EMC Commissioner
Senator Cochran Retires

Senator Cochran, a Navy veteran from the State of Mississippi, came to Congress in 1973 and was first elected to the Senate in 1978. He is the tenth-longest serving Senator in U.S. history and served with nine presidents. In March 2017, Cochran was appointed to the Eisenhower Memorial Commission. Upon joining the Commission, Cochran remarked:

“Dwight Eisenhower was one of the great heroes of my youth, and I am honored to be part of the effort to build a memorial honoring his life and legacy. The Commission was established to create a memorial to inspire future generations to
emulate President Eisenhower’s dedication to public service, leadership, integrity, and devotion to American democratic values. I am committed to helping achieve that goal. It’s a privilege for me to join my friend Pat Roberts in this effort."

As chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, Senator Cochran made that commitment a reality. This past week Cochran voted on the last legislation of his Senate career - the FY2018 Omnibus Appropriations Bill - which included the final federal appropriations needed to complete construction of the Eisenhower Memorial.

Senator Cochran announced earlier this month that due to health reasons he would be retiring from the Senate effective April 1, 2018, and consequently stepping down from the Commission. EMC Chairman Senator Roberts commented:

“Thad Cochran’s commitment to the Eisenhower Memorial has been unwavering. I thank him for his work on the Appropriations Committee to ensure the Memorial received the funding necessary for construction. I will miss working with my friend Thad on this project and so many others.”

Memorial Funding Update

In the omnibus appropriations bill for FY 2018 enacted on Friday, March 23, the Eisenhower Memorial Commission received the final $45 million in federal appropriations for memorial construction. The Commission continues to pursue private donations to supplement the federal funds received to complete construction.
Salute to Ike's Supporters

The Commission is delighted to announce receipt of two recent private gifts. One from The Michael and Elizabeth Dingman Foundation at the Legacy giving level. And the other from Harold & Linda Rich at the Founders giving level.

We extend our deepest appreciation to all of our donors for their generous contributions in support of Ike's memorial. Donations from our supporters make it possible for us to move ever closer to completing construction on the National Eisenhower Memorial in the heart of our nation's capital.

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.

Recent Ike Publication

The Age of Eisenhower: America and the World in the 1950s
By William I Hitchcock
Published by Simon & Schuster
Released March 20, 2018

Interested in more new Eisenhower literature? Check out our online list of Recent and Forthcoming Media & Publications.

LIVE Construction Cam: Check the link regularly for up-to-date progress of memorial construction.

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Ike's Timeless Legacy

Ike Assumes NATO Command

On April 2, 1951, General Eisenhower, under the authority vested in him pursuant to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) as the first Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR), signed the activation order for Allied Command Europe officially opening Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) at its temporary headquarters at the Hotel Astoria in Paris, France. Under the activation order, Eisenhower also assumed command of Allied Command Europe giving him operational command of NATO and American forces in Europe.

[VIDEO] Learn more about Eisenhower's precedent-setting role in organizing and solidifying the command and structure of a nascent NATO, through the E-Memorial Pivotal Moment film NATO: A Coalition United for Peace

Visit the E-Memorial's Interactive Timeline to explore more historic milestones in Eisenhower's career.

Bringing Ike's NATO Legacy to the Classroom

Lesson plans, developed by George Mason University's Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media, complement the NATO Pivotal Moment, enabling students to explore Eisenhower's legacy through primary source documents and hands on activities.

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"[Ike] exemplified what millions of parents hoped that their sons would be — strong, courageous, honest and compassionate. And with his own great qualities of heart, he personified the best in America. It is...a special tribute to Dwight Eisenhower that despite all of his honors, despite all of his great deeds and his triumphs, we find ourselves today thinking, first, not of his deeds but of his character. It was the character of the man, not what he did, but what he was that so captured the trust and faith and affection of his own people and of the people of the world....Dwight Eisenhower was that rarest of men — an authentic hero....We salute Dwight David Eisenhower standing there in our memories, first in war, first in peace, and wherever freedom is cherished, first in the hearts of his fellow men.”

- President Richard Nixon,
"Eulogy delivered at the Capitol Rotunda during the State Funeral of Former President Eisenhower," March 30, 1969

(Eisenhower passed away on March 28, 1969, aged 78, at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland)
Test Your Ike'spertise

Trivia Question: Which military decoration, instituted by President Abraham Lincoln on March 25, 1863, did Eisenhower refuse?

(see answer below)

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Trivia Answer: After President Roosevelt recommended that Eisenhower be awarded the Medal of Honor following Operation TORCH, Eisenhower warned, "I don't want it and if it is awarded I won't wear it. I won't even keep it," in keeping

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with his famous humility. Eisenhower believed that the medal should only be awarded for heroism in combat and that the job was yet to be finished.

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

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