General Marshall was praised by President Eisenhower as a "man of war, yet a builder of peace... the symbol of renewed hope for scores of millions of suffering people through his great plan for Europe that will forever bear his name." President Eisenhower complimented the Army missile and space achievements at Redstone Arsenal, and pointed to the scientists who today feel "as if Venus and Mars are more accessible to them than a regimental headquarters was to me as a platoon commander forty years ago."

The highlight of the ceremony was the unveiling by Mrs. Marshall and President Eisenhower of the bust of George C. Marshall. The bust was sculptured in 1953 by Kalervo Kallio, a well known Finnish sculptor. Kallio originally modeled Marshall in clay. A plaster bust, molded from the clay, was shipped to the sculptor's studio near Helsinki, Finland, where the 21-inch high, 18-inch wide bust was sculptured in red granite.

Following the ceremony, the President and other visitors toured the MSFC plant area and, after a two-hour stay on the installation, the President and his party departed. The people of MSFC returned to work with renewed dedication.