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680.11/1945 McNair

HEADQUARTERS
ARMY GROUND FORCES
ARMY WAR COLLEGE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

680.11 / (11c) 1 AUG 1945 GNGCT-51

1 AUG 1945

Memorandum for THE CHIEF OF STAFF, U. S. ARMY:
(Attention: G-3 Division)

Subject: Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas.

I. Discussion.

1. Camp Hood, Texas, is the best camp and training area developed in the course of the current emergency. Of all such camps it is the one most likely to be retained for the use of the postwar army.
2. Camp Hood, Texas, is the station of the Tank Destroyer Center, and is the station at which tank destroyer doctrine was formulated and proved.
3. Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair as Chief of Staff, General Headquarters and as Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, took a leading part in the development of anti-mechanized action and defense.
4. Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair was the first officer of his grade in the United States Army to be killed in action for many years.
5. Conclusion: It is desirable that a permanent installation of the United States Army be named in honor of Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, and is particularly appropriate that such a camp be identified with anti-mechanized defense.

II. Action recommended.

The Secretary of War directs that Camp Hood, Texas, be redesignated as Fort McNair, Texas, in honor of Lesley J. McNair, late Lieutenant General, United States Army.

III. Concurrence.

A. C. of S., G-3 (See attached) comments

For the COMMANDING GENERAL:

R. A. Meredith

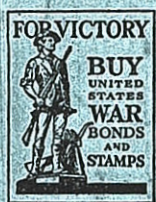
R. A. MEREDITH
Lt. Col., A.G.D.
Asst. Ground Adj. Gen.

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file by 680.11/105

680.11/105

(1 Aug 45)



DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 803119

WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
 ORGANIZATION & TRAINING DIVISION, G-3
 DISPOSITION FORM

WDGCT 322 (1 Aug 44)

Date 4 August 1944.

Subject: Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas.

OF ATTACHED COMMUNICATION

Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas,
 as Fort McNair, Texas

TO: II TAG (Attention: Policy and Historical Section)

C/S DC/S G-1 G-2 G-4 OPD NDD

TAG L&ID B/PR CAD IG Budget Div.

CG, AAF Attention

CG, AGF Attention

CG, ASF Attention

In turn I Army War College (Attention: Historical Section)

FOR: X S/W DIRECTS

Approved Primary interest Remark and recommendation

Approval prior to dispatch Necessary action Comment and concurrence and return to G-3

Approved for publication Draft of reply Notation and return

Noted reply Information for Information

File

II Necessary action in accordance with Sec II, WD Cir 127, 1942

1. Attention is invited to the attached memorandum from the Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, dated 1 August 1944, in which it is recommended that Camp Hood, Texas, be designated as Fort McNair, Texas, in honor of the late Lieutenant General Lesley J. McNair of Camp Hood.

2. This Division concurs in the desirability of designating an installation of the United States Army to bear the name and memorialize the accomplishments of General McNair. While withholding comment on Camp Hood, Texas, two further possibilities are suggested: One is the site of the Army War College, where, as Commanding General of the Army Ground Forces, General McNair directed the large-scale training program which is proving its worth in present operations. The other, bearing in mind the part played by General McNair in the development of fighting men through realistic maneuvers, is whatever maneuver area may be selected as a permanent training theater of operations by the War Department board of officers appointed 3 May 1944.

W. W. Irvine
 W. W. IRVINE,
 Brigadier General,
 Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3.

Rec'd Historical Sec. A. W. C. AUG 8 1944

Inclosures:
 AGF memo for CofS (Attn:G-3)
 (1 Aug 44)

Authority AND 8237
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(COPY)

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

OC8/062.1 (3-10-2.)

MEMORANDUM TO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

Subject: Revision of Publications
with Circular No. 59

^{Smc}
GMC:vm
HISTORICAL SECTION, A. W. C.,
10 August 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR The Adjutant General

(Attention: Policy & Historical Section):

1. The Historical Section, Army War College, concurs in the opinions expressed in paragraph 2 of G-3 Recommendation, dated 4 August 1944.
2. No change in the name of Camp Hood.
3. No change in the name of the Army War College.
4. General McNair to be honored in the designation of future permanent Maneuver Training Area.

Making posts, camps and stations, etc.

It is desired that all administration in connection with posts, camps, etc. In each case it is suggested that the Army, Air, or Service activity concerned be given priority in the selection of names. If a desired name is not available, War Department correspondence on this subject is handled by your office and be handled directly in the War Department.

OLIVER L. SPAULDING,
Colonel, F.A.,
Chief.

Incl. n/c

JOSEPH T. MCNARNEY,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Reorganization Committee.

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WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

600.05-
AGCH ~~600.9~~ (1 Aug 44)

15 August 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR Commanding General, Army Ground Forces,
Room 25, Army War College.

Subject: Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas

1. Reference is made to recommendation to the Chief of Staff in your memorandum of 1 August 1944 that Camp Hood, Texas, be redesignated as Fort McNair, Texas, in honor of the late Lieutenant General Lesley J. McNair, United States Army, which has been referred to this Office in accordance with Section II, WD Circular #127, 29 April 1942.

2. Attention is invited to the comments of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3, 4 August 1944, and of the Chief of the Historical Section, Army War College, 10 August 1944.

3. The recommendation to redesignate Camp Hood, Texas, as Fort McNair, Texas, in honor of the late Lieutenant General Lesley J. McNair, United States Army, is not favorably considered at this time for the following reasons:

- a. It is a temporary installation, which may or may not be retained in the post war period.
- b. It is not of sufficient relative importance to be named in honor of the highest ranking officer of the Army of the United States ever to be killed in action.
- c. It is not centrally located, as any memorial to an officer of General McNair's rank and prominence should be.
- d. General McNair was not born in Texas, nor were his distinguished services particularly identified with that State.
- e. General McNair's talents and accomplishments were not confined to the development of any one weapon or phase of troop training.

4. In this connection, it is desired that consideration be given to the suggestion that the site of the Army War College be designated as Fort McNair or the McNair Military Reservation for the following reasons:

- a. It is a permanent installation and embodies other activities besides the college.
- b. It was there that General McNair was stationed when he achieved his greatest success and fame as Commanding General of the Army Ground Forces.
- c. The site is centrally located with reference to the entire country as well as the Army, and appears an especially appropriate place for perpetuating the name of General McNair.
- d. The Army War College in peace time is the site of the most advanced school of military science in the United States, and it was from there that General McNair put into actual practice the doctrines taught and studied.

AGF 680.11
① AG 600.05-

(1 Aug 44)

(1 Aug 44)

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Authority: AWP 80379

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690.11(1 Aug 44)GNGCT-51 1st Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY GROUND FORCES, Army War College, Washington 25, D. C.

3 SEP 1944

TO: The Adjutant General, Washington 25, D. C.

1. This headquarters renews, and strongly urges approval of its former recommendation that Camp Hood, Texas, be renamed Fort McNair, Texas.

a. Camp Hood is the outstanding post developed by the army in the present emergency. It comprises housing for 6,007 officers and 82,610 enlisted men, located on 158,578 acres of government-owned land, constructed and acquired at a cost of \$75,920,988. It is a post in which every type of unit in the Army Ground Forces can be trained and in which every Army Ground Forces weapon can be fired. This headquarters has recommended to the Deputy Chief of Staff, to the Chief, Special Planning Division, War Department Special Staff, and to the War Department Committee of officers to Review Requirements of the Army for Posts, Camps and Stations, that Camp Hood be retained and occupied in the postwar period. The Commanding General, Army Service Forces has recommended likewise. It is reasonable to assume that, if any of the new posts become permanent, Camp Hood will be included.

b. Relative importance of a post is a changing factor. Camp Hood is considered a major installation at this time. Its relative importance will increase as the less desirable facilities are eliminated.

c. Camp Hood is considered to be more centrally located with reference to the country as a whole and with respect to future military activity than is the Army War College.

d. Names with a local connotation normally are chosen in naming posts, but this policy does not prevail in the naming of outstanding posts in honor of persons of major military importance. It is noted that Camp Chaffee, Arkansas, was named for a native of Kansas, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for a native of New Hampshire, and Camp Gruber, Oklahoma, for a native of Ohio.

e. General McNair's great contribution was the integration of basic training of all arms and the development of combined

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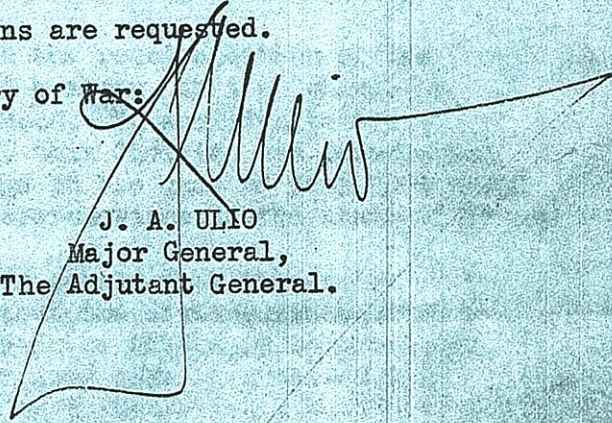
AGCH 680.9 (1 Aug 44)

5. It is also desired that in the event it is not considered desirable to redesignate the site of the Army War College that consideration be given to the suggestion that whatever maneuver area may be selected as a permanent training theater of operations by the War Department board of officers appointed 3 May 1944, be named in honor of General McNair, bearing in mind the large part played by him in the development of combat troops through realistic maneuvers. However, while it is considered that it would be entirely appropriate to name for General McNair whatever maneuver area may be selected in the future, the time and location of its ultimate establishment are necessarily uncertain and subject to many considerations based on post war conditions, and might result in the indefinite postponement of doing honor to the memory of General McNair and its present morale value to the troops now in service be lost.

6. It is considered highly desirable that some important, permanent, centrally located and appropriate military installation be named in honor of General McNair in order to perpetuate the memory of his outstanding services to the country in developing the largest, best trained and most adequately equipped force of ground combat troops in our history.

7. Your remarks and recommendations are requested.

By order of the Secretary of War:


J. A. ULLOA
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

Incl.

DF DACS,G-3,4 Aug.44,w/Incl.



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1st Ind, 680.11(1 Aug 44)GNGCT-51 to TAG (Continued).

training of all arms to a level not previously known in the United States Army. This headquarters regards Camp Hood as one of the posts best adapted to combined training.

2. This headquarters does not concur in the proposal to rename the Army War College in honor of General McNair.

a. While the Army War College is a permanent post, it is relatively insignificant and has no identity apart from the college itself. The other activities of the post (signal corps photographic laboratory and quartermaster sales commissary) add little.

b. While General McNair had his headquarters at the Army War College, he devoted the great part of his activities to the training camps. It would be a serious error to associate General McNair permanently with his office rather than with his troops. General McNair's association with the Army War College will be marked fittingly by the placing of a bronze plaque recently authorized by the Secretary of War.

c. This headquarters does not agree that the Army War College is centrally located with respect to either the entire country or the Army.

d. The status of the Army War College as a post in the postwar army is obscure. Presumably it will be occupied by the College if the College be re-established, or it might be occupied by the Army-Navy Staff College. In either event, General McNair's activities were far removed from classrooms.

e. The greatest objection to connecting General McNair's name to the Army War College post is that it is not possible effectively to rename this post. At the time of the establishment of the Army War College in 1901, the post was known as Washington Barracks. By 1927 the name Washington Barracks had disappeared entirely, and the War Department officially changed the name of the reservation to Army War College. In 1935 the War Department undertook to name the post Fort Humphreys. The last name never gained currency and in 1939 the name Army War College was restored. There is no reason to believe that name Fort McNair would achieve greater stability than Fort Humphreys.

1st Ind, 680.11(1 Aug 44)GNGCT-51 to TAG (Continued).

3. The association of General McNair's name with the proposed training theater of operations is considered equally unsatisfactory.

a. There is no certainty that such an area will be a part of the postwar military establishment.

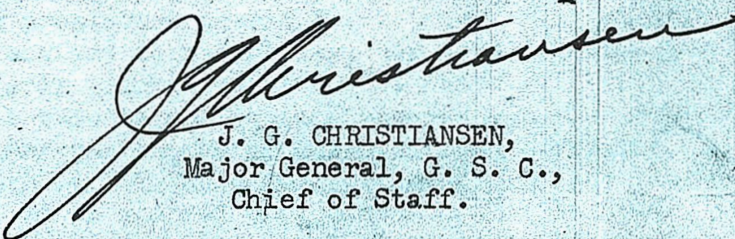
b. Such a theater would be quite impermanent, with no great amount of improvements, and, occupying an exceedingly large area, the project is particularly vulnerable to political attack and partial dismemberment.

4. This headquarters agrees that it is highly desirable that some important, permanent, centrally located and appropriate military installation be named in honor of General McNair. Camp Hood is appropriate; it is well located with reference to future military activities; it probably will be permanent. It is desired to build a suitable memorial on the basis of the best of our new camps. General McNair often referred to Camp Hood as the best of our camps. He believed that it would be a major permanent post.

5. Reconsideration of action announced in basic communication is requested.

For the COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incl. n/c


J. G. CHRISTIANSEN,
Major General, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff.

Authority ~~AVAD 80319~~
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DEPARTMENT
ARMY SERVICE FORCES

TRANSMITTAL SHEET

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| TO | Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, WDGS | |
| | (Service, division, or organization) | (Location) |
| DESCRIPTION OF ATTACHED COMMUNICATION | (Branch or unit) | (Attention) |
| | (Originator) | 30 September 1944 |
| | (Addressee) | (Date) |
| FROM | Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas, as Fort McNair, Texas | AG 600.05 (30 Sep 44) |
| | (Subject) | (File No.) |
| | Operations Branch, AGO | 1C 882 The Pentagon 74859 |
| | (Service, division, or organization) | (Location) (Telephone) |

1. The CG, AGF, recommended to C of S, 1 Aug 44, that Camp Hood, Texas, be redesignated Fort McNair, Texas, in honor of Lesley J. McNair, late Lieutenant General, United States Army.

2. G-3 on 4 Aug 44, referred the recommendation from the CG, AGF to (1) Historical Section, AWC, for remark and recommendation, and (2) TAG for necessary action in accordance with Sec. II, WD Cir. 127, 1942, suggesting two alternate possibilities, namely, that the site of the AWC, or the site of whatever future permanent maneuver area is established be named in honor of General McNair. The Historical Sec., AWC, recommended: (1) No change in Camp Hood, (2) No change in AWC, and (3) Future permanent maneuver training area be named for General McNair. The recommendation was returned to the CG, AGF, by TAG 15 Aug 44, suggesting that consideration be given to the two alternate possibilities mentioned by G-3. On 13 Sep 44 the CG, AGF, "renews and strongly urges" approval of his former recommendation.

3. The matter of changing the name of an established military post presents problems different from choosing a name for a new post or for a post not already named for a person. The War Department has previously expressed the opinion that having decided upon and announced a name, no change should be made except for a really vital reason, such as a duplication or confusion in names. When a name is announced it is recorded in many places in the War Department and noted by other Government agencies, such as the Post Office Department.

4. In this connection, Camp Hood, was so designated on 6 March 1942, by Sec. II WDGO No. 12, being named in honor of General John Bell Hood, Confederate States Army. It has been in use for over two years and is shown on page 578, Postal Guide, July 1943, as an independent branch Post Office of Killeen, Texas. A change will require amendment of many records and will probably result, temporarily at least, in some confusion in the delivery of mail, express, freight, etc. Under the present circumstances of war conditions, it is believed that such non-essential difficulties should be avoided.

5. At the time Camp Hood was established no living relatives of General Hood were located or notified, and it does not appear that any serious objections to the change in name are to be anticipated from that source. However, in view of former experiences in such matters which have involved the War Department in embarrassment, unfavorable criticism, and voluminous controversial correspondence from other sources it is believed to be inadvisable to change the name of Camp Hood at this time.

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COMMERCIAL PRINTING

OFFICE SUPPLIES

801 BROADWAY

Plainview, Texas

September 23, 1944.

REC'D O.C.S. 26 SEP 1944

General George C. Marshall,
Chief of Staff,
United States Army,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In view of the close association of two of our Army officers with the development of the tank destroyer units and the government installation at Camp Hood, Texas, I would respectfully invite attention to the high order of service of the late General Lesley J. McNair, and his son, the late Col. Douglas McNair, with the suggestion that if a permanent post is created there that it be named Fort McNair or Fort McNairs

Having served under General McNair as a cadet in the First Training Camp at Leon Springs, Texas, 1917, I came to know him as a highly efficient officer and have followed his military career with interest. I believe you will agree with me that some recognition of the service of this family, which has claimed the male members of three generations, is indeed in order.

I am taking the liberty of enclosing an editorial from my newspaper soon after the report of Col. McNair's sacrifice.

Sincerely,

H. S. Hilburn
H. S. Hilburn, Editor,
Plainview Daily Herald, and
Former Capt. 359th Inf.AEF

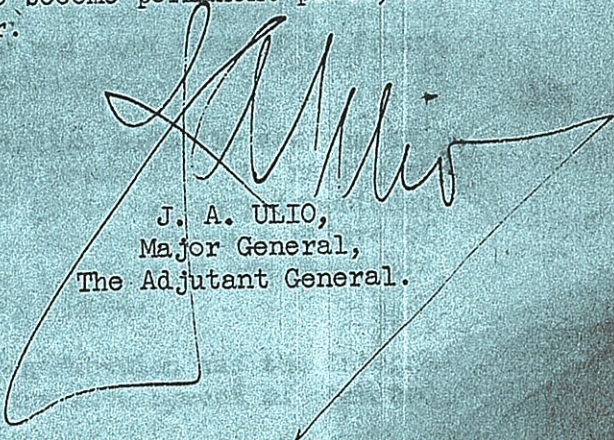
6. Paragraph 2c AR 210-10 provide that permanent posts be designated as "forts" and places occupied temporarily by troops as "camps". Paragraph 2a of the same regulations further provide that "permanent" military posts within the continental limits of the United States, including Alaska, be established only with express authority of Congress." In this connection the following is an opinion of The Judge Advocate General, 29 September 1942, on the subject of redesignating "camps" as "forts":

"It is the opinion of this office that unless Congress has specifically authorized the establishment of a permanent post at _____ or has otherwise indicated an intent that such post be established thereat, as for example, by appropriating funds for permanent improvements, the change in name from camp to fort would be in violation of the provisions of paragraph 2c AR 210-10, 20 December 1940, for the reason that the word "permanent" is used in that paragraph in the same sense as in paragraph 2a of the same regulations, i.e., to distinguish those "permanent" posts which have been established by express authority of Congress in conformity with the provisions of the Act of 2 March 1905 (33 stat. 836; 10 USC 1331) from such "temporary" reservations as may be acquired pursuant to general statutory authority. There would be no legal objection, however, to the waiver by the Secretary of War of the provisions of paragraph 2a AR 210-10, provided, of course, that the designation as a "fort" would not result in the mistaken assumption that the reservation is a permanent post which has been expressly recognized by Congress. It might be observed that such waiver might result in confusion as to the status of other posts; and for this reason it is recommended that the name be not changed to "Fort _____" in the absence of an Act of Congress clearly indicating an intent that the reservation be maintained as a permanent post."

7. To change the name of one camp would undoubtedly engender requests from communities and other sources for changes in names and designation as forts of other temporary camps.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That no change be made in the present designation of Camp Hood.
2. That until such time as it has been finally determined which of the many temporary camp sites occupied during the war are to become permanent posts, no such temporary camp be named in honor of General McNair.


J. A. ULLO,
Major General,
The Adjutant General.

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TRANSMITTAL SHEET

FILE NO. SPMOC 350.05 (26 Sep 44)
(IF REQUIRED)

DATE 2 October 1944

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| TO | SERVICE, DIVISION, OR ORGANIZATION The Adjutant General | LOCATION 1C 875 Pentagon, Wash. D. C. |
| | BRANCH OR UNIT | ATTENTION Colonel Otto Johnson |

SUBJECT: Tank Destroyer Units and the Government Installation at Camp Hood, Texas.

| | | | |
|------|--|--------------------|-----------------------|
| FROM | SERVICE, DIVISION, OR ORGANIZATION Utilization Section, Command Instal. Br. | LOCATION 4B 262 | TELEPHONE NO. 2452 |
|------|--|--------------------|-----------------------|

It is requested that a letter substantially as follows be addressed to Mr. H. S. Hilburn, Editor, Plainview Daily Herald, Plainview, Texas, and that copies thereof be furnished the Commanding General, Army Service Forces, the Chief of Staff, War Department and Assistant Secretary, General Staff:

"Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of September 23, 1944 in which you recommend that Camp Hood, Texas, be named Fort McNair.

Your letter and inclosures have been forwarded to the agency of the War Department having primary interest in such matters and you may be assured that careful and full consideration will be given to the information you have submitted.

Your interest in bringing this matter to the attention of the War Department is indeed appreciated."



CHAS. E. DISSINGER
Colonel, General Staff Corps
Director, Mobilization Division

Incls:

- #1-Ltr frm. Mr. H.S. Hilburn, Editor, Plainview, Tex, to Gen. Marshall, 23 Sep 44, w/ Incls.

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

1. Ltr frm Mr. H. S. Hilburn, Editor, Plainview Daily Herald, Tex, to Gen. Marshall 23 Sep 44, suggests that if a permanent post is created at Camp Hood it be named Fort McNair. Incloses editorial from his newspaper on General McNair and his son Colonel McNair.
2. Maj. J. F. Smith, Planning Division, advises informally that his office recently non-concurred in a proposal of AGF to name Camp Hood, Fort McNair. Recommends forwarding this action to AG for reply.
3. Col. Johnson, Operations Branch, AGO, advises informally that action referred to above from AGF has been sent to G-3 for comment. Concurs in this action and recommends forwarding paper through his office.

WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
ORGANIZATION AND TRAINING DIVISION G-3
WASHINGTON



7-19

G-3
Jm

WDGCT 322 (1 Aug 44)

5 October 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY GROUND FORCES:

Subject: Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas, as
Fort McNair, Texas

1. Reference is made to the following:

a. Memorandum from the Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, for the Chief of Staff, U. S. Army (Attn: G-3 Division), file 680.11 (1 Aug 44) GNGCT-51, dated 1 August 1944, subject as above.

b. Transmittal Sheet from The Adjutant General to the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, War Department General Staff, file AG 600.05 (30 Sep 44), dated 30 September 1944, subject as above.

2. The G-3 Division concurs in the recommendation of The Adjutant General contained in reference 1 b above, that no change be made in the present designation of Camp Hood. In addition to the reasons advanced by The Adjutant General, this Division has information from an authoritative source that a change in the name of Camp Hood would have undesirable popular and political repercussions in the state of Texas.

3. However, this Division is in accord with the desire of the Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, that the distinguished military career of the late Lieutenant General McNair be fittingly memorialized. It is therefore suggested that some other Army post be proposed for naming in honor of General McNair. Such an installation should, insofar as can be determined at this time, be one that will be retained in the post-war military establishment.

4. Should it be thought desirable to propose either the presently undetermined post-war theater of operations or one of the camps whose permanence is uncertain at this time, this Division would

AGF 680.11

(5 Oct 44)

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Authority: ARJ 80319

interpose no objection to the announcement that some military installation, yet to be selected, will be named in honor of General McNair. Such an announcement would, of course, be cleared through the War Department Bureau of Public Relations.

Ray E. Porter

RAY E. PORTER,
Major General,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3.

Inclosures:

TS to G-3 fr TAG,
30 Sep 44.
TAG memo for AGF,
15 Aug 44 w/incls &
1st Ind.
AWC memo for TAG,
10 Aug 44 (cc)
C/S memo for TAG,
10 Mar 42 (copy).

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Authority AWP & 80319

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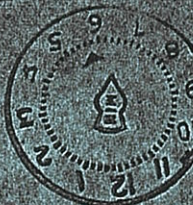
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REGADED BY AUTHORITY OF CG, AGP
BY CLAUDE BRANT, H. G. AGP
DATE 9 DEC 1947
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Handwritten initials

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:
C/S IN M/S IS NOV 11 directed renewal of this action in May 1945
It no action be obtained in the interim.

DISPATCHED
1543

Handwritten signature

JOSEPH W. STEWART
General, USA
Commanding

Date *11 May 45*
Initials *[Signature]*

Operations, G-3, AGP

19 MAY 1945

1. Upon the successful completion of our European campaign, it is fitting that we mark in a tangible way the great contribution of Lieutenant General Lesley J. Kohler toward that end.
2. We are indebted to General Kohler for much of the planning and foresight which gave us the fine system of camps in which our armies were trained, and in which we will train our post-war army.
3. General Kohler took a great personal interest in the development of Camp Hood, Texas. He believed it would be a major permanent installation. I consider it one of the best of the new camps, and expect to see it develop into the outstanding training site for post-war ground troops.
4. I recommend that Camp Hood, Texas, be redesignated as Camp Kohler, Texas, in honor of General Kohler.

SUBJECT: Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas.

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL MARSHALL, CHIEF OF STAFF:

19 MAY 1945

680.11 (C) (19 MAY 1945) 51

MAILING: 474/258

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
WASHINGTON

IN REPLY
REFER TO

AG 600.05 (19 May 45)
OB-I-WDGCT

6-38

6-3

6 June 1945.

SUBJECT: Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas.

To: Commanding General,
Army Ground Forces.

R

1. Reference is made to your memorandum for the Chief of Staff, file 680.11 (C) (19 May 1945) GNGCT-51, dated 19 May 1945, subject as above.

2. The War Department has again given careful consideration to the advisability of redesignating Camp Hood, Texas, as Camp McNair in honor of the late Lieutenant General Lesley J. McNair, U. S. Army, and considers it inadvisable to change the designation of this camp at this time.

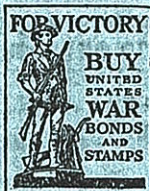
3. The War Department, however, is in full accord with the desire of the Commanding General, Army Ground Forces that the distinguished military career of the late General McNair be fittingly memorialized, but feels that until it is determined which of the temporary camp sites are to become permanent, the designation of a temporary camp in honor of General McNair should be withheld. Furthermore, it is considered that a change in the name of Camp Hood at this time would have undesirable popular and political repercussions in the State of Texas.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

[Signature]

J. A. ULIO
Major General
The Adjutant General

[Handwritten signature]



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ORDER SEC ARMY BY TAG/8L 4

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Authority NAD 80319
DECLASSIFIED

12 OCT 1945)GNCT-3

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF OF STAFF, U. S. ARMY: 12 OCT 1945

SUBJECT: Suggestion to Name Army War College Fort McNair.

1. Reference is made to the inclosed memorandum of the Commanding General, Army Service Forces, 3 October 1945, subject as above, regarding a proposal to name the Army War College Fort McNair.

2. By first indorsement to The Adjutant General, 690.11 (1 Aug 44) GNCT-51, 13 September 1944, this headquarters nonconcurred in the proposal to rename the Army War College in honor of Gen. McNair. This non-concurrence was based upon the following reasons:

a. The relative insignificance of the Army War College as a military post and the fact that it has no identity apart from the College itself.

b. That while Gen. McNair had his headquarters at the Army War College, his permanent memorial should be associated with the site of troop training rather than with his office. Gen. McNair's association with the Army War College has been marked by the placing of a bronze plaque.

c. That it is impossible effectively to rename the Army War College. As indicated in the files inclosed by the Commanding General, Army Service Forces, the attempt to name the Army War College Fort Humphreys was abortive in that the name never acquired currency and after four years trial was removed.

3. This headquarters concurs in the recommendation of the Commanding General, Army Service Forces, that the name of Gen. McNair should be given a World War II Army Ground Forces installation.

4. By memorandum for the Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, 680.11 (1 Aug 44) GNCT-51, 1 August 1944, Subject: Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas, this headquarters recommended that Camp Hood, Texas be renamed in honor of Lesley J. McNair, late lieutenant general, U. S. Army. This recommendation was returned not favorably considered by The Adjutant General, but was renewed on 13 September 1944 and again on 11 May 1945. The recommendation last referred to was returned not favorably considered by letter of The Adjutant General, AG 600.05 (19 May 45)OB-I-WDCST, 6 June 1945.

680.11 / 1 (C)

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Authority AND 803218
DECLASSIFIED

ARMY GROUND FORCES

SUMMARY SHEET

051578

680.11

SUBJECT: Suggestion to Name Army War College Ft. McNair.
5. The recommendation that Camp Hood, Texas, be renamed in honor of Gen. McNair is renewed.
FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF FROM:

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

I. DISCUSSION.

1. Mrs. Lealey J. McNair's personal note to Gen. Marshall, September 1945 (Incl. 1, Tab 2) suggests that it would be fitting to name the Army War College in honor of Gen. McNair. The Commanding General, Army Service Forces, nonconcur and recommends that the name be considered for one of the World War II Army **R. W. HASBROUCK** **Maj. Gen., GSC** **Acting Chief of Staff** (Incl. 1). We have the paper from Secretary General **Acting Chief of Staff** recommendation.

Appd by CofS AGF

PWA

12 OCT 1945

Not Rec'd with File Copy

1 Incl. 2. Attached hereto (Incl. 2) is file of correspondence covering 1-ASF Memo for C/S, that Camp Hood, Texas, considered to be the best site for a new Army War College and the one most likely to achieve permanent status. It is recommended that the name of Gen. McNair be listed in honor of Gen. McNair. We have made this recommendation three times, the last time over the signature of Gen. Stilwell, and it has been disapproved three times by War Department G-3 and The Adjutant General for reasons which we consider not to be compelling.

II. ACTION RECOMMENDED.

Signature and dispatch of the attached memorandum for the Chief of Staff, U. S. Army (Incl. 1), which concurs in the renaming of a post for Gen. McNair and renews our recommendation that Camp Hood, Texas, be designated.

III. COMMENTS.

None.

12 OCT 1945



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ARMY GROUND FORCES

CONFIDENTIAL

11 OCT 45 A.M.

SUMMARY SHEET

051578

SUBJECT: Suggestion to Name Army War College Ft. McNair.

DATE: 10 Oct 45

FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM: G-3



RECEIVED
ARMY GROUND FORCES
Office Chief of Staff

I. DISCUSSION.

1. Mrs. Lesley J. McNair, by personal note to Gen. Marshall, 18 September 1945 (Incl 1, Tab Z), suggests that it would be fitting to name the Army War College in honor of Gen. McNair. The Commanding General, Army Service Forces, nonconcur and recommends that Gen. McNair's name be considered for one of the World War II Army Ground Forces posts (Incl 1, Tab Y). We have the paper from Secretary General Staff for comment on this recommendation.

2. Attached hereto (Incl. 2) is file of correspondence covering our recommendation that Camp Hood, Texas, considered to be the best of the World War II camps and the one most likely to achieve permanence, be renamed in honor of Gen. McNair. We have made this recommendation three times, the last time over the signature of Gen. Stilwell, and it has been disapproved three times by War Department G-3 and The Adjutant General for reasons which we consider not to be compelling.

II. ACTION RECOMMENDED.

Signature and dispatch of the attached memorandum for the Chief of Staff, U. S. Army (Incl. 1), which concurs in the renaming of a post for Gen. McNair and renews our recommendation that Camp Hood, Texas, be so designated.

III. CONCURRENCES.

None.

Sec to AGF - for dispatch
Appd by CoS AGF *[Signature]* 12 OCT 1945
[Signature]

[Signature]
C. R. HUEBNER
Major General
A.C. of S., G-3
[Signature]

2 Incls.

- 1-Memo for C/S, USA, sub as above (Tab X);
- ASF ltr 3 Oct 45 (Tab Y);
- Ltr fr Mrs. McNair, 18 Sep 45 (Tab Z).
- 2-AG Rcds file 680.11, Binder #1.

Authority *803219*
DECLASSIFIED

AG 600.05 (3 Oct 45)
OB-I

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600.05/
7-1-45-
9-20-45

22 October 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF:
Attention: Major Gordon F. Bell

SUBJECT: Redesignation of Camp Hood, Texas.

INDEXED
AG 600.05

1. Reference is made to memorandum your office, dated 15 October 1945, WDOSA 352 Army War College (18 Sep 45).

2. Recommendations for the renaming of Camp Hood were not given favorable consideration at the time this matter was previously studied, for the following reasons:

- a. Camp Hood is a temporary installation which may or may not be retained in the postwar establishment.
- b. The camp was not then considered to be of sufficient relative importance to be named in honor of the highest ranking officer of the United States killed in action for many years.
- c. The camp was not considered centrally located, as any memorial to an officer of General McNair's rank and prominence should be.
- d. General McNair was not born in Texas, nor were his distinguished services particularly identified with that State.
- e. It was considered that a change in the name of Camp Hood would have an undesirable popular and political repercussion in the State of Texas.

3. The attached files contain copies of the following previous correspondence relative to the naming of Camp Hood, Texas as Fort McNair in honor of Lesley J. McNair, late Lieutenant General, U. S. Army.

- a. Memorandum from Commanding General, Army Ground Forces, 1 August 1944 to the Chief of Staff with comments by Assistant Chief of Staff, G03, WDGS, 4 August 1944; Chief, Historical Section, Army War College, 10 August 1944. (Incl 1)

(19 Sep 45)

En 2 Jan 46

b. Memorandum from The Adjutant General 15 August 1944 to Commanding General, Army Ground Forces with first indorsement, Commanding General, Army Ground Forces to The Adjutant General 13 September 1944, and Disposition Form from The Adjutant General to Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, WDGS, 30 September 1944. Memorandum from Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3 to Commanding General, Army Ground Forces 5 October 1944. (Incl 2)

c. Memorandum from Commanding General, Army Ground Forces for the Chief of Staff, 19 May 1945, and Disposition Form from The Adjutant General to Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, WDGS, 24 May 1944. Disposition Form from Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, to The Adjutant General, 28 May 1945 and letter The Adjutant General to Commanding General, Army Ground Forces 6 June 1945. (Incl 3)

EDWARD F. WITSELL
Major General
Acting The Adjutant General



4 Incls.

1-3 - As listed above

4 - Memo, Hq, AGF to C of S, 12 Oct 45,
w/incls.

23 OCT 1945 AM



Operations Branch, OJ, Ext 73466



1945 OCT 23 AM

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

To the following in order indicated:

GPO 16-38699-2

| | (Name or title) | (Organization) | (Building and room) | (Initials) |
|---|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|------------|
| 1 | | | | (Date) |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |

Major Bell

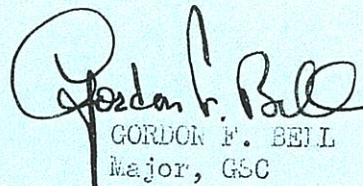
I suggest you get TAG to inform you why name McNair for Hood was disapproved and start from there for complete answer to Mrs McN's letter

Hodes

Original penciled notation of above in Chief of Staff's file.

| From: | (Name) | (Organization) | (Building and room) | (Date) |
|-------|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | E. F. WITSELL, MAJOR GENERAL ACTING THE ADJUTANT GENERAL | | | |
| | | | | (Telephone) |

It is desired that your comments on
penned note from General Hodes be obtained
together with the attached files, be returned
at the earliest practicable time.



GORDON F. BELL
Major, GSC
Asst. Sec., Gen. Staff