board of Directors of American Express Company. He is also a member of the Advisory Board of Forstmann Little and Co.; a Trustee Emeritus of the Metropolitan Museum of Art; a Director Emeritus of Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold Inc.; and a Director of the International Rescue Committee.

Among the awards Dr. Kissinger has received have been the Nobel Peace Prize in 1973; the Presidential Medal of Freedom (the nation's highest civilian award) in 1977; and the Medal of Liberty (given one time to ten foreign-born American leaders) in 1986.

Dr. Kissinger was born in Fueth, Germany, came to the United States in 1938 and was naturalized a United States citizen in 1943. He served in the Army from 1943 to 1946. He graduated summa cum laude from Harvard College in 1950 and received M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard University in 1952 and 1954.

From 1954 until 1969 he was a member of the faculty of Harvard University, in both the Department of Government and the Center for International Affairs. He was Director of the Harvard International Seminar from 1952 to 1969.

Dr. Kissinger is the author of numerous books.

He has also published numerous articles on United States foreign policy, international affairs and diplomatic history. His column, syndicated by Tribune Media Services International, appears in leading newspapers in the U.S. and abroad.

Dr. Kissinger is married to the former Nancy Maginnes and is the father of two children by a previous marriage.

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REMEMBRANCES

GIOVANNI AGNELLI

During the last two decades of his life, no one was closer to me than Gianni Agnelli. We spoke on the telephone three or four times a week and whenever something interesting happened in either of our lives. We spent time together when either of us traveled to the other’s country, which was every month or so. Gianni was, of course, a man of legendary charm.

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JOHN ASPINALL

John Aspinall became a close friend, yet I made his acquaintance only a little less than three years ago. We met altogether perhaps six or seven times, yet his parting has left a painful void in my life.

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RUDOLF AUGSTEIN

Getting old, I read somewhere, is a process of becoming a stranger in your own world. Gradually, the people who provided emotional support and intellectual sustenance are stripped away. Even as the perspective deepens, it traverses an increasing void. In a way, it is strange that Rudolf Augstein’s death should inspire such reflections.

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PAT BUCKLEY

I do not recall ever having been so shocked by the passing of a close friend as by Pat Buckley’s. I somehow never thought of her as subject to the normal rules of our existence. I was amazed to read her age in the obituary pages.

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WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY, JR.

Bill Buckley inspired a political movement that changed American politics; he founded the National Review that, for over a generation, has shaped American political discussion; he hosted an influential talk show for thirty years; he wrote an elegant column.

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MARION DÖNHOFF

No one moved me more than Marion Dönhoff or had a deeper impact on me as a human being. We were not contemporaries; she was brought up in the tranquil time before the First World War, I in the turbulence of the
Germany of the 1920s and 1930s. She was serene, I more shaped by the pressures of the times. But we were close friends; and this will be my badge of honor for as long as I live.

Ahmet Ertegun

I do not remember precisely when Ahmet showed up in my life. I had heard of him, of course, but I did not believe what I was hearing. Suddenly, he was there, raspy-voiced, irreverent, buoyant, debonair, charming, ubiquitous, highly intelligent and occasionally, let us admit, exasperating.

Gerald Ford

According to an ancient tradition, God preserves humanity despite its many transgressions because, at any one period, there exist ten just individuals who redeem mankind, without being aware of their role.

Gerald Ford was such a man. Propelled into the presidency by a sequence of unpredictable events, he had an impact so profound as rightly to be considered providential.

Sir James Goldsmith

When my family was about to leave the country of my birth, I called on my grandfather, to whom I was very attached, in the little village where he lived, to say good-bye. He was suffering from cancer, and I knew I would never see him again. My grandfather took the finality out of the encounter by telling me that we were not really parting, because he would pay me a final visit at my parents' home a few weeks hence. Though I did not really believe it, the prospect proved remarkably consoling.

Katherine Graham

The friendship Nancy and I shared with Kay Graham is one of the legacies of my government service that we cherish most. Unlike so many Washington relationships which end with the exercise of power, it grew in intensity in the decades after I left office. Yet The Washington Post had been a relentless critic of many aspects of the administrations in which I served.

Alexander Haig

Wherever he served, he made a difference. That is the compliment Al Haig, who died on Feb. 20 at age 85, would have most appreciated. Service was his purpose. Courage was his defining characteristic. Patriotism, his impetus.

Fritz Kraemer
Fritz Kraemer was the greatest single influence of my formative years, and his inspiration remained with me even during the last thirty years when he would not speak to me.

**HANS MERKLE**

It is a great honor to be asked to deliver a speech in memory of one of the most remarkable men I have known. It is a daunting task as well. For those in this room who knew Hans Merkle, nothing I can say will be able to reflect his complexity and inspirational quality.

**HANS MORGENTHAU**

Hans Morgenthau was my teacher. And he was my friend.

**RICHARD M. NIXON**

During the final week of Richard Nixon's life, I often imagined how he would have reacted to the tide of concern, respect, admiration and affection evoked by his last great battle.

**WILLIAM S. PALEY**

By the time our paths crossed, Bill Paley had already made an enduring contribution to American life and American culture. He was in his 70s, at an age when deep, new human relationships are rarely forged. Yet, almost miraculously, Bill and I became close friends, and I want to talk about Bill Paley as a friend.

**NELSON ROCKEFELLER**

That Nelson Rockefeller is dead is both shattering and nearly inconceivable. One thought him indestructible, so overpowering was he in his energy, warmth and his deep faith in man’s inherent goodness. For twenty-five years, he had been my friend, my older brother, my inspiration and my teacher.

**PETER RODMAN**

A kind Providence caused Peter’s life and mine to intersect over four decades ago. Peter was assigned to me as tutee in 1965 at Harvard. He was part of my life ever since. It will be an emptier and less joyful world without him.
**William D. Rogers**

Bill Rogers was my colleague, my friend and, in many ways, my conscience. In the thirty-four years I was fortunate enough to walk with him, he became part of my life. Rarely did a day pass, and never a week, without a long conversation. I have never met anyone with greater integrity and more devoted to serving our country and its core values of freedom and human dignity.

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**Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr.**

On the morning after Arthur's death, his son, Stephen, telephoned to invite me to the apartment that evening for a gathering of Arthur's friends. This act of grace took me back to the Harvard of the 1950s, when our friendship was born, before the loss of our national consensus, to an age of relative innocence when, at joint faculty seminars of Harvard and MIT, professors discussed together how to tame the nuclear age.

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**Beverly Sills**

I adored Beverly. When we lunched, we used to tell anyone we ran into - if necessary, even the headwaiters - that we were one of the great love stories of the city and that we kept it secret by flaunting it.

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**Joseph Sisco**

Joe Sisco was an original; when they made him, they threw away the mold. Indefatigable, dedicated, knowledgeable, a superb diplomat, and a skillful bureaucratic infighter, Joe was an indispensable colleague and a valued friend.

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**Cyrus R. Vance**

Cyrus Vance devoted his life to the service of his nation and the search for peace in the world. Dedicated, tenacious, unflappable, self-effacing, Cy was a gentleman of what is now called “the old school;” we would all be better off had qualities such as his remained commonplace.

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**Walter Wriston**

I loved Walt Wriston. We live in an age of extraordinary self-consciousness; its fashionable representatives tend to evaluate themselves by their image rather than their long-term accomplishments. The goal is effect rather than achievement; frequently, the two are confused with each other.

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