



STEVE BACH
MAYOR

CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS

November 7, 2011

National Museum of World War II Aviation
765 Aviation Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80916

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept my endorsement and support of the National Museum of World War II Aviation that is being built in Colorado Springs. This museum will tell of the heroic deeds of those who eventually controlled the skies so that the Allies could win the most crucial battles during that war. Just as important, however, is the story that few World War II museums tell, and that is what happened stateside – on the home front – to advance our technology from second rate to second-to-none. During the less than four years the United States was fighting this war, our engineers, scientists, and dedicated men and women here at home catapulted our science and technology further than any other similar period before or since.

The National Museum of World War II Aviation will use current technology (touch screens, videos, computers, etc.) to enable visitors to call up and view whatever material they wish related to the war. A five-year-old will be as captivated as an octogenarian, each viewing what they like most. School children, from kindergarten through college, will learn history and participate in practical exercises in science and math. Local educators, from grade school through the Air Force Academy, are excited about the opportunities.

This museum came about following the relocation to Colorado Springs of a world-class WWII-era aircraft restoration facility, WestPac Restorations, and the vision of its co-owner. Being forced to move from his Southern California location, Bill Klaers researched the U.S. to find an aviation-centric region for his company. He chose Colorado Springs due to its strong history of aviation, the U.S. Air Force Academy, the four Air Force bases, and the United States Space Foundation. The restoration facility will add a unique experience for anyone visiting the museum: an opportunity to tour an active, full-time, commercial restoration facility rebuilding WWII-era aircraft using the same equipment they did in the 1940s. Together, they will add an additional bright gem to our crown of attractions.

National Museum of World War II Aviation

November 7, 2011

Page Two

The economic impact this world-class facility will have on the region as a visitor destination is greatly appreciated, but I am also excited about the educational value this brings. Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) are areas we need to improve upon to be competitive in the world markets. The National Museum of World War II Aviation will give a huge boost to those areas by capturing the imagination of the young students and give them an opportunity to feel the excitement that technological changes can bring to our world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Bach', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Steve Bach

Mayor