

# United Nations

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## Press Release

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biographical Note

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HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT  
OF THE DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER

(Received from the UNHCR, Geneva.)

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Poul Hartling, has announced the appointment of William Richard Smyser, a national of the United States, as Deputy High Commissioner at the Assistant Secretary-General level.

Mr. Smyser succeeds Dale S. de Haan who is leaving UNHCR at the end of August 1981 after more than three years of service.

The new Deputy High Commissioner is a senior career diplomat of his country, currently Acting Director of the Bureau of Refugee Programmes, United States Department of State.

Born 49 years ago, Mr. Smyser has held positions in Algiers, Bonn, Paris and Washington, including that of a senior staff member of the United States National Security Council. Holder of a Doctor of Philosophy degree, Mr. Smyser has also pursued academic interests as a Fellow of the Universities of Georgetown and Harvard as well as of the Woodrow Wilson Center.

Mr. Smyser is married and has one child. He speaks fluent French, German and Spanish. His appointment will become effective on 1 September.

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