

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

FILED BY
MR. HOPKINS
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January 29, 1952

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North Atlantic Treaty Organization
SACLANT

My dear Admiral McCormick:

The North Atlantic Treaty Nations have agreed that a Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, should now be appointed and have requested that I designate a United States officer. I have designated you for this new international command which embraces a large area under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

I am informed that the Standing Group of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will issue a directive to you concerning your responsibilities and authority as the Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic.

xw.c.

You are hereby assigned operational command, of the United States Armed Forces assigned to the U. S. Atlantic Command, to the extent necessary for the accomplishment of your mission.

You are hereby authorized to use officers and enlisted personnel of the U. S. Armed Forces and civilian employees of the U. S. Government, on your staff as you consider appropriate in numbers and grades as necessary.

x285

I am sending copies of this letter to the Secretary of State and to the Secretary of Defense for their guidance.

x1285
x20

Sincerely yours,

/s/ HARRY S. TRUMAN



Admiral Lynde B. McCormick, xw.c.
United States Navy,
Washington, D. C.

x1285-6

x66 North Atlantic Treaty Organization
x66 North Atlantic Treaty

29 January 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of Defense

Subject: Admiral Lynde D. McCormick, USN; designation as one of the Supreme Allied Commanders in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

By direction of the President, I am transmitting, herewith, for forwarding to Admiral Lynde D. McCormick, USN, a letter of designation as Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic. A copy of this letter is attached for your file.

ROBERT L. DENNISON,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy,
Naval Aide to the President.



ADMIRAL LYNDE DUPUY McCORMICK
UNITED STATES NAVY

Lynde Dupuy McCormick was born in Annapolis, Maryland, on August 12, 1895, son of the late Rear Admiral A. M. Dupuy McCormick (MC), USN and Mrs. (Edith A.) McCormick. He attended St. John's Preparatory School and College at Annapolis, before his appointment to the U. S. Naval Academy, by President William Howard Taft in 1911. While a Midshipman he played class lacrosse and soccer, and as a First Classman was business manager of the "Lucky Bag." Graduated with distinction, second in a class of one hundred and eighty three, he was commissioned Ensign in June 1915. After a normal advance through the grades of the Navy, he became a Rear Admiral to date from July 15, 1942. He served in the temporary rank of Vice Admiral from February 13, 1946 until December 8, 1948, and again was confirmed in that rank on January 26, 1950. His appointment to Admiral was confirmed to date from December 22, 1950.

After graduation from the Naval Academy in June 1915, he was assigned to the USS WYOMING, and was aboard later while she operated with the British Grand Fleet during World War I, and when she took part in the surrender of the German High Seas Fleet in the North Sea. Detached from the WYOMING in April 1919, he served as Aide and Flag Lieutenant on the staff of the Commander Battleship Division 4, U. S. Fleet, until June of that year, and in the USS SOUTH CAROLINA until September 1919. He then served as Aide and Flag Lieutenant on the staff of Commander Destroyer Squadron 4, Pacific Fleet, USS BIRMINGHAM flagship, until December 1920, when he was transferred to the USS BUCHANAN. He remained aboard that destroyer until August 1921, when he took command of the USS KENNEDY.

He was an instructor in the Department of Navigation at the Naval Academy from October 1921 until June 1923. Following instruction in submarines at the Submarine School, New London, Connecticut, he joined the USS S-31, and served in that submarine, operating with Submarine Division 16 in the Pacific, until June 1924. After brief service in the USS S-37 and the submarine tender CANOPUS, he assumed command in August 1924 of the USS R-10 at Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, and remained in command until June 1926.

Returning to the United States, he had duty in the Executive Department at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, from August 1926 until June 1928. During the summer of 1927 he was in charge of the midshipmen aboard the USS OKLAHOMA for their summer cruise. He was in command of the submarine V-2 (later USS BASS), from August 1928 until May 1931, while she operated with Submarine Division 20, Pacific, as a fleet submarine, and again returned to the Naval Academy, for duty as Aide to the Superintendent, until June 1934. He then served as Navigator of the USS MARBLEHEAD until April 1936 when he assumed command of the USS NECHES, a fleet oiler, serving in that command until June 1937. After completing the senior course at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, in May 1938, he remained the succeeding year, for duty on the Staff of that College.

x Biographical sketch

In June 1939, he reported for duty as Operations Officer on the staff of Commander, Battleships, Battle Force, USS WEST VIRGINIA, flagship, and in January 1940 took over the same duty for Commander, Battle Force, USS CALIFORNIA, flagship. On February 1, 1941, he reported for duty as Assistant War Plans Officer on the Staff of the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet, and was serving in that assignment at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Beginning in April 1942 he became War Plans Officer for Admiral Nimitz and served as such during the period of the battles of the Coral Sea, Midway, and Guadalcanal. For "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services to the Government of the United States as War Plans Officer on the Staff of the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas, from February 1, 1941 to January 14, 1943....." he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

Following detachment from the Staff of the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet, he assumed command of the USS SOUTH DAKOTA on February 1943. Under his command, that battleship operated in the Atlantic Area, and later with the British Home Fleet in northern European waters. Following his detachment from command of the SOUTH DAKOTA in the South Pacific in the fall of 1943, he was assigned duty in October of that year as Assistant Chief of Naval Operations for Logistics Plans, in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. At the same time he became Chairman of the Joint Logistics Committee of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and in that capacity, accompanied Admiral King to the second Quebec and Yalta Conferences.

For his services in these assignments, which extended to March 1945, he was awarded a Legion of Merit with a citation which states in part: "For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services.....His mastery of the relationship between strategy and logistics and his understanding of the process of procuring and distributing critical items have been important factors in meeting the needs of area and Fleet Commanders. In a field in which the magnitude and complexity of the problems were without precedent in the history of the Navy, he has displayed conspicuous ability and brilliant leadership....."

In March 1945, he assumed duty as Commander, Battleship Division 3. While in this command he acted as Task Group Commander for two months during the battle of Okinawa. He was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a Third Legion of Merit: "For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services to the Government of the United States as Commander of a Battleship Division, of a Task Group, and of a Fire Support Unit, in action against enemy Japanese forces on Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, from March through May 1945...."

In November 1945, after taking part in the initial occupation of Japan, and a short period in command of the battleships of the Atlantic Fleet, he was ordered to duty as Chief of Staff and Aide to the Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas. In December 1945 he was designated Deputy Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas, and served in the rank of Vice Admiral from February

13, 1946. From February 10, 1947 until November 1948 he served as Commander Battleships-Cruisers, Atlantic Fleet. Following that command, he assumed duty as Commandant, Twelfth Naval District, with Headquarters at San Francisco, California, on December 8, 1948, at which time he reverted to his permanent rank of Rear Admiral.

In November 1949 he was ordered to duty as Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, and reported in the rank of Vice Admiral on April 3, 1950. On December 22, 1950, while performing the same duty he was elevated to the rank of Admiral. On July 22, 1951, upon the death of the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Forrest Sherman, Admiral McCormick became Acting Chief of Naval Operations. On August 1, 1951, the President nominated him as Commander in Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, which duty he assumed on August 15, 1951. In September he assumed additional duty as U. S. Representative to the North Atlantic Ocean Regional Planning Group under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

In addition to the Legion of Merit with two Gold Stars, Admiral McCormick has the Victory Medal, Grand Fleet Clasp (USS WYOMING); the American Defense Service Medal; the European-African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal; the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal; the American Campaign Medal; and the World War II Victory Medal.

His official address is "Clermont," Berryville, Virginia.

