

Immensely Helpful, Says Candidate

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Eisenhower Endorses Nixon

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By Ward Just

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General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower endorsed Richard M. Nixon for the Presidency yesterday, praising his "intelligence and integrity" and declaring that Nixon's nomination and election "would serve the best interests of the United States."

The 77-year-old former President, recuperating from his fifth heart attack at Walter Reed Hospital here, told reporters that "I don't think my personal endorsement will be a decisive thing." But Nixon, eight years Eisenhower's Vice President and the beneficiary of his endorsement in 1960, described Ike as a "revered figure" and his backing as "immensely helpful" and "a real lift."

New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller, Nixon's rival for the Republican nomination, demurred. He said in Dayton, Ohio, that since Gen. Eisenhower's grandson, David, was marrying Nixon's daughter, Julie, "it would be very embarrassing for him (Nixon) if he didn't" endorse. Anyway, Rockefeller went on, "the delegates are interested in two things — picking someone who can do a job for this country and a winner."

The former President, who spoke with six newsmen at Walter Reed, described as a "complete misapprehension" reports that he did not think highly of Nixon's abilities and that they were not close

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Eisenhower on Nixon: 'I have admired . . . this man.'