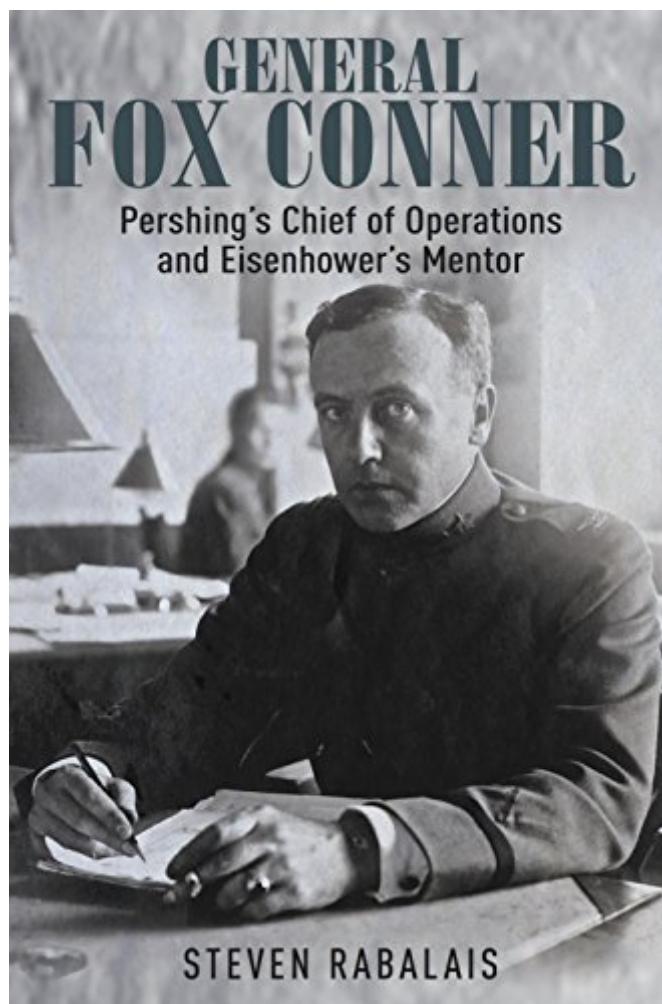


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General Fox Conner: Pershing's Chief Of Operations And Eisenhower's Mentor (The Generals)





Synopsis

Winner of the 2016 Army Historical Society Distinguished Writing Award. Fox Conner presents the portrait of the quintessential man behind the scenes in U.S. military history. John J. Pershing considered Fox Conner to have been “a brilliant soldier” and “one of the finest characters our Army has ever produced.” During World War I, General Conner served as chief of operations for the American Expeditionary Force in Europe. Pershing told Conner: “I could have spared any other man in the A.E.F. better than you.” Dwight D. Eisenhower viewed Fox Conner, as “the outstanding soldier of my time.” In the early 1920s, Conner transformed his protégé Eisenhower from a struggling young officer on the verge of a court martial into one of the American army’s rising stars. Eisenhower acknowledged Fox Conner as “the one more or less invisible figure to whom I owe an incalculable debt.” This book presents the first complete biography of this significant, but now forgotten, figure in American military history. In addition to providing a unique insider’s view into the operations of the American high command during World War I, Fox Conner also tells the story of an interesting life. Conner felt a calling to military service, although his father had been blinded during the Civil War. From humble beginnings in rural Mississippi, Conner became one of the army’s intellectuals. During the 1920s, when most of the nation slumbered in isolationism, Conner predicted a second world war. As the nation began to awaken to new international dangers in the 1930s, President Roosevelt offered Fox Conner the position of army chief of staff, which he declined. Poor health prevented his participation in World War II, while others whom he influenced, including Eisenhower, Patton, and Marshall, went on to fame.

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Customer Reviews

Thank you Steven Rabalais for a readable, concise, valuable and much needed history/biography on Fox Conner. While there has been volumes written about the pompous and gregarious leaders of WW2 (exception is Marshall), few know Conner who was the ultimate mentor & teacher who influenced future greats, but taught hundreds of soldiers and airmen who fought at the battery/squadron levels. He was the ultimate teacher who as Rabalais wrote, made men think in terms of the "why" of history rather than merely the "what" and "memorized timelines" and that made ALL the difference in developing the leaders who won the war he was so prescient about...WW2. Superbly written 282 pages of facts, endnotes, and photos!

As a reader of WWII history I noticed that the name of Fox Connor kept coming up. It was hard to find out much about him, so I was delighted to learn that someone had written an excellent biography. Gen. Connor's career is a fascinating story all the more so because he preferred to stay out of the limelight. He excelled as a visionary, a leader, and a teacher. His impact on history was enormous. We are fortunate that Mr. Rabalais has brought his story to the public. W.

SaundersWhately, MA

Steven Rabalais book on General Fox Conner is a well researched effort of one of the least known but major participants in America's involvement in World War 1. The book details General Conner's insistence that all american troops must be fully trained and well prepared before they are placed into battle. It further details how General Conner's deep understanding of Military history was a strong factor in his mentoring of the major military figures in WW2, namely Eisenhower, Marshall and Patton. Norm MacDonald

A very interesting military career biography of a little known, but extremely important US Army officer in the first and second world wars. Some slow reading of description of war that then evolves

into fascinating detail of General Connor's influence on and interaction with Eisenhower, Marshall, Patton, Pershing and others, including those who he was at odds with. Highly recommended.

General Fox Conner rose from a humble rural southern background to become one of the most significant military leaders of the 20th century. A leading staff member in WW1, he became a mentor for many leaders of the u.s. Army in WW2, particularly Dwight Eisenhower who served under him in the Panama Canal Zone. Realizing that victory is the primary objective of battle, his ideas influenced USA military doctrine

This book is a little dry but does a lot to explain how Ike became Ike so if you like to know the background story this is a book for you

Excellent book involving a largely overlooked figure. The writing style is breezy and engaging, though the WWI military history has great detail. Conner was instrumental in shaping the military plans for AEF in WWI, and foreshadowing WWII. Would recommend this book to any history buff, especially military history. The shipping was timely.

Great book

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