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NOMINATIONS OF GEN. WALLACE M. GREENE,  
R., WILLIS M. HAWKINS, JR., AND ROBERT H.  
CHARLES

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HEARINGS  
BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES  
UNITED STATES SENATE

EIGHTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

NOMINATIONS

LT. GEN. WALLACE M. GREENE, JR., USMC—NOMINATED  
TO BE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS WITH  
RANK OF GENERAL

WILLIS MOORE HAWKINS, JR.—NOMINATED TO BE AN  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

ROBERT H. CHARLES—NOMINATED TO BE AN ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE

OCTOBER 10 AND NOVEMBER 21, 1963

Printed for the use of the Committee on Armed Services



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1963

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NOMINATION OF LT. GEN. WALLACE M. GREENE, JR.,  
ET COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

Chairman Russell. The first item on the committee's agenda is the nomination of Lt. Gen. Wallace M. Greene, Jr., to be Commandant of the Marine Corps, with the rank of major general, for a term from January 1, 1964.

(The nomination refers to and report and the biographical sketch of Greene.)

**NOMINATIONS OF LT. GEN. WALLACE M. GREENE, JR.,  
WILLIS M. HAWKINS, JR., AND ROBERT H. CHARLES**

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**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1963**

U.S. SENATE,  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,  
*Washington, D.C.*

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 a.m., in room 212, Old Senate Office Building.

Present: Senators Russell (chairman), Stennis, Cannon, Young, Inouye, Smith, and Goldwater.

Also present: William H. Darden and T. Edward Braswell, of the committee staff; Harry L. Wingate, Jr., chief clerk; and Herbert S. Atkinson, assistant chief clerk.

## NOMINATION OF LT. GEN. WALLACE M. GREENE, JR., TO BE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

Chairman RUSSELL. The first item on the committee's agenda this morning is the nomination of Lt. Gen. Wallace M. Greene, Jr., to be Commandant of the Marine Corps, with the rank of general, for a period of 4 years, from January 1, 1964.

(The nomination reference and report and the biographical sketch of General Greene follow:)

### NOMINATION REFERENCE AND REPORT

IN EXECUTIVE SESSION,  
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
October 7 (legislative day, October 3), 1963.

*Ordered*, That the following nomination be referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

Lieutenant General Wallace M. Greene, Junior, United States Marine Corps, to be Commandant of the Marine Corps with the rank of general for a period of four years from the 1st day of January 1964, in accordance with the provisions of title 10, United States Code, section 5201.

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### TRANSCRIPT OF MILITARY SERVICE RECORD OF LT. GEN. WALLACE M. GREENE, JR., O4539 U.S. MARINE CORPS

For use in connection with Senate confirmation for appointment as Commandant of the Marine Corps, with rank of General, for a period of four years from January 1, 1964.

#### *Date and place of birth*

December 27, 1907, at Waterburg, Vt.

#### *Appointments and promotions*

June 5, 1930, second lieutenant.

November 27, 1934, first lieutenant.

August 4, 1937, captain.

January 5, 1942, major.

August 11, 1942, lieutenant colonel.

August 7, 1947, colonel.

September 1, 1955, brigadier general.

July 1, 1958, major general.

January 1, 1960, lieutenant general.

Ships and stations	From—	To—
MB, Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa.	July 1930	June 1931.
MB, Navy Yard, Portsmouth, N.H.	July 1931	June 1932.
MD, U.S.S. <i>Tennessee</i>	August 1932	March 1934.
Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.	April 1934	September 1934.
MB, Quantico, Va.	October 1934	November 1934.
MB, N.A.S. Lakehurst, N.J.	December 1934	March 1936.
MCB, San Diego, Calif.	April 1936	October 1936.
MB, Naval Station, Guam	November 1936	June 1937.
4th Marines, Shanghai, China	July 1937	June 1939.
MB, Quantico, Va.	August 1939	September 1940.
1st Marine Brigade, FMF	October 1940	April 1941.
MB, Quantico, Va.	May 1941	October 1941.
MD, American Embassy, London	December 1941	January 1942.
3d Marine Brigade, FMF	March 1942	November 1943.
5th Amphibious Corps	December 1943	May 1944.
2d Marine Division, FMF	June 1944	September 1944.
Headquarters, Marine Corps, Washington, D.C.	October 1944	April 1946.
U.S. Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, Va.	May 1946	June 1948.
Fleet Marine Force, Pacific	July 1948	June 1950.
Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Va.	July 1950	July 1952.
National War College, Washington, D.C.	August 1952	June 1953.
Office of Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C.	July 1953	August 1955.
2d Marine Division, FMF (Assistant Division Commander)	September 1955	May 1956.
Recruit Training Command, MCRD, Parris Island, South Carolina (CG).	June 1956	June 1957.
Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C. (CG)	July 1957	January 1958.
Headquarters, Marine Corps, Washington, D.C. (Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3; February 1958–March 1959) (Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans); April to December 1959) (Chief of Staff, Headquarters, Marine Corps; January 1960–).	February 1958	Present.

#### Schools

- U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., graduated June 1930.
- Basic School, MB, Navy Yard, Philadelphia, Pa., graduated 1931.
- Chemical Warfare School, Edgewood, Md., graduated 1935.
- Marine Corps Schools, Quantico, Va., graduated junior course 1940.
- National War College, Washington, D.C., graduated 1953.

#### Medals

- Legion of Merit with Combat "V."
- Gold Star in lieu of a Second Legion of Merit with Combat "V."
- Presidential Unit Citation with Ribbon bar.
- China Service Medal.
- American Defense Service Medal with Base clasp.
- European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.
- Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with 3 bronze stars.
- American Campaign Medal.
- Victory Medal, World War II.
- National Defense Service Medal.

Chairman RUSSELL. This nomination was received in the Senate on October 7, and thus it has not been pending for the 7 days required by our rules. However, the Chair invited General Greene to be present this morning in the thought that this would accomplish the personal appearance that is required by our practices, and that any action on the nomination would be contingent upon the lapse of 7 days without objection from any committee member or Member of the Senate.

Since January of 1960, General Greene has served as Chief of Staff at Marine Corps Headquarters. General Greene is accompanied by Secretary of the Navy Korth.

Mr. Secretary, we are always glad to have you before the committee. We would be pleased to have you make any statement you may desire to make about this nomination.

**STATEMENT OF HON. FRED KORTH, SECRETARY OF THE NAVY**

Secretary KORTH. I will be very brief, Mr. Chairman, members of the committee.

It is a pleasure for me, of course, to accompany Lieutenant General Greene, and present him to the committee at this time as the nominee of the President for Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Very briefly, General Greene was born in 1907 in Burlington, Vt. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, the class of 1930, and has since that date had a distinguished military career.

I might add, parenthetically, and only as an item of interest, that General Greene is the first nominee as Commandant of the Marine Corps in almost 30 years who is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. This neither adds to nor detracts from his qualifications, but is an interesting fact, I think.

Chairman RUSSELL. I reflected on that when you made that statement. I think he is the first one I can recall.

Secretary KORTH. Approximately 30 years, Mr. Chairman, since one was nominated.

He is a graduate of the National War College. He likewise has had much joint service. He was special staff assistant to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for national security affairs for approximately 2 years. He has in various capacities assisted in the training of the Marine Corps personnel as well as, as I have said, had a distinguished military career during World War II, serving principally in the Pacific, although likewise having service in the European theater.

It is with great pleasure, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, that I present General Greene to you.

I think he perhaps has a statement.

General GREENE. I do, if the chairman so wishes.

Chairman RUSSELL. Yes, we would be glad to hear from you, General.

**STATEMENT OF LT. GEN. WALLACE M. GREENE, JR., NOMINEE,  
TO BE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS**

General GREENE. Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee, I am certainly very happy to appear before you this morning.

I thought that I would just give you a few additional highlights in my career for your information.

As the Secretary told you, I did graduate from the Naval Academy in 1930, and then for the following 10 years I went through the usual assignments for a junior Marine officer.

I served on the battleship *Tennessee* for slightly over 2 years, and also spent a year ashore at the recruiting depot in San Diego.

In addition, I had a very interesting tour in Guam, and from there went on to an even more exciting 3 years in Shanghai, China, during the period in which the Japanese had laid siege to that city.

Just before Pearl Harbor, the Marine Corps had sent me to London as assistant naval attaché, and while there I went to the British Amphibious Warfare School, and the Royal Engineer Demolition School.

A month after I returned to the United States, I was on my way with the 3d Marine Brigade to the South Pacific. And after a year and a half there I came back to Hawaii, in December of 1943, and

at that time I became the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, with the 1st Tactical Group of the 5th Amphibious Corps. I took part in the amphibious assaults against Kwajalein and the Eniwetok Atolls in the Marshall Islands.

Following that, I served in a similar capacity with the 2d Marine Division during the Saipan-Tinian campaign in the Marianas.

Near the end of World War II, I returned to Washington to become the operations officer in the Division of Plans and Policies.

From Washington, I went on down to Norfolk and became the training officer in the training unit of the Atlantic Fleet, amphibious command.

From there I went to the Marine Corps Schools in Quantico, where I headed up a combined arms section.

Finally, in 1953 I moved again to Washington to attend the National War College. After graduation from that institution, I went over to the Pentagon on an assignment with the Joint Chiefs.

In 1955, following the McKeon affair at Parris Island, which I am sure the chairman remembers, General Pate sent me down to Parris Island, where I organized the recruit training command, and later on took command of the recruit depot at that post.

From Parris Island I then went to Camp LeJeune, and took command of the base.

In 1958 I returned to Washington to become Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, where I had the responsibility for the preparation of various operations, training, and war plans.

Then following my promotion to major general, I became Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans. In this assignment, I served as operational deputy for JCS matters under General Pate, who was then Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Finally, on January 1, 1960, with the appointment of General Shoup as Commandant, I assumed my present duty as Chief of Staff of the Marine Corps.

Mr. Chairman, that completes my résumé of service.

I will be very happy to answer any questions the committee may desire to ask.

Chairman RUSSELL. I did not understand your assignment with the 5th Amphibious in 1943 and 1944.

General GREENE. The 5th Amphibious Corps at that time was operating in echelons. One of these was called the tactical group I. This was really a reinforced regiment, a brigade. And I was assigned as operations officer on that outfit, and with it went into the Marshall Islands operations.

Chairman RUSSELL. You were operations officer with the 2d Marine Division likewise?

General GREENE. Yes, sir.

Chairman RUSSELL. General, you know, of course, that while you are not a full-time member of the Joint Chiefs, you are a member on all matters relating to the Marine Corps, and in the issues that come before this committee we request the advice and the opinion of the Commandant of the Marine Corps just as we do the members of the Joint Chiefs.

I would like to have you make a statement as to what you understand to be your duty if there is some conflict between your personal views and the position of the Executive, Chief Executive, or of the

Department of Defense, in the event that you are requested specifically before this committee to give us your opinion on any issue.

General GREENE. Mr. Chairman, I understand my duties very clearly, and my duty is to state the facts and tell you the truth. That is what I intend to do.

Chairman RUSSELL. Without regard to the views—

General GREENE. Without regard to anything except the truth and the facts.

Chairman RUSSELL. Senator Smith?

Senator SMITH. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman, except to wish the general well in his new assignment. From his record I would think he would do everything that was expected of him.

Thank you.

Chairman RUSSELL. Senator Cannon?

Senator CANNON. No questions, Mr. Chairman.

I join with Senator Smith, and wish you the very best in your assignment.

Chairman RUSSELL. Senator Goldwater?

Senator GOLDWATER. I just want to compliment the President on this choice. He is an outstanding officer. I wish him the best of success.

And if there is ever anything I, as an individual, can do to help you, just whistle.

General GREENE. Thank you very much, Senator.

Chairman RUSSELL. Senator Young?

Senator YOUNG. Likewise, Mr. Chairman, I wish the general every success and happiness in his new assignment.

General GREENE. Thank you, sir.

Chairman RUSSELL. Senator Inouye?

Senator INOUYE. Mr. Chairman, I have no questions, but I would like to join with my colleagues in wishing General Greene the best of luck.

Chairman RUSSELL. Thank you, gentlemen, very much.

General GREENE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(The nomination of Gen. Wallace M. Greene, Jr., to be Commandant of the Marine Corps was subsequently approved by the committee in executive session and confirmed by the Senate on October 17, 1963.)

## NOMINATION OF WILLIS MOORE HAWKINS, JR., OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, VICE FINN J. LARSEN

Chairman RUSSELL. The next nomination is that of Mr. Willis Moore Hawkins, Jr., of California, to be Assistant Secretary of the Army, succeeding Mr. Larsen.

Since Mr. Larsen's duties were in the field of research and development it appears that Mr. Hawkins will assume these responsibilities.

(The nomination reference and report and the biographical sketch of Mr. Hawkins follow:)

### NOMINATION REFERENCE AND REPORT

IN EXECUTIVE SESSION,  
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*August 27, 1963.*

*Ordered,* That the following nomination be referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

Willis Moore Hawkins, Junior, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, vice Finn J. Larsen.

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### BIOGRAPHY OF WILLIS MOORE HAWKINS, JR.

Mr. Hawkins was born in Kansas City, Mo., on December 1, 1913. He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1937 with a bachelor of science degree in aeronautical engineering and joined the Lockheed Aircraft Co. as a group engineer. Mr. Hawkins became, successively, director of the preliminary design office, director of engineering for the missiles and space division, assistant general manager for operations, and then assistant general manager of the missiles and space division. In 1961 he became vice president, science and engineering, and in that capacity he was responsible for product and system selection, development planning, and direction of research, analysis, and engineering for all divisions of the Lockheed Corp.

Mr. Hawkins has been concerned throughout his career with the management of major research and development projects, primarily in the aeronautical and space fields. Mr. Hawkins was responsible for the original design and development of such well-known aircraft as the F-104 fighter series and the C-130 transport and for the research leading to the famous Constellation military and commercial aircraft. As chief engineer of the Missiles Division of Lockheed, he directed the studies and development activities on which the guidance, launching, and program management concepts of the Polaris missile program are based. For this contribution the Department of the Navy awarded him the Distinguished Public Service Award in 1961. Since 1957 he has served as a member of the Air Mobility Panel of the Army Scientific Advisory Committee.

He has achieved wide recognition in the aerospace industry. He was an adviser to the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics from 1952 to 1954 and was a lecturer on aerospace science and management at the University of California at Los Angeles from 1954 to 1955. He has served as vice president of the San Francisco section of the American Ordnance Association. Mr. Hawkins is a member of the Visitors Committee for the Department of Aerospace Engineering, University of Texas, a fellow of the American Rocket Society, and a fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Aerospace.

On August 26, 1963, President Kennedy nominated Mr. Hawkins to be Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research and Development. In this capacity, Mr. Hawkins will, if confirmed, be responsible for the establishment of Army research

and development objectives, evaluating methods for reaching those objectives, and for the appraisal of performance in the R. & D. effort.

Mr. Hawkins married the former Anita E. Stanfill in 1940. They have three children; Nancy Gay, Willis Moore III, and James Walter.

Chairman RUSSELL. Mr. Hawkins, we are pleased to have you here, and we congratulate you on your nomination.

The Congress is constantly confronted with new and novel problems in the field of research and development, and the vast work in that area carried on by the Department of Defense and indeed by all of the agencies of Government.

It is my opinion that this is as it should be, for upon research and development we must depend for the weapons with which this country will be defended, and to maintain our present superiority in the field of weaponry.

We would like to have you give the committee an oral summary of your background and experience, and we would also like to have you make a statement as to any financial interests you may have in any company doing business with the Department of Defense—I don't mean as to the extent of your holdings, but the nature of your holdings.

**STATEMENT OF WILLIS MOORE HAWKINS, JR., OF CALIFORNIA,  
NOMINEE, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, VICE  
FINN J. LARSEN**

Mr. HAWKINS. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, my career has been not restless. I went through the normal undergraduate schools and preparatory schools, ending up in a preparatory school in northern Michigan, after which I attended a small college in southern Illinois, called the Illinois College, at Jacksonville, Ill.

I transferred to the University of Michigan, from which I graduated as an aeronautical engineer. I then went directly to the Lockheed Aircraft Corp., then at Burbank, Calif., and worked in a number of tasks where a young engineer works in. And I finally found myself just prior to the war in charge of the Advanced Design Department for the Lockheed Aircraft Corp.

Now, this is the kind of task I had with them one way or another for quite a while—until January of 1954, when they formed their missiles division, they called it in those days, and I became its chief engineer. So I was one of the founders of this division. I went through it completely up until last year, at which time I was vice president and general manager of their space systems division, and was then appointed vice president of science and engineering for the entire corporation.

I then moved back to Burbank. This is where I lived when the Army asked me if I would come and serve.

I think pertinent to this particular task is the fact that I have served on the Army Scientific Advisory Panel since 1957, and I tried to help them with their air mobility problems as an adviser.

I think that just about completes the pertinent parts of my career that might be applicable.

I have spent quite a bit of time on major system developments, and hope that this experience will be worthwhile to the Army.

With respect to my holdings, I think you will find a statement of holdings that has been distributed to you. I have essentially disposed of the holdings I had with the Lockheed Corp., with the exception of a block of stock which I just acquired by option.

In accordance with advice from tax counsel, and in hopes that this will be satisfactory with you, I have asked that this block be placed into an escrow, so to speak, with a bank here in Washington, and that it will be sold on a given date, and I can do nothing about it, even at that date, so that I will not be subject to a rather large tax on the sale of this stock. This date is February 24 through 28—there are 4 days essentially within which to sell the stock.

So I can neither vote it nor change this irrevocable escrow, and it will be sold when the tax burden will not be severe.

I was a little surprised to find that my other holdings—that some of my wife's adventures in the stock market—wound up in doing some work for the Army. Cinerama Corp., which is a little fling of hers, and also Standard Oil Co. of California. And I will be very happy to get rid of that stock, since they both, I find, do business with the Army.

Chairman RUSSELL. Senator Smith?

Senator SMITH. I have no questions.

Senator STENNIS. I have no questions.

Senator GOLDWATER. I have no questions.

Senator CANNON. No questions.

Senator YOUNG. No questions, Mr. Chairman.

I wish you a lot of good luck, sir.

Senator INOUE. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman.

I just wish Mr. Hawkins success.

Senator GOLDWATER. You worked with Kelly Johnson very closely, did you not?

Mr. HAWKINS. I worked with Kelly Johnson very closely. He is a great man, doing a great service to this country.

Chairman RUSSELL. Thank you very much, sir. We are glad to have had you.

(Whereupon, at 10:50 a.m., the committee recessed, to reconvene in executive session.)

(The nomination of Willis Moore Hawkins, Jr., of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, was subsequently approved by the committee in executive session, and confirmed by the Senate on October 11, 1963.)

NOMINATION OF ROBERT H. CHARLES, TO BE ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (MATERIEL)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1963

U.S. SENATE,  
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,  
*Washington, D.C.*

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:32 a.m., in room 212, New Senate Office Building.

Present: Senators Russell (chairman), Stennis, Symington, Jackson, Thurmond, Young of Ohio, Inouye, Santonstall, Smith, and Beall.

Also present: William H. Darden, T. Edward Braswell, Jr., Gordon A. Nease, professional staff members; Harry L. Wingate, chief clerk; and Herbert S. Atkinson, assistant chief clerk.

Chairman RUSSELL. The committee this morning has two or three matters before it for consideration. We intend to hear from Mr. Robert H. Charles of Missouri who has been nominated to be Assistant Secretary of the Air Force to succeed Mr. Joseph S. Imirie.

Mr. Imirie is Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Materiel), and apparently Mr. Charles will have the same duties.

Mr. Charles, will you have a seat down at the end of the table.

I want to say that we have carried over from two previous meetings nominations of Mr. Nitze to be Secretary of the Navy and Mr. Bundy to fill the position that Mr. Nitze now occupies. There is some controversy about one of those nominations. The Chair does not propose to take any action on any matter about which there is any controversy in this committee unless there is a quorum present, and it is very apparent to me that we will have extreme difficulty in securing a quorum this morning.

We will proceed with the hearing on Mr. Charles, and if there is no quorum—if a quorum has not developed in the meantime, it will be necessary to carry these other nominations over.

However, I will endeavor to expedite them as much as possible.

Mr. Charles, we are glad to have you here. I believe you have furnished a copy of your biographical sketch and that that has been supplied to the committee. We would also like to hear you summarize your biography orally and some of the members of the committee may have some questions for you.

(The biography referred to follows:)

NOMINATION REFERENCE AND REPORT

IN EXECUTIVE SESSION,  
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*November 8 (legislative day, October 22), 1963.*

*Ordered,* That the following nomination be referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

Robert H. Charles, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, vice Joseph Scott Imirie.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT H. CHARLES, NOMINEE FOR THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (MATERIEL)

I am Robert Horne Charles, until recently, of St. Louis, Mo. I was born in St. Louis in 1913 and have lived there most of my life.

I was graduated from the St. Louis Country Day School in 1931; received an A.B. degree from Yale in 1935 and was graduated from the Yale Law School in 1938. I was admitted to the Missouri and Federal bars in 1938 and served with the law firm of Thompson, Mitchell, Thompson & Young in St. Louis from 1938 until 1941.

In 1941, I joined the McDonnell Aircraft Corp. in St. Louis, serving in the following positions: Assistant secretary, 1943-45; secretary, 1945-52; director, 1948-60; member of the executive committee, 1949-60; vice president, 1952-53; executive vice president, 1953-60. One of my principal functions during the 18-plus years at McDonnell was the negotiation of contracts with the U.S. Government. Other major areas included finance, law, and administration.

I have had no connections with McDonnell Aircraft Corp. since February 1960, and my wife and I and our minor children have divested ourselves of all holdings in that company.

I also served as executive vice president, member of the executive committee, and director of the Universal Match Corp., from February 1960 until September 1961. I have also served as a director of several other companies, but currently of only one, the Hamilton Shoe Co. in St. Louis.

I was appointed as a consultant to the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in September 1962, to evaluate procurement concepts and practices of the Space Agency. On June 14, 1963, I was appointed special assistant to the Administrator of NASA. In this position, my primary responsibility has been to support NASA's continuing effort to achieve outstanding performance from its contractors.

The present stockholdings of myself, my wife, and my children are shown on the attached sheet.

I will, of course, divest myself, my wife, and my minor children of all of these holdings in which there is a potential conflict of interest, and will, I am confident, be able to persuade those of my children who are 21 or older to divest themselves of such holdings as would, if owned by me, my wife, or my minor children, involve a potential conflict of interest. I will also resign as a director of the Hamilton Shoe Co. if you feel that is appropriate. In view of certain tax considerations, I would hope that I could be allowed 60 days in which to accomplish such divestiture, being careful, in the meantime, to disqualify myself from any activity pertaining to any of such concerns.

My present residence is 3214 S Street NW., Washington, D.C.

Chairman RUSSELL. You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT H. CHARLES, NOMINEE FOR THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (MATERIEL)

Mr. CHARLES. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen. I am Robert H. Charles and I was born in St. Louis and have lived there most of my life. I received an A.B. degree from Yale College in 1935 and from Yale Law School in 1938. I practiced law for 3 years in St. Louis from 1938 until 1941. From 1941 until 1960 I was with the McDonnell Aircraft Corp. in St. Louis.

The last 6 years I have served as executive vice president. I was on the board for 12 years and on the executive committee for 11.

Subsequently I served as executive vice president of Universal Match Corp. For the past 14 months I have served as a consultant and special assistant to the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. My primary responsibility there was to support NASA's continuing effort to achieve outstanding performance from its contractors.

I have submitted a list of my financial interests and those of my family and will, of course, dispose of those interests which might involve a conflict of interest.

I understand the procedure is to review this list with your staff and I will be glad to do so at its convenience.

Chairman RUSSELL. Mr. Charles, I assume you have discussed with the Counsel of the Department of Defense any security holdings you might have in order to determine whether or not they can be held under the practices of this committee.

Mr. CHARLES. Yes, sir; I have.

Chairman RUSSELL. Do you intend to divest yourself of any of your holdings in companies that do more than the prescribed amount of business with the Department?

Mr. CHARLES. I do.

Chairman RUSSELL. You are assuming a tremendously important position. You carry with you the best wishes of this committee.

Senator Saltonstall?

Senator SALTONSTALL. Mr. Chairman, I don't think I have any questions of Mr. Charles. I would like off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. CHARLES. I thank the Senator.

Chairman RUSSELL. Senator Symington?

Senator SYMINGTON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to join my colleague from Massachusetts.

Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Senator SYMINGTON. On the record.

I have known Mr. Charles for a great many years. He is a good friend of my son's, and I think his career speaks for itself. The fact that he has done a great deal in the field of Government contracts in my opinion, based on what I know of his position, particularly qualifies him for the work that he is being nominated by the President to perform.

I have checked with various people that he has worked with before to be sure that I can so state to the committee and I find nothing but the highest recommendations for him from all those with whom he has been associated in the past. That also goes for the head of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Mr. Webb, who spoke very highly of his services, but said he did not feel he should stand in his way in his promotion to this position.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I would hope that the committee would approve this nomination.

Chairman RUSSELL. Senator Thurmond?

Senator THURMOND. I have no questions, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman RUSSELL. Senator Young?

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no questions. I am certainly impressed by not only the appearance of Mr. Charles but by the evidence of his achievements.

May I simply ask this: As Assistant Secretary of the Air Force is it fair to assume that in the course of your work and your relations to high ranking officers of our Air Force that you will have in mind that in our Nation, according to the will of the Founding Fathers, civilian authority is always supreme over military authority?

Mr. CHARLES. It is fair to so assume.

Senator YOUNG. I have no other questions.

Senator SALTONSTALL. Mr. Chairman, may I bring up one subject?  
Chairman RUSSELL. Yes.

Senator SALTONSTALL. Mr. Chairman, I note on the second page of Mr. Charles' statement, "I will resign as a director of the Hamilton Shoe Co. if you feel that that is appropriate."

In justice to Mr. Charles, can you tell us, does the Hamilton Shoe Co. have any business with the Government? If so, what?

Mr. CHARLES. None whatsoever. They make ladies' shoes and do not sell to the Government.

Senator SALTONSTALL. So this directorship would not take so much of your time that you couldn't do your duty here?

Mr. CHARLES. That is correct.

Senator SALTONSTALL. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman RUSSELL. If there is nothing further, we thank you, Mr. Charles.

Mr. CHARLES. Thank you.

Chairman RUSSELL. The committee will take a brief recess to try to get a quorum. If we can't get a quorum, we cannot report these nominations.

The committee will go into executive session.

(Whereupon, at 10:44 a.m., the committee took a recess to go into executive session.)

(The nomination of Robert H. Charles to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force was subsequently approved by the committee in executive session and confirmed by the Senate on November 22, 1963.)







