

TITLE: In Memoriam: John Alex McCone

AUTHOR: Judge William H. Webster

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Secret
NOFORN

In Memoriam



John Alex McCone

(Portrait by William F. Draper)

Secret

Secret
NOFORN**JOHN ALEX McCONE**

TENURE AS DCI 29 November 1961–28 April 1965

BIRTH 4 January 1902, San Francisco, California

EDUCATION Attended University of California

APPOINTMENT Appointed by President John F. Kennedy, 27 September 1961
Sworn in as recess appointee, 29 November 1961
Confirmed by U.S. Senate, 31 January 1962

RELIEVED Resigned, effective 28 April 1965

DEPUTY DIRECTOR Lieutenant General Marshall A. Carter, U.S. Army

EARLIER CAREER Private business
Member of President's Air Policy Commission, 1947–1948
Deputy to the Secretary of Defense, March–November 1948
Under Secretary of the Air Force, 1950–1951
Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, 1958–1960

LATER CAREER Private business
Counselor to the President's Commission on Strategic Forces, 1983
Received Presidential Medal of Freedom, 1987

DEATH 14 February 1991, Pebble Beach, California

John A. McCone, who served as Director of Central Intelligence from 1961 to 1965, made an enormous contribution to the security of this nation. He guided the Intelligence Community during a particularly trying time, and it was under his leadership that the Central Intelligence Agency provided vital information to President Kennedy and senior policymakers during the Cuban missile crisis.

Mr. McCone was sharp, tough, and demanding—qualities that made him a highly effective

and widely respected leader. As DCI, Mr. McCone strengthened the Intelligence Community's capabilities and maintained its reputation for unbiased analysis. A strong advocate of technical collection, Mr. McCone created a new Directorate for Science and Technology and coordinated overhead reconnaissance program responsibilities with the Air Force.

Mr. McCone's long and distinguished career in government was marked by excellence, integrity, and selfless devotion to duty.

Judge William H. Webster