

## **SENATOR CHIC HECHT US Senate (Deceased)**



A former Senator from Nevada, Chic Hecht was known as much for his verbal miscues as for his upset victory in his US Senate race in 1982. However, to the Military Intelligence (MI) Corps he was known as a highly successful Intelligence Agent. Between 1951 and 1953, a time of extreme political and military tension between the United States and the USSR, Senator Hecht served as a US Army Soldier assigned to sensitive intelligence operations in Berlin. During this tour of duty he was a member of an exceptionally successful intelligence collection effort responsible for running source operations against Communist military forces in East Berlin. It was his work and that of the other Army collection teams operating in Europe, but most especially those based in Berlin, that is credited with laying the foundations for today's special HUMINT operations.

After successfully running for Nevada State Senate in 1966, Mr. Hecht was elected to the US Senate in 1982, where he served on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence beginning in 1984. From his position on that committee, Senator Hecht steadfastly supported the Armed Services intelligence efforts by providing the necessary funding and authority for strong, improved, and expanded national Intelligence and Counterintelligence programs. Using the knowledge and credibility of his own personal experience as a field operator, he sponsored and defended numerous highly sensitive intelligence programs. He also showed consistent, effective support for interagency coordination and support within the US Intelligence Community, with a particular emphasis on civilian agency assistance to MI requirements. In his execution of Senate legislative responsibilities, he emphasized the importance of understanding MI requirements from the perspective of field operating personnel, making numerous personal visits to field units to acquire first-hand knowledge and impressions.

Senator Hecht served one term in the US Senate, failing in his bid for reelection. After that, he served for five years as the US Ambassador to the Bahamas before returning to private business.

Senator Hecht was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 1988. He passed away on 15 May 2006.



**Senator Chic Hecht**



**Senator Hecht is congratulated by MG Julius Parker at the MI Hall of Fame ceremonies in 1988.**