

NOTES FOR AN OBITUARY

Donald A. Quarles

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The United States and the Engineering profession suffered a great loss when the Honorable Donald A. Quarles, Deputy Secretary of Defense, passed away in his sleep during the night of May 7th to 8th at the age of 64.

Mr. Quarles was born in Van Duren, Arkansas. He attended the University of Missouri, received a B.A. Degree from Yale University and did graduate work in Theoretical Physics at Columbia University. He received Honorary Doctors Degrees in Engineering from the University of Arkansas and New York University, in Science from Stevens Institute of Technology, and in Laws from Yale University. He was a member of the Honorary Society's Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi. He was a Fellow of the American Physical Society and of the Institute of Radio Engineers and a Fellow and Honorary Member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers.

He served in the U. S. Army in Europe during World War I with the rank of Captain of Field Artillery. His engineering career in the Bell System extended from 1919 to 1953. In 1947 he became Vice President of Bell Telephone Laboratories and in 1952, was elected Vice President of Western Electric Company and President of Sandia Corporation.

On September 1, 1953, he became the Nation's first Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Development. In January, 1954, he became the first Chairman of the Reorganized Air & Navigation Board and Member of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics. In August,

1955, Mr. Quarles became Secretary of the Air Force and on May 1, 1957 he became Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Mr. Quarles served as President of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers 1952-1953. He was a Member of the Board of Trustees and Vice President of United Engineering Trustees and has served on the Engineering Society's Library Board, the Engineering Foundation Board, and the John Fritz Medal Board of Award.

The Board of Directors hereby records its sorrow on the loss of its former Member and directs that its sincere sympathy be inscribed in the Minutes of this meeting and expressed to Mr. Quarles's family.