

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP

ACTION

1 TO	<i>Mr Bove</i>	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
		DATE	COORDINATION
2	<i>Pentagon</i>	INITIALS	FILE
		DATE	INFORMATION
3		INITIALS	NOTE AND RETURN
		DATE	PER CONVERSATION
4		INITIALS	SEE ME
		DATE	SIGNATURE

REMARKS

Bill
This is a copy
of the original memo
with General A's comment

Do NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disapprovals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM	<i>W303</i>	DATE
		PHONE

ACSI-CI

16 October 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY FOR INTELLIGENCE

Dewitt ("Dee") Clinton Armstrong III

SUBJECT: CIAD Threat Estimate Presentation

1. The Civil Disturbance Threat Estimate was briefed beginning at 0930 hours, 16 October 1970, to the DOMS Committee. Membership in the Committee includes representatives of a number of civilian organizations, to include Department of Justice IDIU and FLEAA. Major General Faught, USAF, Deputy Director, DOMS, was the senior officer present.
2. COL Rollier, Committee Chairman, introduced the ACSI presentation. In his introduction COL Rollier was lavish in his praise of the estimate which he had read the night before. He was very, very complimentary to ACSI. He stated that he had briefed General Exton the night before. At the conclusion of the briefing, which was presented by Mr. Bowe, CIAD, General Faught complimented Mr. Bowe on the briefing and complimented ACSI on the estimate.
3. We may have done good.

JOHN W. DOWNIE
Colonel, GS
Director of CI&Security

Looks great!

A170

DeWitt C. Armstrong III Jan 1943



Cullum No. 13046 • Nov 18, 2001 • Died in Alexandria, VA
Interred in West Point Cemetery, West Point, NY

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DeWitt Clinton Armstrong III, born in the Panama Canal Zone, was destined by heritage and intellect to be an Army officer and general like his father. In our 50-year *Howitzer*, he describes himself as a "soldier's son." That imperative affected all that he was and all that he did. A consciousness of military heritage was an essential part of him, not as a burden but in a way of inspiration and sense of duty.

His academic brilliance showed early. After graduating from high school, "Dee" was too young to enter West Point, so he spent a year at the Citadel and then a year at Sully's Preparatory School, preparing for the very special West Point entrance exams. While living in the Washington, DC, area, Dee's tennis ability put him on the first Junior Davis Cup Team at the Army-Navy Country Club. That skill and conditioning would sustain him over his life.

His leadership also surfaced early. The plebes in the 5th New Cadet Company were delighted to find a fellow member who could explain the vagaries of the Blitz cloth, Noxon, and polish. During the academic year, he coached, guided, and earned a series of bars below his expert marksmanship badge. He became the natural company commander of E-2 when the Corps expanded. On Graduation Day, he was ninth in our class and took the first slot in Armored Infantry (Armor had not yet been established as a branch).

Ft. Knox led to the 14th Armored Division and to combat in Europe. As S-2 of a combat command, Dee became executive officer of the 94th Cavalry Squadron, when his predecessor in that post was killed in action. He learned of his new job while in a ditch under fire himself. By the end of the war, Dee had the

Purple Heart for wounds, a Bronze Star (rare in those days), and battlefield promotion to major. Even as he approached the tender age of 80, the details of WWII combat remained clear as he often spoke of those days, the battles, and friends.

Dee was one of the first Army men to join the nuclear energy program at Sandia and later in Washington, DC. Only the smartest were sent, but the security clearances required in nuclear arena kept Dee from fighting in Korea, which upset him because he felt that when our country was at war, one went to fight! In 1952, the Army did permit him to command, in succession, two cavalry squadrons in the 14th and 2d Cavalry Regiments in Germany.

After his return to the States, Dee earned an MA, MPA, and Ph.D. in political science from Princeton University. It was typical of him that he never sought credit for work he did at the national level. But a series of policy shifts bear his mark as initiator, such as the shift from massive retaliation to graduated response. He was first an Army planner, then a Department of Defense planner during the 1960–62 crises over Berlin and Cuba; finally the first military member of the State Department's Policy Planning Council.

But another war loomed. This time, after graduating from the National War College, Dee went! In 1965–66, he was the chief MACV planner in Saigon during the critical buildup. That was his first Viet Nam tour.

Dee returned to the States to command (brigade and ADC) in the 2d Armored Division at Ft. Hood, where he made brigadier general. Returning to Alexandria, he became one of three generals in ACSI (Army Intelligence).

Then, in 1970, he returned to Viet Nam.

Here, in the waning years of our commitment, Dee closed out the U.S. effort as the commanding general of the Advisory Group to the Vietnamese III Corps and, finally, as the commanding general of U.S. Army Forces with 22,000 men and 550 helicopters. In earlier days, a force that size would have easily justified a major general's rank, but the American people were tired of war. Little attention was paid to problems in that far-off land, or to promotions for those closing us down. In 1971, Dee returned home to become the commanding general at Ft. Devens in a liberal and anti-war commonwealth. He did a brilliant job. A Distinguished Service Medal granted on his retirement at 30 years paid tribute to that.

Earlier, in 1948, after a seven-year courtship at West Point and on two continents, Dee married Kate Johnson, also an "Army brat" herself, who loved Army life and served its ideals as much as Dee. They were blessed with two children: Dewey in 1951 and Kate Ellen in 1956.

Retirement did not bring lack of activity. Back in Alexandria, Dee taught public administration for master and doctoral students and became a consultant for the National Academy of Public Administration. He also served on the vestry of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Alexandria and volunteered time with Meals on Wheels. As a former class president, he was a key player involved in the wording now on the wall of the Constitution Corner at West Point.

As the years passed, he spent more time playing tennis and studying history. As a boy, he was standing on the corner in Shanghai when the Japanese took over and saw the Scottish troops swing down the street to the sound of the pipes. That was the moment when he knew what it meant to be an Armstrong. A lifelong interest in Scottish history led to the boards of the Armstrong clan organizations in the U.S. and Scotland and visits to his ancestral homeland.

Dee lies with his father, mother, brother, and sister in the West Point Post Cemetery. He leaves his wife of 53 years, son Dewey (DCAIV), daughter Kate Ellen, and granddaughter Hannah. His soldierly record won him the Distinguished Service Medal, three awards of the Legion of Merit, a Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, three Air Medals, Commendation Medals, Korean Order of Chung Me, the French *Croix de Guerre avec palm*, and several Vietnamese medals.

Rest well, old friend. You were a great soldier!

KJA and WAK