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## **Vice Admiral William O. Studeman, USN**

**1988 - 1992**

Vice Admiral William O. Studeman was born in Brownsville, Texas, on 16 January 1940. He attended college at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, where he graduated in 1962 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. He received a master's degree in public and international affairs from George Washington University in 1973. He is a graduate of the Naval War College, which he attended from August 1972 to July 1973, and the National War College, which he attended between July 1980 and June 1981. After graduation from Officer Candidate School in 1963, Vice Admiral Studeman attended Pre-flight and Naval Flight Officer School at Pensacola, Florida. Upon graduation from Fleet Operational Intelligence Training Center, Pacific, he was assigned as an air intelligence officer and made several deployments to the western Pacific aboard USS *Yorktown*.

Following completion of postgraduate education at the Defense Intelligence School in Washington, DC, Vice Admiral Studeman reported to the staff of the commander, Amphibious Group One, and was twice deployed to the Seventh Fleet as an operational intelligence officer. Subsequent duty stations included Naples with air and antisubmarine elements of the Sixth Fleet, Washington duty in the Navy Intelligence Command, including an extended period of time temporarily assigned to DIA for duty in Iran. He was then assigned to the office of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) as executive assistant to the Director of Naval Intelligence. He also served on the staff of the commander, Atlantic Fleet, and as assistant chief of staff for Intelligence on the staff of the commander, Sixth Fleet, at Gaeta, Italy.

In 1980 Vice Admiral Studeman returned to Washington duty, ultimately serving as executive assistant to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations and as commanding officer of the Navy Operational Intelligence Center.

Vice Admiral Studeman's first flag assignment was as the director of the Long Range Planning

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Group and executive director of the Advanced Technology Panel of the CNO Executive Board. He succeeded Rear Admiral Butts as the fifty-third Director of Naval Intelligence in September 1985.

In 1988 Vice Admiral Studeman became the Director of NSA. His tenure saw several events which led to major changes in the way the Agency went about its business. First and foremost among these was the unexpected and sudden collapse of the Soviet Union and its Eastern European empire of satellite states. With the demise of the principal opponent of the U.S., the Agency was faced with the prospect of having to shift resources away from a single, monolithic and fairly predictable target to a world that presented numerous challenges, many from areas that had been relatively ignored for decades. Also of significance, the Agency had to deal with the need to provide rapid and direct support to U.S. and coalition forces deployed to Saudi Arabia to counter the invasion of Kuwait by Iraqi military forces. Led by Vice Admiral Studeman, NSA met the demands placed on it by the novel need to make intelligence available to a myriad of nations, some of whom had been seen as recent adversaries. An additional challenge was presented by the need to begin downsizing the Agency, a move necessitated by congressional mandate.

Following his tour at NSA, Admiral Studeman became deputy director of CIA from 1992 to 1995, and served as acting director of CIA in 1995. He retired from military service in 1995. Since then, he has been active in private industry, and has served on the Defense Science Board, an advisory committee established to provide independent advice to the secretary of defense.

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