

**A
Collection
of
Comment Cards
Left by
Visitors
to the
Enola Gay Exhibit
at the
National Air and Space Museum**

I am glad the Air & Space Museum
did not persist in its effort
to re-write history and make
the U.S. decision to end the war with
the dropping of Little Boy evil. I
have had enough of US apologies
for taking the necessary steps to
end a war started by the

Japanese, continued by the
Japanese and would only be
ended by US and allied
forces. After Japanese atrocities
in Korea, ~~the~~ and China and the
Pacific Islands - something
needed to be done to end their
imperialistic moves - We did it - we
have done it - ^{we should}

Please think Hiroshima
from inside of Japan,
There is wide difference
between American and
Japanese.

I'm from Japan.
American will have to
visit Hiroshima, won't you?
This exhibition was too
interesting. But I feel
like something empty.
~~It is~~ ~~not~~ ^{when you} open next
exhibition, Please
cooperate with Japan.
Please ^{open} more big scale
exhibition. →
So I'm sorry my English is
poor.

This exhibit is a travesty to
Americans. It is both insulting
and, literally, demeaning to
skirt the devastation of the
bomb, the decision to drop
it, and the aftermath for

Americans + Japanese -
Why are we so
chicken to own our part
actions, (L/A's)?

I feel you did not show enough
of the damage put on the Japanese people.
The Japanese were aggressors in the war,
but they were victims of the bomb as
thousands of innocent women & children
were killed. To describe the bomb as
a "brilliant flash of light" is very
deceptive and insulting. There was nothing brilliant
about it whatsoever. It was a cloud of death +
reconstruction. Back →

Don't use words ^{deliberately} to try to
lighten the cruelty caused by
the bomb. It was a shameful
act and should be portrayed as
so.

Georgetown University
Student

Casalt John Harding
Wales UK

At the time the B29 dropped
"The Bomb" my Father in Law
was a Jap POW digging (as it would
turn out) their own grave pits ~
the Bomb saved him ~ enabled him
to return to Wales UK and produce
see over

a daughter ~ my wife to be.
Our children can thank the courage
of the men who undertook their
difficult task for their existence.
24th Aug 96.

yes! Very Good!

We must never forget,
Why it was done, To
Stop The war!

yes! Very Good!

We must never forget,
Why it was done, To
Stop The war!

I don't understand why you are making B-29, because B-29 (EBOLA GAY) is different meaning for me.

I came from Hiroshima City in Japan and I'm studying in Boston, MA. Ebola Gay killed more than 100,000 people just a second, and most of them weren't soldiers. The United States of America doesn't think they aren't wrong, because of our winning nation of WWII.

But, Hiroshima & Nagasaki there have a lot of victims and Japanese Government doesn't help them and also the US government doesn't want to help them, too.

if you want to give correct information, you have to study

...bomb! I think you don't
...use Ebola Gay. this section
...enough for many visitors

I applaud the exhibit
on the Enola Gay. The
mission and men who
flew the mission were necessary
pieces the museum the end of
→

WW II. The crew of the
Enola Gay are heroes.

Michael Ford
Levon, PA

WAR IS NEVER GLORIOUS -

BUT THOSE EVENTS THE BEGIN
AND END WAR MUST BE
EXAMINED TO PREVENT THE
TERRORS AGAIN.

I AM HERE BECAUSE MY FATHER
WOULD HAVE FOUGHT IN AN
INVASION OF JAPAN, AND MOST
LIKELY DIED... WITHOUT THE
ENOLA GAY, I MIGHT NOT HAVE →

BEEN BORN.

THANK YOU FOR SHOWING
ME THE COURAGE AND SACRIFICE
OF MY PARENTS GENERATION -
EXCELLANT EXHIBIT!!

It seems a shame that a more thoughtful exhibition - presenting both the benefits and the costs to Americans, Allies, and Japanese - could not have been presented here. Bombs cause devastation - that is a fact, not a political statement. War even for the best of reasons is a horrible thing.

I am very against the dropping of the Hiroshima bombing.

Shame on you
stubborn
Americans

This exhibit is ~~to~~ totally one-sided. A museum of this ~~in~~ caliber has a responsibility. At least spell out the ~~offe~~ losses to Japan. How many deaths? How much radiation sickness? and what its like? on all people and on children.

What was the Atomic Bomb?

I had a chance to see Enola Gay, and

I feel very confusion.

I know about many people were hurt
~~from~~ ^{by} Atomic Bomb.

I understand here is Air & Space Museum.

But I was thinking, Hiroshima & Nagasaki,

So, I hope Atomic Bomb ^(about) will not use again.

I am very disappointed in TRIS
EXIST. By focusing on the mechanics
of restoring the aircraft you have
managed to ~~be~~ insult the names of
those who died as well as skirt
the true impact of the Atomic
age. Shame on YOU.

Murder by any other
name is still murder.

It is about time we admit the
blood on our hands.

NEEL V KUMAR

US CITIZEN

I thought the speech
was excellent. I believe
in what we fought for
& continue to believe what
was done was what was
needed. I am proud to
be an AMERICAN of these
men.

The first exhibit should
not have been cancelled
and replaced with fluff.

I like the movie



Awesome.

It's A Proud American
piece of history

thanks for the view of
it

Bob F.

Good Balanced Accounting

Excellent Display —

Thank You for admitting
it was necessary to
end a terrible war.

Good exhibit. The bomb
saved Japanese, Russian
& American lives — by
the millions —

This is as it should be. The men who served this country need, deserve and earned our unquestioned support. If we do not show pride in our retired soldiers what will encourage young men to want to serve in the military.
Hon. Rank!

This exhibit was very well done --- as it should have been --- without the attempt to rewrite history that was originally planned.

Thank you for doing it right!

Lawrence J. Burden
Duluth, MN
Col Ret USAF/ANG

Thank God for Col

Paul Tibbitts and his

Crew - Many Many
Lives were saved.

I'm sorry the politicization of this exhibit prevented showing the carnage of the bomb. I was actually surprised I got till the 2nd half of the exhibit to play the Enola Gay in an historical context. The movie helps - it's very riveting. Thanks for taking this on. Really I walked through it with an international audience and many different reactions.

WACHS FELLIS MD

I WISH THIS
KIND OF PATRIOTISM
STILL EXISTED TODAY

We need to remember
Atomic warfare as
a horrific event in
human history - not simply
a symbol of National pride
- What about feedback from all those who
were effected in Japan -

That was really

Nice,

Fun, and

Good

Merissa G. Hette

I almost wouldn't know it
killed a bunch of people.

Caroline May

Arlington, Virginia

4 Whitewash

C Schwarz

Lexington, KY

THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN NO
NEED FOR DEBATING. WHAT
YOU ENDED UP WITH IS WHAT
YOU SHOULD HAVE PLANNED FROM
THE START!

Sgt LYNCH
LAUREL, MD

VERY GOOD

DEMONSTRATION

ALL VETERANS SHOULD BE
PROUD OF THIS

Thank you for the truth spoken by
the men of the South. War is horrible
but mistrust and false revisionism
are even more horrible. Especially when
young children are at stake.

I'd like to see
the devastation that
these ^{atomic} bombs actually
caused, instead of
unrealistic, fact-bending
heroism of those who blindly followed
the deadly mission.

You should exhibit
victim of atomic bombs.

Sorry to say, but the bomb
was necessary. It did save
more lives in the long run,
and convinced a nation that
they really had lost the war
they started.

9-3-72

Having studied, lived,
& even worked in Japan
for years - & speak
Japanese - I am glad
the Smithsonian didn't
present its originally
proposed "PC-correct" exhibit
on Enola Gay.

It was an unfortunate,
but absolutely necessary
mission. Keep history
honest!
- C. Juzik

I'm surprised and
disappointed in the
Smithsonian that we
even had to go through
the debate we did
over the Enola Gay.
What will happen when
those WWII vets pass
on? Will you then
begin redefining history?
Let our planes and
the brave men who
~~flown~~ flew them tell
the story. For you -
and me, for that matter -
to try is an insult.
- Steve Myleson, Nampa ID

They deserved what they got -
Should have been SOONER

The exhibit was overly
technical (the restoration
of the airplane), not
enough emotion to the
exhibit.

Such a shame
the "TRUTH" was
censored, Work hard
Museum folk to
TEACH PEACE
Thanks Harold

What a shame to glorify such
an atrocity of devastating human
life.

PLEASE do NOT EVER
REMOVE THIS. THIS
is why we ARE here
And FREE Today.
GARY Hagan
Louisville KY 40242
633 W. JEFFERSON ST

I like ^k the plane
I think ~~it~~ it WAS cool

Jack

GOD HELP US
FROM EVER
USING THIS
THING AGAIN

I would have like to see a more
even presentation, even if
it portrays the USA in a
less than perfect light. This
display appears as an excuse

This evokes pride
but grief for the many
that lost their life

I believe you should
tell the truth about
history Not your ideas
of what happened and why.

The exhibition should
never have been scaled
back. This is an important,
if dark part of our history,
and to not pay it its full
due is a disgrace. It
shamed the museum governor
to outside pressure.

"rewrite"
Don't change history—
stick to the facts!
Well done!

OUTSTANDING !!
Please do not play the
P.C. GAME of this current
administration !!

Dear Smithsonian Inst,
I thought the exhibit of the Enola
Gay was quite simply - proper! It
should be presented as a historical
exhibit and not a political statement
while the lives of both Japanese and
Americans both tragically lost in the
war... I pray WE all learn from
such an act. May our leaders never
use it again. God bless America,
JOEL M. SIMPSON (SAC, CA)

I had always viewed this bombing as horrible and unnecessary. After watching this video, it helped me see the side of our soldiers involved in the bombing, which was a side I didn't know much about. I still have mixed feelings about the decisions made, but I hope I can be respectful and look at it with an open mind. THANK YOU

Kelly Mickle CA
(close-up participant)

Speaking as a History Teacher - please show the correct version even if it is ugly or costs ~~some~~ life.

It has to be shown the way it happened and not the "clean up version" that is politically correct.

Have guts and show it the way it happened.

Philip E. Conklin
8501 N. 50th St. Apt 701
Tampa, FL 33617

813-989-2777

Enjoyed the exhibit! I agree with the veterans and American View pts.

Very well done!

No revisionists
for history —
Just tell the facts!

The old exhibition would have been
a lot more interesting. This was
boring for me because I don't want
to know about ~~the~~ the inner
workings of useage of war — I'd
rather understand the consequences.

I thought it was interesting
because you showed the actual
plane that dropped the atomic
bombs!

Kelly

Harris

The movie makes me
proud to be
American

The devastating
effects of the
bombs should have
been shown
as well as
the "gloriousness"

It's pretty
stupid here
+
my legs hurt

I was one of thousands
in the Port of Long Beach
Calif. waiting to invade
Japan — I feel it
saved our lives —
Ken Wagner Rowe