

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 24, 1995

Secretary I. Michael Heyman
Smithsonian Institution
1000 Jefferson Drive, NW
Washington, D.C. 20560

Dear Secretary Heyman:

It is after serious consideration that we the undersigned call for the immediate resignation or termination of Mr. Martin Harwit, Director of the National Air and Space Museum.

It has come to our attention that Mr. Harwit, by his own admission, recently reintroduced controversial and speculative accounts to the script of the Enola Gay exhibit which earlier had been removed.

Over the past year, we and other concerned parties hoped that through constructive deliberations and continuing negotiations a mutually acceptable script could be written. Though the process was arduous, and at times frustrating, we were encouraged by the progress that had been made.

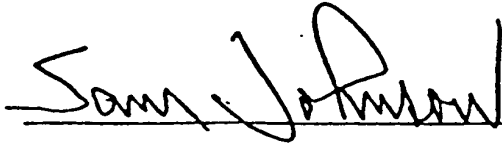
Unfortunately, Mr. Harwit's continuing defiance and disregard for needed improvements to the exhibit has put this tenuous agreement into disarray. Mr. Harwit's actions have seriously eroded the cooperative spirit that had existed between the participating parties and the National Air and Space Museum. In effect, Mr. Harwit's actions were a slap in the face to all the parties who contributed their time and expertise in creating an exhibit that best reflects the contributions that all Americans made to the culmination of World War II.

It is our hope that his removal will bring a fresh and unbiased approach in finalizing a script which will produce a mutually acceptable and balanced exhibit.

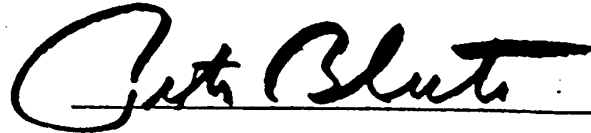
We expect this issue will be addressed and a decision will be made on Monday January 30th at the meeting of the full Board of Regents. Also, due to this recent controversy and the high level of public interest, we ask that you keep us informed during the selection process of Mr. Harwit's replacement.

Thank you for your attention to this very serious matter.

Sincerely,



Sam Johnson (R-TX)



Peter Blute (R-MA)

Bill Barrett (R-NE)
Mel Hancock (R-MO)
Duncan Hunter (R-CA)
Duke Cunningham (R-CA)
J.C. Watts (R-OK)
Tom Bliley (R-VA)
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