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Statement on the Nomination of Director of the Central Intelligence Agency Michael R. Pompeo To Be Secretary of State
March 13, 2018

I am proud to nominate the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Mike Pompeo, to be our new Secretary of State. Mike graduated first in his class at West Point, served with distinction in the U.S. Army, and graduated with honors from Harvard Law School. He went on to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives with a proven record of working across the aisle.

As Director of the CIA, Mike has earned the praise of members in both parties by strengthening our intelligence gathering, modernizing our defensive and offensive capabilities, and building close ties with our friends and allies in the international intelligence community. I have gotten to know Mike very well over the past 14 months, and I am confident he is the right person for the job at this critical juncture. He will continue our program of restoring America's standing in the world, strengthening our alliances, confronting our adversaries, and seeking the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. His experience in the military, Congress, and as leader of the CIA have prepared him well for his new role, and I urge his swift confirmation.

Gina Haspel, the Deputy Director of the CIA, will be nominated to replace Director Pompeo and she will be the CIA's first-ever female Director, a historic milestone. Mike and Gina have worked together for more than a year and have developed a great mutual respect.

Finally, I want to thank Rex Tillerson for his service. A great deal has been accomplished over the last 14 months, and I wish him and his family well.

Categories: Appointments and Nominations : Secretary of State, nomination, statement.

Names: Haspel, Gina; Pompeo, Michael R.; Tillerson, Rex W.

Subjects: Central Intelligence Agency; State, Department of : Secretary.

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