



Gen. S. L. A. Marshall (Photographed by Art Emanuel)

Gen. Marshall set for move

By MARY CONNELLY
A near-national institution is retiring from Birmingham and relocating in El Paso, Texas, this week.

Gen. S. L. A. Marshall, nationally recognized military analyst and author, has packed and boxed his personal materials collected throughout a lifetime of military service.

At 74, Samuel "Slam" Marshall has served active duty in World War I and II, the Korean War and six other wars or campaigns since 1956.

The battlefield experiences have provided the impetus for 36 books, including "Pork Chop Hill," and innumerable professional articles.

Not being transferred to the new Marshall home are the more than 2,500 volumes in the general's military library. The books are being donated to the University of Texas in El Paso.

"I HAD NEVER figured on giving it away until I gave it up in my will," Marshall said of his library. "But when we decided to make this move, I decided to give it away to the only school I'd ever been connected with."

"We have had 11 or 12 different universities ask for the library," he said.

In 1950, Marshall was the first person named the "Most Honored Ex-Student" from the former Texas Western University in El Paso.

"I am holding onto my personal library," said the retired brigadier general of the U.S. Army Reserve. That library includes the nearly 500 volumes which Marshall has authored, edited or been associated with.

"Of the 36 books that I've written, all but eight have been written here in Birmingham," said the 20-year resident. Among the titles authored at the 1927 desk in Marshall's basement study are "Pork Chop Hill," also released as a motion picture.

Additional titles from the works on battles and military operations include "Blitzkrieg," "Ambush," "Battles in the Monsoon," "Battle at Best" and "Crimsoned Prairie."

MOST RECENTLY, Marshall has edited and forwarded "Shiloh: Bloody April," written by Wiley Sword of Birmingham. The book will be released by William Morrow and Co. in September.

Although he retired from military service in 1960, Marshall has maintained an active pace. In June, he completed a 45,000 word text for the Department of Defense analyzing the tactics of warfare in cities.

Deadline approaches

The 1974-76 annual edition of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills Community Directory, scheduled for publication in October, is now closing information listings for clubs and organizations located in or serving the Birmingham-Bloomfield area and neighboring communities.

Form letters were sent to all such organizations appearing in the current 1973-74 issue requesting updating of information. Any group which was not included previously or which has not reconfirmed its listing for the next directory is asked to send pertinent information immediately to Birmingham-Bloomfield Hills Community Directory, P. O. Box 307, Birmingham 48012.

The deadline is Aug. 1.

He expects the westward move to reduce his schedule.

"As long as I'm up here I can't stop working," he said. "I carry on a heavy schedule because I'm close to New York, Washington and Chicago."

"The advantage of the move to me is that for awhile, my lines are going to be down."

TEXAS IS not new ground for Marshall. Prior to a 34-year stint as military critic and editorial writer for the Detroit News, Marshall worked as a reporter, sports editor and city editor for the El Paso Herald.

But the move has involved a lot of packing.

Along with the elephant feet and kangaroo, cheetah and African fox skins being moved are 240 paintings collected by Marshall and his wife, Cate.

One hundred autographed photographs of the generals Marshall has worked with or known are also being packed. The associations come from Marshall's lifelong military career.

Enlisting in World War I at age 17, Marshall became a commander of an infantry company one year later — the youngest officer in the American Expeditionary Force.

In World War II, he was chief historian of the European Theatre, participating in the battle and campaigns of Normandy, Brittany, the Siege of Brest, the Airborne Invasion of Holland, the Ardennes, the Ruhr Encirclement and Eastern Germany.

HE ALSO served in Korea, commissioned as a brigadier general in 1951. He retired in 1960.

War mementos include a 17-pound tablecloth used by Adolf Hitler on a conference table and as a bed cover by the Marshalls.

But not all the military strategist's personal collectibles relate to his campaigns.

Included in his library are autographed copies of the works of Carl Sandburg. Marshall became friends with the poet during the 1930s when he criticized Sandburg's book, "Lincoln: The War Years," in the Saturday Review of Literature.

Publication of the review prompted a letter from Sandburg acknowledging the accuracy of Marshall's critique and suggesting it was the starting point of a friendship.

Marshall will continue his long career of writing while in Texas.

He currently has two books underway. One deals with the Bay of Pigs invasion. The other is his nearly-completed compilation of memoirs.

Moving with the Marshalls is their 23-year-old daughter, Sharon. Staying in Michigan are the couple's two other daughters, Cate Lucas of Rochester and Bridget Rhine of Ann Arbor.

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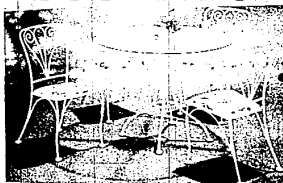
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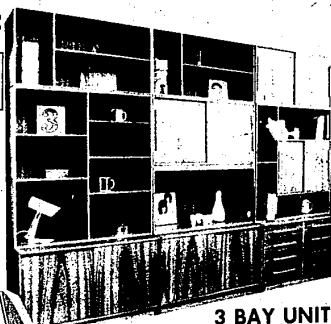
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