

After seeing a news report about some Russian scientists determined a large asteroid would hit Earth in 2035, rather than 2017 as had been originally predicted, Doug sent his thoughts to John McCaslin of the *Washington Times* on Oct. 15, 2005

(http://www.townhall.com/columnists/JohnMcCaslin/2005/10/18/minority_missives).

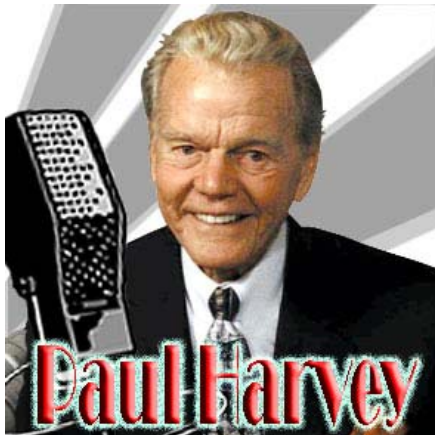
Three days later, McCaslin printed it in his popular “Inside the Beltway” column. To wit:

The Washington Times

END OF RETIREES --

Our recent item on the scientific prediction of a life-ending collision between the Earth and an asteroid in 2035 assures Beltway Beat fan **Doug Hecox of Washington** that it only "sounds like bad news. However, it is surely being seen as good news by the Social Security reform movement."

Doug’s quote in McCaslin’s “Inside the Beltway” column in the *Washington Times* was immediately picked up and broadcast by radio legend Paul Harvey, who referred to the comment – and Doug Hecox, of Washington, DC – on “page one” of his morning broadcast. He chuckled as he said it, and even pronounced my name correctly, which is probably what led to a wave of email from Dougfans all over. Here is a sampling:



“Hi Doug,
Funny thing: this morning I’m driving to work flipping between news-talk stations I listen to keep myself ignorantly informed and happen to stop on Paul Harvey. Well, he mentions that many of us might have heard over the weekend about the Russians predicting a major asteroid striking the earth in 2035 and that Doug Hecox from Washington had a particular take on it, and then proceeded to your punch line about the Social Security Administration. I about wrecked my truck! Way to go!! That is amazing exposure. Which side of the 15-minutes are you on?”

First news articles, then a nod from Paul Harvey ... You go! And just remember us little guys sitting at home on our couches watching you on the late-night talk show circuit. I cc'd Jacki (you know my goofy sister) to show off that we know a famous comedian.”

Jeff, Lake Tahoe, CA

“Hi Doug, I heard Paul Harvey quote you today and thought I would send you a quick note to tell you that I heard it! I was so excited when I heard him say.....’Several scientists have predicted that in the year 2035 a big asteroid will hit the earth and destroy everything. Doug Hecox, from Washington DC says that this will take a lot of pressure off of the Social Security committee!’ You are funny.”

Michelle, Minneapolis, MN

(more)

“Heard the sound bite - very cool. My father loves Paul Harvey, so much that about noon on the same day Paul quoted you, my cell phone rang. When I answered it, my father was on the other end "where is that Doug Hecox at now?" I told him you were in Washington and I asked if he heard you being quoted. He told me yes and was very excited. He just knew that there couldn't be another "Doug Hecox" out there. My parents have always been humored by your letters (and that was back in high school).”

Alena, Broomfield, CO

“That was fun to hear!”

Rob and Krista, Rawlins, WY

“Page One even.”

Jon, Denver, CO

“Doug, it looks like you are on the road to fame! Congratulations on your success lately. I love getting the emails and being updated on you & your work!”

Misty, Washington, DC

“Way to go Doug! You almost succeeded in making Paul laugh right out loud on his own show. Good Job dude. Have a great day!”

Kathie, Saratoga, WY

“Congrats, Doug, and it was a funny line.”

Denny, Cheyenne, WY

“Well! You've REALLY made it now!!! This is fantastic - way to go!”

Kathi, Washington, DC

“Crap. Now that you are famous we are going to have to start treating you nice!”

Kristi, Laramie, WY

“Hi Doug, my husband heard Paul Harvey today quote Doug Hecox of Washington DC about the 2033 asteroid obliterating the need for social security. Congratulations!”

Lori, Saratoga, WY

“Just heard Paul Harvey quote Doug Hecox! Since it was kind of a humorous comment quote, I know it had to be the one and only ‘Doug Hecox’! We don't get much notoriety in our neck of the woods, so was exciting for us to hear!!! Just thought I'd let you know and sounds like he is still able to find humor in our government! HEE HEE”

Linda, Gothenburg, NE (originally emailed to my parents)

“That's pretty f-ing cool.”

Justin, Washington, DC

“First the Reader's Digest Laughter is the best Medicine and now Paul Harvey, WOW. Your parents must be soooo proud. I used to get my daily dose of Paul Harvey at Texas A&M. He was the messiah.”

Greg, Washington, DC

“That was a terrific line you wrote...keep it up.”

Marshall, Tampa, FL

“Congrats! I guess you're big time now.”

Ann, Washington, DC

“Our phone continues to ring from near and far since the Paul Harvey early show. It seems we are "the in crowd" since we are related to you! The least you could do is send us some ‘We know Doug’ T-shirts!!!”

Bill, Gothenburg, NE