

# Warren Olney Dies, Was Justice Official

Warren Olney III, 74, former U.S. assistant attorney general and director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, died of cancer Wednesday in Berkeley, Calif.

As assistant attorney general from 1953 to 1957, Olney was in charge of the criminal division of the Department of Justice.

Among his accomplishments were the successful prosecutions of several members of Congress and Internal Revenue collectors and his handling of a number of politically sensitive cases. Olney was known for his zeal in civil rights, helping to create a separate civil rights division within the Justice Department.

Less than a year after serving his term as assistant attorney general, he was appointed director of the administrative office of the courts. He served there 10 years, until his retirement in 1967. As director, he also served as executive officer of the Judicial Conference of the United States.

The administration office was created in 1939 to serve as a business office for the 100 federal courts. It prepares the annual budget, keeps statistics on caseloads and court trends and prepares an annual report on work of the federal courts. Olney was its second director.

Chief Justice Warren Burger credited him for guiding the office "in its modern period of expansion"

and for the creation of the Federal Judicial Center.

Burger explained that the center was established as a kind of "efficiency expert" for the federal court system.

Born in Oakland, Calif., Olney received his A.B. degree in 1925 from the University of California and his J.D. degree in 1927 from the University of California Law School. In 1954, he received an LL.D. from Mills College.

Olney served for two years as deputy district attorney of Contra Costa County in California.

From 1930 to 1932, he was associated with McCuthen, Olney, Mannon, and Greene, a San Francisco law firm. After a stint as the deputy district attorney of Alameda County, he returned there.

In 1939, he became the California assistant attorney general in charge of the criminal division. He served there until 1942, leaving to join the Fourth Marine Air Wing stationed in the Pacific.

Until his Supreme Court appointment to the administrative office, Olney worked in the San Francisco law firm of Olney and Elder and served as chief counsel to the Special Crime Study Commission on Organized Crime of the University of California.

Olney leaves his wife, Elizabeth, of the Berkeley home, and three children, Elizabeth Anderson, Margaret Olney and Warren Olney IV, all of San Francisco.