

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4605**

June 23, 2010

Mr. Robert D. Bradley  
Chairman  
The National D-Day Memorial Foundation  
P.O. Box 77  
Bedford, Virginia 24523

Dear Mr. Bradley,

As the National D-Day Memorial Foundation prepares for a transition in leadership, I write to express my deep concern over the ongoing controversy surrounding the Board of Director's decision to place a bust of Joseph Stalin on the Memorial grounds. I have stated publicly that I will request that the bust be removed should the Memorial become part of the National Park Service. Today, I reaffirm this sentiment and amplify the concerns raised by those veterans asking that the bust be removed outright.

As you are aware, the stated mission of the National D-Day Memorial Foundation is "to commemorate the valor, fidelity, and sacrifice of Allied participants in the invasion of Normandy." Given that the Red Army did not fight alongside the Allied Forces on the beaches of Normandy on D-Day 1944, I believe that the inclusion of the Stalin bust on the Memorial's grounds is beyond the Foundation's mission and even inconsistent with it. Moreover, I am also concerned that the ongoing controversy could negatively impact our shared goal of having the Memorial designated as part of the National Park Service.

While the D-Day Memorial is a national treasure, it remains a community endeavor, depending heavily upon the financial and volunteer support of the surrounding community. As such, the long term viability of the Memorial will depend on its ability to maintain the support of the community of veterans who worked so hard to bring it into existence. On issues of veteran's affairs I take my marching orders from those who have served. I strongly encourage the leadership of the Foundation to do the same.

For all those American GIs who served on D-Day, I urge you to bring a swift resolution to this matter to ensure that the Memorial remains, not a place of controversy, but one of solemn remembrance. I continue to appreciate your service and look forward to working together to secure the Memorial's future.

Sincerely,



Tom Perriello  
Member of Congress