

Notes 126N, Copy 2

Mrs. George C. Marshall

Telephone remarks

Washington, D.C.

May 26, 1966

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Remarks by Mrs. George C. Marshall on telephone May 26, 1966, Washington

She says Christmas dinner, December, 1941, was at midday. This reminded her of dinner at White House in Eisenhower administration (the first time she and General Marshall had gone after the election) when Churchill came over. Her partner was Lord Moran. She had not wanted to go--she was still angry over Eisenhower's failure to stand up for General Marshall. Gen. Marshall said "will you go for my sake." She agreed. Eisenhower very gracious. Churchill drank to President; the company drank to the Queen. Then Eisenhower said "I want to drink to Gen Marshall." He always tried to make up for what he had done to General Marshall.

I saw him recently. He brought John and his wife in to see me. Fine family. John is writing a book. General E. is having trouble with his arthritis in his hands. I asked him for name of his medicine as Molly is having trouble with arthritis. He said use with care; some allergic to it. Said some of his treatments made him sick.

Back to Moran. Says she thinks it is in bad taste, but doesn't blame Moran. Says the British--even Churchill--don't take care of their people properly. Doubts if Churchill ever gave Moran a penny. He has to eat. She says that when she was asked about Alanbrooke's book, she said she guessed he had to eat. Publishers want sensation. George did not want that. Was content with just enough to live on. Tried to get General Pershing to take rough things out of his book.

Spoke of fact that Churchill and family expected everything given to them. WSC would just write Baruch he was coming. Baruch handled all expenses. Randolph and his wife worse. Randolph turned up at Hittle Hobcaw. Miss Novarro said didn't know what she would do with him. Mrs. Marshall gave up her room. Randolph put three weeks soiled linen in floor for them to do. Mrs. Marshall had her Chinese maid to do them.

Royalty and nobility that way. Says Frederika has not written her in recent years. Some years ago her brother came over. Sent word from New York he was coming for Thanksgiving to Pinehurst. A local man brought word. She said they had other plans and couldn't change. The man arranged it. Mrs. Marshall sent expensive gift of perfume to Frederika by brother. Never reached her. Thinks he gave it to his lady friend.

Says Pershing was selfish. Summoned General Marshall in 1930 from Benning a few days after they were married to help him write his book. "I never forgave him for it." He just wanted the money and wanted George to do it for him. (She really disliked his private life. Told me once ladies were afraid to be there with him alone. Terrible woman's man). George would never let me say anything against him. Always playing him up as a leader.

Tells me the story again of last meeting of family before Allen went over. Her mind still clear on this; story almost as she has it. However, she mixed up entirely the December, 1941, dinner and the one with Moran and others in 1950 something, assuming that Moran had mixed them up by speaking of a dinner with Churchill at the White House. She was very anxious that I not think she had details of Christmas dinner wrong. /Some of them are wrong--she says, for example, it was Sunday/.