

Gen. Moorman to Retire

FORT MONMOUTH—As predicted in The Register several months ago, Maj. Gen. Frank W. Moorman, commanding general of the U.S. Army Electronics Command (ECOM), here, will retire next month.

The Department of the Army announced yesterday that the 53-year-old West Point graduate will retire from active duty on Sept. 30 after a military career spanning 31 years.

Gen. Moorman, who received an honorary degree of doctor of science from Monmouth College, West Long Branch, in June and declared it his "greatest day," told The Register he has applied for admission to a three-year course at Columbia University's

Teachers College, leading to a doctorate in education.

The general said he hopes to enter the field of international education, either as an administrator of courses for foreign students in this country or in



Gen. F. W. Moorman

the administrative program of a college abroad.

"I haven't been accepted or finished one year's courses yet," he added, "so it would be presumptuous of me to say I'm going to get a doctorate."

Prompted Move

Gen. Moorman said his desire to enter the field of higher education prompted him to apply for retirement last month.

Most schools want to hire educators aged 55 or under, the general said.

"I'm 53 now, so if I wait even one more year it would jeopardize my plans," he said.

"Ideally, I should have retired last year," he added, "but that would have meant just a one-year tour here and that is far from ideal."

Soft-spoken but outspoken, Gen. Moorman has kept ECOM whirling since he assumed command two years ago this month. He directed the still incomplete major reorganization of ECOM's Electronics Laboratories. He has on several occasions—most recently with The Register—propelled this post into the center of national controversy.

County Relations

April based on that interview showed, Gen. Moorman also has been concerned with the relationship between Fort Monmouth and Monmouth County, and their inter-action with each other. Practically alone among those who have held command here, he has spoken out publicly on the strengths and weaknesses of that relationship.

Gen. Moorman first attracted national headlines a year ago last month when The Register revealed that he had charged seven long-time civilian employees with gross negligence in the procurement of \$1.9 million worth of faulty battle radiation detectors—known as radiacmeters—and had ordered their dismissal.

The radiacmeter case reverberated nationally last winter when two Illinois congressmen assailed Gen. Moorman's subsequent reinstatement of four of the men after minor suspensions.

Several committees of the House and Senate, and the office of Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara were reported launching investigations into the rehiring, but their results have yet to be made public.

Banned Stickers

Gen. Moorman hit the headlines during the presidential campaign last October when The Register disclosed that he had banned political stickers, banners and decals from the cars of fort civilian personnel. He rescinded the ban four days later on orders from the Pentagon, the Defense Department's Washington headquarters, after some high-level objections.

The Register series, in which Gen. Moorman discussed the splintering of the command's responsibilities and discussed the prospects for its growth, spurred a Washington conference between him, Gen. Frank S. Besson, commanding general of the Army Materiel Command, parent of ECOM, and Sens. Clifford P. Case, R-NJ and Harrison A. Williams, Jr., D-NJ, and Rep. James J. Howard, D-3d Dist, NJ.

A 1934 graduate of West Point, Gen. Moorman was chief signal officer of Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) before his assignment here. He served as signal officer and later assistant chief of staff of the 82nd Airborne Division in Europe during World War II.

He served with the United Nations Military Staff Committee in New York in 1946-47, joined the Army General Staff in Washington three years later and spent the next two years with the Eighth Army staff in Korea and as secretary of the general staff of general headquarters, Far East Command.

His other assignments included secretary of the general staff, Department of the Army, military attache to France, and commander of the Army Electronics Proving Ground at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.

Among Gen. Moorman's decorations are the Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star Medal and the

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Gen. Moorman Will Retire On Sept. 30

FT. MONMOUTH — Department of the Army announced today that the retirement application of Maj. Gen. F. W. Moorman, commanding general of the U.S. Army Electronics Command (ECOM), has been approved. Gen. Moorman will retire from active duty on Sept. 30. A successor has not yet been named.

A former chief signal officer of Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers in Europe (SHAPE) Gen. Moorman took over the reins of ECOM in August, 1963, as the command completed its first year. Gen. Moorman's retirement will culminate a career of active military service spanning more than 30 years.

A 1934 graduate of the Military Academy, West Point, Gen. Moorman served as signal officer and later assistant chief of staff of the 82nd Airborne Division in Europe during WW II. He served with the United Nations Military Staff Committee in New York in 1946 and 1947. In 1950, he joined the Army General Staff in Washington. During the next two years he served with the Eighth Army Staff in Korea and as Secretary of the General Staff of General Headquarters, Far East Command.

Gen. Moorman's other assignments include secretary of the General Staff, Department of the Army, military attache to France and commander of the Army Electronics Proving Ground at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz. In 1960, he returned to Europe as chief signal officer of SHAPE.

Among Gen. Moorman's decorations are the Legion of Merit with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star Medal and the Commendation Ribbon.

Gen. Moorman, who recently was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree by Monmouth College, said he plans to enter the field of higher education following his retirement. However, he has not yet announced firm details.