

Fort Leavenworth Hall of Fame

World Wars I and II



HENRY H. ARNOLD, General of the Army, USA

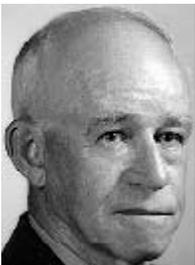
General "Hap" Arnold is the only officer in the history of our country to earn the ranks of General of the Army and General of the Air Force.

General Arnold, a graduate of West Point in 1907, received his pilot training in 1911 from the Wright brothers of Dayton, Ohio. He became one of our Nation's strongest advocates of airpower, and personally held numerous records and trophies for flying achievements, to include the first delivery of airmail.

Accomplishments in and from the air during World Wars I and II were largely the product of his genius. As a result of General Arnold's contributions, massed airpower gave a third dimension to battles of World War II, swept the skies of enemy, and denied him mobility on the ground.

One of General Arnold's citations reads in part: *"From concept to execution, General Arnold's leadership guided the mightiest air force in history."*

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1928-29



OMAR N. BRADLEY, General of the Army

Throughout his distinguished military career, General Omar N. Bradley was recognized as an exceptional leader, tactician, and educator. As Commandant of the Infantry School, he developed the officer candidate program through which more than 45,000 combat leaders of World War II were commissioned. During the war, he successively commanded a division, corps, army, and army group.

While commanding II Corps, he was instrumental in defeating German forces in North Africa and Sicily. His successful career as a field commander reached a peak when, as commander of the 12th Army Group he greatly assisted in the liberation of Europe. This group contained the largest number of American soldiers ever to serve under one commander.

He became the Army Chief of Staff in 1948 and the first Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1949. He is one of the select few officers to be appointed General of the Army.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1928-29



SIMON BOLIVAR BUCKNER, JR. General, USA

General Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., graduated from West Point in 1908 and was commissioned in the Infantry. He served as an instructor at Fort Benning and at the Command and General Staff School from which he graduated in 1925 as a distinguished student. Later duties included service as an instructor, Assistant Commandant, and Commandant of West Point.

In the early days of World War II General Buckner directed operations against Japanese forces on the Aleutian Islands and subsequently converted those islands into an invasion-proof stronghold.

In 1945 General Buckner was given command of the newly-formed Tenth U.S. Army and with it the task of invading and neutralizing Okinawa. During the fighting he repeatedly exposed himself to danger by touring the frontlines to encourage his men. His dogged determination for triumph prompted the men to nickname him "The Bull."

Four days prior to the victory he sought LTG Buckner was mortally wounded while directing his forces from an advanced observation post. He was the highest ranking officer to lose his life in the Pacific Theatre. In 1954 Congress posthumously promoted him to the rank of General.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1924-28.



ADNA ROMANZA CHAFFEE, JR., Major General, USA

The "Father of the Armored Force" was commissioned a lieutenant of cavalry in 1906 and won recognition as the "Army's finest horseman." In World War I he was an infantry major with the 4th Army Corps during the St. Mihiel offensive, and as a colonel, he later served with the 3d Corps throughout the Meuse-Argonne offensive.

Following the war, he returned to his Regular Army rank of captain of cavalry and became an instructor at the General Staff School and the Army School of the Line at Fort Leavenworth. During the 1920s, he helped develop the armor concepts and doctrine of the future. He predicted in 1927 that mechanized armies would dominate the next war and assisted in the first program for the development of a U.S. Army armored force. Assigned to the 1st Cavalry (Mechanized) in 1931, he continued to develop and experiment with armored forces, thus becoming the leading American advocate of mechanized warfare.

In 1938 he assumed command of the reorganized 7th Cavalry Brigade (Mechanized), the Army's only armored force. General Chaffee battled continuously during the prewar years for suitable equipment and for establishment of tank divisions. With the collapse of the French Army in June 1940, General Chaffee's 1927 predictions of the importance of armored forces in modern warfare were confirmed. Ill health brought on by overwork claimed the life of the "Father of the Armored Force" on 22 August 1941.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1919-20.



MARK W. CLARK, General, USA

"He was highly intelligent and quick. He had an awesome capacity for work. He prompted the best from his subordinates. He was a master of human relations." These four main ingredients, observed Martin Blumenson, explained the success of Mark Wayne Clark.

General Clark graduated from West Point in April 1917. He soon joined the AEF's 11th Infantry in France and was wounded in action. After the war, General Clark served in a variety of assignments that included two stops at Fort Leavenworth, first briefly with the staff of the U.S. Army Disciplinary Barracks, then, over a decade later, as a student in the Command and General Staff School's two-year program.

With the onslaught of World War II, the Army promoted Clark from lieutenant colonel to brigadier general. In October 1942, as Eisenhower's deputy, he made a hazardous trip to North Africa for a secret meeting with French officers to arrange details of proposed Allied landings. Three months later, General Clark assumed command of the Fifth Army, which participated in the successful amphibious invasions of Italy in September 1943. As commander of the 15th Army Group, he directed the final defeat of German forces in Italy.

War beckoned the general on again on 30 April 1952 when he was appointed the Commander of United Nations forces in Korea. On 27 July 1953, General Clark signed the military armistice that brought the war in Korea to a close.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1919, 1933-35

BENJAMIN O. DAVIS SR., Brigadier General, USA

Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis Sr., the first African American general officer, began his military career by raising the 8th Volunteer Infantry in his native Washington, D.C., for service in the Spanish-American War. Although neither he nor his unit saw any combat at that time, Davis' feet were firmly planted on the road to a splendid military career.

Failing to secure an appointment to West Point after the war, Davis enlisted in the 9th Cavalry in 1899. Within two years, he rose to the rank of squadron sergeant major. Then, after passing the commissioning examinations, he was promoted to second lieutenant. Posted to the 10th Cavalry, his service with that famous regiment of Buffalo Soldiers took him from the Philippines to the Mexican border.

Largely underutilized by the U.S. Army, he subsequently performed duties as an ROTC instructor at black colleges and an adviser to black Army National Guard units. While these assignments did not satisfy Davis' desire to command, his enormous talent and abilities were evident at every turn.

His reward came in 1940, when he was promoted to brigadier general and given command of the 2d Cavalry Division. As a professional soldier and role model for fifty years, Brigadier General Benjamin O. Davis Sr. was unsurpassed.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1901.

CHARLES W. DAVIS, Colonel, USA

Charles W. Davis was commissioned by the University of Alabama ROTC program in July 1940 and completed Infantry training at Fort Benning, Georgia. After an initial assignment at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, he transferred to the 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds," 25th Division in Hawaii where he withstood the Japanese surprise attack on December 7th, 1941. He deployed to Guadalcanal with his unit in November 1942.

In January 1943, while executive officer of the 2nd Battalion 27th Regiment, Davis volunteered to carry instructions to two companies pinned down by machine gun cross-fire. He remained overnight in this exposed position, supervising the execution of the orders. The next morning, seeing only one way to break the stalemate, Captain Davis crawled forward over the open ground with a team of four men. When they were discovered there was an exchange of grenades at extremely close range, then Davis stood up, vividly silhouetted against the sky, and called to his team, "Let's go get them!" As he charged the machine gun position his rifle jammed on the first shot so he drew his pistol and penetrated the enemy position. Galvanized to action by this display of courage and leadership other soldiers followed and broke Japanese resistance on the objective. Later, Davis led another rifle company up a 45-degree slope to capture a further hill. Davis was promoted and awarded the Medal of Honor for these actions.

Davis attended Command and General Staff College in 1943 and remained as an instructor. In 1945 he instructed at the British Infantry School and at the US Infantry School 1946-49. Other assignments included the 11th Airborne Division, the US Military Advisory Group Thailand, Third Army, and IV Corps (in Vietnam), the Armed Forces Staff College and the National War College.

After retirement Colonel Davis served on the White House Commission on Veterans Affairs and as President of the Medal of Honor Society for an unprecedented two terms.

Service at Fort Leavenworth: CGSC Student and Instructor 1943-45



JACOB L. DEVERS, General, USA

Jacob L. Devers, who is best remembered for his command of the 6th Army Group in Europe during World War II, graduated from the US Military Academy in 1909. Much of his energy between the world wars was spent in the improvement, both tactical and technical of his branch, Field Artillery.

At the outbreak of World War II, Devers was serving in Panama. After commanding the 9th Infantry Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, he was posted to Fort Knox, Kentucky to head the Armored Force. In May 1943, Devers became the overall commander of U.S. Army forces in Europe, where from his London headquarters he organized and trained many divisions for the cross-channel attack.

Finally in July 1944 Devers received the combat command he had so long coveted; the 6th Army Group. With his twelve American and eleven French divisions, Devers cleared Alsace, reduced the Colmer pocket, crossed the Rhine River and accepted the surrender of German forces in western Austria on 6 May 1945.

Devers was a highly competent and consummate professional in an exemplary career that spanned more than thirty-five years.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1925.



MANTON S. EDDY Lieutenant General, USA

Thoroughly the infantryman, Manton S. Eddy served in France in World War I in rifle and machine gun units. During the interwar period, he was a member of the Infantry Board and an instructor of tactics at the Command and General Staff College.

The years of preparation and training returned great dividends to the Army. General Eddy commanded the 9th Infantry Division in campaigns in Tunisia, Sicily, and Normandy. As Commander of XII Corps, his units successfully held the southern shoulder of the German salient in the Battle of the Bulge.

In the postwar period, General Eddy served again at Fort Leavenworth, this time as Commandant of the college. He was president of a review board which made a thorough examination of officer education and established the progressive branch, staff, and senior service levels of officer schooling. As Commander of Seventh Army, he presided over its transformation from an Army of occupation to one of deterrence.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1932-28, 1948-50



ROBERT LAWRENCE EICHELBERGER, General, USA

R.L. Eichelberger entered the Army as an infantry lieutenant from the U.S. Military Academy in 1909. For the next several years, he saw service in Panama and the Mexican border before joining the American Expeditionary Forces in Siberia. In the years 1918 to 1920 the then Major Eichelberger observed the Japanese incursion into Siberia and became aware of Japanese methods. He was also awarded the Distinguished Service cross for repeated acts of bravery while assigned to the Expeditionary Force.

After further overseas duty in the Philippines and China, Eichelberger returned to the U.S. attended the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth and the Army War College, progressing through promotions to Brigadier General in October 1940. With the beginning of World War II, the now Major General Eichelberger became Commanding General of I Corps and left for Australia in 1942.

Eichelberger soon became a Lieutenant General and General MacArthur ordered "Bob, I want you to take Buna, or not come back alive." LTG Eichelberger defeated the Japanese on Buna and continued winning victories on Hollandia and Biak with his joint Australian American Corps.

As Commanding General of the newly formed Eighth Army, he lead the invasion of the Philippines clearing the islands of Mindoro, Marinduque, Panay, Negros, Cebu and Bohol. By July 1945, LTC Eichelberger's forces had defeated the Japanese on Mindanao. That August Eichelberger's Eighth Army began a three-year Occupation of Japan where he was instrumental in the rebuilding of a nation.

After nearly 40 years service he retired in 1948. Congress, in recognition of his service, promoted R.L. Eichelberger to General in 1954.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1925-29



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, General of the Army

General Dwight D. Eisenhower, in 1915, began a career of distinguished public service which included service in the highest military and civilian positions of leadership in the United States.

During World War II, as Commander in Chief, Allied Expeditionary Force, he supervised the invasion of North Africa and the defeat of German forces on that continent. In 1944 as Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force, he was instructed: *"You will enter the continent of Europe and in conjunction with the other United Nations undertake operations aimed at the heart of Germany and the destruction of her armed forces."* In accomplishing this mission, he commanded the largest combination of land, sea, and air forces in history. Following World War II he was instrumental in the development of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

After his brilliant military career he was elected the thirty-fourth President of the United States.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1917-18, 1925-26



STUART HEINTZELMAN, Major General, USA

Stuart Heintzelman was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant of Cavalry from the United States Military Academy in 1899. For the first five years of his career, he served with the 6th Cavalry in Kansas and Idaho, the 4th Cavalry in the Philippines, and as part of the international force putting down the Boxer uprising in China. In 1904, Heintzelman began what would become a long and distinguished association with Fort Leavenworth when he was selected as the Infantry and Cavalry School honor graduate. After service in the Philippines, Heintzelman returned to Fort Leavenworth as an instructor followed by another academic assignment as the Professor of Military Art and Science at Princeton University.

As a general staff officer with the Allied Expeditionary Force, Heintzelman was responsible for planning the St. Mihiel Offensive. He also served with the French in the Chemin des Dames offensive in October 1917, and in winter operations in northern Italy with the French Tenth Army. He concluded his tour in France as Chief of Staff for both IV Corps and later Second Army. From 1921 - 1929, he held numerous command and staff positions including command of the 22nd Infantry Brigade, commander of the Eastern Defenses of New York, and Assistant Chief of Staff for War Plans. In 1929, he again returned to Fort Leavenworth to serve as the Commandant and was promoted to Major General in 1931. As Commandant, Heintzelman was influential in updating the curriculum and actively participated in the classroom. He passed away in 1935 while in command of the VII Corps Area, Fort Omaha, Nebraska.

Heintzelman's awards include the Commander of the Legion of Honor and the Croix de Guerre with palm from France, the Commander of the Order of the Crown by the Italian Government, and the Distinguished Service Medal.

Service at Fort Leavenworth: 1909 - 1912; 1914 - 1916; 1929 -1935

COURTNEY HICKS HODGES, GENERAL, USA

Courtney Hicks Hodges enlisted in the Army in 1906 and was commissioned in 1909. A decisive leader, he trained and then led to victory much of the US Army in Europe in World War II.

General Hodges served in the Punitive Expedition into Mexico in 1915 and fought as a battalion and regimental commander in World War I. After the outbreak of World War II, he trained the US Army ground forces for combat, serving, in rapid succession, as Commandant of the Infantry School, Chief of Infantry, Chief of Ground Forces Replacement and School Command, and Commanding General of X Corps.

Shortly after D-day, General Hodges took command of the First Army, which, living up to its name, had been first on the beaches of Normandy. Under General Hodges's masterful leadership, it was first to break out of the Normandy beachhead, first to enter Paris, first to break through the Siegfried line and enter Germany, first to cross the Rhine, and first to contact the Russians.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1909, 1924-25



WILLIAM M. HOGE, General, USA

On graduating from West Point in 1916, William M. Hoge was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers and commanded a company of the 7th Engineers at Fort Leavenworth in 1917-18. During World War I, Hoge received the Distinguished Service Cross personally from General Pershing for heroic action under fire as a battalion commander in the Meuse-Argonne offensive. During the interwar years, he graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and from the Command and General Staff School.

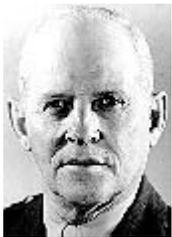
Hoge directed one of the great engineering feats of World War II, the construction of the 1,519-mile ALCAN Highway in nine months. Later, in Europe, he commanded the Provisional Engineer Special

Brigade Group in the assault on Omaha Beach. He then directed Combat Command B, 9th Armored Division, in its heroic actions in the Ardennes and in its celebrated capture of the Remagen Bridge. By war's end, Hoge commanded the 4th Armored Division.

During the Korean conflict, at General Ridgway's request, Hoge commanded the IX U.S. Corps. General Hoge achieved his senior command in the Army as Commander in Chief, U.S. Army, Europe. He retired from active duty in January 1955.

Hoge moved to his son's farm in Kansas in October 1975 and he died suddenly on 29 October 1979 at Munson Army Hospital, Fort Leavenworth.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1917-18, 1927-28



CLARENCE R. HUEBNER, Lieutenant General, USA

Clarence R. Huebner was one of the outstanding combat leaders in the history of the Army.

A Kansas farm boy who spent almost seven years serving from private to sergeant in the 18th Infantry, Huebner received a regular commission in November 1916. During World War I, he successfully led a company, battalion, and regiment of the 1st Infantry Division-the "Big Red One"-from the first American regimental assault at Cantigny through Soissons, Saint-Mihiel, and the Meuse-Argonne. For his outstanding service in this war, he received two Distinguished Service Crosses, a Distinguished Service Medal, and a Silver Star. In 1924, he attended the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth and served on its faculty from 1929 to 1933.

As the distinguished commander of the "Big Red One" in World War II, Huebner led the invasion at Omaha Beach, forged the breakout at Saint-Lo, repelled the German counteroffensive at Mortain, and pursued the German Army across France, which culminated in the Battles of Aachen and the Huertgen Forest. In January 1945, he took command of the V Corps, which he directed from the Rhine to the Elbe, where his troops made the first contact with the Red Army.

Although Lieutenant General Huebner was known as a student of military arts and science, a trainer of troops, and the commanding general of U.S. Army, Europe, it is as a commander of troops in battle that he should be remembered.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1917, 1924-25, 1929-33.



WALTER KRUEGER, General, USA

General Walter Krueger was one of the Army's most accomplished strategists and tacticians. His outstanding leadership contributed materially to the successful outcome of World War II.

General Krueger was a veteran of the Spanish American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and World Wars I and II. He entered the Army as a private and rose through the ranks to become Commanding General of Sixth Army. He commanded and directed 21 successful amphibious operations in the Southwest Pacific, which, in 18 months, covered 4,500 miles—from New Guinea to the northern tip of Luzon, Philippine Islands.

General MacArthur said of General Krueger, *"He was swift and sure in attack, tenacious and determined- in defense; modest and restrained in victory-I don't know what he would have been in defeat because he was never defeated. No Army in military history ever had a greater leader than General Krueger..... No Army ever had a greater record of accomplishment."*

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1905-07, 1909-12



HUNTER LIGGETT, Lieutenant General, USA

Hunter Liggett's forty-two years of service spanned the period from Indian campaigns to trench warfare. After his graduation from West Point as an infantry lieutenant in 1879, field service in the American West, the Spanish American War, and the Philippine Insurrection honed his skills as a troop leader.

In 1907 he assumed command of a battalion of the 13th Infantry Regiment at Fort Leavenworth. From 1909 to 1914, he served as student, faculty member, and president at the Army War College. Success

in brigade commands in Texas and in the Philippines led to his selection as commander of the 41st Division in France in 1917. When his division was disestablished, he took command of I Corps.

Under Liggett's leadership, the corps participated in the Second Battle of the Marne and in the reduction of the Saint-Mihiel Salient. In October 1918, as commander of the First American Army, he directed the final phases of the Meuse-Argonne Campaign and the pursuit of German forces until the armistice. After commanding the Army of Occupation, Hunter Liggett retired in 1921. Congress promoted him to permanent lieutenant general in 1930.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1907-09



DOUGLAS MacARTHUR, General of the Army

General Douglas MacArthur was a distinguished soldier, scholar, and strategist who gave sixty-one years of dedicated service to his country. He commanded the 42d Division during World War I and later served as Chief of the Army General Staff. Prior to retirement in 1937 he was Military Adviser to the Commonwealth of the Philippines.

In 1941 he was recalled to active duty as Commanding General, US Army Far East. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic defense of the Philippines. After being ordered to depart the Philippines by the President, he inspired the world with his statement "I shall return." He assumed command of US Army forces in the Pacific and defeated the armies of Japan. After accepting the Japanese surrender, he directed the highly successful reconstruction of that nation. He served as the first commander of United Nations Forces during the Korean war.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1909-12.



GEORGE C. MARSHALL, General of The Army

General George C. Marshall entered the Army from Virginia Military Institute in 1902. During a long career of public service, he distinguished himself as a leader, tactician, and statesman.

In World War I, he was regarded as one of the most talented staff officers in the US Army. After many other high-level assignments, he was named Chief of Staff in 1939. During World War II, he achieved recognition as one of America's greatest military leaders. As the chief strategist in that global war, he materially assisted in directing the Allied Powers to victory.

In 1947 he was appointed Secretary of State for the United States. His outstanding career as a statesman proved equal to his brilliant military career. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his conception and implementation of the European Recovery Program. Later he served as Secretary of Defense for one year.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1902, 1906-10



RAYMOND S. McLAIN, Lieutenant General, USA

In the words of George C. Marshall, Raymond S. McLain "*gave great distinction to the term 'citizen soldier.'*" His service to his state and nation spanned more than forty years.

General McLain began his military service with the Oklahoma Guard in 1912, later serving on the Mexican border and in Europe during World War I. In 1938, while pursuing a career in business, McLain attended the Special Command and General Staff Class for Guard and Reserve officers.

During World War II, he commanded the 45th Division Artillery in Sicily, where he earned the first of two Distinguished Service Crosses. At Normandy in 1944, McLain took command of the troubled 90th Infantry Division, transformed it into a first-class fighting formation, and led it across France. He then assumed command of the XIX Corps, becoming the only guardsman to command a corps in combat.

For his distinguished service, he was appointed a Regular Army brigadier general, the first guardsman so honored. Later, he became the first Comptroller of the Army. At the time of his death in 1954 he was serving on President Eisenhower's National Security Training Commission.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1938.



LESLEY JAMES McNAIR, General, USA

As Commandant of the Command and General Staff College, General Lesley James McNair initiated changes that prepared the College's graduates to meet the upcoming challenges of World War II.

In 1939, eighteen years after serving as an instructor at the General Service School at Fort Leavenworth-during which time he graduated from the Army School of the Line-General McNair returned to Fort Leavenworth to reform and update the instruction.

In 1942, General McNair was designated Commanding General, Army Ground Forces. Once he was satisfied that the Army could operate in large bodies he concentrated on revising training to simulate the conditions that the Army was facing in North Africa.

After he was killed at St. Lo in 1944 it was said of LTG McNair that he did more than train men-he realized that no army can be fully effective unless it is properly organized, correctly equipped, adequately led, and completely trained. His insistence on these fundamentals, especially realistic training, helped save untold thousands of American lives.

In 1954 Congress promoted him posthumously to the rank of General.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1919-21, 1939-40.

TROY H. MIDDLETON, Lieutenant General, USA

Troy H. Middleton was a distinguished soldier-educator who served as a corps commander in Europe during World War II and, later, as President of Louisiana State University (LSU).

Commissioned in 1912, Middleton rose to the rank of colonel by 1918, the youngest officer of that rank in the American Expeditionary Forces. During World War I, Middleton commanded in combat and was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for actions in the Meuse-Argonne offensive.

Middleton then served at the Infantry School, Fort Benning; the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth; the Army War College, Washington, D.C.; and finally LSU. After serving as Commandant of Cadets at LSU, he retired from the Army in 1937 to accept an offer as Dean of Administration and later acting Vice President of that institution.

Recalled to service In early 1942, Middleton served as a division commander and then moved up to command the VIII U.S. Corps. Middleton's brilliant leadership in Operation Cobra and in the Battle of the Bulge led to his widespread recognition as a corps commander of extraordinary abilities.

Retiring from the Army again, Middleton returned to LSU and, in 1950, was appointed to the university presidency. Middleton continued to serve the Army in numerous consultative capacities. he resided in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, until his death in 1976.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1923-28.

JOHN McAULEY PALMER, Brigadier General, USA

Commissioned in the Infantry in 1892, John McAuley Palmer saw service at several American posts and garrisons. In overseas duty he was an administrator during the Cuban occupation, a member of the China Relief Expedition, and a district governor in the Philippines. His field service culminated in the command of the 58th Infantry Brigade in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive that helped to end World War I.

General Palmer was a commander, a teacher of great vision, and an unparalleled staff officer. As the principal formulator of military policy following World War I, he was the guiding force in the creation of the National Defense Act of 1920. It was this Act which reaffirmed America's reliance upon the citizen-soldier for her defense and established the "Total Army" composed of the Regular Army, the National Guard, and the Army Reserve.

In retirement, General Palmer continued to champion the cause of military service. He wrote numerous books and articles about military policy. He was recalled to active duty just prior to the Pearl Harbor attack and served as an advisor to the War Department General Staff throughout World War II.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1908-10.



GEORGE S. PATTON JR., General, USA

George S. Patton, Jr., was an intense student of war and one of the leading practitioners of war for all time. A man of action, whether as an Olympic athlete or commanding troops in "The Dash across France," General Patton has become a legend as a soldier.

Commissioned in the Cavalry, he became an innovator early, promoting the cause of mechanized and armored warfare. From the basic level of the Tank School of the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I to the vast armored formations of the 3rd Army that slashed across Europe in World War II, armored warfare owes a debt to General Patton.

General Patton was a combat commander of the highest order. Successively leading the Western Task Force in the landings in North Africa, II Corps across Tunisia, and 7th Army in Sicily, he instilled an unbeatable fighting spirit in his American forces. General Patton demonstrated the prowess of American arms by leading 3rd Army to the continent to exploit the St. Lo breakout. His remarkable turn to the north to relieve Bastogne will forever be regarded as a classic field maneuver and brilliant staff undertaking.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1923-24



WALTER BEDELL SMITH, General, USA

Walter Bedell Smith entered the Officers Reserve Corps in 1917 and served with the 4th Infantry Division in France during World War I. Following a number of routine postwar assignments, the Army recognized his intellectual qualities and posted him, alternately as student and instructor, to a succession of military schools. These included the two-year Command and General Staff School Course and the War College.

With the coming of World War II, Smith went to Washington, D.C. to serve in a series of increasingly important positions. He rose to be the secretary of the Combined Chiefs of Staff and played a key role in the formulation of Allied strategy.

In 1942, Smith went to Europe to serve as chief of staff for each of Dwight Eisenhower's successive commands. He ran those organizations with stunning efficiency in campaigns across North Africa, Italy, France, and Germany. In recognition of his contributions, Eisenhower selected Smith to accept the surrender of Nazi Germany.

Smith remained on active duty while serving as ambassador to the Soviet Union (1946-49), director of the Central Intelligence Agency (1950-53), and President Eisenhower's Undersecretary of State (1954). He retired in 1954 after forty-three years of distinguished public service.

Service at Fort Leavenworth: 1933-35



CARL A. SPAATZ, General, USA General, USAF

Carl A. Spaatz was one of a handful of officers who nurtured American air power from its infancy, as a section of the Signal Corps, to its maturity as a separate service.

Spaatz graduated from West Point in 1914. His love of the airplane led him to flying duty with the Mexican Punitive Expedition. During World War I, Spaatz shot down two aircraft, crash-landed in no-man's land, evaded capture, and won a Distinguished Service Cross.

During the crucial interwar years, Spaatz was a visionary proponent of air power as a vital element of national defense. In 1929, "Tooe" Spaatz served on the crew of the Question Mark (along with "Hap" Arnold and "Pete" Quesada) in a record-setting endurance flight of 151 hours.

In World War II, Spaatz commanded the Strategic Air Force in Europe and prosecuted a vigorous bombing campaign that crippled the fascist war effort. After V-E Day, Spaatz commanded the Strategic Air Force in the Far East.

Carl A. Spaatz, one of America's foremost advocates of strategic bombing, was chosen to succeed General Arnold as Commanding General of the USAAF. His leadership and vision were, in large measure, responsible for the creation of the United States Air Force in 1947. Carl A. Spaatz was its first Chief of Staff.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1935-36.



JOSEPH WARREN STILWELL, General, USA

General Joseph Warren Stilwell had one of the toughest jobs of any American general during World War II. This involved keeping China actively in the war against Japan, while being assigned to two theatres of war, being run by three separate political entities, each with its own interests and goals.

A keen appreciation of China's problems, gained during thirteen years of service there between the world wars, led to General Stilwell's appointment as Chiang Kai-shek's Chief of Staff in January 1942. His mission was to "improve the combat efficiency of the Chinese Army." However, additional responsibilities reflecting the interests of the United States and Britain, as well as those of China, put him in an impossible position. He not only had to fight the Japanese, but was torn between conflicting loyalties and responsibilities—a situation not helped by his brusque, no-nonsense manner, which earned him the nickname "Vinegar Joe."

Despite those conflicts, by the time of his recall in 1944, General Stilwell had established training centers in China and had laid the groundwork leading to the opening of the Ledo Road which ended the land blockade of China. Chiang Kai-shek acknowledged General Stilwell's important contributions toward achieving this goal and improving China's ability to resist the Japanese by renaming China's land lifeline the "Stilwell Road."

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1925-26



LUCIAN K. TRUSCOTT, JR., General, USA

Lucian Truscott enlisted in the Army upon America's entry into World War I. Selected for officer training, he was commissioned in the Cavalry and served in a variety of cavalry assignments during the interwar period. He served as an instructor at both the Cavalry School at Fort Riley and the Command and General Staff School.

Early in World War II he joined Lord Mountbatten's combined staff where he developed the Ranger units for special operations. He led his Rangers in combat at Dieppe and in Morocco and then began his ascent through the various levels of major combat command. From command of the 3rd Division in Sicily and Italy to VI Corps in Italy and Southern France and finally to command of 5th Army and the final German surrender in Italy, Lucian Truscott was a reliable, aggressive, and successful leader.

In the post-war period he commanded occupation forces in Bavaria and served in various advisory positions, enabling the Army to capitalize on the great wealth of his experiences.

Service at Fort Leavenworth, 1934-1940.



JAMES A. VAN FLEET, General, USA

James A. Van Fleet, one of the outstanding combat commanders of World War II and Korea, was commissioned a second lieutenant upon graduation from the famous West Point class of 1915. As an infantry officer, he commanded a machine-gun battalion in France during World War I. After the war, he served as an ROTC instructor and completed two tours as a battalion commander.

Promoted to colonel, he commanded the 8th Infantry in World War II, where he courageously led his regiment at Utah Beach and in the battle for Cherbourg, where his heroism won him the Distinguished Service Cross. Van Fleet subsequently commanded the 90th Infantry Division as it crossed the Moselle and captured the fortress city of Metz. Later, as the commander of III Corps, he led the breakout from the Remagen bridgehead.

Van Fleet assumed command of the Eighth Army in Korea on 11 April 1951, the same day that the Chinese and North Korean forces launched a major offensive. His skillful use of maneuver, air and artillery helped reestablish the allied lines in preparation for a successful counteroffensive. General James A. Van Fleet commanded the Eighth Army through some of the war's most bitter fighting. He retired in February 1953.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1917-1918.



JONATHAN M. WAINWRIGHT, General, USA

The dark, early days of World War II called for heroism in many guises. One of those who responded to the call, Jonathan M. Wainwright, found heroism in the midst of bitter defeat. His surrender of Allied forces in the Philippines followed a distinguished career that demonstrated commitment to the ideals of duty, honor, and country.

First Captain of the Corps of Cadets at West Point, Wainwright chose a commission in the Cavalry in 1906. Later, he fought the Moros in the Philippines before service in France, where he earned the Distinguished Service Medal. Between the wars, Wainwright graduated fourth in his class at the Command and General Staff School. He subsequently commanded the 3d Cavalry Regiment and the 1st

Cavalry Brigade before taking command of the Philippine Division in 1940. Assuming overall command upon MacArthur's departure, Wainwright led his forces with courage and skill in a determined but futile defense against the Japanese. Along with his gallant American and Filipino comrades, Wainwright suffered cruel captivity until the Allied victory in 1945.

Wainwright then returned to the States to a tumultuous welcome and the Congressional Medal of Honor. Jonathan M. Wainwright's stubborn defense of Bataan and Corregidor served as a symbol of the American spirit at a time of peril and contributed to the ultimate Allied victory.

Service at Fort Leavenworth 1929-31



ALBERT C. WEDEMEYER, General, USA

Albert C. Wedemeyer was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Infantry from the United States Military Academy in 1919. General Wedemeyer's career followed the generally routine pattern of assignments between the World Wars: troop duty, staff assignments, and attendance at military schools including the Infantry School at Fort Benning and the Command and General Staff College. His overseas assignments included two years in China, five in the Philippines, and as an exchange student at the German War College in Berlin from 1936-38. There he observed pre-war German military developments and the unfolding doctrines of Blitzkrieg.

During World War II, General Wedemeyer was regarded as one of the foremost experts on strategic planning. In 1941 he drafted the "Victory Program" setting forth the U. S. strategy for fighting the war and the required mobilization of the nation's manpower and industry for this purpose. He then played a major role in developing plans for the allied invasion of Europe. In 1943 he served as Deputy Chief of Staff of the Allied Southeast Asia Command. In the following year, he was dual-hatted as Commander of the China Theater and Chief of Staff to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

After the war, GEN Wedemeyer served in a variety of positions, including the Commander, 2nd Army, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Combat operations, and later the Commander of 6th Army. He retired from active service in 1951 after thirty-two years, and was active in industry.

For his service to the nation, President Reagan awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1985. GEN Wedemeyer died in 1989 at the age of 93 and is survived by his two sons Albert Dunbar Wedemeyer and Robert Dade Wedemeyer and their respective families.

Service at Fort Leavenworth: 1934-36