

Sean Rogan

February 27, 1970

Miss Mercedes Rosebery
1435 Rosewood Avenue
Louisville, Kentucky 40204

Dear Miss Rosebery:

Thank you for your recent letter and statement in favor of renaming Cape Canaveral after the late President Eisenhower.

You have certainly developed a persuasive argument in favor of naming the space center after President Eisenhower; and while I am returning your statement, I have made a copy for our records as I am sure it will ~~prove~~ be useful in the future.

Of course I agree President Eisenhower was one of our finest Americans, and you may be interested in knowing I co-sponsored legislation to honor him with the minting of the Eisenhower Silver Dollar.

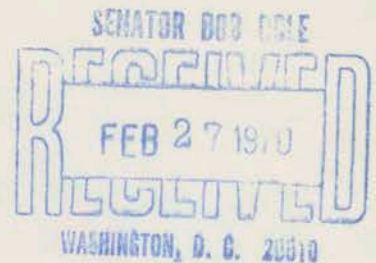
Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely yours,

BOB DOLE
U. S. Senate

BD:cjb

Senator Robert Dole
Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C.



Honorable Sir:

Now that the Senate has seen fit to restore the historical name Canaveral to that Florida cape, it seems fitting to re-examine the spur-of-the-moment naming of the Space Center, and to name it for its founder-- Dwight D. Eisenhower. That is history, too.

As you will see from the enclosed documented historical sketch, the whole lunar-landing program and the stages of development and exploration of interplanetary space to make it possible originated under Eisenhower's direction. The Appendix compares Eisenhower's slower but safer step-by-step testing with the Kennedy-Johnson faster "all-up testing" caused by Kennedy's 1968 deadline, which led to slipshod workmanship and careless management which contributed to the Apollo fire and the death of three astronauts.

The Senate, not just one man, should do the naming in a matter of such magnitude in scope and in expenditure of billions of taxpayers' dollars. Emotion and politics should play no part. Selfless aims and selfless ^{public} service of the man to be so honored should be the basis of selection. I therefore propose Dwight D. Eisenhower for the honor-- not as President of the nation, but as founder of NASA, developer of the lunar-landing program and exploration of interplanetary space to make it possible. Who could deserve the honor more than the nation's most popular and most loved war hero-- the Five Star General, and Supreme Commander in World War II, who organized and carried out the historic invasion of Normandy. Without him we might today be under the domination of Hitler.

Eisenhower is a son of your state. He is buried in your state without Federal funds. His burial place is the little chapel he had erected for all who wish to come inside and meditate in quiet. He deserves something great and lasting in glory such as the Space Center named for him.

John F. Kennedy is already memorialized by the JFK Cultural Center in Washington,

D. C. on which the Federal government spent \$23 million taxpayers' dollars. Also by the impressive monument in Arlington Cemetery, on which the government spent \$1,700,000.

Eisenhower was a humble man who never used the power of his office for self-aggrandizement. Nor did any of his family. They will not press for this honor which he so richly deserves more than anyone else.

Please use your influence as Senator for your state to give him the honor that should be coming to him if for no other reason than that he was the Founder of NASA and developer of the lunar-landing program and explorer of interplanetary space for others who came after him to reap the glory.

I believe you Senators of his home state can do it for him. I shall try to help build up support for your effort.

Respectfully yours,

Mercedes Rosebery

Mercedes Rosebery
1435 Rosewood Ave.
Louisville, Ky. 40204

February 25, 1970

*Return postage enclosed if you do not need
to keep manuscript*