

GENERAL ORDERS

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HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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GENERAL HERBERT BUTLER POWELL

The death of General Herbert Butler Powell, on April 3, 1998, in Williamsburg, Virginia is announced with deep regret. His last duty assignment was as Commanding General, U.S. Continental Army Command, Fort Monroe, Virginia.

General Powell was an officer of the highest ideals. His courage, sound judgement, and leadership produced military achievements of great value to his country. General Powell's military career spanned 43 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.

Born in Monmouth, Oregon, July 13, 1903, General Powell is a descendent of the Welsh family that immigrated to Colonial America and whose members have worn the Army uniform in all of this country's wars since the colonial days.

General Herbert B. Powell enlisted in the Oregon National Guard in 1919 and rose to the rank of sergeant. He was commissioned second lieutenant of Infantry after graduating from the University of Oregon in 1920. His military schooling included the Company Officers' Course and the General Staff Course at the U.S. Army Infantry School and the Command and General Staff College. His military schooling was further enhanced by his attendance at the National War College in 1948.

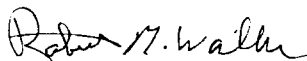
General Powell served with distinction during his 43 plus years in the Army. During World War II, he served in Europe, where he became Chief of Staff of the 75th Infantry Division, participating in the France, Rhineland and the Central European Campaigns. After participating in the Battle of the Bulge, he eventually became a member of the delegation that met with the Russian High Command in Prague, Czechoslovakia, and was awarded a medal from the Czech government for his participation. At the conclusion of World War II, General Powell remained in Europe and served as the G2, G3 and Chief of Staff, Headquarters Command, U.S. Forces, European Theater. During the Korean War, General Powell commanded the 17th Infantry Regimental Combat Team, the only American unit to reach the Yalu River. Following duties in Korea, General Powell commanded the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii, the U.S. Army Infantry Center at Fort Benning, Georgia and the Third United States Army, Fort McPherson, Georgia. Upon promotion to four-star general in October 1960, General Powell was assigned as Commanding General, U.S. Continental Army Command, Fort Monroe, Virginia, where he directed more than half the Army's 960,000 regular soldiers and more than one million reservists. Additionally, he served as the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Army Atlantic during the Cuban Missile Crisis from October 1962 to February 1963. He accompanied President Kennedy on several trips to inspect the troops for readiness and was personally cited by the President for contributions he made to the mission. After his retirement in 1963, President Kennedy appointed General Powell as the United States Ambassador to New Zealand. He continued to serve as the Ambassador under President Johnson until 1967. During his term as Ambassador,

major events included the beginning of the War in Vietnam, closer cultural and economic relations between the two countries, and a presidential visit by President and Mrs. Johnson.

General Powell was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit (with one Oak Leaf Cluster), the Bronze Star Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), the Purple Heart, the American Campaign Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Medal (with three Bronze Stars), the World War II Victory Medal, the Army Occupation Medal (with German and Japan Clasps), the Korean Service Medal (with one Silver Star) and the Combat Infantry Badge and more than 10 other awards and decorations.

General Powell's life was characterized by dedication, vision, and patriotism, and was an inspiring one for American youth.

General Powell is survived by his wife of four years, Mrs. Grace Tuggle, of Williamsburg; two step-children; seven step-grandchildren; and four step-great-grandchildren.



Robert M. Walker
Acting Secretary of the Army

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