

September 8, 2016

Chairman Ken Calvert (R-CA)
Ranking Member Betty McCollum (D-MN)
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Room B-308, Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum,

Dwight D. Eisenhower deserves—indeed our nation and world deserve—a physical memorial in Washington to honor his accomplishments as a military leader and President of the United States of America.

We believe the current memorial effort is flawed because it does not meet Ike's own high standard of full disclosure and standard public process. Instead of the normal fair and open competition of designs, the appointed commission delivered a design that, after many years and much public money spent, still does not have public or Congressional support. As a result, progress toward the memorial is at a standstill.

Ike's legacy demands—and our country requires—a memorial that unites rather than divides us. Amid the heaves and rolls of changes that are rocking our nation, the right memorial to Eisenhower can remind us of enduring traditions of decorum and sacrifice and point to a future of the same. This right memorial can only emerge from the right public process, through the normal fair and open competition General Eisenhower would demand.

As flag officers who have been honored to serve our country in war and peace, just as Eisenhower was, we call on our elected political leaders to honor him properly by mandating a new, fair, and public competition to design his memorial. And, once designed, we urge an immediate construction, before the last of the WW2 vets who served under him have passed.

Very respectfully,



Thomas F. Hall
RADM, USN (ret)
Former Undersecretary of Defense

Dick Macke
ADM, USN (ret)
Former Commander, United States Pacific
Command



Michael D. Barbero
LTG, USA (ret)
Virginia

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VADM, USN (ret)
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John J. Cusick
LTG, USA (ret)
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Jack W. Klimp
LtGen, USMC (ret)
South Carolina

John W. Miller
VADM, USN (ret)
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George W. Ballance
RADM, USN (ret)
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Joseph G. Balskus
Maj Gen, USAF (ret)
Florida

John Borling
Maj Gen, USAF (ret)
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James J. Carey
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Drennan A. Clark
Maj Gen, USAF (ret)
Nevada

Dan Cloyd
RADM, USN (ret)
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Casey W. Coane
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David L. Commons
Maj Gen, USAF (ret)
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MajGen, USMC (ret)
Maryland

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MG, USA (ret)
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Michael K. Lynch
Maj Gen, USAF (ret)
Kansas

Thomas C. Lynch
RADM, USN (ret)
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MG, USA (ret)
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RADM, USN (ret)
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