

I've known them in the Army. I think the greatest man I ever knew was a VMI graduate, greatest American—that's General [George C.] Marshall.

Q: Yes, sir.

A: Without doubt, he tops them all. He's the greatest man I ever knew, and I think he's the greatest American in my time.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Q: I'd like to talk more about him later on and some of the other general officers, the very successful ones. Well, let's see, after you left VMI, you went up to MIT. You did get your degree in one year?

A: Yes.

Q: Your master's in civil engineering?

A: We didn't get master's—we only got bachelors. West Point did not give a B.S. at that time.

Rock Island

Q: Oh, you got bachelor's, I'm sorry. And then you had your, I guess, your second tour, no, this would be your first tour in a district, in the Office of the District Engineer in Rock Island, Illinois.

A: I went there from MIT to Rock Island. My first short period was in Kansas City after the First World War, but that was only a matter of two or three months.

Q: What type of work was the District engaged in at that time; you were there almost two years?

A: Most of it was building some levees. We had a dredge or so. We had very little work; we had very little money. I had charge of rebuilding the