

# THE ROBERT ARCHIE STORY - YOUNG MAN WHO KNOWS WHERE HE'S GOING



## "LOOK OUT WORLD, HERE HE COMES!"

IT IS OFTEN said that in the United States any man can aspire to and reach any heights. The statement is the mouthings of either a parrot or a fool. It is true that few men fulfill their potential, but it is just as true that there are men of rare potential to whom there is no limitation to what they can achieve.

Such a man is 26-year-old Robert Archie who, just two weeks, became the fifth Negro lawyer to practice in the State of Nevada, and the only Negro attorney who is a product of the Nevada school system.

That Bob Archie is something "special" is indicated by the fact that upon his return to Las Vegas after graduating from Law School, he spent two and a half months as an investigator for the Public Defender's Office in Clark County, and was advised on October 10 that he had passed the Nevada Bar examination--Now, despite the fact that he was to report to the Army on November 11 to begin a two-year reserve commitment, on October 23, he was sworn as a Deputy Public Defender.

If Attorney Robert Archie isn't holding the office of the U.S. Attorney General within, at most, five years, after he returns from his stint with Uncle Sam, and a Supreme Court Justice (or President) in ten years, there is going to be a lot of astonished and disgruntled people in his hometown.

WHY DO they have this conviction of Bob's inevitable destiny? They have proudly followed his progress from the earliest green years.

Robert Archie attended the Westside and Madison Grammar Schools here, and graduated from Las Vegas High School. While a student at Las Vegas High, from 1955 through 1959, he commanded the high school ROTC and was, in fact, its only Negro commander and the last commander of the corps.

In his senior year, he was student body Sergeant at Arms, and was the State Oratorical champion at the University of Nevada Invitational Tournament.

In oratory, Bob was superb. He won numerous awards and trophies from the Lions Club, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and numerous other civic organizations. He participated in the first Sun Youth Forum, sponsored by the Las Vegas Sun, and was a finalist in that program. He also earned the distinction of being valedictorian of his graduating class.

UPON HIS graduation from high school, Bob was given an opportunity to go to Washington, D.C., and work under the auspices of Senator Howard W. Cannon, in order to obtain a college and law degree.

In Washington, he worked as an elevator operator in the Senate Chamber and in the Senate Office Buildings. For four years, he worked as a U.S. Capitol policeman guarding the Capitol grounds and the U.S. Congress. One summer was spent working as a clerk in the Senator's office.

Bob took leave from the Senator's patronage for one summer period to work as a civil rights compliance officer for the Office of Education under the direction of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. He was also a member

of a desegregation team which integrated schools in Texas, Arkansas, Southern Missouri, Louisiana, and New Mexico.

Upon returning to the Senator's staff, Bob worked for the Senate Post Office and from there was elevated to the position of legislative assistant to Senator Howard Cannon.

Bob is fulsome in his praise of Senator Cannon, and is extremely vocal in his appreciation to the Senator.

"THE SENATOR", Bob said, "has always been an avid supporter of my job ambitions and has always attempted to elevate me in any job position which I attempted because he thought I was definitely qualified. He has protected me from bigots on Capitol Hill. He has shown me management and administrative techniques which I never would have encountered if I had not worked for him."

At Howard University College of Liberal Arts, Bob majored in Economics and minored in Government. His extracurricular activities were numerous. He was a member of a 15-man steering committee which was elected to administer the affairs of the 1200-man freshman class of 1959. He was, also, a member of the University Dormitory Council, co-founder and co-administrator of the College of Liberal Arts Student Council newspaper "The Grapevine"; secretary to the National Military Honor Society "Scabbard and Blade"; member and vice-president of the University Debating Society and winner of numerous debate honors while participating.

As Deputy Commander and Cadet Colonel in Army ROTC, which duties included giving final grades to the 700 cadets in the Army ROTC program, he graded everyone but the Commanding Officer and himself, and was in charge of all administrative matters for ROTC holding the rather dubious title of Advisor to the Cadet Corps.

DOES IT not go without saying that Robert Archie was a distinguished military student and isn't it natural that he would receive the distinguished military graduate certificate which entitled him to a commission in the Regular Army? It is hardly surprising that he received the Cpt. Spencer Trophy for outstanding citizenship and military leadership. He is presently a First Lieutenant in the Air Force Artillery.

Bob's record in Law School is no less imposing. He was President of the freshman class; co-chairman of the committee that re-wrote the law school constitution; administrator of the Ford Foundation financed law school newspaper which was only the number one law school newspaper in the nation; and was one of the five men responsible for the establishment of a chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity, the largest Legal Fraternity in the nation. Guess who was chairman of the by-laws committee for Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity--Right--Robert Archie, a scholarship recipient for two and a half years of law school study.

There's not much else to review about Las Vegas' Bob Archie except to record the fact that on September 5, 1964, he topped all previous accomplishments by taking as his bride the lovely Inez pictured with him on this page--



Robert Archie and Clark County Public Defender Richard Bryan are pictured in the Library of the Public Defender's office (top left photo)...Bob's charming wife, Inez, graciously consented to be photographed in her office at ManPower Development Center where she holds the position of Training Coordinator (Top Center). Pictured with her is ManPower Director George Gant's executive secretary, Mrs. Irene Pfeiffer. Mrs. Archie obtained her B.A. degree at Howard University where she was a Sociology major...Other photos were snapped of "Fortune's children" during a Sunday afternoon of relaxation, poolside, at the Moulin Rouge Hotel where they enjoy a self-contained apartment awaiting their departure for his Army duty.