

Military Christians Forced to Keep Silent About Religious Beliefs

Some officials in Washington are attempting to force military members to keep their religious beliefs quiet.

To combat this, a coalition of groups concerned about religious liberty is backing the troops' rights to speak about and act on their beliefs.

The group announced they'd be passing out palm cards to troops, letting them know what their religious rights are and who to turn to if they feel the military is violating those rights.

Coalition members said Christians really are threatened these days.

"Back in April, Adm. William Dean Lee of the Coast Guard stood up at a local prayer breakfast and explained how he as an admiral in the Coast Guard was told that it was prohibited for him to give a Bible to a man who had just attempted suicide," . Ret. William Boykin, Family Research Council, said.

"We have an Air Force officer (who) for 23 years, everywhere he set up his shop, he would always put a Bible on his desk," Col. Ret. Ron Crews, Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty, said.

"He came to a new location, put his Bible on his desk, (and) His superior officer told him 'You cannot put your Bible on the desk because it may offend someone,'" he said.

The coalition presented a report citing dozens of cases involving anti-religious acts by the military in recent months and years.