

INAUGURATION

Rice -- Weist

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X President-elect Eisenhower and Mrs Eisenhower arrive in Washington for the inauguration. Excited crowds hail the man who is to become America's thirty fourth president. A motorcade speeds the Eisenhowers to the Statler, where, with son John and his wife, they are to stay until they can move into the White House two days later.

X At National Presbyterian Church, early on the morning of the 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 Elean. 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~~ ^{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.

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

X 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.

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

~~X The thirty-nine-year-old Nixon, hand raised and solemn, is sworn in as Vice President. The climax is near to one of the most impressive inaugural ceremonies in America's one hundred and sixty four year history.~~

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

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.

(LIVE SOUND)

~~Now, he begins his inaugural address in which he is to fix nine principles in the quest for peace. Speaking of the faith that sustains America, Eisenhower says:~~

(LIVE SOUND)

~~The new chief executive's twenty three hundred word address concludes this traditional hour symbolizing the functioning of the American democracy.~~

~~The huge throng applauds the new First Lady of the Land brought forward by her beaming husband. Together, they wave to the crowd. This, is~~

their shining hour.

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 motorcycle police.

As the procession moves along historic Pennsylvania Avenue, the new president vigorous and smiling, waves heartily in acknowledgment 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 colors 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.