

38-Year Career as International Lawyer Prepared Dulles for Diplomatic Role

HE GAINED RENOWN  
IN NEW YORK FIRM

Traveled Widely in Work  
for Sullivan & Cromwell  
—Not Often in Court

HAD MISSION IN PANAMA

Arranged for That Nation's  
Entry Into World War I  
on Same Day as U. S.

John Foster Dulles prepared for his diplomatic role with a distinguished career in international law.

He made a fortune and won a world-wide reputation practicing law in New York for thirty-eight years before retiring to devote his last years entirely to government service.

During a large part of his legal career he specialized in cases with international ramifications. He made many trips abroad on behalf of foreign interests that were clients of his firm, Sullivan & Cromwell. Long before he became Secretary of State he was well known as an expert in international law.

Associates said Mr. Dulles had one of the most brilliant minds in the legal profession. He sometimes appeared in court, but most of his practice was office work. Planning and directing legal campaigns, writing briefs and other legal documents, and such intellectual aspects of the law were his principal concern.

The law was his second choice for a career. He entered Princeton planning to follow his father, a Presbyterian pastor at Watertown, N. Y., into the ministry. At college, however, he changed his plans and decided to study law.

He got his first legal job in 1911 as a \$50-a-month junior law clerk with Sullivan & Cromwell, the firm with which he spent his entire legal career.

Letter to Sullivan

This opportunity came when his maternal grandfather, Gen. John Watson Foster, wrote to Algernon S. Sullivan of the law firm, an old friend. General Foster served in the Union cavalry in the Civil War and was Secretary of State under President Benjamin Harrison in 1892-93.

William Nelson Cromwell, the leading active partner of Sullivan & Cromwell, served as an example to Mr. Dulles in both law and diplomacy. As counsel for interests in Panama, Mr. Cromwell was said to have had a hand in arrangements that assisted President Theodore Roosevelt in obtaining the site of the Panama Canal for the United States.

Years later, Mr. Dulles was sent to Panama by Sullivan & Cromwell to negotiate plans for Panama to support the United States' expected entry into World War I. His mission was a complete success. The United States and Panama entered the war on the same day.

During the war Mr. Dulles served with the War Trade Board. Later he was chief legal adviser to Bernard M. Baruch, head of the United States delegation to the Commission on Reparations at the Versailles peace conference.

Mr. Dulles then returned to Sullivan & Cromwell and found his "Versailles prestige" helpful with important international clients. He became a partner of Sullivan & Cromwell in 1920 and its active head in 1927.

He helped various European and South American Governments in efforts to establish or re-establish stable financial conditions after World War I and again after the worldwide economic depression began in the late Nineteen Twenties. On some occasions he took part in diplomatic-financial negotiations on behalf of various Governments.

Mr. Dulles was chief counsel for United States bondholders of Kreuger & Toll, the international match trust whose crash led in 1932 to the suicide of Ivar Kreuger, Swedish financier.

In 1949 Mr. Dulles resigned from his law firm to become a United States Senator. He was then a wealthy man, able to devote his entire time to public life.



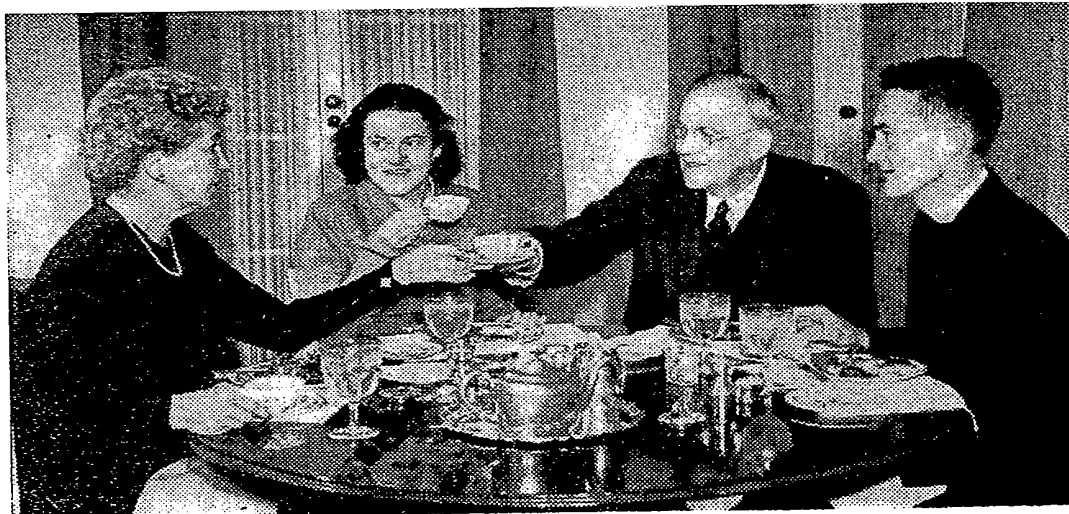
Associated Press  
YOUNGSTER: He is shown in 1891, at the age of 3.



Department of State  
STUDENT: He was graduated from Princeton in 1908.



Associated Press  
COUNSEL: At 31, he was at Versailles peace talks.



FAMILY: Tea at home at 72 East Ninety-first Street, New York, was an opportunity for a reunion. The children are Mrs. Robert Hinshaw and Avery Dulles. Although born a Presbyterian, Avery Dulles became a Roman Catholic and was ordained a Jesuit priest.