

RICHARD E. THOMPSON

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Background

University of Southern California

Raised in California

Studies at the University of Madrid, Spain and Occidental College

Joined the State Department as courier, 1965

Marine Corps Reserve Officer

State Department; Diplomatic Courier training	1965
Frankfort, Germany; Diplomatic Courier Training	1965
Accompanying senior Diplomatic Courier	
Frankfort, Germany; Diplomatic Courier	1965-1970
Length of trips	
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General Diplomatic Courier organization	
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Frankfort, Germany; Diplomatic Courier Mode of travel End of "paired" trips Base change from Beirut to Athens Cyprus Area covered	1977-1982
Bangkok, Thailand; Diplomatic Courier China Airlines used	1982-1985
General comments on experience Third World Airlines Accra, Ghana coup Sanaa, Yemen & Six Day War David Newton Syria Book reading Sleeping on duty	
State Department; Officer in Charge, West Africa, Regional Diplomatic Career Office Scheduling and monitoring operations Bureau of Diplomatic Security Recruitment of diplomatic couriers Family Personal attributes of a courier Training Organization of office	1985- ?
State Department; Deputy Director, Regional Diplomatic Office West Africa and Caribbean Managerial responsibilities	?

Bangkok, Thailand; Chief, Regional Courier Office 2001-?

- Area of responsibility
- Airlines and routes
- Rate negotiations
- Problems with class of flight
- Relation with and to Embassy
- Housing
- Diplomatic status
- Environment
- Office structure

State Department; Deputy Director, Office of Diplomatic Security ?

- Policy and Personnel
- Duties
- Relations with other agencies
- Personnel assignment process
- WAE's (When Actually Employed) personnel
- Ordered cutbacks
- Problems with Russia
- Helsinki negotiations with Russia
- Pouch priorities

Retirement 1997

- Comments re passing FSO written, failing oral
- Comments on career
- Courier trips
- Authored test for candidates for Diplomatic Courier