

General Earle Gilmore Wheeler

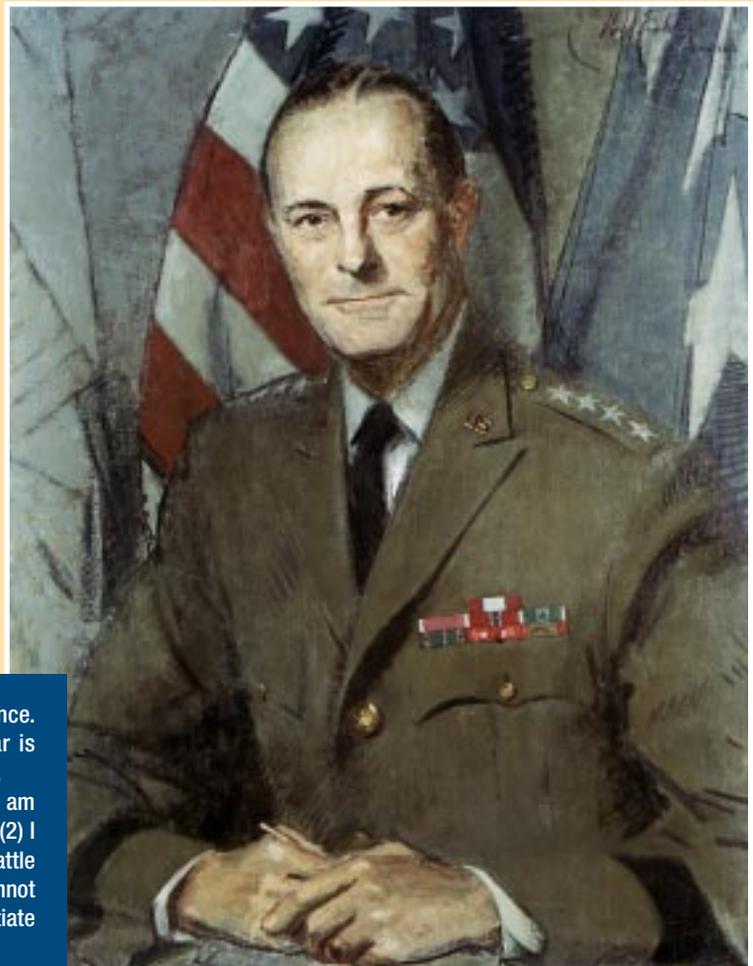
(1908–1975)

Chief of Staff, U.S. Army

Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

VITA

Born in Washington, D.C.; graduated from Military Academy (1932); 29th Infantry (1932–36); Infantry School (1937); served with 15th Infantry, China (1937–40); mathematics instructor, West Point (1940–41); aide to commander, 36th Infantry; Command and General Staff College (1942); battalion commander, 141st Infantry, 36th Division (1942); assistant chief of staff for operations, 99th Infantry Division (1942–44); chief of staff, 63^d Infantry, Europe (1944–45); instructor, Field Artillery School (1945–46); assistant chief of staff for supply, Western Base Section, Paris (1946), and deputy chief of staff for operations, U.S. constabulary in Germany (1947–49); Army War College (1949–50); Joint Intelligence Group (1950–51); commanded 351st Infantry, Italy (1951–52); assistant chief of staff for plans and operations, Allied Forces Southern Europe (1952–55); director of plans, office of deputy chief of staff for plans and operations, and then assistant deputy chief of staff for military operations at Headquarters, Department of the Army (1955–58); commanded 2^d Armored Division (1958–59) and III Corps (1959–60); director, Joint Staff (1960–62); deputy commander in chief, U.S. European Command (1962); Chief of Staff, U.S. Army (1962–64); Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff (1964–70); died in Frederick, Maryland.



U.S. Army Center of Military History

The Vietnam War is the foggiest in my own personal experience. Moreover, it is the first war I know of wherein the fog of war is thicker away from the scene of conflict than on the battlefield. . . .

Nevertheless, from all the information at my disposal . . . I am convinced of four things: (1) we are winning the war in Vietnam; (2) I cannot predict when the war will end; (3) although the tide of battle is running against Hanoi, they are not yet convinced that they cannot win; and (4) flowing from item (3), Hanoi is not yet ready to negotiate an end to the war.

—Address by Earle G. Wheeler before
the Economic Club of Detroit
(December 18, 1967)

Portrait by
Lloyd Bowers Embry.