

Douglas MacArthur

One of History's Greatest Men



Early Life

- Grew up in Fort Selden, New Mexico in the late 1800s
- Father was a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery against the “Indian menace” who were attacking railroad workers and settlers
- Grandfather MacArthur was a judge who taught Douglas the importance of education and being a gentleman

West Point



- Received an appointment to the USMA in 1889
- Graduated in 1903, first in his class of 98 men
- Received a commission as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers

Early Career



- Worked in the Philippines on surveying missions
- Sowed bravery against two “desperados” who attacked him
- Fell in love with the continent of Asia

His career advances



- Was an aide in Theodore Roosevelt's White House
- Father died in 1912 and he was assigned to a post in the War Department
- Became the first Public Affairs Officer in the Army and helped convince the American people that the "draft" known as "selective service" was a necessary thing

General MacArthur



- World War 1 Began and MacArthur was quickly promoted to Brigadier General and led the Rainbow Division of National Guard troops from many states
- Became the most decorated American soldier of the First World War

“I SHALL RETURN”



- Became Superintendent of West Point and later Chief of Staff of the Army
- Returned to Manila, Philippines at the request of his old friend Manuel Quezon, the President of the Philippines
- Eventually the Philippines were attacked by the Japanese and MacArthur had to retreat, promising “I SHALL RETURN.”

World War 2 and beyond



- Presided over the surrender of the Japanese on board the U.S.S. Missouri on September 2, 1945
- Served as Supreme Commander of allied Forces in Japan after the war, helping them rebuild their society

Korea

- In June of 1950, the Korean War broke out and MacArthur led the coalition forces from the United Nations
- MacArthur led the war brilliantly at first, but underestimated the effect of approaching the Chinese borders; the Chinese attacked and the war got much worse
- On April 11, 1951, President Truman relieved MacArthur of his command



His Final Years

- Received a hero's welcome when he returned from Korea
- Addressed a joint session of Congress and was thought to be a prime candidate for the U.S. Presidency but that never happened
- MacArthur faded out of the limelight slowly and died in 1964.

