



U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

**United States
Secret Service**

Press Release

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Contact: (202) 406-5708
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RETIRED U.S. SECRET SERVICE DIRECTOR H. STUART KNIGHT DIES

Served as 15th Director from 1973 to 1981

(Washington, D.C.) – H. Stuart Knight, retired Director of the United States Secret Service, died on Monday, September 7, 2009, after an extended illness. He was 88 years old.

Mr. Knight was appointed as the 15th Director of the U.S. Secret Service on November 7, 1973, and served in that position for eight years. During his tenure as director, Mr. Knight oversaw the expansion of Secret Service training and modernization of the agency's management techniques.

Mr. Knight retired as Director of the Secret Service on November 30, 1981, following a career that lasted more than 31 years.

“Director Knight provided exemplary leadership to this agency. His work leaves an indelible mark on the Secret Service which will serve as a lasting legacy in his honor,” says Secret Service Director Mark Sullivan.

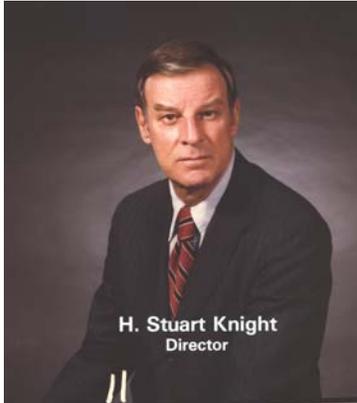
Mr. Knight was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada, on January 6, 1921. His family later moved to Detroit, Michigan, where he spent his formative years. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II where he was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star and Purple Heart. Following his military service, Mr. Knight completed undergraduate studies in criminal justice at Michigan State University in 1948. Prior to his career with the Secret Service, he served as a police officer in Berkeley, California.

Mr. Knight began his career with the Secret Service in 1950 as a special agent assigned to the Detroit Field Office. His subsequent career assignments included the Presidential Protective Division, the Los Angeles Field Office and the Office of Inspection. He also served in the supervisory position of Special Agent in Charge for the Vice Presidential Protective Division, the Washington Field Office and the Special Investigations Division. Prior to his appointment as director, he served as the Assistant Director of the Office of Administration.

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For questions concerning this release, please contact the United States Secret Service Office of Government and Public Affairs at 202-406-5708.

Photos courtesy of the U.S. Secret Service Archives



Retired U.S. Secret Service Director H. Stuart Knight. Knight passed away on Monday, September 7.



Agents H. Stuart Knight and James J. Rowley accompany President Eisenhower as he departs the Old Executive Office Building. James J. Rowley served as the 14th Director of the U.S. Secret Service.



Agents H. Stuart Knight and Robert Taylor at the ambassador's residence in Caracas, Venezuela, examine damage done to Vice President Nixon's car by protesters in May 1958.