

Paul Choice Predicted As Secretary of Army

By John G. Norris
Staff Reporter

Assistant Defense Secretary Norman S. Paul, a Government career man, is reported to have the inside track for appointment as Secretary of the Army next month when the job is expected to become vacant.

Deputy Defense Secretary Roswell Gilpatric definitely will resign early next month, Pentagon sources said, and Army Secretary Cyrus R. Vance is regarded as a cinch to succeed him.

Vance had been picked by the late President Kennedy for the No. 2 Pentagon post, on Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara's recommendation, these sources said. President Johnson, of course, will

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select a successor to Gilpatric, but he was responsible, when a Senator, for bringing Vance to public life as a special counsel of Senate space and missile investigating committees.

Paul, the Pentagon's manpower chief, is highly regarded by McNamara and reported to be the most likely candidate for the Army post. The Defense Secretary has followed a policy of promoting members of his Pentagon team to higher posts as they become vacant, and Mr. Kennedy backed his choices.

Whether President Johnson will follow suit remains to be seen, but normally Cabinet officers have the deciding say in choosing their aides.

Assistant Navy Secretary Kenneth E. Belieu, another former Senate aide of Mr. Johnson, also has been mentioned for the Army Secretaryship but he is more likely to be promoted to Under Secretary of the Navy, if reports that the present holder of that post, Paul B. Faye Jr., plans to resign prove true.

Paul, 44, is a graduate of Yale and the University of

Virginia Law School. After service as a Navy officer in the South Pacific during World War II, and a brief stint with a New York law firm, he joined the Economic Cooperation Administration in 1948.

He was deputy director of the Foreign Operations Administration in 1955 and then served with the CIA, before coming to the Pentagon as McNamara's assistant for legislative affairs in January, 1961.

Pentagon General Counsel John T. McNaughton has been mentioned as a possible successor to Paul if he becomes Army Secretary. Solis Horowitz, a McNamara trouble-shooter and former Senate aide to Mr. Johnson, also is in line for promotion, possibly to be Pentagon general counsel.

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