

EISENHOWER

By AP Newsfeatures



CADET. At West Point, Dwight Eisenhower got average marks, put in two seasons of football.

GENERAL DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER has come a long way since someone, while World War II was hot, first mentioned his name in the same breath as the presidency. "Baloney," was his reaction then.

Even until he retired from the army and from NATO command in Europe, the word was he would not campaign actively for the Republican nomination. But that ended at Abilene.

"Ike" always has been a competitor. He was a leading high school athlete at Abilene, a semi-pro baseball player, a half back at West Point, and a boxer and fencer. He took up golf at 37, won a pilot's license in his forties.

Born in Texas of a family of German ancestry that reached America in 1732, he obtained a West Point berth as a means of gaining a college education. He finished 61st in a class of 164 and an instructor wrote on his record "born to command."

In World War I he served in this country but got a medal for training tank corps troops. Afterwards in the Philippines he was chief of staff to General Douglas MacArthur.

Attracting the attention of General George Marshall in Louisiana troop maneuvers in 1941, his rise to command in Africa, Italy and the cross channel invasion was spectacular. He made hard decisions, obtained team play from his international army. Members of the German general staff rated him the greatest general of World War II for planning, daring and leadership.

It was his gift for leadership that got him the job of president at Columbia University, a job he left to organize NATO defenses in Europe.



HONORED. In Manila, 1939, wife pins Philippine medal on Lt. Col. Eisenhower.



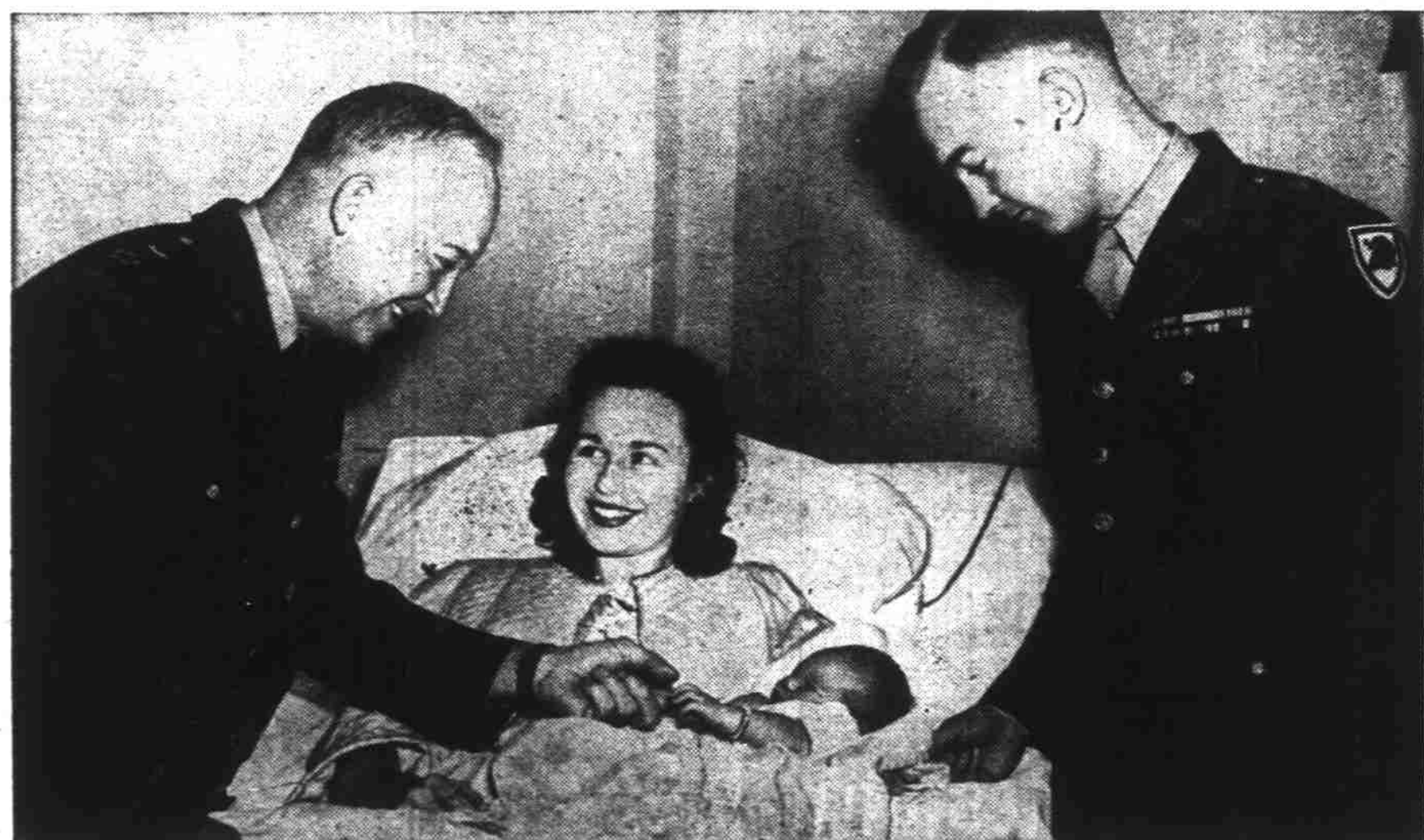
WORLD WAR II. General Eisenhower, Allied Supreme Commander, and General Mark Clark in Italy in 1944.



VICTORY SMILE. World War II boss in Europe returns cheers of New York crowd on his return in 1945.



"WELL, I'LL BE DARNED!" Ike getting the news that Gen. MacArthur had been relieved of his Far East command.



PROUD GRANDFATHER. Ike first sees his grandson, Dwight David II, when he visits his daughter-in-law at the West Point station hospital in 1948. Capt. John Eisenhower, father of the infant, looks on.



"CALL ME IKE." When asked once whether he should be called "General" or "President" as head of Columbia, Eisenhower replied: "So long as I live, I shall most readily answer to the name of Ike."



GOLFER. Ike swings clubs on Florida links. A late starter at this sport, he scores in 80's.



COLUMBIA'S PREXY. Ike arrives at Columbia University to be installed as its head on June 7, 1948.



GREETINGS! Eisenhower gets smiling welcome from New York's Governor Dewey, a backer, during campaign.