



## Air Force Association

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An Independent Non Profit Aerospace Organization

MONROE W. HATCH, JR.  
*Executive Director*

September 20, 1994

The Honorable Nancy Kassebaum  
United States Senate  
302 Russell Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Kassebaum:

I am writing to commend you for bringing the Enola Gay exhibition issue to the attention of your colleagues on the floor yesterday.

We agree with you that, despite several revisions, the current script for "The Last Act: The Atomic Bomb and the End of World War II" still contains serious problems. We also believe, as your resolution points out, that the Smithsonian Institution has an obligation to "commemorate and display the contributions made by the military forces of the Nation toward creating, developing, and maintaining a free, peaceful, and independent society and culture in the United States."

Thus far, the National Air and Space Museum has not lived up to that charter. While some improvements have been made, there are serious lingering structural, contextual and ideological issues that must still be addressed in cooperation with members of Congress, veterans groups, and military historians.

Our specific concerns are detailed in the attached memorandum of September 19, which we have shared with our colleagues in the Military Coalition.

Again, we appreciate your early interest in, and continuing leadership on, this important issue.

Sincerely,

Monroe W. Hatch, Jr.  
General, USAF (Ret.)