

# GENERAL PATTON'S MAXIMS

A commander will command.

A good solution applied with vigor now is better than a perfect solution applied ten minutes later.

A pint of sweat will save a gallon of blood.

Be alert to the source of trouble.

By perseverance, study, and eternal desire, any man can become great.

Do everything you ask of those you command.

Do more than is required of you.

Do not fear failure.

Do not make excuses, whether it's your fault or not.

Do not take counsel of your fears.

Do your duty as you see it and damn the consequences.

Fame never yet found a man who waited to be found.

Genius is an immense capacity for taking pains.

Give credit where it's due.

Good tactics can save even the worst strategy. Bad tactics will destroy even the best strategy.

Haste and speed are not synonymous.

I prefer a loyal staff officer to a brilliant one.

In case of doubt, attack.

It's the unconquerable soul of man, not the nature of the weapon he uses, that insures victory.

Keep a quick line of communications.

Lack of orders is no excuse for inaction.

Make your plans to fit the circumstances.

Many soldiers are led to faulty ideas of war by knowing too much about too little.

Moral courage is the most valuable and usually the most absent characteristic in men.

Never fight a battle when nothing is gained by winning.

Never let the enemy pick the battle site.

No good decision was ever made in a swivel chair.

No one is thinking if everyone is thinking alike.

Officers must assert themselves by example and by voice.

One must choose a system and stick to it.

Say what you mean and mean what you say.

Select leaders for accomplishment—not for affection.

Strategy and tactics do not change. Only the means of applying them are different.

Success is how you bounce on the bottom.

Take calculated risks.

The leader must be an actor.

The more senior the officer, the more time he has to go to the front.

The only thing to do when a son-of-a-bitch looks cross-eyed at you is to beat the hell out of him right then and there.

The soldier is the army.

The only tactical principle which is not subject to change; it is, "To use the means at hand to inflict the maximum amount of wounds, death, and destruction on the enemy in the minimum amount of time."

There is only one type of discipline, perfect discipline.

War is simple, direct, and ruthless.

We can never get anything across unless we talk the language of the people we are trying to instruct.

You must be single-minded. Drive for the one thing on which you have decided.

You're never beaten until you admit it