

"Capitol Visitor Center Corruptions"

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WORLDNETDAILY EXCLUSIVE COMMENTARY

'God' gets boot again in Washington, D.C.

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Flying under the radar, and literally under the ground of congressional bailout meetings, were closet Capitol Hill discussions about God and Washington, D.C. It seems another revision of America's religious history has been underway – this time at the new \$621 million, 580,000 square feet Capitol Visitor Center about to open in a couple months.

Eliminating or revising our Christian heritage seems to be *in vogue* these days at America's historic sites. In 2006, tour guides at the Jamestown Settlement, the replica of the first (1607) English colony in America, were caught intentionally leaving out its Christian heritage when discussing the purpose for the colony. In early 2007, the government explained that the inscription "In God We Trust" was "accidentally left off" of the initial minting of the new presidential dollar coins, only to correct the mistake by placing the words on the very edge of the coins – and not until major public pressure was placed upon them did our Congress require the Treasury to place the words back upon the face. In mid 2007, the Architect of the Capitol removed any mention of God from the flag-folding ceremonies at veterans' funerals and earlier attempted to remove "God" from congressional flag certificates. And in late 2007 the chaplain of my organization discovered someone in the hierarchy of the Washington Monument had deliberately altered its display of the capstone replica, so that the visiting public would have no idea the Latin words "Laus Deo" (meaning "Praise be to God") were actually inscribed on the very top of the monument as a celebratory finish and dedication.

And now religious revisionism is popping up again in the new Capitol Visitor Center.

While most recent news media covered Tina Fey and Congress' foolish financial bailouts, reporter Bob Unruh and WorldNetDaily were virtually alone in exposing this latest divine omission at the U.S. Capitol. This massive, largely underground museum of sorts (about three-quarters the size of the Capitol itself) will have exhibition galleries, theaters, a 550-seat cafeteria, gift shops, etc. But absent is anything that discusses our Christian or religious heritage. That is why Rep. Randy Forbes, R-Va., and the 108 congressional members of the Congressional Prayer Caucus recently petitioned the Architect of the Capitol by letter, which details and documents the incomplete and inaccurate religious content in the Capitol Visitor Center – also found in Sen. Jim DeMint's, R-S.C., YouTube video "War on God"

1. No mention of our national motto, "In God We Trust";

2. In displaying images of the current speaker's rostrum in the House chamber, the phrase "In God We Trust" is omitted from its location engraved in marble above the speaker's head;
3. The opening words in Article 3 in the Northwest Ordinance (1787) are excluded from an exhibit. The actual article reads, "Art. 3. Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." The exhibit article reads: "Art. 3. ... schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged."
4. There are factual inaccuracies regarding church services held at the Capitol in early decades of our republic, saying they were held when Congress wasn't in session, when in fact they were held year around – and even the so-labeled strict-separatist Thomas Jefferson attended them throughout his eight years of presidency.
5. The exhibits include photos from Earth Day, an AIDS rally, various casino grounds and factories, but it does not include photos from monumental religious events such as the National Day of Prayer or the March for Life event, attended by thousands annually, etc.
6. There is an absence of any major display or description of the religious influence within or about the 200-plus year history of the Capitol.

“Historical buildings like the Capitol Visitor Center are there to tell the story of our nation," said Rep. Forbes. "When religious history is removed from these displays, the American public is not able to observe an accurate depiction of our nation's story. We owe it to those who have gone before us and to our future generations to provide a complete representation of our nation's heritage. We will continue to fight until this is achieved in the Capitol Visitor Center."

Well, thanks to their passion and diligence, Rep. Forbes, his aides and the Congressional Prayer Caucus recently informed the public of some good news that "the Committee on House Administration and the Senate Rules and Administration Committee have agreed to include references to our nation's religious history. ... [they] have acknowledged this important part of our nation's history and have agreed to correct the omission of historical religious content in the Capitol Visitor Center."

The release also notes that "The Committee on House Administration and the Senate Rules and Administration Committee have agreed to the following changes to the Capitol Visitor Center:

- That the phrase "Our Nation's Motto" be removed from the plaque describing the engraving of E Pluribus Unum;
- That "In God We Trust" be engraved in stone in a prominent location within the Capitol Visitor Center and that the panel describing the engraving include the proper recognition of this phrase as our national motto;
- That the Pledge of Allegiance be engraved in stone in a prominent location within the Capitol Visitor Center.

"In addition, the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on House Administration have agreed to the research and development of a permanent religious history display, and have agreed to make every effort to ensure that the display is erected in the Capitol Visitor Center as soon as possible."

In addition, the following paragraph comes from an authentic e-mail sent from the office of the Architect of the Capitol (and given to me by my chaplain), in response to a protest to the Capitol Visitor Center religious omissions. Unfortunately, the email makes it appear to the public like they've had these religious inclusions all along, when Rep. Forbes and the 108 members of the Congressional Prayer Caucus know likewise, and now you do too.

References to religion and faith are, in fact, included in the context of several historic exhibits and several religious items appear in the displays. Some examples include Article 3 of the Northwest Ordinance in its entirety; a copy of the Pledge of Allegiance and the prayer said at the opening of the current Congress; a copy of the Bible used to administer the oath of office to Senators until 1882; portraits of the first House and Senate chaplains; information about religious services regularly held in the Capitol in the 1800s, and an unaltered display of the U.S. Constitution highlighting the First Amendment which established our country's right to the freedom of religion.

That's a good start, but I believe We the People need to help keep the pressure on these officials to assure these revisionist rectifications. With some 15,000 expected guests daily, included among them thousands of children and students from across America, it is our duty to assure the preservation of our Capitol's religious history in the Capitol Visitor Center. That is why I am encouraging Americans to write or call the Architect of the Capitol communications officers (202-228-1793 or emalecki@aoc.gov) and also tell their representatives, "Thanks for pledging to correct the religious omissions at the Capitol Visitor Center. We look forward to seeing the changes and the 'permanent religious history display.' And if it isn't worthy of our Capitol and country's Christian heritage, we'll be back to protest until you get it right!"

Is it merely coincidental that so many acts of revisionism have occurred over the last couple years at governmental historical sites? Is it merely coincidental that the more modern memorials in Washington (like the Roosevelt and World War II memorials) bear virtually no religious inscriptions at all, while all the former ones do? Is it merely coincidental that liberal erasers are right now busy elsewhere in the country deleting our Judeo-Christian heritage for the sake of fully secularizing our nation's past for future generations? Of course not. Friends, we must stop these revisionist travesties from taking one more step. We must preserve the fact that our founders weren't creating a secular state but a sectarian-free state – and there is a huge difference.

America's fathers wholeheartedly believed in the premise stated in Psalm 33:12, which says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." But what would they have thought of a nation that removes God from its heritage, classroom instructions, civic ceremonies, buildings, monuments, historic sites, etc.? I believe the words of Thomas Jefferson are as fitting for religious apostasy as they were for slavery, words that were inscribed upon his memorial in Washington D.C., around 1940, "And can the liberties of a nation be thought secure when we have removed their only firm basis, a conviction in the minds of the people that these liberties are the gift of God? That they are not to be violated but with his wrath? Indeed I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just: that his justice cannot sleep for ever...."

Letter to Architect of Capitol from Congressional Prayer Caucus

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2008

Stephen T. Ayers, FAIA
Acting Architect of the Capitol
Room SB-15 United States Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Ayers:

We are writing to express a concern we have regarding the possible incomplete historical content of some materials contained in the new Capitol Visitor Center (CVC), which is apparently scheduled to open to the public in December of this year.

We have been troubled to learn in recent weeks that some aspects of the new CVC, including displays, videos, and historic interpretations, may be historically incomplete and reflect an apathetic disposition toward our nation's religious history, historical events of a religious nature that took place in the Capitol, and the people of faith who played such an integral role in the founding of this nation and the history of the Capitol.

Moreover, it is clear that those who designed and developed the displays produced products excluding any significant references to God or faith, and produced a video introducing the facility focusing on the motto *E Pluribus Unum* and effectively substituting that motto for the current national motto, "In God We Trust." In fact, not only is our national motto, "In God We Trust," not a central theme of the CVC, it has been totally excluded from any effective presentation in an addition to the U.S. Capitol that is nearly three-quarters the size of the Capitol itself.

Although we have heard today unofficially that this omission of "In God We Trust" was an oversight, you can appreciate our concern that if such an enormous omission was missed on a structure as expansive as the CVC, there may be other similar omissions of equal concern.

We must acknowledge that other recent actions of the federal government have not served to allay our fears. Some of these actions include but are not limited to the following:

1. Your recent actions attempting to censor the word "God" from certificates that accompany flags flown over the Capitol building, and your suggestion that "God" should not be on federal buildings or government documents. As you recall, you initially refused the request of an Eagle Scout who wanted the certificate to read: "For my Grandfather, for his dedication and love of God, family and country." Your only objection was to the word "God."
2. The National Park Service's removal of a display inside the Washington Monument that explained the inscription at the top of the Monument that reads *Laus Deo*, or "Praise Be to God."
3. The Department of Veterans Affairs refusal to allow service members' families to voluntarily have service organizations or cemetery employees perform Funeral Honors and Memorial Honor Details reciting the 13 steps to fold an American flag at National Cemeteries, claiming it was a violation of the Establishment Clause of the Constitution because it referenced "God."
4. The decision by the U.S. mint in November 2006 to move the inscription "In God We Trust" from the face of the new Presidential dollar coin to the edge along with the year and the phrase *E Pluribus Unum*, and the Treasury's alleged accidental omission altogether of the words "In God We Trust" from the edge inscription of an unknown number of new George Washington dollar coins.

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While we recognize and support any individual's right to disagree with the truth of statements made by our Founding Fathers, Presidents of the United States, Members of the House of Representatives, Members of the Senate, and those contained in U.S. treaties, state constitutions, the Declaration of Independence, the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag, and numerous official documents indicating a belief in God, it would be unfortunate to deny that these statements were made or that these events took place. They are so interwoven into the tapestry of American history that to omit them would unravel a rich history that deserves better.

Although we recognize that even a Visitor Center as massive as this one cannot contain every historical reference, some omitted facts are so glaringly obvious that to exclude them offers a distorted view of American history that is not acceptable to us and that we believe will ultimately not be acceptable to the American taxpayers. None of us should want to construct a \$621 million shrine to political correctness that does not accurately reflect a significant part of American history.

Therefore, we, the undersigned Members of Congress, pursuant to the Office of the Architect of the Capitol's rules of disclosure, hereby request that the Office of the Architect of the Capitol produce for inspection and copying at the offices of Congressman J. Randy Forbes (VA-04), or if mutually convenient, allow an appropriate time and place for the review and inspection of, the following:

All records and documents relating to any displayed content in the Capitol Visitor Center, including changes or additions to design or content that were made in response to requests from Members of Congress, as well as a list of all individuals or groups that consulted on such content and what, if any, changes or additions resulted from these discussions.

The term "document" includes, but is not limited to, any written, printed, typed, recorded, filmed, punched, transcribed, taped or other graphic matter of any kind or nature however produced or reproduced, whether sent or received, or neither, including the original, draft, copies and non-identical copies bearing notations or marks not found on the original, and includes, but is not limited to, all correspondence, records, electronic correspondence, electronic mail, drawings, memoranda, reports, analyses, computer generated reports and print-outs, other documents, which are in your custody, possession, and/or control or to which you otherwise have access.

Secondly, we request an on-the-record meeting with you and your key staff involved in developing the exhibits in the CVC, including Mr. Bernie Ungar, Ms. Terri Rouse, and Ms. Marty Sewell, Members of the Congressional Prayer Caucus and other Members of Congress, along with our expert witnesses, during the second week of September when Congress returns from the August recess.

We respectfully request that you notify us of your willingness to comply with these requests on or before August 11, 2008, so that we can determine what additional steps we must take. Realizing that it would be unreasonable for you to have to coordinate with each of us, we have designated Congressman J. Randy Forbes as our point of contact. He will coordinate the scheduling of meetings and the review and inspection of all materials for all members undersigned.

Thank you for your hard work and commitment to preserving the history of our U.S. Capitol in an accurate way that respects the rich history of our nation. We look forward to your response and to working with you in a manner that can make us all proud of our new Visitor Center.

Sincerely,

J Randy Forbes	Mike McIntyre
Ken Cuccinelli	John Carter (TX-3)
Virgil Goode	Mac Galt
Ing Pitts Pa-16	JM with FL-01
Joe Wilson, SC-02	Long Lambert CO-5
Paul Ryan	Steve King
Whipple TN-1	Jim Walberg MI-07
John Klein MN-2	Arthur TX-2
K. R. Lyle TX-11	Mahesh Kumar OH-5
Alton Pearce NC-02	Robin Hayes NC-8
Cassidy Hodge WA-5	Bill Soli ID-1
Paul Lambert	Walter B. Jones

<p> <i>Paul [unclear] Tx 26</i> <i>Doug Walden</i> <i>Pat G. [unclear]</i> <i>M. [unclear] (MI-11)</i> <i>[unclear] II-19</i> <i>[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]</i> <i>[unclear] [unclear]</i> <i>[unclear] [unclear]</i> <i>[unclear] [unclear]</i> <i>[unclear] [unclear]</i> <i>[unclear] [unclear]</i> <i>[unclear] [unclear]</i> </p>	<p> <i>Jerry Moran</i> <i>[unclear] [unclear]</i> <i>Paul [unclear]</i> <i>[unclear] [unclear]</i> </p>
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Richard Bachman of Mich S X-24

Paul Brown

Ralph W. Hall

Moselem

Lin Carter

Tom Fessenden

Vern Zuberka TX-13

Pete Hochstein

Donald D. Mengello OH-10

Virginia Fox

W. Todd Cain

Frank Franks

Pat Sessing TX-32

Lawrence H. 05

Chif. Dingley Ga-11

Mary Fulton OK-5

Gene S. Lambert OH-2

Marilyn Musgrave CO-04

John Culberson TEXAS 7.

Bill Hollatts

Sarah Johnson

Robert B. Alford

Sue Myrick

Lamar Smith

Jeff Busalac

W. Benning Jr.

Rodney Alexander

Phil English

Adrian Smith

John Barber

Tom Davis

Dan Burton

J. McInnis

Dave Walden MD

Gen. H. Belcher - FL-9

Signatures for CVC letter
(108)

Rep. J. Randy Forbes	Rep. Chris Smith
Rep. Mike McIntyre	Rep. Cliff Stearns
Rep. Randy Neugebauer	Rep. Thomas Price
Rep. John Carter	Rep. Patrick McHenry
Rep. Virgil Goode	Rep. Michele Bachmann
Rep. Mac Thornberry	Rep. Kenny Marchant
Rep. Joseph Pitts	Rep. Paul C. Broun
Rep. Jeff Miller	Rep. Ralph M. Hall
Rep. Joe Wilson	Rep. Peter Roskam
Rep. Doug Lamborn	Rep. Eric Cantor
Rep. J. Gresham Barrett	Rep. Tom Feeney
Rep. Steve King	Rep. Vern Buchanan
Rep. David Davis	Rep. Pete Hoekstra
Rep. Tim Walberg	Rep. Donald A. Manzullo
Rep. John Kline	Rep. Virginia Foxx
Rep. Ted Poe	Rep. W. Todd Akin
Rep. Mike Conaway	Rep. Trent Franks
Rep. Michael R. Turner	Rep. Pete Sessions
Rep. Stevan Pearce	Rep. Scott Garrett
Rep. Robin Hayes	Rep. Phil Gingrey
Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers	Rep. Mary Fallin
Rep. Bill Sali	Rep. Jean Schmidt
Rep. Louie Gohmert	Rep. Marilyn Musgrave
Rep. Walter B. Jones	Rep. John Culberson
Rep. Michael C. Burgess	Rep. Bob Goodlatte
Rep. Jerry Moran	Rep. Sam Johnson
Rep. Greg Walden	Rep. Robert B. Aderholt
Rep. Jo Ann Emerson	Rep. Sue Myrick
Rep. Patrick Tiberi	Rep. Rob Bishop
Rep. Paul Ryan	Rep. Mark Souder
Rep. Thaddeus McCotter	Rep. Frank R. Wolf
Rep. Thelma Drake	Rep. Lincoln Davis
Rep. John Shimkus	Rep. Henry E. Brown
Rep. Duncan Hunter	Rep. Mike Ferguson
Rep. J. Howard Coble	Rep. Marsha Blackburn
Rep. Spencer Bachus	Rep. Adam Putnam
Rep. Chip Pickering	Rep. Jim Jordan
Rep. Geoff Davis	Rep. Bill Shuster
Rep. Mike Pence	Rep. Roscoe Bartlett
Rep. Henry Cuellar	Rep. John Sullivan
Rep. Robert Wittman	Rep. Rick Renzi
Rep. John Shadegg	Rep. Gary Miller
Rep. Dana Rohrabacher	Rep. John Boozman
Rep. George Radanovich	Rep. Todd Tiahrt

District

TO: JRF

To read the exciting ending to this revisionist experience at the Capitol Visitor Center, and receive more than 20 pages of original-source research materials that were used in rectifying the religious revision there, [go to this website's online store to acquire the whole story and research with colored photos for only \\$2.95](#) or you can [download all six revisionist stories contained on this website with Todd's analysis, corrections and colored photos for ½ price at only \\$9.95](#) (titled collectively, *“Uncovering Christian Revisionism in America,”* which includes [190 pages of documentation on the revisions at the Washington Monument, the Jamestown Settlement, Monticello \(Thomas Jefferson's estate\), the U.S. Supreme Court, plus bonus materials on how the famous urban legend debunking website, \[www.snopes.com\]\(http://www.snopes.com\), made biased liberal changes against Todd's research in their article on the U.S. Supreme Court-Ten Amendment/Commandment debate.](#))

