



AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS

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**Interview author Andrew Marble, PhD on:  
LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM GENERAL JOHN SHALIKASHVILI,  
A MOST UNUSUAL AMERICAN LEADER**

“In telling his story for the first time, Andrew Marble masterfully weaves together how a man whose family fled war-torn Europe helped shape American foreign policy for decades and lived out the values of conscience and country. This isn’t just a must read for military buffs, it’s a source of inspiration for every American and anyone who aspires to be one.”

– Former U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry

“...an astonishingly readable biography of one of the most remarkable leaders in American military history.”

– Claudia Dreifus, *New York Times* journalist and Columbia University lecturer

Why was Gen. John Shalikashvili’s career so spectacularly successful? For one, he achieved great heights—serving as chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, the principal military advisor to the president of the United States (1993-97). But what’s *really* beguiling is to consider his starting point: How exactly did a stateless, penniless WWII refugee end up serving as the highest-ranking officer in the world’s most powerful military?

To uncover just that, author Andrew Marble threw himself into almost ten years of full-time research, traveling 30,000 miles, to more than 30 cities, 12 states, three countries, and two continents. He obtained access to two restricted Shalikashvili archives and interviewed more than 300 people, from Shalikashvili himself, to relatives and childhood friends, and even to America’s top national security policymakers from the 1990s, including President Bill Clinton, Gen. Colin Powell, Sec. of Defense William Perry, and Sec. of State Madeline Albright.

The result is the fascinating and inspiring rags-to-riches story, *Boy on the Bridge: The Story of John Shalikashvili's American Success* (University Press of Kentucky, Oct 7, 2019). Marble’s biography delves deep into Shalikashvili’s dramatic life story, from his jaw-dropping aristocratic background, to barely surviving the Warsaw Uprising, to fleeing Germany in WWII to escape advancing Soviet troops, and then emigrating to the United States in 1952. After being drafted into the U.S. Army, he rose steadily through the ranks. Yet what actually most set Shalikashvili apart was his development of an unconventional leadership style – employing expertise, humility, straightforwardness, empathy, and even compassion – that he used time and again to resolve or prevent destructive conflict, particularly during the chaos following the end of the Cold War.

“*Boy on the Bridge* is not your typical military biography,” Marble says. “This is no academic evaluation of Shalikashvili’s accomplishments as senior commander. Instead, it’s a thoughtful and engaging exploration of his journey to the top via nuanced character study. Behind Shalikashvili’s dramatic American success story lies an at times heartwarming, at times painful,

but ultimately affirming personal story of how nature and nurture combined to turn one WWII refugee boy into a very unusual-yet-effective person and leader. And by learning about how Shalikashvili repeatedly worked to make his ever-expanding world a better place, readers from all walks of life can draw lessons on how to work more constructively with others to find effective solutions to common problems.”

**Available for interview or commentary, Marble can discuss topics such as:**

- The inspiring “rags-to-riches” American success story of Gen. John Shalikashvili
- The powerful lessons we can learn from Gen. Shalikashvili to resolve and even prevent conflict
- 5 techniques at the core of his unique leadership style
- The cross-continent journey Marble took to write this vivid and inspiring biography
- The positive role immigrants play in this country

**ANDREW MARBLE holds a PhD in political science from Brown University; an MA in Law and Diplomacy from Tufts University's Fletcher School; and a BA in East Asian Studies from Middlebury College.**

**In both 2014 and 2016, he was one of three finalists for the Biographer International Organization's Hazel Rowley Prize for best proposal for a first biography.**

**Marble currently serves as Outreach Editor for the *Taiwan Journal of Democracy* and is a reviewer for the *Washington Independent Review of Books*. He was also the founding editor of *Asia Policy*, a peer-reviewed journal of the National Bureau of Asian Research, and edited NBR's *Strategic Asia* series. He lived in Taiwan for 8 years, and was editor of *Issues & Studies*, a social science quarterly on China, Taiwan, and East Asian affairs. Marble currently resides in Washington, D.C.**

**For more information, visit [www.boyonbridge.com](http://www.boyonbridge.com), or connect with Marble on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).**

***Boy on the Bridge* will be available at [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), the [University Press of Kentucky](#) website and wherever books are sold.**

**REVIEW COPIES OF *BOY ON THE BRIDGE* AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

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