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GENERAL 'LY SPEAKING

Week of May 20, 2019

Dispatches From
The Eisenhower Memorial Commission

Last But Not Least: Final Beam Installed

Last week the Eisenhower Memorial construction team celebrated the installation of the fifth (and final) beam that spans the 435' colonnade. Collectively, the beams will support the cable net system from which the woven stainless steel tapestry will be suspended. Tapestry panels are being shipped from the fabrication warehouse in Los Angeles and will begin to arrive on site over the course of the summer. You can follow the installation progress via our [live construction camera](#).



Countdown to Dedication

353

DAYS

- MAY 8, 2020 -

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Above: The construction team poses on the final beam before being hoisted into place

Left: EMC Deputy Executive Director, Victoria Tigwell, adds her signature to the end of the beam alongside those of the construction team

Right: The impressive length of the box beams range from 85'-90'

Washingtonian's Photo of the Day



Make a Contribution

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

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Appointment Pending

Eisenhower Memorial, May 15, 2019, 7:17 AM, Washington, DC

In case you missed it, *Washingtonian* staff photographer Evy Mages captured this AWESOME shot of the memorial last week. You can check out her full diary of photos [here](#).

Ike's Timeless Legacy



In honor of May being [Asian Pacific American Heritage Month](#), we would like to recognize the bravery and service of Hiroshi H. “Hershey” Miyamura. Miyamura, a second-generation Japanese-American, served in both World War II and the Korean War.

As World War II was beginning, he and his family were sent to internment camps. Miyamura wanted to prove his loyalty and voluntarily joined the Army

in 1945 at age 18. He was part of the all-Nisei 100th Infantry Battalion, 44th Infantry Regiment, which was an all-volunteer group of Japanese Americans from the internment camps. After the war ended, he was discharged and enlisted in the Army Reserve.

In November 1950, Miyamura voluntarily rejoined active duty to serve in the Korean War. He lead Company H, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, which was a machine gun squad. On the night of April 24, 1951, while on a mission to protect Seoul, South Korea, Miyamura and his squad were ambushed by thousands of Chinese soldiers. Miyamura bravely ordered his men to fall back while he stayed behind to cover their retreat - sacrificing his own safety for that of his squadron. He was ultimately captured and forced to endure 28 months of harsh conditions in a Prisoner of War camp.

Approved by President Truman for his "[indomitable heroism and consummate devotion to duty](#)," Miyamura was awarded the Medal of Honor. However, for his safety and to avoid more conflict with China, it remained classified until his release on August 20, 1953. Following his repatriation to the United States and his honorable discharge from military service, President Eisenhower presented him the Medal of Honor on October 27, 1953, in the White House.

Monday, May 27 is Memorial Day. As we reflect on Miyamura's military service and devotion to country, let us remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice while serving in our nation's armed forces.

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President Dwight Eisenhower congratulates Korean War veteran Army Staff Sgt. Hiroshi H. Miyamura after presenting him the Medal of Honor, October 1953



“Whereas Memorial Day each year serves as a solemn reminder of the scourge of war and its bitter aftermath of sorrow; and Whereas this day has traditionally been devoted to paying homage to loved ones who lie in hallowed graves throughout the land... I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Memorial Day, Monday, the thirtieth of May, 1955, as a day of Nation-wide prayer for permanent peace”.

– President Eisenhower,
Prayer for Peace, Memorial Day, 1955

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On May 31, 1952, General Eisenhower (at his own request) was relieved of command as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and retired from active military service. What prompted his retirement?

- A) Artistic Pursuits
- B) U.S. Army Mandatory Retirement Age
- C) 1952 Presidential Campaign
- D) Desire to Retreat to the Gettysburg Farm

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Memorial Designer

Nick Benson
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visit our [virtual donor wall](#).

Trivia Answer: C) 1952 Presidential Campaign

In order to campaign for the office of the Presidency, Dwight Eisenhower resigned his permanent commission as General of the Army. On March 24, 1961, President Kennedy signed a bill restoring the 5-star rank of General of the Army to President Dwight D. Eisenhower. With the exception of George Washington, Eisenhower is the only United States President with military service to reenter the Armed Forces after leaving the office of President.



[VIDEO]
[Winning The Presidency, 1952: Daring All For Our Country](#)

Learn more about Eisenhower's path to the presidency through the E-Memorial Pivotal Moment film [Winning the Presidency](#).

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