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1893-1981



General of the Army Omar N. Bradley

There may never be another like him. Three months ago, he attended the inauguration of the new President, the 17th to hold office since he himself was born. He was in full uniform, the legs that had once borne him firmly on some of history's most illustrious occasions now rested in a wheelchair. It is doubtful, though, if any of those who danced the night away enjoyed themselves more.

This was "Brad"—General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley, at 88 the senior officer in the U.S. military services, who died on 8 April, 70 years after being sworn into the Army as a West Point plebe.

The last survivor of the tiny group of giants who wore five stars during and just after World War II, Gen. Bradley carried on an active public life until just a few months before he died of a heart attack in New York. He and his wife, Kitty, were never far away from his beloved Army. They lived in Quarters 1 in the old William Beaumont complex at Ft. Bliss, Tex., and since a General of the Army does not retire, he was on active duty until his death.

Besides being one of the truly great military leaders of his generation, "Brad," as he was called by intimates and referred to by the millions of GIs whose affection he cherished, was one of the most respected and best-loved public figures of our time.

Unassuming and modest to the point of self-effacement, he commanded more than 1.3 million combat troops, the largest body of American soldiers ever to serve under a single field commander, and he did so with brilliance. Directing a difficult group of subordinate commanders who manifested a varied assortment of temperaments, he drew upon their strengths and minimized their weaknesses.

Gen. Bradley will be remembered for many reasons—for his dedicated service to his country in peace and in war, for his superb work as a combat trainer and commander, for reaching the pinnacle of success in his profession, for personifying the best in

the typical American, and for excelling at all that he attempted.

"Bradley," Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower told Army Chief of Staff George C. Marshall, "is, in my opinion, the best rounded combat leader I have yet met in our service . . . he is among our best."

This he wrote from Algiers in September, 1943, when Bradley was a rather obscure corps commander who had just fought in the Sicilian campaign under George S. Patton Jr. Eisenhower was recommending Bradley for assignment to England to prepare the First U.S. Army for the Normandy invasion the following year. It was the most important decision to be made at the time, and the post required a man of skill, tact and, above all, sound military knowledge and judgment. As it turned out, Bradley more than fulfilled Eisenhower's perception of his promise and expectations of his capabilities.

Taking command of the First Army, Bradley also headed the 1st U.S. Army Group, which later became the 12th Army Group. In control of all the American combat units in the United Kingdom, he supervised their training programs, drew the plans for the American landings, worked well and easily with his British counterparts, subordinated himself gracefully to Bernard L. Montgomery, the Allied ground forces commander, and was responsible for the landings in the American zone—at Omaha and Utah Beaches.

If Eisenhower was the supreme director and coordinator for D-day, Bradley was his American executive agent, and Bradley's workmanship, intelligence and drive insured, in large measure, the success of that complex and risky venture.

"Overlord" was, no doubt, one of the high points in Bradley's career. But he was to reach higher peaks. After consolidating the beachhead in Normandy, he captured Cherbourg, the major port deemed so essential to meet the logistical demands of the campaign. When the battle of the hedge-

rows in July raised the specter of static warfare reminiscent of the trench fighting in World War I, Bradley formulated his plan called "Cobra."

He concentrated seven divisions under a single corps, called upon heavy bombers to give close ground support, and carried out the attack that broke and penetrated the German defenses in two and a half days.

Gen. Bradley at once recognized and appreciated what Cobra had done, and he acted immediately. Without stopping to pause or regroup, in the midst of a terribly complicated situation marked by fluidity and some inevitable confusion, although not disorder, he shifted the objectives of his units, swung into high gear and moved ahead for 30 miles, a surprisingly long advance.

Within a week he had reached Avranches, the base of the Cotentin peninsula and the open hinge leading to mobile warfare.

If Bradley had done nothing more, Cobra and its immediate exploitation would have given him an enduring place in the annals of field generalship. But more triumph lay ahead. Taking command of the 12th U.S. Army Group, Bradley gave Courtney H. Hodges the First Army and inserted Patton and his Third Army into the battle. Jockeying these contrasting personalities with skill, Bradley capitalized on the special qualities of each—Hodges the infantryman solid as a rock, Patton the tanker bursting with near-reckless ardor. Hodges contained the dangerous German Mortain counterattack, and Patton ran wild westward through Brittany and eastward to the Seine River.

The Argentan-Falaise pocket formed in conjunction with the British and Canadians produced about 50,000 German casualties, although many Germans escaped through the gap. As the two German field armies defeated in Normandy retreated toward the German border, the Allies pursued. By the early days of September, three months after D-day, the Allies had liberated most of



Besides his human qualities, Gen. Bradley will be remembered best for his brilliance as a leading architect of the Allied victory in Europe. Then a lieutenant general, he commanded the 12th Army Group in 1945 when this picture was taken of him with Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower (left) and Lt. Gen. George S. Patton Jr. (right).

France. That massive liberation had been triggered by Bradley's Cobra and sustained by his firm direction of the subsequent operations.

On 1 September, 1944, when Eisenhower took personal command of Allied ground forces, Bradley became co-equal with Montgomery, and both now served as army group commanders under Eisenhower. Later that month, Jacob L. Devers, moving from the south of France with American and French armies, came under Eisenhower's control and joined Bradley and Montgomery as another army group commander.

This was the team that gained victory in Europe. For Bradley, at least two more campaign highlights remained. When the Germans launched their Ardennes counteroffensive in December, broke through the First Army lines, and created the Bulge, Eisenhower re-drew the army group boundaries. He gave Montgomery control of the Anglo-American units on the northern shoulder of the Bulge, Devers a larger area to cover, and Bradley in the center the task of attacking the southern shoulder.

With Devers extended and Montgomery largely quiescent, Bradley carried out the

actions that turned the Germans back and prevented them from exploiting the surprise they had attained into a strategic victory. By defeating the Germans in the battle of the Bulge and in the fighting immediately following west of the Rhine River, Bradley made possible the relatively easy conquest of the enemy homeland in the spring of 1945.

East of the Rhine, Bradley commanded three U.S. field armies, Hodges', Patton's, and William H. Simpson's Ninth, which had earlier been under Montgomery. Striking quickly, Bradley surrounded the Ruhr, Germany's industrial region, then sent his victorious armies to overrun central and southern Germany, part of Austria, and the Pilsen area of Czechoslovakia to their historic meeting with the Russians along the Elbe and Mulde Rivers.

The quiet commander who eschewed personal flamboyance had engineered a remarkable feat of arms. He had directly managed and led more combat troops than any American before him, more than John J. Pershing, more than Ulysses S. Grant. His professional proficiency made his attainment seem easy.

gun at 13, he learned to hunt and became a deadly—later a legendary—marksman.

When his father died, Omar moved with his mother to Moberly, Mo., where he attended high school, captained the baseball team, and did physical labor for the Wabash Railroad in the summertime. He was determined to work his way through college until his Sunday school superintendent suggested the U.S. Military Academy, where education was free.

He entered the academy in August, 1911, worked hard at his studies, and and relished his associations with his class- and schoolmates. The Corps of Cadets numbered only 600 men, and Bradley came to know them well. He said many years afterward, "When I had to choose combat commanders, I made use of my knowledge of officers as cadets because they do not change too much. . . . In general, I think you can plan on a man having pretty much the same characteristics 30 years later as he had as a cadet."

Bradley was an outstanding athlete at West Point. During three years of varsity baseball, he was an exceptional batter. He

Where did he come from? How did he develop his capacities? What explains how this country boy with natural shrewdness and simplicity grew to a starring role on the center stage of world history?

He was born in the flat farmlands of Clark, Mo., the son of a schoolteacher-farmer, and his early life was the usual one for a farm boy. He kept the woodbox for the kitchen stove full of chips and kindling wood, the bucket full of water from the well; he helped milk the cows and feed the chickens. He led an orderly and rhythmic existence, plain and strenuous, and from his chores he learned the exacting demands of self-discipline.

From discussions with his parents at table, he came to understand the eternal values, love of country, right from wrong. From his father, who gave him a .22 when he was seven and a shot-



Gen. Bradley, known for his empathy with the front-line soldier, talks with a tank crew of the 34th Tank Battalion near Eupen, Belgium, in November, 1944.

hit for an average of .383. As an outfielder, his throwing arm was respected throughout college baseball circles. He played center on the football team and was a fine blocker and tackle. He continued to show his prowess with firearms as a sharpshooter.

He graduated 44th in the 1915 class of 164 men, and the yearbook, the *Howitzer*, predicted: "His most prominent characteristic is 'getting there,' and if he keeps up the clip he's started, some of us will some day be bragging to our grandchildren that 'sure, Gen. Bradley was a classmate of mine.'"

Nearly 20 men of that class, among them Eisenhower, would reach general officer rank in World War II, and Bradley would be the first to do so.

Assigned to the 14th Infantry, he remained in the United States during World War I, rising to the temporary rank of major before being reduced to captain in the postwar adjustments. He then performed ROTC duty at South Dakota State College, and in 1920 went to West Point for four years as an instructor in mathematics.

After graduating from the advanced course at the Infantry School at Ft. Benning, Ga., he conducted the National Guard and Reserve Affairs for the Hawaiian Islands. He then attended and graduated from the Command and General Staff School in 1929.

For four years, he was an instructor in tactics and weapons at the Infantry School, where he earned the respect and admiration of George C. Marshall. He graduated from the Army War College in 1934, then became instructor in tactics at West Point, later plans and training officer.

In 1938, he reported to Washington for general staff duty and was appointed assistant secretary of the general staff in the following year. In February, 1941, promoted at Gen. Marshall's recommendation from lieutenant colonel to brigadier general, he became commandant of the Infantry School.

At this point in his career occurred one of those curious historical junctures: he replaced Courtney Hodges who was to move up to be chief of infantry in Washington. Also at Ft. Benning at that time was George

Patton, commanding the 2nd Armored Division. For a short while, all three officers were together. Thus took place a foreshadowing of things to come in World War II. The difference was that Bradley at Benning was the junior officer; three years later he would be the immediate superior of the two others.

At Benning, Bradley set up the officer candidate program that eventually commissioned more than 45,000 combat leaders before the end of the war. Two months after Pearl Harbor, he took command of the 82nd Infantry Division, and in February, 1942, received a promotion to major general. Shortly thereafter, he was transferred to command the 28th Infantry Division in Louisiana.

George Patton sent Bradley a letter to congratulate him on his promotion. He added a telling comment, letting him know of his high regard for Bradley. "My dear Omar," Patton wrote, "during our service together [at Ft. Benning] I never was associated with anyone who more wholeheartedly and generously cooperated with everything we worked on together."

It is a striking testimonial from a man who was unsparing in his judgment of his contemporaries.

Early in 1943, Bradley went overseas to North Africa. His classmate Eisenhower had asked for him "to serve as my personal representative in a very broad capacity." In March, when Eisenhower relieved Lloyd R. Fredendall from command of the II Corps in Tunisia after the disastrous battle of Kasserine Pass and put Patton temporarily in command of the corps, Eisenhower



Cadet Omar N. Bradley, Class of 1915, U.S. Military Academy

148

made Bradley available to Patton, "for any duty you may desire."

A day later, Patton detailed Bradley to be his deputy corps commander. This was Bradley's introduction to combat. Without battle experience, he observed Patton's performance much in the manner of an understudy. With Bradley as his right-hand man and demonstrating an inherent flair of his own, Patton rehabilitated the ravaged II Corps and restored its morale in the attacks on El Guettar and Maknassy.

In the middle of April when Patton returned to Morocco to prepare for the invasion of Sicily, Bradley took his place at the head of the II Corps, his first operational command in wartime. He was an instant success, and triumph crowned his efforts during the final phase of the Tunisian campaign. While British troops entered Tunis, American units under Bradley took Bizerte.

Patton was high in his praise. "Please accept my most sincere congratulations," he wrote, "on your magnificent work. I am just as tickled as if I had been there myself. Everyone tells me what a magnificent job you have done. I spent yesterday with Ike who was loud in your praise, and I believe you will soon be promoted. I certainly hope you will, and in fact have ordered some stars for you."

To his wife a few days later, Patton wrote, "Omar did a swell job." Several weeks later in his diary he recorded, "Had a long talk with Bradley. He grows on me as a very sound and extremely loyal soldier."

Bradley's II Corps, part of Patton's Seventh Army, went ashore in Sicily in July, repulsed a dangerous German counterattack at Gela, drove from the southern shore across the middle of the island to the northern shore, turned east, and took Messina to bring the campaign to a close. Patton immediately wrote to Bradley "to make a permanent record," he said, "of my frequently expressed admiration for and appreciation of the magnificent loyalty and superior tactical ability you have evinced throughout the campaign of Sicily."

Several weeks afterward he said of Bradley, "I consider him among our better generals."

Launched upon his greatest endeavors, Bradley shone and sparkled, a jewel in a brilliant constellation of commanders in northwest Europe. He sustained his good relations with Patton, his former superior now his direct subordinate. He dealt successfully with the other *prima donna* in the theater, Field Marshal Montgomery. And, no doubt, he steadied Eisenhower and was no trouble or problem to him—as a matter of fact, he



General of the Army Omar N. Bradley was a great comfort to Eisenhower, who had nothing but praise for his steady and solid performance.

A four-star general by the end of the war, Bradley left Europe for Washington, where he took charge of the Veterans Administration, a vast \$8 billion agency. For two years during the critical postwar demobilization period, he directed its operation. "There is no [other] job I would rather have," he said, "none in which I would want to do better."

In February, 1948, Bradley succeeded Eisenhower as U.S. Army chief of staff. At that time of upheaval, of new pressures and organizations, of the formalization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Bradley contributed his usual steadfast and quiet competence to the solution of new problems.

In the following year, Bradley became the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs, a difficult position he filled for four years. He defined and stabilized the post and served during the dangerous years of the cold and Korean wars. It was Bradley who explained most succinctly why escalating the war in Korea was unsound—an expanded conflict on the Asian mainland, he said, would be "the wrong war at the wrong place at the wrong time and with the wrong enemy." His viewpoint proved eminently sane.

As chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Bradley received his highest honor, promotion to the five stars of general of the Army. The only military man to receive a fifth star after World War II, he joined the elite ranks of the legendary Army heroes of that war, Marshall, MacArthur and Eisenhower.

Although not retired, Gen. Bradley

went off active duty in 1953 after 43 years of active service, and, at the age of 65, became an executive of Bulova Watch Co., and in 1968 its chairman.

Gen. Bradley received the Association of the U.S. Army's highest award, the George Catlett Marshall Medal, in 1964 for "selfless and outstanding service to our country." Among his many other awards was the 1973 Sylvanus Thayer Award, the highest honor of the Association of Graduates at the U.S. Military Academy.

At both ceremonies a host of dignitaries paid tribute to "the GIs' General," America's only living five-star general. They all felt very much what Lt. Gen. Raymond S. McLain, the only National Guard officer to attain command of a corps in World War II, had said about Bradley 20 years earlier.

Bradley was, according to McLain, "a combat infantryman, still ramrod-straight, who has grown old in his country's service." To McLain, Bradley had "judgment, determination, tenacity, courage, daring and general analytical capabilities equal to that of anyone in the field, and he will compare favorably with the top generals of history."

Gen. of the Army Omar N. Bradley will be remembered for many reasons. Some of us will always think of him as we saw him on 5 and 6 June, 1974, at the ceremonies commemorating the 30th anniversary of D-day. Along the beaches of Normandy, where a persistently cold and clammy rain fell, he was the principal U.S. Army representative.

The official procession of cars visited the important points of the landings and the cemeteries of the combat dead nearby, the first day dedicated to the British and Canadian sites, the second to those of the Americans. Everywhere, at the luncheons and dinners and banquets, in the towns and villages along the coast, he quipped good-naturedly with children and adults who came to exchange a few words with him or to ask for his autograph. He was natural, relaxed, infinitely human.

And at each of the places where bands played, officials orated, and chaplains prayed, Gen. Bradley performed his role. In uniform, disdaining raincoat and umbrella, he stood, ramrod-straight and still youthful at 81 years of age. He carried an immense dignity that he wore lightly. His salute was dazzling and awesome.

As we looked at him, he made us all feel warm and proud, for he epitomized the humility and excellence and other fine qualities that have ever been the ideal of the American soldier and citizen. He was a great soldier and a great man.

MARTIN BLUMENSON

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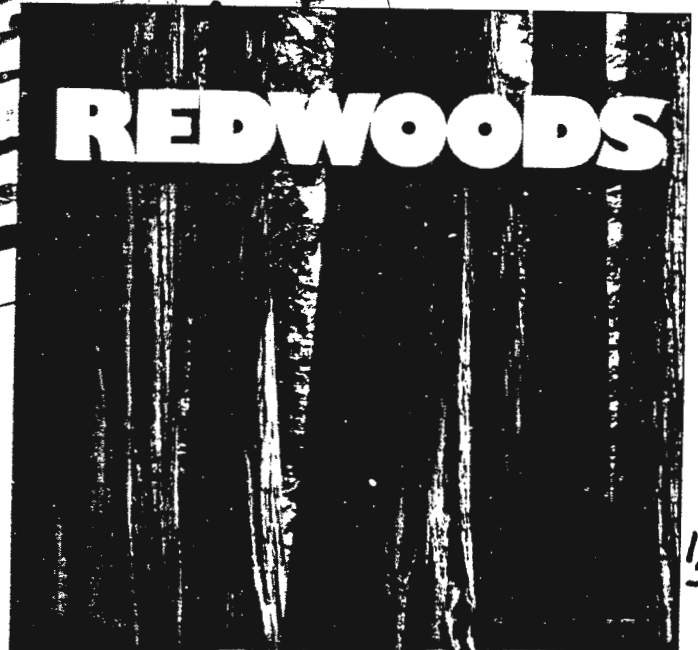
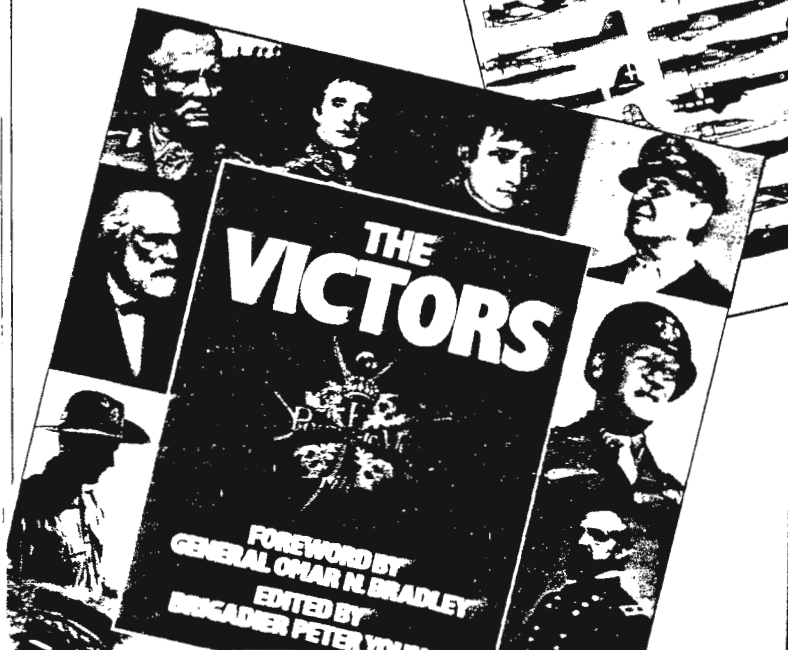
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150

— The El Paso Times

Saturday, April 25, 1961

Bradley tribute

General of the Army Omar Bradley was one of the greatest.

He knew how to give orders and see that they were carried out.

After World War II, I was back from the Pacific, where I had operated a combat laboratory in which one of our problems was malaria.

Also, at Galveston I had excellent training in parasitology.

Men were returning from the Pacific and were contracting malaria.

I had acquired a supply of Atabrine at the closed-down Marfa Army Air Field, where I did "sick-call." I made blood smears showing malaria.

I treated the men and sent the bill to the Veterans Administration but I got uniform replies: "We regret that this service cannot be paid for ..."

I heard Bradley on radio say that *all* malaria was to be classed as service-connected.

I wired him that this apparently did not apply in West Texas.

I began getting phone calls from Washington, Kansas City and San Antonio.

A delegation came to see my slides. Thereafter malaria was service-connected in West Texas.

—W.E. Lockhart
Alpine

A GI's late salute to General Bradley

By ELLIS O. BUTLER

I'm sorry that I never had an opportunity to apologize to General Omar Bradley for my thoughtless breach of military courtesy towards him. That must have been over 35 years ago, shortly after the World War II fighting in Europe ended.

That General Bradley was equally guilty of a lapse of military discipline did not excuse me.

Nor did the fact that I was back in the States awaiting discharge after serving in an Army tank division for four years — including one year of combat in Europe.

Looking back at it now, the average combat GI usually felt that except the buddies in his own outfit, there seemed to be only about three men overseas that cared about him or that he gave a hoot about.

One was Ernie Pyle, that slim, friendly, unassuming reporter who bypassed Army headquarters, the rear echelons, and the brass to get right down in the mud and grime and shellfire to talk with combat GIs and send their stories back to their hometown papers.

The second was Bill Mauldin who delighted the GIs with his all too true cartoons in the Stars and Stripes depicting the totally different way of Army life as lived by the combat soldiers and by the rear echelon forces.

guest columnist

And the third was General Omar Bradley. Our division served under his command for several months of training in England and almost one year of combat in Europe — except for a brief period during the Battle of the Bulge when the Germans' last ditch all-out attack into the allied lines left our outfit on the Northern flank of the bluge where General Montgomery was in command. We were all glad when the bulge was eliminated and we were back with General Bradley.

We had come to know him and like him while in training in England. He visited our armored division frequently — not staying at headquarters but coming on down to where the GIs were preparing for combat.

We had seen generals before. In the Scorching heat of Desert Training Center, General Patton, pearl-handled pistols and all, had assembled the entire division to pass before him, afterwards he stood us at attention while he harangued us on the joys of military discipline.

General Bernard Montgomery had visited us in England assembled the division to pass in review before him, and stood us in the driving rain while he lectured us petulantly on the glories of combat.

We had our fill of what we consid-

ered to be arrogant, overbearing high brass, eager to impress us with their own self-importance. But Omar Bradley was different — plain, soft-spoken, considerate, yet a brilliant strategist and a leader we respected and admired. The combat GIs considered him one of us.

With the coming of V-E Day the combat draftees were detached from the outfits they had served overseas in and shipped back home to reception camps to await discharge. Mine was near Boston, which I found to be filled with "home front" service personnel, long on sharp uniforms but short on actual war service. One afternoon while still awaiting my discharge papers — and still wearing my armored division uniform, I strolled along a Boston boulevard, happy to be almost out of the Army, somewhat scornful of all the rear echelon troops around me.

Suddenly I looked up and saw coming down the avenue towards me, an Army passenger car, bearing the flag and stars designating it to be the car of a general officer. And riding in the car, to my surprise and delight — General Omar Bradley! He was accompanied by several bemedalled aides and seemed as bored and out of place as I myself was feeling.

Without thinking I grinned and waved to him, forgetting completely that what I should be doing was saluting him.

When General Bradley saw me, to him just another one of a million soldiers, he suddenly grinned, too, pointed to my Spearhead armored division patch and waved back to me!

It seemed as though we were two bored soldiers suddenly spotting a fellow combat veteran and recognizing each other's wartime services. We both seemed genuinely glad to spot each other among the throng of rear echelon non-combat types. We never did salute each other as protocol called for. Just smiled and waved. And I never did get an opportunity to apologize to General Bradley. But I was it happened the way it did. I suspect Omar Bradley was, too.

This space is for guest columns on bits of humanity that make up everyday life; it's not for views on politics, economics or international affairs. Columns should be no more than 500-750 words. The author should include name, address and phone number on the manuscript. Authors of published columns will receive \$10. Columns should be mailed to Guest Column, News Features Department, El Paso Times, P.O. Drawer 20, El Paso, Texas 79999.

Mrs. Bradley considers making El Paso home

Mrs. Kitty Bradley, widow of Gen. Omar N. Bradley, hasn't made any firm decisions as yet, but she has given thought to making El Paso her home and has even looked at a house here.

Her priority now, is to finish documenting the general's memorabilia.

"I'm still working for the general," she said. "He left 70 years of history and mementos. The staff and I have been working around the clock. Every medal, trophy, plaque and all of his papers are being documented for shipment to the Omar N. Bradley Foundation at Carlisle Barracks, Pa. and to the Omar N. Bradley Library at West Point."

SHE SAID she'd not yet been able to get back to the many friends who've called since the death of her husband on April 8.

"I want to thank everyone," she said. "We did our best to answer by card. And some people have written 'thank you's' for the cards."

An archivist and appraiser are also going over the General's memorabilia.

Mrs. Bradley said she is thinking of finding a house here to make her home permanently. But she must first finish the task at hand.



"IT'S BACKBREAKING," she said. "I am devastated. I didn't know there was so much pain in the world. I see him everywhere, by his bed, by his chair. I think the place is haunted."

"The staff has been marvelous. They work long hours each day, and they have volunteered one of their two days off."

When she presented more than 90 of her scripts of her television, movie and stage works Thursday to the UT El Paso library in memory of her husband, she spoke of her writing career.

"WRITING IS LIKE religion," she said. "You find yourself in dual roles of spectator and participant, living each with increasing intensity."

She addressed some of the students attending the ceremony: "When this job (documenting the memorabilia) is complete, I want you to know as long as I am in this area, I shall be responsive to any professional questions any of you young writers may have."

Airsho '81 takes off in the Sun City

154

Amigo Airsho '81, a flying memorial to General of the Army Omar N. Bradley, will be presented 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Biggs Army Air Field. The memorial for Bradley begins at 12:30 p.m. Saturday.

Advance tickets are \$4.50 for adults, \$2.50 for children. They are available from El Paso Chamber of Commerce, El Paso Realtors, the Statesman Club of Surety Savings or by calling 542-1786. Admission at the gate will increase by 50 cents. Call 542-1786 for more information.

Saturday's acts will be repeated Sunday.

By **TAMARA CHAPMAN**
Times staff writer

When the clouds part Saturday morning for Amigo Airsho '81, daring pilots and their flying machines will attempt to lay to rest any idea that flying consists only of fastening seat belts and leaning back for a nap.

This show will have no room for the pacifying drone of 747 engines and no need for a flight attendant to awaken passengers to hand out pillows.

These flights are the kind that tingle the spine, tickle the stomach and spawn heroes.

"El Paso has never seen an air show like this," Sandi Pierce Melvin, the show's executive director, says. "We're bringing in the very top people from the U.S."

Working with a \$75,000 performance budget, Ms. Melvin and crew lined up a show featuring performers whose air-show experience totals at least 130 years.

Capt. Robert Crippen, a space shuttle astronaut, is scheduled to appear at the Saturday memorial service to Bradley.

Highlighting the acts is an appearance by the Confederate Air Force (CAF). Co-stars and supporting acts include a woman wingwalker, hot air balloon demonstrations, parachutists, aerobatic

and rocket demonstrations and educational displays.

CAF is the country's largest private air force and will present "Tora! Tora! Tora!" — a re-enactment of the Pearl Harbor bombing. CAF maintains an extensive collection of World War II aircraft — a flying museum of sorts — and uses these aircraft in nostalgic re-enactments of their historical roles.

Superstar of the CAF show is Fifi, a B-29 bomber that took extensive negotiating to obtain because non-government buyers are not allowed to purchase bombers.

Airsho president Richard N. Azar, who also is a colonel in CAF, says the Amigo Airsho was born from the longtime dream of many El Pasoans interested in CAF. These enthusiasts had worked to have CAF perform here and stir enthusiasm for this kind of organization in El Paso.

For those who delight in carnivals and circuses, the Airsho features the Eagles, a world-class aerobatic flight team.

The crew will perform stunts that would make the Wright Brothers, Amelia Earhart and Lindbergh turn over in their Cessnas.

One teammate, Charlie Hillard, is the first U.S. man to be named World Aerobatic Champion.

One especially unusual exhibit is Bob Bishop's acrojet air show. His Acrojet Special is billed as "the world's smallest jet" and is capable of flying straight up, straight down and backwards.

The plane is 12 feet long and weighs 432 pounds. In this tiny craft, Bishop performs his icing-on-the-cake stunt: The aircraft falls backward, tail first. As it descends, hidden for a short time in its trail of smoke, the plane slides and tumbles till the nose points to the earth. This leaves the pilot with no choice but to right the craft before it runs out of altitude.

One of the most sensational shows from

the air-show circuit is the wingrider. The Bob and Pat Wagner flying team will perform this stunt.

The Airsho also offers something for those who'd rather keep their feet and imaginations on terra firma: the "fastest car in the world." The automobile supposedly has attained speeds of 739.666 mph, and driver Stan Barrett will be on hand to make good the boasts.

Some of the air show's events now are history. May 13, as part of a promotional kickoff campaign, flautist Neal Weaver

and violinist Laurence Gibson recorded a small-scale symphony in the air.

KFIM-FM radio broadcast the program as the two musicians zoomed over the city in a Piper Cheyenne 1.

Then, May 16, the El Paso Community Foundation and El Paso Chamber of Commerce sponsored a paper airplane contest for children ages 4-12.

Twenty El Paso businesses have underwritten the air show, the proceeds of which will go to various military and El Paso charities, Azar says. □

THE EL PASO TIMES

FRIDAY, May 22, 1981

↓ Bradley Marker Proposed

Area officials are spearheading a drive to erect a memorial highway marker honoring the late General of the Army Omar N. Bradley. Moberly Mayor Don Schaffer, Higbee Mayor Carey Bankhead, and Clark Mayor Mike Barger are officially heading the movement.

Credit for launching the drive actually goes to Otho Lynch of Harrisburg. Mr. Lynch, an octogenarian who attended Howard County schools taught by John Bradley, the late General's father, is soliciting assistance for the project.

Preliminary ideas center on a memorial plaque being placed in the roadside park on U. S. Highway 63 south of its intersection with Missouri Route B at Clark. The plaque would be located there, spokesmen say, due to its proximity to the birthplace — halfway between Clark and Higbee just off Route B.

State Rep. Bill Markland is assisting in the project, and through his efforts a response has been received from Dr. Richard S. Brownlee, Director of the State Historical Society of Missouri. In a letter to local

sponsors Dr. Brownlee said. "We will be pleased to give staff and research assistance here to your group concerning a suitable and accurate legend. The size and form of a marker would depend upon the legend contemplated as well as funding."

Negotiations with the state highway commission are beginning as to their permission to erect a memorial at the park or other suitable site.

On VIEW

Ball to Inaugurate Gen. Bradley Fund

Turn out the red, white and blue—and also black tie. It's the annual Army Ball, set for June 13 at the Beverly Hills Hotel.

The ball, which raises money for ROTC programs, will be highlighted by the establishment of the Omar Bradley Scholarship Fund in honor of the late general. Mrs. Bradley will fly in from Texas for the dinner.

Set to attend are Zsa Zsa Gabor and husband Michael O'Hare, Martha Raye (she's an honorary lieutenant colonel), Gisele McKenzie and husband Robert Klein, Buddy Ebsen, Mr. and Mrs. Happy Franklin and Mrs. Frank Roger Seaver.

Special guest of honor is Gen. E. C. Meyer, the Army chief of staff.

"Glorious Heritage" will be performed by the 96 members of the Third Infantry Grand Old Guard of Ft. Meyer, Va.

★

parade

THE SUNDAY
NEWSPAPER
MAGAZINE
JUNE 7, 1981

Q. Gen. Omar Bradley, last of our five-star generals, who died this year — is it a fact that among the troops he was regarded as the most popular general of World War II? What was the secret of his popularity?
—Henrietta Lopez, Gila Bend, Ariz.

A. In World War II, Bradley came to be known as “the GI’s general” because he was modest and showed great compassion and concern for his men.



UPI

The late Omar Bradley

A PARADE reporter once asked him why he was so reluctant to wear his Distinguished Service Medal with three oak-leaf clusters, his Silver and Bronze Stars, and the rest of his many hard-won decorations. “You must be kidding,” Bradley replied. “Only Georgie Patton could get away with that.”

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The Prospector

Student Newspaper of The University of Texas at El Paso. El Paso, Texas

Thursday, June 11, 1981

'GI's General' remembered *Mrs. Bradley donates writings*

By Norma Sierra
Staff Writer

The widow of Gen. of the Army Omar N. Bradley donated copies of her husband's collected writings, copies of his White House correspondence and her own writings to the University Library.

Kitty Bradley, made her donation to the University last week, which also included two of his photographs and bound volumes of articles written about his life.

Fred W. Hanes, director of libraries, said, "Each of these items will be a very significant addition to our Military History Collection, where they will have an honored place."

Gen. Bradley's photographs will be framed and placed in the Marshall Room, in which the Military History Collection is exhibited.

Mrs. Bradley's gifts also include six volumes of the Collected Writings of General Omar N. Bradley, including speeches and letters; a five-volume set of articles written about him; and copies of 35 letters from nine U.S. presidents.

Thomas F. Burdett, director of the Marshall Military Collection, said that about 100 copies of the volumes donated were published. "We're very fortunate to have a copy of these. They will be indispensable to anyone doing research on Gen. Bradley."

Burdett said Bradley's White House correspondence includes 35 letters from all of the presidents since Franklin D. Roosevelt, including Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan.

Mrs. Bradley, an accomplished writer of more than 90 television scripts, also donated a collection of her manuscripts for screenplays and teleplays to the library.

The manuscripts include her treatment for "The Omar Bradley Story." Among the television scripts represented in her collection are "Petticoat Junction," "My Three Sons," "Dragnet," "The Untouchables" and "The Ray Milland Show."

Mrs. Bradley, who like her husband shys away from the media, is currently serving as consultant and research editor on a book about Gen. Bradley.

Gen. Bradley, the last of the five-star generals, died from a heart attack on

April 8, 1981 in New York City at age 88. He was buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Gen. Bradley graduated from West Point in 1915 and later became Army Chief of Staff in 1948. In 1950 he was



Gen and Mrs. Bradley

promoted to the rank of General of the Army.

Mrs. Bradley told the *Chicago Tribune Magazine* that Gen. Bradley, who was affectionately called "The GI's General," had a great concern for his men. She said: "My husband lost his only brother at age two. Then he had a stillborn son. Every man in uniform and every soldier and GI under his jurisdiction became those two boys. . . It was no accident that he fought constantly to keep those casualty figures down."

In December, 1977, Bradley and his wife moved to Fort Bliss, where he lived until his death.

Upon their arrival in Fort Bliss, Gen. Bradley was quoted as saying, ". . . that bugle call every morning is music to my ears. I have worn the uniform of our nation for more than 66 years. True, from time to time it has shrunk and I have received orders to get down to size, but large or small that uniform seems to feel just right."

"Mrs. Bradley and I know this is going to be a happy place for us," Bradley said. "El Paso is Sun City and the sun has shone on us every day since we have been here."