

Department of the Air Force
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington, D.C. 20330

23 August 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

FROM: HQ USAF/HO

SUBJECT: Conversation with Dr. Martin Harwit

At 0920 this morning, I talked with Dr. Martin Harwit, Director of the National Air and Space Museum (NASM).

Dr. Harwit said he had followed through over the weekend on the recommendation made by service historians (at the 16 August meeting with General Moorman) to closely look at whether his curators had placed into the script the recommendations of the military historians.

Harwit told me that his weekend review showed that, in fact, the curators had failed to take these recommendations, especially those of AF/HO. Dr. Harwit emphasized that he had been “taken aback at how little had been done.” There were “some word changes here and there,” Harwit said, but clearly the curators had failed to follow through. As he put it, this “had fallen through the cracks.”

As an example, Harwit said that our recommendation that President Roosevelt’s intense desire to see Japan bombed be included in the script, was now being taken care of.

Finally, he mentioned that “logistics would not permit” the NASM to implement Dr. Hallion’s concept for a two-stage exhibit, but that potentially this could be done at Dulles.

SIGNED
HERMAN S. WOLK
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Center for Air Force History