

Nixon Leads Officials in Paying Tribute to the Director of F. B. I.

Following are tributes to J. Edgar Hoover that were expressed yesterday:

PRESIDENT NIXON—All Americans today mourn the death of J. Edgar Hoover. He served his nation as Director of the F. B. I. for 48 years under eight American Presidents with total loyalty, unparalleled ability and supreme dedication. It can truly be said of him that he was a legend in his own lifetime. For millions he was the symbol and embodiment of the values he cherished most: courage, patriotism, dedication to his country and a granite-like honesty and integrity. In times of controversy, Mr. Hoover was never a man to run from a fight. His magnificent contribution to making this a great and good nation will be remembered by the American people long after the petty carping and vicious criticisms of his detractors are forgotten. The F. B. I. he literally created and built is today universally regarded as the finest law-enforcement agency in the world. The F. B. I. is the eternal monument honoring this great American.

VICE PRESIDENT AGNEW—J. Edgar Hoover stood steadfast against the political assaults and personal vilification that sought to undermine his stature late in his career. . . . They disliked him for the qualities that endeared him to all other Americans, his total dedication to principle and his complete incorruptibility.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES WARREN E. BURGER—The



United Press International

President Nixon telling reporters at the White House yesterday that he had ordered all the flags on Government buildings to be flown at half staff.

country has lost one of the great public servants in all of its history. He has justly been and will be an American legend. In dedicating his life to building the F. B. I., J. Edgar Hoover did so without impinging on the liberties guaranteed by the Constitution and by our traditions.

SENATOR JAMES O. EASTLAND, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee—The modern tradition of law enforcement in America was built around J. Edgar Hoover. His courage, integrity and character was a model for all men who would dedicate themselves to the protection of the lives and prop-

erty of their fellow citizens.

REPRESENTATIVE EMANUEL CELLER, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee—I disagreed with him on the questions of civil rights and personal liberties, but that did not mar our cordial relations. . . . His was a life of personal achievement, but I believe his passing marks an end of an era.

SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY—The nation has lost a dedicated and loyal public servant. . . . Even those who differed with him always had the highest respect for his honesty, integrity, and his desire to do what he thought was best for the country.

SENATOR HUBERT H. HUMPHREY—J. Edgar Hoover has been for better than 40 years one of the central figures of our time—a man of unquestioned ability, personal integrity and professional competence.

SENATOR WILLIAM PROXMIRE—This nation owes an unusual debt to Mr. Hoover. Ironically, that debt is in the very area in which he was most vigorously criticized. He developed a police force consistent with democratic principles.

SENATOR ERNEST F. HOLLINGS—The director has been attacked by liberal forces for the tenacity of his resistance to crime. But the people of this country knew that J. Edgar Hoover personified law and order. They felt secure in his presence.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY JOHN B. CONNALLY—His leadership, his coopera-



Associated Press

Former Attorney General John N. Mitchell paying tribute to J. Edgar Hoover at White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

tion with other agencies and his campaign to professionalize anticrime efforts at local, state and national levels will be long remembered.

SENATOR EDMUND S. MUSKIE—J. Edgar Hoover devoted his entire life to the service of his country. Some of us may have questioned some of his approaches in recent years, but no one could question his loyalty or dedication to his country. The nation owes Mr. Hoover its gratitude and respect.

SENATOR GEORGE MCGOVERN—I think we can only be sad over the passing of an American, any citizen, any mortal. I am sad at his passing.

SENATOR HENRY M. JACKSON—In the final analysis, it

is the personal qualities of J. Edgar Hoover, his courage, his integrity, his self-discipline, that live on today in the great institution he leaves behind.

JOHN N. MITCHELL, former Attorney General—All of America is indebted to him for his construction of the F. B. I. and for its outstanding operation over the years. Anybody that would say anything against J. Edgar Hoover, his integrity, his honesty and his ability was absolutely maligning him.

RAMSEY CLARK, former Attorney General—He was a major figure on the American scene. This is hardly the time to talk about differences—right now we mourn his death.

JOHN E. INGERSOLL, director of the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs—As an American and particularly as a law enforcement man I feel a profound sense of loss.

ROBERT MORSE, United States Attorney, Eastern District—The death of J. Edgar Hoover is a loss to every American.

LEON JAWORSKI, president of the American Bar Association—I know of no man in modern history who contributed more to law enforcement in our nation than J. Edgar Hoover.

GEORGE MURPHY, president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police—He created an outstanding law enforcement agency which he made an outstanding contribution to the nation's fight against crime and the upgrading of law enforcement in this country.