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Tough Job

The tremendously important post of Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs at last has been filled.

Where did they find the man after four months? Right where the administration should have looked perhaps in the first place—among the career men in the State Department.

Robert F. Woodward, 52, is the man. In the State Department 30 years, he is a Latin American specialist and served as ambassador to Costa Rica and Uruguay and also as a Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs.

Some prominent prospects refused the tough job because there are too many people in authority now involved in the Latin American picture. We have a special White House "task force" and the State Department, not to mention A. J. Stevenson, who has been on a special tour, plus the CIA.

Mr. Woodward certainly has plenty of background and experience. Now let him do the job, with the full authority the office carries.

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