

EISENHOWER INAUGURATED

At National Presbyterian Church, early on the morning of inauguration day, the Eisenhowers, followed by over a hundred members of their official family, arrive for private services. The Vice-President elect Richard Nixon and his wife are also present. Eisenhower prays for divine guidance. He has been given a copy of the New Testament by Minister Elson. The historic moment of the inauguration is fast approaching. Eisenhower's next major step is at the White House, to pick up the President. Mr. Truman, ending the last few minutes of his term, and Mrs. Truman and Margaret, give the Eisenhowers a warm welcome to their new home. Mr. Truman is now finishing almost twenty years of public service in Washington. With Senator Bridges and Speaker of the House Martin, Ike and Mr. Truman head for the Capitol behind a flying V of policemen. The streets of Washington are filled to overflowing with half-a-million out-of-towners adding to the excitement. Ahead is the Capitol, half hidden in the fog that covers the city.

Beneath the great dome, America's thirty-fourth President is to take the oath of office before one-hundred-and-twenty-five-thousand persons.

President-elect Eisenhower arrives and slowly makes his way out on the elaborate, specially-constructed inaugural platform, where Mr. Nixon, President Truman and other distinguished guests are seated.

Every foot of space on Capitol Plaza is jammed with spectators.

A wave of excitement sweeps over the crowd, young and old, as the stewardship of the world's greatest democracy prepares to change hands.

INSERT 1

The oath completed, President Eisenhower shakes hands with Chief Justice Vinson and retiring President Truman and in a second is at Mamie's side to kiss her on the cheek. Then returning to the rostrum, his first act after assuming office is to ask the crowd to join him in prayer.

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When the official ceremonies at the Capitol are completed, President and Mrs. Eisenhower prepare to lead the motorcade to the White House reviewing stand, escorted by echelons of motor-cycle police.

As the procession moves along historic Pennsylvania Avenue, the new President, vigorous and smiling, waves heartily in acknowledgement to the cheers of thousands upon thousands of enthusiastic, wide-eyed citizens.

President Eisenhower, a veteran of many parades, leads the most important one of his life. At the White House grounds the entourage halts and the President and Vice-President take their places on the reviewing stand. Before them pass the cadets of West Point, marching in perfect close-order formation. Thirty-eight years ago, President Eisenhower, then a cadet at the Military Academy, marched with the West Point contingent in the parade at Woodrow Wilson's inaugural. Battle-clad infantrymen parade the colours of Army and Marine regiments that have fought in Korea. Seven-hundred-and-fifty-thousand spectators, including Jack L. Warner and his daughter Barbara, watch the awe-inspiring pageant which goes on for hours.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, a five-star, sixty-two-year-old general becomes the thirty-fourth President of the United States of America.

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Eisenhower: "Preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the
United States."
Vinson: "So help you God."
Eisenhower: "So help me God."

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INSERT 2

"My friends, before I begin the expression of those thoughts that I
deem appropriate to this moment, would you permit me the privilege
of uttering a little private prayer of my own and I ask you to bow
your heads. Almighty God, as we stand here at this moment, my
future associates in executive branch of Government join me in
beseeching that thou will make full and complete our dedication of
service to the people in this throng, and their fellow citizens
everywhere."