

Notes 33N, Copy 2

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Had been to hospital night before to see General. He talked of Leavenworth. Said didn't feel well prepared at Leavenworth. Others were briefed ahead of time by former people from unit. He decided to do something about situation. Found some of the books and studied until he memorized problems. When they started taking tests he did well. First was a tactical problem. Marshall was number 1. The others used the expression "That was Blind Spec". For the next five problems he stood number 1. Thinks that was the beginning of his reputation as a student. Determined to have his lessons letter perfect. Everyone had high hopes for Captain Rhodes. I went about my business, always in the area of the first five.

Mentioned Gen Ulio's death. Said he had a great affection for Ulio. Used to "bach" together. Always called Ulio Jimmy. Never married; had no family at funeral.

George spoke of kidney operation. Incision began at spine, down 12 inches and around side and to stomach--down to privates. Cyst size of an orange. Big thing in operation was to handle the number 12 nerve. It adhered to stomach and that gave spasms. Would have great pain for several minutes. Once lasted 40 minutes. Codeine and whiskey about all that would help. I called Leesburg minute I got word. Told Heffner that operation a success and no complications. He saw Mrs. Marshall and Mme. Chiang talking and laughing in garden. Didn't want to bother them, so didn't call them. When Mrs. M came in, Heffner was out of sight. She called all worried. Said she had been working to keep her mind off the operation.

Heffner very close to General. But General talks to him like father sometime. Says you must hold temper. Don't cross Mrs. M. or you will have to go.

Thinks Molly and husband disappointment.

Mme. Chiang went to see Marshalls at Leesburg on recent trip. Made General laugh with story about colored driver seeing his girl friend in a sack dress. Is we in style or is we in trouble?

George and Carter bitter about Mrs. M. Overly possessive with General. Too protective. A bit grasping.

Was sent one day with Pentagon car to State Dept. Drove General. General liked him and had him kept on. Went with him one trip and General began to use him as an aide.

George was sergeant before war. Then commissioned (was a reservist). In Quartermaster. Spent much time in AG section of maneuver area in Tennessee. Worked all the time. Finally got to Pacific. Came back to Washington. Married 17 years ago. Soon after he got here, his boss talked of sending him to San Francisco. Learned it probably meant going back to Pacific. Left Army. His boss fussed at him because he should have checked first. Re-enlisted shortly afterwards and came back as Sergeant. Was here when General M picked him up. Was recommissioned--as a major--in 1950.

Went with General to ministers meeting in Paris. One evening--George's birthday--General said get the car and we will go for a ride. Carter gave directions to the driver. Came to Folies Bergeres and General said get out. He had arranged this for George's birthday. Mrs. M, Carter,

George and Gen M attended. Afterwards to Embassy where Caffery had arranged for champagne.

Remembers when they were getting ready for a dinner given by Chambrun for Gen and Mrs. M. General ready ahead of time. Paced up and down and looked at watch. Told George to go see if Mrs. M was ready. He wouldn't hurry her, but wanted George to. George said his palms sweated because he was in the middle. Knocked on door and told her he was ready (said he became accustomed to going in and out when they were in dressing gowns). She said there is lots of time. George sat on steps outside the door. Tried to keep out of sight of General who kept pacing up and down and looking at watch.

General could be considerate; also difficult. Remembers once he said wait and George told Carter to wait too. Gen got angry when he found Carter was waiting and yelled at George, who yelled back and said that's what you said.

General hated to be late. If he was early he would walk around and go up and press button on dot.

Complimented George on driving one icy day when George managed to stay out of the gutter.

General could be fiery. Would bark out a God damn. Never apologized, but his manner would indicate his regret. George found he could talk back and defend himself and this would be accepted.

Gen Marshall adored the first Mrs. Marshall. I recall that he said he was getting ready to go the hospital and bring her home, when he got word at the War College that she had died. He said he was stunned that he got in the car and started out without knowing what he was doing. It was not until he bumped a car that he came to his senses.