

10-31-1949

## Decline Offer of Assistant Secretary of State

Mike Mansfield 1903-2001

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### Recommended Citation

Mansfield, Mike 1903-2001, "Decline Offer of Assistant Secretary of State" (1949). *Mike Mansfield Speeches*. 37.  
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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.