

*Bel Papers
June 26, 1959*

MINNEAPOLIS-HONEYWELL REGULATOR CO.

4926 WISCONSIN AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 16, D. C.

5/11/59

RALPH L. GOETZENBERGER
EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANT

Dear Nels.

*I am attending Don's
funeral service in the
Washington Cathedral
at 2 P.M. tomorrow.*

*Best regards
Ralph.*

Donald A. Quarles

For earnestness, quiet efficiency and pleasant manner Deputy Secretary of Defense Donald A. Quarles had few peers. His sudden death will come as a great shock to the Administration and to the many friends he acquired during his six years in Washington.

Mr. Quarles was a combination of engineer, scientist and administrator who had a brilliant career with Western Electric and the Bell Laboratories before becoming Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Development in 1953. In that post he presided over a rapid expansion of the missile program in which he maintained his interest when he became Secretary of the Air Force in 1955 and the No. 2 defense official in 1957. A tireless worker, he had a highly developed concept of public service which once led him into local politics as mayor of his home city of Englewood, N. J.

His geniality and soft-spoken approach concealed a strong and sometimes dominant personality. As is the case with many strong men, he acquired both fierce admirers and impassioned critics in the Pentagon. This newspaper, among others, found his concept of defense narrow and overly keyed to a big bomb and missile strategy, sometimes to the exclusion of balance and flexibility. He could be both stubborn and ruthless in championing his views, and he carried out a vigorous defense of the military budget against attempts to increase it. He had a rare courtesy in listening to others, but basically he was a man of single-minded devotion and zeal.

Even those who differed with Mr. Quarles, however, conceded his great ability and charm. If his views sometimes became too dominant, it was because there seldom were men of equal force and knowledge to dispute him. We join in sincere regret over the death of this man whose devotion commanded such respect.

*See Sept '58 "EE"
P 787*

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