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File please
Mrs. Omar N. Bradley
Room 2E664, The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350

P. O. BOX 6630
FORT BLISS, TX 79906

036241

27 August 1981

WS

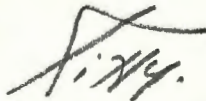
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Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your cordial communication of August 14. My husband loved you; it was his dream to serve you in a meaningful way. That dream is now mine.

I have just completed the shipment of 70 years of uniforms, artifacts and memorabilia to the OMAR N. BRADLEY FOUNDATION at Carlisle and to the OMAR N. BRADLEY LIBRARY at West Point. Sometime in mid-September I shall move into my home at The Springs Club in Rancho Mirage where I plan to complete work on Omar's Simon and Schuster's biography as well as the CBS Special on his life. Please know there is nothing I ever will be doing I would not drop instantly if you or our First Lady find need of me.

Respectfully,



Mrs. Omar N. Bradley

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

036241

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PU

Santa Barbara

August 14, 1981

Dear Kitty:

Thomson x

Bradley
Major Hansen has kindly sent the press
clippings on Omar. What a truly fabulous
man he was. A very bright light has gone
out of our lives with his passing. I am
so proud to have known him.

Nancy and I send you our very best wishes.

Sincerely,

RON A

x

Mrs. Omar Bradley
Post Office Box 6670
Fort Bliss, Texas 79906

RR:AVH:KCS:pps

x

Enclosures filed in 1821
Oversize Attachments #

810814

DRAFT/Date 8/5/81

RR/ KCS / [initials] /
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AVH/ /
(Drafter) (Rev. I)

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Enclosures:
(Type LABEL)

Other: 13/Ron

Dear Kitty:

General Omar Bradley is
deceased -
Mrs Bradley sal: Kitty
sign: Ron
Correct
Address

REQUEST FOR FILE SERVICE

From: K.C. Shepherd

Office: 94

(☒) Entire File On Writer
(☒) FNF
() Communications referred to
Real +
Mrs. Omar
Bradley



C.S.

OFFICE OF
GENERAL OF THE ARMY OMAR N. BRADLEY
POST OFFICE BOX 6670
FORT BLISS, TEXAS 79906

17 July 1981

Dear President and Mrs. Reagan:

Mrs. Bradley has asked that we send the inclosed on to you together with her every good wish and her appreciation for your steadfast friendship.

Respectfully,


THOMAS A. HANSEN
MAJ, AG
US Army

Inclosures
Newsclippings

The President and Mrs. Ronald W. Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

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PC
SPECIAL

Enclosure

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Oversize Attachments # *1821*

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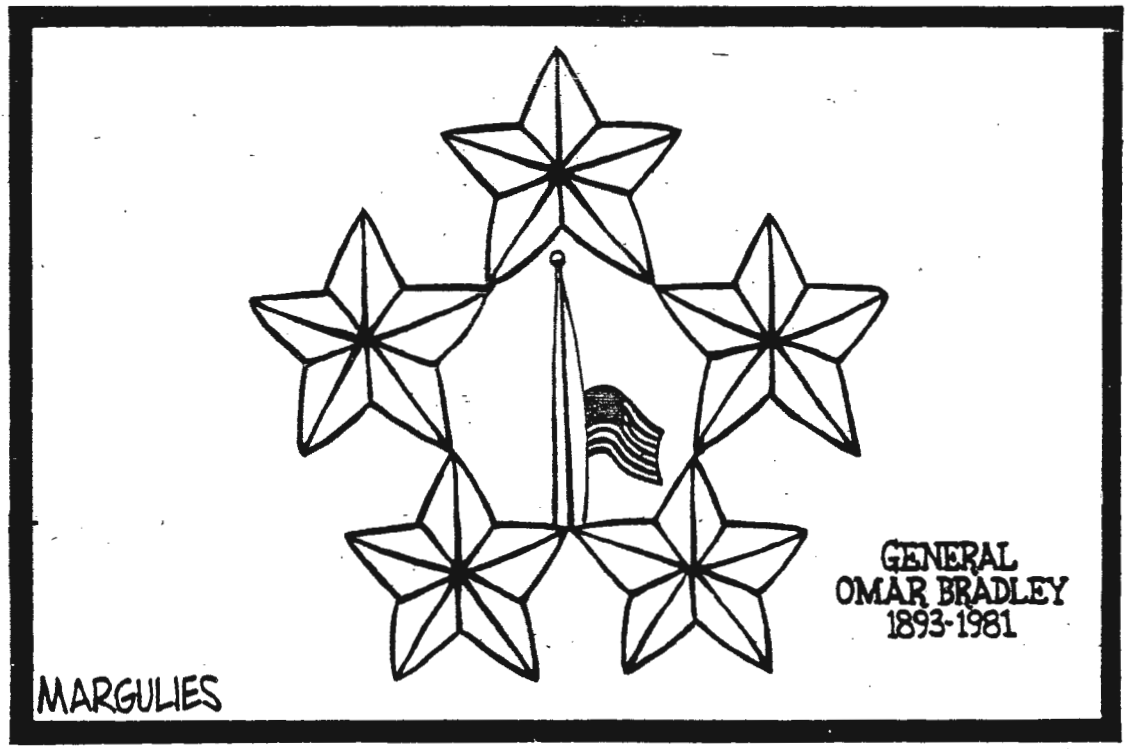


Farewell to a general

News clippings concerning
the death and funeral of
General of the Army Omar N.
Bradley.



THE ARMY TIMES April 20, 1981





Gen. Omar Bradley dies in New York

Times combined sources

Gen. Omar Nelson Bradley, who led a million U.S. soldiers in World War II and was the nation's last five-star general, died Wednesday at the age of 88 in a New York City hospital.

Bradley, who had resided at Fort Bliss since 1977 and who was the nation's first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, died of a stroke at 5:30 p.m. MST at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center.

His wife, Kitty, was at his side. Army Lt. Col. Charles McClain said.

A hospital spokeswoman said Bradley was taken to the emergency room at 7:15 p.m. New York time in a private car with his wife and three aides. Spokeswoman Anne Burton said Bradley was "essentially dead on arrival," and was pronounced dead after efforts to revive him failed. Though the Army said he died of a stroke, she said he died of a heart attack.

There was no immediate word on why he was in New York.

Fort Bliss spokesmen said Bradley will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C., but funeral arrangements had not been announced late Wednesday.

White House officials said there would be no comment until Thursday morning.

Fort Bliss spokesmen said it was uncertain whether Bradley's body would be returned to El Paso for special services, but they said there will be a special commemorative service at the El Paso post. Arrangements probably will be made Thursday, Lt. Col. Ed McDonald, public information officer, said.

Maj. Gen. John Ohlinger, Fort Bliss commander, was away from the post on temporary duty Wednesday evening when news of Bradley's death reached El Paso. He was expected to return late Wednesday.

Bradley's last public appearance was at President Reagan's inauguration in January, where he was honorary grand marshal. The aging general was wheeled onto the stage in a wheelchair by actor Jimmy Stewart.

Bradley had remained on active duty and had been in the Army almost 70 years, more than any other U.S. serviceman, and spent his last 30 years as general of the Army. An act of Congress exempts five-star officers from retiring, but allows them to pursue their own interests.

Bradley became the nation's only five-star general — and the only man with the title general of the Army — upon the death of former President Eisenhower in 1969.

Besides Bradley and Eisenhower, the nation has had three other five-star generals: H.H. Arnold, Douglas MacArthur and George C. Marshall.

The equivalent Navy rank is Fleet Admiral, a title that has been held by Chester Nimitz, William F. Halsey, Ernest King and William Leahy.

These ranks were created during World War II. John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Force during World War I, wore four stars although Congress, through a special act, conferred six-star rank and the title General of the Armies on him.

When Bradley came to Fort Bliss in 1977, he said it was because doctors told him the dry, warm climate of the area would help his arthritis.

His aides only smiled when someone mentioned the nearby horse-racing tracks in New Mexico and Juarez, Mexico.

Bradley was a multifaceted man who could charm the nurses that watched him around the clock and keep pace with his vibrant, energetic wife, Kitty. He was called the "Wizard of Odds" because of his small — \$10 — but invariably accu-

rate bets at the track.

He was a Missouri farm boy who wanted to be a lawyer but became the commander of 1.3 million troops in the European Theater in WWII.

Bradley and his wife were accepted immediately into El Paso society after they moved here from California.

The town celebrated a "General Bradley Day" in 1977 to welcome him to his office at Fort Bliss. Though confined to a wheelchair much of the time, Bradley often made public appearances — usually to be near what he called the "wonderful" soldiers at the base.

He was a frequent guest of Sergeant Majors Academy graduation ceremonies at the post.

A duty NCO, fielding a flurry of questions Wednesday night about the general's death from callers across the country, said he was rushed and did not have time to talk, "but the troops sure enjoyed" Bradley being at Fort Bliss.

The NCO said he had talked briefly with Bradley four or five times since the general moved to Fort Bliss.

"When he first got here, he had Thanksgiving dinner with my unit," the NCO said. "He had lots of tremendous stories to tell — stories about his life as a soldier."

Bradley spent several hours each day in his sand-colored office at the base, usually with aides hovering around him to make sure he did not overwork himself.

Arthritis in his legs had confined Bradley to a wheelchair most of the time. He suffered a severe stroke in 1975 and in 1973 underwent surgery to prevent a blood clot from migrating to his lungs.

He was hospitalized briefly for a viral infection in February, but after his release, he spent time at his office and attended a private celebration of his 88th birthday later that month.

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In June 1979 he went to France and England for observances marking the 35th anniversary of D-Day, the Allied invasion of Europe.

Bradley rarely mentioned his infirmities and, if he did, it was often in a tone of puzzlement more than pity.

"I've taken good care of myself," he said in one interview. "I'm from hardy stock, you know. Raised on a farm."

Bradley was born in Clark, Mo., Feb. 12, 1893, the son of John Smith and Sarah Elizabeth Hubbard Bradley. He was named Omar for an editor friend of the family. His middle name, Nelson, was for a hometown doctor.

His office at Fort Bliss was filled with pictures of his contemporaries — Winston Churchill, Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery and former Presidents Eisenhower and Harry Truman.

His first wife, Mary Quayle Bradley, died in 1965, and in 1966 he married Kitty Buhler, a screen writer who wrote for television's "Dragnet," "The Untouchables" and "My Three Sons."

In addition to his wife, Bradley is survived by a daughter from his first marriage, Elizabeth Bradley Dorsey of Washington.

New Mexicans recall general

The Times staff

New Mexico residents reacted to the death of Gen. Omar Bradley as if they had lost one of their own, expressing a "deep sense of loss" as active and retired military officials characterized Bradley as a "great American hero whose courage inspired" all military people.

Retired Lt. Gen. Richard Knowles, former assistant chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said he would put Bradley in the "category of Abraham Lincoln."

"He was the type of person who would always remember your

name. I'm terribly saddened by his death. He was so comfortable to be with," Knowles said.

Knowles, now living in Roswell, was a captain in a tank destroyer group in Europe during World War II when Bradley was the commander.

Knowles said he saw Bradley occasionally after the war.

Knowles recalled a dedication of a corridor in the Pentagon that was named after Bradley. Comedian Bob Hope attended the dedication.

The next day Knowles ran into Bradley dressed in civilian clothes

walking down the corridor. Knowles said Bradley told him this was the first time he got to see the corridor because there was too much activity during the dedication.

Maj. Gen. Alan Nord, commanding general at White Sands Missile Range, issued a brief statement saying Bradley was "a great American" who "came from humble beginnings and made giant contributions to the nation right up to the present."

Nord said Bradley addressed more than 300 White Sands employees and soldiers in February during National Patriotism Week.

"He won the enduring admiration of that audience for his wit, good humor, and strong principles of leadership which he illustrated with historical examples," Nord said.

Bradley, Nord said, was "indeed an American hero who strengthened everyone he touched."

"We at White Sands are honored to have known this soldier's soldier and keenly feel a sense of deep loss," Nord said.

Gen. Gerald Childress, head of New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, said he met Bradley while Childress was serving in the Pentagon in the 1960s.

"What always struck me about the general was his humility and absolute concern for people," Childress said. "He was a great patriot. A great soldier and the best soldier-statesman we have had in a long time."

Paul Griego, a master sergeant during World War II, said from the Las Cruces VFW hall that he had been wounded and taken to a hospital in Paris. He said he remembers Bradley decorating him with a Silver Star and a Purple Heart and telling him, "You're a good soldier."

'GI's general' was gentle, polite

The Associated Press

Omar Nelson Bradley, who was regarded as one of the greatest field generals of World War II, was known as the "GI's general" because he was thrifty with the blood and lives of his men.

While gaining international fame as a brilliant commander and military tactician, Bradley was proud of his record of winning battles with minimum losses.

He led the 2nd Corps to victories in Tunisia and Sicily and was senior commander of American ground forces in the mid-1944 Anglo-American invasion of fortress Europe. Germany lost the battle of France when Bradley outgeneraled the Nazis' best with a spectacular breakthrough west of St. Lo.

From leadership of the U.S. 1st Army, he went to command of the 12th Army Group — originally composed of the 1st, 3rd and 9th armies and later augmented by the 15th — and had an important part in pushing the Germans back into their homeland.

His million-soldier command was the largest in American history and included most U.S. troops in Germany.

Despite his long participation in the global struggle, Bradley said he sometimes felt he knew very little about modern war because of its complexity and enormity, and he believed a future war would be "far more horrible" than World War II.

"We saw just a taste of this at the conclusion of this war in pilotless planes, rockets and other things," he told his fellow Missourians at a homecoming celebration a few weeks after Germany's surrender. "I'm frank — I don't want to go through another war."

After the atom bomb's destructiveness was demonstrated on Japan, Bradley declared "atomic power makes it necessary that we have no more wars." He said it was essential for the United Nations to succeed in its efforts to preserve peace.

Arguing against isolationism, he said, "If we once again risk disaster by turning our backs on the world, we shall not be given another chance. ... There is not enough room in the world for both

civilization and atomic conflict. Twice the United States has snatched victory out of defeat as the arsenal of democracy. In the event of another war, we shall become the target."

Bradley knew first-hand about surmounting difficulties. He led the American 1st Army in the invasion of the fortified beaches of Normandy — and he went with the troops.

"I'll see you on the beaches," he told his soldiers before they set sail from England on a June day in 1944. And they did see this man they called "a GI Joe with three stars on his shoulders." He then was a lieutenant general.

Bradley told American officers before the invasion of Normandy:

"They say Barnum & Bailey had the 'greatest show on Earth,' but that will be only a sideshow compared to the one you will be in. ... I think you are lucky to have this opportunity and I am happy to be with you."

Essentially, Bradley said, it was not an Army or a Navy that sailed in the invasion of France, but a nation. He said the invasion ships were filled with the achievements and hopes of the American people.

"Never in the long history of the world has so huge an accumulation of the world's talents, wealth and effort, thought, ingenuity and skill been funneled into a single operation; never had an operation such meaning to the future of the world," he said.

The Allied breakthrough west of St. Lo in the summer of 1944 was a decisive action that cost the Nazis the battle of France. The plans were Bradley's. He conceived the breakthrough, planned and executed it, although the grand strategy of the French campaign was mapped by the Supreme Command.

At the end of 1944 the Nazis launched a desperate counteroffensive and broke through the Allied lines to form a threatening bulge in Belgium. Bradley rose to the occasion. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his prompt action in meeting and countering that drive through the Ardennes.

A few months later Bradley was promoted to full general.

After his return home, Bradley said he never had any doubt about the outcome. When German Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt opened the offensive, he related, "General Smith (Walter Bedell Smith) said to me, 'Well, Brad, you've been asking for a counterattack. Here it is.' But I didn't want one that strong."

But Bradley said he knew it could be stopped and demonstrated that confidence by refusing to move his headquarters, which were only 10 miles from the front lines in Luxembourg.

"I like it here," he said with a smile.

On April 6, 1945, in the presence of a rare assembly of high-ranking American generals, Bradley formally raised the U.S. flag over the frowning fortress of Ehrenbreitstein, across the Rhine River from Coblenz, and declared the Germans would have no doubt about who won World War II.

"This time we shall leave the German people with no illusions about who won the war — and no legends about who lost the war," he said. "They will know the brutal Nazi creed they adopted had led them ingloriously to total defeat."

Bradley said after the war that the American Army that smashed Germany was the finest in the world in equipment, training and brains. "Our Army at the end," he said, "made the vaunted German army, supposedly invincible, look like amateurs."

The first post-war assignment of this man who gave such close attention his soldiers' welfare on the battlefield was to see they got their due in peacetime. President Harry Truman appointed him veterans administrator.

He believed the vast majority of veterans were better equipped for life than when they went away to war.

Omar Bradley



BRADLEY AT WEST POINT



OFFICIAL ARMY PORTRAIT

Born Feb. 12, 1893. Died April 8, 1981.



LT. GEN. BRADLEY, LEFT, WITH GEN. DWIGHT EISENHOWER, SECOND FROM RIGHT AND MAJ. GEN. JOSEPH LAWTON.



GEN. OMAR BRADLEY IN 1976



WORLD WAR II MEETING WITH EISENHOWER, LEFT, BRADLEY, CENTER, AND LAWTON



GEN. BRADLEY AND CHIEF AIDE LT. COL. AL LITTLE, AT THE 1979 SUN BOWL

—(Times file photo)

In the words of the general

"I'm frank — I don't want to go through another war."

"There is not enough room in the world for both civilization and atomic conflict. Twice the United States has snatched victory out of defeat as the arsenal of democracy. In the event of another war, we shall become the target."

"Atomic power makes it necessary that we have no more war."

"This time we shall leave the German people with no illusions about who won the war — and no legends about who lost the war. They will know that the brutal Nazi creed they adopted has led them ingloriously to total defeat."

"I never thought about promotions. I tried to do my job a little better than was expected of me, to study a little harder than expected of me."

"I have never regreted making a career of the military. I have found it to be an honorable profession, and an essential one."

"To the man who has built a bridge across the Rhine in 10 hours under artillery fire, there is no limit to his accomplishment. A man with the resiliency to stand off his enemy in the torturous cold of a winter battle does not frighten or discourage easily."

"I don't think anyone can say, 'I've done enough.'"

— GEN. OMAR BRADLEY



GEN. BRADLEY ON 88TH BIRTHDAY IN FEBRUARY

El Paso mourns Bradley



The body of General of the Army Omar N. Bradley, who died late Wednesday in a New York hospital, will be flown to El Paso today and will lie in state at the main post chapel at Fort Bliss.

Details of funeral and memorial services for the famous five-star general are to be announced later today by the Department of the Army.

An official release from the army Wednesday night said that Bradley would be buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington.

ED STARNES, CIVILIAN public-affairs spokesman at Fort Bliss, said the general's body will arrive at International Airport today and will be taken to the Harding-Orr and McDaniel main mortuary.

From there it will be taken to the main post chapel.

Details of local services will be released later today, Starnes said.

A memorial service for Bradley is planned at the military installation where the last of the nation's five-star generals had lived since 1977, a Fort Bliss Army spokesman said today.

"All of this is tentative at this point, but it has been confirmed that the general's body will be flown to El Paso today," Starnes said.

HE SAID DETAILS of a memorial service were incomplete, but it was expected the body would be on public view during the weekend.

An Army spokesman said burial for the general, who was retired but still officially on active duty, was expected to be scheduled for Monday at Arlington, with other details to be announced.

Mayor Tom Westfall said that the city would

probably have some kind of memorial service for Bradley, but he wasn't sure when or where.

Speaking in a shaky voice from his home Westfall said "It's a great loss."

THE FORT BLISS and William Beaumont Officer's Wives Club Tea scheduled today has been canceled due to the death of Bradley.

He was 88 years old.

A spokesman for St. Lukes-Roosevelt Hospital said Bradley was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital. He was accompanied by his wife, Kitty, and aides, the spokesman said.

One report gave the cause of death as cardiac arrest.

Bradley, who had served as the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, celebrated his last birthday on Feb. 12 at Fort Bliss where he and his wife had been living since 1977.

MAKING UP IN competence what he lacked in battlefield glamour, Bradley won four stars in World War II (a fifth was added later) and the sobriquet of "the honest mechanic."

He commanded successively a division, a corps, an army and finally the 12th U.S. Army Group in Europe, which numbered more than 1.3 million combat troops of four armies. In this capacity he was the senior commander of American ground forces in the mid-1944 invasion of Europe and the subsequent defeat of the Nazi forces on the Western Front.

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The essence of his tactics was that the best way to fight a modern battle was "slow and sure."

"DON'T LET THIS blitzkrieg business fool you," he once said. "Today we can move our troops into position much faster than ever before. We can throw a whole division (13,000 men) 150 miles a day, instead of 15 as in the last war."

Tall (just over 6 feet), erect, lanky, bespectacled, bony-faced, Bradley was a commander the G.I.'s liked for the care he took with their lives — and because he looked the part of an infantryman.

In the field he wore an old, stained trench coat, his G.I. trousers were stuffed into paratroop boots, and his field cap was unpretentious. His voice, a Missouri drawl, was rarely raised in anger. He gave the impression of being a plain, homely, stable man, which indeed he was.

THE LATE A.J. LIEBLING, the writer who covered a number of Bradley's campaigns, described him as "the least dressed-up commander of an American army in the field since Zachary Taylor, who wore a straw hat." And contrasting him with the flamboyant Gen. George S. Patton Jr., Liebling wrote:

"After the Green Hornet, with his ruddy, truculent face and his beefy, leather-sheathed calves, the new general, lanky and diffidently amiable, seemed a man of milk."

At the same time, however, he impressed a war correspondent as "a tough, knotty fighter with the tremendous sledge-hammer persistence of Gen. (U.S.) Grant, the shrewdness of a New England horse trader and the personal dignity of character and integrity that can be compared only to the same spacious qualities shown always by Gen. Robert E. Lee."

HE ALSO POSSESSED enormous self-confidence. Bradley recounted the following colloquy that took place when, with Maj. Gen. William B. Kean Jr., he was drawing up an officer roster for the Normandy invasion:

"What a helluva responsibility this is for you and me to be pulling off the biggest invasion of the war."

"Kean nodded and stared at the map of Europe on the wall. 'But Bill,' I said frankly. 'Who in the army knows more about it than we?'"

Remarkably, Bradley had entered the war without combat experience. A "book general" and the product of an army establishment that placed a high premium on honesty and honor, he had spent his prewar years in routine assignments.

BORN IN THE HAMLET of Clark, Mo., on Feb. 12, 1893, Bradley was the son of a schoolteacher, who died when his son was 13. The boy was named Omar for a Missouri newspaper publisher and Nelson for the family doctor. In Moberly, Mo., where the youth grew up, he acquired a love for hunting and fishing and was known for shooting a gun expertly. His high school yearbook described him as "calculative."

He went to West Point because his Sunday school superintendent suggested it as the best choice for a poor boy. His class at the United States Military Academy, that of 1915, has become known as the class the stars fell on. It provided more than 30 generals in World War II, including General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower and Gen. George E. Stratemeyer, Air Force commander in the China-India-Burma theater.

Cadet Bradley played football and baseball and was graduated 44th in a class of 164. (Eisenhower's rank was 25th).

THE SERIOUS AND shy second lieutenant served a tour of duty along the Mexican border in 1916 and received a temporary promotion to major in World War I without seeing service outside the United States.

After the war, he drew duty as a teacher of military science and tactics at South Dakota State College, and in 1920 he was posted to West Point for four years as an instructor in mathematics. These followed the well-worn groove of a professional soldier in peacetime: teaching courses and taking them; duty at the Command and General Staff School and the Army War College. His most glamorous tour was a hitch in Hawaii.

In 1939, Bradley was assigned to the general staff in Washington. Ten years earlier his work at Fort Benning, Ga., had caught the attention of Lt. Col. George C. Marshall, and in 1941 Marshall plucked Bradley out of Washington and sent him to Fort Benning, Ga., to convert the tiny infantry school there into a massive center capable of handling 14,000 officer candidates at a time.

BRADLEY DID THE JOB with commendable dispatch and without raising his voice.

In February 1943, the situation in Tunisia was deteriorating after the Anglo-American landing in Morocco and Algeria in November 1942. The combined forces had narrowly failed to take Tunis by a coup de main to catch Gen. Erwin Rommel's Afrika Korps in the rear as Gen. Bernard Law Montgomery's British army had driven it across Libya.

The British, Americans and French were bogged down in mud, cold and discouragement in Tunisia, and there had been much criticism of the quality of the American command in operation.

Bradley became deputy commander of the U.S. II Corps fighting in the Tebessa area under Patton. His main duty, however, was to act as Eisenhower's eyes and ears along the entire front.

THE PRESENCE OF A senior officer out of the chain of command is always irksome to the responsible commanders, and this occasion was no exception.

But Eisenhower had appraised his men correctly when he wrote of Bradley: "He was a keen judge of men and their capabilities and was absolutely fair and just in his dealings with them. Added to this, he was emotionally stable and possessed a grasp of the larger issues that clearly marked him for high office."

Generals, junior officers and G.I.'s dug in among the hills of Tunisia soon became familiar with the grave, low-voiced officer who peered over his glasses in a fatherly fashion as he made it clear to them that he was not on hand to criticize, but to gather information to prevent another setback such as the Americans had suffered at Kasserine Pass.

BRADLEY WAS PLACED in command of II Corps after Patton had received another assignment, and he led it to the capture of the French naval base of Bizerte. He was promoted to lieutenant general.

When he could spare the time, Bradley was with his troops in field inspections, watching them run obstacle courses and engage in mortar practice. "I will see you on the beaches," he told the G.I.'s.

Although Montgomery was in direct command of the assault landings in Normandy on June 6, 1944, the command of the First Army and ultimately of the 12th Army Group was held by Bradley through the remainder of the fighting in France and Germany. He was ashore less than 24 hours after the first Allied units hit the Normandy beaches.

THE FIRST ARMY, numbering 21 divisions, began its breakout from the coastal regions late in June behind a tremendous carpet of air bombardment.

On Aug. 1, the Allied ground force command changed. Montgomery was given command of the British 21st Army Group, while the 12th Army Group was placed under Bradley, who was responsible only to Eisenhower.

Patton's Third Army managed a breakthrough at Avranches and fanned southward and finally eastward and northward to close in on the rear of the German Seventh Army at Falaise. Supporters of Montgomery have pointed out that he was facing more formidable opposition, but Bradley felt the British should have made a greater effort to close the narrow Falaise gap through which the greater part of the German Seventh Army managed to squeeze to temporary safety. As it was, more than 70,000 Germans were caught in the trap.

WHILE THE BRITISH and Canadian armies were pushing north along the English Channel, Paris was recaptured by the Second French Armored Division and other elements of the First French Army, aided by Patton's V Corps and the French Forces of the Interior. As the Germans retreated toward the Rhine, hopes ran high for a quick end to the war in Europe.

September 1944 was, as Bradley put it, "the month of the Big Bust." Paris had fallen, and by Sept. 14 the front line extended from a region north of the channel port of Dunkirk through Antwerp and Aachen, Metz and Nancy down to the Swiss and Italian borders.

On Sept. 3, American tanks broke across the German border near Aachen, and Bradley pulled up stakes at Dreux, a few miles east of Paris, and established his army group command post at Verdun.

BUT THE IMPETUOUS Americans had outrun their supply lines and lost their momentum. For the next two months, Bradley and the impatient Patton were to wait at the German border for gasoline and ammunition. The dash for the Rhine had fallen just short of success.

There ensued a lengthy period of tug-of-war between Bradley and Montgomery in the matter of priority for supplies. German resistance had stiffened on the British front as well as in front of Bradley's men, and Eisenhower was called upon to make a decision between the British proposals for operations and those proposed by Bradley. Montgomery wanted to ram a spearhead through to the industrial Ruhr Valley. Bradley favored a broad advance along the line into Germany.

The Germans, however, were massing for a desperate attempt to break through the Ardennes to capture the port of Antwerp. Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt had accumulated 600 tanks for this last garrison finish.

"IN THE FACE of this astonishing build up, I had greatly underestimated the enemy's offensive capabilities," Bradley recalled in his memoirs. "My embarrassment was not unique, for it was shared not only by the army commanders but by Montgomery and Eisenhower as well.

The check administered to the 12th Army Group in the Battle of the Bulge led to pressure from the British to return Montgomery to his former position as commander of the ground forces. Bradley told Eisenhower flatly that he would not serve under Montgomery and that "you must send me home, for if Montgomery goes in over me, I will have lost the confidence of my command. It was Winston Churchill, British prime minister, who poured oil on the troubled waters.

After Germany's capitulation, Bradley returned to Washington and took over as head of the Veterans Administration from 1945 to 1947. He then became Chief of Staff of the Army and served two terms as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, departing in 1954. He was made a five-star general in 1950.

AFTER STEPPING DOWN — he did not retire because Generals of the Army are considered as always available for recall to active duty — he joined the Bulova Research and Development Laboratories. He was later named board chairman of its parent company, the Bulova Watch Company. He was also on the board of the Food Fair Stores and of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

U.S. mourns death of well loved general

NEW YORK (UPI) — General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley, the last of America's five-star generals and a World War II hero was so loved by his troops they called him the "GI's General."

President Reagan today issued the following statement on the death of Bradley:

"I JOIN ALL Americans in mourning the death of General of the Army Omar N. Bradley.

"For 69 years he wore the colors of an American soldier — with courage, integrity, professionalism and, above all, honor. Even as he rose in rank, humility never left his side. He was the "G.I.'s general" because he was, always, a G.I.

"In World War II his conspicuously brilliant leadership thrust him to the top of the U.S. military command. Whether at Normandy, North Africa, or Sicily, the Bradley command always meant good fortune for freedom's defenders.

"General Bradley's memory will be revered by his countrymen. He left to us exemplary qualities that long will be the standard of every soldier who takes the solemn pledge to defend this nation.

"Nancy and I were honored to have Omar Bradley as our friend and honored that one of his last public appearances was at my inauguration. Both of us extend to General Bradley's family our deepest sympathies."

IN WASHINGTON, Army Secretary John Marsh Jr. mourned Bradley's death as "a loss not only for this nation but for all freedom-loving people of the world."

"He takes his place in history as a great patriot, a peerless military leader and an individual dedicated to the cause of peace in the world," Marsh said.

The shy, homely Bradley — born to a poor Missouri family — became the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and was among a select few to

serve the nation as a five-star general.

CONSIDERED a brilliant military strategist, he led the 12th U.S. Army Group in Europe during World War II, which numbered more than 1.3 million combat troops of four armies. The men of his command swept across France and into Germany and played a vital role in ending Adolf Hitler's Reich.

Bradley found more pride, however, in being the epitome of the infantryman, the foot soldier.

His troops called him the "GI's General" and he dressed the part, wearing an old stained trench coat, his G.I. trousers stuffed into paratrooper boots and his field cap.

"THEY CONSIDER me one of them," he told UPI in 1969 — the year former President Dwight D. Eisenhower died, making Bradley the nation's last surviving five-star general.

The only other generals of that rank in U.S. history were Henry Harley Arnold, Douglas MacArthur, George Marshall and before that — George Washington. John Pershing was named General of the Armies in 1919, but turned down the fifth star.

During World War II, Bradley was given command of the United States II Corps in North Africa by Eisenhower — his classmate at West Point.

A living legend died in El Paso

By BILL THOMPSON

Herald-Post Staff Writer

General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley, 88, last of the great generals of World War II, and only five star general of the Army in the United States, died at 7:30 Wednesday night of a heart stroke in a New York hospital.

Bradley, who chose to spend his last years in El Paso, was a living legend, a man who was born in a small rural town in Missouri and rose to become one of the great military commanders of all time, a man who was still recognized and honored wherever he traveled.

OUTLIVED MOST if not all of the great military leaders of World War II — Winston Churchill, Charles DeGaulle, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Sir Bernard Montgomery, General Douglas MacArthur and General George Patton. Bradley lived until the day he died, spending time with troops at Fort Bliss, engaging in many El Paso vic endeavors and traveling.

He toured a number of Army posts including Hawaii and Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio before deciding to live in El Paso. Lt. Col. Vince Carafano, former Public Affairs officer at Fort Bliss, said Bradley arrived in December 9, 1977 and was quartered in the home of the commanding general of the William Beaumont Army Medical Center.

Bradley loved ceremony when touring Fort Bliss

Continued
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BRADLEY WORKED out of a suite of offices on the Lower Post at Beaumont and quickly engaged in a heavy schedule of social and cultural activities in the city. But his main thrust was giving inspirational talks to candidates at the Army Sergeant Majors Academy, at the Air Defense School and to troop units.

As an officer with more active duty time than any other person in the army, he strictly observed pomp and ceremony. He visited Fort Bliss dining halls on each Thanksgiving Day, an old Army tradition, Col. Carafano said.

Fort Bliss officials released an official Department of the Army statement late Wednesday night that read:

It is with great sadness that the Secretary of the Army, John O. Marsh Jr. and Army Chief of Staff, General Edward C. Myer, announce the death of General of the Army Omar N. Bradley, the First Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and until his death this country's highest ranking military officer.

MRS. BRADLEY was with the general when he died.

Bradley had served his country for more than 30 years in the rank of General of the Army. He entered the U.S. Military Academy in September 1911.

Secretary Marsh said, "General Bradley's passing is a loss not only for this nation but for all freedom loving people of the world. His service exem-

plified the highest standards of leadership. He takes his place in history as a great patriot, a peerless military leader and an individual dedicated to the cause of peace in the world."

GENERAL MYER said, "General Bradley was truly one of our greatest soldiers. With his passing the army and the nation have lost one of the most devoted and selfless men ever to wear the uniform of the United States. Today's soldiers will miss him."

Bradley is survived by his wife, the former Kitty Buhler and one daughter, Elizabeth Bradley Dorsey of Washington, D.C.

Burial will be in Arlington National Cemetery. Burial arrangements will be announced later.

A FORMER aide, retired Lt. Col. George J. Raunam, probably expressed the feeling best that many persons probably have about Bradley's death.

"A whole era is gone, a whole chapter of history, and it is very sad. I think the thing that impressed me the most was that he was always humble, always reachable. He had kings and presidents at his beck and call but he was just as reachable to a private as to a king," Raunam said.

"Why did you like the guy? Because you were always comfortable with him."

Raunam became acquainted with Bradley as a teen-ager in Germany. A veteran of World War II, Korea and Vietnam, he served as an aide to Bradley in 1968-69 and as his senior aide de camp from June 1976 until September 1978.



General of the Army Omar Bradley and his wife Kitty in 1980



They shaped the course of World War II

Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of England, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Gen. Omar Bradley (left to right), photographed together in 1946, played major roles in shaping the course of World War II.

Another World War II general remembers

Bradley—'calm clean-thinking fighting man'

By DERRY EADS

Herald-Post Staff Writer

Just before the invasion of Normandy in World War II, Lt. Gen. Hobart Gay, retired, joined Gen. Omar Bradley in London.

Despite the awesome task before him, Bradley displayed no signs of mental or physical strain.

"GEN. BRADLEY WAS A calm, clean-thinking fighting man," Gay recalls. "He was a very excellent leader and greatly admired by all."

Gay was Gen. George Patton's chief of staff during the war. Although Patton and Bradley crossed roads numerous times, Gay only had brief contacts with Bradley.

"I am glad to see that he passed away without any struggle," said Gay after hearing of Bradley's death Wednesday night of a heart attack in New York. Gay lives at 4128 O'Keefe Drive with his wife Alzina.

Gay's fondest memory is of a meeting between Bradley, who was in charge of the U.S. 12th Army Group, Patton, who served under him as the Third Army leader and Allied Supreme Commander Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"WHEN THE WAR WAS getting close to the end, Gen. Eisenhower, Gen. Bradley and Gen. Patton had a meeting called by Gen. Eisenhower. It was held out in the open with nobody else

around except for myself. It was there that Gen. Patton suggested to Gen. Eisenhower: 'Why don't you take Berlin?'

"Gen. Eisenhower said, 'We can't do it.'"

"Gen. Patton stomped back and forth and said 'Hell, I can take it in 48 hours.'"



Gen. Gay

Bradley was with the II Corps in Africa when Gay first met him in 1942. "I never served directly under Gen. Bradley," Gay says, "but he was always very courteous to me although I was far down the line of command at the time."

"Gen. Eisenhower said, 'Who would want to take it.'"

"Gen. Bradley will agree with me that history will answer that question," said Gen. Patton.

"THAT SO IMPRESSED ME that I made it part of the official record. Bradley said, 'I wholeheartedly agree with Gen. Patton.'"

The next day, according to Gay, Patton's 3rd Army was sent south into Czechoslovakia to "fight 100,000 die-hard Germans." Not a single shot was fired because the German's weren't there.

GAY TALKED BRIEFLY TO Bradley after the general had taken Sicily on July 10, 1943.

Gay was stationed at Fort Meyers, Va., in 1950 when Bradley was promoted to the rank of five-star general. Bradley was housed on the same base at that time.

"Our daughter and Gen. Bradley's daughter Elizabeth were such good friends," said Mrs. Gay. "When Gen. Bradley was made commander-in-chief, there certainly was a lot of activity at his house. That was the last time we saw him until he came to El Paso."

GAY, WHO WAS PROBABLY closer to Patton than anyone during WWII, survived the post-war crash that proved fatal to Patton.

"We had just crossed some railroad tracks when a truck, coming from the other direction, turned right in front of us. The crash didn't knock me out of my seat. Gen. Patton asked me whether I was all right and then asked the driver whether he was fine. He then said 'I believe I am paralyzed. Rub my hand and shoulders,' which I did. 'Go ahead and rub them,' he said again. That was when I knew he was paralyzed.

"Fortunately, a doctor drove by and took care of Gen. Patton. Gen. Patton died four days later."



Photo by UPI

A presidential greeting

General of the Army Omar Bradley, then the nation's only living five-star general, was greeted

by Nancy Reagan and newly inaugurated President Ronald Reagan last January.

Classmate recalls happy memories

By MARGO HERNANDEZ
Herald-Post Staff Writer

With his Cadet Register in his hand, and artifacts from a military career filling his home, Col. H. Crampton Jones, retired, was ready to talk about his friend, General of the Army Omar N. Bradley.

Jones, 87, speaks with first-hand knowledge of two of his friends, West Point classmates and heroes. Both Bradley and Dwight D. Eisenhower are military heroes — one went on to become president.

BUT JONES chose to bring up only happy memories of Bradley, casting aside for the moment mourning his death in New York Wednesday.

From their home in Central El Paso, Jones, with his wife offering gentle reminders from across the room, said some of his fondest memories are of Bradley the athlete.

The colonel remembers well because as his wife Harriot put it, "You get to know people pretty well in the Army when you get stationed together two times."

JONES SAID that most of his classmates remember Bradley as the school's left fielder who could throw out a runner at home plate. "Everybody remembers him as the left fielder on the baseball team. He was an athlete and a very fine one."

Jones said he remembers him also as an ardent hunter and crack shot at the military academy who would shoot pheasant around the campus.

The colonel said that Bradley along with another famous classmate, Eisenhower, were known for their athletic skills.

JONES GRADUATED from West Point in 1916, a year after Bradley, making him the oldest living graduate in the El Paso area following Bradley's death.

Jones said, he and his wife along with Bradley and his first wife Mary were housed in quarters in "the Bachelor Building."

"We knew each other quite well," Jones said. In the days of smaller classes at the academy Jones said, "Everyone knew everyone else."

BRADLEY AND Jones, after leaving the academy, went separate ways. Jones to "chase Pancho Villa with Gen. Pershing." Both returned to West Point as instructors.

After a four year stint as math instructors both Bradley and Jones were then sent to Hawaii, each for three years, in 1924. After Hawaii they parted ways for awhile but met again before the D-Day Invasion of Normandy.

Not long after the invasion in which Jones commanded an artillery group, he said he again visited Bradley in his field headquarters housed in a tent. Jones said "It was said that he commanded more men than any other man."

FOR THE JONESES, who met Bradley again when he chose to live in El Paso in December of 1977, they think only of him as a "gentle, noble kind of fellow and very simple."

Mrs. Jones said when he introduced himself, even after his status as Head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he would say as he held out his hand, "Hi, I'm Omar Bradley," rather than "Hello, I'm General of the Army Omar Bradley."

"His dominant trait was common sense," Jones said, which was what made him a great general.

HOWEVER, JONES said that he knows Bradley was a friendly person "who liked to be with people."

Jones held the Cadet Register which lists all Cadets who entered and graduated from the Academy from 1802 to 1980.

Dressed in a black suit, white shirt and striped tie, Jones read some of Bradley's accomplishments listed in the book. "From 1949 to 1953, he was Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In 1950 he was promoted to General of the Army. In 1953, he was brought back to active military duty."

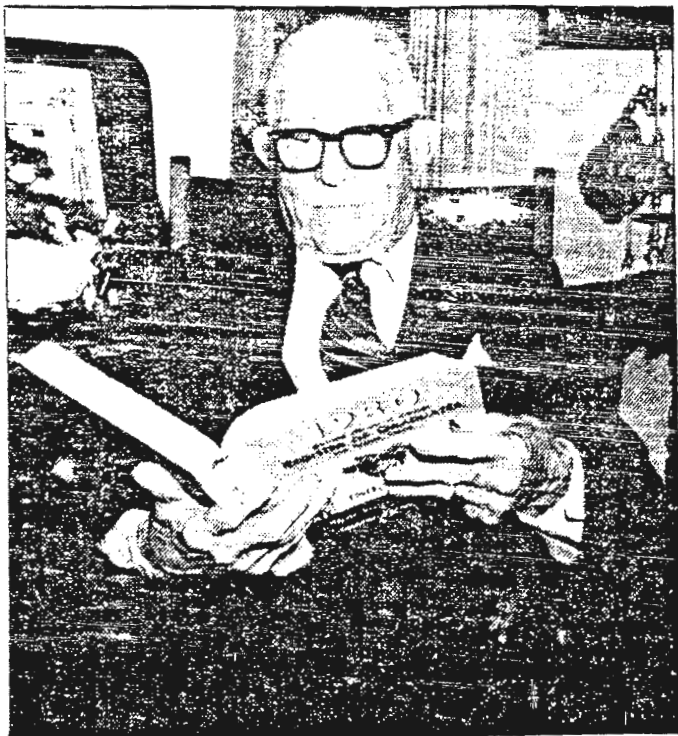
JONES READ other accomplishments, such as Bradley's position as administrator for the Veteran's Administration from 1945 to 1947. Bradley's award of the Distinguished Service Medal and the Sylvanus Thayer medal awarded by the academy in recognition of the founder of the academy.

Jones, however found himself at a loss to explain his feelings about the death of Bradley. He thought about it for a short while then said "I don't know what to say."

Then he recalled that he had received a call informing him of the death from the wife of Bradley's aide. "She called and said 'Just before he left here, he had a physical and had a good report.'"

ONE OF THE things that came to his mind during the conversation was that when Bradley arrived in El Paso, he was always called on as the oldest graduate of the academy to speak during the Founder's Day ceremonies. Jones said that prior to Bradley's arrival, that task had fallen on him for seven to eight years.

"Now I'm the oldest again. I'll probably be the one to speak next March. There aren't too many of us left."



Col. H. Crampton Jones



UPI PHOTO

GEN. OMAR BRADLEY

Gen. Omar Bradley is dead at 88

NEW YORK — (AP) — General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley, who led a million U.S. soldiers in World War II and was the nation's last five-star general, died yesterday at the age of 88.

Bradley, who also was the nation's first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, died of a heart attack at 7:30 p.m. EST at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center in New York City. His wife, Kitty, was with him.

Since 1977 he had lived at Fort Bliss, Texas. He was in New York for an award dinner at the 21 Club.

His last public appearance was at President Reagan's inauguration, where he was honorary grand marshal.

BRADLEY HAD remained on active duty and had been in the Army almost 70 years, more than any other U.S. serviceman. He had spent the last 30 years as general of the Army

The Houston Post

Good morning!

It's Thursday, April 9, 1981

Gen. Omar Bradley dies at 88

Post News Services

NEW YORK — Gen. Omar Nelson Bradley, who led a million U.S. soldiers in World War II and was the nation's last five-star general, died Wednesday at the age of 88, hospital officials said.

Bradley, who also was the nation's first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, died of a stroke at 6:30 p.m. CST at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center, with his wife, Kitty, at his side, said Army Lt. Col. Charles W. McClain.

A hospital spokeswoman said Bradley was taken to the emergency room at 6:15

p.m. in a private car with his wife and three aides. Spokeswoman Anne Burton said Bradley was "essentially dead on arrival," and was pronounced dead after efforts to revive him failed. Although the Army said he died of a stroke, she said he died of a heart attack.

His last public appearance was at President Reagan's Inauguration. The general was wheeled onto the stage in a wheelchair by actor James Stewart.

"Gen. Bradley's passing is a loss not only for this nation but for all freedom-loving people of the world," said Army Secretary John O. Marsh Jr. "His serv-

ice exemplified our nation's highest standard of leadership. He takes his place in history as a great patriot, a peerless military leader and an individual dedicated to the cause of peace in the world."

"Gen. Bradley was truly one of our greatest soldiers," said Army Chief of Staff Gen. E.C. Meyer. "With his passing the Army and our nation have lost one of the most devoted and selfless men to ever wear the military uniform of the United States. Today's soldiers will miss him."

White House officials said there would

be no comment until Thursday morning.

Bradley had been confined to a wheelchair since suffering a severe stroke in 1975. In 1973 he underwent surgery to prevent a blood clot from migrating to his lungs.

Burial will be in Arlington National Cemetery, the Pentagon said. Funeral arrangements will be announced.

Bradley's greatest source of pride was that he was the epitome of the infantryman, the foot soldier. He was known as the "GI's General."

"They consider me one of them," he told UPI in an interview in 1969.

Under Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, Bradley was field commander for the American forces that stormed ashore and opened the western front on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

He was placed in overall command then of a force of more than 1.3 million American combat troops in four armies which swept across France and into Germany and played a vital role in bringing Hitler's Reich to its knees.

Bradley retired from active service in 1953 but he kept a keen interest in mili-

Please see Gen./page 21A

Bradley dies
Nation's last 5-star
general led a million U.S.
soldiers in World War II
News Focus/Below



NEWS FOCUS

Omar Bradley, last of the five-star generals, dies at 88

Led U.S. ground forces in Europe invasion

By Alden Whitman
New York Times News Service

NEW YORK — Gen. Omar N. Bradley, a World War II hero who was the last of the nation's five-star generals, died yesterday in New York City. He was 88.

A spokesman for St. Luke's

Roosevelt Hospital said Bradley was pronounced dead on arrival at the hospital. He was accompanied by his wife, Kitty, and aides, the spokesman said.

One report gave the cause of death as cardiac arrest.

Bradley, who had served as the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, celebrated his last birth-

day Feb. 12 at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas, where he and his wife had been living since 1977.

Bradley was recovering from a viral infection in February and had earlier been confined to a wheelchair because of knee problems going back to his days as a West Point football player.

A Pentagon spokesman said Bradley had remained officially on active duty until his death.

He attended President Reagan's inauguration in January in a wheelchair pushed by actor James Stewart.

Making up in competence what he lacked in battlefield glamour, Bradley won four stars in World War II (a fifth was added later) and a reputation as "the honest mechanic."

He commanded successively, a division, a corps, an army and finally the 12th U.S. Army Group in Europe, which numbered more than 1.3 million combat troops of four armies. In this capacity, he was the senior commander of American ground forces in the mid-1944 invasion of Europe and the subsequent defeat of the Nazi forces on the Western Front.

It was Bradley who linked up with Soviet Marshal Ivan Stepanovich Konev on the banks of the Elbe River on April 25, 1945, a dramatic meeting that symbolized the end of the German army.

Earlier, on April 6, with the Germans' doom imminent, Bradley had raised the U.S. flag over the fortress of Ehrenbrestein, across the Rhine from Coblenz, and de-

clared that the Germans could have no doubt about the war's outcome.

"This time we shall have the German people with us in terms about who won the war," he said. "They will know that the brutal Nazi creed has been defeated them ingloriously to their defeat."

In plowing across France from the Normandy landings of June 1944, and through Germany to the Elbe, Bradley achieved a reputation as a brilliant tactician, the foundations of which had been laid in his campaigns in North Africa and Sicily. The essence of his tactics was that the best way to

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Gen. Omar Bradley dies at 88

From page 1

tary affairs and headed the U.S. contingent that went to Normandy on the 25th anniversary of D-Day.

A man with organizational genius, Bradley became chairman of the board of Bulova and in his later years spent much time traveling between its New York headquarters and Los Angeles, where he built a home on the crest of a high hill behind Sunset Boulevard.

His first wife died in the 1940s and in 1966 he remarried. He had one daughter, Elizabeth Bradley Dorsey, who lives in Washington, D.C.

A soft-spoken man, Bradley was hard as nails and kept under reins more flamboyant types such as Gen. George Patton, who was his subordinate officer on the western front. His feuds with his British counterpart, Field Marshal Ber-

nard L. Montgomery, became legend although Bradley later contended they got along well.

His toughest hour was as the man-on-the-spot at the Normandy invasion. He was aboard the cruiser Augusta on D-Day and the ship went to within 4,000 yards of the shore to help in the bombardment of German fortifications while American troops waded ashore at Utah and Omaha beaches.

Eisenhower and Bradley were in the same graduating class of 1915 at the United States Military Academy at West Point and the two men later became close friends.

Like Ike, Bradley was an ardent golfer. He had to give up the game in recent years because of a bad knee but he had an indoor putting green in his home with artificial turf where he putted with visitors for a quarter a hole. He also was a horseracing buff and spent many after-

noons at the tracks.

Born in Clark, Mo., Feb. 12, 1893, Bradley was named Omar for an editor friend of the family and Nelson for the local doctor. He was appointed to West Point in 1911 and graduated 44th in his class. He rose to the rank of major in World War I while serving with the 14th Infantry Regiment but reverted to captain in 1920 in the general postwar reduction.

In 1941 he was promoted to brigadier general and became commandant of the Infantry School.

Bradley became the nation's only five-star general — and the only man with the title General of the Army — upon the death of Eisenhower in 1969.

Besides Bradley and Eisenhower, the nation has had three five-star generals: H.H. Arnold, Douglas MacArthur and George C. Marshall.

The equivalent Navy rank is Fleet

Admiral, a title held by Chester Nimitz, William F. Halsey, Ernest King and William Leahy.

These ranks were created during World War II. John J. Pershing, commander of the American Expeditionary Force during World War I, wore four stars although Congress, through a special act, conferred six-star rank and the title General of the Armies on him.

Bradley suffered a stroke on March 17, 1975, at his home in California. He was hospitalized, and underwent brain surgery on March 26. His recovery after the operation was swift and without complications, and hospital officials reported that there was no permanent impairment of his faculties.

Bradley had kept a full business schedule each day and traveled extensively. A birthday party among friends and colleagues at Fort Bliss, Texas, became a yearly tradition.

NEWS FOCUS

Continued from page A-1

fight a modern battle was "slow and sure."

Tall (just over 6 feet), erect, lanky, bespectacled, bony-faced, Bradley was a commander the GIs liked for the care he took with their lives — and because he looked the part of an infantryman.

In the field he wore an old, stained trench coat, his GI trousers stuffed into paratroop boots and an unpretentious field cap. His voice, a Missouri drawl, was rarely raised in anger. He gave the impression of being a plain, homely, stable man, which indeed he was.

Remarkably, Bradley had entered the war without combat experience. A "book general" and the product of an Army establish-



Bradley won third star in 1943 ...

ment that placed a high premium on honesty and honor, he had spent his prewar years in routine professorial assignments.

Born in the hamlet of Clark, Mo., on Feb. 12, 1893, Bradley was the

son of a schoolteacher.

He went to West Point because his Sunday school superintendent suggested it as the best choice for a poor boy. His class at the United States Military Academy, that of 1915, has become known as the class the stars fell on. It provided more than 30 generals in World War II, including General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower and Gen. George E. Stratemeyer, Air Force commander in the China-India-Burma theater.

The serious and shy second lieutenant served a tour of duty along the Mexican border in 1916 and received a temporary promotion to major in World War I without seeing service outside the United States.

After the war, he drew duty as a teacher of military science and tactics at South Dakota State College and, in 1920, he was posted to West Point for four years as an



... a five-star general in 1981

instructor in mathematics.

In 1939, Bradley was assigned to the general staff in Washington. Ten years earlier his work at Fort Benning, Ga., had caught the attention of Lt. Col. George C. Marshall,

and in 1941 Marshall plucked Bradley out of Washington and sent him to Fort Benning, Ga., to convert the tiny infantry school there into a massive center capable of handling 14,000 officer candidates at a time.

In February 1943, the situation in Tunisia was deteriorating after the Anglo-American landing in Morocco and Algeria in November 1942.

Bradley was named deputy commander of the U.S. II Corps fighting in the Tebessa area under Gen. George Patton.

Bradley was placed in command of II Corps after Patton had received another assignment, and he led it to the capture of the French naval base of Bizerte. He was promoted to lieutenant general.

Although Montgomery was in direct command of the assault landings in Normandy on June 6, 1944, the command of the First Army and ultimately of the 12th

Army Group was held by Bradley through the remainder of the fighting in France and Germany. He was ashore less than 24 hours after the first Allied units hit the Normandy beaches.

After Germany's capitulation, Bradley returned to Washington and took over as head of the Veterans Administration from 1945 to 1947. He then became Chief of Staff of the Army and served two terms as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, departing in 1954. He was made a five-star general in 1950.

After stepping down — he did not retire because generals of the Army are considered as always available for recall to active duty — he joined the Bulova Research and Development Laboratories. He was later named board chairman of its parent company, the Bulova Watch Co.

Los Angeles Times

CCT/178 pages/ Copyright 1981, Los Angeles Times/Daily 25¢

Thursday, April 9, 1981

89,314 Sunday



Los Angeles Times
Gen. Omar N. Bradley riding in a Los Angeles motorcade in 1977.

Bradley, 88, Last Five-Star General, Dies

**Favorite of GIs, He
Led U.S. Troops in
Normandy Invasion**

By JOHN H. AVERILL,
Times Staff Writer

General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley, the last of America's great warriors of World War II, the last of the Army's five-star generals and the soldier who served on active duty longer than any other man in U.S. history, died Wednesday in New York City.

He was 88, and although the cause of death was listed as cardiac arrest, he had been in failing health for many years.

He died at St. Luke's Hospital, where he was taken after becoming ill at the 21 Club. He was attending an award dinner there with his wife and three aides.

The Pentagon announced that Bradley will be buried at the Arlington National Cemetery, but other funeral arrangements were incomplete Wednesday night.

Bradley emerged from World War II widely acclaimed as one of that great conflict's most brilliant generals. Yet, more frequently than not he was overshadowed in the public's eye by his colleagues—Dwight D. Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur, George S. Patton and British Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery.

However, among the combat troops he commanded, Bradley was the most popular general of the war. His troops liked his modesty and appreciated his compassion and concern for their welfare.

'The GIs' General'

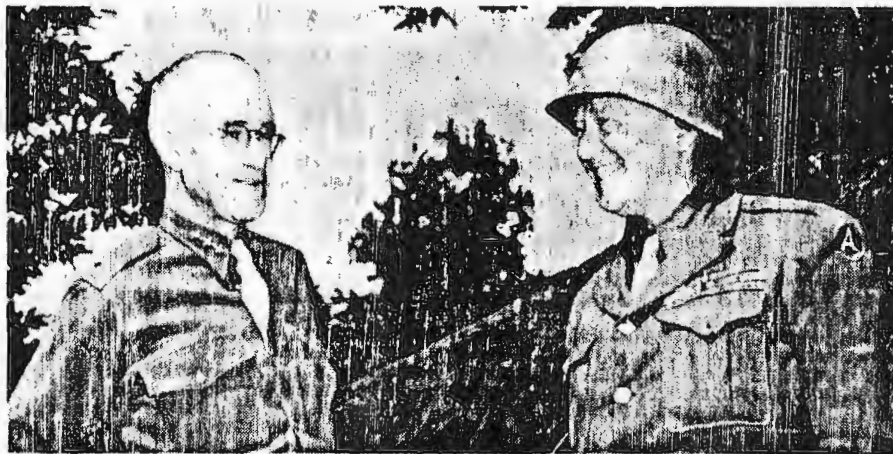
Ernie Pyle, one of the best-known of the war correspondents, dubbed Bradley "the GIs' General," a sobriquet that quickly caught on and stayed with Bradley through the war.

In his last combat role, as commander of the 12th U.S. Army Group in Europe, Bradley headed the largest force of American soldiers ever assembled—1.3 million men.

At its peak, Bradley's group consisted of four armies—the 1st, 3rd, 9th and 15th. It was these armies, along with Russian and British forces, that won the Battle of Europe and forced Germany's surrender in May, 1945.

Bradley first came to public attention in 1943 when he, Patton and

Please see BRADLEY, Page 21



Gen. Bradley, left, had a chat with Gen. George S. Patton Jr. at the front in France in 1944.

Eisenhower ordered Patton, whose army was stretched out south of the German forces, to counterattack the Nazis' southern flank. For Patton, it meant extricating his divisions from their front line, swinging them around at a 90-degree angle and moving 133,178 vehicles in the depth of winter.

Despite the miserable weather, Patton pulled it off brilliantly, slicing deeply into the German flank and cutting off thousands of enemy troops. By mid-January, the enemy counterattack was defeated and Bradley's

forces were again on the offensive.

But the cost had been great. There were 80,000 American casualties, the largest number in any single battle in the European campaign and final victory was put back for at least six weeks. German losses were even greater.

Meanwhile, Bradley had been further embarrassed. At the height of the German attack, Eisenhower transferred two of Bradley's armies, the 1st and the 9th, to Montgomery's command. Montgomery, whom Bradley

disliked, then began pressing to be named top field commander over Bradley. This generated a showdown between Bradley and Eisenhower: "If he is to be put in command of all ground forces, you must send me home, for if Montgomery goes in over me, I will have lost the confidence of my command."

Bradley went on to say: "Ike flushed. He stiffened in his chair and eyed me hotly. 'Well,' he said, 'I thought you were the one person I could count on for doing anything I asked you to.'"

"You can, Ike," I said. "I've enjoyed every bit of my service with you. But this is one thing I cannot take."

Bradley wrote that he told Patton of his intention to quit if forced to submit to Montgomery's command. "George clasped me by the arm," Bradley wrote. "If you quit, Brad," he said, "Then I'll be quitting with you."

Neither man found the need to quit. Bradley shortly got back one of the two armies he had been forced to yield to Montgomery, the 1st, and on March 7, 1945, a division of this army found a Rhine River bridge intact at Remagen, captured it and established the first U.S.

Please see BRADLEY, Page 22

BRADLEY: 5-Star General of WWII Fame Dies at 81

Continued from 21st Page

beachhead on the river's east bank.

In short order, Bradley's forces were fanning out through western Germany. Bradley's reputation, tarnished in the Ardennes, was restored and on March 29 he was rewarded with a fourth star. Germany surrendered five weeks later.

Praising Bradley's performance after the collapse of the Ardennes counteroffensive, Eisenhower said: "I class Gen. Bradley's tactical operations during February and March, which witnessed the completion of the destruction of the German forces west of the Rhine, as the equal in brilliance of any that American forces have ever conducted."

Despite his success as a warrior, Bradley, unlike Patton, found war distasteful. "For every man in whom war has inspired sacrifice, courage and love, there are many more whom it has degraded with brutality, callousness and greed," he said in a speech after the war.

Bradley was born in Clark, Mo., on Feb. 12, 1893. His unusual, Arabic-sounding first name, Omar, was given him by his parents to honor an editor friend of his family. His second name, Nelson, was in honor of the local doctor.

Father Died in 1908

His father, an itinerant school teacher and farmer, died in 1908. That year, young Bradley and his mother moved to Moberly, Mo., where he starred on the high school baseball team. He also worked to help support his mother. One summer he unloaded 40-ton coal cars on the Wabash Railroad, shoveling coal 10 hours a day, 6 days a week, for 13 cents an hour.

Bradley feared lack of money would keep him out of college, but his Sunday school superintendent pointed out to him that he could get a free education at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

He received an appointment from his congressman and entered the academy in 1911, along with Dwight D. Eisenhower. Bradley was a star on West Point's rifle, baseball and football teams and graduated 44th in his 1915 class.

To his regret, he did not go overseas in World War I and he feared the lack of combat experience would hurt his career. After various peace-time assignments, however, he became the first in his West Point class to become a general. That was in February, 1941, when he

was made commandant of the infantry school at Ft. Benning, Ga., and promoted to brigadier general.

A year later, two months after Pearl Harbor, he was a major general in command of his own division. A year after that he was in North Africa.

'I Have a Job for You'

Three months after Germany surrendered, President Harry S. Truman summoned Bradley and told him: "Gen. Bradley, I have a job for you. We must take care of almost three-quarters of a million sick and wounded fighting men. I'd like you to become the head of the Veterans' Administration."

Bradley took the job and found the agency, then virtually moribund, undermanned and inefficient. He quickly reorganized it, persuaded Congress to authorize many new hospitals and generally shepherded the agency during the difficult transition from war to peace as the number of veterans climbed to 14 million.

In 1948, Bradley succeeded Eisenhower as Army chief of staff, and the following year he was appointed to the newly created post of chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. In 1950, Bradley was promoted to the rank of general of the Army, making him the Army's fourth five-star officer, the others being Eisenhower, MacArthur and George C. Marshall.

It was during Bradley's tour as chairman of the joint chiefs that the Korean War broke out, a conflict that resulted in the firing of MacArthur for defying Truman's orders.

Bradley Agreed

Bradley concurred in the firing. "The President of the United States is the commander in chief under our constitution," he said. "Every member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff recognized that Gen. MacArthur had to be relieved."

Bradley left the Pentagon in 1953 to head research and development at the Bulova Watch Co. Inc., of which he became board chairman five years later.

As a five-star general he technically remained on active duty until his death. Counting his four years at West Point, he was on active duty longer than any other man in U.S. Army history—69 years.

While with Bulova, Bradley moved to Beverly Hills, where he pursued his favorite hobbies—golf, hunting, swimming, reading and going to the racetrack.

After the death of his first wife, Mary Quayle, whom

he married upon leaving West Point, Bradley was married in 1966 to Esther Dora (Kitty) Buhler, a writer. His only other survivor is a daughter, Elizabeth Bradley Dorsey of Washington.

Bradley suffered a stroke at his Beverly Hills home in 1975 and thereafter was confined to a wheelchair of the time. In 1977, he and his wife moved to Ft. Worth, Tex., where he could be near the troops.

Despite his infirmity, Bradley made frequent visits to Washington. He was honorary parade marshal for President Reagan's inauguration and sat in the review stand in front of the White House with the new President.

On Nov. 20, 1980, he visited the Capitol and was given a standing ovation by members of the Senate.

Thurmond's View

He was introduced by Sen. Strom Thurmond (S.C.), who served on Bradley's staff during World War II. Speaking of the general's war achievements, Thurmond said: "In my opinion, he was the greatest combat general to have served in the European theater during those crucial and trying days."

Bradley emerged from the war with many honors and medals, including the Distinguished Service Medal, three oak leaf clusters, the Legion of Merit with an oak leaf cluster, the Silver Star and the Bronze Star.

Once, when Eisenhower presented Bradley with one of his many decorations, he remarked: "I've planted a lot of medals on you, Brad, but it will never be enough."

Bradley was once asked if he ever wore all his medals. He replied, "Lord no. You never wear those things unless you're a Patton."

Gen. Omar Bradley, last of the 5-star generals, dies at 88. Page 10A.

5-star Gen. Omar Bradley, 88, dies

From Wire Reports

NEW YORK — Gen. Omar Nelson Bradley, a World War II hero who was the last of America's five-star generals, died Wednesday of a heart attack. He was 88.

Bradley, a shy, homely man known as the "GI's general," was the field commander who led U.S. forces in the 1944 D-Day invasion of Europe under Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, the supreme allied commander in World War II. He later became the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Bradley, who has been ailing in recent years, was brought into the emergency room of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital at 7:15 p.m. and pronounced dead of cardiac arrest 20 minutes later, a hospital spokeswoman said.

He became ill at New York's 21 Club.

The hospital said he was accompanied by his wife.

The spokeswoman said news of Bradley's death was to be announced formally by the Pentagon. She said Bradley's family left the hospital and told her "we have our protocol to attend to."

The only other Army men to reach the pinnacle of military rank as a five-star general Eisenhower, Henry Harley Arnold, Douglas MacArthur and George C. Marshall and John J. Pershing.

Despite his rise, Bradley's greatest source of pride was that he was the epitome of the infantryman, the foot soldier.

"They consider me one of them," he said in 1969.

Under Eisenhower, Bradley was field commander for the U.S. forces that stormed ashore and opened the western front on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

He was placed in command of a force of more than 1.3 million American combat troops in four armies which swept across France and into Germany and played a vital role in bringing Hitler's Reich to its knees.

Bradley retired from active service in 1953 but he kept a keen interest in military affairs and headed the U.S. contingent which went to Normandy on the 25th anniversary of D-Day.

A man with organizational genius, Bradley became chairman of the board of Bulova and in his later years spent much time between its New York headquarters and Los Angeles where he built a home on the crest of a high hill behind Sunset Boulevard.

His first wife died in the 1940s and in 1966 he was married to Esther Buhler, a television writer. He had one daughter, Elizabeth Bradley Dorsey, who lives in Washington, D.C.

A soft-spoken man, Bradley was hard as nails and kept under reins such more flamboyant types as Gen. George Patton, who was his subordinate officer on the western front. His

feuds with his British counterpart, Field Marshal Bernard L. Montgomery, became legend although Bradley later contended they got along well.

His toughest hour was as the man-on-the-spot at the Normandy invasion. He was aboard the cruiser Augusta on D-Day and the ship went to within 4,000 yards of the shore to help in the bombardment of German fortifications while American troops waded ashore at Utah and Omaha beaches.

"I went back to Omaha Beach after the war and I looked at that cliff and I wondered how our men ever got up there, got to the top, even without people shooting at them," he recalled in his interview with UPI.

Eisenhower and Bradley were in the same graduating class of 1915 at the United States Military Academy at West Point and the two men later became close friends.

Like Ike, Bradley was an ardent golfer. He had to give up the game in recent years because of a bad knee but he had an indoor putting green in his home with artificial turf where he putted with visitors for a quarter a hole. He also was an ardent horse-racing buff and spent many afternoons at the tracks.

Born in Clark, Mo., Feb. 12, 1893, Bradley was named Omar for an editor friend of the family and Nelson for the local doctor. He was appointed to West Point in 1911 and graduated 44th in his class. He rose to the rank of major in World War I while serving with the 14th Infantry Regiment but reverted to captain in 1920 in the general postwar reduction.

In 1941 he was promoted to brigadier general and, at the recommendation of Gen. Marshall, became commandant of the Infantry School.

Bradley suffered a stroke on March 17, 1975 at his home in California. He was hospitalized, and underwent brain surgery on March 26. His recovery after the operation was swift and without complications.

'Soldier's general' Omar Bradley dies

By Barbara Slifer

He was known as the "soldiers' general." Many of today's soldiers, though, know of him only as a figure from a history book. The 88-year-old native of Clarke, Mo., has now taken his final step into the pages of U.S. military history.

General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley died yesterday evening in St. Luke's Hospital in New York City. The only living officer of five-star rank in the U.S. Armed Services, Bradley died of an apparent stroke.

A man noted for his "shyness," for his concern for the soldier and for his compassion, Bradley achieved fame during World War II. With First Army, he commanded troops in Operation "Overlord," the code name for the Allied invasion of Europe. Within two months of the Normandy invasion, Bradley assumed command of the 12th U.S. Army Group. With the 12th, Bradley was to lead more combat troops than any officer in U.S. history. Eleven months after the Normandy invasion, the Third Reich fell.

At the conclusion of World War II, Bradley's contributions to the nation did not end. In August 1945, he took the reins of leadership of the Veteran's Administration. For 28 months, the general "cut through 20 years of red tape" to ensure proper facilities and medical staffing. When he left the Veterans Administration in December 1947, Bradley had acquired the nickname of the nation's "Number One Social Worker."

Bradley faced the challenge of his next assignment, becoming Army Chief of Staff in February 1948. His first "crisis" was the Berlin Airlift, with Army and Air Force personnel working together to supply more than 8,000 tons of supplies of food and other necessities to the city. In 1949, after careful national attention over

the unification of services and the cooperation among services, the Department of Defense was established. With the establishment of a Defense Department was a chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Omar Nelson Bradley was appointed the first chairman. In 1951, he was appointed to a second two-year term.

Only five men in the history of the U.S. Army have held the rank "General of the Army." Only five men have worn the five-star — orbit star — rank insignia. The last of them was Omar Bradley. He entered West Point in 1911, graduating with the class of 1915 — "the class the stars fell on." (Of his classmates, which included Dwight D. Eisenhower, 59 became generals. Among those 59 generals were 111 stars.)

Bradley earned his first star in 1941. He was nominated for the rank of General of the Army by President Harry S. Truman on Sept. 18, 1950. His promotion was confirmed by the Senate two days later and Bradley was appointed to that rank effective Sept. 22, 1950.

After learning of Bradley's death, Secretary of the Army John O. Marsh commented that the general's loss was not one just "for this nation but for all freedom-loving people of the world. His service exemplified the highest standards of leadership. He takes his place in history as a great patriot, a peerless military leader and an individual dedicated to the cause of peace in the world."

Of Bradley's death, Army Chief of Staff Gen. E.C. Meyer stated that "General Bradley was truly one of our greatest soldiers. With his passing, the Army and our nation have lost one of the most

devoted and selfless men ever to wear the uniform of the United States. Today's soldiers will miss him."

Indeed, Bradley, who is survived by his wife Kitty and a daughter, leaves a legacy of devotion to his country for all to emulate. He achieved a greatness for leadership, both in times of war and times of peace.

Bradley was known as the "soldiers' general" or the "GI's General." And, even though he earned innumerable awards from both the United States and foreign nations for his service, he always displayed the humility of his grass-roots heritage. In the words of wartime correspondent Ernie Pyle, "He always said 'thank you.'"

According to officials at Fort Bliss late last night, Bradley's body will be returned to Fort Bliss sometime today. Fol-



Gen. Omar Bradley

lowing services there, final interment will be in Arlington National Cemetery. The 36th Army Band leaves at noon Sunday, to participate in the funeral services.

Omar Bradley, 5-Star General, Is Dead at 88

NEW YORK (AP) — Gen. Omar Bradley, the last of the nation's great World War II commanders and the last of its five-star generals, died last night. He was 88.

Bradley, a lanky, bespectacled Missourian who commanded U.S. invasion forces on D-Day at Normandy and was the first to chair the Joint Chiefs of Staff, suffered a heart attack while attending a dinner at the 21 Club here and was pronounced dead shortly afterward at a hospital.

In Washington, President Reagan issued a statement joining all Americans in mourning his death:

"Nancy and I were honored to have Omar Bradley as our friend and honored that one of his last public appearances was at my inauguration. Both of us extend to ... [his] family our deepest sympathies," Reagan said.

"Even as he rose in rank, humility never left his side," Reagan said. "For 69 years he wore the colors of an American soldier with courage, integrity, professionalism and above all, honor. Gen. Bradley's memory will be revered by his countrymen.



GEN. OMAR N. BRADLEY
As he celebrated his 87th birthday

He left to us exemplary qualities that long will be the standard of every soldier who takes the solemn pledge to defend this nation."

Bradley, who had come to New York from his Fort Bliss, Texas, home for a dinner of the local chapter of the Association of the United States Army, collapsed in an elevator of the 21 Club.

Bradley to lie in repose at Fort Bliss

General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley returned to El Paso Thursday for the last time.

His body is lying in repose at a Fort Bliss chapel where El Pasoans who have come to consider him one of their own may view his casket.

Bradley, 88, died Wednesday evening in New York City after becoming ill while attending a dinner at the fashionable 21 Club.

Bradley had gone to New York for a dinner of the New York chapter of the Association of the United States Army. He collapsed in an elevator of the 21 Club, a club official said. Accompanied by his wife, Kitty, and three aides, he was taken in a private car to the emergency room of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center, where doctors tried for 20 minutes to revive him. He was pronounced dead at 5:35 p.m. MST.

A hospital spokesman said doctors listed the cause of death as "cardiac

honor. A 19-gun salute and a eulogy by Fort Bliss Commander Maj. Gen. John Oblinger Jr. is scheduled Tuesday to coincide with Bradley's funeral at Arlington National Cemetery.

The local ceremony was scheduled tentatively for noon Tuesday, but Fort Bliss personnel said that time could change.

Funeral in Washington will be at 11 a.m. MST Tuesday, followed by a cortege to Arlington National Cemetery for burial at 1 p.m. MST.

The Fort Bliss services will be at Howze Field, just north of Building 2 off Sheridan Road.

Gen. David Jones, Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman, ordered flags flown at half staff at U.S. bases and on naval vessels in the United States and territorial waters.

Throughout El Paso, flags also were lowered in his honor.

Few non-military spectators watched Thursday as Bradley's flag-

draped silver casket was carried off the presidential jetliner by a local interservice honor guard.

A weary Mrs. Bradley was escorted from the plane by Air Force Chief Master Sgt. John Kelly. She walked slowly down the steps leading from the front of the plane and was taken to a waiting Army limousine.

Mrs. Bradley made no comment.

Oblinger said Mrs. Bradley "is very tired; she's pretty shaken up."

From the airport Transient Terminal, Bradley's body was taken to Harding, Orr, McDaniel Funeral Home where preparations were made to place the general's casket in state at Chapel 1 at Fort Bliss.

About 85 members of the Old Guard — a special honor guard of the 3rd Infantry — was part of an honor guard waiting for Bradley's body to arrive at Chapel 1. The chapel is on Pershing Street near Memorial Circle on post.

El Pasoans pay respects 4B
Two men remember 4B
Farewell photos 5B

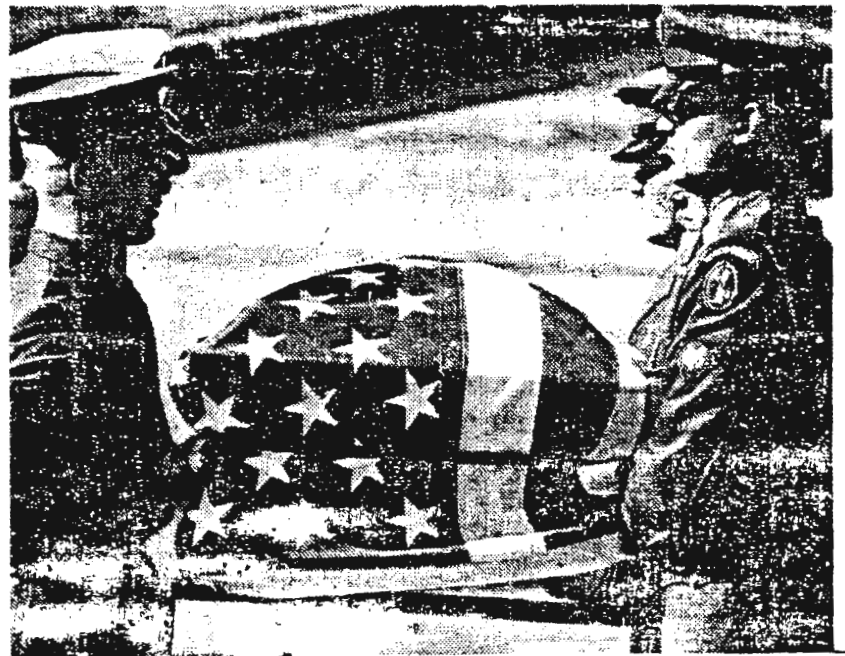
arrest." A Pentagon statement initially said Bradley died of a stroke, but officials later confirmed he had died of cardiac arrest.

At the request of his wife, Bradley's body was flown from Kennedy Airport to El Paso — his home since 1977 — to lie in repose until Monday.

Bradley's body arrived at El Paso International Airport shortly after 3 p.m. Thursday on a blue-and-white Boeing 707 jet provided by President Reagan.

A Pentagon statement said the body would be flown to Washington, D.C., Monday and lie in repose at the National Cathedral.

At noon Friday, a 19-gun salute will be fired at Fort Bliss in Bradley's



—(Times staff photo by Lance Murray)

MILITARY HONOR GUARD HOLD FLAG-DRAPED CASKET

... Bradley's body was returned to El Paso Thursday

Gen. Bradley's admirers pass in review

Times combined sources

About 150 El Paso civilians and military personnel paid their respects Thursday evening to General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley, whose body was laid in repose for public viewing at a Fort Bliss chapel.

One viewer, a veteran, paused before the flag-draped, closed casket bearing the general's body, clicked his heels and saluted in a silent tribute.

The doors of Chapel 1, at Pershing and Memorial Circle streets on post, opened to the public about 7:30 p.m. Thursday after a private service was conducted for Bradley's family and a small group of invited dignitaries.

The dignitaries included retired Gen. G.U. Underwood Jr., retired Lt. Gen. Richard Cassidy, retired Lt. Gen. Raymond Shoemaker, Mayor Tom Westfall, U.S. District Judge Harry Lee Hudspeth, U.S. Water Commissioner Joseph Friedkin, Maj. Gen. Allen Nord, White Sands Missile Range commander; Brig. Gen. Chester Ward, Beaumont Army Medical Center commander; Brig. Gen. Thomas Swelm, commander of Tactical Training at Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo; Col. Marvin Simmons, Fort Bliss deputy commander; and Dr. Willard Schuessler, civilian aide to the Secretary of the Army for West Texas.

U.S. Rep. Richard White and County Judge Udell Moore were invited but did not attend.

Chapel 1 will be open for round-the-clock public viewing of the general's casket until Monday morning when his body will be flown to Washington, D.C., for funeral services and burial on Tuesday.

By 8 p.m. Thursday, the first El Pasoans to visit the chapel had departed. Inside the brightly-lighted, wood-paneled chapel, the casket bearing the general's body sat solemnly, guarded by a five-member, inter-service honor guard.

The chapel was scheduled to remain open "as long as people keep coming," a Fort Bliss spokesman said.

The honor guard was to remain with the casket throughout the night, Fort Bliss spokesmen said.

Because of Bradley's death, all services at Fort Bliss Chapel No. 1 for Friday, Saturday and Sunday have been canceled.

Saturday's Catholic religious classes are canceled, a Fort Bliss spokesman said, and Protestant Sunday School will be at Biggs Chapel No. 1.

The funeral for Chief Warrant Officer John E. Robinson, originally scheduled for Chapel No. 1, will be at 10 a.m. Friday at Fort Bliss Chapel No. 4, the spokesman said.

The annual Spring Tea for the officers' wives also was postponed.

Although retired Army Col. Henry Crampton Jones, 87, of 3000 Gold, told *The Times* Wednesday he is the oldest living West Point graduate now that Bradley is dead, there are about 60 other men who are older.

The oldest living West Point graduate is retired Maj. Gen. Walter E. Prosser, 99, of San Antonio, according to the 1980 Register of Graduates and Former Cadets, U.S. Military Academy. Prosser was in the Class of 1905.

A 1905 classmate of Prosser's is retired Brig. Gen. Arthur W. Lane, 97, of Washington, D.C.

Although many Fort Bliss soldiers never knew Bradley personally, there was a "great sense of loss" at the news of his passing, one soldier said Thursday.

"There will never be another one like him," Master Sgt. Arden Wade, a 32-year veteran, said.

Wade said Bradley was known for keeping contact with the young soldiers at Fort Bliss.

"He used to come down to the mess hall in his wheel chair on Thanksgiving or Christmas and just talk with the boys," Wade said.

"The men were in awe of him," he said.

With some soldiers, Bradley's death will be an event they must "get over," two Fort Bliss staff sergeants said.

"He was a hero to soldiers like us who'd been around a while," Staff Sgt. John Powers, a 14-year veteran of the Army, said. "It's a little discouraging, but we'll get over it."

"To me it's like the end of an era," because Bradley was one of the last remnants of World War II that modern soldiers could relate to, Powers said.

"If I had to go to combat, I'd want a guy like that out there with me — to lead me," Powers said.

Staff Sgt. Franklin Pero, a 12-year veteran soldier, said the soldiers were keeping their feelings to themselves.

"No one's really talking about it," he said.

"I feel bad that he's gone. The man was 88 years old — he had a pretty good life," Pero said.

"For 69 years he wore the colors of an American soldier — with courage, integrity, professionalism and, above all, honor," President Reagan said Thursday of Bradley. "Even as he rose in rank, humility never left his side. He was the 'GI's general' because he was, always, a GI."

Bradley had been treated at Beaumont Army Medical Center for arthritis and a series of strokes that left him crippled and in a wheelchair during his final years.

In Austin, Gov. Bill Clements, former Deputy Secretary of Defense, said he shared the nation's sadness at the death of "one of America's greatest old soldiers."

"He will always be remembered as a towering hero of our defense establishment and of freedom throughout the world," Clements said.

An easy-going, soft-spoken man, Omar Bradley was born Feb. 12, 1893, in Clark, Mo.

Bradley's lifelong friendship with Dwight Eisenhower began when the two were plebes at West Point. They throughout the service as "the class the stars fell on" because America's entry into World War I two years later led to rapid promotions for its members, many of whom achieved high rank at a far younger age than usual.

Bradley and Eisenhower were among only five men to wear the five stars of a General of the Army, after the rank was created during World War II. The others were Gen. H.H. "Hap" Arnold, Douglas MacArthur and George Marshall.

Bradley served in the victorious Tunisian and Sicilian campaigns of World War II as a corps commander.

When the allies invaded Normandy, Bradley was in command of one million men, the largest army in U. S. history.

His goodbye remark to his officers and men as they headed for the 1944 invasion was "I'll see you on the beaches." And so he did, a tall, lanky figure striding across the sands in the midst one of history's most decisive battles.

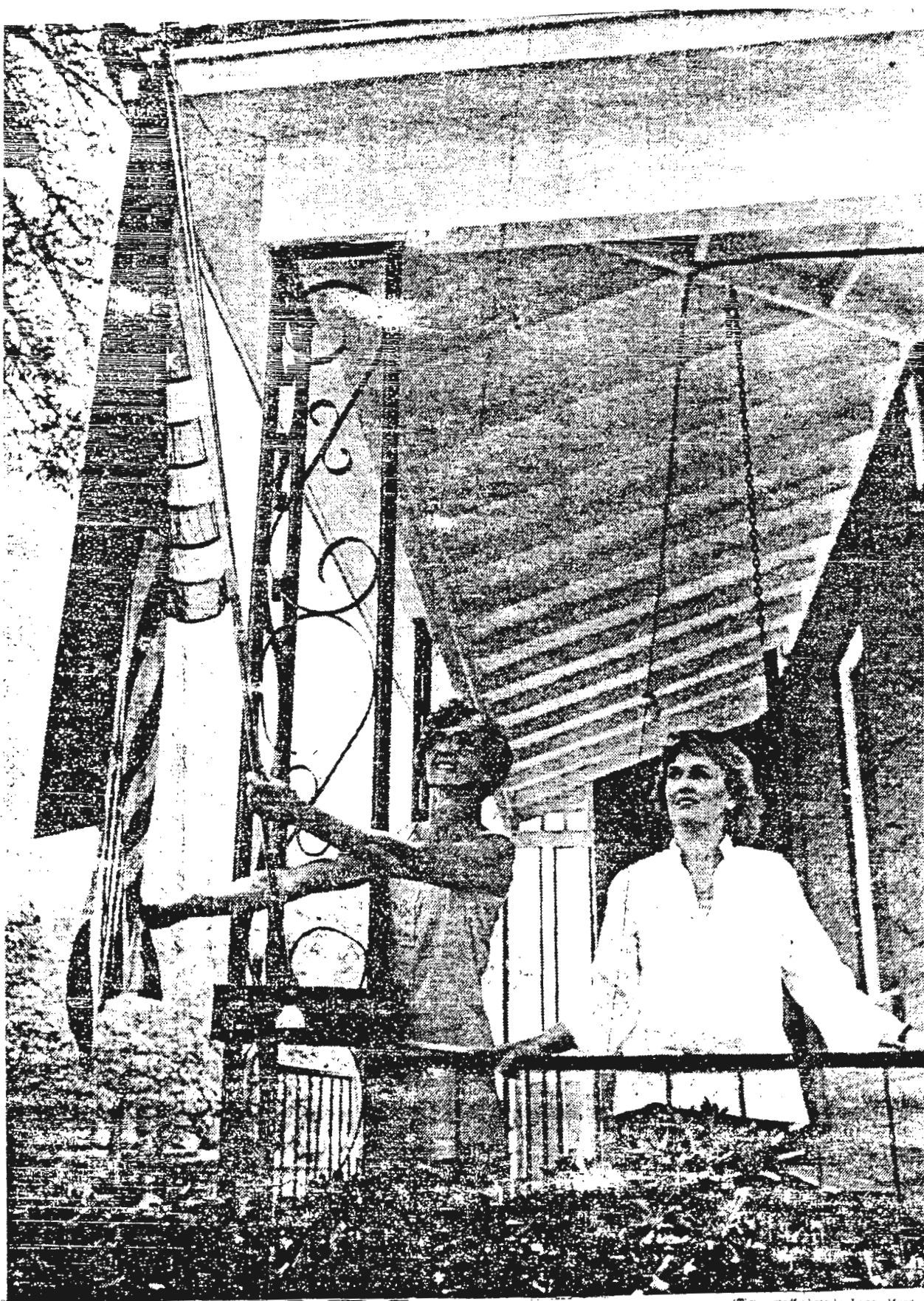
Bradley became beloved by the lowly dogfaces under his command because his mastery of military tactics kept the loss of life among the GIs at a minimum. To them he was "Brad" — although not to his face.

"Whether at Normandy, North Africa or Sicily, the Bradley command always meant good fortune for freedom's defenders," Reagan said in his tribute.

After the war, Bradley served as the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He left that post in 1958 and for the next 15 years was board chairman of the Bulova Watch Co. He remained honorary board chairman until his death.

Bradley's first wife, Mary Quayle, died in 1965 after 49 years of marriage. The following year he married Kitty Buhler, a screen writer whose television credits included "Dragnet," "The Untouchables," and "My Three Sons."

Besides his wife, Bradley is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth Bradley Dorsey, of Washington, D.C.



—(Times staff photo by Lance Murray.)
PATSY MCDONALD ADJUSTS A BLACK-RIBBON-DRAPED FLAG AT HER FORT BLISS HOME
... Neighbor Darlene Dorminey watches as Officers' Wives Club pay tribute to Gen. Omar Bradley

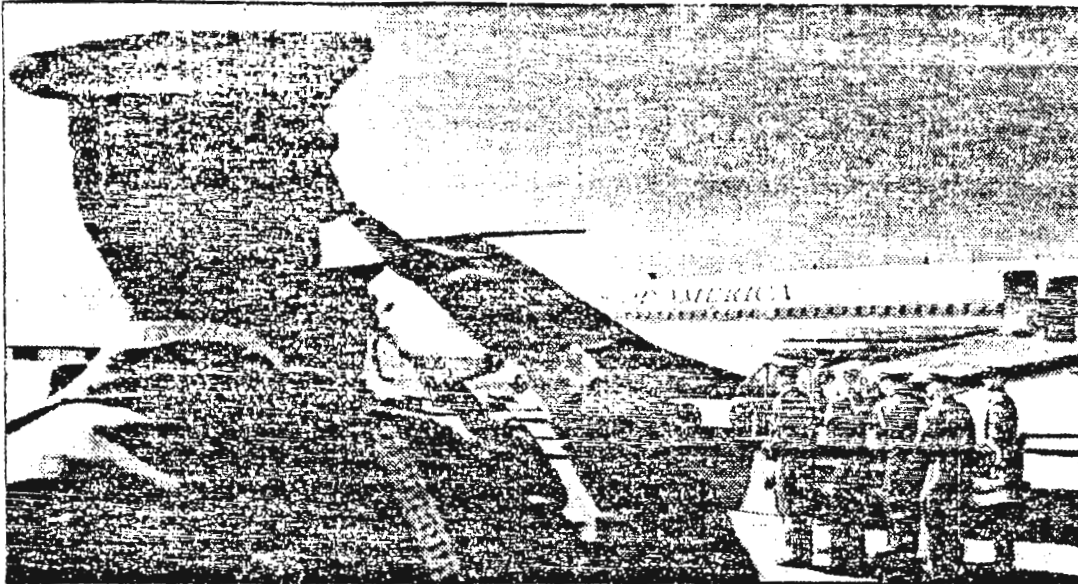
Omar Bradley returns home for final salute

General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley returned to El Paso Thursday to lie in repose at Fort Bliss. Bradley, 88, died Wednesday evening in New York City. At noon Friday, a 19-gun salute will be fired at Fort Bliss in Bradley's honor. A 19-gun salute and a eulogy by Fort Bliss Commander Maj. Gen. John Oblinger Jr. is scheduled Tuesday to coincide with Bradley's funeral at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va. Funeral in Washington will be at 1 p.m. EST Tuesday. Fort Bliss services will be at Howze Field, just north of Building 2 off Sheridan Road.



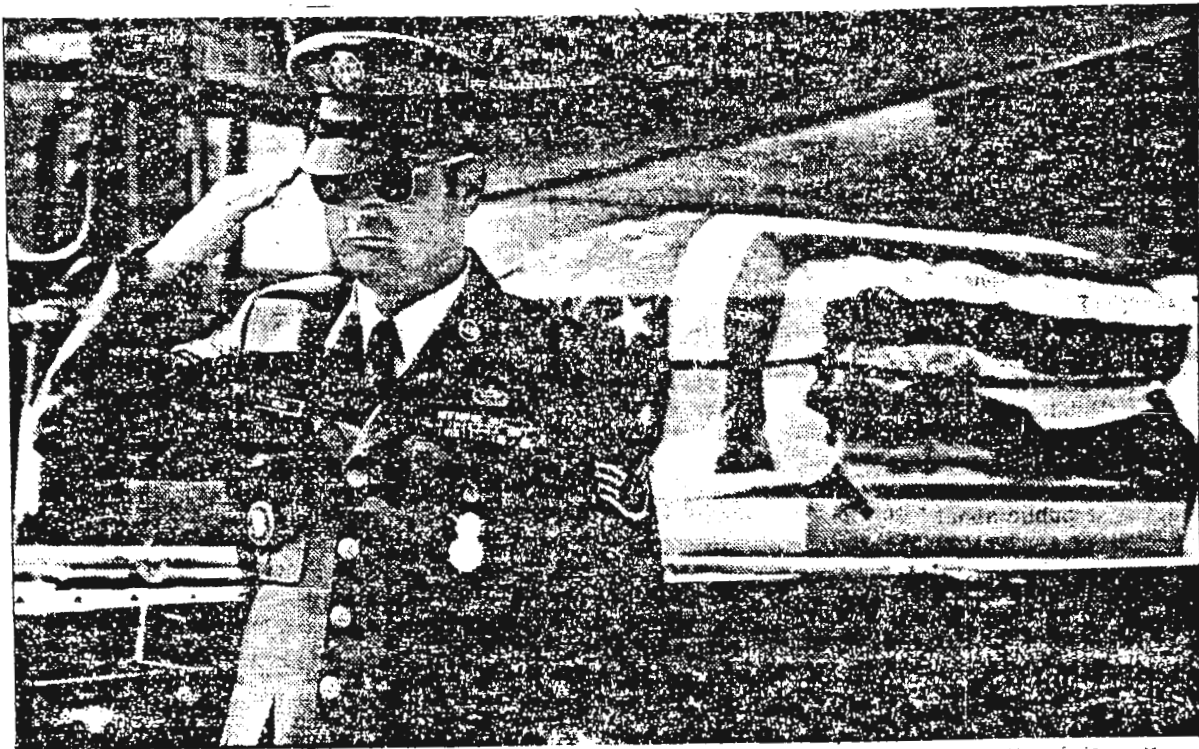
—Times staff photo by Lance Murray

KITTY BRADLEY RETURNS
... Escorted by Air Force Chief Master
Sgt. John Kelly and followed
by Maj. Gen. and Mrs. John Oblinger



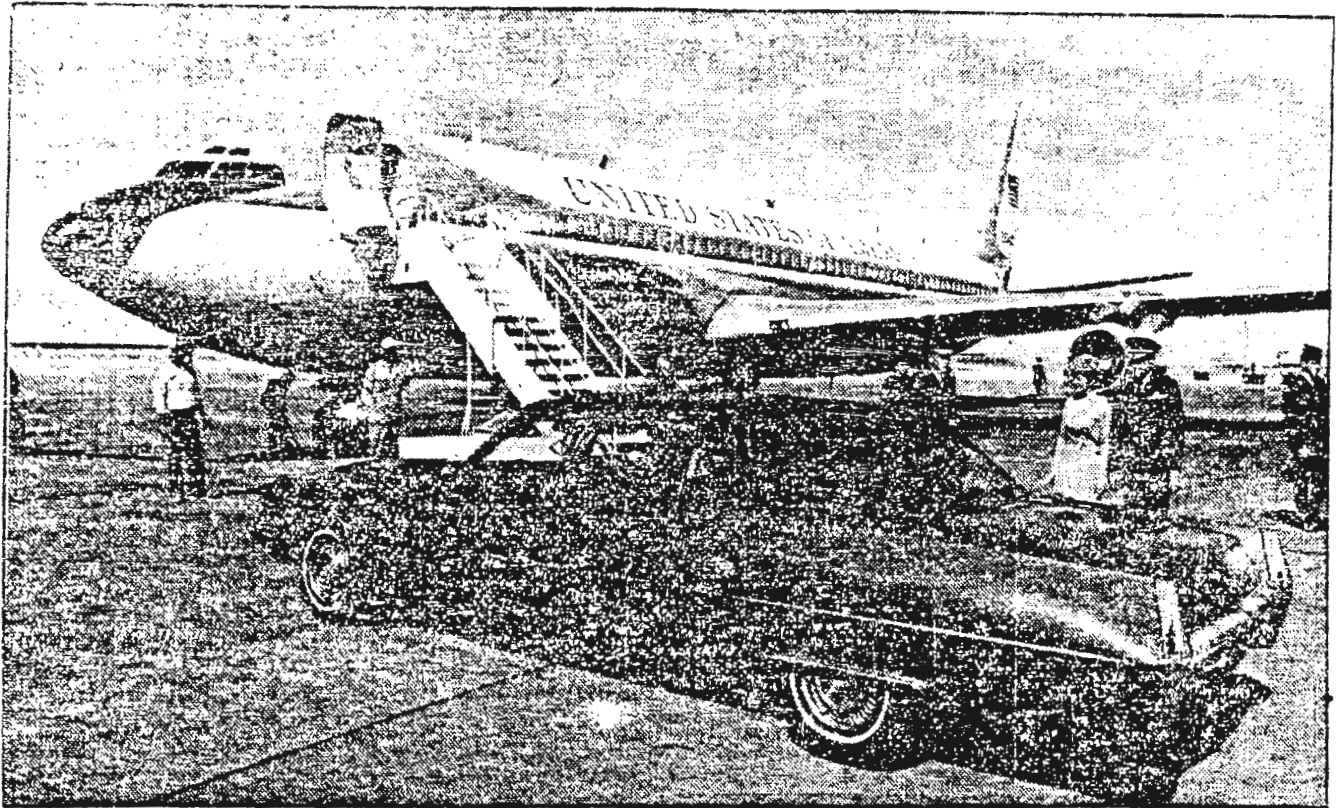
—Times staff photo by Lance Murray

TWO SOLDIERS SALUTE AS AN HONOR GUARD CARRIES CASKET
... Body of Gen. Omar Bradley was returned to El Paso Thursday



—Times staff photo by Lance Murray

CREW MEMBER OF PRESIDENTIAL JET GIVES BRADLEY FINAL SALUTE



—(Times staff photo by Lance Murray)

LIMOUSINE CARRYING MRS. BRADLEY PREPARES TO LEAVE THE PRESIDENTIAL PLANE.



ARMED FORCES HONOR GUARD PREPARES TO CARRY BRADLEY'S CASKET INTO CHAPEL NO. 1

—(Times staff photo by Joel Salcido)
AT FORT BLISS

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