



# News Release

IVAN ALLEN, JR.  
Mayor of Atlanta

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Mrs. Ann Drummond  
Executive Secretary

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## STATEMENT BY IVAN ALLEN, JR., MAYOR OF ATLANTA

The Braves are to be congratulated on making a brave decision . . .  
to petition the National League to move their franchise to Atlanta.

They have chosen to make the "national pastime" truly national,  
to give the 24 million people who live in these seven Southeastern States a  
share in the major leagues.

The people of Atlanta, with their courage in building an \$18,000,000.  
Stadium to attract a major league team are also to be congratulated. They  
represent the new, dynamic south, which is no longer willing to be side-lined  
on the back benches.

Our Stadium is a southern project, built on southern soil, with  
southern money, by southern architects and contractors.

We feel it is uniquely fitting that this decision has been made today,  
a date which marks almost exactly the centennial of the day when Atlanta  
was left an ash strewn ruin, symbol of a region's defeat.

Today we welcome the opportunity to become a symbol of southern  
zest and drive, a major league city, a major league state, in a major league  
region.