



MILITARY RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
f o u n d a t i o n

INTO THE LION'S DEN: MRFF FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT MIKEY WEINSTEIN ON THE CHRISTIAN BROADCASTING NETWORK

MRFF Founder and President Mikey Weinstein appeared on the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) to defend MRFF's – and the Marines' and the Army's – position on disallowing official military emblems on Bible verse dog tags, countering First Liberty Institute's very *un*-constitutional defense of Christian jewelry company "Shields of Strength."



[Click to watch 4:25 segment, starts at 21:15](#)

[CLICK FOR RECENT BACKGROUND ON MARINE CORPS "SHIELDS OF STRENGTH" BIBLE VERSE DOG TAGS](#)

[CLICK FOR PREVIOUS BACKGROUND ON ARMY "SHIELDS OF STRENGTH" BIBLE VERSE DOG TAGS](#)

Coverage of MRFF Prayer Breakfast Victory at Scott Air Force Base continues.

THE DAILY BEAST COVERS MRFF

Scott Air Force Base's Prayer Breakfast Sparks Protest From Religious Freedom Group

By: Tracy Connor

Monday, February 10, 2020

(Excerpts from the Daily Beast/Emphasis Added by MRFF)

An invitation to a prayer breakfast from the commander of Scott Air Force Base in Illinois brought a rebuke from a religious freedom group that said it amounted to an order to attend. **"The prayer breakfast isn't benign; it's meant to be a massive proselytizing,"** **Michael Weinstein of the Military Religious Freedom Foundation** said in a letter to Cmdr. Jeremiah Heathman, according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "You can't use your position as commander to force (this). In military culture, **you're being told to go there.**" Brass at the base had no comment, but the wording on the invitation for the Feb. 25 event was edited to remove Heathman's name.

[...]

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THE CHRISTIAN POST COVERS MRFF

Air Force removes commander's name from prayer breakfast invitation after secular group complains

By: Samuel Smith

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

(Excerpts from The Christian Post/Emphasis Added by MRFF)

A U.S. Air Force base in Illinois has **removed a commander's name from a prayer breakfast invitation** in response to a complaint from one of the nation's leading secular legal organizations.

Last Thursday, the New Mexico-based **Military Religious Freedom Foundation** sent a **demand letter to Scott Air Force Base** in St. Clair County on behalf of 15 unnamed Air Force officers, enlisted personnel and civilians.

The letter was sent to Col. Jerimiah Heathman, objecting to a mass email he sent out to those stationed at the installation. The email included an invitation to the "National Prayer Breakfast" scheduled to take place on Feb. 25 at the base's event center. The invitation was sent under Heathman's formal title of commander of the 375th Air Mobility Wing.

Because Heathman urged recipients to send in their RSVPs, **MRFF argues that the invitation signified a "command priority."**

[...]

"You have additionally **created a de facto 'religious test,'**" MRFF President **Michael Weinstein** said in the letter.

[...]

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[CLICK FOR BACKGROUND ON MRFF'S PRAYER BREAKFAST VICTORY AT SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE](#)



"From grateful family at Scott AFB, Illinois"

From: *(Spouse of USAF Active Duty Airman's E-Mail Address Withheld)*

Dear Mr. Weinstein & the MRFF

My family is one of the fifteen which asked the MRFF to stand up for us in the face of our 375 Air Mobility Wing Commander's directive to attend the National Prayer breakfast at Scott AFB later this month.

Although my husband is Christian, I am not. Both of us were so disappointed and hurt when we first saw the so called invitation from Col. Heathman to attend what is always a totally Christian event no matter what they say to us to the contrary.

We've been in the Air Force long enough now to have seen this all before. For over (number of years of USAF service withheld) years now and it just seems to get worse and worse when it comes to the constant pressure to become an approved Christian. There is even pressure now on our kids. We know that if we voiced our concerns we would be targeted by our chain and pay the awful price.

Thank you to the whole MRFF for taking this matter on for us all here at Scott AFB. And bringing it so fast to a good conclusion which never would have happened if we had sat silent.

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(505) 250-7727

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