10-31-1949

Decline Offer of Assistant Secretary of State

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

October 31, 1949.

I have declined with deep regret the offer of the President and
Secretary of State to become Assistant Secretary of State for Public
Affairs. While I am deeply grateful for the high honor which has
been bestowed upon me, I believe that it is my first duty to continue
to work for the development of our State's resources and the betterment
of our people — both of which have always been close to my heart.

During the past seven years Montana has gone steadily forward
and the results are now beginning to show. Montana must continue
this progress to the end that our natural resources will be
developed, security given to our people and hope offered to our children.
The Hungry Horse Dam, Canyon Ferry Project, and the Hot-Springs-Anaconda
transmission line are only the beginnings in this great development
which must take place if Montana is to realize the benefits of the
great resources which she possesses in such abundance. I will always
be interested however in the field of national and international
affairs because I believe that in those two fields we must continue
to work for security at home and for peace among all people throughout
the world.