

The Washington Star, Oct. 4, 1924, Page 4.

Message From Pershing.

A message from Gen. Pershing was then read.

Gen. Pershing's message follows:

"Dear Gen. Parker:

"It is a source of deep regret to me that I am unable to be present at the unveiling of this monument to our fallen comrades of the 1st Division. But my heart is with you in these services, as the ties that bind me to that division are eternal. Its component units were selected by me when but one division was to be sent to France, and my association with many of its regiments goes beyond the memory of most of those who are present here today.

"With a background of tradition from the old Army and an early opportunity for special training in France, the 1st Division rose to a height of efficiency never surpassed. Its officers and men faced the requirements of battle with a sublime spirit that recognized neither hardship nor danger. It met most determined opposition with dash and courage that nothing could withstand. Of the distinguished leaders of this wonderful organization, no greater tribute can be paid them than to say that they were worthy of the men they led.

"The memory of these heroes will fade as those who love them join the great majority, but their heroic devotion to humanity will live in the peaceful homes of a world saved from destruction. At the foot of this beautiful memorial, with its dignity and impressiveness, future generations will pause and with bowed heads do them honor.

"JOHN J. PERSHING"