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Hoover Lies in State in Capitol

By NAN ROBERTSON
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WASHINGTON, May 3—

The body of J. Edgar Hoover, an almost mythical American who inspired both dread and veneration in his lifetime, was carried through the rain today to lie in state at the Capitol.

His flag-wrapped coffin was placed on Abraham Lincoln's black catafalque in the Rotunda, the first time in history such an honor has been accorded to a civil servant in a place virtually reserved for Presidents, military heroes and members of Congress.

High Government officials crushed into the domed chamber to hear Chief Justice Warren E. Burger eulogize the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as "this splendid man who dedicated his life to his country in a half-century of unparalleled service."

Treasury Secretary John B. Connally bore President Nixon's wreath of carnations and cornflowers in tribute to Mr. Hoover who died yesterday at the age of 77.

Served 8 Presidents

During 48 years as director of the F.B.I., he served eight Presidents and 16 Attorneys General, ruling unchallenged over what the Chief Justice called "the institution that is, in a very real sense, the lengthened shadow of a man."

Mr. and Mrs. Nixon did not attend the short service at the Capitol. But the President will deliver the eulogy at a funeral service to be held at 11 A.M. tomorrow at the National Presbyterian Church, where Mr. Hoover was a lifelong parishioner.

Following the funeral service, burial will be in historic Congressional Cemetery, one of the capital's oldest, in the city where Mr. Hoover lived all his life.

The Rev. Dr. Edward L. R. Elson, pastor of the church and chaplain of the Senate, gave today's opening prayer. He will conduct tomorrow's service.

"We thank thee this day for Thy servant J. Edgar Hoover, for his life-long trust in Three, his steadfast devotion to the nation, his elevated patriotism, his fidelity in a position of high trust, his commitment to justice and peace in the nation," Dr. Elson intoned.

Earlier, while waiting at the top of the Capitol steps for the hearse bearing the body of his friend, the minister said quietly:

"He grew up with us in the church. As a boy he sang in the choir. He was a Sunday

Eulogy Is Delivered by Chief Justice in Crowded Rotunda

school teacher, and a trustee. The one pastoral call I made every New Year's Day was to him, on his birthday."

The hearse rolled to the foot of the steps 25 minutes late, at 11:25 A.M., as a drizzle deepened to a steady downpour. Ranks of servicemen stood rigid on either side of the steps. There was a profound silence across the Capitol plaza, where, in less than a decade, the bodies of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Herbert Hoover and General of the Army Douglas MacArthur had been brought to the sound of dirges and drums.

In the hush, eight young military men moved noiselessly in slow march toward the car, eyes fixed ahead, looking eerily like sleepwalkers.

Senators Arrived First

They, hunched over and struggling with the coffin's weight, they bore their burden with agonizing slowness up the 35 steps to the top, their faces beaded with rain and sweat.

The young pallbearers moved through the great bronze doors of the Rotunda. Inside, the Supreme Court, the Cabinet, Senators and Representatives stood packed in a tight circle behind velvet ropes around the catafalque.

The Senators had arrived

Hoover Freedom Award Set Up by Boys' Clubs

The Boys' Clubs of America announced yesterday the establishment of a J. Edgar Hoover Freedom Award to perpetuate the late F.B.I. director's "memory and his inspiration to millions of American boys."

A. L. Cole, board chairman of the clubs, announced the award in a telegram to President Nixon, The Associated Press reported.

Mr. Cole, who noted that Mr. Hoover served for more than 30 years on the national board of directors of the Boys' Clubs, described him as "a vital source of strength and wisdom to hundreds of thousands of Boys' Club Members."

The new award will be presented annually "to that American who best typifies those principles to which Mr. Hoover dedicated his life," Cole said.

first in the great room, 96 feet in diameter and 180 feet high. Then the Justices and the Cabinet filed in. Last came the members of the House, led by Speaker Carl Albert, Democrat of Oklahoma. Gov. Ronald Reagan of California entered and joined them.

Those bearing the coffin gently settled it on its black bier. Then, the vigil was taken up by the Presidential honor guard, with one member of each of the services standing at the four corners of the catafalque and at its head. The only sound was a telephone somewhere nearby, ringing twice.

Dr. Elson moved forward for the prayer. He asked that those present might be "brave as he was brave, loyal as he was loyal, serve as he served, love the nation as he loved it, worship Thee as he worshipped Thee."

Chief Justice Burger, in black robes like the rest of the members of the Supreme Court, was next at the podium. "John Edgar Hoover, who was known to his intimates as Edgar and to two generations of Americans as J. Edgar Hoover, was a man who epitomized the American dream of patriotism, dedication to duty and successful attainment," he began.

Portrait in His Office

The Chief Justice spoke of how Mr. Hoover, as a young Government lawyer, "caught the eye of Attorney General Harlan Stone, who was later to become Chief Justice."

"Mr. Stone placed him at the head of the department that was to become the F.B.I." Justice Burger went on.

"When Edgar Hoover left his office for the last time on Monday evening," he said, "the portrait of Chief Justice Stone was the one ornament that dominated his office."

Mr. Burger called Mr. Hoover "a man of great courage who would not sacrifice principle to popular clamor."

He concluded: "I am proud to join in this salute to a great American who served his country so well and earned the admiration of all who believe in ordered liberty."

The Rev. Dr. Edward Latch, chaplain of the House, then pronounced the Benediction.

As the body lay in state, an antiwar group began a protest. It planned a 36-hour reading of names of Vietnam dead, a nighttime liturgical drama and a candlelight march—all on the Capitol grounds.

The Rotunda remained open all night long, with the honor guard changing watch every 30 minutes.