

= Douglas MacArthur =

" General MacArthur " and " Douglas McArthur " redirect here . For the Canadian politician , see Douglas Francis McArthur . For the diplomat , see Douglas MacArthur II . For other uses , see General MacArthur ( disambiguation ) .

Douglas MacArthur ( 26 January 1880 ? 5 April 1964 ) was an American five @-@ star general and field marshal of the Philippine Army . He was Chief of Staff of the United States Army during the 1930s and played a prominent role in the Pacific theater during World War II . He received the Medal of Honor for his service in the Philippines Campaign , which made him and his father Arthur MacArthur , Jr . , the first father and son to be awarded the medal . He was one of only five men ever to rise to the rank of General of the Army in the US Army , and the only man ever to become a field marshal in the Philippine Army .

Raised in a military family in the American Old West , MacArthur was valedictorian at the West Texas Military Academy , and First Captain at the United States Military Academy at West Point , where he graduated top of the class of 1903 . During the 1914 United States occupation of Veracruz , he conducted a reconnaissance mission , for which he was nominated for the Medal of Honor . In 1917 , he was promoted from major to colonel and became chief of staff of the 42nd ( Rainbow ) Division . In the fighting on the Western Front during World War I , he rose to the rank of brigadier general , was again nominated for a Medal of Honor , and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross twice and the Silver Star seven times .

From 1919 to 1922 , MacArthur served as Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point , where he attempted a series of reforms . His next assignment was in the Philippines , where in 1924 he was instrumental in quelling the Philippine Scout Mutiny . In 1925 , he became the Army 's youngest major general . He served on the court martial of Brigadier General Billy Mitchell and was president of the American Olympic Committee during the 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam . In 1930 , he became Chief of Staff of the United States Army . As such , he was involved in the expulsion of the Bonus Army protesters from Washington , D.C. in 1932 , and the establishment and organization of the Civilian Conservation Corps . He retired from the US Army in 1937 to become Military Advisor to the Commonwealth Government of the Philippines .

MacArthur was recalled to active duty in 1941 as commander of United States Army Forces in the Far East . A series of disasters followed , starting with the destruction of his air forces on 8 December 1941 , and the invasion of the Philippines by the Japanese . MacArthur 's forces were soon compelled to withdraw to Bataan , where they held out until May 1942 . In March 1942 , MacArthur , his family and his staff left nearby Corregidor Island in PT boats and escaped to Australia , where MacArthur became Supreme Commander , Southwest Pacific Area . For his defense of the Philippines , MacArthur was awarded the Medal of Honor . After more than two years of fighting in the Pacific , he fulfilled a promise to return to the Philippines . He officially accepted Japan 's surrender on 2 September 1945 , aboard the USS Missouri anchored in Tokyo Bay , and oversaw the occupation of Japan from 1945 to 1951 . As the effective ruler of Japan , he oversaw sweeping economic , political and social changes . He led the United Nations Command in the Korean War until he was removed from command by President Harry S. Truman on 11 April 1951 . He later became Chairman of the Board of Remington Rand .

= = Early life and education = =

A military brat , Douglas MacArthur was born 26 January 1880 , at the Arsenal Barracks in Little Rock , Arkansas , to Arthur MacArthur , Jr . , a U.S. Army captain , and his wife , Mary Pinkney Hardy MacArthur ( nicknamed " Pinky " ) . Arthur , Jr. was the son of jurist and politician Arthur MacArthur , Sr. , Arthur would later receive the Medal of Honor for his actions with the Union Army in the Battle of Missionary Ridge during the American Civil War , and be promoted to the rank of lieutenant general . Pinkney came from a prominent Norfolk , Virginia , family . Two of her brothers had fought for the South in the Civil War , and refused to attend her wedding . Arthur and Pinky had three sons , of whom Douglas was the youngest , following Arthur III , born on 1 August 1876 , and

Malcolm , born on 17 October 1878 . The family lived on a succession of Army posts in the American Old West . Conditions were primitive , and Malcolm died of measles in 1883 . In his memoir , *Reminiscences* , MacArthur wrote " I learned to ride and shoot even before I could read or write ? indeed , almost before I could walk and talk . "

This time on the frontier ended in July 1889 when the family moved to Washington , D.C. , where Douglas attended the Force Public School . His father was posted to San Antonio , Texas , in September 1893 . While there MacArthur attended the West Texas Military Academy , where he was awarded the gold medal for " scholarship and deportment " . He also participated on the school tennis team , and played quarterback on the school football team and shortstop on its baseball team . He was named valedictorian , with a final year average of 97 @. @ 33 out of 100 . MacArthur 's father and grandfather unsuccessfully sought to secure Douglas a presidential appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point , first from President Grover Cleveland and then from President William McKinley . After these two rejections , he passed an examination for an appointment from Congressman Theobald Otjen , scoring 93 @. @ 3 on the test . He later wrote : " It was a lesson I never forgot . Preparedness is the key to success and victory . "

MacArthur entered West Point on 13 June 1899 , and his mother also moved there to a suite at Craney 's Hotel , overlooking the grounds of the Academy . Hazing was widespread at West Point at this time , and MacArthur and his classmate Ulysses S. Grant III were singled out for special attention by southern cadets as sons of generals with mothers living at Craney 's . When Cadet Oscar Booz left West Point after being hazed and subsequently died of tuberculosis , there was a congressional inquiry . MacArthur was called to appear before a special Congressional committee in 1901 , where he testified against cadets implicated in hazing , but downplayed his own hazing even though the other cadets gave the full story to the committee . Congress subsequently outlawed acts " of a harassing , tyrannical , abusive , shameful , insulting or humiliating nature " , although hazing continued . MacArthur was a corporal in Company B in his second year , a first sergeant in Company A in his third year and First Captain in his final year . He played left field for the baseball team , and academically earned 2424 @. @ 12 merits out of a possible 2470 @. @ 00 or 98 @. @ 14 , the third highest score ever recorded , graduating first in his 93 @- @ man class on 11 June 1903 . At the time it was customary for the top @- @ ranking cadets to be commissioned into the United States Army Corps of Engineers , so MacArthur was commissioned as a second lieutenant in that corps .

= = Junior officer = =

MacArthur spent his graduation furlough with his parents at Fort Mason , California , where his father , now a major general , was serving as commander of the Department of the Pacific . Afterward , he joined the 3rd Engineer Battalion , which departed for the Philippines in October 1903 . MacArthur was sent to Iloilo , where he supervised the construction of a wharf at Camp Jossman . He went on to conduct surveys at Tacloban City , Calbayog City and Cebu City . In November 1903 , while working on Guimaras , he was ambushed by a pair of Filipino brigands or guerrillas ; he shot and killed both with his pistol . He was promoted to first lieutenant in Manila in April 1904 . In October 1904 , his tour of duty was cut short when he contracted malaria and dhobi itch during a survey on Bataan . He returned to San Francisco , where he was assigned to the California Debris Commission . In July 1905 , he became chief engineer of the Division of the Pacific .

In October 1905 , MacArthur received orders to proceed to Tokyo for appointment as aide @- @ de @- @ camp to his father . A man who knew the MacArthurs at this time wrote that : " Arthur MacArthur was the most flamboyantly egotistical man I had ever seen , until I met his son . " They inspected Japanese military bases at Nagasaki , Kobe and Kyoto , then headed to India via Shanghai , Hong Kong , Java and Singapore , reaching Calcutta in January 1906 . In India , they visited Madras , Tuticorin , Quetta , Karachi , the Northwest Frontier and the Khyber Pass . They then sailed to China via Bangkok and Saigon , and toured Canton , Tsingtao , Peking , Tientsin , Hankow and Shanghai before returning to Japan in June . The next month they returned to the United States , where Arthur MacArthur resumed his duties at Fort Mason , still with Douglas as his

aide . In September , Douglas received orders to report to the 2nd Engineer Battalion at the Washington Barracks and enroll in the Engineer School . While there he also served as " an aide to assist at White House functions " at the request of President Theodore Roosevelt .

In August 1907 , MacArthur was sent to the engineer district office in Milwaukee , where his parents were living . In April 1908 , he was posted to Fort Leavenworth , where he was given his first command , Company K , 3rd Engineer Battalion . He became battalion adjutant in 1909 and then engineer officer at Fort Leavenworth in 1910 . MacArthur was promoted to captain in February 1911 and was appointed as head of the Military Engineering Department and the Field Engineer School . He participated in exercises at San Antonio , Texas , with the Maneuver Division in 1911 and served in Panama on detached duty in January and February 1912 . The sudden death of their father on 5 September 1912 brought Douglas and his brother Arthur back to Milwaukee to care for their mother , whose health had deteriorated . MacArthur requested a transfer to Washington , D.C. so his mother could be near Johns Hopkins Hospital . Army Chief of Staff , Major General Leonard Wood , took up the matter with Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson , who arranged for MacArthur to be posted to the Office of the Chief of Staff in 1912 .

= = Veracruz expedition = =

On 21 April 1914 , President Woodrow Wilson ordered the occupation of Veracruz . MacArthur joined the headquarters staff that was sent to the area , arriving on 1 May 1914 . He realized that the logistic support of an advance from Veracruz would require the use of the railroad . Finding plenty of railroad cars in Veracruz but no locomotives , MacArthur set out to verify a report that there were a number of locomotives in Alvarado , Veracruz . For \$150 in gold , he acquired a handcar and the services of three Mexicans , whom he disarmed . MacArthur and his party located five engines in Alvarado , two of which were only switchers , but the other three locomotives were exactly what was required . On the way back to Veracruz , his party was set upon by five armed men . The party made a run for it and outdistanced all but two of the armed men , whom MacArthur shot . Soon after , they were attacked by a group of about fifteen horsemen . MacArthur took three bullet holes in his clothes but was unharmed . One of his companions was lightly wounded before the horsemen finally decided to retire after MacArthur shot four of them . Further on , the party was attacked a third time by three mounted men . MacArthur received another bullet hole in his shirt , but his men , using their handcar , managed to outrun all but one of their attackers . MacArthur shot both that man and his horse , and the party had to remove the horse 's carcass from the track before proceeding .

A fellow officer wrote to Wood recommending that MacArthur 's name be put forward for the Medal of Honor . Wood did so , and Chief of Staff Hugh L. Scott convened a board to consider the award . The board questioned " the advisability of this enterprise having been undertaken without the knowledge of the commanding general on the ground " . This was Brigadier General Frederick Funston , a Medal of Honor recipient himself , who considered awarding the medal to MacArthur " entirely appropriate and justifiable . " However the board feared that " to bestow the award recommended might encourage any other staff officer , under similar conditions , to ignore the local commander , possibly interfering with the latter 's plans " ; consequently , MacArthur received no award at all .

= = World War I = =

= = = Rainbow Division = = =

MacArthur returned to the War Department , where he was promoted to major on 11 December 1915 . In June 1916 , he was assigned as head of the Bureau of Information at the office of the Secretary of War , Newton D. Baker . MacArthur has since been regarded as the Army 's first press officer . Following the declaration of war on Germany on 6 April 1917 , Baker and MacArthur

secured an agreement from President Wilson for the use of the National Guard on the Western Front . MacArthur suggested sending first a division organized from units of different states , so as to avoid the appearance of favoritism toward any particular state . Baker approved the creation of this formation , which became the 42nd ( " Rainbow " ) Division , and appointed Major General William A. Mann , the head of the National Guard Bureau , as its commander ; MacArthur was its chief of staff , with the rank of colonel . At MacArthur 's request , this commission was in the infantry rather than the engineers .

The 42nd Division was assembled in August and September 1917 at Camp Mills , New York , where its training emphasized open @-@ field combat rather than trench warfare . It sailed in a convoy from Hoboken , New Jersey , for France on 18 October 1917 . On 19 December , Mann was replaced as division commander by Major General Charles T. Menoher .

= = = Champagne @-@ Marne Offensive = = =

The 42nd Division entered the line in the quiet Lunéville sector in February 1918 . On 26 February , MacArthur and Captain Thomas T. Handy accompanied a French trench raid in which MacArthur assisted in the capture of a number of German prisoners . The commander of the French VII Corps , Major General Georges de Bazelaire , decorated MacArthur with the Croix de guerre . Menoher recommended MacArthur for a Silver Star , which he later received . The Silver Star Medal was not instituted until 8 August 1932 , but small Silver Citation Stars were authorized to be worn on the campaign ribbons of those cited in orders for gallantry , similar to the British mention in despatches . When the Silver Star Medal was instituted , it was retroactively awarded to those who had been awarded Silver Citation Stars . On 9 March , the 42nd Division launched three raids of its own on German trenches in the Salient du Feys . MacArthur accompanied a company of the 168th Infantry . This time , his leadership was rewarded with the Distinguished Service Cross . A few days later , MacArthur , who was strict about his men carrying their gas masks but often neglected to bring his own , was gassed . He recovered in time to show Secretary Baker around the area on 19 March .

MacArthur was promoted to brigadier general on 26 June . In late June , the 42nd Division was shifted to Châlons @-@ en @-@ Champagne to oppose the impending German Champagne @-@ Marne Offensive . Général d 'Armée Henri Gouraud of the French Fourth Army elected to meet the attack with a defense in depth , holding the front line area as thinly as possible and meeting the German attack on his second line of defense . His plan succeeded , and MacArthur was awarded a second Silver Star . The 42nd Division participated in the subsequent Allied counter @-@ offensive , and MacArthur was awarded a third Silver Star on 29 July . Two days later , Menoher relieved Brigadier General Robert A. Brown of the 84th Infantry Brigade of his command , and replaced him with MacArthur . Hearing reports that the enemy had withdrawn , MacArthur went forward on 2 August to see for himself . He later wrote :

It was 3 : 30 that morning when I started from our right at Sergy . Taking runners from each outpost liaison group to the next , moving by way of what had been No Man 's Land , I will never forget that trip . The dead were so thick in spots we tumbled over them . There must have been at least 2 @,@ 000 of those sprawled bodies . I identified the insignia of six of the best German divisions . The stench was suffocating . Not a tree was standing . The moans and cries of wounded men sounded everywhere . Sniper bullets sung like the buzzing of a hive of angry bees . An occasional shellburst always drew an angry oath from my guide . I counted almost a hundred disabled guns various size and several times that number of abandoned machine guns .

MacArthur reported back to Menoher and Lieutenant General Hunter Liggett that the Germans had indeed withdrawn , and was awarded a fourth Silver Star . He was also awarded a second Croix de guerre and made a commandeur of the Légion d 'honneur .

= = = Battle of Saint @-@ Mihiel and Meuse @-@ Argonne Offensive = = =

The 42nd Division earned a few weeks rest , returning to the line for the Battle of Saint @-@ Mihiel on 12 September 1918 . The Allied advance proceeded rapidly and MacArthur was awarded a fifth

Silver Star for his leadership of the 84th Infantry Brigade . He received a sixth Silver Star for his participation in a raid on the night of 25 ? 26 September . The 42nd Division was relieved on the night of 30 September and moved to the Argonne sector where it relieved the 1st Division on the night of 11 October . On a reconnaissance the next day , MacArthur was gassed again , earning a second Wound Chevron .

The 42nd Division 's participation in the Meuse @-@ Argonne Offensive began on 14 October when it attacked with both brigades . That evening , a conference was called to discuss the attack , during which Charles Pelot Summerall , commander of the First Infantry Division and V Corps , telephoned and demanded that Châtillon be taken by 18 : 00 the next evening . An aerial photograph had been obtained that showed a gap in the German barbed wire to the northeast of Châtillon . Lieutenant Colonel Walter E. Bare ? the commander of the 167th Infantry ? proposed an attack from that direction , where the defenses seemed least imposing , covered by a machine @-@ gun barrage . MacArthur adopted this plan . He was wounded , but not severely , while verifying the existence of the gap in the barbed wire .

Summerall nominated MacArthur for the Medal of Honor and promotion to major general , but he received neither . Instead he was awarded a second Distinguished Service Cross . The 42nd Division returned to the line for the last time on the night of 4 ? 5 November 1918 . In the final advance on Sedan . MacArthur later wrote that this operation " narrowly missed being one of the great tragedies of American history . " An order to disregard unit boundaries led to units crossing into each other 's zones . In the resulting chaos , MacArthur was taken prisoner by men of the 1st Division , who mistook him for a German general . His performance in the attack on the Meuse heights led to his being awarded a seventh Silver Star . On 10 November , a day before the armistice that ended the fighting , MacArthur was appointed commander of the 42nd Division . For his service as chief of staff and commander of the 84th Infantry Brigade , he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal .

His period in command was brief , for on 22 November he , like other brigadier generals , was replaced , and returned to the 84th Infantry Brigade . The 42nd Division was chosen to participate in the occupation of the Rhineland , occupying the Ahrweiler district . In April 1919 , they entrained for Brest and Saint @-@ Nazaire , where they boarded ships to return to the United States . MacArthur traveled on the ocean liner SS Leviathan , which reached New York on 25 April 1919 .

= = Between the wars = =

= = = Superintendent of the United States Military Academy = = =

In 1919 , MacArthur became Superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point , which Chief of Staff Peyton March felt had become out of date in many respects and was much in need of reform . Accepting the post allowed MacArthur to retain his rank of brigadier general , instead of being reduced to his substantive rank of major like many of his contemporaries . When MacArthur moved into the superintendent 's house with his mother in June 1919 , he became the youngest superintendent since Sylvanus Thayer in 1817 . However , whereas Thayer had faced opposition from outside the Army , MacArthur had to overcome resistance from graduates and the academic board . MacArthur 's vision of what was required of an officer came not just from his recent experience of combat in France but also from that of the occupation of the Rhineland in Germany . The military government of the Rhineland had required the Army to deal with political , economic and social problems but he had found that many West Point graduates had little or no knowledge of fields outside of the military sciences . During the war , West Point had been reduced to an officer candidate school , with five classes graduated in two years . Cadet and staff morale was low and hazing " at an all @-@ time peak of viciousness " . MacArthur 's first change turned out to be the easiest . Congress had set the length of the course at three years . MacArthur was able to get the four @-@ year course restored .

During the debate over the length of the course , The New York Times brought up the issue of the

cloistered and undemocratic nature of student life at West Point . Also , starting with Harvard University in 1869 , civilian universities had begun grading students on academic performance alone , but West Point had retained the old " whole man " concept of education . MacArthur sought to modernize the system , expanding the concept of military character to include bearing , leadership , efficiency and athletic performance . He formalized the hitherto unwritten Cadet Honor Code in 1922 when he formed the Cadet Honor Committee to review alleged code violations . Elected by the cadets themselves , it had no authority to punish , but acted as a kind of grand jury , reporting offenses to the commandant . MacArthur attempted to end hazing by using officers rather than upperclassmen to train the plebes .

Instead of the traditional summer camp at Fort Clinton , MacArthur had the cadets trained to use modern weapons by regular army sergeants at Fort Dix ; they then marched back to West Point with full packs . He attempted to modernize the curriculum by adding liberal arts , government and economics courses , but encountered strong resistance from the Academic Board . In Military Art classes , the study of the campaigns of the American Civil War was replaced with the study of those of World War I. In History class , more emphasis was placed on the Far East . MacArthur expanded the sports program , increasing the number of intramural sports and requiring all cadets to participate . He allowed upper class cadets to leave the reservation , and sanctioned a cadet newspaper , The Brag , forerunner of today 's West Pointer . He also permitted cadets to travel to watch their football team play , and gave them an allowance of \$ 5 @. @ 00 a month . Professors and alumni alike protested these radical moves . Most of MacArthur 's West Point reforms were soon discarded but , in the ensuing years , his ideas became accepted and his innovations were gradually restored .

= = = Army 's youngest major general = = =

MacArthur became romantically involved with socialite and multi @-@ millionaire heiress Louise Cromwell Brooks . They were married at her family 's villa in Palm Beach , Florida on 14 February 1922 . Rumors circulated that General Pershing , who had also courted Louise , had threatened to exile them to the Philippines if they were married . This was denied by Pershing as " all damn poppycock . " In October 1922 , MacArthur left West Point and sailed to the Philippines with Louise and her two children , Walter and Louise , to assume command of the Military District of Manila . MacArthur was fond of the children , and spent much of his free time with them . MacArthur 's marriage was not a happy one , and his wife was often made remarks at parties such as MacArthur was a general , but he was a " buck private in the boudoir " and that " Douglas doesn 't know what his penis is for except to pee with " . MacArthur was deeply humiliated by his wife 's behavior and her very public claims that he was unable to satisfy her sexually .

The revolts in the Philippines had been suppressed , the islands were peaceful now , and in the wake of the Washington Naval Treaty , the garrison was being reduced . MacArthur 's friendships with Filipinos like Manuel Quezon offended some people . " The old idea of colonial exploitation " , he later conceded , " still had its vigorous supporters . " In February and March 1923 MacArthur returned to Washington to see his mother , who was ill from a heart ailment . She recovered , but it was the last time he saw his brother Arthur , who died suddenly from appendicitis in December 1923 . In June 1923 , MacArthur assumed command of the 23rd Infantry Brigade of the Philippine Division . On 7 July 1924 , he was informed that a mutiny had broken out amongst the Philippine Scouts over grievances concerning pay and allowances . Over 200 were arrested and there were fears of an insurrection . MacArthur was able to calm the situation , but his subsequent efforts to improve the salaries of Filipino troops were frustrated by financial stringency and racial prejudice . On 17 January 1925 , at the age of 44 , he was promoted , becoming the Army 's youngest major general .

Returning to the U.S. , MacArthur took command of the IV Corps Area , based at Fort McPherson in Atlanta , Georgia , on 2 May 1925 . However , he encountered southern prejudice because he was the son of a Union Army officer , and requested to be relieved . A few months later , he assumed command of the III Corps area , based at Fort McHenry in Baltimore , Maryland , which allowed MacArthur and Louise to move to her Rainbow Hill estate near Garrison , Maryland . However , this

relocation also led to what he later described as " one of the most distasteful orders I ever received " : a direction to serve on the court martial of Brigadier General Billy Mitchell . MacArthur was the youngest of the thirteen judges , none of whom had aviation experience . Three of them , including Summerall , the president of the court , were removed when defense challenges revealed bias against Mitchell . Despite MacArthur 's claim that he had voted to acquit , Mitchell was found guilty as charged and convicted . MacArthur felt " that a senior officer should not be silenced for being at variance with his superiors in rank and with accepted doctrine . "

In 1927 , MacArthur and Louise separated , and she moved to New York City . In August that year , William C. Prout ? the president of the American Olympic Committee ? died suddenly and the committee elected MacArthur as their new president . His main task was to prepare the U.S. team for the 1928 Summer Olympics in Amsterdam . MacArthur saw the team as representatives of the United States , and its task was to win medals . " We have not come 3 @,@ 000 miles , " he told them , " just to lose gracefully . " The Americans had a successful meet , earning 24 gold medals , and setting 17 Olympic records and seven world records . Upon returning to the U.S. , MacArthur received orders to assume command of the Philippine Department . In 1929 , while he was in Manila , Louise obtained a divorce , ostensibly on the grounds of " failure to provide " . In view of Louise 's great wealth , William Manchester described this legal fiction as " preposterous " .

= = = Chief of Staff = = =

By 1930 , MacArthur was still , at age 50 , the youngest of the U.S. Army 's major generals , and the best known . He left the Philippines on 19 September 1930 and for a brief time was in command of the IX Corps Area in San Francisco . On 21 November , he was sworn in as Chief of Staff of the United States Army , with the rank of general . While in Washington , he would ride home each day to have lunch with his mother . At his desk , he would wear a Japanese ceremonial kimono , cool himself with an oriental fan , and smoke cigarettes in a jeweled cigarette holder . In the evenings , he liked to read military history books . About this time , he began referring to himself as " MacArthur " . MacArthur had already hired a public relations staff to promote his image with the American public , and together with a set of ideas he was known to favor , namely ; a belief that America needed a strongman leader to deal with the possibility that Communists might lead all of the great masses of unemployed into a revolution , that America 's destiny was in the Asia @-@ Pacific region , and a strong hostility to the British Empire . One contemporary described MacArthur as the greatest actor to ever serve as a U.S Army general while another wrote that MacArthur had a court rather than a staff .

The onset of the Great Depression forced Congress to make cuts in the Army 's personnel and budget . Some 53 bases were closed , but MacArthur managed to prevent attempts to reduce the number of regular officers from 12 @,@ 000 to 10 @,@ 000 . MacArthur 's main programs included the development of new mobilization plans . He grouped the nine corps areas together under four armies , which were charged with responsibility for training and frontier defense . He also negotiated the MacArthur @-@ Pratt agreement with the Chief of Naval Operations , Admiral William V. Pratt . This was the first of a series of inter @-@ service agreements over the following decades that defined the responsibilities of the different services with respect to aviation . This agreement placed coastal air defense under the Army . In March 1935 , MacArthur activated a centralized air command , General Headquarters Air Force , under Major General Frank M. Andrews .

One of MacArthur 's most controversial acts came in 1932 , when the " Bonus Army " of veterans converged on Washington . He sent tents and camp equipment to the demonstrators , along with mobile kitchens , until an outburst in Congress caused the kitchens to be withdrawn . MacArthur was concerned that the demonstration had been taken over by communists and pacifists but the General Staff 's intelligence division reported that only three of the march 's 26 key leaders were communists . MacArthur went over contingency plans for civil disorder in the capital . Mechanized equipment was brought to Fort Myer , where anti @-@ riot training was conducted .

On 28 July 1932 , a clash between the District police and demonstrators resulted in two men being shot . President Hoover ordered MacArthur to " surround the affected area and clear it without delay

. " MacArthur brought up troops and tanks and , against the advice of Major Dwight D. Eisenhower , decided to accompany the troops , although he was not in charge of the operation . The troops advanced with bayonets and sabers drawn under a shower of bricks and rocks , but no shots were fired . In less than four hours , they cleared the Bonus Army 's campground using tear gas . The gas canisters started a number of fires , causing the only death during the riots . While not as violent as other anti @-@ riot operations , it was nevertheless a public relations disaster . However , the defeat of the " Bonus Army " while unpopular with the American people at large , did make MacArthur into the hero of the more right @-@ wing elements in the Republican Party who believed that the general had saved America from a communist revolution in 1932 .

In 1934 , MacArthur sued journalists Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen for defamation after they described his treatment of the Bonus marchers as " unwarranted , unnecessary , insubordinate , harsh and brutal " . In turn , they threatened to call Isabel Rosario Cooper as a witness . MacArthur had met Isabel , a Eurasian woman , while in the Philippines , and she had become his mistress . MacArthur was forced to settle out of court , secretly paying Pearson \$ 15 @,@ 000 .

President Hoover was defeated in the 1932 election by Franklin D. Roosevelt . MacArthur and Roosevelt had worked together before World War I and , despite political differences , remained friends . MacArthur supported the New Deal through the Army 's operation of the Civilian Conservation Corps . He ensured that detailed plans were drawn up for its employment and decentralized its administration to the corps areas , which became an important factor in the program 's success . MacArthur 's support for a strong military , and his public criticism of pacifism and isolationism , made him unpopular with the Roosevelt administration .

Perhaps the most incendiary exchange between Roosevelt and MacArthur occurred over an administration proposal to cut 51 % of the Army 's budget . In response , MacArthur lectured Roosevelt that " when we lost the next war , and an American boy , lying in the mud with an enemy bayonet through his belly and an enemy foot on his dying throat , spat out his last curse , I wanted the name not to be MacArthur , but Roosevelt . " In response , Roosevelt yelled " you must not talk that way to the President ! " MacArthur offered to resign , but Roosevelt refused his request , and MacArthur then staggered out of the White House and vomited on the front steps .

In spite of such exchanges , MacArthur was extended an extra year as Chief of Staff , and ended his tour in October 1935 . For his service as chief of staff , he was awarded a second Distinguished Service Medal . He was retroactively awarded two Purple Hearts for his World War I service , a decoration that he authorized in 1932 based loosely on the defunct Military Badge of Merit . MacArthur also insisted on being the first recipient of the Purple Heart , which he had engraved with " # 1 . "

= = = Field Marshal of the Philippine Army = = =

When the Commonwealth of the Philippines achieved semi @-@ independent status in 1935 , President of the Philippines Manuel Quezon asked MacArthur to supervise the creation of a Philippine Army . Quezon and MacArthur had been personal friends since the latter 's father had been Governor @-@ General of the Philippines , 35 years earlier . With President Roosevelt 's approval , MacArthur accepted the assignment . It was agreed that MacArthur would receive the rank of field marshal , with its salary and allowances , in addition to his major general 's salary as Military Advisor to the Commonwealth Government of the Philippines . It would be his fifth tour in the Far East . MacArthur sailed from San Francisco on the SS President Hoover in October 1935 , accompanied by his mother and sister @-@ in @-@ law . He brought Eisenhower and Major James B. Ord along as his assistants . Another passenger on the President Hoover was Jean Marie Faircloth , an unmarried 37 @-@ year @-@ old socialite . Over the next two years , MacArthur and Faircloth were frequently seen together . His mother became gravely ill during the voyage and died in Manila on 3 December 1935 .

President Quezon officially conferred the title of field marshal on MacArthur in a ceremony at Malacañan Palace on 24 August 1936 , and presented him with a gold baton and a unique uniform . The Philippine Army was formed from conscription . Training was conducted by a regular cadre ,



and the Philippine Military Academy was created along the lines of West Point to train officers . MacArthur and Eisenhower found that few of the training camps had been constructed and the first group of 20 @, @ 000 trainees did not report until early 1937 . Equipment and weapons were " more or less obsolete " American cast offs , and the budget of six million was completely inadequate . MacArthur 's requests for equipment fell on deaf ears , although MacArthur and his naval advisor , Lieutenant Colonel Sidney L. Huff , persuaded the Navy to initiate the development of the PT boat . Much hope was placed in the Philippine Army Air Corps , but the first squadron was not organized until 1939 .

MacArthur married Jean Faircloth in a civil ceremony on 30 April 1937 . Their marriage produced a son , Arthur MacArthur IV , who was born in Manila on 21 February 1938 . On 31 December 1937 , MacArthur officially retired from the Army . He ceased to represent the U.S. as military adviser to the government , but remained as Quezon 's adviser in a civilian capacity . Eisenhower returned to the U.S. , and was replaced as MacArthur 's chief of staff by Lieutenant Colonel Richard K. Sutherland , while Richard J. Marshall became deputy chief of staff . The fact that MacArthur lived much of his life in the Philippines together with his belief that America 's destiny lay in the Asia @-@ Pacific region allowed him to present himself as an expert on Asia and Asians . The American Japanologist Michael Schaller stated in an interview :

" Most people have enough humility to realize that it 's hard to be an expert on the world 's largest continent , where people speak hundreds of languages , and there are many different cultures , religions , ethnicities ... MacArthur would , with little humility , describe himself throughout his life as America 's greatest Oriental expert , an expert in Oriental psychology . And by some measure you could argue he was familiar with the Orient as or more than many Americans . He had travelled there , he lived there . But yet his experience in Asia was really circumscribed by the Philippine islands , which were perhaps the least representative part of Asia . During his long tours of duty there , from the early twentieth century through the 1930s , he 'd lived in a Manila hotel , he socialized with Westernized Filipino leaders who spoke English , he really knew little about mainland Asia , the peasantry which was 90 percent of Asia , China , Japan , and continental Asia " .

= = World War II = =

= = = Philippines Campaign ( 1941 ? 42 ) = = =

On 26 July 1941 , Roosevelt federalized the Philippine Army , recalled MacArthur to active duty in the U.S. Army as a major general , and named him commander of U.S. Army Forces in the Far East ( USAFFE ) . MacArthur was promoted to lieutenant general the following day , and then to general on 20 December . On 31 July 1941 , the Philippine Department had 22 @, @ 000 troops assigned , 12 @, @ 000 of whom were Philippine Scouts . The main component was the Philippine Division , under the command of Major General Jonathan M. Wainwright . The initial American plan for the defense of the Philippines called for the main body of the troops to retreat to the Bataan peninsula in Manila Bay to hold out against the Japanese until a relief force could arrive . MacArthur changed this plan to one of attempting to hold all of Luzon and using B @-@ 17 Flying Fortresses to sink Japanese ships that approached the islands . MacArthur persuaded the decision @-@ makers in Washington that his plans represented the best deterrent to prevent Japan from choosing war and of winning a war if worse did come to worse .

Between July and December 1941 , the garrison received 8 @, @ 500 reinforcements . After years of parsimony , much equipment was shipped . By November , a backlog of 1 @, @ 100 @, @ 000 shipping tons of equipment intended for the Philippines had accumulated in U.S. ports and depots awaiting vessels . In addition , the Navy intercept station in the islands , known as Station CAST , had an ultra secret Purple cipher machine , which decrypted Japanese diplomatic messages , and partial codebooks for the latest JN @-@ 25 naval code . Station CAST sent MacArthur its entire output , via Sutherland , the only officer on his staff authorized to see it .

At 03 : 30 local time on 8 December 1941 ( about 09 : 00 on 7 December in Hawaii ) , Sutherland

learned of the attack on Pearl Harbor and informed MacArthur . At 05 : 30 , the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army , General George Marshall , ordered MacArthur to execute the existing war plan , Rainbow Five . MacArthur did nothing . On three occasions , the commander of the Far East Air Force , Major General Lewis H. Brereton , requested permission to attack Japanese bases in Formosa , in accordance with prewar intentions , but was denied by Sutherland . Not until 11 : 00 did Brereton speak with MacArthur about it , and obtained permission . MacArthur later denied having the conversation . At 12 : 30 , nine hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor , aircraft of Japan 's 11th Air Fleet achieved complete tactical surprise when they attacked Clark Field and the nearby fighter base at Iba Field , and destroyed or disabled 18 of Far East Air Force 's 35 B @-@ 17s , 53 of its 107 P @-@ 40s , three P @-@ 35s , and more than 25 other aircraft . Most were destroyed on the ground . Substantial damage was done to the bases , and casualties totaled 80 killed and 150 wounded . What was left of the Far East Air Force was all but destroyed over the next few days .

MacArthur attempted to slow the Japanese advance with an initial defense against the Japanese landings . MacArthur 's plan for holding all of Luzon against the Japanese collapsed as it spread out the American @-@ Filipino forces too thin . However , he reconsidered his confidence in the ability of his Filipino troops after the Japanese landing force made a rapid advance after landing at Lingayen Gulf on 21 December , and ordered a retreat to Bataan . Within two days of the Japanese landing at Lingayen Gulf , MacArthur had reverted to pre @-@ July 1941 plan of attempting to hold only Bataan while waiting for a relief force to come . Most of the American and some of the Filipino troops were able to retreat back to Baatan , but without most of their supplies , which were abandoned in the confusion . Manila was declared an open city at midnight on 24 December , without any consultation with Admiral Thomas C. Hart , commanding the Asiatic Fleet , forcing the Navy to destroy considerable amounts of valuable material .

On the evening of 24 December , MacArthur moved his headquarters to the island fortress of Corregidor in Manila Bay arriving at 21 : 30 , with his headquarters reporting to Washington as being open on the 25th . A series of air raids by the Japanese destroyed all the exposed structures on the island and USAFFE headquarters was moved into the Malinta Tunnel . Later , most of the headquarters moved to Bataan , leaving only the nucleus with MacArthur . The troops on Bataan knew that they had been written off but continued to fight . Some blamed Roosevelt and MacArthur for their predicament . A ballad sung to the tune of " The Battle Hymn of the Republic " called him " Dugout Doug " . However , most clung to the belief that somehow MacArthur " would reach down and pull something out of his hat . "

On 1 January 1942 , MacArthur accepted \$ 500 @,@ 000 from President Quezon of the Philippines as payment for his pre @-@ war service . MacArthur 's staff members also received payments : \$ 75 @,@ 000 for Sutherland , \$ 45 @,@ 000 for Richard Marshall , and \$ 20 @,@ 000 for Huff . Eisenhower ? after being appointed Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force ( AEF ) ? was also offered money by Quezon , but declined . These payments were known only to a few in Manila and Washington , including President Roosevelt and Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson , until they were made public by historian Carol Petillo in 1979 . The revelation tarnished MacArthur 's reputation .

= = = Escape to Australia and Medal of Honor = = =

In February 1942 , as Japanese forces tightened their grip on the Philippines , MacArthur was ordered by President Roosevelt to relocate to Australia . On the night of 12 March 1942 , MacArthur and a select group that included his wife Jean , son Arthur , and Arthur 's Cantonese amah , Ah Cheu , fled Corregidor . MacArthur and his party reached Del Monte Airfield on Mindanao , where B @-@ 17s picked them up , and flew them to Australia . His famous speech , in which he said , " I came through and I shall return " , was first made on Terowie railway station in South Australia , on 20 March . Washington asked MacArthur to amend his promise to " We shall return " . He ignored the request .

Bataan surrendered on 9 April , and Corregidor on 6 May . George Marshall decided that MacArthur would be awarded the Medal of Honor , a decoration for which he had twice previously been

nominated , " to offset any propaganda by the enemy directed at his leaving his command " . Eisenhower pointed out that MacArthur had not actually performed any acts of valor as required by law , but Marshall cited the 1927 award of the medal to Charles Lindbergh as a precedent . Special legislation had been passed to authorize Lindbergh 's medal , but while similar legislation was introduced authorizing the medal for MacArthur by Congressmen J. Parnell Thomas and James E. Van Zandt , Marshall felt strongly that a serving general should receive the medal from the President and the War Department . MacArthur chose to accept it on the basis that " this award was intended not so much for me personally as it is a recognition of the indomitable courage of the gallant army which it was my honor to command . " Arthur and Douglas MacArthur thus became the first father and son to be awarded the Medal of Honor . They remained the only pair until 2001 , when Theodore Roosevelt was awarded posthumously for his service during the Spanish ? American War , Theodore Roosevelt , Jr. having received one posthumously for his service during World War II . MacArthur 's citation , written by George Marshall , read :

For conspicuous leadership in preparing the Philippine Islands to resist conquest , for gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against invading Japanese forces , and for the heroic conduct of defensive and offensive operations on the Bataan Peninsula . He mobilized , trained , and led an army which has received world acclaim for its gallant defense against a tremendous superiority of enemy forces in men and arms . His utter disregard of personal danger under heavy fire and aerial bombardment , his calm judgment in each crisis , inspired his troops , galvanized the spirit of resistance of the Filipino people , and confirmed the faith of the American people in their Armed Forces .

As the symbol of the forces resisting the Japanese , MacArthur received many other accolades . The Native American tribes of the Southwest chose him as a " Chief of Chiefs " , which he acknowledged as from " my oldest friends , the companions of my boyhood days on the Western frontier " . He was touched when he was named Father of the Year for 1942 , and wrote to the National Father 's Day Committee that :

By profession I am a soldier and take pride in that fact , but I am prouder , infinitely prouder to be a father . A soldier destroys in order to build ; the father only builds , never destroys . The one has the potentialities of death ; the other embodies creation and life . And while the hordes of death are mighty , the battalions of life are mightier still . It is my hope that my son when I am gone will remember me , not from battle , but in the home , repeating with him our simple daily prayer , " Our father , Who art in Heaven . "

= = = New Guinea Campaign = = =

= = = General Headquarters = = =

On 18 April 1942 , MacArthur was appointed Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the Southwest Pacific Area ( SWPA ) . Lieutenant General George Brett became Commander , Allied Air Forces , and Vice Admiral Herbert F. Leary became Commander , Allied Naval Forces . Since the bulk of land forces in the theater were Australian , George Marshall insisted an Australian be appointed as Commander , Allied Land Forces , and the job went to General Sir Thomas Blamey . Although predominantly Australian and American , MacArthur 's command also included small numbers of personnel from the Netherlands East Indies , the United Kingdom , and other countries . MacArthur established a close relationship with the Prime Minister of Australia , John Curtin , although many Australians resented MacArthur as a foreign general who had been imposed upon them . MacArthur had little confidence in Brett 's abilities as commander of Allied Air Forces , and in August 1942 selected Major General George C. Kenney to replace him . Kenney 's application of air power in support of Blamey 's troops would prove crucial .

The staff of MacArthur 's General Headquarters ( GHQ ) was built around the nucleus that had escaped from the Philippines with him , who became known as the " Bataan Gang " . Though Roosevelt and George Marshall pressed for Dutch and Australian officers to be assigned to GHQ ,

the heads of all the staff divisions were American and such officers of other nationalities as were assigned served under them . Initially located in Melbourne , GHQ moved to Brisbane ? the northernmost city in Australia with the necessary communications facilities ? in July 1942 , occupying the AMP Insurance Society building .

MacArthur formed his own signals intelligence organization , known as the Central Bureau , from Australian intelligence units and American cryptanalysts who had escaped from the Philippines . This unit forwarded Ultra information to Willoughby for analysis . After a press release revealed details of the Japanese naval dispositions during the Battle of the Coral Sea , at which a Japanese attempt to capture Port Moresby was turned back , Roosevelt ordered that censorship be imposed in Australia , and the Advisory War Council granted GHQ censorship authority over the Australian press . Australian newspapers were restricted to what was reported in the daily GHQ communiqué . Veteran correspondents considered the communiqués , which MacArthur drafted personally , " a total farce " and " Alice @-@ in @-@ Wonderland information handed out at high level . "

= = = = Papuan Campaign = = = =

Anticipating that the Japanese would strike at Port Moresby again , the garrison was strengthened and MacArthur ordered the establishment of new bases at Merauke and Milne Bay to cover its flanks . The Battle of Midway in June 1942 led to consideration of a limited offensive in the Pacific . MacArthur 's proposal for an attack on the Japanese base at Rabaul met with objections from the Navy , which favored a less ambitious approach , and objected to an Army general being in command of what would be an amphibious operation . The resulting compromise called for a three @-@ stage advance . The first stage , the seizure of the Tulagi area , would be conducted by the Pacific Ocean Areas , under Admiral Chester W. Nimitz . The later stages would be under MacArthur 's command .

The Japanese struck first , landing at Buna in July , and at Milne Bay in August . The Australians repulsed the Japanese at Milne Bay , but a series of defeats in the Kokoda Track campaign had a depressing effect back in Australia . On 30 August , MacArthur radioed Washington that unless action was taken , New Guinea Force would be overwhelmed . He sent Blamey to Port Moresby to take personal command . Having committed all available Australian troops , MacArthur decided to send American forces . The 32nd Infantry Division , a poorly trained National Guard division , was selected . A series of embarrassing reverses in the Battle of Buna ? Gona led to outspoken criticism of the American troops by the Australians . MacArthur then ordered Lieutenant General Robert L. Eichelberger to assume command of the Americans , and " take Buna , or not come back alive . "

MacArthur moved the advanced echelon of GHQ to Port Moresby on 6 November 1942 . After Buna finally fell on 3 January 1943 , MacArthur awarded the Distinguished Service Cross to twelve officers for " precise execution of operations " . This use of the country 's second highest award aroused resentment , because while some , like Eichelberger and George Alan Vasey , had fought in the field , others , like Sutherland and Willoughby , had not . For his part , MacArthur was awarded his third Distinguished Service Medal , and the Australian government had him appointed an honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath .

= = = = New Guinea Campaign = = = =

At the Pacific Military Conference in March 1943 , the Joint Chiefs of Staff approved MacArthur 's plan for Operation Cartwheel , the advance on Rabaul . MacArthur explained his strategy :

My strategic conception for the Pacific Theater , which I outlined after the Papuan Campaign and have since consistently advocated , contemplates massive strokes against only main strategic objectives , utilizing surprise and air @-@ ground striking power supported and assisted by the fleet . This is the very opposite of what is termed " island hopping " which is the gradual pushing back of the enemy by direct frontal pressure with the consequent heavy casualties which will certainly be involved . Key points must of course be taken but a wise choice of such will obviate the need for storming the mass of islands now in enemy possession . " Island hopping " with extravagant losses

and slow progress ... is not my idea of how to end the war as soon and as cheaply as possible . New conditions require for solution and new weapons require for maximum application new and imaginative methods . Wars are never won in the past .

In New Guinea , a country without roads , large @-@ scale transportation of men and materiel would have to be accomplished by aircraft or ships . A multi @-@ pronged approach was employed to solve this problem . Disassembled landing craft were shipped to Australia , where they were assembled in Cairns . The range of these small landing craft was to be greatly extended by the landing ships of the VII Amphibious Force , which began arriving in late 1942 , and formed part of the newly formed Seventh Fleet . Since the Seventh Fleet had no aircraft carriers , the range of naval operations was limited by that of the fighter aircraft of the Fifth Air Force .

Lieutenant General Walter Krueger 's Sixth Army headquarters arrived in SWPA in early 1943 but MacArthur had only three American divisions , and they were tired and depleted from the fighting at Battle of Buna ? Gona and Battle of Guadalcanal . As a result , " it became obvious that any military offensive in the South @-@ West Pacific in 1943 would have to be carried out mainly by the Australian Army . " The offensive began with the landing at Lae by the Australian 9th Division on 4 September 1943 . The next day , MacArthur watched the landing at Nadzab by paratroops of the 503rd Parachute Infantry . His B @-@ 17 made the trip on three engines because one failed soon after leaving Port Moresby , but he insisted that it fly on to Nadzab . For this , he was awarded the Air Medal .

The Australian 7th and 9th Divisions converged on Lae , which fell on 16 September . MacArthur advanced his timetable , and ordered the 7th to capture Kaiapit and Dumpu , while the 9th mounted an amphibious assault on Finschhafen . Here , the offensive bogged down , partly because MacArthur had based his decision to assault Finschhafen on Willoughby 's assessment that there were only 350 Japanese defenders at Finschhafen , when in fact there were nearly 5 @,@ 000 . A furious battle ensued .

In early November , MacArthur 's plan for a westward advance along the coast of New Guinea to the Philippines was incorporated into plans for the war against Japan . Three months later , airmen reported no signs of enemy activity in the Admiralty Islands . Although Willoughby did not agree that the islands had been evacuated , MacArthur ordered an amphibious landing there , commencing the Admiralty Islands campaign . He accompanied the assault force aboard the light cruiser Phoenix , the flagship of Vice Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid , the new commander of the Seventh Fleet , and came ashore seven hours after the first wave of landing craft , for which he was awarded the Bronze Star . It took six weeks of fierce fighting before the 1st Cavalry Division captured the islands .

MacArthur had one of the most powerful PR machines of any Allied general during the war , which made him into an extremely popular war hero with the American people . In late 1943 @-@ early 1944 , there was a serious effort by the conservative faction in the Republican Party centered in the Midwest who regarded the two men most likely to win the Republican nomination to be the candidate for the presidency in the 1944 election , namely Wendell Willkie and Governor Thomas Dewy of New York as too liberal , to have MacArthur seek the Republican nomination . For a time , MacArthur , who long seen himself as a potential president was in the words of the U.S historian Gerhard Weinberg " very interested " in running as the Republican candidate in 1944 . However , MacArthur 's vow to " return " to the Philippines had not been fulfilled in early 1944 and he decided not to run for president until he had liberated the Philippines .

Furthermore , Weinberg had argued that it is probable that Roosevelt who knew of the " enormous gratuity " MacArthur had accepted from Quezon in 1942 had used his knowledge of this transaction to blackmail MacArthur into not running for president . Finally , despite the best efforts of the conservative Republicans to put MacArthur 's name on the ballot , on April 4 , 1944 , Governor Dewy won such a convincing victory in the Wisconsin primary ( regarded as a significant victory given that the Midwest was a stronghold of the conservative Republicans opposed to Dewy ) as to ensure that he would win the Republican nomination to be the GOP 's candidate for president in 1944 .

MacArthur now bypassed the Japanese forces at Hansa Bay and Wewak , and assaulted Hollandia and Aitape , which Willoughby reported to be lightly defended based on intelligence gathered in the

Battle of Sio . MacArthur 's bold thrust by going 600 miles up the coast had surprised and confused the Japanese high command , who had not anticipated that MacArthur would take such risks . Although they were out of range of the Fifth Air Force 's fighters based in the Ramu Valley , the timing of the operation allowed the aircraft carriers of Nimitz 's Pacific Fleet to provide air support . Though risky , the operation turned out to be another success . MacArthur caught the Japanese off balance and cut off Lieutenant General Hataz? Adachi 's Japanese XVIII Army in the Wewak area . Because the Japanese were not expecting an attack , the garrison was weak , and Allied casualties were correspondingly light . However , the terrain turned out to be less suitable for airbase development than first thought , forcing MacArthur to seek better locations further west . While bypassing Japanese forces had great tactical merit , it had the strategic drawback of tying up Allied troops to contain them . Moreover , Adachi was far from beaten , which he demonstrated in the Battle of Driniumor River .

= = = Philippines Campaign ( 1944 ? 45 ) = = =

= = = = Leyte = = = =

In July 1944 , President Roosevelt summoned MacArthur to meet with him in Hawaii " to determine the phase of action against Japan . " Nimitz made the case for attacking Formosa . MacArthur stressed America 's moral obligation to liberate the Philippines . In September , Admiral William Halsey , Jr . ' s carriers made a series of air strikes on the Philippines . Opposition was feeble and Halsey concluded , incorrectly , that Leyte was " wide open " and possibly undefended , and recommended that projected operations be skipped in favor of an assault on Leyte .

On 20 October 1944 , troops of Krueger 's Sixth Army landed on Leyte , while MacArthur watched from the light cruiser USS Nashville . That afternoon he arrived off the beach . The advance had not progressed far ; snipers were still active and the area was under sporadic mortar fire . When his whaleboat grounded in knee @-@ deep water , MacArthur requested a landing craft , but the beachmaster was too busy to grant his request . MacArthur was compelled to wade ashore . In his prepared speech , he said :

People of the Philippines : I have returned . By the grace of Almighty God our forces stand again on Philippine soil ? soil consecrated in the blood of our two peoples . We have come dedicated and committed to the task of destroying every vestige of enemy control over your daily lives , and of restoring upon a foundation of indestructible strength , the liberties of your people .

Since Leyte was out of range of Kenney 's land @-@ based aircraft , MacArthur was dependent on carrier aircraft . Japanese air activity soon increased , with raids on Tacloban , where MacArthur decided to establish his headquarters , and on the fleet offshore . MacArthur enjoyed staying on Nashville 's bridge during air raids , although several bombs landed close by , and two nearby cruisers were hit . Over the next few days , the Japanese counterattacked in the Battle of Leyte Gulf , resulting in a near @-@ disaster that MacArthur attributed to the command being divided between himself and Nimitz . Nor did the campaign ashore proceed smoothly . Heavy monsoonal rains disrupted the airbase construction program . Carrier aircraft proved to be no substitute for land @-@ based aircraft , and the lack of air cover permitted the Japanese to pour troops into Leyte . Adverse weather and tough Japanese resistance slowed the American advance , resulting in a protracted campaign .

By the end of December , Krueger 's headquarters estimated that 5 @,@ 000 Japanese remained on Leyte , and on 26 December MacArthur issued a communiqué announcing that " the campaign can now be regarded as closed except for minor mopping up . " Yet Eichelberger 's Eighth Army killed another 27 @,@ 000 Japanese on Leyte before the campaign ended in May 1945 . On 18 December 1944 , MacArthur was promoted to the new five @-@ star rank of General of the Army , placing him in the company of Marshall , Eisenhower , Henry " Hap " Arnold , and the only four men to achieve the rank in World War II , and along with Omar Bradley , one of only five men to achieve the rank since the 5 August 1888 death of Philip Sheridan , as well as the only five American officers

to hold the rank as a Five @-@ star general . MacArthur was senior to all but Marshall . The rank was created by an Act of Congress when Public Law 78 ? 482 was passed on 14 December 1944 , as a temporary rank , subject to reversion to permanent rank six months after the end of the war . The temporary rank was then declared permanent 23 March 1946 by Public Law 333 of the 79th Congress , which also awarded full pay and allowances in the grade to those on the retired list .

= = = = Luzon = = = =

MacArthur 's next move was the invasion of Mindoro , where there were good potential airfield sites . Willoughby estimated , correctly as it turned out , that the island had only about 1 @,@ 000 Japanese defenders . The problem this time was getting there . Kinkaid balked at sending escort carriers into the restricted waters of the Sulu Sea , and Kenney could not guarantee land based air cover . The operation was clearly hazardous , and MacArthur 's staff talked him out of accompanying the invasion on Nashville . As the invasion force entered the Sulu Sea , a kamikaze struck Nashville , killing 133 people and wounding 190 more . Australian and American engineers had three airstrips in operation within two weeks , but the resupply convoys were repeatedly attacked by kamikazes . During this time , MacArthur quarreled with Sutherland , notorious for his abrasiveness , over the latter 's mistress , Captain Elaine Clark . MacArthur had instructed Sutherland not to bring Clark to Leyte , due to a personal undertaking to Curtin that Australian women on the GHQ staff would not be taken to the Philippines , but Sutherland had brought her along anyway .

The way was now clear for the invasion of Luzon . This time , based on different interpretations of the same intelligence data , Willoughby estimated the strength of General Tomoyuki Yamashita 's forces on Luzon at 137 @,@ 000 , while Sixth Army estimated it at 234 @,@ 000 . MacArthur 's response was " Bunk ! " . He felt that even Willoughby 's estimate was too high . " Audacity , calculated risk , and a clear strategic aim were MacArthur 's attributes " , and he disregarded the estimates . In fact , they were too low ; Yamashita had more than 287 @,@ 000 troops on Luzon . This time , MacArthur traveled aboard the light cruiser USS Boise , watching as the ship was nearly hit by a bomb and torpedoes fired by midget submarines . His communiqué read : " The decisive battle for the liberation of the Philippines and the control of the Southwest Pacific is at hand . General MacArthur is in personal command at the front and landed with his assault troops . "

MacArthur 's primary concern was the capture of the port of Manila and the airbase at Clark Field , which were required to support future operations . He urged his commanders on . On 25 January 1945 , he moved his advanced headquarters forward to Hacienda Luisita , closer to the front than Krueger 's . He ordered the 1st Cavalry Division to conduct a rapid advance on Manila . It reached the northern outskirts of Manila on 3 February , but , unknown to the Americans , Rear Admiral Sanji Iwabuchi had decided to defend Manila to the death . The Battle of Manila raged for the next three weeks . To spare the civilian population , MacArthur prohibited the use of air strikes , but thousands of civilians died in the crossfire or Japanese massacres . He also refused to restrict the traffic of civilians who clogged the roads in and out of Manila , placing humanitarian concerns above military ones except in emergencies . For his part in the capture of Manila , MacArthur was awarded his third Distinguished Service Cross .

After taking Manila , MacArthur installed one of his Filipino friends , Manuel Roxas @-@ who also happened to be one of the few people who knew about the huge sum of money Quezon had given MacArthur in 1942 @-@ into a position of power that ensured Roxas was to become the next Filipino president . Roxas had been a leading Japanese collaborator serving in the puppet government of Jose Laurel , but MacArthur claimed that Roxas had secretly been an American agent all the long . About MacArthur 's claim that Roxas was really part of the resistance , the American historian Gerhard Weinberg wrote that " ... evidence to this effect has yet to surface " , and that by favoring the Japanese collaborator Roxas , MacArthur ensured there was no serious effort to address the issue of Filipino collaboration with the Japanese after the war .

After the Battle of Manila , MacArthur turned his attention to Yamashita , who had retreated into the mountains of central and northern Luzon . Yamashita chose to fight a defensive campaign , being

pushed back slowly by Krueger , and was still holding out at the time the war ended , much to MacArthur 's intense annoyance as he had wished to liberate the entire Philippines before the war ended . On 2 September 1945 , Yamashita ( who had a hard time believing that the Emperor had ordered Japan to sign an armistice ) came down from the mountains to surrender with some 100 @,@ 000 of his men .

= = = = Southern Philippines = = = =

Although MacArthur had no specific directive to do so , and the fighting on Luzon was far from over , he committed his forces to liberate the remainder of the Philippines . In the GHQ communiqué on 5 July , he announced that the Philippines had been liberated and all operations ended , although Yamashita still held out in northern Luzon . Starting in May 1945 , MacArthur used his Australian troops in the invasion of Borneo . He accompanied the assault on Labuan , and visited the troops ashore . While returning to GHQ in Manila , he visited Davao , where he told Eichelberger that no more than 4 @,@ 000 Japanese remained alive on Mindanao . A few months later , six times that number surrendered . In July 1945 , he was awarded his fourth Distinguished Service Medal .

As part of preparations for Operation Downfall , the invasion of Japan , MacArthur became commander in chief U.S. Army Forces Pacific ( AFPAC ) , in charge of all Army and Army Air Force units in the Pacific , except the Twentieth Air Force , in April 1945 . At the same time , Nimitz became commander of all naval forces . Command in the Pacific therefore remained divided . During his planning of the invasion of Japan , MacArthur stressed to the decision @-@ makers in Washington that it was essential to have the Soviet Union enter the war as he argued it was crucial to have the Red Army tie down the Kwantung army in Manchuria . The invasion was pre @-@ empted by the surrender of Japan in August 1945 . On 2 September MacArthur accepted the formal Japanese surrender aboard the battleship USS Missouri , thus ending hostilities in World War II . In recognition of his role as a maritime strategist , the U.S. Navy awarded him the Navy Distinguished Service Medal .

= = Occupation of Japan = =

= = = Protecting the Emperor = = =

On 29 August 1945 , MacArthur was ordered to exercise authority through the Japanese government machinery , including the Emperor Hirohito . MacArthur 's headquarters was located in the Dai Ichi Life Insurance Building in Tokyo . Unlike in Germany , where the Allies had in May 1945 abolished the German state , the Americans chose to allow the Japanese state to continue to exist , albeit under their ultimate control . Unlike Germany , there was a certain partnership between the occupiers and occupied as MacArthur decided to rule Japan via the Emperor and the most of the rest of the Japanese elite . The Emperor was a living god to the Japanese people , and MacArthur found that ruling via the Emperor made his job in running Japan much easier than it would otherwise would have been .

As such , MacArthur took the view that a few " militarist " extremists had " hijacked " Japan starting in 1931 with the Mukden Incident , the Emperor was a pro @-@ Western " moderate " who had been powerless to stop the militarists , and thus he borne no responsibility for any of the war crimes committed by the Japanese between 1931 @-@ 45 . The American historian Herbert P. Bix described the relationship between the general and the Emperor as : " Henceforth the Allied commander would use the Emperor , and the Emperor would cooperate in being used . Their relationship become one of expediency and mutual protection , of more political benefit to Hirohito than to MacArthur because Hirohito had more to lose @-@ the entire panoply of symbolic , legitimizing properties of the imperial throne " . At the same time , MacArthur had attacked the imperial mystique when his staff released the famous picture of his first meeting with the Emperor , whose impact on the Japanese public was electric as the Japanese people for the first time saw the



Emperor as a mere man overshadowed by the much taller MacArthur instead of the living god he always been portrayed as . Up to 1945 , the Emperor had been a remote , mysterious figure to his people , rarely seen in public and always silent , whose photographs were always taken from a certain angle to make him look more taller and more impressive than what he was really was . No Japanese photographer would had taken such a photo of the Emperor being overshadowed by MacArthur . The Japanese government immediately banned the photo of the Emperor with MacArthur under the grounds that it damaged the imperial mystique , but MacArthur rescinded the ban and ordered all of the Japanese newspapers to print it . The photo was intended as a message to the Emperor about who was going to be the senior partner in their relationship .

As he needed the Emperor , MacArthur protected him from any effort to hold accountable for his actions in the period 1931 @-@ 45 , and allowed him to issue statements that incorrectly portrayed the emerging democratic post @-@ war era as a continuation of the Meiji era reforms . MacArthur did not allow any investigations of the Emperor , and instead in October 1945 ordered his staff " in the interests of peaceful occupation and rehabilitation of Japan , prevention of revolution and communism , all facts surrounding the execution of the declaration of war and subsequent position of the Emperor which tend to show fraud , menace or duress be marshalled " . In January 1946 , MacArthur reported to Washington that the Emperor could not be indicted for war crimes under the grounds :

" His indictment will unquestionably cause a tremendous convulsion among the Japanese people , the repercussions of which cannot be overestimated . He is a symbol which unites all Japanese . Destroy him and the nation will disintegrate ... It is quite possible that a million troops would be required which would have to be maintained for an indefinite number of years " .

To protect the Emperor from being indicted , MacArthur had one of his staff , General Bonner Fellers on 6 March 1946 during a meeting at the Dai Ichi tell the genr? Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai :

" To counter this situation , it would be most convenient if the Japanese side could prove to us that the Emperor is completely blameless . I think the forthcoming trials offer the best opportunity to do that . T?jo , in particular should be made to bear all responsibility at his trial . I want you to have T?jo say as follows : " At the imperial conference prior to the start of the war , I already decided to push for war even if his majesty the emperor was against going to war with the United States . " "

From the viewpoint of both sides , having one especially evil figure in the form of General Hideki Tojo whom everything that went wrong could be blamed was most politically convenient . At a second meeting on 22 March 1946 , Fellers told Admiral Yonai as recorded by his interpreter Mizota Shuichi :

" The most influential advocate of un @-@ American thought in the United States is Cohen ( a Jew and a Communist ) , the top adviser to Secretary of State Byrnes . As I told Yonai ... it is extremely disadvantageous to MacArthur 's standing in the United States to put on trial the very Emperor who is cooperating with him and facilitating the smooth administration of the occupation . This is the reason for my request ... " I wonder whether I said to Admiral Yonai the other day has already been conveyed to T?jo ? " " .

MacArthur 's attempts to shield the Emperor from indictment and to have all the blame taken by General T?jo were successful , which as Bix commented " ... had a lasting and profoundly distorting impact on the Japanese understanding of the lost war " .

= = = Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers = = =

As Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers ( SCAP ) in Japan , MacArthur and his staff helped Japan rebuild itself , eradicate militarism and ultra @-@ nationalism , promote political civil liberties , institute democratic government , and chart a new course that ultimately made Japan one of the world 's leading industrial powers . The U.S. was firmly in control of Japan to oversee its reconstruction , and MacArthur was effectively the interim leader of Japan from 1945 until 1948 . In 1946 , MacArthur 's staff drafted a new constitution that renounced war and stripped the Emperor of his military authority . The constitution ? which became effective on 3 May 1947 ? instituted a parliamentary system of government , under which the Emperor acted only on the advice of his

ministers . It included the famous Article 9 , which outlawed belligerency as an instrument of state policy and the maintenance of a standing army . The constitution also enfranchised women , guaranteed fundamental human rights , outlawed racial discrimination , strengthened the powers of Parliament and the Cabinet , and decentralized the police and local government .

A major land reform was also conducted , led by Wolf Ladejinsky of General Douglas MacArthur 's SCAP staff . Between 1947 and 1949 , approximately 4 @, @ 700 @, @ 000 acres ( 1 @, @ 900 @, @ 000 ha ) , or 38 % of Japan 's cultivated land , was purchased from the landlords under the government 's reform program , and 4 @, @ 600 @, @ 000 acres ( 1 @, @ 860 @, @ 000 ha ) was resold to the farmers who worked them . By 1950 , 89 % of all agricultural land was owner @-@ operated and only 11 % was tenant @-@ operated . MacArthur 's efforts to encourage trade union membership met with phenomenal success , and by 1947 , 48 % of the non @-@ agricultural workforce was unionized . Some of MacArthur 's reforms were rescinded in 1948 when his unilateral control of Japan was ended by the increased involvement of the State Department . During the Occupation , SCAP successfully , if not entirely , abolished many of the financial coalitions known as the Zaibatsu , which had previously monopolized industry . Eventually , looser industrial groupings known as Keiretsu evolved . The reforms alarmed many in the U.S. Departments of Defense and State , who believed they conflicted with the prospect of Japan and its industrial capacity as a bulwark against the spread of communism in Asia .

During this period , MacArthur , never a modest man , grew more self @-@ important and egoistical . Faubion Bowers , one of MacArthur 's aides during this period recalled :

When I clapped eyes on MacArthur I fell madly in love . Here was a magnificence I 'd never known and I 'd never been close to . Here was a man who moved in the highest circles , who held in personal contempt presidents , who had met kings and queens , and who knew the world in a way that I had not known up to that time . He was so overwhelmingly impressive , he had a kind of magnetism , a kind of charm that could charm the birds off the wallpaper in the room . And it was so interesting ... One of the interesting things , one of the tragic things in a way , was that all of us who were in the inner sanctum were corrupted by him . All of us , me included , felt that the more we glorified him , the more we ourselves were deified in some way . And it was remarkable how he was surrounded by , well , what Eisenhower called bootlickers , but we were like disciples to a Christ . And I remember one time before I put his mail on his desk , there was a card , an open card written in pencil and I read it . It was from Anthony Storey , Major Storey , who was his pilot , who 'd gone to the Philippines on some sort of business . And he wrote this card and it said : ' To one who walks and talks with God ' . And I thought , my God in heaven . That 's his what own pilot wrote " .

MacArthur 's tendency to surround himself with hero @-@ worshipping officers who held him in the highest awe meant he was never contradicted by his staff or given advice that was contrary to his own inclinations .

Much has been made of the apparent paradox between MacArthur , a man whose political inclinations were to the right of the Republican Party who acted as a liberal reformer when he ruled Japan . On one hand , MacArthur forced through a land reform , gave women the right to vote , removed the emphasis on militarism in the educational system , imposed a constitution that renounced the right to wage war , and sought to club the power of the zaibatsu . On the other hand , MacArthur 's intelligence chief General Charles A. Willoughby , whom MacArthur called " my lovable fascist " cultivated connections with former members of the Japanese military and secret police . Like Willoughby , MacArthur believed that Communism was part of a Jewish conspiracy to take over the world and he often complained that too many officials sent out by Washington to help govern Japan were Jewish and thus Communists . MacArthur told the British diplomat Sir Alvary Gascoigne in 1948 that Eisenhower could not be considered a potential president or even a " good Republican " because he had " Jewish blood in his veins " . Remarks like that led the American Japanologist Michael Schaller to comment : " Attacking a rival as a Jew was a frequent MacArthur tactic " .

Willoughby had developed an elaborate conspiracy theory that the spy network created by the Soviet spy Richard Sorge was still in existence and that members of the Sorge spy network were now occupying positions of power in Washington , who in turn were responsible for the fall of the Kuomintang government in China in 1949 . With MacArthur 's approval , Willoughby leaked this

theory about the Sorge spy network 's supposed power in Washington to House Un @-@ American Activities Committee in the late 1940s , leading to long investigations of the State Department officials whom Willoughby had accused of being part of the Sorge spy network . Schnaller argued this paradox between MacArthur the liberal reformer vs. MacArthur the ultra @-@ conservative anti @-@ Semite can be easily explained by the fact that MacArthur 's primary aim was always to win the Republican nomination for presidency and he needed to be seen as a success in ruling Japan to win the nomination . Almost all Americans during the war believed that Japan needed drastic reforms after the war , and as such an American occupation of Japan that did not carry out reforms would be seen as a failure by the American people . MacArthur , despite all of his talk about leading a " revolution " in Japan shared many of the same assumptions promoted by former ambassador Joseph C. Grew who believed that pre @-@ war Japan had been an essentially normal society that had unfortunately been " hijacked " in the 1930s by a few " fanatics " , and as such , Japan really did not need radical reforms . Grew argued against those who claimed that Japan had carried out a flawed modernization with the Meiji Restoration and needed deep structural reforms that on the contrary , all that was needed was to remove the handful of " fanatics " and Japan would revert to the " normal " country it had been before 1931 . It was MacArthur 's political ambitions that drove him to carry out reforms in Japan , not a genuine belief in their desirability . Schnaller wrote that MacArthur would oscillate between the conservative stance favored by Grew vs. the liberal stance favored by the " New Dealers " as the officials who favored deep reforms were known , and such shifts in emphasis had everything to do with his desire to be the Republican candidate for president , and nothing to do with the Cold War , what Washington wanted or the question of how much of a " normal " nation had Japan had been prior to World War II .

In 1948 , MacArthur made a bid to win the Republican nomination to be the GOP candidate for president , which was the most serious of several efforts he made over the years . MacArthur 's status as one of America 's most popular war heroes together with his reputation as the statesman who had " transformed " Japan gave him a strong basis for running for president , but MacArthur 's lack of connections within the GOP were a major handicap . MacArthur 's strongest supporters came from the quasi @-@ isolationist , Midwestern wing of the Republicans and embraced men such as Brigadier General Hanford MacNider , Philip La Follette , and Brigadier General Robert E. Wood , a diverse collection of " Old Right " and Progressive Republicans only united by a belief that the U.S. was too much involved in Europe for its own good . MacArthur declined to campaign for the presidency himself , but he privately encouraged his supporters to put his name on the ballot . MacArthur had always stated he would retire when a peace treaty was signed with Japan , and his push in the fall of 1947 to have the U.S sign a peace treaty with Japan was intended to allow him to retire on a high note , and thus campaign for the presidency . For the same reasons , Truman subverted MacArthur 's efforts to have peace treaty signed in 1947 , saying that more time was needed before the U.S could formally make peace with Japan .

Without a peace treaty , MacArthur decided not to resign while at the same time writing letters to his friend General Wood saying he would be more than happy to accept the Republican nomination if it were offered to him . In late 1947 @-@ early 1948 , MacArthur received several Republican grandees in Tokyo while General Robert Eichelberger wrote in his diary that MacArthur was obsessed with becoming president . On 9 March 1948 MacArthur issued a press statement declaring his interest in being the Republican candidate for president , saying he would be honored if the GOP were to nominate him , but would not resign from the Army to campaign for the presidency . The press statement had been forced by Wood , who told MacArthur that it was impossible to campaign for a man who was not officially running for president , and that MacArthur could either declare his candidacy or see Wood cease campaigning for him . MacArthur 's supporters made a major effort to win the Wisconsin Republican primary held on 6 April 1948 . MacArthur 's refusal to campaign badly hurt his chances and the 1948 Wisconsin primary was won to everybody 's surprise by Harold Stassen . The defeat in Wisconsin followed by defeat in Nebraska effectively ended MacArthur 's chances of winning the Republican nomination , but MacArthur refused to withdraw his name until the 1948 Republican convention which was won by Governor Thomas Dewey of New York .

In an address to Congress on 19 April 1951 , MacArthur declared :

The Japanese people since the war have undergone the greatest reformation recorded in modern history . With a commendable will , eagerness to learn , and marked capacity to understand , they have from the ashes left in war 's wake erected in Japan an edifice dedicated to the supremacy of individual liberty and personal dignity , and in the ensuing process there has been created a truly representative government committed to the advance of political morality , freedom of economic enterprise , and social justice .

MacArthur handed over power to the Japanese government in 1949 , but remained in Japan until relieved by President Harry S. Truman on 11 April 1951 . The San Francisco Peace Treaty , signed on 8 September 1951 , marked the end of the Allied occupation , and when it went into effect on 28 April 1952 , Japan was once again an independent state . The Japanese subsequently gave him the nickname Gaijin Shogun ( " foreign military ruler " ) but not until around the time of his death in 1964 .

= = = War crimes trials = = =

MacArthur was responsible for confirming and enforcing the sentences for war crimes handed down by the International Military Tribunal for the Far East . In late 1945 , Allied military commissions in various cities of the Orient tried 5 @, @ 700 Japanese , Taiwanese and Koreans for war crimes . About 4 @, @ 300 were convicted , almost 1 @, @ 000 sentenced to death , and hundreds given life imprisonment . The charges arose from incidents that included the Rape of Nanking , the Bataan Death March and Manila massacre . The trial in Manila of Yamashita was criticized because he was hanged for Iwabuchi 's Manila massacre , which he had not ordered and of which he was probably unaware . Iwabuchi had killed himself as the battle for Manila was ending .

MacArthur gave immunity to Shiro Ishii and other members of the bacteriological research units in exchange for germ warfare data based on human experimentation . He also exempted the Emperor and all members of the imperial family implicated in war crimes , including Princes Chichibu , Asaka , Takeda , Higashikuni and Fushimi , from criminal prosecutions . MacArthur confirmed that the emperor 's abdication would not be necessary . In doing so , he ignored the advice of many members of the imperial family and Japanese intellectuals who publicly called for the abdication of the Emperor and the implementation of a regency .

= = Korean War = =

= = = South to the Naktong , North to the Yalu = = =

On 25 June 1950 , North Korea invaded South Korea , starting the Korean War . The United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 82 , which authorized a United Nations ( UN ) force to assist South Korea . The UN empowered the American government to select a commander , and the Joint Chiefs of Staff unanimously recommended MacArthur . He therefore became Commander @-@ in @-@ Chief of the United Nations Command ( UNCOM ) , while remaining SCAP in Japan and Commander of the USAFFE . All South Korean forces were also placed under his command . As they retreated before the North Korean onslaught , MacArthur received permission to commit U.S. ground forces . All the first units to arrive could do was trade men and ground for time , falling back to the Pusan Perimeter . During the summer of 1950 , MacArthur exhibited wild mood swings , at one moment saying he could defeat the North Koreans with " one hand tied behind his back " , and at other moments being in the words of his staff " a dejected , completely despondent man " who talked about abandoning South Korea . By the end of August , the crisis subsided . North Korean attacks on the perimeter had tapered off . While the North Korean force numbered 88 @, @ 000 troops , Lieutenant General Walton Walker 's Eighth Army now numbered 180 @, @ 000 , and he had more tanks and artillery pieces .

In 1949 , the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff , General of the Army Omar Bradley , had

predicted that " large scale combined amphibious operations ... will never occur again , " but by July 1950 , MacArthur was planning just such an operation . MacArthur compared his plan with that of General James Wolfe at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham , and brushed aside the problems of tides , hydrography and terrain . In September , despite lingering concerns from superiors , MacArthur 's soldiers and marines made a successful landing at Inchon , deep behind North Korean lines . Launched with naval and close air support , the landing outflanked the North Koreans , recaptured Seoul and forced them to retreat northward in disarray . Visiting the battlefield on 17 September , MacArthur surveyed six T @-@ 34 tanks that had been knocked out by Marines , ignoring sniper fire around him , except to note that the North Korean marksmen were poorly trained .

On 11 September , Truman issued orders for an advance beyond the 38th parallel into North Korea . MacArthur now planned another amphibious assault , on Wonsan on the east coast , but it fell to South Korean troops before the 1st Marine Division could reach it by sea . In October , MacArthur met with Truman at the Wake Island Conference , with Truman emulating Roosevelt 's wartime meeting with MacArthur in Hawaii . On the day before the meeting , Truman who disliked MacArthur on the account of his ego said : " Tomorrow , I have to talk with God 's right @-@ hand man " . The president awarded MacArthur his fifth Distinguished Service Medal . Briefly questioned about the Chinese threat , MacArthur dismissed it , saying that he hoped to be able to withdraw the Eighth Army to Japan by Christmas , and to release a division for service in Europe in January . MacArthur called the possibility of Chinese intervention " pure bluff " . He regarded the possibility of Soviet intervention as a more serious threat . MacArthur reported to Washington that he " had plenty of troops to deal adequately with the Chinese and even with the Russians if they should prove so foolish as to enter the area at this stage " .

A month later , things had changed . The enemy were engaged by the UN forces at the Battle of Unsan in late October , which demonstrated the presence of Chinese soldiers in Korea and rendered significant losses to the American and other UN troops . Nevertheless , Willoughby downplayed the evidence about Chinese intervention in the war . He estimated that up to 71 @,@ 000 Chinese soldiers were in the country , while the true number was closer to 300 @,@ 000 . He was not alone in this miscalculation . On 24 November , the Central Intelligence Agency reported to Truman that while there could be as many as 200 @,@ 000 Chinese troops in Korea , " there is no evidence that the Chinese Communists plan major offensive operations . "

That day , MacArthur flew to Walker 's headquarters and he later wrote :

For five hours I toured the front lines . In talking to a group of officers I told them of General Bradley 's desire and hope to have two divisions home by Christmas ... What I had seen at the front line worried me greatly . The R.O.K. troops were not yet in good shape , and the entire line was deplorably weak in numbers . If the Chinese were actually in heavy force , I decided I would withdraw our troops and abandon any attempt to move north . I decided to reconnoiter and try to see with my own eyes , and interpret with my own long experience what was going on ...

MacArthur flew over the front line himself in his Douglas C @-@ 54 Skymaster but saw no signs of a Chinese build up and therefore decided to wait before ordering an advance or withdrawal . Evidence of the Chinese activity was hidden to MacArthur : the Chinese Army traveled at night and dug in during the day . For his reconnaissance efforts , MacArthur was nonetheless awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and honorary combat pilot 's wings .

The next day , 25 November 1950 , Walker 's Eighth Army was attacked by the Chinese Army and soon the UN forces were in retreat . MacArthur provided the Chief of Staff , General J. Lawton Collins with a series of nine successive withdrawal lines . On 23 December , Walker was killed when his jeep collided with a truck , and was replaced by Lieutenant General Matthew B. Ridgway , whom MacArthur had selected in case of such an eventuality . Ridgway noted that MacArthur 's " prestige , which had gained an extraordinary luster after Incheon , was badly tarnished . His credibility suffered in the unforeseen outcome of the November offensive ... "

Collins discussed the possible use of nuclear weapons in Korea with MacArthur in December , and later asked him for a list of targets in the Soviet Union in case it entered the war . MacArthur testified before the Congress in 1951 that he had never recommended the use of nuclear weapons . He did

at one point consider a plan to cut off North Korea with radioactive poisons ; he did not recommend it at the time , although he later broached the matter with Eisenhower , then president @-@ elect , in 1952 . In 1954 , in an interview published after his death , he stated he had wanted to drop atomic bombs on enemy bases , but in 1960 , he challenged a statement by Truman that he had advocated using atomic bombs . Truman issued a retraction , stating that he had no evidence of the claim ; it was merely his personal opinion .

In April 1951 , the Joint Chiefs of Staff drafted orders for MacArthur authorizing nuclear attacks on Manchuria and the Shantung Peninsula if the Chinese launched airstrikes originating from there against his forces . The next day Truman met with the chairman of the United States Atomic Energy Commission , Gordon Dean , and arranged for the transfer of nine Mark 4 nuclear bombs to military control . Dean was apprehensive about delegating the decision on how they should be used to MacArthur , who lacked expert technical knowledge of the weapons and their effects . The Joint Chiefs were not entirely comfortable about giving them to MacArthur either , for fear that he might prematurely carry out his orders . Instead , they decided that the nuclear strike force would report to the Strategic Air Command .

= = = Removal from command = = =

Within weeks of the Chinese attack , MacArthur was forced to retreat from North Korea . Seoul fell in January 1951 , and both Truman and MacArthur were forced to contemplate the prospect of abandoning Korea entirely . European countries did not share MacArthur 's world view , distrusted his judgment , and were afraid that he might use his stature and influence with the American public to re @-@ focus American policy away from Europe and towards Asia . They were concerned that this might lead to a major war with China , possibly involving nuclear weapons . Since in February 1950 the Soviet Union and China had signed a defensive alliance committing each to go to war if the other party was attacked , the possibility that an American attack on China would cause World War Three was considered to be very real at the time . In a visit to the United States in December 1950 , the British prime minister , Clement Attlee , had raised the fears of the British and other European governments that " General MacArthur was running the show . "

Under Ridgway 's command , the Eighth Army pressed north again in January . He inflicted heavy casualties on the Chinese , recaptured Seoul in March 1951 , and pushed on to the 38th Parallel . With the improved military situation , Truman now saw the opportunity to offer a negotiated peace but , on 24 March , MacArthur called upon China to admit that it had been defeated , simultaneously challenging both the Chinese and his own superiors . Truman 's proposed announcement was shelved .

On 5 April , Representative Joseph William Martin , Jr . , the Republican leader in the House of Representatives , read aloud on the floor of the House a letter from MacArthur critical of Truman 's Europe @-@ first policy and limited @-@ war strategy . The letter concluded with :

It seems strangely difficult for some to realize that here in Asia is where the communist conspirators have elected to make their play for global conquest , and that we have joined the issue thus raised on the battlefield ; that here we fight Europe 's war with arms while the diplomats there still fight it with words ; that if we lose the war to communism in Asia the fall of Europe is inevitable , win it and Europe most probably would avoid war and yet preserve freedom . As you pointed out , we must win . There is no substitute for victory .

In March 1951 secret United States intercepts of diplomatic dispatches disclosed clandestine conversations in which General MacArthur expressed confidence to the Tokyo embassies of Spain and Portugal that he would succeed in expanding the Korean War into a full @-@ scale conflict with the Chinese Communists . When the intercepts came to the attention of President Truman , he was enraged to learn that MacArthur was not only trying to increase public support for his position on conducting the war , but had secretly informed foreign governments that he planned to initiate actions that were counter to United States policy . The President was unable to act immediately since he could not afford to reveal the existence of the intercepts and because of MacArthur 's popularity with the public and political support in Congress . However , following the release on April

5 by Representative Martin of MacArthur 's letter , Truman concluded he could relieve MacArthur of his commands without incurring unacceptable political damage .

Truman summoned Secretary of Defense George Marshall , Chairman of the Joint Chiefs Omar Bradley , Secretary of State Dean Acheson and Averell Harriman to discuss what to do about MacArthur . They concurred MacArthur should be relieved of his command , but made no recommendation to do so . Although they felt that it was correct " from a purely military point of view , " they were aware that there were important political considerations as well . Truman and Acheson agreed that MacArthur was insubordinate , but the Joint Chiefs avoided any suggestion of this . Insubordination was a military offense , and MacArthur could have requested a public court martial similar to that of Billy Mitchell . The outcome of such a trial was uncertain , and it might well have found him not guilty and ordered his reinstatement . The Joint Chiefs agreed that there was " little evidence that General MacArthur had ever failed to carry out a direct order of the Joint Chiefs , or acted in opposition to an order . " " In point of fact , " Bradley insisted , " MacArthur had stretched but not legally violated any JCS directives . He had violated the President 's 6 December directive [ not to make public statements on policy matters ] , relayed to him by the JCS , but this did not constitute violation of a JCS order . " Truman ordered MacArthur 's relief by Ridgway , and the order went out on 10 April with Bradley 's signature .

In a 3 December 1973 article in Time magazine , Truman was quoted as saying in the early 1960s :

I fired him because he wouldn 't respect the authority of the President . I didn 't fire him because he was a dumb son of a bitch , although he was , but that 's not against the law for generals . If it was , half to three @-@ quarters of them would be in jail .

The relief of the famous general by the unpopular politician for communicating with Congress led to a constitutional crisis , and a storm of public controversy . Polls showed that the majority of the public disapproved of the decision to relieve MacArthur . By February 1952 , almost nine months later , Truman 's approval rating had fallen to 22 percent . As of 2014 , that remains the lowest Gallup Poll approval rating recorded by any serving president . As the increasingly unpopular war in Korea dragged on , Truman 's administration was beset with a series of corruption scandals , and he eventually decided not to run for re @-@ election . Beginning on May 3 , 1951 , a Joint Senate Committee ? chaired by Democrat Richard Russell , Jr . ? investigated MacArthur 's removal . It concluded that " the removal of General MacArthur was within the constitutional powers of the President but the circumstances were a shock to national pride . "

= = Later life = =

A day after his arrival in San Francisco from Korea on April 18 , 1951 , MacArthur had flown with his family to Washington , D.C. where he was scheduled to address a joint session of Congress . It was his and Jean 's first visit to the continental United States since 1937 , when they had been married ; Arthur IV , now aged 13 , had never been to the U.S. And , on April 19 , 1951 , MacArthur made his last official appearance in a farewell address to the U.S. Congress presenting and defending his side of his disagreement with Truman over the conduct of the Korean War . During his speech , he was interrupted by fifty ovations . MacArthur ended the address saying :

I am closing my 52 years of military service . When I joined the Army , even before the turn of the century , it was the fulfillment of all of my boyish hopes and dreams . The world has turned over many times since I took the oath on the plain at West Point , and the hopes and dreams have long since vanished , but I still remember the refrain of one of the most popular barrack ballads of that day which proclaimed most proudly that " old soldiers never die ; they just fade away . "

And like the old soldier of that ballad , I now close my military career and just fade away , an old soldier who tried to do his duty as God gave him the light to see that duty .

Good Bye .

MacArthur received public adulation , which aroused expectations that he would run for president , but he was not a candidate . MacArthur carried out a speaking tour in 1951 ? 52 attacking the Truman administration for " appeasement in Asia " and for mismanaging the economy . Initially

attracting large crowds , by early 1952 MacArthur 's speeches were attracting smaller and smaller numbers of people as many complained that MacArthur seemed more interested in settling scores with Truman and praising himself than in offering up a constructive vision for the nation . MacArthur felt uncomfortable campaigning for the Republican nomination , and hoped that at the Republican convention , a deadlock would ensue between Senator Robert Taft and General Eisenhower , which would end with the GOP nominating him as the best compromise . MacArthur 's unwillingness to campaign for the presidency seriously hurt his ability to win the nomination . In the end , MacArthur endorsed Senator Robert A. Taft , and was keynote speaker at the 1952 Republican National Convention . Taft lost the nomination to Eisenhower , who went on to win the 1952 election by a landslide . Once elected , Eisenhower consulted with MacArthur about ending the war in Korea .

Douglas and Jean MacArthur spent their last years together in the penthouse of the Waldorf Towers , a part of the Waldorf @-@ Astoria Hotel . He was elected Chairman of the Board of Remington Rand . In that year , he earned a salary of \$ 68 @,@ 000 ( equivalent to \$ 612 @,@ 000 in 2016 ) , in addition to \$ 20 @,@ 000 pay and allowances as a General of the Army . The Waldorf became the setting for an annual birthday party on 26 January thrown by the general 's former deputy chief engineer , Major General Leif J. Sverdrup . At the 1960 celebration for MacArthur 's 80th birthday , many of his friends were startled by the general 's obviously deteriorating health . The next day , he collapsed and was rushed into surgery at St. Luke 's Hospital to control a severely swollen prostate .

After his recovery , MacArthur methodically began to carry out the closing acts of his life . He visited the White House for a final reunion with Eisenhower . In 1961 , he made a " sentimental journey " to the Philippines , where he was decorated by President Carlos P. Garcia with the Philippine Legion of Honor . MacArthur also accepted a \$ 900 @,@ 000 ( equivalent to \$ 7 @.@ 25 million in 2016 ) advance from Henry Luce for the rights to his memoirs , and wrote the volume that would eventually be published as *Reminiscences* . Sections began to appear in serialized form in *Life* magazine in the months before his death .

President John F. Kennedy solicited MacArthur 's counsel in 1961 . The first of two meetings was held shortly after the Bay of Pigs Invasion . MacArthur was extremely critical of the military advice given to Kennedy , and cautioned the young President to avoid a U.S. military build @-@ up in Vietnam , pointing out that domestic problems should be given a much greater priority . Shortly before his death , MacArthur gave similar advice to President Lyndon B. Johnson .

In 1962 , West Point honored the increasingly frail MacArthur with the Sylvanus Thayer Award for outstanding service to the nation , which had gone to Eisenhower the year before . MacArthur 's speech to the cadets in accepting the award had as its theme Duty , Honor , Country :

" The shadows are lengthening for me . The twilight is here . My days of old have vanished , tone and tint . They have gone glimmering through the dreams of things that were . Their memory is one of wondrous beauty , watered by tears , and coaxed and caressed by the smiles of yesterday . I listen vainly , but with thirsty ears , for the witching melody of faint bugles blowing reveille , of far drums beating the long roll . In my dreams I hear again the crash of guns , the rattle of musketry , the strange , mournful mutter of the battlefield . But in the evening of my memory , always I come back to West Point . Always there echoes and re @-@ echoes : Duty , Honor , Country . Today marks my final roll call with you , but I want you to know that when I cross the river my last conscious thoughts will be of The Corps , and The Corps , and The Corps . I bid you farewell . "

In 1963 , President Kennedy asked MacArthur to help mediate a dispute between the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Amateur Athletic Union over control of amateur sports in the country . The dispute threatened to derail the participation of the United States in the 1964 Summer Olympics . His presence helped to broker a deal , and participation in the games went on as planned .

= = Death and legacy = =

Douglas MacArthur died at Walter Reed Army Medical Center on 5 April 1964 , of biliary cirrhosis . Kennedy had authorized a state funeral before his own death in 1963 , and Johnson confirmed the



directive , ordering that MacArthur be buried " with all the honor a grateful nation can bestow on a departed hero . " On 7 April , his body was taken on a funeral train to Union Station and transported by a funeral procession to the Capitol , where it lay in state . An estimated 150 @,@ 000 people filed by the bier . The body was finally laid to rest in the rotunda of the Douglas MacArthur Memorial in Norfolk , Virginia .

In 1960 , the mayor of Norfolk , Virginia , had proposed using funds raised by public contribution to remodel the old Norfolk City Hall as a memorial to General MacArthur and as a repository for his papers , decorations , and mementos he had accepted . Restored and remodeled , the MacArthur Memorial contains nine museum galleries whose contents reflect the general 's 50 years of military service . At the heart of the memorial is a rotunda . In its center lies a sunken circular crypt with two marble sarcophagi , one for MacArthur , the other for Jean , who continued to live in the Waldorf Towers until her own death in 2000 .

MacArthur has a contested legacy . In the Philippines in 1942 , he suffered a defeat that Gavin Long described as " the greatest in the history of American foreign wars . " Despite this , " in a fragile period of the American psyche when the general American public , still stunned by the shock of Pearl Harbor and uncertain what lay ahead in Europe , desperately needed a hero , they wholeheartedly embraced Douglas MacArthur ? good press copy that he was . There simply were no other choices that came close to matching his mystique , not to mention his evocative lone @-@ wolf stand ? something that has always resonated with Americans . "

MacArthur 's concept of the role of the soldier as encompassing a broad spectrum of roles that included civil affairs , quelling riots and low @-@ level conflict , was dismissed by the majority of officers who had fought in Europe during World War II , and afterwards saw the Army 's role as fighting the Soviet Union . Unlike them , in his victories in New Guinea in 1944 , the Philippines in 1945 and Korea in 1950 , he fought outnumbered , and relied on maneuver and surprise for success . The American Sinologist John Fairbank called MacArthur " our greatest soldier " .

On the other hand , Truman once remarked that he did not understand how the US Army could " produce men such as Robert E. Lee , John J. Pershing , Eisenhower and Bradley and at the same time produce Custers , Pattons and MacArthur . " His relief of MacArthur cast a long shadow over American civil @-@ military relations for decades . When Lyndon Johnson met with William Westmoreland in Honolulu in 1966 , he told him : " General , I have a lot riding on you . I hope you don 't pull a MacArthur on me . " MacArthur 's relief " left a lasting current of popular sentiment that in matters of war and peace , the military really knows best , " a philosophy which became known as " MacArthurism . "

MacArthur remains a controversial and enigmatic figure . He has been portrayed as a reactionary , although he was in many respects ahead of his time . He championed a progressive approach to the reconstruction of Japanese society , arguing that all occupations ultimately ended badly for the occupier and the occupied . He was often out of step with his contemporaries , such as in 1941 when he contended that Nazi Germany could not defeat the Soviet Union , when he argued that North Korea and China were no mere Soviet puppets , and throughout his career in his insistence that the future lay in the Far East . This implicitly rejected White American contemporary notions of their own racial superiority . He always treated Filipino and Japanese leaders with respect as equals . At the same time , his Victorian sensibilities recoiled at leveling Manila with aerial bombing , an attitude the hardened World War II generation regarded as old fashioned . When asked about MacArthur , Blamey once said that " The best and the worst things you hear about him are both true . "

= = = Honors and awards = = =

During his lifetime , MacArthur earned over 100 military decorations from the U.S. and other countries including the Medal of Honor , the French Légion d 'honneur and Croix de guerre , the Order of the Crown of Italy , the Order of Orange @-@ Nassau from the Netherlands , the Honorary Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath from Australia , and the Order of the Rising Sun with Paulownia Flowers , Grand Cordon from Japan .

MacArthur was enormously popular with the American public . Streets , public works , and children were named after him . Even a dance step was named after him . In 1955 , his promotion to General of the Armies was proposed in Congress , but the proposal was shelved .

Since 1987 the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Awards are presented annually by the United States Army on behalf of the General Douglas MacArthur Foundation to recognize company grade officers ( lieutenants and captains ) and junior warrant officers ( warrant officer one and chief warrant officer two ) who have demonstrated the attributes of " duty , honor , country " in their professional lives and in service to their communities .

The MacArthur Leadership Award at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston , Ontario is awarded to the graduating officer cadet who demonstrates outstanding leadership performance based on the credo of Duty @-@ Honor @-@ Country and potential for future military service .

= = = In popular culture = = =

Several actors have portrayed MacArthur on screen . Dayton Lummis played him in the 1955 picture The Court @-@ Martial of Billy Mitchell , Henry Fonda in the television movie Collision Course : Truman vs. MacArthur in 1976 , Gregory Peck in the 1977 film MacArthur , Laurence Olivier in Inchon in 1981 , and Daniel von Barga in the 1995 HBO film Truman . In the 2013 film Emperor he is played by Tommy Lee Jones .