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GENERAL 'LY SPEAKING

Week of December 17, 2018

Dispatches From
The Eisenhower Memorial Commission

Holiday Greetings from EMC





As the holiday approaches and we prepare to gather with friends and family to reflect on the many blessings of 2018, we would like to acknowledge and thank all those who have pledged their support to Ike's Memorial. We are grateful for all that you do and wish you and your families a warm holiday season and all the best for 2019!

Your contributions have made it possible for us to move ever closer to completing the National Eisenhower Memorial in the heart of our nation's capital. Memorial [construction](#) is well under way - on schedule and on budget. Mark your calendars for the dedication on May 8, 2020.

Donate now at [Pay.Gov](#) to make an online contribution and join the many patriotic Americans, multi-national corporations, foreign nations and elementary school students in honoring this great American, Dwight D. Eisenhower. All donors are prominently recognized on our [Virtual Donor Wall](#).

Ike's Timeless Legacy

On December 19, 1958, President Eisenhower became the first person whose voice was ever transmitted through space. Originally, the satellite was supposed to play a test message but at the last minute (unknown to the media, Congress, and the Pentagon) Eisenhower surprised the nation with a Christmas message. This may seem mundane in today's modern era of texting and tweeting, but at the time, Eisenhower's message marked the onset of a new era in communication technology - one that would enhance the connectedness of people across the world and pave the way for Eisenhower's more enterprising space projects.

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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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"This is the President of the United States speaking. Through the marvels of scientific advance, my voice is coming to you from a satellite circling in outer space. My message is a simple one. Through this unique means, I convey to you and to all mankind, America's wish for peace on earth and good will towards men everywhere."

- President Eisenhower, a pre-recorded message broadcast from aboard the world's first communications satellite was the first voice to be transmitted across space, December 19, 1958



[VIDEO] [Space Race, 1958 - Launching America's Era of Space Exploration](#)

Listen to the recording and learn more about Eisenhower's role in the creation of NASA in the [Space Race Pivotal Moment](#) film featuring an interview with the late Senator and American hero, John Glenn.

Test Your Ike'xpertise

Trivia Question: On December 17, 1954, President Eisenhower spoke of the hope and need for lasting peace before lighting the National Christmas Tree. He affirmed, "Even at this happy season, we dare not forget crimes against justice, denial of mercy, violation of human dignity.... Neither dare we forget our blessings." In addition to his speech, the evening included a life-size nativity scene for the first time and Santa Claus, who arrived in his sleigh driven by reindeer. What institution broadcasted the Pageant for Peace to the world in thirty-eight languages?

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- A. United States Information Agency
- B. British Broadcasting Corporation
- C. Radio Free Europe
- D. Voice of America

(see answer below)



*President Eisenhower faces the National Christmas Tree at the Pageant for Peace ceremony in Washington, December 23, 1960
Image courtesy of the Associated Press*

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Trivia Answer: D. Voice of America (VOA)

President Eisenhower relocated the VOA headquarters to its present site on Independence Avenue in 1954. It will be adjacent to the Eisenhower Memorial. To learn more about the Voice of America and other neighbors to the Eisenhower Memorial, visit us [here](#).

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