

Notes 69N, Copy 2

General Thomas T. Handy

Washington, D.C.

July 9, 1970

THIS INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT MAY BE USED FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES ONLY. IT MAY NOT BE QUOTED FROM, CITED OR PUBLISHED EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE GEORGE C. MARSHALL FOUNDATION.

Also handwritten notes July 9, 1970 (69N) Library NO. 69N

Notes (this was taped).

Interview with Gen T. T. Handy at his home in Washington, D. C. by Forrest C. Pogue, 9 July 1970.

We went to Quebec several days ahead of time. Had a sharp fight with British. One of our worst arguments. Our people wanted to get word to President before the Prime Minister saw him. Didn't want him under President's sun lamp. He would make commitments without our views. It was decided that someone had to come down and give him the score. I was the fall guy.

I got Somervell's plane and came to Washington. Gen. Marshall communicated with Hopkins. Could get word to the President. I went to the White House and talked to Hopkins. He looked over these papers. We talked for awhile and I outlined the situation. Hopkins was "hell of a big asset." He said you be at the 14th Street siding tonight and arrangements have been made for you to get on the train. I will see that you see the President sometime tomorrow. I will give him a gist of what you have for him. I did as he said.

(This not for the record. Joke on me. Next day as I went through the train to get to where the President was, I was thinking of how to approach him and the car was unfamiliar and I stepped on that damn dog. It was a hell of a way to start a conversation.). I outlined the position of our people.

When we got to Quebec the Chiefs of Staff had had another meeting and it was not so bad.

Both sides knew and the President knew that we had to come to an agreement. The British time and time again, you know, began to weasel.

We wondered if they did mean it. (Portal smartest). He might not agree but paid a lot of attention. Brooke weak. Old man Pound good but he was sick and we didn't know it.

We never knew whether we were getting their view or the Prime Minister's. He nominated the Chiefs of Staff. He saw the people all the time.