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GENERAL'LY SPEAKING

May 23-27, 2016

Dispatches From
The Eisenhower Memorial Commission

Memorial Day 2016: Remember the Sacrifice

Monday, May 30 is Memorial Day. We honor and remember all those who paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving in our nation's armed forces. On Memorial Day 1958, President Eisenhower presided over the interment of the Unknown Soldiers of World War II and the Korean War in Arlington National Cemetery. Eisenhower had previously signed the legislation to select and pay tribute to the Unknown Soldiers representing these wars.



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President Dwight David Eisenhower laid the wreath at the [Tomb of the Unknown Soldier](#) as the remains of the World War II and Korean conflict unknowns were laid to rest, Arlington Cemetery, May 1958, image courtesy of the [Old Guard](#)

Each of you - and of course as a body collectively - occupies a very special place in the admiration and in the affections and respect of America. You have offered on the field of battle the very most that can be offered in defense of those ideals and those principles on which America stands.

- Dwight D. Eisenhower,
Remarks to Congressional Medal of Honor Winners, May 30, 1958

Hail, EMC Advisory Committee Members

The Commission welcomes two new members to the Eisenhower Memorial Advisory Committee: C. Boyden Gray and Erskine Bowles.

Mr. Gray served in the White House during the Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush administrations and served as the Ambassador to the European Union under the George W. Bush administration.



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Join us in honoring and celebrating Ike's life and legacy by memorializing him in our Nation's capital.

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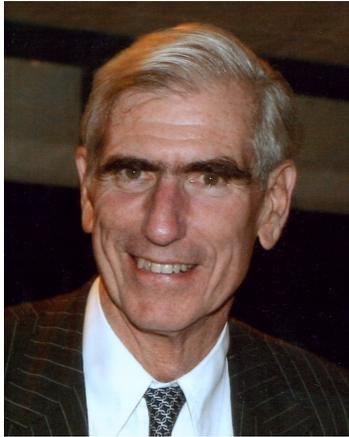
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Mr. Bowles served as White House Chief of Staff during the Bill Clinton administration, as President of the University of North Carolina, and later as Chairperson of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform under the Barack Obama administration.

The [Advisory Committee](#) consists of dozens of distinguished Americans, including all four former U.S. Presidents, who are dedicated to ensuring that a national memorial honoring General and President Eisenhower is constructed in Washington, D.C.



Ambassador C. Boyden Gray



Erskine B. Bowles

Ike In History

On May 27, 1909, Eisenhower graduated from Abilene High School. The school's yearbook predicted he would become a professor of history at Yale, while his brother Edgar was predicted to become President. After two years of working at the Belle Springs Creamery to help pay for his brother's tuition, Eisenhower would leave Abilene to attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Learn more about his formative years in Abilene and his decision to attend West Point in the E-Memorial Pivotal Moment film, [West Point: A Life in Service to His Country](#).

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David Eisenhower

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[VIDEO - West Point, 1911](#)

At age 20, Eisenhower left his hometown of Abilene, Kansas, for the United States Military Academy at West Point, the first step in what was to be a long and distinguished military career.

Test Your Ike'spertise!

Trivia Question: True or False, the U.S. Military Academy at West Point was Eisenhower's first-choice college?

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Ike in Chicago on his way to West Point

He was instructed to report to West Point in June 1911 as a member of the class of 1915 - later known as "the class the stars fell on," June 9, 1911, image courtesy of the [Eisenhower Presidential Library](#)

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Trivia Answer:

False, Ike's preference was to attend the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis but was ineligible due to the twenty year age limit - Ike was 21 at the time of enlistment.

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