

# Our Twenty-one Generals of Forty Years and Under

## Youthful Brigadiers to Whom the Great War Brought Rapid Promotion in Different Branches of the Army



**Brig. Gen. Raymond W. Briggs.**  
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**Brig. Gen. Marlborough Churchill.**  
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**Brig. Gen. Robert M. Danford.**

**Brig. Gen. Hugh A. Drum.**

**Brig. Gen. Benjamin D. Foulois.**  
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**Brig. Gen. Pelham D. Glassford.**  
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**Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines.**  
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**Brig. Gen. John N. Hodges.**  
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ONE outstanding feature of America's record in the war was the achievement of the young men in her army. There were 262 Brigadier Generals promoted from the regular service. Their average age was 45 years. One hundred and fifty-three had not reached their fifty-first birthday. Twenty-one were under 41 years of age.

Those who had not reached their forty-first year when promoted to General rank were:

- 34 Years: Hodges, John N.
- 35 Years: Glassford, Pelham, D.; McNair, Lesley J.
- 37 Years: Johnson, Hugh S.; Rose, William H.
- 38 Years: Allin, George R.; Browne, Beverly F.; Blakeley, Charles S.; Bryden, William; Foulois, Benjamin D.; MacArthur, Douglas.
- 39 Years: Danford, Robert M.; Drum, Hugh A.; Hines, Frank T.; Marshall, Richard C. S.; Mitchell, William; Wood, Robert E.
- 40 Years: Briggs, Raymond W.; Churchill, Marlborough; De Armond, Edward H.; Ennis, William P.

The records of these twenty-one officers show that Napoleon's statement that "every soldier of France carried a Field Marshal's baton in his knapsack" might well be paraphrased for our service, and that a General's star awaits the American soldier who demonstrates his right to wear it. Men who went through West Point, men commissioned from civilian life, and soldiers who began as privates are among the "youngest twenty-one."

General Hodges is a native of Maryland and a graduate of West Point. He entered the Academy in 1901 and in June, 1905, was appointed a Second Lieutenant of Engineers. His ability was demonstrated on some of the biggest work of the Engineer Corps in the Philippine Islands and the United States. Though his duties were exacting, he was not too busy to attend the Engineer School, from which he was graduated in 1909. In May, 1917, he held the rank of Major and one year later was a Brigadier General serving with the A. E. F.

General Glassford was born in New Mexico and entered the Military Acad-

emy at West Point in 1900. For years later he was commissioned as Second Lieutenant in the Artillery Corps. In less than three years he won his initial promotion and was transferred to the Field Artillery arm as a First Lieutenant in June, 1907. In the same year he attended the Cavalry School at Fort Riley and, after being graduated, served with the field guns until October, 1915, when he was detailed to the Quartermaster Corps as Captain. When we entered the war with Germany he was a Major of Field Artillery. In August, 1917, he was made a Lieutenant Colonel, and in June, 1918—fourteen years after his graduation from West Point—was a Colonel. His work as an artillery commander in the operations against the Germans won him the star of a Brigadier General, his promotion dating from October, 1918.

General McNair was born in Minnesota and was a classmate of General Glassford at West Point. He was commissioned a "shavetail" in the Artillery Corps and promoted to be a First Lieutenant in 1907. In the same year he was detailed as Captain for duty with the Ordnance Department, with which he served for two years, when he was transferred to the Field Artillery. In May, 1917, he got his Majority and was assigned to duty in the Training Section of the General Staff. In August of the same year he was made a Lieutenant Colonel, and in the following June a Colonel of Field Artillery. His General's star came in October, 1918, shortly before the armistice. The award of the Distinguished Service Medal attests the character of his work in building up the efficiency of our field-gun fighters.

General Johnson also is a West Point graduate. He was born in Kansas, entered the Military Academy in 1899, and commissioned a Second Lieutenant of cavalry in 1903. He has seen service in the Philippine Islands and all sections of the United States. In May, 1917, he was assigned as Major to duty with the Judge Advocate General's Department. His work here won for him the Distinguished Service Medal. In August, 1917, he was made a Lieutenant Colonel and six months later a Colonel. His promotion to the rank of a general officer was dated April, 1918.

General Rose is a native of Pennsylvania. He was a classmate of General

Johnson at West Point. On his graduation in June, 1903, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Engineer Corps, and a year and a month later he was made First Lieutenant. In 1911 he was promoted to a Captain's rank, his Majority following in five years. He was in the Cuban pacification campaign and also saw service in the Philippines as well as in the United States. He was graduated from the Engineer School in 1907 and retained for a tour of duty as an instructor. In August, 1917, he was advanced to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, and in four months promoted to a Colonelcy. His work with the A. E. F. in that rank was of such quality that he was awarded the D. S. M., and shortly before the armistice was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General.

General Allin was born in Iowa and was graduated from the Military Academy at West Point in 1904 in the class with Generals Glassford and McNair. He, too, was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of the Artillery Corps. In 1907 he was promoted to a First Lieutenantcy and then transferred to the field guns. He completed the course of the Mounted Service School in the same year. His rank was that of Captain when we entered the war with Germany. Enormous expansion of our forces required higher officers as artillery commanders, and in June, 1918, George Allin had been thrice promoted, his rank at that time being Colonel in command of a field artillery regiment with the A. E. F. Shortly before the armistice was signed, he was advanced to the grade of Brigadier General.

General Browne is a native of Virginia. He entered the Military Academy in 1897 and was graduated in February, 1901, as a Second Lieutenant of the Artillery Corps. Four years later he was a First Lieutenant. In 1907 he was sent over to the Field Artillery, and after four years was made Captain in that arm. He was serving a detail in the Quartermaster Corps when we entered the war, and was recalled to duty with his regular arm and promoted to a Majority in May, 1917. In August of the same year he was second in command of an artillery regiment. His work overseas won his Colonelcy in May, 1918, and the star of a General the following August.

Generals Blakely, a native of Pennsylvania, and William Bryden of Connecticut were graduated from the Military Academy at West Point in the same class with Generals Glassford, McNair, and Allin. They, too, were commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the Artillery Corps and transferred with their classmates to the Field Artillery. The record of their service and promotion and their work overseas parallels that of the other members of the 1904 class.

General Foulois is a native of Connecticut and a product of the army. He enlisted as a private in Company G of the 19th Infantry in June, 1899. In eighteen years he rose through every intervening non-commissioned and commissioned grade to the rank of Brigadier General. During the two years intervening between his enlistment in 1899 and July, 1901, he served successively as a private, Corporal, Sergeant, Quartermaster Sergeant, and First Sergeant of his company; studied for the officers' examination and passed the test. His commission, won as a result of that examination, dates from February, 1901, though he did not accept it until July of the same year. He was on foreign service and continued to serve four months as an enlisted man after he won his "shavetail" rank. When he accepted his commission, he was assigned to the 17th Infantry, with which regiment he remained more than five years.

In October, 1906, he was promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, and transferred to the 24th Infantry. A year later he returned to the 17th. As a Second Lieutenant he attended the Infantry and Cavalry School, being graduated from it just before he passed out of the list of "shavetails." In April, 1908, he was detailed for duty with the Signal Corps and promptly took up the course of study at the Army Signal School. He served four years with the signal branch, and in 1912 was assigned to the 7th Infantry, serving with troops until July 14, when he was again detailed with the Signal Corps, this time for duty with the Aviation Section, where he served for two years, and then returned to duty with infantry troops. He assisted in the organization of the air forces of our overseas army, and continued with the A. E. F. until the armistice was signed.

The record of General MacArthur is so well known that it need be mentioned only briefly here. He is a native of Arkansas; was graduated from West Point in 1903, and commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Engineers. In less than a year he was a First Lieutenant. In 1911 his rank was Captain. As a First Lieutenant he attended the Engineer School. As Captain, he served on the General Staff. His brilliant work in France as Chief of Staff of the 42d Division, (Rainbow,) and as commanding one of its Infantry Brigades, won for him the D. S. M., D. S. C., Oak Leaf Cluster from our own service, the Croix de Guerre with palms from France, and the War



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**Brig. Gen. Douglas MacArthur.**  
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**Brig. Gen. Richard Marshall, Jr.**  
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**Brig. Gen. William Mitchell.**  
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**Brig. Gen. William H. Rose.**  
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**Brig. Gen. R. E. Wood.**  
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Cross for merit from the Italian Government.

General Danford of Illinois was a member of the 1904 class at West Point with Generals Glassford, McNair, Allin, Blakely and Bryden. With them, he served in the Artillery Corps and, with them, went to the Field Artillery. As a First Lieutenant, he attended the Mounted Service School in 1907. He was a little ahead of his classmates in wearing a General's star. His rank as a general officer dates from Aug. 8, 1918; that of his classmates from Oct. 1, 1918.

General Drum, born in Michigan, entered commissioned service in the army directly from civil life. He passed the required examination in 1898 and on Sept. 9 of that year was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of infantry. In sixteen months he won his first promotion while in the Philippine Islands and was sent to the 25th Infantry as a First Lieutenant. The next year (1901) he went back to the 12th Infantry with which he served from May to September, when he was assigned to the 27th Infantry and saw hard service with it in the Philippine campaign. His conduct in the battle of Bayan on the island of Mindanao in May, 1902, was such that he was officially commended for bravery. He was one of the first officers sent to France with the A. E. F., and as Chief of Staff of the First Army was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

General Hines was born in Utah and entered the military service as an enlisted man, being a Sergeant of Battery B, Utah Light Artillery, when that organization was called to the colors in the war with Spain in May, 1898, and sent to the Philippine Islands. The following year he was a Second Lieutenant of artillery in his Utah regiment and served in that rank until the muster out of his regiment in August, 1899. In 1901, he passed the recruiting examination and received a commission as Second Lieutenant in the Artillery Corps of the regular army. In 1904 he was made a First Lieutenant and four years later a Captain in the Coast Artillery Corps. He was graduated at the head of his class from the Coast Artillery School and took the advanced course of the same school, a course given to specially qualified officers. In 1912, he was detailed to the Quartermaster Corps, serving in that branch until June 30, 1914. Shortly after America entered the war, he was made a Major and detailed to the General Staff. In February, 1918, he was promoted to the grade of Lieutenant Colonel, and the next month to that of Colonel. In April he wore the insignia of a general officer. He was in charge of the embarkation service during the war. His efficiency in the handling of this stupendous task is attested by the decoration he wears indicating the award of the Distinguished Service Medal.

General Marshall is a Virginian. He entered the military service as a Captain in the 4th U. S. (Volunteer) Infantry in the war with Spain and saw service in the Cuban campaign. He was mustered out of the service in June, 1899, but in 1901 his name again appeared among the officers of the regular army. He passed the required examination and was made a Second Lieutenant in the Artillery Corps. In 1904, he was promoted to be First Lieutenant and sent to the Artillery School, where he was graduated at the head of his class. Four years later he was made Captain in the "Big Gun" Corps, and shortly afterward detailed for duty with the Quartermaster Corps, a detail he held for four years. His rank was that of Major in 1917. On June 26, 1918, he was a Brigadier.

General Mitchell was born in France. The State of Wisconsin is credited with his appointment in the army. He, like General Foulois, is a product of the army—a graduate of the great university known as a military establishment. He was

a private in Company M, 1st Wisconsin Infantry, when that regiment became part of the American Army in our war with Spain. In less than a week, however, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the volunteer signal forces. In January, 1899, he was promoted to be First Lieutenant in the same branch. In February, 1901, he had passed the required examination and was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the regular service and given duty in the Signal Corps. Two years later he was made a Captain, and while holding that rank attended and won distinction in the Army School of the Line and the Army Staff College.

He saw service in the Cuban and Philippine campaigns and held the rank of Major when we went to war with Germany. He was promoted to the grade of Lieutenant Colonel in May, 1917, and that of Colonel in August of the same year. He was Air Service Commander in the zone of advance, and after the formation of the First and Second Armies served in that capacity for both. While Chief of Air Service of the First Army he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross

and the Croix de Guerre with palm for having made personal reconnoissance by airplane over a wide area of strongly held German positions, obtaining data of vital worth to our forces. Further recognition has been accorded to him by the award in June last of the Distinguished Service Medal, the citation from General Pershing's headquarters stating that the medal was bestowed on General Mitchell:

For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services. As Air Service Commander, first of the Zone of Advance and later of the First Corps, by his tireless energy and keen perception he performed duties of great importance with marked ability. Subsequently as Commander of Air Service of the First Army, and, in addition, after the formation of the Second Army, as Commander of Air Service of both armies. By his able direction of these vitally important services, he proved to be a potent factor in the successes achieved during the operations of the American armies.

General Wood was born in Missouri and entered the Military Academy at West Point in 1898. He was graduated in June, 1900, and commissioned a Second Lieutenant of Cavalry and assigned to the 3d Regiment of the mounted troops. He was promoted to be First Lieutenant of Cavalry the following year and in March, 1911, rose to the grade of

Captain. He was retired with the rank of Major on July 1, 1915, under an act of Congress which provided that officers who had served five years or more on the Isthmus of Panama during the canal construction might, on their own election, be advanced one grade and retired. At the outbreak of the war he was recalled to active duty with the Quartermaster Department.

General Briggs was born in Pennsylvania and rose to his high command from the ranks of the army. He enlisted originally in the Hospital Corps in 1898. When in 1900 he applied for examination for a commission, he was a doughboy in the 4th Infantry. Aug. 31, 1900, saw his status changed from enlisted man to Second Lieutenant of Infantry, and he served with the 25th Regiment until 1901, when he was transferred to the Artillery Corps. In July, 1901, he was advanced to be First Lieutenant and early in 1907 received his Captaincy. Later in the year he was transferred to the field artillery. He served a detail with the Quartermaster Corps. He saw service in the Philippine campaign in 1901 and on his return to the United States entered the Mounted Service School at Fort Riley. He was a Major of Field Artillery in May, 1917, and fifteen months later a brigade commander.

General Churchill was born in Massachusetts. Like General Drum, he was commissioned directly from civil life. He was graduated from Harvard in 1900 and in 1901 passed the required examination and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Artillery Corps, and six years later he was made First Lieutenant. He was transferred to the Field Artillery in June, 1907, and five years later advanced to the grade of Captain. He was a Major when we went to war with Germany. His advancement to the high rank of Brigadier General through the intervening grades was achieved Aug. 8, 1918. He was one of our early arrivals in France. His work there is epitomized in the citation which accompanied the award to him of the Distinguished Service Medal; it says the decoration was bestowed:

For exceptionally meritorious and conspicuous services as Chief of Staff of the Army Artillery of the First Army, American Expeditionary Force, and for his ability, zeal, and untiring energy in building up the Military Intelligence Division of the General Staff as Director of Military Intelligence. He discharged these duties of great responsibility with ability, tact, and energy. He built up the Intelligence Service to its present high state of efficiency.

General De Armond is a native of Missouri. He entered the Military Academy at West Point in 1897 and on his graduation in February, 1901, was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of the Artillery Corps and sent to the Philippine Islands. He was advanced to the grade of First Lieutenant in 1906 and the following year assigned to the field guns. His Captaincy was achieved in 1911 after he was graduated from the Mounted Service School, first and second year courses. He is a noted rifle shot and one of the best horsemen in the army. He was a Major in May, 1917, and was detailed to the General Staff in June, 1917. His commission as a general officer dates from Aug. 8, 1918. He saw hard service in the Philippines in 1903-04, and won official commendation for his dash and zeal in the campaign against the Moros.

General Ennis was born in California and was a classmate of General De Armond's at West Point. With his classmate he was graduated early in 1901 and sent to the Philippines as a Second Lieutenant of Artillery. These two officers, who entered the Academy together, have taken each successive step together, and General Ennis received his commission as Brigadier General on the same day as did General De Armond.

The sketches which make up this record reveal the fact that about one-fifth of the officers listed rose from the ranks. Four entered the military service in enlisted grades, three were commissioned from civil life, fourteen are graduates of the Military Academy.