GENERAL'LY SPEAKING
Week of March 12, 2018

Dispatches From
The Eisenhower Memorial Commission

Eisenhower Book Lecture at the National Archives

Register here to attend a free lecture by Professor Louis Galambos on his book, Eisenhower: Becoming the Leader of the Free World at the National Archives on April 3 at 12pm. You can also view the event live or watch at a later time via YouTube.

Lou is among the foremost historians on Ike. As the senior editor of the 21 volumes of The Papers of Dwight D. Eisenhower, a 30-year undertaking by Johns Hopkins University, Lou may know more about Eisenhower than anyone alive. He is a national figure in the positive evolution of both the public and scholarly appreciation of Ike's world class legacy. Lou has also served the national memorialization of General and President Eisenhower as Chairman of the Eisenhower Memorial Commission’s Legacy Committee and as Chairman of the

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Commission's Quotations Committee, which curated and recommended the quotations to be inscribed in perpetuity on the Eisenhower National Memorial. His one and only book on Ike is a masterful depiction and an ingenious exploration of the Eisenhower enigma, combining encyclopedic knowledge of Eisenhower and his rapidly changing world with deftly nuanced development of Ike’s character.

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Did you know that the first visit of an Irish President to the U.S. was during Eisenhower's presidency? On Saint Patrick's Day 1959, Irish President Seán T. O'Kelly was warmly welcomed to the White House (which was designed by Irish architect James Hoban) for a state dinner. In a toast, Eisenhower quipped, "...wouldn't it sound funny if I tried to say O'Eisenhower?"

The historic visit was particularly meaningful as it helped to signify an end to a perceived period of distrust between the two countries stemming from Ireland’s official neutrality in World War II. In 1962, Eisenhower in turn visited Ireland where he placed a wreath in Wexford at the statue to Commodore John Barry, "the father of the American Navy," which the U.S. had gifted to the people of Ireland in 1956.

Video: Eisenhower In Ireland (1962)
In celebration of Women’s History Month, we honor the accomplishments of two pioneering women in American diplomacy during the Eisenhower administration.

Clare Boothe Luce
U.S. Ambassador to Italy and Brazil

Clare Boothe Luce, former Congresswoman and wife of *TIME*, *LIFE*, and *Fortune* publisher Henry Luce, was the first woman appointed as a U.S. ambassador to a major power when President Eisenhower appointed her as U.S. Ambassador to Italy in 1953. She also served as U.S. Ambassador to Brazil for four days in 1959 under President Eisenhower. In 1979, she became the first woman to be awarded the Sylvanus Thayer Award by the United States Military Academy at West Point. In 1983, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom becoming the first Congresswoman to receive the award.

Frances Elizabeth Willis
U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland and Norway

In 1953, President Dwight Eisenhower appointed Frances Elizabeth Willis as U.S. Ambassador to Switzerland, making her the first female career Foreign Service officer to serve as an Ambassador. She also served as U.S. Ambassador to Norway from 1957 to 1961 and later as U.S. Ambassador to Ceylon (today Sri Lanka). She was the only woman to attend the Big Four Summit Conference in Geneva in 1955.

If it should be my destiny to serve as Chief Executive, I would utilize the contributions of outstanding women to the greatest extent

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* Deceased
possible.

- Presidential Candidate Eisenhower, August 16, 1952

(Eisenhower made good on his campaign promise and appointed more women to high-level positions than any other preceding President in U.S. history)

Test Your Ike'spertise

Special March Madness Edition: Ready for March Madness? Can you name the teams that won the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament during Eisenhower's presidency?

(see answer below)

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- Nancy Kassebaum Baker
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- Bob Bennett (1933 - 2016)
- Tom Downey
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- Frank Murkowski
- Jim Slattery
- Todd Tiahrt

### Senior Presidential Officials
- David Abshire (1926 - 2014)
- Erskine Bowles
- Nicholas F. Brady
- William Coleman (1920 - 2017)
- C. Boyden Gray
- Alan Greenspan
- Ed Meese
- William Webster

### Military Leaders
- Lt. Gen. Tom McInerney, USAF (Ret.)
- Gen. Richard Myers, USAF (Ret.)
- VAdm. Ann E. Rondeau, USN (Ret.)
- Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, USAF (Ret.)
- Lt. Gen. Richard Trefry, USA (Ret.)

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