

Notes 155N, Copy 2

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Tape to Dr. Forrest C. Pogue from Col. J.E. Raymond, USA, Ret. 27 Pine Street, Lincroft, New Jersey 07738

Col. Raymond had recorded on tape his knowledge of the Marshall-Eisenhower relationship with a few recollections of Marshall in particular. He has read the newsletters which are sent out by the Marshall Library and thought that perhaps he might be able to provide several interesting stories through his association with Marshall.

It is believed that Marshall and Eisenhower had not met prior to their October 1941 encounter; however, Raymond is not entirely certain of this. It was at this time that McNair was in command of GHQ while Marshall was Chief of Staff and Raymond was a G2 in intelligence training. When Marshall would visit Lake Charles he was always reluctant to take McNair's time and would request that Raymond escort him to the maneuvers area. In mid-October Marshall came down with a particular desire to see Eisenhower and on the way to the meeting asked Raymond what he knew of Ike. Raymond had served in Panama with him and replied that the only things he knew were good. Raymond was not in on the talk that Marshall and Eisenhower had which lasted about one half hour.

Ike was then a colonel serving under Gen. Kruger. General Kruger had recommended Eisenhower's advancement in rank to Marshall and Marshall then wanted to meet and talk with Eisenhower to see what kind of man he was. (Generals were then being made only one at a time, and Marshall was extremely careful in choosing those who were to advance to this rank.) Maneuvers were completed in three days at which time a critique was held to give the commanding officers an opportunity to discuss their problems with no press reporters present. On the way to the Critique Raymond saw on the teletype that President Roosevelt had just nominated Eisenhower to be Brigadier General. When Raymond arrived at the auditorium where the critique was to be held he went straight to Eisenhower, shook his hand and congratulated him. Ike said "Raymond, if you're lying I'm going to break your head." He then took Raymond to a corner and showed him a telegram from "Beetle" Smith saying the same thing. Soon the word was out and many reporters and photographers came, but Raymond recalls that he was the first one there to shake Ike's hand.

After Pearl Harbor, Raymond was at the old munitions building in Washington working in the Plans and Training Division as a liaison between the division and Gen. McNair. On Tuesday, December 9 at 4 a.m., he was walking down the hall to get a cup of coffee when he saw Eisenhower coming toward him explaining that he had received a call to report to Marshall. Raymond said he seriously doubted that Marshall would be in his office at that early morning hour, but when they approached his office they saw that the lights were on and he was indeed hard at work. Eisenhower was then made chief of the Plans and Training Division which meant that one of his jobs was to brief FDR, and he made a very good impression on the President in this capacity. When it came time for the African landing Ike was immediately chosen to head it.

Raymond first met Marshall in 1930 in Infantry School when he was an instructor in communications and Marshall was a lieutenant colonel. One afternoon Col. and Mrs. Marshall gave a picnic to which Raymond was invited. After eating everyone sat around singing to the tunes of Raymond's piccolo. They sang various types of songs and soon Raymond began to play

"Goodnight Ladies" - he soon realized that unintentionally he had broken up the party as everyone began to gather their things and leave. Early the next morning he went to apologize to Marshall, but Marshall was very gracious and said that no harm had been done since that sort of party always did have a way of dragging on.

Raymond recalled that one time he saw Marshall become extremely angered with him. Marshall had flown from Washington to Camp Polk with a desire to see Gen. Bull who was on free maneuvers. A motorcycle guide took them to the place where the general was to meet them far out in the woods in a very obscure location, and upon arriving Raymond told the guide that he had done quite well. "Beetle" Smith who was with Marshall' spoke to the guide and the guide saluted, got astride his motorcycle and left. Marshall had to be back in Washington the next morning and blamed the absence of the guide on Raymond. Raymond was too awed to ask "Beetle" Smith what he had said to the guide to make him leave, so Raymond had to try to get them all back to camp. He succeeded in doing this, but Marshall never again asked for Raymond to be his escort on his visits to camp.