

GENERAL ORDERS

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The death of General of the Army GEORGE CATLETT MARSHALL, United States Army, which occurred at 1808 hours on 16 October 1959, is announced with deep regret.

General MARSHALL was born at Uniontown, Pennsylvania, on 31 December 1880. He was graduated from the Virginia Military Institute in June 1901 and entered the Army as a second lieutenant of Infantry on 3 February 1902. He joined the 80th Infantry in the Philippines in May 1902, and in November 1903 returned with his regiment to Oklahoma. He was an honor graduate of the Infantry-Cavalry School in 1907 and a graduate of the Army Staff College in 1908, after which he served for two years as an instructor in the Department of Military Engineering at the Fort Leavenworth Army Service Schools. In June 1911, he was assigned as Inspector-Instructor of the Massachusetts National Guard.

In September 1912, he was assigned as Company Commander, 4th Infantry, at Fort Logan H. Roots and later at Galveston, Texas. From June 1913 to May 1916, General MARSHALL had duty with the 13th Infantry, was Chief of Staff of Field Detachment Number 1 on maneuvers, Aide-de-Camp to Brigadier General Hunter Liggett at Fort William McKinley and Headquarters Philippine Department, Manila, Philippine Islands. In May 1916, he became Aide-de-Camp to Major General J. Franklin Bell and Assistant to the Department Adjutant, Headquarters, Western Department, San Francisco, California, and later Staff Officer, Headquarters, Eastern Department, Governors Island, New York.

General MARSHALL crossed to Europe with the first contingent in World War I, serving with the 1st Division as Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations until July 1918. Following his service on the St. Mihiel, Picardy, and Cantigny fronts in 1918, he was assigned to General Headquarters at Chaumont and given the task of drafting plans for the St. Mihiel offensive. As that battle got under way, he was assigned the problem of transferring some 500,000 troops and 2,700 guns to the Argonne front in preparation for that battle. He became Chief of Operations Section, General Staff, of the First American Army, in September 1918, and later was designated Chief of Staff of the Eighth Army Corps. In 1919, after serving with the Operations Section, General Staff of the American Expeditionary Force, he was detailed as Aide-de-Camp to General John J. Pershing, with whom he served until 1924. He spent three years in

China with the 15th Infantry and in 1927 served as an Instructor at the Army War College, Washington, D.C., for two months and then was assigned as Assistant Commandant of the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia. During the nearly five years he spent at the Infantry School, he did much to improve methods of instruction and infantry doctrine. His instructors and students included General Omar N. Bradley, General Joseph W. Stilwell, General J. Lawton Collins, General Walter B. Smith, General Charles L. Bolte, and General Matthew B. Ridgway.

In 1932 and 1933, General MARSHALL was in command of Fort Screven, Georgia, and troops of the 8th Infantry at that station. He then became Commanding Officer of Fort Moultrie and District "I", Civilian Conservation Corps, Fort Moultrie, South Carolina, for the next three months. Three years as Senior Instructor of the Illinois National Guard were followed by a two-year period of duty as Commanding General of the 5th Brigade and Vancouver Barracks, Washington, where he also supervised Civilian Conservation Corps work in Northwest. From 1938 to July 1939, he became successively Assistant Chief of Staff of the War Plans Division, Deputy Chief of Staff, and Acting Chief of Staff of the War Department, Washington, D.C. During the latter assignment, he went to Brazil as Chief of the Military Mission for two months.

Because of his demonstrated organizational ability and his capacity for leadership, General MARSHALL was selected by the President to be Chief of Staff of the Army on 1 September 1939, in the grade of General, although he was junior to many other officers at that time. He assumed these duties on the eve of World War II and met the tremendous problems of mobilization, industrial conversion, and the personnel requirements of the expanding Army with untiring energy and unflinching wisdom. He streamlined Army administration and tactical organization to meet the demands of modern warfare. The smooth teamwork and efficient functioning of all elements of the Armed Forces in World War II demonstrated his brilliant leadership. He served as Chief of Staff until 18 November 1945, when, at his own request, he secured his release from that duty. Later that month, the President appointed him Special Representative of the President to China, with the personal rank of Ambassador. He was recalled to Washington in January 1947 and the following month was retired from active service, at his own request, after more than 45 years of active service.

On 21 January 1947, General MARSHALL was appointed Secretary of State and two months later went to Moscow to attend the fifth conference of the Allied Council of Foreign

Ministers. Upon his return to the United States, he introduced the Marshall Plan for aiding European nations. The Marshall Plan was later officially entitled the Foreign Assistance Act of 1948 when it was passed by Congress on 8 April 1948. While serving as Secretary of State, he also attended the Inter-American Conference for Maintenance of Continental Peace and Security in Brazil during August and September 1947; the General Assembly of the United Nations at New York City, September–November 1947; the Council of Foreign Ministers at London, England, November–December 1947; the Ninth International Conference of American States at Bogota, Colombia, March–April 1948; and the General Assembly of the United Nations at Paris, France, September–November 1948. He resigned as Secretary of State in 1949. He was restored to the active list of the Army in the grade of General of the Army on 1 March 1949 with rank from 16 December 1944.

General MARSHALL was President of the American Red Cross for the period 1949–50. He has been a member of the American Battle Monuments Commission since 11 October 1946 and has served as Chairman of the Commission since 26 January 1949. On 21 September 1950, shortly after the initial combat activities in Korea, General MARSHALL was appointed Secretary of Defense. During his tenure he was able to implement NATO for which he had laid the groundwork as Secretary of State. He resigned from this position on 12 September 1951 to return to private life. In June 1953, he was Chairman of the United States Delegation to the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II of England.

In appreciation of his outstanding services as Chief of Staff during World War II, the Congress of the United States tendered General MARSHALL its formal gratitude and thanks. He was the first professional soldier ever awarded the Nobel Peace Prize which he received in 1953 for his Marshall Plan. He was awarded the Charlemagne Prize in December 1953, bestowed by the City of Aachen, Germany, for outstanding achievements in the realm of European unification. He also was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal with one Oak-leaf Cluster, and the Silver Star. He was granted 15 honorary degrees by universities and colleges throughout the world. In addition, he received the following foreign decorations: Brazilian Order of Military Merit, Grade of Grand Officer; Brazilian Order of Military Merit, Degree of Grand Cross; British Knight Grand Cross, Order of the Bath (Military Division); Chilean Order of Merit, Grand Cross; Colombian Grand Cross of the Order of Boyaco; Cuban Order of Military Merit, First Class, with White Badge; Ecuadoran Star of Abdon Calderon, First Class; French Legion of Honor, Degree of Grand Croix;

French Croix de Guerre with Palm; Greek Grand Cross, with Swords, of the Royal Order of George I; Order of the Crown of Italy, Grade of Officer; Italian Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus, Grade of Officer; Liberian Centennial Medal; Montenegrin Silver Medal for Bravery; Moroccan Grand Cross of Oulissam Alaoulte Oherifien; Netherlands Knight of the Grand Cross with Swords in the Order of Orange-Nassau; Panamanian Medal of La Solidaridad, Second Class; Peruvian Gran Oficial del Sol del Peru; and the Russian Order of Suvarov, First Degree.

As a mark of respect to the memory of General MARSHALL, the National flag will be displayed at half staff on all installations under the control of the Department of the Army from day of death, 16 October 1950, until sunset on day of interment 20 October 1950.

The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, will render appropriate honors.

By Order of *Wilber M. Brucker*, Secretary of the Army:

L. L. LEMNITZER,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

Official:

R. V. LEE,
Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.