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The Execution of Policy

FOR SOME CENTURIES AFTER THE FIRST recorded professional diplomatic posts were established by Venice in the 13th century, the scope of diplomacy was fairly narrow. For the most part, a diplomat was concerned with government-to-government relations, gaining useful economic, political or military information for his country and negotiating alliances.

Today, the dimensions of diplomacy know no bounds. Industrial, agricultural, labor, social and other conditions within a foreign country are all the concern of diplomacy. A United States embassy not only has its quota of foreign service personnel; it may also house a military assistance advisory group, United States Information Service (USIS) officers, men from the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), science advisers, labor, specialists, foreign aid experts, cultural attachés and others. A recent count showed 31 of our agencies represented at the embassy in Britain. Employees numbered some 1,000, including about 500 British nationals. In Japan, in 1962, some 20 different departments and agencies, in addition to the State Department, were represented at our embassy.

Because the United States has interests in all places and in all fields, virtually the entire executive branch of government has become involved in the foreign policy process. The State Department remains the central force in framing, coordinating and executing

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