

# Friends, Critics Speak of Hoover

Examiner News Services

WASHINGTON—There was immediate reaction today to the death of J. Edgar Hoover—from his foes and friends alike.

One of Hoover's most frequent critics, columnist Jack Anderson, paid high tribute to Hoover's services in changing the FBI "from a collection of hacks, misfits and courthouse hangers - on into one of the world's most effective and formidable law enforcement organizations."

"Under his reign, not a single FBI man ever tried to fix a case, defraud the taxpayers or sell out his country," Anderson said.

"Hoover was also scrupulous at first not to step beyond the bounds of a policeman. But I would be hypocritical not to point out that in his fading years he sometimes stepped across those bounds."

Anderson said he has criticized the FBI for exceeding its jurisdiction to investigate

"the business dealings, sex habits and personal affairs of prominent Americans."

He said he hopes Hoover's successor will "run the FBI as Hoover did in the beginning."

Vice President Agnew applauded the "high standards of integrity, honor and professionalism" which he said Hoover brought to the nation's foremost law enforcement agency.

"He stood steadfast against the political assault and personal vilification that sought to undermine his stature late in his career," the vice president said.

Former attorney general, John Mitchell, said at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va., that Hoover's loss is a

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# Friends, Critics Join in Tribute

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great tragedy for the country.

Charges that Hoover had not devoted enough of FBI's resources to civil rights were "absolutely untrue," Mitchell said, adding Hoover devoted more men to that cause than to any other activity of the department.

"Wow! Wow! Wow! Wow!" was the reaction of Yippie leader Jerry Rubin, another longtime Hoover antagonist, when informed by telephone of the death.

Rubin was prosecuted by the Justice Department and convicted of conspiracy in connection with the disorders at the Democratic national convention in Chicago in 1968.

Later Rubin issued a statement in Norman, Okla., saying:

"Wow! He was punished by God for his crimes against the people of the United States. I have information that he was poisoned by hippie agents within the FBI. The Yippies will hold funeral services for J. Edgar Hoover in Miami during July during the Democratic national convention."

Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who feuded with Hoover while Hoover's nominal boss, said:

"I am saddened to hear of his death. He has been a major figure on the American scene for a long time. He loved this country and we shall miss him."

Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) said in New York:

"I think we can only be sad over the passing of any American, any citizen, any mortal."

Sen. Edmund Muskie declared the nation owes Hoover "its gratitude and respect."

Muskie's statement added:

"Edgar Hoover devoted his entire life to the service of his country. While some of us may have questioned some of his approaches in recent years, no one could question his loyalty and dedication to his country."

Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota mourned him as "a man of unquestioned ability, personal integrity and professional competence."

In Los Angeles, Dr. Benjamin Spock said Hoover's death is a "great relief" for the American people.

Spock, Provisional People's Party presidential nominee, said Hoover "clearly had no idea what democracy meant" and said he hoped whoever replaced the FBI chief would be a man who better understands the American process.

## Alioto's Tribute

Mayor Alioto, when informed of the death of FBI Director Hoover, said:

"I am quite certain that in historical perspective J. Edgar Hoover will be regarded

as a man who built one of the truly great police organizations in the world.

"Mr. Hoover was a great American institution and his death will be greatly mourned."