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DOLE ANNOUNCES DETAILS FOR TUESDAY'S JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS TO HONOR PRESIDENT EISENHOWER'S CENTENNIAL; WALTER CRONKITE, WINSTON CHURCHILL, JOHN EISENHOWER CLARK CLIFFORD, ARNOLD PALMER AMONG SPEAKERS

WASHINGTON - SENATOR BOB DOLE, CHAIRMAN OF THE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER CENTENNIAL COMMISSION, TODAY ANNOUNCED DETAILS FOR A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS ON TUESDAY, MARCH 27TH TO COMMEMORATE THE CENTENNIAL OF DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER'S BIRTH. THIS SPECIAL MEETING, THE THIRD OF ITS KIND TO HONOR A U.S. PRESIDENT THIS CENTURY, WILL PAY TRIBUTE TO OUR 34TH PRESIDENT AND VICTORIOUS WORLD WAR II GENERAL WHO WAS BORN 100 YEARS AGO ON OCTOBER 14, 1890.

"DWIGHT EISENHOWER REMAINS A TOWERING FIGURE IN AMERICAN HISTORY," SENATOR DOLE SAID. "HIS VALUES, LIFE AND SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY ARE ENDURING EXAMPLES FOR ALL OF US TO FOLLOW. EISENHWOER'S UNSWERVING COMMITMENT TO LIBERTY HELPED PAVE THE WAY FOR THE HISTORIC COLLAPSE OF THE IRON CURTAIN," DOLE ADDED. "I STILL LIKE IKE."

PROGRAM DETAILS

THE CONGRESS WILL MEET IN A JOINT SESSION IN THE HOUSE CHAMBER AT 10:00 AM. THE PROGRAM FOR THE TUESDAY MORNING EVENT WILL INCLUDE TRIBUTES BY SENATOR DOLE, FORMER AMBASSADOR JOHN S. D. EISENHOWER, IKE'S SON, NEWSMAN WALTER CRONKITE, BRITISH MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT WINSTON S. CHURCHILL, GRANDSON OF THE WARTIME PRIME MINISTER, PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR CLARK CLIFFORD, LEGENDARY GOLF PROFESSIONAL ARNOLD PALMER, AND JAMES D. ROBINSON III, COMMISSION VICE CHAIRMAN AND CHAIRMAN OF THE EISENHOWER CENTENNIAL FOUNDATION. IN ADDITION, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS PARTICIPATING INCLUDE HOUSE SPEAKER THOMAS FOLEY, AND REPRESENTATIVES BEVERLY BYRON (D-MD), WILLIAM GOODLING (R-PA), AND PAT ROBERTS (R-KS). FOLLOWING THE JOINT SESSION, PRESIDENT AND MRS. BUSH WILL HOST A WHITE HOUSE LUNCHEON HONORING PRESIDENT EISENHOWER.

THE JOINT MEETING KICKS OFF A WIDE ARRAY OF CENTENNIAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND AROUND THE WORLD, CULMINATING WITH A "HOME TOWN CELEBRATION" IN ABILENE, KANSAS ON OCTOBER 14TH. This press release is from the collections at the Robert J. Dole Archive and Special Collections, University of Kansas. Please contact us with any questions or comments: http://dolearchive.ku.edu/ask

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OPPORTUNITY IS WHAT EISENHOWER HAD IN MIND WHEN HE STOOD IN LONDON'S ANCIENT GUILDHALL IN THE SPRING OF 1945 AND DECLARED, "I COME FROM THE VERY HEART OF AMERICA." OPPORTUNITY WAS A FITTING EPITAPH FOR THE FIVE-STAR GENERAL OF THE ARMY WHO MADE HIS FINAL HOMECOMING IN AN \$80 REGULATION CASKET, TO LIE IN A PLAIN STONE CHAPEL ON THE EDGE OF THE KANSAS PRAIRIE. OPPORTUNITY IS IKE'S LEGACY -- THE DEMAND ECHOING FROM A THOUSAND STREET CORNERS -- IN PRAGUE AND PANAMA CITY, MANAGUA, MOSCOW AND BUCHAREST.

A CENTURY AFTER HIS BIRTH, WE RECOGNIZE THE MAN FROM ABILENE AS A SYMBOL OF DEMOCRATIC OPPORTUNITY IN A WORLD WHERE OLD OPPRESSIONS ARE CRUMBLING LIKE THE WALL THAT ONCE ARTIFICIALLY DIVIDED EAST FROM WEST. FOR NO MAN DID MORE TO RID OUR PLANET OF THE NAZI SCOURGE. NO ONE GAVE MORE IN THE COLD WAR AGAINST HUMAN ENSLAVEMENT. AND NO ONE DESERVES MORE GRATITUDE FROM A WORLD WAKING UP TO ITS OWN POTENTIAL.

IT IS EASIER TO WIN A WAR THAN TO MAKE PEACE. DWIGHT EISENHOWER DID BOTH. ALONG THE WAY, THE BOY WHOSE VALUES TOOK ROOT IN THE RICH BLACK EARTH OF DICKINSON COUNTY, KANSAS GREW TO EMBODY THE AMERICAN DREAM. THANKS TO HIM, THE DREAM LIVES IN EVERY LAND. NEARLY HALF A CENTURY AFTER HE LIBERATED FORTRESS EUROPE, DWIGHT EISENHOWER IS STILL RELEASING HUMANITY FROM BONDAGE. TO THOSE STILL IN DARKNESS, HE REPRESENTS THE BRIGHT LIGHT OF FREEDOM. AND BY THAT LIGHT WE CAN ALL FIND OUR WAY HOME.

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