

JONASSON *for Governor*

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JONASSON'S CALL TO FORGIVE AND FORGET THE WAR OF 1812 OVERSHADOWED BY CAMPAIGN ERROR

ONTARIO, CANADA (CRAP: Canadian Regional Associated Press) –California gubernatorial candidate Stefan Jonasson faced a swarm of imaginary protestors during a campaign stop in Ontario, while organizers sought to downplay the mistake that resulted in the candidate visiting the province of Ontario in Canada rather than the city of Ontario in southern California. An official who wished to remain anonymous said, "Look, it was an honest mistake. The annexation of California to Canada has been such a central plank in our candidate's platform that his travel agent simply assumed that he wanted to fly here. Air Canada flies to both places, you know – often through Toronto – so there was no reasonable way to determine that a mistake had been made before we arrived at Pearson International Airport and discovered there was no connecting flight. It's kind of like when people book a flight to Portland, Oregon and end up in Portland, Maine instead. These things happen."

However, political commentators here described this as the most serious travel-related blunder to face any public figure since former Canadian prime minister Joe Clark lost his luggage while traveling in the Middle East more than twenty years ago. "It will be very hard to take Jonasson seriously if he cannot even book a seat on a plane without screwing it up," said one commentator. "If he can't tell the difference between a province and a city, why should we think he'd be able to figure out how to drive from Pasadena to Los Angeles? It's not like he could rely on fast and efficient public transportation to do it for him!"

Jonasson made the best he could of the circumstance during a stop at the site of the Battle of Chrysler's Farm. Looking out over an apparently empty field, which Jonasson claimed was swarming with ghostly protestors in early nineteenth-century garb, the candidate responded to hecklers by saying, "Listen, I think it's time we put The War of 1812 behind us. I understand how all the fuss in Iraq has left us feeling a little neglected, since people have forgotten that Canada was the very first country that America invaded without provocation. It's hard to feel special when so many other

countries have been invaded after us. But no matter what may be happening now – and no matter how many nations the United States may invade in the future – we'll always have been first. I think we should cherish that memory!"



California gubernatorial candidate Stefan Jonasson surrounded by supporters at the site of the Battle of Chrysler's Farm. Upstate New York is in the background.

"Besides," he said, "just because we're not occupied by troops doesn't mean that American corporations don't continue to dominate our affairs. Our retail sector continues to decline in the face of Sneers and W-Mart. The backlog of Canadian beef continues to rot in freezers that were shut down when Ohio electrical utilities zapped the power grid, helping to encourage the shift to massive hog barns

across the country. And didn't officials in New York show us the courtesy of blaming the power failure on Ontario? Mark my

words – America knows we're here and they appreciate Canada as much as they ever have!"

"That's why I urge Californians to join confederation. Right now, the Bush administration can ignore California with impunity because they can dismiss it as just another part of the United States. The same is true for large corporations operating in the state, which get to escape all the character-building advantages of retaliatory duties and foreign domination. But if California were part of Canada, then the White House and Wall Street could work together to force the state into a real economic downturn – one of international proportions! So I appeal to Californians to join Canada now by helping me become governor of that great Pacific state and the only living Father of Confederation here in Canada."