

President Reagan greets former NSA Deputy Director Robert E. Rich, Mrs. Rich and the Rich family, and others including LTG William Odom, Director NSA. In this ceremony, the President is presenting Mr. Rich with the National Security Medal. The award citation is read noting Mr. Rich's exemplary performance as Deputy Director NSA and his distinguished cryptologic career spanning 36 years at NSA.

Mr. Rich, through his unique leadership and management skills and unblemished personal integrity, is recognized as one of the key individuals instrumental in shaping the national cryptologic effort into the dynamic and sophisticated system it has become today. His personal efforts in structuring the information base available to national decision makers in dealing with the *Achille Lauro*, KAL007, TWA flight 840 and Libyan terrorism incidents are testimony to his significant contributions. Mr. Rich's superior achievements, which are recognized at all levels of government, deserve the highest recognition of both meritorious service to this nation and merit the award of the National Security Medal.

As he pins the medal on Mr. Rich's chest, the President congratulates Mr. Rich, thanks him for his service to the country and wishes him the best. Mr. Rich thanks the President and says he hopes we can keep that going to which the President replies that he is sure he will. The President presents Mr. Rich with the citation binder and thanks him again. Mr. Rich notes what a great pleasure it has been and an honor for the entire Agency. The President suggests a family photo and expresses his appreciation a final time.