DECLASSIFIED
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State Dept. Guidelines
By JC, NARA, Date 10-18-00

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WILLIAM A. CRAWFORD (FSO-1)

Biographic Data:

Mr. Crawford was born January 14, 1915 in New York City. He is married and has three daughters and two sons. He received a BA degree from Haverford College in 1936, attended the University of Madrid in the summer of 1936 and l'Ecole Libre des Sciences Politiques in Paris, 1936-38. He is fluent in French and Spanish, proficient in Russian, has a working knowledge of German and elementary knowledge of Czech.

Among the principal positions held by Mr. Crawford are the following:

Political Officer at Moscow, 1945-47;
Assistant Desk Officer, Soviet Affairs, 1947-49;
Russian Area and Language Training at Columbia University, 1949-50;
Political Officer at Paris, 1950-54;
Deputy Director, Office of Eastern European Affairs, 1954-57;
Deputy Chief of Mission at Prague, 1957-59;
Director, Office of Research for Sino-Soviet Affairs, 1959-61;
Minister to Rumania, 1961- .

Evaluation:

Minister Crawford is one of the Department's leading Soviet and Eastern European experts. He has done remarkably well in making the American presence felt in Rumania. He has been able to negotiate successful agreements including the establishment of an American school, the conclusion of an agreement for cultural and educational exchanges, and the distribution by the Legation of a monthly cultural bulletin. His work was a significant factor in the progress leading up to the recent broader agreement with Rumania on economic and other matters.

With his easy, friendly personality, his long experience in Eastern European Affairs, and his already demonstrated effectiveness as American Minister to Rumania, the success of his assignment there will be limited only by the basic conflicts between the policies of the United States and Rumania.

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