



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 12, 2004

Air Force Memorial Ceremony—A Dream About to Take Flight

Arlington, VA, August 12, 2004 -- The Air Force Memorial Groundbreaking and Site Dedication Ceremony will occur Wednesday, September 15, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. on the Pentagon Reservation at the Navy Annex Federal Office Building complex—the future site of this national memorial.

This Memorial will honor the heroic and selfless contributions of the men and women of the United States Air Force--those currently serving in the Middle East, around the world and those former Airmen who distinguished themselves in the Air Force and its heritage organizations. This National Memorial, which will soar to a height of 270 feet, will also salute the vast technological achievements of American airpower. The Memorial will be constructed adjacent to Arlington Cemetery, on a significant promontory overlooking the Pentagon and providing an unobstructed view of Washington D.C. This Memorial will be a special place of contemplation and inspiration for the Air Force family and for all Americans.

The Air Force Memorial Groundbreaking and Site Dedication Ceremony will feature prominent speakers, including Air Force Memorial Foundation Chairman Mr. Ross Perot, Jr., the Honorable James G. Roche, Secretary of the Air Force, and General John P. Jumper, Air Force Chief of Staff. The United States Air Force band will deliver a musical tribute to the people represented by this Memorial, and Air Force heritage and current day aircraft will provide an airborne salute. The ceremony will feature the dedication of the site and signify the beginning of construction for the Air Force Memorial.

The event will be opened to the press, but site constraints and security do not permit the event to be opened to the general public. Citizens should not be concerned when they see approximately six Air Force heritage and current day Air Force aircraft over flying the site between approximately 2:40 PM and 3:10 PM.

The owner of this project is the Air Force Memorial Foundation. The architect is the internationally renowned James Ingo Freed of Pei Cobb Freed & Partners, Architects.

The construction contract has been awarded to Centex Mid-Atlantic Construction Company.

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