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ALFRED COX, 57, DIES; FAR EASTERN EXPERT

Special to The New York Times WASHINGTON, July 16 — Alfred T. Cox, who retired in 1971 as a Department of Defense specialist on Far Eastern matters, died Monday at his home in Arlington Towers Apartments in Arlington, Va. He was 57 years old. Mr. Cox was a 1940 graduate

Mr. Cox was a 1940 graduate of Lehigh University where he was a Phi Beta Kappa student, and captain of three sports' teams. In World War II, as an Army officer assigned to the Office of Strategic Services, he saw action in North Africa and Italy and commanded a paratroop unit that landed in France before the invasion for liaison with the French underground. Later transferred to China, he organized and trained Chinese commando troops, and was a lieutenant-colonel when he left the service in 1946.

Was a neutrant-coroner when he left the service in 1946. Later he was associated with Central Intelligence Agency. He was also active in the Civil Air Transport, a Hong Kong-based airline. He was special assistant in 1949 to Claire L. Chennault, its president, and later became vice president and then president, serving from 1952 to 1955.

Surviving are a son, Steven L. Cox; a brother, Francis A. Cox, a vice president of The New York Times; and two sisters, Mrs. Levi Mock, and Mrs. Raymond Schnoes.

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Alfred T. Cox, C5 Former CIA Employee

Alfred T. Cox, 58, formerly with the Office of Strategic Services and the Central Intelligence Agency, died Friday at his home at Arlington Towers. He had suffered from a liver ailment.

Born in New York City, Mr. Cox was a graduate of Lehigh University, where he had been a star athlete.

During World War II, he was assigned to OSS and was a paratroop unit commander in North Africa, Italy, France and China.

Mr. Cox was considered an expert on Far Eastern aviation, unconventional warfare and counterinsurgency affairs. He was president of Civil Air Transport from 1949 to 1955 and then was with CIA until his retirement in 1964.

For the next five years, Mr. Cox was an independent contractor, doing historical research and writing, mainly for the Pentagon.

He is survived by a son, Steven, at present doing archeological research in Labrador; a brother, Francis A., of New York, and two sisters. Esther Schnoes, of Minneapolis, and Amelia Mock, of Bluffton, Ind.