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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Robert C. Seamans, Jr., the 1968-69 Jerome Clarke Hunsaker Professor of Aeronautical Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who became Secretary of the Air Force a month ago, will present the annual Minta Martin Lecture at M.I.T. Tuesday, March 11.

The lecture, titled "Action and Reaction," will be given at 8 p.m. in the Compton Lecture Hall, Room 26-100.

The Minta Martin Lecture is delivered annually in conjunction with the Hunsaker professorship, which was established in 1954 in honor of Dr. Jerome C. Hunsaker, retired head of the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics and a pioneer in aeronautical engineering education. Hunsaker professors are visitors who are distinguished in aeronautical and astronautical sciences and serve for one year.

A special gift by the late Glenn L. Martin, famed aircraft manufacturer, provides for presentation of the lectures, which are named in memory of his mother. The Hunsaker professor also presents the lecture each year at the University of Maryland and elsewhere.

Dr. Seamans is a former top official of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. He was the agency's associate administrator from 1960 to 1965 and deputy administrator from 1965 to 1968 when he left and became visiting professor at M.I.T.

Dr. Seamans was midway through his term as Hunsaker professor when he was asked by the new Secretary of Defense, Melvin Laird, to become Secretary of the Air Force. He was granted leave to accept the post, but said at the time of the appointment that he planned to present the Minta Martin Lecture as planned. He already had begun preparation of the lecture.

When Dr. Seamans came to M.I.T., as visiting professor, he was rejoining the faculty he left in 1955 to enter industry and later government. A native of Beverly, Mass., Dr. Seamans was graduated from Harvard University in 1939 and entered M.I.T. as a graduate student in aeronautics. He received the master of science degree from M.I.T. in 1942 and from 1941 to 1955 held teaching and professorial positions in the department. He was awarded the doctor of science degree from the Institute in 1951.

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Dr. R. C. Seamans, Jr. --2

Dr. Seamans left M.I.T. to join the Radio Corporation of America as a top engineering manager and continued with that firm until he was appointed to the top echelon of the space agency in 1960. At NASA, he was responsible for all research and development programs and operations, the field laboratories, and research centers as well as rocket testing, assembly and launch facilities and a world-wide tracking network.

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