Stop the Murdoch (Flt 93) Memorial Blogburst: Senator SpecterÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s payoff for betraying his party â€“ betrayal of his state

Description

Blogburst logo, petition

We now know one of the payoffs that Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter received for being one of three Republican Senators who allowed President ObamaÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s trillion-dollar Spendulus bill to become law. WPXI in Pittsburgh reports that Specter has a 5.5 million dollar earmark for the crescent-shaped Flight 93 memorial in the omnibus spending bill just passed by the Senate.

Much as the people of Pennsylvania want to see a fitting memorial built, they yanked support for the crescent design in August 2007 after Tom Burnett Sr., father of Flight 93 hero Tom Jr., started warning the country that the memorial design is STILL packed to the gills with Islamic symbolism. Since that time the Memorial Project has hardly raised a dime, and a September 2007 interview with State Senator Jane Orie, who sponsors the Hearts of Steel memorial fund, makes clear that concerns about Islamic symbolism predominate. Here is her exchange with Pittsburgh talk-radio host Fred Honsberger:

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> Orie: â€œNo matter who it is, and no matter where I went today for 9/11 events, everybody brought up this crescent. Whether it is intentional or not, it is disturbing to people.â€•
>
> Honsberger: â€œSo everyone is bringing it up to you.â€•
>
> Orie: â€œAbsolutely.â€•

Orie is talking here about the so-called Ã¢â‚¬Å“redesign.Ã¢â‚¬Â• The people of Pennsylvania know that the giant crescent, which the redesign was supposed to remove, is still there. The Park Service calls it Ã¢â‚¬Å“Circle of EmbraceÃ¢â‚¬Â• now, but the circle is still broken, and the unbroken part of the circleÃ¢â‚¬â€•Ã¢â‚¬â€•what is symbolically left standing in the wake of 9/11Ã¢â‚¬â€•Ã¢â‚¬â€•remains exactly as it was in the original Crescent of Embrace (pictured above). Architect Paul Murdochâ€™s design is still a giant Islamic-shaped crescent, still pointing to Mecca.

Pennsylvanians have voted with their pocketbooks to reject this memorial to the terrorists, but Arlen Specter is determined to cram it down their throats anyway, the same way he helped Obama cram a trillion dollars of socialist pork down AmericaÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s throat.

Specter knows better than any other politician not just that the giant Islamic-shaped crescent is still there, but that it points to Mecca

Our group was actually very hopeful back in 2007 that Senator Specter might put and end to the memorial debacle. After Mr. BurnettÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s public appeal, SpecterÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s office wanted a briefing

on the Islamic symbolism that we have found in the crescent design. One of our most knowledgeable people then spent 45 minutes with Stan Caldwell, Executive Director of Senator SpecterÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s Pittsburgh office, explaining in detail the Islamic and terrorist memorializing symbolism.

Caldwell had no trouble understanding our graphical proof that the giant crescent points almost exactly at Mecca:

QiblaOverlaidOnCrescent,400px
A person standing between the tips of the Crescent of Embrace and facing into the center of the crescent (red arrow) will be facing within two degrees of the Muslim prayer direction (qibla), which is calculated as the great circle direction to Mecca. (Green qibla graphic produced by the Mecca-direction calculator at Islam.com. Another calculator is available at QiblaLocator.com.)

Caldwell also had no trouble understanding that the giant crescent is still there. All the redesign did was place an extra arc of trees out behind the mouth of the crescent, an arc of trees that according to the Park ServiceÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s own website explicitly represents a broken off part of the circle:

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Crescent-BrokenCircle animation, 400px
Animation starts with the bare naked Crescent of Embrace. The re-colored Circle of Embrace site plan is superimposed on top, then everything but the changes are removed. The only change is extra arc of trees (flashing) that explicitly represents a broken off part of the circle. Every particle of the original Crescent of Embrace design remains completely intact.

Our man also explained the significance of the Mecca orientation: that it turns the giant Islamic-shaped crescent into a *mihrab* (the Mecca-direction indicator around which every mosque is built). The planned memorial is actually the worldÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s largest mosque, and Arlen SpecterÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s office is fully aware of it.

Do Specter and Caldwell have some explanation? The press will never ask, but we can:

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Another *Washington Post* cover-up

Dan Eggen reports how Families of Flight 93 (an adjunct to the Memorial Project, representing only those families who are backing the crescent design) have been in Washington seeking federal money. He includes no mention of WHY the private fundraising effort has failed. But State Senator OrieÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s discussion of her fundraising difficulties is not hard to find. Any reporter doing a story on the memorialÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s fundraising problems would presumably start here:
Google search for fundraising+problems+Flight+93+memorial

The whole first page of search results is our blogburst post about Orie. (Ã¢â‚¬Å“Fundraising difficultiesÃ¢â‚¬Â• yields the same result.)

Either Dan Eggen is completely incompetent, or the *Post* is taking sides, refusing to report the facts that donÃ¢â‚¬â„¢t support the terrorist memorializing side.

Perhaps ombudsman Andrew Alexander should weigh in on this. The *Post* has NEVER reported on Mr. BurnettÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s long battle to stop the Park Service from planting a giant Islamic-shaped crescent atop his sonÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s grave. Mr. Burnett left a long comment on Dan EggenÃ¢â‚¬â„¢s article which Eggen simply ignored, along with private offers to talk.

So which is it Mr. Alexander? Is the *Post* incompetently ignorant of a controversy that has raged for years, or is it intentionally suppressing the facts about the giant Mecca-oriented crescent?

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Category

1. Political

Date Created
March 11, 2009
Author
admin

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