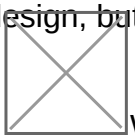
Stop the Murdoch (Flt 93 Cresent) Memorial Blogburst

Description

Trackbacked to Caoâ€™s blog and Error Theory.**Pennsylvania Newspapers Pretend There is No Direction to Mecca**In September 2005, a half dozen different bloggers verified that a person facing into what was originally called the Crescent of Embrace memorial to Flight 93 would be facing almost exactly at Mecca. Some surrounding trees have been added to the design, but the giant central crescent remains completely intact in the Bowl of Embrace redesign:  With Tom Burnett Sr. condemning the crescent design and refusing to allow Tom Jr.â€™s name to be used, there is now a big public controversy in western Pennsylvania over whether the giant crescent really is oriented on Mecca. In response, the Memorial Project has decided to deny that there is any such thing as the direction to Mecca, and Pittsburghâ€™s two major newspapers are both backing up this transparent falsehood.Professor Daniel Griffith, who is serving as a consultant to the Memorial Project, told the *Post Gazette* that: â€œanything can point toward Mecca, because the earth is round.â€• Ã¢â‚¬Â¦He made similar statements to the Pittsburgh *Tribune Review* and the Johnstown *Tribune Democrat*. None of these papers asked for a second opinion from any of the one billion Muslims who face Mecca five times a day for prayer, and it isnâ€™t that the media has been duped by Griffith.Editors and reporters at both the *Post Gazette* and the *Tribune Review* are fully aware that a host of bloggers have independently verified the Mecca orientation of the crescent design. It was actually the *Tribune Review* that first commissioned Professor Griffith to analyze the blogosphereâ€™s Mecca-orientation claims. Alec Rawls, who has written a book about the many Islamic and terrorist memorializing features in the crescent design, has a copy of Griffithâ€™s report for the *Tribune Review* posted online. The first thing Griffith does is calculate the direction to Mecca:

> I computed an azimuth value from the Flight 93 crater site to Mecca of roughly 55.20Ã‚Â°.

â€œAzimuthâ€• is the technical term for â€œdirection,â€• measured in degrees clockwise from north. Now Griffith is denying that there is any such thing as the direction to Mecca, and the *Tribune Review* refuses to tell its readers that Griffith is contradicting the report that he wrote for them.

The *Post Gazette* is even more outrageous. Rawls was told by *Post Gazette* reporter Paula Ward that she and her editors saw all the blog posts on the Mecca orientation of the Crescent of Embrace back in September 2005 and decided not to publish this explosive information. (*Crescent of Betrayal*, download 3, p. 108.) At the same time, the *Post Gazette* was running editorials that called critics of the crescent paranoid bigots:

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> But like those who look at innocent kids trick-or-treating at Halloween and see only the devilâ€™s work, a few small and suspicious minds couldnâ€™t look past the crescent to see a remarkably sensitive design.

When Tom Burnet Sr. asked the American people last month to please take his and Mr. Rawlsâ€™ warnings about the crescent design seriously, the *Post Gazette* responded with an editorial titled: â€œEfforts to sully Flight 93 memorial deserve scorn.â€•

What is the significance of a crescent that a person faces into to face Mecca? Such a structure is called a *mihrab*, and is the central feature around which every mosque is built. That is why the surrounding trees added in the Bowl of Embrace redesign do nothing to alter the Islamic significance of the design. You can plant as many trees around a mosque as you want and it will still be a mosque.

One local paper actually did fact-check the orientation of the giant crescent and validated the Mecca orientation claim in print, but the larger papers are all refusing to pass this fact checking on, or to do their own, even though it is simple one-two operation. All that *Tribune Democrat* reporter Kirk Swauger had to do was use the Mecca direction calculator at Islam.com to print out a graphic of the direction to Mecca from Somerset PA, then place this print out over the Crescent of Embrace site-plan PDF on his computer screen:

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The green circle, marked with the qibla direction (the direction to Mecca), is from Islam.com. Graphic shows that a person standing at the midpoint between the most obtruding tips of the crescent structure and facing into the center of the crescent (red arrow), will be facing almost exactly at Mecca. (Hat tip Sarah Wells.)

As Swauger put it in his news article:

> [Rawlsâ€™] claims seem to be backed up by coordinates for the direction of qibla from Somerset that can be found on Islam.com. When superimposed over the crescent in the memorial design, the midpoint points over the Arctic Circle, through Europe toward Mecca.

Having suppressed this information for two years, Pittsburghâ€™s major newspapers are desperate to keep it suppressed now, or they will be ruined. Thus they find themselves camped out on the very spot that the blogosphere ranged with its artillery two years ago. They know full well that the Mecca-orientation of the crescent has been verified numerous times and are counting on their control of public information to keep this knowledge from getting out to the general public.

The challenge to bloggers could not be more overt. Can the blogosphere retrieve its earlier fact checking from the memory hole and bust these news frauds? Easy and permanent access to existing fact checking is the blogosphereâ€™s natural advantage, but we still have to take advantage of it.

This information was also mentioned at Newsbusters here on September 27, 2007.

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If you want to join us outraged protesting bloggers

1. in objecting to planting an Islamic symbol instead of an American one on the crash site,
2. in objecting to its pointing to Mecca and the terroristsâ€™ intended target,
3. in objecting to dishonoring the memory of the people who fought the terrorists on Flight 93
4. in pointing out how Paul Murdoch cleverly and symbolically cast the passenger and crew out of the Islamic heavens in the design while the terrorists are inside the Islamic heavens
5. in pointing out how the date and the site are dedicated to the terrorists
6. in pointing out the numerous redundant mosque design features
7. in pointing out the terrorist memorializing features
8. and post along with us on Wednesdays

Please contact caoilfhionn1 at gmail dot com with your website url. She will, in turn, add you to the email list, send you the
blogroll code (if you want to put it in your sidebar), and will send you the prewritten text to post. You should receive the email from Cao a day or two prior to the Wednesday it should be posted, and tracked back to Caoâ€™s blog and Error Theory, if your blog has that capability. This will help us track who in the blogroll is posting the blogburst.

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Letâ€™s roll.

Stop the Memorial Blogburst

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Riddle me this:

What was Paul Murdoch, the designâ€™s architect, thinking? What was his ulterior motive? When controversy over the original name â€œCrescent of Embraceâ€• and the bald Islamic symbol planted on the crash site brought a public outcry, the entire memorial was hastily re-titled â€œ40 Memorial Groves.â€•

As Alec is apt to do, heâ€™s having some fun with this: **So why only 38 Memorial Groves?**

His answer should appear today at Error Theory, go check it out!

Trackedback @: Caoâ€™s Blog and Error Theory

Category

1. 2996 Tribute
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