

## **Ladies, Gentlemen, and “those in charge” of America**

As a French citizen, former pilot and resident of Burgundy (as is your compatriot Greg Marshall) I fully endorse the action of safeguarding the Lindbergh Home by Mr. Marshall, who represents all that I like about American people and the United States. This is an idealistic passion, as is the passion of aviation, that requires a lot of work to save “the last abode” of your illustrious fellow countryman Charles LINDBERGH, universally known and recognized for his exploits in world-wide aviation...

**How can one forget, and not put into words the history of such an individual charged with all that he represents (courage, the fortitude and the soul of heroes; exceptional resolve in the face of danger, the qualities (physical and moral), of which the AMERICAN people are so proud?**

Others of the French Burgundy region, even those who do not live in the city of Dijon (Côte d'Or) support the efforts to restore the birthplace home of Gustave EIFFEL in Dijon -- it was simply natural, for this was a man of exceptional talents, notably the design of the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the internal structure of the Statue of Liberty in New York, given to America by France (of the French sculptor Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi). The home of Eiffel became an historic monument that also is now the pride of the French people.

**How can a country, such as yours, neglect to remember Charles LINDBERGH and his last home? He symbolizes the race of the “American Pioneers into the legends of the world-wide aviation!!!”**

Indeed, this is not a question of money, since Greg Marshall fought “like a lion” to combine the necessary funds with his fellow-Americans. It is simply a matter of administrative issues to renew a contract and the original agreement to restore this house, an historic monument. An example such as your care of the Statue of Liberty that is managed by the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE...

**This is a question of common sense. How can such memories be obliterated at this time? Such monuments exist to safeguard and contribute to maintaining the history of all of these “remarkable men” and the measure of their “bravery.” How can one say that such a house cannot become a historic monument???**

All the airmen and airwomen that were of this same era, remain as references for the future and are part of our history books... 25 July 1909: Louis Bleriot was the first to cross the English Channel; May 29 1927: Charles Lindbergh crosses the Atlantic from New York to Paris non-stop with the Spirit of Saint Louis; May 13 1930: John Mermoz establishes the first airmail between France and South America. June 28 1931: Departing from Le Bourget (Paris), the French Maryse Bastié beats the record for women pilots for long distance in a light airplane after traversing close to 3000 km before landing in the Soviet Union. May 21 1932: The American, Amelia Earhart, crosses the North Atlantic North, from Neuve to Londonderry, Ireland, in 14:54. July 31 1944: The mysterious disappearance of Antoine de Saint Exupéry in the Mediterranean Sea. As a pilot and writer, he entered into the army air corps in 1921 and became a pilot in 1926 and flew the first long distance mail flights in the history of the aviation. His more famous literary work remains “The Little Prince” (1943), etc...

I am a Frenchman, touched by the compassion of Greg Marshall... Thank God, there continue to exist such courageous persons that will devote themselves “by private means to protect projects for the public” to which some others do not deign to believe... this is the difference between a “Pioneer” -- a master builder, creator, promoter... and an uninvolved citizen...

Such was Charles LINDBERGH, the first pilot who crossed the Atlantic while none before him had dared to attempt such an adventure since there were many unknown risks, considering the means and devices which were available in that era...

To all the American persons in charge (National Leaders: The President, Vice- President, Senators, Governors, and Ambassadors, etc.: Thank you for your understanding and your concern, and hoping that you will know it is important to take charge of your history and the fame that contributed to building your country and what made it the "First World Power" that garners the admiration of the entire world. And to continue FAVORABLY with this worthy project that is of great interest.

I pass on to you, below, an article of the local press from which I learned today and caused me to react before it is too late!!! And to my turn, I wish to circulate, in the largest possible way, this information on the WEB and broadcast this address:

<http://www.bienpublic.com/actu/region/20080803.BPA6833.html>

So that all the airmen of the entire world know that one of their PIONEERS will sink into oblivion if one does not return to "better sentiments" with regard to this memorial to aviation that was Charles LINDBERGH...

Best Regards,

Jean-Pierre DAMOTTE