

UNITED STATES ARMY
THE CHIEF OF STAFF

1 April 1980

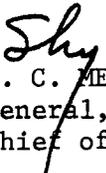
Dear Paul:

Your nomination for promotion to lieutenant general and assignment as Director, Plans and Policy, J5, Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has been approved by the Secretary of the Army. Your appointment requires Presidential approval and Senate confirmation and, before it is made final, I would like you to acknowledge your understanding of Army policies on promotion to 3-star grade and retirement.

Lieutenant generals hold three stars only while they are assigned to positions designated by the President as warranting the assignment of a lieutenant general. All indications point toward a continuing reduced number in our senior general officer authorization in the future. Therefore, promotions to the grade of lieutenant general will normally be for one specific assignment only. At the completion of that assignment, you would be expected to retire voluntarily from active duty. In certain cases, the Secretary of the Army may retain a lieutenant general on active duty for more than one assignment when he is considered to be a candidate for further promotion or when another three-star assignment is appropriate. You would be notified in a timely manner of the Secretarial decision.

I would appreciate your early comments on this promotion with the understanding that your tenure in the higher grade could very well end before your normal statutory retirement. I am not singling you out in this commitment of service and would like you to know that, as a matter of policy, similar information is sent to other officers nominated for promotion to lieutenant general.

Faithfully,


E. C. MEYER
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Major General Paul F. Gorman
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