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8 January 1986**WASHINGTON TALK****Briefing***New Man in Cairo*

President Reagan is preparing to nominate Frank G. Wisner, a career Foreign Service officer, to succeed Nicholas Veliotes as Ambassador to Egypt. Mr. Veliotes, who clashed with Egyptian officials over the hijacking of the Achille Lauro cruise ship last October, has resigned from the State Department after 31 years for a position in private industry, State Department officials said yesterday.

Mr. Wisner, a 47-year-old graduate of Princeton, served as Ambassador to Zambia from 1979 to 1982. Since then he has been Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs. He is a son of the late Frank G.

Wisner, who served in the Office of Strategic Services in World War II, was chief of the State Department Office of Policy Coordination afterward and later became Director of Clandestine Services



Frank G. Wisner

for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr. Veliotes, a 56-year-old Californian assigned to Cairo in 1983, was overheard on ship-to-shore radio in the Achille Lauro hijacking angrily demanding that Egypt prosecute those who had killed Leon Klinghoffer aboard the Italian liner. Secretary of State George P. Shultz reportedly wanted him to return to Washington for consultation now, but he refused and resigned from the service.