

## REPORT FOR THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

UNITED STATES SENATE

**RELEASED IN FULL**

SUBJECT: Ambassadorial Nomination: Certificate of Demonstrated Competence -- Foreign Service Act, Section 304(a)(4)

POST: Democratic Republic of the Congo - Kinshasa

CANDIDATE: James C. Swan

Having served in Kinshasa twice and as Country Desk Officer, few people know more about the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) than James Swan. As a Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of African Affairs, he promoted security reforms and the establishment of broad-based government on the continent. The Office of the Inspector General noted that he was a highly effective Chief of Mission, known for strong leadership, who presided over a cohesive and productive mission. He has served in five French-speaking missions.

Currently, Mr. Swan serves as the Special Representative for Somalia at the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya. Previously he served as Ambassador to Djibouti (2008-2011), Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs (2006-2008), Director of Analysis for Africa, Bureau of Intelligence and Research (2005-2006), Deputy Chief of Mission, Kinshasa, DRC (2001-2004), Deputy Chief of Mission, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo (1998-2001), Desk Officer for Zaire (DRC) (1996-1998), Political Officer (Somali Watcher) in Nairobi, Kenya (1994-1996) and Political Section Chief in Yaounde, Cameroon (1992-1994). He also served at U.S. Missions in Nicaragua as a Political Officer and in Haiti as a Consular Officer.

Mr. Swan earned a Master of Arts degree in National Security Studies from the National War College, a Master of Arts degree from Johns Hopkins University and a Bachelor of Science degree from Georgetown University, both in international relations. He speaks fluent French and previously worked in Haitian Creole and Spanish.

He is the recipient of a Presidential Meritorious Service Award, three individual Superior Honor Awards, two individual Meritorious Honor Awards, five Senior Foreign Service Performance Awards, and a Group Award for Valor.

**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Frank Tumminia, Senior Reviewer**