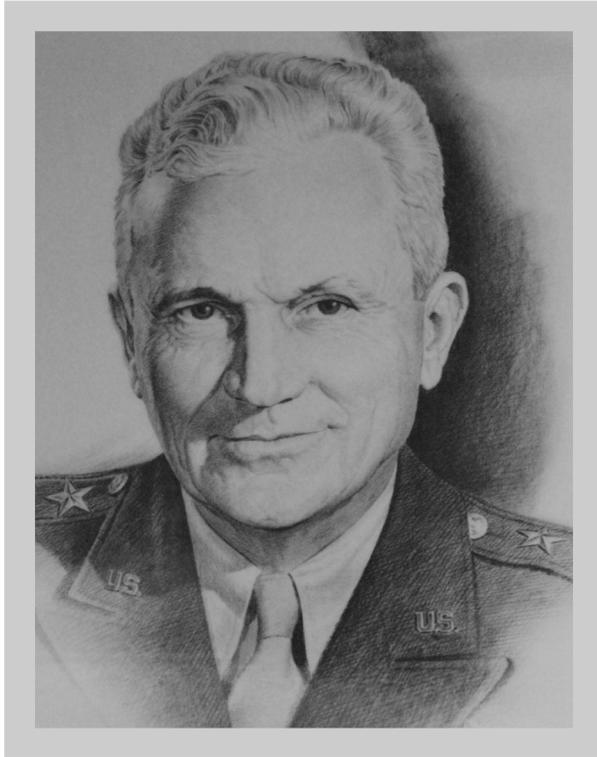




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SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

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**LIEUTENANT GENERAL**  
**FRANK M. ANDREWS**

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U.S. ARMY

# Lieutenant General Frank M. Andrews

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Frank M. Andrews was at the center of the long struggle of air-minded officers in the Army who sought to establish an Air Force that could operate coequally with the ground forces.

He was made First Chief of General Headquarters Air Force (GHQ), set up on March 1, 1935 at Langley Field, Virginia, as a combat organization, with a status similar to the Office, Chief of Air Corps, which handled supply and training. During the next four years General Andrews continued in this position to lead the battle for greater organizational independence and for a greater role for the four-engine bomber, the B-17. He sharpened the operational readiness of the air forces with combat-type exercises and record-setting pioneer flights in the United States and Latin America.

During Army-Navy war games in 1938, navigation tests proved the B-17's ability to intercept an "enemy aircraft carrier" (the Italian Liner Rex) more than 700 miles east of New York City. Also of great significance, but not publicized, was the air arm's interception of the Navy battleship Utah in a military exercise in 1937 in bad weather off the coast of California. General Andrews personally directed the operations of GHQ Air Force in both of these exercises; and was a passenger in the B-17 that "bombed" the Utah. (The navigator on both flights was Curtis E. LeMay.)

Constantly, General Andrews and his staff found themselves opposed by policies of the General Staff, such as one based on an oral agreement between the Army Chief of Staff and the Chief of Naval Operations in May 1938 that limited the Air Corps to operational off-shore flights of no more than 100 miles.

The muscle-flexing of Hitler and his German Luftwaffe in 1938 had persuaded President Franklin Roosevelt of the decisive potential of air-power and prompted the U.S. Army to prepare a new study of our Hemisphere defenses. The study, submitted to Army Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall in September 1939, recognized the air threat to the Western Hemisphere and the need for long-range and other aircraft to help defend the Nation. It included for the first time a specific mission for the Air Corps.

General Marshall, who had just replaced Gen. Malin Craig, called General Andrews to Washington to be his Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3. Andrews became the first Air officer to handle the Army's organization and training.

A year later, in November, General Andrews assumed command of the Panama Canal Air Force. The following September he was made commander of the Caribbean Defense Command and the Panama Canal Department. He was the first Air officer to head a joint command, and one of his greatest tasks was to insure effective coordination of Navy-Army-Air Force and Latin American forces. The system of organization developed there by General Andrews was recommended later to other commanders by the Chief of the Army Air Forces, Gen. H. H. (Hap) Arnold.

In November 1942 General Andrews was assigned to command all United States forces in the Middle East. Several months later he was appointed commander of the United States forces in the European Theater of Operations, with Headquarters in London. In a report to the Secretary of War, General Marshall said that General Andrews, "a highly specialized Air officer," was assigned this high position after he had been sent to the

# Lieutenant General Frank M. Andrews

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Middle East “for experience in combat and in contacts with our allies.” The report pointed out that “this order was paralleled by the creation of a North African Theater of Operations, under General Eisenhower.”

Three months later, on May 3, 1943, General Andrews was killed in an aircraft accident in Iceland, while making a trip to installations under his command. He was 59.

Frank Maxwell Andrews was born in Nashville, Tennessee on February 3, 1884. He was graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in June 1906 and appointed a second lieutenant of Cavalry. With the Cavalry he served not only in Virginia, Texas, Vermont, and Hawaii, but in the Philippines, and at Fort Yellowstone, Wyoming and Fort Huachuca, Arizona. In 1917 he transferred to the Signal Corps for duty with the Aviation Division.

It is difficult now to speculate about how great a role General Andrews would have played during World War II and later, if he had lived. One thing is certain, in his 25 years of service in the Air Arm, he retained the highest respect of his fellow offi-

cers in all the Services while he stimulated great advances of organization, doctrine and weapon systems. As commander of GHQ Air Force for four years he did much to shape today's Air Force.

Perhaps the greatest tribute ever made to General Andrews was by General Hap Arnold during World War II. He said: “Today, when American bombers fly a successful mission in any theater of war, their achievement goes back to the blueprints of the General Headquarters Air Force. Our operations were based on the needs and problems of our own Hemisphere, with its vast seas, huge land areas, great distances, and varying terrains and climates. If we could fly here, we could fly anywhere, and such has proved to be the case... General Headquarters Air Force was also responsible for our present ideas of organization, maintenance and supply.”

General Andrews made a lasting imprint on the outstanding men on his staff who later became key Air Force leaders - and they, in turn, have made their special marks on the Air Force of today.

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*It is with great pride that the Air Force Association's Aerospace Education Foundation sponsors the General Frank Maxwell Andrews scholarship for young men and women preparing for admission to the United States Air Force Academy. General Andrews' pivotal role in building and commanding the first real Air Corps combat command and his great contributions to our Nation mark him as one of our most significant pioneers and great leaders of military aviation.*

*We are privileged to assist in providing our Nation with the leadership that will face its worldwide responsibilities with the moral concept of duty and honor that is embodied in the graduates of the Air Force Academy.*

*J. Boyd One*  
*Aerospace Education Foundation*

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