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### GENERAL THEODORE WILLIAM PARKER

The death of General Theodore William Parker, on 27 May 1994, in Tucson, Arizona, is reported with deep regret. His last duty assignment was as Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers (SHAPE), Europe.

General Parker was an officer of the highest ideals. His courage, sound judgement, and leadership produced military achievements of great value to his country. General Parker's military career spanned 38 years, and he served with distinction in a variety of command and staff positions. With his passing, the nation has lost a faithful, valiant servant and the United States Army, a great commander.

General Theodore William Parker was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on 31 January 1909, and graduated from North High School there in 1925. He graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1931, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant of Field Artillery. He married Nina Mae Hill of Minneapolis on 20 July 1935, at Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

General Theodore W. Parker's military service reflects a wide range of assignments as an artilleryman and staff officer, and with particular experience in the field of international politico-military affairs. Culminating considerable command duty at artillery battery and battalion level, he was a Commanding General of Division and Corps Artillery in combat in Korea. Later he commanded an anti-aircraft artillery brigade and region in the United States.

During World War II, General Parker went to Iceland with the first Army contingent to go overseas, and spent some two years there. He returned to the United States to train an Artillery Battalion, then served as G-3 Operations Officer of the Ninth U.S. Army throughout its campaigns in the European Theater of Operations. He later wrote *Conquer*, The Official History of the Ninth Army in World War II.

He spent a year (1949-50) as Assistant Secretary of the Army, General Staff, in Washington, DC and two years (1950-52) as Chief of Staff of the Tenth Infantry Division (Training) at Fort Riley, Kansas. In 1960-61 he commanded the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas.

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General Parker's service in the politico-military field includes three years on the War Department General Staff, a year in the executive office of the President and more than three years in Paris with the North Atlantic Council, the major part of it as the Standing Group's Representative to the Council. In 1961, he returned to Washington to serve as Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for a year and then as Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations of the Army from May 1962 to June 1963. On 1 July 1963, General Parker was promoted to the rank of General and became the Chief of Staff of Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE).

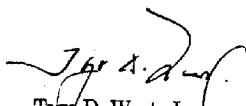
General Parker is a graduate of the battery and advanced officers' courses at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and the National War College, Washington, DC. From 1935 to 1939, he served as an instructor at West Point in the Department of Natural and Experimental Philosophy.

Following his retirement in 1969, he became Commissioner, Department of Transportation of the State of New York.

For his service, General Parker's awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal, Order of the British Empire (United Kingdom), and the Ulchi Distinguished Service Medal with Gold Star (Republic of South Korea).

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

General Parker is survived by his wife, Mrs. Nina H. Parker and three daughters: Mrs. Kathleen Parker O'Beirne, Mrs. Patricia Parker Lessie, and Mrs. Nina Parker Lavin.



Togo D. West, Jr.  
Secretary of the Army

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