

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY
GENERAL MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES ARMY
AT MEETING WITH KEY STAFF OFFICERS,
INTRODUCING NEW SECRETARY OF THE ARMY,
HONORABLE WILBER M. BRUCKER
ROOM 5A1070, PENTAGON, 29 JULY 1955, 1000 (EDT)
(as actually delivered)

Good morning, gentlemen. I asked the senior members of the staff to assemble this morning for an occasion which combines, one might say, duty and pleasure.

It is our pleasure to greet our new civilian leader, the Secretary of the Army.

Our new Secretary brings to his post a variety of talents and experiences, all of which predispose him for the position which he now holds. In the eyes of many of us, Mr. Secretary, the fact that you are a former first lieutenant of Infantry is indeed a guarantee of a cordial welcome in our midst. Governor Brucker has served in the National Guard; he has served in the Army of the United States during World War I; and following World War I, he had a long career in the Army Reserve. So he does indeed have unique experience in preparation for coming to the Pentagon now and dealing with Army problems at the top level.

His subsequent career after his military experiences ^{is} ~~are~~ well known to all of us. As Governor of the State of Michigan, he acquired the executive background which again is peculiarly fitting for a Secretary of the Army. Lately, as General Counsel of the Department of Defense, he has seen the top organization and how it ticks as viewed from the summit. He will now have an occasion to see how it ticks as he sits here as Secretary of the Army, looking both downward upon us and upward at those areas from which he has just departed.

Welcoming a Secretary who has had such experience to guide him, we all know that it is indeed a staunch supporter, ally, and colleague who has joined us this day. Together with the other very strong team of assistant secretaries which have been assembled here, the team we've got is one that I feel can't be beat. I want the Secretary to get to know you gentlemen as I know you, and to recognize here in these brown suits the character and leadership of the uniformed Army.

Mr. Secretary, we are very happy indeed to have you come here this morning to meet us, and I hope that you will say a few words to this audience. Secretary Brucker -

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