

GENERAL ORDERS }

No. 6

HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, DC, 26 March 1989

The death of General Lyman Louis Lemnitzer, former Chief of Staff, United States Army, and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, on 12 November 1988 at 0330 hours in Washington, DC, is announced with deep regret.

General Lemnitzer was an officer of the highest ideals. His courage, sound judgment, and superb leadership produced brilliant military achievements of the greatest value to his country. With his passing the nation has lost a faithful, valiant servant and the United States Army a commander of great stature.

General Lyman Louis Lemnitzer was born in Honesdale, Pennsylvania, on 29 August 1899. He graduated from Honesdale High School in June 1917 and the following year he entered the United States Military Academy. Upon graduation in July 1920, he was commissioned a second lieutenant. His assignments from that time until the outbreak of World War II alternated between duty with troops and service as a student and instructor at Army schools. As a member of the Coast Artillery Rifle Team, he became known as one of the Army's outstanding rifle marksmen, winning the National Team Gold Medal, the First Place Gold Medal in the Philippine Department, and the Distinguished Marksman's Badge. He completed two tours at Fort Mills, Corregidor, Philippine Islands; he was twice assigned to the United States Military Academy as an instructor in natural and experimental philosophy; and he graduated from the Command and General Staff School in 1936.

A member of the last pre-war class at the Army War College (1940), General Lemnitzer established a firm reputation as a thorough and imaginative planner. Subsequently, with the expansion of the United States Army, he was recalled from duty with an antiaircraft artillery brigade at Camp Stewart, Georgia, in 1941 to an assignment with the War Plans Division of the War Department. In this position, and during succeeding months with General Headquarters, United States Army and Headquarters, Army Ground Forces, he took part in the planning for mobilization and training of the huge wartime Army and for the projected landings in North Africa, known as Operation TORCH.

In August 1942 General Lemnitzer went to England as the Commanding General of the 34th Coast Artillery (Antiaircraft) Brigade. His intimate familiarity with the plans for the forthcoming North African operation,

however, promptly led to his assignment to General Eisenhower's Allied Forces Headquarters. Here, although retaining command of his antiaircraft brigade, he was designated Assistant Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations, and charged with directing the final detailed preparations for the landings and the operations in North Africa. In this capacity he accompanied General Mark W. Clark as second-in-command of the dramatic secret submarine mission to contact friendly French officials 3 weeks prior to the landings, helping smooth the way for the Allied invasion forces. For his participation in this mission, he won the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer).

After a brief return to England, General Lemnitzer moved to North Africa as a member of General Eisenhower's staff. In January 1943 he was assigned as Deputy Chief of Staff to General Mark W. Clark in Morocco during the early phases of the organization of the Fifth Army. Resuming active command of his brigade in late February 1943, he led it through the Tunisian Campaign and the early landing phases of the Sicilian Campaign.

General Lemnitzer's service for the remainder of the war was as United States Deputy Chief of Staff and Chief of Staff to General (later Field Marshal) Sir Harold Alexander, who was first the Commander in Chief of the 15th Army Group and later the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean. General Lemnitzer also served as Chief of Staff to the Commanding General of the (United States) Mediterranean Theater of Operations. Under Sir Harold Alexander, General Lemnitzer took part in the negotiations with Marshal Badoglio that led to the capitulation of Italy. He participated in the discussions with Marshal Tito and with Soviet Marshal Tolbukhin for the coordination of the final military operations by the Yugoslav and Russian armed forces against the German armies in Southern Europe. In March 1945, General Lemnitzer entered Switzerland in civilian clothes charged with the management of the discussions with German representatives that resulted in the unconditional surrender of the German armed forces in Italy and Southern Austria. In discharging these responsible and important functions, he earned a reputation as an able negotiator and military diplomat.

General Lemnitzer's skill as a planner was put to immediate use following the war when he was designated as the Senior Army Member of the Joint Strategic Survey Committee of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, DC. His next assignment was as the Deputy Commandant of the National War College, playing a key part in the establishment of that agency for the highest level of joint military education. At this time, he also served as head of the United States Delegation to the Military Committee of the Five (Brussels Pact) Powers in London, helping to pave the way for the establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. He assisted in the presentation of the NATO Treaty to the Senate for ratification.

On the strength of his experience as a military diplomat, General Lemnitzer was named the first Director of the Office of Military Assistance under Secretary of Defense James Forrestal from 1949 to 1950. In this capacity he played a key role in establishing the Military Assistance Program which has provided a major element in the Free World's mutual security activities.

Returning to duty with troops in 1950, General Lemnitzer qualified as a parachutist at the age of 51 and assumed command of the 11th Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. In 1951 he went to Korea and commanded the 7th Infantry Division in the Battles of Heartbreak Ridge, The Punch Bowl, and Mundung-ni Valley and in the fighting in the Chorwon Valley. He was awarded the Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry.

General Lemnitzer returned to the United States in 1952 to serve as the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Research. During this same period he was the Army's Associate Member of the Kelly Committee to Study the Defense of North America against Atomic Attack and a member of the Secretary of the Army's Advisory Committee on Army Organization.

General Lemnitzer returned to the Far East in March 1955, assuming command of the United States Army Forces, Far East and the Eighth Army. Shortly thereafter, on the departure of General Maxwell D. Taylor to become Chief of Staff, United States Army, General Lemnitzer was named Commander in Chief of the United Nations and Far East Commands and Governor of the Ryukyu Islands. In this position he maintained the defensive strength of the United Nations forces against the resumption of hostilities in Korea, directed the build-up of the military effectiveness of the Republic of Korea Armed Forces and the Japanese Self-Defense Forces, and encouraged the improvement of economic and military stability throughout that area of the world.

In July 1957 he assumed new duties as the Vice Chief of Staff, United States Army. Most notably, he played an influential role in deciding the relationship between the National Aeronautics and Space Agency and the space research facilities of the Army, and participated as the United States Military Representative at meetings in London and Karachi of the Military Committee of the Baghdad Pact Organization. In March 1959 General Lemnitzer was named to succeed General Maxwell D. Taylor as Chief of Staff, United States Army, and assumed his new duties on 1 July 1959.

President Eisenhower nominated General Lemnitzer as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on 15 August 1960. He was confirmed by the Senate 27 August 1960 and was sworn in as Chairman on 30 September 1960.

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Following a 2-year tour as Chairman, General Lemnitzer was named Supreme Allied Commander, Europe. He retired from active duty in July 1969.

For his exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service, General Lemnitzer's awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal (with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters); the Silver Star; the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer); the Legion of Merit; the Medalha de Guerra (Brazil); the Grand Star of Military Merit (Chile); the Grand Officer of the Order of Boyaca (Colombia); the Medal for Military Merit 1st Class (Czechoslovakia); the Order of Melnik (Ethiopia); the Legion of Honor Degree of Officer (France); the Croix de Guerre with Palm (France); the Honorary Companion of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath (Great Britain); the Honorary Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (Great Britain); the Military Order of Merit (Italy); the Cavalier of the Great Cross, Royal Crown of Italy (Italy); the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun (Japan); the Order of Military Merit Taeguk (Korea); the Order of Military Merit Taeguk with Gold Star (Korea); the Presidential Unit Citation (Korea); the Gold Cross of Merit with Swords (Poland); the Most Exalted Order of the White Elephant (Thailand); the Royal Order of the White Eagle, Class II (Yugoslavia); and the Grande Oficial, Order of Military Merit (Brazil).

General Lemnitzer was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian award, by President Reagan at a White House ceremony on 23 June 1987 for his contributions to world peace and freedom.

General Lemnitzer's life was characterized by courage, dedication, vision, and patriotism. These qualities earned him the respect of all who knew him. The grief caused by the death of General Lemnitzer is deeply shared by all members of the United States Army.

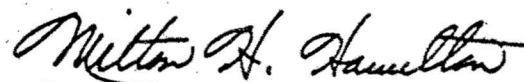
General Lemnitzer is survived by his wife, Mrs. Katherine Mead Tryon Lemnitzer; a daughter, Lois Katherine Lemnitzer; and a son William L. Lemnitzer.

(DACS-DSP)

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By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Milton H. Hamilton".

MILTON H. HAMILTON
*Administrative Assistant to the
Secretary of the Army*

CARL E. VUONO
*General, United States Army
Chief of Staff*

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