First Raising
Of The
50-Star Flag
July 4, 1960

HAWAII

FORT McHENRY NATIONAL MONUMENT AND HISTORIC SHRINE
BALTIMORE 30, MARYLAND

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
FOR FLAG AND COUNTRY

Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine is unique among the areas administered within the National Park System because of its close identification with the flag of the United States of America.

Here, it was a glimpse of the American flag waving defiantly over the ramparts of this fort at the end of a 25 hour bombardment by a British fleet that inspired Francis Scott Key to compose our national anthem. The significance of this event received national recognition March 3, 1925 when Fort McHenry was set aside by Act of Congress as a “perpetual national memorial shrine as the birthplace of the immortal ‘Star-Spangled Banner.’”

It is because of Fort McHenry’s special meaning in American history and as evidence of regard for the new State of Hawaii that Fort McHenry was designated this year by President Dwight D. Eisenhower as the site first to raise America’s 50-star flag at 12:01 a.m. of July 4, 1960. Just as the first official raising of the 49-star flag took place at Fort McHenry one year ago, the new flag is likewise to be raised on a replica of the 1814 flagstaff from which the flag flew that inspired the writing of “The Star-Spangled Banner.”
PROGRAM
JULY 3-4, 1960

10:45 P. M.


Reenactment of the Bombardment by the United States Navy Vessels and units of the United States Army Field Artillery.

Presentation of Colors to Stand---------Boy Scouts of America

11:15 P. M.

Ronald F. Lee, Regional Director
National Park Service, Chairman

Invocation ------------------ The Right Reverend Edward Braham
                     Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

Introductions --------------- Chairman

Greetings ------------------ Honorable J. Harold Grady
                     Mayor of Baltimore

Remarks --------------------- Honorable J. Millard Tawes
                     Governor of Maryland

Address --------------------- Honorable Fred A. Seaton
                     Secretary of the Interior

Presentation of Colors-------- Combined Services Color Guard

Benediction ---------------- Reverend William L. Andrews
                     Riverside Baptist Church

12:01 A. M.

FIRST OFFICIAL RAISING OF THE 50-STAR FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES BY SECRETARY SEATON AT THE DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

"The Star-Spangled Banner" sung by the audience and led by Miss Camille Elias, National Park Service.

Fireworks Display
Acknowledgements

Department of Defense
Boy Scouts of America

State of Maryland
City of Baltimore

Programs Courtesy of the Evelyn Hill Corporation