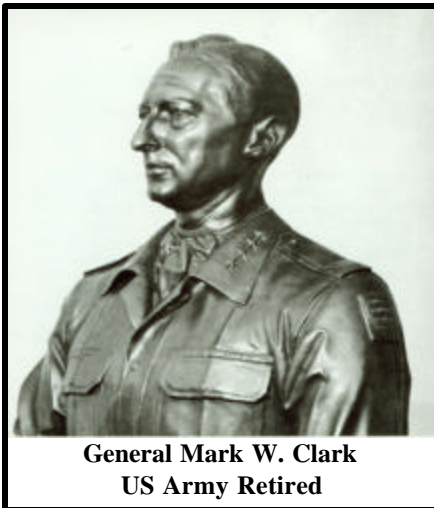




**Mark W. Clark Collection
The Citadel Archives & Museum
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Charleston, South Carolina 29409
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BIOGRAPHY

Mark Wayne Clark, General, United States Army, Retired, was born in Madison Barracks, New York, May 1, 1896. He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point and was commissioned a second lieutenant of Infantry in April 1917. He was promoted to first lieutenant May 15, 1917, and to captain August 5, 1917.



**General Mark W. Clark
US Army Retired**

Soon after he was promoted to captain, General Clark joined the 11th Infantry of the 5th Division in France, where he was wounded in action in the Vosges Mountains. He was assigned next to General Staff Headquarters, First American Army, and participated in the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne offensives and later served with the Third Army in Belgium and Germany.

After his return to the United States in 1919, General Clark was given various assignments including a Chautauqua circuit tour for the Adjutant General of the Army in 1921. He was assigned to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War from 1921 to 1924. He graduated from the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, in 1925. He then served three years at the Presidio of San Francisco with the 30th Infantry and from 1929 to 1933 was an instructor of the Indiana National Guard.

General Clark graduated from the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in 1935. He then served for a year as Deputy Chief of Staff for the Civilian Conservation Corps, VII Corps Area, at Omaha, Nebraska, before entering the Army War College. Upon graduation in 1937, he was assigned to Fort Lewis, Washington.

In March 1940, General Clark became an instructor at the Army War College. The following August he was named Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations of the General Headquarters, U.S. Army; in January 1942, became Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army Ground Forces; and in May 1942, was named Chief of Staff of that organization.

General Clark was assigned in June 1942 as Commanding General of the II Corps in England. The following month he was named Commander of the Army Ground Forces in the European Theater of Operations and in October 1942 became Deputy Commander in Chief of the Allied Forces in the North African theater.

In those capacities, General Clark laid the groundwork for a vast organizational, housing, and training program in the British Isles and played a leading part in planning the invasion of North Africa. In October 1942, shortly before the actual invasion, he made a dramatic and hazardous, but highly successful, trip by plane and submarine from London to French North Africa for a secret rendezvous with a group of French officers to arrange details of the proposed landings.

As Deputy Commander in Chief of the Anglo-American invasion forces, he flew from Gibraltar to Algiers on the day following the landings on November 9, 1942. He immediately took into protective custody Admiral Jean Francois Darlan. Admiral Darlan, who was in Algiers visiting his ill son, was Cabinet Minister in the German-dominated French Government at Vichy and Commander in Chief of all French Forces.

General Clark induced Admiral Darlan to repudiate the Vichy regime and order all French Forces in northwest and west Africa to cease resistance to the Americans and British. This order and the collaboration between the Anglo-American and French forces greatly facilitated the conquest of North Africa by the Allied powers.

In January 1943, General Clark was designated Commanding General of the Fifth Army, the first American army to be activated in the European theater. With his headquarters in Oujda, North Africa, General Clark spent the next seven months directing the training of the American and French troops which composed the Fifth Army. He established infantry and amphibious bases on African soil and coordinated activities of ground, sea, and air forces in planning the successful amphibious invasion of Italy on September 9, 1943.

General Clark's Fifth Army captured Naples on October 1, 1943. On January 22, 1944, more elements of the Fifth Army were landed in a flanking movement at the seaside resorts of Anzio and Nettuno about 30 miles south of Rome. Here a strong beachhead 20 miles long and eight miles deep was established, making possible a junction with the troops advancing from the south. After weeks of bitter fighting, the American Fifth and British Eighth Armies launched a new offensive on May 11, 1944 forcing a German withdrawal. On June 4, 1944 the Fifth Army captured Rome, the first Axis capital to be liberated from the enemy. Two weeks later the Fifth Army had advanced 100 miles.

Early in December 1944, General Clark was placed in command of the 15th Army Group, consisting of the Fifth (U.S.) and Eighth (British) Armies, and comprising all fighting forces in Italy. He held that command until the close of hostilities in Europe.

On April 9, 1945, the 15th Army Group launched an offensive from the mountain positions south of Bologna that broke through into the Po valley and terminated in May 1945 when, at Brenner Pass, Col. General Von Vietinghoff, German Commander-in-Chief, Southwest, formally surrendered the 230,000 German troops in Italy and in the Austrian provinces of Tyrol, Verarlberg, Salzburg, and parts of Carinthia and Styria. This was the first large-scale surrender of any German field command in Europe and terminated the war in Italy four days ahead of the end of hostilities in Western Europe.

In June 1945, General Clark was appointed Commander in Chief of the U.S. Occupation Forces in Austria and U.S. High Commissioner for Austria. As U.S. High Commissioner in Austria, General Clark was the United States member of the Allied Commission for Austria, made up of representatives of the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, and France, and served as the supreme administrative authority in that country. In that capacity, he rendered distinguished service in helping feed the people, restore and maintain order in Austria, weed Nazi elements from public office, and prepare the country for independent, democratic self-government. In 1947, he was deputy to the U.S. Secretary of State and sat in London and Moscow with the Council of Foreign Ministers negotiating a treaty for Austria.

On June 19, 1947, General Clark assumed command of the Sixth Army, with headquarters at the Presidio of San Francisco, California. He was appointed Chief of Army Field Forces at Fort Monroe, Va., in September 1949.

General Clark was appointed Commander in Chief, Far East Command, on April 30, 1952, and assumed office on May 12, 1952, serving simultaneously as Commander in Chief, United Nations Command; Commanding General, United States Army Forces, Far East; and Governor of the Ryukyu Islands.

On July 27, 1953, General Clark signed a military armistice agreement between the United Nations Command and the military commanders of the North Korean Army and the Chinese People's Volunteers at Munsan-ni, Korea.

On October 7, 1953, General Clark relinquished his posts as Commander in Chief, Far East and United Nations Commands, Commanding General, U.S. Army Forces, Far East and Governor of the Ryukyu Islands. At his own request, General Clark retired from the military service on October 31, 1953 in Washington, D. C.

General Clark accepted the presidency of The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, in Charleston, S. C. on October 23, 1953. He assumed office on March 1, 1954, and was inaugurated on March 19, 1954. In the summer of 1954, he was appointed by Herbert Hoover to the position of chairman of the task force to

investigate the Central Intelligence Agency and other intelligence organizations of the United States Government.

On June 30, 1965, General Clark retired from the presidency of The Citadel at his own request. On July 1, 1965 General Clark became president emeritus of the college.

General Clark was married to Maurine Doran, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Doran of Muncie, Ind., May 17, 1924. Mrs. Clark died October 5, 1966. Their son is Maj. William Doran Clark, U.S.A. (Ret.), and their daughter Patricia Ann (Mrs. Gordon H. Costing) died November 27, 1962. He married Mrs. Mary Mildred Applegate October 17, 1967. Gen. Clark died April 17, 1984. He is buried on The Citadel Campus between The Summerall Chapel and Mark Clark Hall.

DECORATIONS

General Clark has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and the Distinguished Service Medal with three Oak leaf Clusters, Navy Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with "V" for valor, and Purple Heart. His foreign decorations include the British Honorary Knight of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath; the British Honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire; The French Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor, Grand Officer of the Legion of Honor, Commander of the Legion of Honor and Croix de Guerre with Palm (2 times); Russian Military Order of Suvarov, First Degree; Brazilian Order of the Southern Cross {Degree of Grand Officer), Order of Military Merit, Medal of War, and Campaignic Cross; Czechoslovakian Order of the White Lion for Victory (First Class) and Military Cross of 1939; Polish Order of Virtuti Militari (Fifth Class); Italian Grand Cross of the Military Order of Savor, Military Order of Italy (Degree of Grand Officer), Knight of the Grand Cross, Grand Cordon of the Order Sts. Maurice and Lazarus, and Silver Medal for valor; Moroccan Grand Cross of the Order of Ouissam Alaoute Cherifien (First Class); Maltese Order of Malta (Cross of Merit First Class); Belgian Order of the Crown, Rank of Order of George I with Swords; Philippine Legion of Honor (Degree of Commander); Japanese Grand Cordon of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun; and the Republic of Korea Order of Taeguk with Gold Star.

PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to first lieutenant May 15, 1917; to captain Aug. 5, 1917; to major Jan. 14, 1933; to lieutenant colonel July 1, 1940; to brigadier general Aug. 4, 1941; to major general Aug. 17, 1942; to lieutenant general Nov. 11, 1942; to general March 10, 1945.

DEGREES

B.S., U.S.M.A., West Point, 1917; Hon. Dr. Pol. Science, University of Naples, 1943; University of Vienna, 1947; Hon. D.C.L., Oxford, 1945; Hon. D.Sc., University of Florence, 1946; Hon. LL.D., Oberlin College, 1947; University of Southern California, 1949; University of San Francisco 1949; Pennsylvania Military College, 1951; University of South Carolina, 1954; University of Akron, 1954; Loyola University of Chicago, 1955; Belmont Abbey College, Belmont, N. C., 1965; Butler University of Indianapolis, 1955; and The Citadel, Charleston, S. C., 1966; Hon. Litt.D., Clemson College, Clemson, S. C., 1960; Hon. D. Hu.L., Newberry College, Newberry, S. C., 1965.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The dedication ceremony for the formal opening of The General Mark W. Clark Manuscript Collection and The Citadel Archives was held on November 12, 1966. Gen. Clark's official and personal correspondence, diaries, documents, speeches, films, photographs, clippings, manuscripts cover the period from 1916 – 1984 and comprise approximately 200 linear feet. The material relates to Gen. Clark's military career in World War II, Austria and Korea and his presidency of The Citadel. The bulk of the material pertains to General Clark's commands in World War II. Much of the collection is described at the item level in card catalogue format. For an overview of the collection, please see the following *Finding Aid- Table of Contents* pp. 6-7.