

GENERAL ORDERS }  
No. 33 }

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 14 May 1955

The Department of the Army announces with deep regret the death of General CHARLES PELOT SUMMERALL which occurred at Washington, D. C., on 14 May 1955.

General SUMMERALL's distinguished career in the United States Army culminated in his astute and steadfast service as Chief of Staff from 1926 to 1930. An outstanding tactician and student of military science, he served his country for thirty-nine years with acumen and zeal.

General SUMMERALL was born near Lake City, Florida, on 4 March 1867. He was graduated from the United States Military Academy and commissioned a second lieutenant of Infantry on 11 June 1892, and advanced through all the grades and was appointed a major general on 26 June 1918 and general on 23 February 1929. He retired from active service on 31 March 1931.

While with the 5th Artillery, General SUMMERALL participated in many engagements in the Philippine Insurrection and was twice cited for gallantry in action. In 1900 he took part in the assault on Peking, China, where he was again cited for bravery. As commander of the 106th Company, Coast Artillery, he went to Alaska in 1902 and there planned the construction of Fort William H. Seward at Haines Mission, Alaska. From 1905 to 1911, he was Senior Instructor of Artillery Tactics at the United States Military Academy and was later given command of the 2d Battalion, 3d Field Artillery, San Antonio, Texas. In 1916 he was ordered to Washington as Assistant to the Chief of the Militia Bureau, in charge of the Field Artillery of the National Guard.

In May 1917, he was appointed a member of a military mission to study the organization, training, and operations of the British, French, and Belgium Armies. After returning from England, France, and Belgium with a report of his studies, he assumed command of the 67th Field Artillery Brigade of the 42d Division and accompanied it to France. He then took command of the 1st Field Artillery Brigade of the 1st Division and in July 1918 was assigned to the command of the 1st Division, commanding it during the Aisne-Marne, Soissons, St. Mihiel, and the first phases of the Meuse-Argonne offensives. General SUMMERALL was

then appointed successively commander of the V Army Corps, the IX Army Corps, and the IV Army Corps. In 1919, he served as U. S. Representative on Inter-Allied Mission to Fiume, was attached to the American Commission to negotiate peace in Paris, and accompanied General Pershing on his tour of Italy.

Upon returning to the United States, he commanded the 1st Division until 1921, when he was assigned as commander of the Hawaiian Department. In October 1924, he was given command of the Eighth Corps Area and in January 1925, assumed command of the Second Corps Area. On 21 November 1926, he was appointed Chief of Staff of the Army and served in that capacity until 20 November 1930. Shortly after his retirement on 31 March 1931, General SUMMERALL accepted the position of President of the Citadel, Charleston, South Carolina.

For his extraordinary heroism in action during the Aisne-Marne offensive, General SUMMERALL was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. He also received the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star with Three Oak-Leaf Clusters, and the following decorations from foreign countries: French Croix de Guerre with Palm, French Legion of Honor (commander), Belgian Order of the Crown (grand officer), Italian Order of the Crown (grand officer), Montenegrin Order of Prince Danilo I, 1st Class, Panamanian Military Medal, 2d Class, Cuban Order of Military Merit, and the Polish Order of Polonia Restituta, 1st Class. As a mark of respect to the memory of General SUMMERALL, the national flag will be displayed at half staff on all installations under the control of the Department of the Army on day of death, 14 May 1955, until sunset on day of burial, 17 May 1955.

The Commanding General, Military District of Washington, will render appropriate honors.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

M. B. RIDGWAY,  
*General, United States Army,*  
*Chief of Staff.*

OFFICIAL:

JOHN A. KLEIN,  
*Major General, United States Army,*  
*The Adjutant General.*