



Washington Weekly Review
Friday, February 10, 2006
President Roberta Combs

Congressman Walter Jones Who is Leading Effort to Ensure Military Chaplains Can Pray in the Name of Jesus Responds to Yesterday's Air Force Final Interim Guidelines on Religious Freedom

Yesterday the United States Air Force issued their final interim guidelines on religious freedom in the Air Force before a final document is issued about 3 months from now. Navy Chaplain Gordon James Klingenschmitt, an Air Force Academy graduate, conducted an 18 day fast because he was not allowed to pray in the name of Jesus in the U.S. Navy. His situation alerted America as to the problem of religious discrimination against Christian chaplains in the United States military.

Congressman Walter Jones, (R-NC), several months ago had sent a letter to President George W. Bush with the signatures of 74 members of Congress urging him to issue an executive order upholding the constitutional right of chaplains to pray, as they desire. Reacting to yesterday's Air Force guidelines, **Congressman Jones said, "I think more progress can be made in assuring that Christian military chaplains can pray in the name of Jesus Christ and all military chaplains can pray according to their faith."**

Regarding the latest interim Air Force guidelines on religious freedom, the Rev. Billy Baugham of the Greenville, S.C.-based International Conference of Evangelical Chaplain Endorsers said, "We are not totally satisfied (the statement) does not eradicate restrictions on free speech. As I read it, I do not see praying in Jesus' name is guaranteed."



Press Release

Monday, January 23, 2006

President Roberta Combs

Christian Coalition Commends President Bush for Ensuring Military Chaplains May Pray in Name of Jesus

Washington D.C. -- Christian Coalition of America commends President George W. Bush for ensuring that military chaplains will once again be able to pray at all times in the name of Jesus, a practice which has been stifled by a politically-correct military establishment for a number of years. Congressman Walter Jones, (R-NC), is also to be commended for his hard work in working out the deal between the White House and the United States Congress. Some 75 Members of the House and Senate signed a letter to the President written by Congressman Jones urging him to issue an Executive Order.

The Honorable Claude Allen, the White House Domestic Policy Advisor, assured Congressman Jones that President Bush would indeed speak to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld about this issue and the congressman agreed that this religious discrimination problem could be corrected without an additional executive order issued by the President.

The President of the Christian Coalition of America, Roberta Combs said, "**Americans were surprised to learn last summer that the U.S. Air Force was about to issue unconstitutional guidelines which would have written into policy religious discrimination against evangelical and Catholic chaplains who wanted to pray in the name of Jesus. Navy Chaplain Gordon James Klingenschmitt's discrimination case and the religious discrimination case in the Army's 10th Mountain**



Division, now in Iraq, have shown us that religious discrimination in the U.S. military is rampant. I thank President Bush, a man of great religious faith, for ensuring that such discrimination will no longer be able to continue. Our brave men and women serving all over the world, many in harm's way, deserve a discrimination-free atmosphere when it comes to their faith."

**Washington Weekly Review
Friday, January 13, 2006
President Roberta Combs**

Navy Chaplain Gordon James Klingenschmitt -- Wins Battle with Navy on Being Able to Pray in the Name of Jesus/U.S. Army High-ranking Chaplain In Europe Intimidates Subordinates Into Not Praying in the Name of Jesus/Problem Pervasive in All Services/Christian Coalition Activists Need to Urge President Bush to Issue Executive Order To Stop Discrimination Against Christian Chaplains

The politically-correct Navy establishment caved in to a Navy Chaplain, an Air Force Academy graduate, Gordon James Klingenschmitt, and allowed him to pray in the name of Jesus in his uniform during a prayer service in front of the White House last Saturday, which enabled him to end his 19th day of fasting and praying.

The problems of religious discrimination against Christians in the U.S. Air Force last summer was followed by the revelation that Chaplain Klingenschmitt was forced to leave his position on a Navy vessel because he prayed in the name of Jesus; because he used certain verses from the Bible (the Gospel of John for example) in his sermons; because he



helped a Jewish sailor get Kosher mre's (meals ready to eat), etc. Now it has been revealed that a top Army division chaplain has told his division chaplains not to pray in Jesus' name. His statement was reported as something to the effect of: **"You know guys, I'm with you on the praying in Jesus' name thing. But if we continue to insist on this, we are going to lose our ability to pray at all. If anyone here does this (praying in the name of Jesus) without my knowledge, I will crunch you."**

It is way past time for the United States Congress and for the President of the United States of America to do their duty and intervene and ensure religious freedom for all faiths in the military, including Christianity. It was encouraging to see late last year that nearly 75 Members of Congress including Senators sent a letter to President Bush urging him to issue an executive order that would allow all military chaplains to pray according to their faith, as they see fit. **Congressman Walter Jones, (R-NC), who initiated the letter, said, "He (President Bush) oversees the military as commander-in-chief, and he can say to the Department of Defense, I want the chaplains in this military to have the right to pray as they see fit, based on their religion."**

Although the White House press secretary's comments Thursday were encouraging, the American people need to hear from the president himself. Call the White House at 202-456-1414 or email at president@whitehouse.gov and urge the president to issue an Executive Order protecting the constitutional right of military chaplains and other members of the military to pray according to their faith.



Washington Weekly Review
Saturday, January 7, 2006
President Roberta Combs

Navy Chaplain Gordon James Klingenschmitt -- a U.S. Air Force Academy Graduate, Who is in the 18th Day of a Water-only Fast Continues to Fight a Politically-Correct Navy Establishment Which Has Ordered Him and All Other Chaplains to Not Pray in the Name of Jesus and to not use Certain Verses from the Gospel of John -- Urges President Bush to issue Executive Order/Christian Coalition Activists Need to Urge President Bush to Issue Executive Order

The politically-correct Navy establishment has demanded that a 1991 Air Force Academy graduate and Navy Chaplain Gordon James Klingenschmitt and other Navy chaplains to stop praying in the name of Jesus and to stop using certain Bible verses from the Gospel of John. Chaplain Klingenschmitt volunteered for demotion (from USAF Major O-4 to Navy Lieutenant O-3) to become a Navy chaplain. He made an appearance on the Hannity and Colmes show on the Fox News network last night speaking about his fast entering in his 18th day of fasting today. Chaplain Klingenschmitt said he will keep fasting and praying until President Bush issues an Executive Order ensuring military chaplains may pray as they always have according to the precepts of their faith.

In Thursday's White House press briefing, presidential press secretary Scott McClellan defended the right of military chaplains to "be able to freely express themselves" but declined to comment directly on the case of Chaplain Klingenschmitt. In answer to the question at the press conference, "Does the president believe that the Navy



should engage in this suppression of the First Amendment's guarantee of the free exercise of religion?" **Scott McClellan said: "Well, the president believes strongly in the free exercise of religion. And he believes that it's important that our military personnel be able to freely express themselves. ... And we value the contributions of our military chaplains to our men and women in uniform, and we're committed to safeguarding the ability of people to freely express their religious views."** **The United States Navy, and other military services, should interpret those White House comments as freedom for military chaplains to pray in the name of Jesus if they so desire as General George Washington did quite often himself in his prayers.**

Chaplain Klingenschmitt has 14 years of great fitness reports, earned a Defense Meritorious Service Medal for changing national intelligence policy 3 times, has experience as a full-time management consultant to flag officers, and was one of only 14 USAF officers selected as a Baldrige Examiner for the Presidential Quality Award. He has both an M.B.A. and Master of Divinity, now working on his PhD in Theology. He has met with numerous United States Senators and Members of the House of Representatives this month to seek a legislative remedy or assistance in getting President George W. Bush to issue an Executive Order protecting religious freedom rights of chaplains and other military personnel.

Chaplain Klingenschmitt said, "There is suppression of religious liberty in the military, and I'm concerned about this." At a press conference this month in Washington D.C., Congressman Trent Franks, (R-AZ), said, "I truly believe that the President of the United States, if he fully understood the realities that are present in this circumstance, would respond in an effective and decisive manner." Nearly 75 Members of



Congress including Senators have sent a letter to President Bush urging him to issue an executive order that would allow all military chaplains to pray according to their faith, as they see fit. Congressman Walter Jones, (R-NC), who initiated the letter, said, "He (President Bush) oversees the military as commander-in-chief, and he can say to the Department of Defense, I want the chaplains in this military to have the right to pray as they see fit, based on their religion."

Although the White House press secretary's comments Thursday were encouraging, the American people need to hear from the president himself. Call the White House at 202-456-1414 or email at president@whitehouse.gov and urge the president to issue an Executive Order protecting the constitutional right of military chaplains and other members of the military to pray according to their faith.
