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MONTANA NATIVE VAUGHN
HAS VARIED BACKGROUND;
TO RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREE

MISSOULA--

Jack Hood Vaughn, a Montana native and former Peace Corps director who is slated to receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree at the University of Montana Sunday (June 7), has a varied background which includes expertise in speaking Spanish, French and Japanese.

Vaughn, who is now U.S. Ambassador to Colombia, will receive the honorary degree during the 73rd Annual Commencement at UM at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Harry Adams Field House.

Besides his linguistic abilities, Vaughn is considered an authority on pre-Colombian art, and he still maintains an active interest in sports.

The 49-year-old Columbus, Mont., native is remembered for his excellent record as a boxer and a college teacher.

He fought 126 amateur and 26 professional featherweight bouts under the name Johnny Hood and he won three Michigan Golden Gloves championships. He was recently asked to referee the National Boxing Championships in Colombia.

Vaughn received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Latin American Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1943. Following overseas duty with the Marine Corps in World War II, Vaughn returned to the University of Michigan to teach Spanish and French. He was awarded the Master of Arts degree in French there in 1947. He also served as a Spanish instructor from 1947-49 at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, and he was an economics professor at the Johns Hopkins School of International Studies, Washington, D. C., in 1958-59.

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Vaughn, who moved from Montana to Albion, Mich., when he was barely a teenager, also is a horticulturist who has spent years experimenting with many kinds of rare plants. He also has an active interest in Indian affairs. He owns property in Montana and returns to the state to fish and travel as often as his official obligations permit.

Vaughn, who served as U.S. Ambassador to Panama in 1964, was Peace Corps director from 1966-69, succeeding Sargent Shriver. Vaughn was appointed U.S. Ambassador to Colombia by President Nixon in 1969.

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