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HARRIMAN APPOINTED ROVING AMBASSADOR

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(Text) Peking, Dec. 31--President-elect Kennedy appointed the millionaire, Averell Harriman, as ambassador-at-large yesterday so as to enforce the U.S. aggressive activities in the newly independent countries in Asia and Africa, according to a report from Washington. While announcing the appointment, and on the day before the announcement, Kennedy described the purpose of the newly created ambassadorship. He said: "There are a great many new countries that have come across the horizon in the last decade that are extremely important to us (the United States--NCNA)."

As ambassador-at-large, he added, Harriman would act on behalf of the U.S. President and the secretary of state for "important special missions" in those countries, and would proceed to "more personal contacts" with the heads of those states, so as to "provide a close link between the United States and those countries." Harriman has been an ambassador, governor of New York State, and secretary of commerce under President Truman. He acted as a foreign policy adviser to Kennedy during the election campaign and did a lot of political peddling in Africa on Kennedy's behalf just before the election.