

MRFF VICTORY!!!



MILITARY RELIGIOUS FREEDOM FOUNDATION

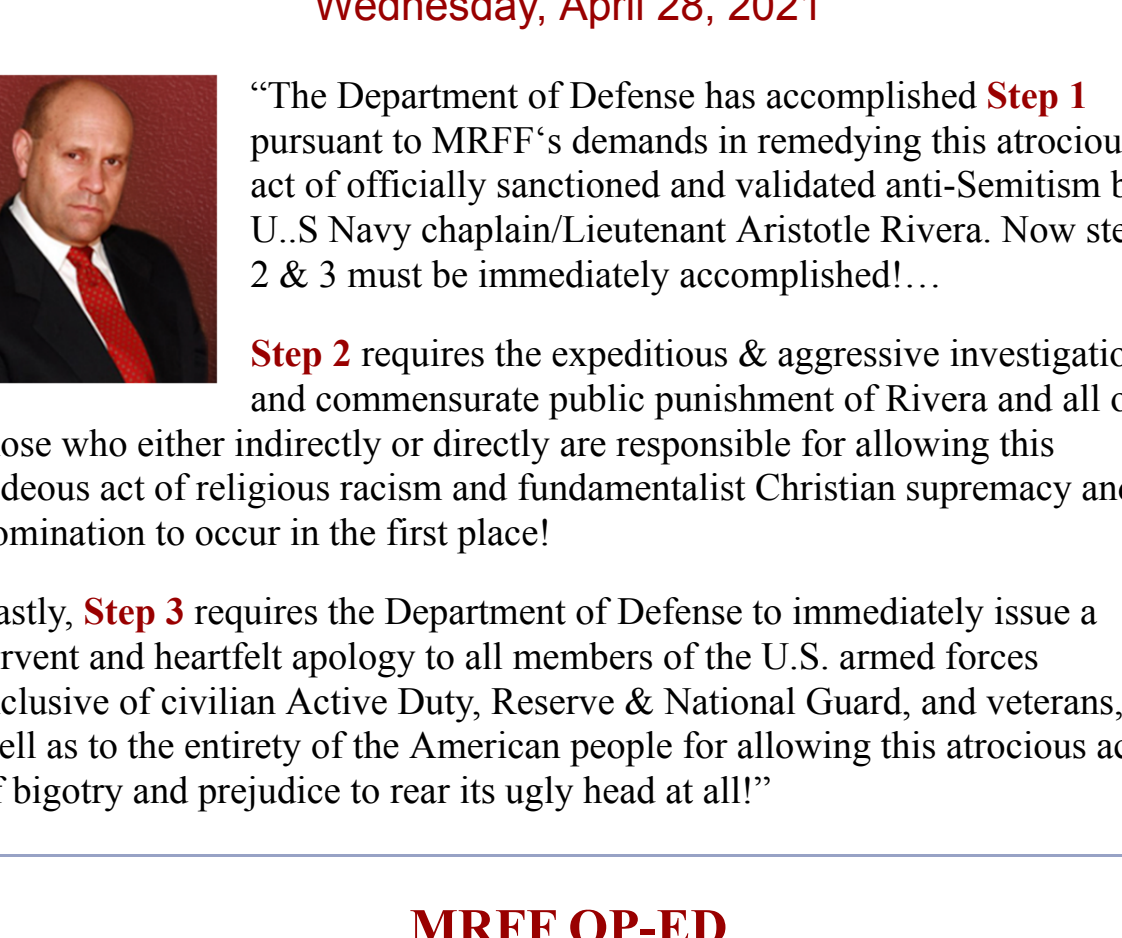
'YOU JEWS KILLED JESUS. NOW, SAY YOU'RE SORRY.'

ARTICLE REMOVED FROM DoD WEBSITE LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER MRFF DEMAND

In an outrageous statement of anti-Semitism in an article published by the Washington Headquarters Service of the Department of Defense for Easter, a Navy chaplain gave his take on the crucifixion of Jesus —

The Jews killed him and should apologize!

MRFF demand gets the despicable article swiftly removed!



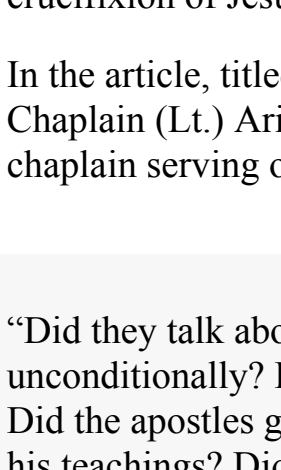
MRFF OP-ED WITH ORIGINAL MRFF DEMAND ON DAILY KOS

Trending for second day on Daily Kos

Message from the Department of Defense: 'You Jews Killed Jesus. Now, Say You're Sorry.'

By: MRFF Senior Research Director Chris Rodda

Tuesday, April 27, 2021



[UPDATE: MRFF VICTORY!!! The outrageously anti-Semitic article has been taken down from both the Washington Headquarters Service and Camp Lejeune websites.]

In a no-holds-barred statement of anti-Semitism at the end of an article published by the Washington Headquarters Service of the Department of Defense for Easter this year, a Navy chaplain gives his take on the crucifixion of Jesus — the Jews killed him and should apologize.

In the article, titled "What did the people talk about at the first Easter?," Chaplain (Lt.) Aristotle Rivera, a graduate of West Point who is now a Navy chaplain serving on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, asks:

"Did they talk about how loving God is, or how God loves us unconditionally? Did they mention how God helps us through difficult times? Did the apostles go around inspiring others to remember Jesus and to follow his teachings? Did they gather in synagogues to discuss the ethical implications of loving your enemies and praying for those who persecute you?," and,

Did Peter "give instruction about memorizing scripture verses, going to church on Sundays, being nice to people, stop saying bad words and start being better people?"

Hell no, according to Chaplain Rivera. None of that namby-pamby modern Christian sentiment for the manly-man first Christians!

Peter addressed the "Men of Israel" — a.k.a. the Jews — telling them: "you crucified and killed" Jesus.

After quoting several verses from the second chapter of Acts, Chaplain Rivera summarizes his interpretation of those verses, addressed to the "Men of Israel," writing (emphasis added):

"A way to summarize the early Easter message was this: 'Jesus lived. You killed him. God raised him. We saw him. Say Sorry.'"

On behalf of 32 high-ranking military members and DoD civilian employees in the greater Washington, D.C. area, 24 of whom are Jewish, who are understandably outraged at this blatant anti-Semitism purveyed by the Department of Defense's Washington Headquarters Service, Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF) founder and president Mikey Weinstein has sent the following email to Regina F. Meiners, the acting director of the Washington Headquarters Service, demanding that, rather than an apology from the Jews for killing Jesus, the Washington Headquarters Service apologize for condoning and spreading Chaplain Rivera's anti-Semitic poison.

From: Michael L Weinstein
Subject: Antisemitic Article Published by DoD/WHHS: MRFF Demand Letter
Date: April 27, 2021 at 12:34:10 PM MDT
To: regina.f.meiners.civ@mail.mil
Cc: david.l.norquist.civ@mail.mil, lisa.w.hershman.civ@mail.mil, Mark.a.milley@mail.mil, john.e.hyten@mail.mil, michael.m.gilday@mail.mil, thomas.w.harker.civ@mail.mil, david.h.berger@mail.mil, charles.q.brown3@mail.mil, john.p.roth22.civ@mail.mil, james.c.mcconville3@mail.mil, john.e.whitley2.civ@mail.mil, Information Weinstein

Regina F. Meiners
Acting Director
Department of Defense
Washington Headquarters Service

Dear Ms. Meiners,
Please see this despicable article that was published on March 30, 2021, under YOUR authority as the Acting Director of the DoD Washington Headquarters Service:

https://www.whs.mil/News/News-Display/Article/2556111/what-did-the-people-talk-about-at-the-first-easter

The Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF) is representing 32 Washington D.C.-area military and civilian DoD members, 24 of whom are Jewish, regarding this defamatory outrage published under your clear authority.

As America still reels on a daily basis from the horrific shock of extremist hate from every corner of our Land, now comes this stunningly antisemitic article printed, not even a month ago, in apparent celebration of Easter by the official Department of Defense (DoD), Washington Headquarters Service. This putrid filth, spewing and egging on the basic foundations of the ancient hatred of the Jewish people as "Christ Killers," is simply one of the most antisemitic, Old School Jew-baiting pieces of defamatory trash we have seen here at MRFF in a very long time.

Yet once again, the Mother Ship of fundamentalist Christianity rears its repugnant head, this time in an official DoD headquarters internet publication written by a United States Navy officer/chaplain for ALL the world to see.

And what is its main filthy theme or thesis?
It is, quite literally, to SOLELY blame the Jewish people ("Men of Israel") for the gruesome execution of Jesus Christ on the cross.

Ms. Meiners, this wretched screed is absolutely base, evil, vile, hateful bigots and rapacious racism being vomited out of the mouth of this U.S. military officer/chaplain/author and fully endorsed by your official high profile DoD news and information outlet, the DoD's Washington Headquarters Service.

The Military Religious Freedom Foundation demands that U.S. Navy Chaplain (Lt.) Rivera, who is also a West Point graduate, and anyone else who is either directly or indirectly responsible for this mind-blowing, dishonorable, and malevolent publishing of abject prejudice, be aggressively investigated and visibly punished with immediate, due swiftness by the Department of Defense.

Additionally, MRFF further demands an immediate and heartfelt apology in writing from the DoD's Washington Headquarters Service, which you currently direct and oversee.

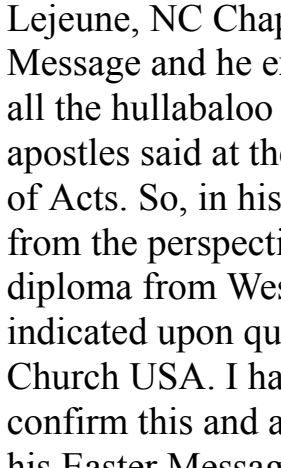
Sincerely,
Michael L. "Mikey" Weinstein. Esq.
Founder and President
Military Religious Freedom Foundation
505-250-7727

Click to read on Daily Kos

Click to read captured copy of now-removed anti-Semitic article "What did the people talk about at the first Easter?"

Email from from MRFF Advisory Board Member Col. James Tyson Currie, US Army (Ret.), Ph.D. to Department of Defense Washington Headquarters Service Acting Director Regina F. Meiners

Tuesday, April 27, 2021



Ms. Reiners:
It has just been brought to my attention by the Military Religious Freedom Foundation (MRFF), on whose Advisory Board I proudly serve, that a Navy chaplain, a lieutenant named Rivera who comes under your jurisdiction, has recently published one of the most anti-Semitic pieces of trash I have ever seen, a screed that is worthy of being included with the NAZI propaganda of the 1930s and 1940s.

The "Hate the Jews because they killed Jesus" trope is right out of the Middle Ages. I thought we as a military had progressed enough that we did not have to put up with this kind of unacceptable spew from a commissioned officer and chaplain, but I was obviously wrong. The irony, of course, is that such Jew hating is also very non-theological and non-historical. First of all, it wasn't the Jews who crucified Jesus; it was Roman soldiers. Does this mean we should hate all modern day Italians? I'm sure you know the answer to that. Second, if you believe the scriptures, the execution of Jesus was absolutely necessary if he were to fulfill the prophecies. Christians believe that Jesus died so that they might live. No death of Jesus for the sins of all mankind and poof, there goes Christianity. So, what we have here is a terrible example of a Navy chaplain who is apparently anti-Semitic and doing his best to spread hatred of today's Jews, while at the same time his understanding of his own religious faith is sadly lacking. I don't know where this chaplain received his theological education, but the school should offer him some remedial education. That, of course, is between him and the seminary he attended. More to the point, our military services do not need individuals like him spewing hatred toward anyone. I trust you will take appropriate action to ensure that he is not given the opportunity of spreading more poison. That's the last thing our country and our military services need at this time.

Sincerely,
Col. James Tyson Currie, US Army (Ret.), Ph.D.
Ornated Elder, Presbyterian Church USA
Advisory Board, MRFF
Alexandria, VA

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America (JWV) "supports the lead efforts on this situation which was first brought to our attention by the Military Religious Freedom Foundation."

Wednesday, April 28, 2021



Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America

JWV Calls for Disciplinary Action and Apology from Navy Chaplain

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America (JWV) demands immediate disciplinary action against Lt. Aristotle Rivera, who currently serves as a Navy Chaplain at Camp Lejeune.

Lt. Rivera included what JWV believes was an anti-Semitic message in an Easter article he wrote for the Defense Department's Washington Headquarters Service.

In addition to an apology and admission of wrongdoing by Lt. Rivera, we also ask the Department of Defense to issue a statement acknowledging the anti-Semitic nature of the article.

JWV supports the lead efforts on this situation which was first brought to our attention by the Military Religious Freedom Foundation

Click to read on the Jewish War Veterans website

4/21/21 - Another recent example of blatant anti-Semitism manifested in our military & MRFF's success in subduing it - "Bagel Dogs for the Chosen People" Offered to Jewish Soldiers to Attend Military Boss's Bible Study! - MRFF's Swift Action Results in Anti-Semitic Military Bully Boss' Removal for Demeaning Bigotry in Less Than 36 Hours!



MRFF supporter's phone conversation with Chaplain (Lt.) Aristotle Rivera, author of the despicable article

"Chaplain Rivera Telephone Call"

Mikey, I just got off the telephone with Chaplain Rivera after receiving his inbound call in follow-up to a message left for him at the 2DMARDIV, Camp Lejeune, NC Chaplains' Office. Quick conversation to confirm his Easter Message and he expressed in a dumbfounded tone that he didn't know what all the hullabaloo was about because what he is quoted as saying is what the apostles said at the first Easter Supper according to the New Testament Book of Acts. So, in his mind he is quoting Scripture. From speaking with him from the perspective of being an (rank withheld), I can't believe he holds a diploma from West Point much less a commission from the US Navy. He indicated upon questioning that he is ordained/recognized by the Episcopal Church USA. I have reached out to the Episcopal Church's military office to confirm this and await their response and the same to you. I find his Easter Message to be one of the most un-Christian things I have ever heard. All right-minded people of faith should condemn it.

Best wishes, (name and military rank withheld)

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"Re. that new DoD anti-Semitic "blood debt" article..."

Hi Mikey & All,

Just read a transcript of your letter to DoD Acting Director Meiners on this idiocy... & it's even worse than you describe there, of course. Rabbi Yesha ben Joseph (a.k.a. "Jesus Christ") was executed (according to the accepted account) under orders from the Roman Procurator, by Roman soldiers, using a Roman torture method reserved for people who had acted against the Roman Empire. The story of the bloodthirsty crowd was inserted over 300 years later to reduce the guilt of the Empire which was then setting up this luckless revolutionary to be their new state religion's secondary deity & most recent demigod. Can't be having official accounts recording that we've executed our own brand-new quasi-fertility demigod now, can we?

I've entertained the possibility that the crowd thing was a set-up deal that actually happened, but that version of events would have to assume that Pontius Pilate was somehow shy about executing local troublemakers (spoiler: he wasn't), or was already deliberately laying groundwork for Constantine's bold experiment in religious engineering...3 centuries before the fact....

BTW, LOVE what you do!
(name withheld)

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(505) 250-7727

