

GENERAL ORDERS }
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No. 1

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 1 March 1999**THE HONORABLE ELVIS J. STAHR, JR.**

The death of Elvis J. Stahr, Jr. on November 11, 1998, in Greenwich, Connecticut, is announced with deep regret. A noted educator, environmentalist, and lawyer, Mr. Elvis J. Stahr, Jr. died of cancer at his home in Greenwich, Connecticut. He served as the Secretary of the Army from 1961-1962.

Mr. Stahr was an individual of the highest ideals. His courage, sound judgment, and leadership produced educational and military achievements of great value to his country. Mr. Stahr served as President of West Virginia University between 1958 and 1961, Secretary of the Army in 1961 and 1962, and President of Indiana University from 1962 through 1968. From 1968 to 1981, he served as President and Senior Counselor of the National Audubon Society.

Mr. Stahr was born in Hickman, Kentucky, in 1916, the only child of Elvis J. Stahr, Sr., a Kentucky state judge, and Mary McDaniel Stahr. He graduated with an AB from the University of Kentucky in 1936 and, as a Rhodes Scholar, with a BA in law from Oxford University in 1939. He served in the United States Army in North Africa and China between 1942 and 1946, attaining the rank of Lieutenant Colonel before turning 30. After leaving military service, Mr. Stahr married Dorothy Howland Berkfield of New York in 1946. He practiced law in New York at the law firm Mudge, Stern, Williams, and Tucker for some years both before and after the war.

In 1947 Mr. Stahr returned to his alma mater, the University of Kentucky, as professor of law and, between 1948 and 1956, as dean of the law school. The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce named him one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men in America in 1948. Working with the University's president and the late Justice Thurgood Marshall, Mr. Stahr assisted in desegregating the law school in the late 1940s. He later took a leave from the University to work as a special assistant to President Truman's Army Secretary, the late Frank Pace, Jr.

Mr. Stahr's interest and involvement in American higher education continued through most of his career. In 1956, Mr. Stahr left Kentucky to serve in Washington, DC as Staff Director of President Eisenhower's Commission on Education Beyond High School; the Commission emphasized the importance of public universities in providing academic opportunities for this country's burgeoning college age population. In 1957 and 1958, Stahr held the position of Vice Chancellor for the Professions at the University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Stahr was appointed President of West Virginia University in 1958. He led West Virginia University until 1961.

President John F. Kennedy appointed Mr. Stahr Secretary of the Army at the beginning of his administration in 1961. Under his direction, a major reorganization plan was launched, the combat division structure reorganized, special warfare forces expanded, community relations (Civic Action) enlarged, and the Army strengthened during the Berlin crisis. Mr. Stahr led the Army during the Berlin and Bay of Pigs crises and nationalized the Alabama National Guard in 1961 when the Kennedy administration undertook to desegregate the University of Alabama. Mr. Stahr completed his tour as the Secretary of the Army on 30 June 1962. Later in his career,

Mr. Stahr served as President of the Association of the United States Army (1965-68) and as National Chairman of the USO (1973-76).

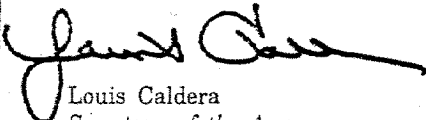
In 1962, Mr. Stahr was appointed President of Indiana University. He led the University through the 1960s, years of racial and political unrest in academic institutions. Notwithstanding these problems, the University expanded its infrastructure and student population significantly during the 1960s.

In 1968, Mr. Stahr assumed the presidency of the National Audubon Society and undertook a new focus on environmental issues. Among his achievements as president of National Audubon, Mr. Stahr led efforts to preserve the Florida Everglades region from commercial and industrial development, to prevent environmental harm caused by various dam and water projects, and to obtain accords on international whaling practices. Additionally, Mr. Stahr organized and chaired the Coalition of Concerned Charities, which successfully campaigned to liberalize United States tax laws to allow charitable organizations to lobby on public policy issues. Under Mr. Stahr, the membership of the Audubon Society increased about fourfold.

Mr. Stahr served on numerous corporate boards of directors, including the boards of the Chase Manhattan Corporation and Acacia Mutual Life Insurance Company. He received more than 27 honorary degrees from colleges and universities.

Mr. Stahr retired from the Audubon Society in 1981. He resumed the private practice of law and continued various lobbying activities on environmental issues. He also has provided consulting services to various public universities to assist them in obtaining federal funding.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy Stahr of Greenwich, Connecticut, and by three children—Stephanie Stahr of Vienna, Virginia, Stuart Stahr of Wappinger Falls, New York and Bradford Stahr of Greenwich, Connecticut—and two grandchildren, Emily and Jessica Metzger of Vienna.



Louis Caldera
Secretary of the Army

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