

Mr. Thomas C. Finnie

Director of Management and Technology
Defense Mapping Agency
July 1972 – July 1974



Mr. Thomas C. Finnie graduated in civil engineering from the University of Kentucky and received his MBA from The George Washington University. Additionally, he attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and various other courses and seminars.

He served as an army officer in World War II, commanding the 66th Engineer Topographic Company during several southwest Pacific campaigns.

Mr. Finnie's distinguished career with the U.S. government started in July 1937 with the Department of Agriculture. He then practiced engineering and surveying and served on the faculty at the University of Kentucky. Prior to assuming his position with the Defense Mapping Agency (DMA), Mr. Finnie was affiliated with the Aeronautical Chart and Information Center in Washington, DC, and St. Louis, Missouri for a number of years. In February 1962, he became technical director of that organization, a position he held until joining DMA. He was one of the initial eight Department of Defense planners who assisted the director, Lt. Gen. Howard W. Penney, in organizing DMA in 1972.

Mr. Finnie retired from the federal government in 1974. In 2001 he was inducted into the National Imagery and Mapping Agency (NIMA) Hall of Fame.

Mr. Finnie was a member of the American Society of Photogrammetry, the American Congress on Surveying and Mapping, and the National Society of Professional Engineers and is a professional engineer and licensed surveyor in the State of Kentucky. His many awards for distinguished service include a Letter of Commendation from the Secretary of the Air Force, Outstanding Performance Ratings, Sustained Superior Performance award, and other commendations.