



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEWS

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Secretary of Transportation John A. Volpe today announced the appointment of Dr. Robert A. Hemmes as Assistant Administrator for Research in the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration.

Dr. Hemmes, 45, is Associate Professor of Industrial Engineering at Stanford University. In his new post, he will be responsible for organizing and directing UMTA's research, development and demonstration programs.

"The Department of Transportation is fortunate in getting a man of Dr. Hemmes' qualifications to serve on our team," Secretary Volpe said. "He plans to turn what has become a static office into one dedicated to dynamism. He will organize an office of program management that will be responsible for seeing projects through to completion, thereby assuring coordination of our programs."

A 1948 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, Dr. Hemmes served six years in the Navy, including destroyer-mine sweeper duty in the Korean War. In 1956, he was awarded a Master of Science degree in aeronautical and electrical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he worked on applied mechanics for weapons systems.

However, Dr. Hemmes' thesis at MIT was on a servo-mechanical stabilization system for high-speed railroad trains.

From 1956 to 1958, Dr. Hemmes was a civilian employee of the Navy Department's Bureau of Aeronautics, working on bomb delivery systems. Then for two years he was an Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Hemmes went to Stanford in 1960, where he earned his doctorate in industrial engineering. At Stanford, he worked on engineering applications to economic industrial planning.

Dr. Hemmes and his wife, the former Alexandra Ossipoff of Honolulu, Hawaii, and their three children now reside in McLean, Virginia.

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