

ELLSWORTH BUNKER, INDUSTRIALIST TURNED STATESMAN (PROFILE)

WASHINGTON, January 27--Ellsworth Bunker, who has played a key role in bringing internal stability to the revolt-ridden Dominican Republic, is a man of diplomatic temperament and exceptional ability. After a successful career in business, he gained wide experience in handling difficult and important assignments in the diplomatic field.

President Lyndon B. Johnson picked Mr. Bunker to be U.S. representative in the Council of the Organization of American States (OAS), with the rank of Ambassador.

When President Johnson announced on January 2, 1964 his intention to appoint Mr. Bunker, he emphasized the importance which the United States attaches to the OAS ambassadorial post. The President said: "Ambassador Bunker is an experienced diplomat who has served the nation well in a variety of difficult assignments. His assignment to this post is in line with our desire to carry on and strengthen this government's relations with the countries of this hemisphere. We intend to give every support to the Organization of American States and I look forward to Ambassador Bunker's contribution to this end."

Ambassador Bunker was nominated on January 14, 1964, appeared before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on January 21, and was confirmed by the Senate on January 23, 1964.

He has held the OAS ambassadorial post since January 31, 1964. In November, 1964, the Council chose Ambassador Bunker to be its chairman for a one-year period. He served with distinction, and was succeeded a few months ago by Brazilian Ambassador Ilmar Penna Marinho as the new council chairman.

Mr. Bunker is one of three members of the council's "Ad Hoc " Committee assigned to the Dominican Republic, following the outbreak of violence there last April. He has served with diplomatic mediation committee members from Brazil and San Salvador, sharing equally in OAS responsibilities toward the people of the Dominican nation.

Earlier, in 1962, Mr. Bunker served at the request of United Nations Secretary General Uthant as mediator in a dispute over West New Guinea between the Netherlands and Indonesia. He played a key role in achieving an accord, serving about seven months in lengthy negotiations. A plan drafted by Mr. Bunker became the basis of the Dutch-Indonesian settlement.

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Mr. Bunker had his first diplomatic assignment in 1951, when he was chosen by President Truman to be United States Ambassador to Argentina. Prior to that appointment, he had been Chairman of the Board of the National Sugar Refining Company, one of the industry's top positions.

His economic background and skill in negotiation were put to effective use during four years service as U.S. Ambassador to India. Ambassador Bunker was instrumental in organizing and working out plans for U.S. economic aid to India amounting to thousands of millions of dollars. He carried on negotiations not only with officials of the Indian and U.S. governments, but also with representatives of the other nations contributing assistance.

Tall and trimly built, with silvery white hair, Mr. Bunker has great dignity. He is easy to talk with and a good listener. He has a keen grasp and understanding of current problems and situations and commands the respect of those who have dealing with him. During his service in India, he traveled widely, meeting the people and talking with them.

Mr. Bunker was born in Yonkers, New York, on May 11, 1894. After graduation from Yale University, where he studied Economics and History, he went to work for the National Sugar Refining Company, of which his father had been one of the founders. The young man began learning the sugar business from the bottom, by hauling the raw material by handtruck on the docks. He worked his way up through all the refinery operations and became a refinery manager. Then he went into the financial side of the industry, working with sales and merchandizing. In 1950, he was elected president of the company.

During World II, he served as chairman of the cane sugar refiners war committee, which advised the U.S. government on problems of allocation, priorities and rationing of sugar stocks.

In 1948, Mr. Bunker succeeded to the chairmanship of the Board of the National Sugar Refining Company. Within three years, however, the new chairman brought to an end his active business career by accepting the ambassadorship to Argentina.

The talents which enabled him to rise as an industrialist also brought him success in the field of diplomacy. Colleagues and journalists hailed him as "a natural diplomat, a man of tact, a keen observer and a good reporter."

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A task of great difficulty and delicacy awaited Mr. Bunker in Argentina, for relations between that country and the United States had suffered serious strain. In less than one year, however the Ambassador's tact, understanding and firmness had won esteem for him personally and also helped to set relations between the two countries in correct focus.

During his career as a businessman, he had traveled extensively in some of the American republics, taking time to visit and become acquainted with other people, their customs and their institutions. As Ambassador to Argentina, he made his public speeches in Spanish.

Sent by President Truman to Italy as Ambassador in 1952, Mr. Bunker again displayed negotiating skill. The following year he returned to the United States and from 1954 to 1956 served as President of the American National Red Cross.

In July, 1956, he was appointed by President Eisenhower as a delegate to the United Nations General Assembly.

Four months later, President Eisenhower nominated Mr. Bunker to be U.S. Ambassador to India, a position exceptionally difficult and sensitive at that time. When in the spring of 1961, Mr. Bunker left India, he was acclaimed as one of the most popular and respected envoys ever sent to that country by the United States.

A holder of the Knight Grand Cross, order of merit of the Italian Republic, Mr. Bunker is a member of the America-Italy Society and has served as its president.

He has always been keenly interested in education. He is a trustee of the Institute for International Education, and of the New School for Social Research (a New York school for adults which considers education a life long process). He helped found Marlboro College, a small liberal arts college in Vermont, and he also serves as trustee of Union Settlement of New York, an interracial, non-sectarian neighborhood house in Harlem.

Until he retired from active business in 1950, Mr. Bunker served as president, director or trustee of a number of major companies in various fields of commerce, publishing and industry.

He is a member of the Council of Foreign Relations; the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; and the Academy of Political Science.

Mr. Bunker was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

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He holds honorary degrees as follows: LL.D, Yale University, 1959 Mount Holyoke, 1962; and Winkham College, 1963.

Mr. Bunker makes his home in Dummerston, Vermont, where he maintains a sheep and beef cattle farm.

He was married to the former Harriet Allen Butler who died last year. They have three children: Ellen Butler Gentil (wife of Dr. Fernando Gentil of Sao Paulo, Brazil), John Birkbeck and Samuel Ennet Bunker. Mr. Bunker has eleven grandchildren; seven American and four Brazilian