

For the

# AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# PRESS

# INFORMATION STAFF

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## WILLIAM FIPPIN WINS SUPERIOR HONOR AWARD

William H. Fippin, veteran foreign-aid expert, today was presented with the Agency for International Development's Superior Honor Award "for significant contributions to United States foreign affairs."

Fippin has served AID and its predecessor agencies in a variety of key posts in the Far East since 1949, most recently as Deputy Director of the AID Mission to Vietnam. For a time in 1962, he was Acting Director of the Mission, AID's largest.

The award specifically cites Fippin's "contributions to Vietnamese agricultural development and helping turn the focus of the AID program in Vietnam toward the rural people in support of counter-insurgency."

The presentation was made at noon in AID Administrator David E. Bell's Main Reception Room in the Department of State.

After 30 years with the Federal Government, Fippin is retiring on Wednesday, Sept. 30. The Fippins expect to maintain their residence at 104 Southgate Drive, Blacksburg, Virginia.

He had been with the Vietnam Mission since 1957, first as Food and Agriculture Officer and then as the first Assistant Director for Rural Affairs.

Before taking up his duties in Vietnam, Fippin was for more than six years one of two American Commissioners on the Joint Commission on Rural Reconstruction in China with headquarters in Taiwan.

Fippin began his government service with the National Resources Board in 1934 following his studies at Virginia Polytechnic Institute where he received both bachelor's and master's degrees. During World War II, he served with the Army in the United States and with the Marine Corps in the Pacific from 1942 to 1945 and was separated from the service as a major.

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After the war, he rejoined the Department of Agriculture as an agricultural economist. In 1949 he became a foreign service reserve officer and was assigned to Korea as assistant economic commissioner. Immediately prior to assumption of responsibilities in Korea by UN and the closing of the U.S. Economic Cooperation Administration mission there, he was assigned to Taipei, Taiwan.

Fippin was born in Ithaca, N.Y., Sept. 26, 1907. He is married to the former Colin Junkin of Christiansburg, Va. The Fippins have three sons, Ernest Hartman, Beverly Junkin and James Howard.

The citation accompanying the Superior Honor Award reads:

"To William H. Fippin

"For significant contributions to United States foreign affairs interests during 16 years of technical and executive responsibility in the foreign assistance programs.

"For consistently outstanding service in the field of rural development, often under difficult circumstances, during a varied career devoted to the betterment of the peoples of the Far East.

"For leadership to the Joint Commission on Rural Reconstruction in its formative period on Taiwan, thus contributing significantly to Taiwan's present high state of development.

"For contributions to Vietnamese agricultural development and helping turn the focus of the AID program in Vietnam toward the rural people in support of counter-insurgency."

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