

ARMY SOLDIER DENIED HER RIGHTS

Bill Donohue wrote the following letter today regarding the denial of an Army soldier's constitutional rights:

Major General Mark McDonald
U.S. Army Fires Center of Excellence
455 McNair Avenue, Ste. 100
Fort Sill, OK 73503

Dear Major General McDonald:

I have learned that a Catholic female enrolled in Advanced Individual Training has been denied the opportunity to go to Mass on three Sundays. The "battle buddy" system that requires soldiers to travel in pairs surely has its merits, but it is not an adequate defense to deny someone her constitutional rights simply because there are no other Catholics in her unit. A cadre escort would resolve this matter, while not doing anything to undermine the policy of moving about in pairs.

I am a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, and have nothing but respect for the men and women of the armed services. But I am also the president of the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization, and as such, I take anti-Catholicism very seriously, regardless of the motive of the offender.

Please investigate this matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

William A. Donohue, Ph.D.
President