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*Archives of American Art*

## **Jacques Seligmann & Co. records, General Correspondence: George C. Marshall Research Foundation, 1960-1968**

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New York 22, N. Y.

March 28, 1962

Dear Mr. Pogue:

May I send you a few comments in connection with the Summary of your interview of March 12th.

I think that the rather terse statement on the first page, third paragraph, "General Sibert had no idea..." should be elaborated for two reasons: The first is that General Sibert, of course was no exception when I said he had no idea of the reality of the effects of the constant pounding by modern artillery. No amount of theoretical knowledge quite prepares one for the visual shock of a village reduced to such non-existence that only a sign-post indicates that there it once stood - and we passed dozens of such villages, particularly of course, around Verdun. This lack of experience applied, perforce, to all the officers of the American Army.

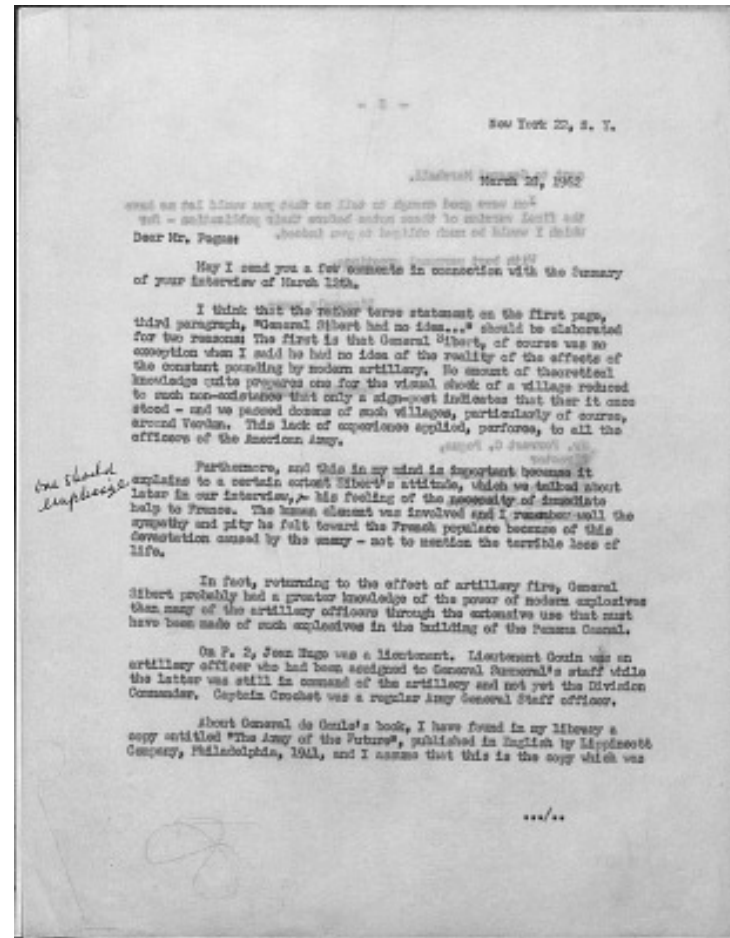
Furthermore, and this in my mind is important because it explains to a certain extent Sibert's attitude, which we talked about later in our interview, one should emphasize his feelings of the necessity of immediate help to France. The human element was involved and I remember well the sympathy and pity he felt toward the French populace because of this devastation caused by the enemy - not to mention this terrible loss of life.

In fact, returning to the effect of artillery fire, General Sibert probably had a greater knowledge of the power of modern explosives than many of the artillery officers through the extensive use that must have been made of such explosives in the building of the Panama Canal.

On P. 2, Jean Hugo was a lieutenant. Lieutenant Gouin was an artillery officer who had been assigned to General Summerall's staff while the latter was still in command of the artillery and not yet the Division Commander. Captain Crochet was a regular Army General Staff officer.

About General de Gaulle's book, I have found in my library a copy entitled "The Army of the Future", published in English by Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1941, and I assume that this is the copy which was

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