



The Council City of Indianapolis Marion County

March 1995
Feb 13, 1995

CITY-COUNTY SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. 12, 1995

A SPECIAL RESOLUTION concerning the Smithsonian exhibit of the *Enola Gay*.

WHEREAS, the Smithsonian Institution was created to preserve and depict America's accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the recent effort by the director and several curators at the National Air and Space Museum sought to establish a display on the *Enola Gay* which brought America's role during World War II seriously into question; and

WHEREAS, this display, if erected, would have also cast America's veterans in an unfavorable light; and

WHEREAS, this display was strongly resisted by the American Legion, the Air Force Association, the Veterans of Foreign Wars as well as the Indianapolis-based World War II National Commemorative Association and the World War II Round Table; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of these groups, as well as numerous individual veterans and members of Congress resulted in the cancellation of the exhibit narrative as previously planned; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. The Indianapolis City-County Council commends all those who worked so hard to have the exhibit discontinued as previously planned.

SECTION 2. The Council suggests that Dr. Martin Harwit, director of the National Air and Space Museum, owes a public apology to the veterans of our beloved country.

SECTION 3. The Council further suggests that the *Enola Gay* is an important artifact of American history, and should be completely restored as soon as possible and placed on public display in an appropriate place.

SECTION 4. The Council urges that in this final year of the 50th Anniversary of World War II that our community pay particular attention to the World War II veterans, and find opportunities to thank them for their love and faith in our Great Nation.

SECTION 5. The Mayor is invited to join in this resolution by affixing his signature hereto.

SECTION 6. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon adoption and compliance with IC 36-3-4-14.

This Special Resolution was sponsored by Councillors Gordon Gilmer and Buert SerVaas and was passed by the City-County Council this 13th day of February, 1995.



Allen Hart
Clerk, City-County Council

Buert SerVaas
Dr. Beurt SerVaas
President, City-County Council

Stephen Goldsmith
Stephen Goldsmith, Mayor

State of Indiana



Indiana General Assembly

A HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 24

A HOUSE RESOLUTION concerning the Smithsonian exhibit of the Enola Gay.

Introduced by Representative:

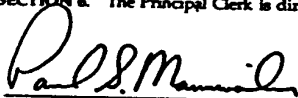
David Nason Frizzell

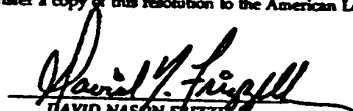
- WHEREAS, The Smithsonian Institution was created to preserve and depict America's accomplishments;
- WHEREAS, The recent effort by the director and several curators at the National Air and Space Museum sought to establish a display on the Enola Gay which brought America's role during World War II seriously into question;
- WHEREAS, This display, if erected, would have also cast America's veterans in an unfavorable light;
- WHEREAS, This display was strongly resisted by the American Legion, the Air Force Association, the Veterans of Foreign Wars as well as the Indianapolis-based World War II National Commemorative Association and the World War II Round Table;
- WHEREAS, The efforts of these groups, as well as numerous individual veterans and members of Congress resulted in the cancellation of the exhibit narrative as previously planned.

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- SECTION 1. The House of Representatives commends all those who worked so hard to have the exhibit discontinued as previously planned.
- SECTION 2. The House of Representatives suggest that Dr. Martin Harwit, director of the National Air and Space Museum, owes a public apology to the veterans of our beloved country.
- SECTION 3. The House of Representatives suggests that the Enola Gay is an important artifact of American history, and should be completely restored as soon as possible and placed on public display in an appropriate place.
- SECTION 4. The House of Representatives urges the Congress of the United States to transfer title or control of the Enola Gay to the Air Force or some other museum where restoration and assembly can be completed without further delay.
- SECTION 5. The House of Representatives urges that in this final year of the 50th Anniversary of World War II that our community pay particular attention to the World War II veterans, and find opportunities to thank them for their love and faith in our Great Nation.
- SECTION 6. The Principal Clerk is directed to transfer a copy of this resolution to the American Legion and the Air Force Association.


PAUL S. MANNWEILER
Speaker


DAVID NASON FRIZZELL
State Representative


LYNN DENNIS
Principal Clerk



ADOPTED BY THE 109TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, FIRST SESSION

Remarks made to the assembled Indiana House of Representatives on March 14, 1995 by Harold F. Henneke, Air Force Association National Vice President, Great Lakes Region, after a resolution was passed by that body concerning the Enola Gay and the National Air and Space Museum.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Frizzell, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Indiana House of Representatives and guests. It is my honor to appear before you this morning concerning the Enola Gay and the original planned exhibit at the National Air and Space Museum.

Those with me this morning and I humbly accept your resolution on this matter for the Air Force Association, the American Legion, the World War II Commemorative Association and the many other organizations that voiced their objections to the original exhibit at Air and Space.

War is evil and it respects no man, woman, child, living thing or abstract object. Once an aggressor fires the opening round they can expect retaliation with whatever kinds and types of weapons the aggressed can muster.

When this great nation of ours was attacked, without provocation, at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the enemy had already perpetrated many offenses against humanity. After tremendous casualties on both sides in the war in the pacific, it was decided by our then President, Harry Truman, to use the atomic bomb to shorten the war and save countless lives on both sides.

Our quarrel concerning the Enola Gay and the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum is not with the museum itself, but rather with the curators and their academia approach to rewriting history. Thus, making the United States of America look like the aggressor rather than portraying the actual happenings fairly.

Further, we know that the Enola Gay is a historic artifact that should be completely restored and placed on public display as quickly as possible in an appropriate place whether this be the National Air and Space Museum or another facility. It has been allowed to languish in an unkept and unprotected mode far too long.

Thank You.