



Crispus C. Nix
Class of 1957

Crispus C. Nix, a native of Greenville, AL enrolled at Tuskegee Institute in 1953 on the Korean War GI Bill. He was a member of the "Golden Tigers," and played football from 1953 to 1957. From the position of right guard, he lettered for two years. It was his strong offensive play and defensive pressure on the Alabama State quarterback that contributed to a Tuskegee victory over Alabama State in the 1956 "Turkey Day Classic."

As a physical education major, Nix was a distinguished military student and was the Army ROTC Cadet Battalion Commander. He was the first Tuskegee Institute ROTC student to be commissioned in the Army Military Police Corp. Nix was a member of the Physical Education Club, Veterans Club, Young Men's Christian Association, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and also was an active member of the United States Army Reserve. He subsequently earned a Master of Arts Degree at South Carolina State University and is a graduate of the United States Army Command and General Staff College.

Nix served in key military law enforcement leadership positions throughout the United States and the Far East from 1966 to 1981. He was Provost Marshal at Fort Jackson, SC; Provost Marshal of 2nd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea; Commandant of the of United States Disciplinary Barracks, Fort Leavenworth, KS; which is the only maximum security institution for the Armed Forces. Nix was the first African American to serve as Commandant of the United States Disciplinary Barracks. Following a 1981 riot at the Iowa State Penitentiary, which resulted in \$2 million in damages and the death of one inmate, he was appointed the first African American Warden in the State of Iowa. He created a Correctional Emergency Response Team, developed contingency plans and upgraded the infrastructure. In 1986 riotous inmates again seized control of a cell house and took seven staff personnel hostage. It was his prior planning, that resulted in the staff's skillful execution of emergency plans that extracted staff personnel without any death or major injuries.

He is affiliated with several organizations: Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, American Correctional Association, American Legion, NAACP, Retired Military Police Officers Association, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Nix is a strong recruiter and consistent financial supporter of Tuskegee University.