Commemorating the 73rd Anniversary of D-Day
On Tuesday, EMC hosted an event to commemorate the 73rd anniversary of D-Day, the Allied invasion of Normandy, and celebrate the Eisenhower National Memorial. Our sincere gratitude to Altria and Mr. Rick Hohlt for making this evening possible. EMC Chairman Senator Pat Roberts spoke about our progress, noting "The Eisenhower Memorial is shovel-ready. We're ready to roll." The keynote speaker was Bret Baier, Fox News Chief Political Anchor and Host of Special Report with Bret Baier, and author of The New York Times best-selling, Three Days in January: Dwight Eisenhower's Final Mission. Baier reflected on the solemnity of the occasion as we remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in defending freedom on the beaches of Normandy and beyond, and enlightened the audience with stories about General Eisenhower's leadership in the planning and execution of D-Day. Acknowledging that every day we lose upwards of 550 World War II veterans, Baier urged the audience that we must build the Memorial as soon as possible. By breaking ground in the fall, the Eisenhower National Memorial can be dedicated by 2020, the 75th anniversary of victory in World War II.

Check out all the event photos in our Facebook album.

Honoring America's Greatest Wartime General and Peace-time President: Now is the Time

As we reflect on the heroism of D-Day this week, here's a take on what the Eisenhower Memorial means to a World War II combat-decorated veteran. In this piece for The Washington Times, Senator Bob Dole, EMC Finance Campaign Chair, looks forward to a national memorial in Washington for General and President Eisenhower. Now more than ever is the time to build the Memorial saluting our Greatest Generation.

The Washington Times
Honoring a general and a president

Looking toward the memorial to Dwight Eisenhower

By Bob Dole — Sunday, June 4, 2017

ANALYSIS/OPINION:

Click to read Dole's article.

Join us in making it a reality. 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: Special D-Day Edition

Appropriately, the D-Day invasion of Normandy is prominently featured in the Eisenhower National Memorial as the day that transformed Ike into both a national and global hero. D-Day, and Eisenhower's pivotal role in its planning and execution, will be portrayed throughout the Memorial from its prelude through its legacy today.

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Gen. P. X. Kelley, USMC (Ret.)
The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to Victory!

- General Eisenhower's D-Day "Order of the Day," June 6, 1944
  (portion of excerpt to be inscribed on the Eisenhower National Memorial)

A bronze sculpture grouping memorializing Eisenhower as General depicts him with the troops of the 101st Airborne Division, inspired by the iconic photo of the Supreme Commander's visit with the paratroopers on the eve of D-Day before their jump into France.

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Behind the sculptures is a bas relief depicting scenes of the beach landings in Normandy on June 6, 1944. Above the bas relief, a quotation from Eisenhower's "Order of the Day," which each soldier received, will be inscribed onto a stone lintel block. Finally, serving as a backdrop to the memorial core, a stainless steel tapestry depicts the Normandy coastline in peacetime as seen today, reminding us of Eisenhower's greatest legacy as the warrior who fought for peace. An excerpt from Eisenhower's Guildhall Address in London following World War II, inscribed on the back side of the bas relief stone block, expresses this pursuit of peace from the ashes of the destruction of war in his own words.

Humility must always be the portion of any man who receives acclaim earned in the blood of his followers and the sacrifices of his friends. The only attitude in which a commander may with satisfaction receive the tributes of his friends is a humble acknowledgement that, no matter how unworthy he may be, his position is a symbol of great human forces that have labored arduously and successfully for a righteous cause.

- General Eisenhower, Guildhall Address, London, June 12, 1945
  (portion of excerpt to be inscribed on the Eisenhower National Memorial)

D-Day, 1944: The Decision that Changed the World

The E-Memorial enables visitors, especially students and their teachers, to engage with the history and legacy of D-Day and Eisenhower’s command in greater detail.

The Pivotal Moment feature film D-Day, 1944: The Decision that Changed the World provides an overview of the magnitude of Ike’s decision to launch the invasion and various substories provide in-depth looks into the planning and execution of the largest amphibious invasion in history.
Bringing Ike's D-Day Legacy to the Classroom

Lesson plans developed by George Mason University's Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media complement the film and substories, enabling students to think about the role that deception played in a successful invasion and to learn about Ike's leadership qualities as captured in the iconic photo of his visit with the troops before D-Day and the Memorial's sculpture grouping.

Download all lessons from the E-Memorial website at: timeline.eisenhowermemorial.gov/lessonplans
Test Your Ike'spertise

Trivia Question: On the eve of D-Day, General Eisenhower drafted an "In case of failure" note, in which he assumed full responsibility for the invasion were the landings to fail. What erroneous detail did he mistakenly write on the note?

(See answer below)

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Trivia Answer: General Eisenhower dated the note July 5, instead of June 5. A small detail, but perhaps revealing of the enormous weight he carried on his shoulders in the hours leading up to the allied invasion.