



1030 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 19, 1994

CONTACT: Mindy Tucker
202/225-4201

JOHNSON EXPOSES JAPANESE INVOLVEMENT IN ENOLA GAY EXHIBIT

Washington, D.C. -- Congressman Sam Johnson (R-Dallas) today released minutes from a meeting of the Smithsonian Institution that revealed that copies of the scripts from the Enola Gay exhibit were being sent overnight mail to Japan "asking for a quick response."

"We have been questioning the degree of Japan's involvement in this exhibit from the beginning. The scripts I have read certainly do not reflect the proper American view of World War II. This piece of information only further supports my belief that the Smithsonian does not have the best interest of U.S. history in mind," said Congressman Johnson.

A former Smithsonian staff member has alleged that over \$30,000 has been spent translating the five scripts into Japanese and express mailing them to Japan. "Veterans groups and other concerned Americans have had to fight to have their views about the exhibit heard by the Smithsonian. It is ironic that at the same time every effort has been made to accommodate the Japanese and their views," said Congressman Sam Johnson.

A letter signed by seven members of Congress was sent to the Smithsonian last week asked that a sixth and final script be completed by the first week in February. At that time they will determine whether or not to support the exhibit.