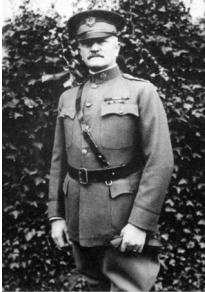


**General John Joseph Pershing**



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**Early Life and Career**



- Born near Laclede, Missouri, on 13 September 1860
- Attended the State Normal School, then graduated from the United States Military Academy, 1886
- Was commissioned a second lieutenant and assigned to the 6th Cavalry, July 1886

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**The Beginning of a Great Military Career**

- Performed garrison and field duties in the Southwest and Northern Plains, 1886-1890, and participated in the Wounded Knee campaign
- Was professor of military science and tactics at University of Nebraska, 1891-1895, studying law concurrently and receiving his degree, 1893
- Was promoted to 1LT and assigned to the 10th Cavalry, October 1892
- Served in Montana, 1895-1896
- After a brief tour at Army headquarters, was assistant instructor in tactics at West Point, 1897-8

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**His career advances**



- Served with the 10th in Cuba, including operations at San Juan Hill
- Was promoted to major of ordnance, and assigned to Army headquarters and the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War, 1898-1899, where he organized a Bureau of Insular Affairs

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**Pershing Becomes a General**



- After Pershing attended the War College, he married Frances Warren
- He was promoted to Brigadier General by President Roosevelt, commanded a variety of units including the American forces in France in WW I from 1917-1919

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**Pershing's Personal Tragedy**

- Pershing lost his wife and three daughters in a fire at the Presidio of San Francisco in 1915
- His son was badly burned
- He was away at a mission when he got the news, and traveled home to bury his wife and daughters and then returned to his duty station




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### General of the Army



- Pershing was promoted to the rank of FIVE STAR GENERAL in September of 1919 at the end of World War 1
- He retired in 1924 and died in 1948

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### Why is he famous?

- He was the first ever FIVE STAR GENERAL
- He served with an all black unit and got the nickname "Blackjack" Pershing
- Helped turn many "raw" recruits into a fierce fighting machine in WW 1




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