

GENERAL ORDERS

No. 17

HEADQUARTERS,
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D.C., 8 May 1959

The Department of the Army announces with deep regret the death of the Honorable DONALD A. QUARLES, Deputy Secretary of Defense, which occurred at Washington, D.C. on 8 May 1959.

Mr. QUARLES was born in Van Buren, Arkansas on 30 July 1894. After completing high school there, he enrolled in the University of Missouri Summer School at Columbia in 1910, 1911, and 1912, teaching mathematics in the Van Buren High School during the intervening seasons. He entered Yale University in 1912 and received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1916.

On 14 May 1917, Mr. QUARLES enlisted in the Army and attended a Citizens Training Camp at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana until 14 August 1917 when he was released to accept a commission as First Lieutenant, Field Artillery. He departed the United States for service overseas later that month and served in France and Germany until September 1919. He was promoted to Captain on 24 October 1918 and was honorably discharged with that rank on 7 October 1919. He held an appointment of Captain, Field Artillery in the Officers Reserve Corps from 16 January 1920 until 8 December 1934.

Mr. QUARLES began his professional career as an engineer in the Western Electric Company in 1920. He also continued his education by studying theoretical physics as a part-time student at Columbia University during 1920 and 1921. He joined the Inspection Engineering Department of Western Electric, which later became the Bell Telephone Laboratories, in 1924 and five years later was placed in charge of the Outside Plant Development Department. From 1940 to 1944, Mr. QUARLES was Director of the Transportation Development Department which concentrated on military electronic systems, particularly radar. He was then appointed Director of Apparatus Development and in 1946 became a member of the Committee on Electronics of the Joint Research and Development Board, Department of Defense. In 1949, he was named Chairman of that Committee.

In 1948, Mr. QUARLES was designated Vice President of Bell Telephone Laboratories and on 1 March 1952 became Vice President of Western Electric Company and President of Sandia Corporation, a Western Electric subsidiary which operates the Sandia Laboratory in Albuquerque, New Mexico, for the Atomic Energy Commission.

Mr. QUARLES was appointed Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Development) on 1 September 1953. In January 1954, he was selected to be the first Chairman of the reorganized Air Navigation Development Board, and two months later the President appointed Mr. QUARLES a member of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. Mr. QUARLES became Secretary of the Air Force on 15 August 1955. The President nominated Mr. QUARLES to be Deputy Secretary of Defense on 26 March 1957 and he was sworn into office on 1 May 1957.

In recognition of his services during World War I, Mr. QUARLES was awarded the Meritorious Services Citation certificate. He was also awarded the following honorary degrees for his achievements in the engineering field: Doctor of Engineering, University of Arkansas; Doctor of Engineering, New York University; Doctor of Science, Grinnell College; Doctor of Science, Stevens Institute; and Doctor of Laws, Yale University.

Throughout his entire career, Mr. QUARLES gave his utmost energy and undivided devotion, performing his duties with sound judgment, high professional attainments and untiring zeal. After coming to the Pentagon he gained the reputation of being one of the hardest workers in the Administration. With his untimely passing, the country has lost an eminent citizen and the Armed Forces a capable friend.

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

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

Official:

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