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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS SELMA WEINTRAUB

SUBJECT: WRITES IN SUPPORT OF DECISION TO ALTER PLANS
TO INCLUDE VISIT TO A CONCENTRATION CAMP
DURING EUROPEAN TRIP

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
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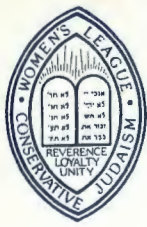
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| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE * | | | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY * | | | * |
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301570



Women's League for Conservative Judaism

48 East 74th Street
New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) 628-1600

37
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*An organization of Sisterhoods
dedicated to the perpetuation
of traditional Judaism*

*Associated with The
Jewish Theological Seminary
of America*

April 17, 1985
26 Nisan 5745

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The highest priority for the American Jewish community and, indeed, for the civilized world, must be to remember the Holocaust.

I must express the great relief of our more than 200,000 members over your decision to alter your original plans and, in fact, visit a concentration camp. To quote your own recent words, "We cannot let the bleeding wound be forgotten." This visit by the President of the United States is a highly significant symbol of the moral obligation that all humanity has to remember.

Respectfully yours,

Selma Weintraub
National President

SW: MW

NBB

ID# 301579

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

APR 22 1985

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE THEODORE R. NELSON

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN
MILITARY CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
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301579

THEODORE R. NELSON
COUNCILMAN



XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX 1135 Kane Concourse
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
BAY HARBOR ISLANDS, FLORIDA 33154
TELEPHONE: XXXXXXXX 865-5716

April 18, 1985

Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The Whitehouse
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Although I am using the stationery provided to me as an elected municipal official in Florida, at the present moment this letter is written to you by the undersigned as a private citizen.

However, I intend to ask my Town Council to adopt a resolution along the lines of this letter.

Although I was just under the age, in 1941-45, whereby I could serve in the Armed Services during the Second World War, many of my close friends did serve, and most of my present friends were members of those Armed Services.

I have also participated, for forty years, in ceremonies marking Veterans Day, and among those whom we have mourned, as you have, are those who fell before the Nazi onslaught in Europe.

I recognize and appreciate your fondness and respect for Chancellor Kohl. He is indeed a very fine man and his nation is our ally. However, I seriously doubt that he would want you or anyone else, for that matter, to honor the Waffen S.S.

It would constitute the deepest type of insult by an American President, both to the memory of the American boys who fell before the Nazi hammer, as well as to millions and millions of American citizens who were deeply scarred by the particular actions of the S.S.


I could almost see you taking the action that you want to take if the cemetery in question consisted entirely of regular Wehrmacht troops. However, even in such instance, I would expect you, as my President, to lay a wreath on the graves of the American dead as well. (And what about the British and the French and the Poles?)

I recognize that you must rely on the advice of subordinates; but when these underlings, coupled with misleading information from German authorities as well, fail to inform you in advance of the "trap" they have inadvertently

Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
April 18, 1985
Page Two

set for you, then it is high time that you disclaim these people, that you characterize them in the terms which they deserve, and that you stand up and take the responsibility, as you did for the tragedy in Lebanon, as Commander-in-Chief.

Respectfully,



THEODORE R. NELSON

TRN/lp

cc: Honorable Mayor, Manager and Council

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

301580

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. IRVING LEVITT

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
MARSHALL BREGER	ORG	85/04/22		C 85/04/26
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COMMENTS:

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Jewish Federation of Delaware

101 GARDEN OF EDEN ROAD, WILMINGTON, DE 19803

Telephone 478-6200

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EVELYN LOBEL
Staff Associate

April 19, 1985

President Ronald Reagan
White House
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. President:

By even considering visiting a place where SS officers are buried, you have already opened old, deep wounds and have diminished the historic significance of the Allied victory over bestial, genocidal, totalitarianism in World War II.

Also, as a veteran of the 4th Infantry Division that fought in the Battle of the Bulge, I find it hard to believe that you plan to honor Nazi officers who may have participated in the massacre of U. S. prisoners.

Very truly yours,

Irving Levitt

Irving Levitt
Chairman

Jewish Community Relations Committee
of the
Jewish Federation of Delaware

IL:js

cc: Senator William V. Roth, Jr.
Senator Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
Representative Thomas R. Carper

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. JOEL S. GOOR

SUBJECT: URGES NOT VISITING GERMAN MILITARY CEMETERY
AND TO VISIT MEMORIALS HONORING MEMBER OF
VICTIMS OF NAZISM

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD

MARSHALL BREGER	ORG	85/04/22		<u>C 85 104 126</u>
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metropolitan synagogue of new york

10 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016

679-8580

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Dr. Joel S. Goor, *Rabbi*

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- Arthur Goldstein
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*Deceased

M. Baum

April 17th, 1985

The Honorable Ronald Reagan,
The White House,
Washington, D.C. 20500.

Dear Mr. President:

Tonight we will ask the members of our congregation, who will be attending the Eve of the Holocaust Memorial Day "Night of Remembrance" with Elie Wiesel to sign the enclosed petition.

We will send the signed petitions as soon as possible. We anticipate that all in attendance will agree with the statement.

Sincerely,

Joel S. Goor

Dr. Joel S. Goor,
Rabbi.

JSG/fs

encl.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS HELEN S. LEWIS

SUBJECT: WRITES IN SUPPORT OF DECISION TO ADD VISIT TO _____
BERGEN-BELSEN AND URGES OMISSION OF VISIT TO _____
BITBERG CEMETERY _____

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
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COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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301588



GREATER WASHINGTON COUNCIL

8402 Freyman Drive • Chevy Chase, Md. 20815 • 565-3130

April 19, 1985

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Word has just been received that you have altered your itinerary in Germany to accommodate a visit to Bergen-Belsen. We welcome this news with great appreciation. But, at the same time, we continue to be horrified at the prospect of the President of the United States honoring the German dead buried at Bitburg.

We urge you most respectfully but in the strongest possible way to omit the Bitberg visit.

Very truly yours,

Helen S. Lewis, President
Greater Washington Council
Pioneer Women Na'amat

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. DAVID S. DOLOWITZ

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERING PLAN TO VISIT GERMAN
MILITARY CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
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United Jewish Council

AND SALT LAKE JEWISH WELFARE FUND

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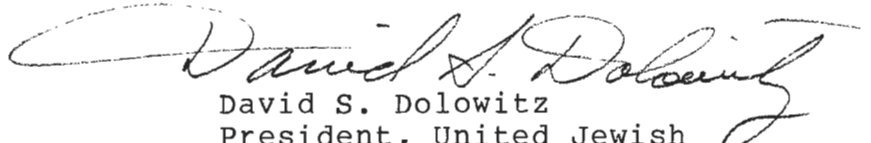
April 15, 1985

Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Reagan:

As President of the United Jewish Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, I urge you to reconsider your plan to visit a Nazi cemetery while ignoring Allied war dead and Holocaust Memorial sites. You represent all Americans and freedom-seeking people. You must not ignore this symbolism and representation.

Sincerely yours,



David S. Dolowitz
President, United Jewish
Council

DSD:mjb

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. GILBERT BAKER

SUBJECT: URGFS RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION NOT TO
VISIT DACHAU

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
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M. Berger

The Community Relations Committee

Gilbert Baker  
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Community Relations Director

April 15, 1985

Jewish Federation of  
Greater Houston

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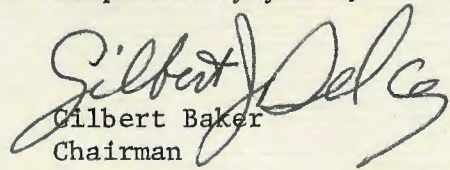
President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

On behalf of the Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston, I wish to express my dismay and sadness over your unwillingness to visit the infamous Nazi concentration camp at Dachau during your forthcoming visit to Europe in May. I believe that you are overlooking an excellent opportunity to again register your concern that the lessons of the Holocaust are not forgotten. As you so eloquently stated in April, 1983: "Our most sacred task now is insuring that the memory of this greatest of human tragedies, the Holocaust, never fades -- that its lessons are not forgotten."

I hope you will reconsider your decision not to visit Dachau. Your presence will not only serve as a remembrance to those who so tragically suffered and died, but will also re-emphasize your commitment to prevent future genocides by working to assure equal justice for all people regardless of their race, ethnicity, or religion.

Respectfully yours,

  
Gilbert Baker  
Chairman

GB/dm

ID# 301602

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. FRED DIAMENT

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION NOT TO VISIT DACHAU AND  
OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY

ACTION DISPOSITION

ROUTE TO: ACT DATE TYPE C COMPLETED  
OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) CODE YY/MM/DD RESP D YY/MM/DD

MARSHALL BREGER ORG 85/04/22 C85/04/26

PR

REFERRAL NOTE:

REFERRAL NOTE:

REFERRAL NOTE:

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REFERRAL NOTE:

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES:

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION CODES: *OUTGOING *
* * *CORRESPONDENCE: *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL * OF SIGNER *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED * CODE = A *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC * OUTGOING *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * * *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE * * *
*X-INTERIM REPLY * * *

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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75,OEOb) EXT. 2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

FRED DIAMENT.  
11429 Bona Lola Drive  
Studio City, CA 91607

301602

37E  
Marshall Buger

April 18th, 1985.

To:  
The President of The United States  
MR. RONALD REAGAN  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

It is with a sense of great anguish and disappointment that I write this letter to you today.

This is in reaction to your decision not to visit the Concentration Camp Dachau, during your planned visit to Germany next month. The official reason given by the White House for this incomprehensible omission, is: "Not to arouse guilt feelings" among the new generation of Germans who were born after Hitler's defeat in 1945.

The idea of visiting the Cementery at Bitburg, where members of the infamous S.S. Murder Formations are buried, is so obscene, offensive and painful, that I wouldn't even discuss it.

Mr. President, all of my friends, mostly Survivors of the Nazi-Holocaust, we want and we must believe your decision is the result of some really bad advice given to you by those who planned your trip to Germany. It is absolutely incomprehensible to us, that this decision was made by the same President Ronald Reagan, who spoke to us, 20,000 Survivors of the Holocaust exactly 2 years ago in Washington, D.C. When you talked to us at that historic gathering, you touched our hearts and our souls, yes, you became an instant hero of all the Survivors of the Holocaust in the United States and througout the world.

The Nazis believed in the "Reich (Empire) of a Thousand Years", yet a thousand years will pass, and the guilt of the German people in whose name the most monstrous and unspeakable crimes against humanity were committed,

will not be eradicated from the memory of history. We must remember, and will never forget that the Nazis annihilated, systematically, and in traditional German efficiency, 6 Million Jewish people, among them 1½ Million children and 5 Million other people during the Holocaust.

The guilt feelings of the German People, if indeed they are there, what are they compared to the un-imaginable pain and degradation suffered by the victims, who were brutally murdered, what are they compared to the pain and the nightmares of the few hundred thousands Survivors, who suffer as long as they live. Yes, even the children and the grandchildren of the Survivors suffer from it.

Can there ever be a redemption of the German People, unless they acknowledge the horrendous crimes against humanity committed by the Nazis in their name? We should not forget, there are still close to 25 Million Germans alive, who knows how many of them did actively collaborated with the Nazis? Shouldn't the German People, who were borne after Germany's defeat, learn about the Holocaust, be aware of these crimes, and above all, learn the important lessons of the Holocaust, so that they may become more sensitive, and better human beings? Shouldn't the new generation of Germans be in the forefront of all those who stand up and speak-out for human-rights against persecution and oppression.

Mr. President, while living in the death-camps literally fighting every single day for survival, we were haunted by the thought, we were more afraid of it than dying ourselves, the terrible thought that all of us will get killed, and none will survive to tell the story of our pain and our sufferings, and the millions will have died in vain.

Therefore we must tell the story over and over again, we must bear witness, and above all we must remember, by doing so we fulfill the most ardent wish of the 6 Million Martyrs, our parents, our brothers and sister who did not survive.

But not for their sake alone must we remember, for the sake of our grandchildren, yes Mr. President for the sake of your grandchildren and their children's children, we must talk about it, we must teach it on every level everywhere, so that never again any people, at any time will suffer such inhumanity.

Mr. President, may I humbly suggest, that you instruct those, who advised you not to visit Dachau, and not to pay tribute to the victims of Nazism on this historic anniversary, to read the book "The Abandonment of the Jews" by David S. Wyman. This monumental work by a non-Jewish historian, based on 15 years of research, must convince every decent human being, that one of the major factors which caused the Holocaust to occur in the first place, was the incomprehensible insensitivity of the leading statesmen of the Western World. It was this blatant insensitivity to the suffering of others, which later developed into total indifference, which gave the Nazis the signal to go ahead and commit the most monstrous crime against humanity in all recorded history.

Therefore Mr. President, on this historic anniversary of the defeat of Nazi-Germany, and the liberation of Hitler's Death Camps, I humbly urge you to ignore the advice of insensitive advisors and indeed do visit the historic Site of the Dachau Concentration Camp.

Please do demonstrate to the American People, to the Survivors, and to the people of the Free World that you are indeed a decent and sensitive human being, a great leader of the Free Democratic Nations, who remembers the important lessons of history as so brilliantly formulated by the great American Philosopher Santayana.

Respectfully,



FRED DIAMENT.

P.S. The writer of this letter is a native of Germany who was incarcerated in numerous Concentration Camps from the age of 15 to 21 for almost 6 years. Out of this, he was 2½ years in Auschwitz. The writer is the President of the 1939 Club, the largest Survivor organization on the West-Coast, and a National Vice President of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR/2301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: RABBI AND MRS. MOSHE M. MAGGAL

SUBJECT: OBJECTS TO THE UPCOMING VISIT TO A GERMAN  
MILITARY CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                         | ORG         | 85/04/22         |              | C 85/04/26 PY             |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
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| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | / /              |              | / /                       |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:T INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION CODES:  | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | * CORRESPONDENCE:    | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODE = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      | *                    | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         | *                    | *                    | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         | *                    | *                    | * |
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
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MANAGEMENT.

5/

*m. Berger*

#301608

4-022276S110 04/20/85

ICS IPMRNCZ CSP

2139366033 POM TDRN LOS ANGELES CA 120 04-20 0655 APR 21 A 8:57

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

IN THE NAME OF THE AMERICAN SERVICEMEN WHO WERE KILLED DURING WORLD WAR II FIGHTING THE NAZI ENEMY IN ORDER TO DEFEND AND PRESERVE AMERICAN DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM WE VEHEMENTLY PROTEST YOUR UPCOMING VISIT TO A GERMAN MILITARY CEMETARY WHERE THOSE SAME NAZI ENEMIES ARE BURIED.

BY DOING SO YOU ARE PAYING HOMAGE AND GIVING HONOR TO THE NAZI MURDERERS OF OUR AMERICAN SERVICEMEN; THUS, THE NAZIS WILL HAVE WON THE VICTORY WHILE OUR BOYS WILL HAVE DIED IN VAIN.

BY NOT VISITING THIS CEMETARY YOU CLAIM YOU WILL BE INSULTING THE GERMANS, BUT BY VISITING IT YOU WILL BE INSULTING THE MEMORY OF THE

AMERICAN DEAD AND ALL THEY FOUGHT FOR.

WE CONSIDER THIS AN UNAMERICAN AND UNPATRIOTIC ACT.

RABBI AND MRS MOSHE M MAGGAL, *President*

5174 WEST 8 ST

LOS ANGELES CA 90036

*Natl Jewish Information Service*

1817 EST

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR/23-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. HAROLD M. JACOBS

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING DECISION TO  
VISIT THE GERMAN CEMETERY IN BITBURG

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                         | ORG         | 85/04/22         |              | C 85/04/26 <b>PY</b>      |
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COMMENTS:  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION CODES: *OUTGOING *
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 LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
 MANAGEMENT.



5

# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF YOUNG ISRAEL

3 WEST 16 STREET  
NEW YORK, NY 10011  
212-929-1525

April 18, 1985

ב"ה

*m. Breger*  
President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of our entire organization, representing over one-quarter million American Jews, permit me to express our deeply held feelings regarding your proposed visit to Germany next month. As Jews and as Americans, we cannot help but feel disturbed, even betrayed, by your continued insistence on visiting the military cemetery at Bitburg.

Your decision, albeit belated, to seek a suitable venue to memorialize the millions of Jews and others who perished at the hand of the bestial Nazi regime, is appropriate. No commemoration of the end of World War II could be complete without a memorial to the innocent victims of slaughter. Unfortunately, the very sentiments you seek to convey, as a man of conscience, as an American, and as a world leader, are negated by your planned visit to Bitburg.

The map of Germany presents many sites suitable for a meaningful tribute to those Germans who were themselves victims of Nazism. No one would question such a tribute, nor could one deny its validity. But the choice of Bitburg, burial place of members of the SS, perhaps even the very troops responsible for the brutal massacre at Malmedy, conveys the message that the United States and its President are ready to forgive the unforgivable and forget the unforgettable.

A memorial visit to Bitburg Cemetery would dishonor not only the memory of our people who perished in the flames of the holocaust, but also the memories of all American soldiers who fought and died to eradicate the unspeakable horrors wrought by the very people whose memory your visit would honor and legitimize. Forty years may seem like a long time in the memory of an individual; in the sands of history it is but a speck. And just as we are convinced that the memory of this era of destruction will never be erased from our collective consciousness, so we believe that all men and nations of good will never allow the world to forgive and forget.

We urge you, Mr. President, to reconsider your decision and remove Bitburg from your itinerary. That in itself would be a truly appropriate tribute, on behalf of all America, to the memories of the millions of victims of Nazism, and serve as a clear signal to the entire world of America's commitment never to forget the horrors of the Holocaust, and never to permit them to be repeated.

*Harold M. Jacobs*  
Matthew J. Maryles  
Chairman,  
Public Affairs Committee

Respectfully,

*Harold M. Jacobs*  
Dr. Harold M. Jacobs  
President



”והשיב לב אבות על בנים ולב בנים על אבותם”

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR/23-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. LAWRENCE D. GIBSON

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERATION OF PLANNED VISIT TO  
A GERMAN MILITARY CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                         | ORG         | 85/04/22         |              | C 85/04/26 PY             |
| REFERRAL NOTF:                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
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| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |

COMMENTS: ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA AND THE  
DAKOTAS

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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MANAGEMENT.

3  
m. Berger  
Jewish Community Relations Council, Anti-Defamation League of Minnesota  
and the Dakotas

President  
LAWRENCE D. GIBSON

Vice President  
JAMES A. STEIN  
HARRIET SWARTZ

Secretary  
JONI SUSSMAN

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FIFTEEN SOUTH NINTH STREET BUILDING  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55402  
TELEPHONE (612) 338-7816

April 18, 1985

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

We are heartened that you have reversed your earlier decision not to visit a concentration camp site during your forthcoming visit to Germany while marking the 40th Anniversary of V.E. Day. Recalling the horrors of Nazism in no way indicts all of those Germans living today, especially the youth at the time of World War II or those born after World War II, who now comprise the majority of the German population.

By speaking out while in Germany, you bolster the overriding anti-Nazi sentiment that now exists there, and pay homage to the victims of Nazism as well as the brave anti-Nazis who did not support Hitler.

So long as we have vestiges of Nazism and other forms of totalitarianism and persecution in the world today, it is essential to remind mankind of the horrors of that darkest period in human history.

Your projected visit to a German war veterans' cemetery which contains graves of SS troopers, coupled with no announced plans to visit a cemetery of American and allied soldiers, still tarnishes the above decision. We hope you will therefore also reconsider your visit to the military cemetery.

Sincerely,

*Lawrence D. Gibson*

Lawrence D. Gibson  
President

LDG/hh

*1/2/85*

ID# 301619

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

8512932

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. IVAN DOCHEFF

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS DECISION TO VISIT THE CEMETERY OF  
THE GERMAN SOLDIERS

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                            |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD  |
| LINAS KOJELIS                           | ORG         | 85/04/22         |              |                            |
| <i>✓ 99005</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____     | <i>R</i>    | <i>85/04/26</i>  |              | <i>C85/04/23</i>           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  |              | <i>A85/05/13</i> <b>AB</b> |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  |              |                            |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  |              |                            |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  |              |                            |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8512932

Date May 13, 1985

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Dr. Ivan Docheff

Date: April 19, 1985 Subject: Supports decision to  
visit the Cemetery of the German Soldiers

WH Referral Dated: April 26, 1985 NSC ID# 301619  
(if any)

         The attached item was sent directly to the  
Department of State

Action Taken:

- A draft reply is attached.
- A draft reply will be forwarded.
- A translation is attached.
- X   An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- We believe no response is necessary for the reason  
cited below.
- The Department of State has no objection to the  
proposed travel.
- Other.

Remarks:

*for Tom Collins*  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Dr. Ivan Docheff  
Honorary President  
Bulgarian National Front, Inc.  
Post Office Box 703  
Manahawkin NJ 08050

Dear Dr. Docheff:

I have been asked to reply to your recent message to President Reagan concerning his trip to Germany.

The President very much appreciates your expression of support. Coming on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II, his visit constitutes an important symbol of the reconciliation between the United States and the FRG which has allowed us to stand side by side in defense of freedom and the peace which has been maintained in Europe since the war.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Thomas M.T. Niles". The signature is stylized with a large initial "T" and a long, sweeping underline.

Thomas M.T. Niles  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for European Affairs

8512932

T H E W H I T E H O U S E O F F I C E

REFERRAL

APRIL 26, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 301619  
MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 19, 1985  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: DR. IVAN DOCHEFF  
HONORARY PRESIDENT  
BULGARIAN NATIONAL FRONT, INC.  
POST OFFICE BOX 703  
MANAHAWKIN NJ 08050

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS DECISION TO VISIT THE CEMETERY OF  
THE GERMAN SOLDIERS

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

5  
L. Kopelman

#301619



# Bulgarian National Front, Inc.

8512932

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DR. IVAN DOCHEFF

Honorary President

† DR. GEORGE PAPRIKOFF

President

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NOVEMBER 7, 1958  
NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
ILLINOIS 23307, NOVEMBER 16, 1962  
TRADE MARK REGISTRATION "BORBA"  
N.Y. 38R-11031, NOVEMBER 20, 1967

MAILING ADDRESS:

DR. IVAN DOCHEFF  
P.O. BOX 703  
MANAHAWKIN, N.J. 08050  
U.S.A.

April 19, 1985

Hon. Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Reagan,

Your decision to visit the Cemetery of the German soldiers, when you will be in Germany, is absolutely correct. Visiting the soldiers cemetery does not mean that you approve former Government policy. This is a matter of diplomatic courtesy.

Soldiers serve their Country regardless of whether the policy of the Government is right or wrong.

Many people in the United States are of the opinion that the War in Vietnam was wrong.

Should we dishonor the soldiers of Vietnam War? Certainly not. We honor them.

You, President Reagan, have our support.

Sincerely yours

Dr. Ivan Docheff  
Honorary President BNF



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 300624

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 29, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS HELENE KARPA

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO VISIT ONE OF THE  
NAZI DEATH CAMPS DURING TRIP TO WEST GERMANY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION       |                  | DISPOSITION  |                             |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE  | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD   |
| MARSHALL BREGER                         | ORG          | 85/03/29         |              | C 85/04/01 <i>VI</i>        |
| <i>NSK/mm</i><br>REFERRAL NOTF:         | <i>VI D</i>  | <i>85/04/02</i>  |              | <del>C 85/04/02</del>       |
| <i>99DOS</i><br>REFERRAL NOTE:          | <i>D</i>     | <i>85/04/4</i>   |              | <i>A 85/04/11</i> <i>PK</i> |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |              |                  |              |                             |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |              |                  |              |                             |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |              |                  |              |                             |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |              |                  |              |                             |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |              |                  |              |                             |
| COMMENTS:                               | <i>State</i> |                  |              |                             |

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MF DIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION CODES: *OUTGOING *
* * * CORRESPONDENCE: *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL * OF SIGNER *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED * CODE = A *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC * * OUTGOING *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * * *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE * * *
*X-INTERIM REPLY * * *

```

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT. 2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

85 12 46:35

S/S 8510403

Date SITE APR 11 1985

For: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Miss Helene Karpa  
Date: March 28, 1985 Subject: Urges the President to  
visit one of the Nazi Death Camps during trip to West Germany  
WH Referral Dated: April 4, 1985 NSC ID# 300624  
(if any)

\_\_\_\_\_ The attached item was sent directly to the  
Department of State

Action Taken:

- \_\_\_\_\_ A draft reply is attached.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A draft reply will be forwarded.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A translation is attached.
- X \_\_\_\_\_ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
- \_\_\_\_\_ We believe no response is necessary for the reason  
cited below.
- \_\_\_\_\_ The Department of State has no objection to the  
proposed travel.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other.

Remarks:

*Nicholas Platt*  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Helene Karpa  
President  
Jewish Community Council  
of Greater Washington  
1522 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Karpa:

I have been asked to reply to your letter of March 28 to President Reagan concerning the President's upcoming visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. The President is certainly keenly aware of the symbolic dimension imposed on his trip by the coincidence of the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II. In our preparations for the commemoration of this anniversary, he has stressed his personal determination to ensure that the crimes of the Third Reich shall not be forgotten and that conditions which made them possible shall never return again.

As the President noted at his press conference on March 21, the best way to achieve this goal is to look to the future. Commemoration of the Holocaust should be not only a matter for Germany, but for all mankind. The President has elected to speak before the European Parliament in Strasbourg on May 8 in order to underline to all of Europe the American commitment to maintaining conditions which will make it impossible for dictatorship and intolerance to find sustenance in any of the democratic nations of Europe.

Similarly, the state visit to Germany will make clear that while we do not forget the past, the United States views defense of our common democratic alliance as essential to preservation of human liberties in the Federal Republic. In so doing, the President will not ignore any of the atrocities committed by the Third Reich. He will not pass up the need to remind Germany -- and the world -- that human beings everywhere must view the Holocaust as a brutal lesson of the depths to which mankind can descend.

This by no means implies the the President or his German hosts seek to ignore those who lost their lives or the hideous excesses of the totalitarian Nazi regime, of which Dachau is a nightmarish example. The holocaust remains part of the consciousness of all responsible persons in Germany and it is a subject the President has discussed with Chancellor Helmut Kohl on numerous occasions. It is a burden which the Federal Republic recognizes it will continue to bear even as it looks to its future.

But the end of World War II has other associations for the German people in addition to the historical obligations it imposes. It was a time of defeat, humiliation, despair, and loss of hope. Its commemoration in Germany must necessarily be a somber and reflective occasion which focuses on each individual and his conscience. The United States is proud of its role in helping to create conditions in the Federal Republic which make unthinkable a return to the excesses of the Third Reich. The President believes that we should take satisfaction in this historic accomplishment and should entrust to our German allies the responsibility for observing this historic date as they see best.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,



Thomas M.T. Niles  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for European Affairs

8510403

T H E   W H I T E   H O U S E   O F F I C E

REFERRAL

APRIL 4, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 300624

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED MARCH 28, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MISS HELENE KARPA  
PRESIDENT  
JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF  
GREATER WASHINGTON  
1522 K STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20005

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO VISIT ONE OF THE  
NAZI DEATH CAMPS DURING TRIP TO WEST GERMANY

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

#300624

*Dr. Bregan*



**JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

1522 K STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005 • (202) 347-4628

**OF GREATER WASHINGTON**

March 28, 1985

9510403

*Officers*

- HELENE KARPA  
President
- NORMAN GOLDSTEIN  
1st Vice President
- STEPHEN N. GELL  
2nd Vice President
- SAUL I. STERN  
Secretary
- DAVID S. DAVIDSON  
Treasurer

*Executive Board*

- VICKIE ABRUTYN
- RABBI WILLIAM ALTSHUL
- DAVID ALTSHULER
- MAURICE D. ATKIN
- IRA BARTFIELD
- SYLVIA BLAJWAS
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- TOBY BOYMEL
- DR. JACK S. COHEN
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- PAUL S. FROMMER
- NORMAN I. GELMAN
- MAX M. GOLDBERG
- DR. WARREN GREENBERG
- DR. ELAINE K. HOLLANDER
- JASON HORN
- LILLIAN KAPLAN
- RABBI REUBEN LANDMAN
- ALBERT I. LERNER
- DR. STANLEY M. LEVIN
- HELEN S. LEWIS
- JUDAH LIFSCHITZ
- JACOB C. LISH
- SAM A. MORGENSTEIN
- NITA ORNOFF
- DR. JERRY OSTERWEIL
- CELIA PAVIS
- SHARON PRESS
- MAX REGENSTEINER
- SHOSHANA RIEMER
- DR. LEONARD L. ROSENBAUM
- ISRAEL ROTKIN
- DR. FRED SCHULMAN
- JACK A. SERBER
- LILLIAN SHIENBROOD
- LEONORE SIEGELMAN
- LOIS SLOTT
- EDWARD L. SNYDER
- IRWIN B. STEIN
- LESTER TEPPER
- BRUCE J. TERRIS
- RABBI JOEL M. TESSLER
- ELSIE TROMBKA
- MARCIA E. WEINBERG
- RABBI STUART WEINBLATT

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- ALIZA HABER
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- NATHAN LEWIN
- RICHARD K. LYON
- BERT SILVER
- BERNARD S. WHITE
- SEYMOUR D. WOLF

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- DR. SIDNEY H. SCHWARZ

*Professional Staff*

- MICHAEL L. BERNEY
- MARLENE GORIN
- SAMUEL H. SISLEN

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Ours is a community which suffered Hitler's inhuman program of genocide. There are many in our community who survived the bestiality of death camps, others who are their children, all of us who have internalized that experience.

For us the issue is not one of "reawakening memories and passions," as you suggested at your recent press conference. Rather, it is an issue of learning from our past. Future generations must understand that the legacy of the Holocaust is the imperative of eternal vigilance to ensure that such tragedies cannot and will not occur again.

Our community welcomes your trip to West Germany, and embraces your celebration of the beginning of peace. But we urge you to also visit one of the Nazi death camps, and thereby demonstrate the commitment of our great democracy to profit from the lessons of the past.

Sincerely,

Helene Karpa  
President

HK/jj

*The central, representative body of 220 affiliated Jewish organizations in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, devoted to community relations, information and action.*

MEMBER AGENCY OF THE NATIONAL JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
BENEFICIARY OF THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL FEDERATION OF GREATER WASHINGTON

# CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

## JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF GREATER WASHINGTON

- Achduth  
 Adas Israel Congregation  
 Adas Israel Congregation Men's Club  
 Adas Israel Congregation Sisterhood  
 Agudas Achim Congregation, Va.  
 Alpha Omega Fraternity  
 America-Israel Cultural Foundation  
 American Jewish Committee  
 American Jewish Congress  
 American Red Magen David For Israel —  
 Capital Region  
 American Technion Society  
 American Technion Society — Women's  
 Division  
 Americans For A Safe Israel  
 Arlington-Fairfax Jewish Congregation  
 Arlington-Fairfax Jewish Congregation —  
 Sisterhood  
 Beth El Hebrew Congregation, Va.  
 Beth Israel Congregation, Lexington Park  
 Beth Sholom Congregation  
 Beth Sholom Congregation —  
 Ladies Auxiliary  
 Beth Tikva Congregation  
 Beth Torah Congregation  
 Bethesda-Chevy Chase Jewish  
 Community Group  
 Bethesda Jewish Congregation  
 B'nai B'rith  
 • National Capital Association of  
 B'nai B'rith Lodges  
 • Argo Lodge #413  
 • Bethesda-Chevy Chase Lodge #2917  
 • Brotherhood Lodge #1425  
 • Chesapeake Lodge #2553  
 • Free State Lodge #2379  
 • Independence Lodge #1776  
 • John F. Kennedy Lodge #2484  
 • Metropolitan Lodge #2881  
 • Montgomery Lodge #1499  
 • Wheaton/Heritage Lodge #2138  
 B'nai B'rith Virginia Lodges  
 • Benjamin N. Cardozo Lodge #1314  
 • Maurice D. Rosenberg Lodge #1555  
 • Uriah P. Levy Lodge #2392  
 B'nai B'rith Women — Mid-Atlantic Region  
 Congressional Council  
 • Argo Chapter  
 • Chermona Chapter  
 • Executive and Professional Chapter  
 • Max Kroloff Chapter  
 • Silver Chapter  
 Tri-County Council  
 • Abram Simon Chapter  
 • Blair Chapter #1247  
 • Free State Chapter  
 • Largo Chapter  
 • Medina Chapter  
 • Prince Georges County Chapter  
 BB/BBW — Habirah Unit  
 B'nai B'rith Career and  
 Counseling Services  
 B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations  
 • American University  
 • George Washington University  
 • University of Maryland  
 B'nai Israel Congregation  
 B'nai Israel Congregation Men's Club  
 B'nai Israel Congregation Sisterhood  
 B'nei Akiva Galil  
 Cantors Association of Greater Washington  
 Chaim Weizmann School  
 Chavrutah  
 Combined Congregations of Greater  
 Washington  
 Congregation Beth El of  
 Montgomery County  
 Congregation Beth Emeth, Reston, Va.  
 Congregation B'nai Shalom, Sterling, Va.  
 Congregation Har Shalom  
 Congregation Har Tzeon — Agudath Achim  
 Congregation Ohavei Zedek  
 Congregation Olam Tikvah  
 Congregation Shaare Tikvah  
 Congregation Shaare Tikvah Sisterhood  
 Council of Jewish Single Adult Clubs  
 Ezras Israel Congregation  
 Free Sons of Israel —  
 Col. David Marcus Lodge #211  
 Gaithersburg Hebrew Congregation  
 George Washington Lodge #24  
 George Washington Lodge Ladies  
 Auxiliary  
 Greater Washington Aliyah Council  
 Hadassah  
 • Greater Washington Area Chapter  
 • Aliyah Group  
 • Anne Frank Group  
 • Aviva Group  
 • Bat Zion  
 • Bialik Group  
 • Chai  
 • Gurion Group  
 • Haifa  
 • Herzl Group  
 • Ilan Group  
 • Kadimah Group  
 • Kelitah B & P Group  
 • Kinneret Group  
 • Masada Group  
 • Modin Group  
 • Mt Scopus  
 • Sabra Group  
 • Shalom Group  
 • Henrietta Szold  
 • Tikvah Group  
 • Northern Virginia Chapter  
 Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington  
 Hebrew Academy Ladies Auxiliary  
 Hebrew Aid Circle  
 Hebrew Home of Greater Washington  
 Hebrew Home of Greater Washington —  
 Men's Club  
 Hebrew Home of Greater Washington —  
 Women's Auxiliary  
 Jacobi Medical Society  
 Jewish Activist Front  
 Jewish Caucus of Antioch School of Law  
 Jewish Community Center of  
 Greater Washington  
 Jewish Council for the Aging of  
 Greater Washington, Inc.  
 Jewish Council for the Aging Auxiliary  
 Jewish Day School of Greater Washington  
 Jewish Educators' Association  
 Jewish Folk Arts Society  
 Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, Inc.  
 Jewish Genealogical Society of  
 Greater Washington  
 Jewish Historical Society of  
 Greater Washington  
 Jewish Holocaust Survivors and  
 Friends of Greater Washington  
 Jewish Identity Project  
 Jewish Residents of Rossmoor  
 Jewish Social Action Caucus  
 Jewish Social Service Agency  
 Jewish Student Association of  
 Georgetown University  
 Jewish War Veterans  
 • Department of D.C.  
 • Ladies' Auxiliary, Department of D.C.  
 • Post #58  
 • Post #58 Auxiliary  
 • Post #381  
 • Post #386  
 • Post #567  
 • Post #589  
 • Post #692  
 • Post #1777  
 Kehila Chadasha Congregation  
 Keshet Israel Congregation  
 Labor Zionist Alliance  
 • American Habonim Association  
 Chapter  
 • Farband Chapter  
 Magen David Sephardic Congregation  
 Metro Jewish Singles  
 Mishkan Torah Congregation  
 Mizrahi-Women of America  
 • Birah Chapter  
 • Washington Seniors Chapter  
 Mt. Lebanon Cemetery Association  
 National Capital Area Chapter of  
 Men's ORT  
 National Council of Jewish Women  
 • Montgomery County Section  
 • Northern Virginia Section  
 • Washington, D.C. Section  
 National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases  
 Association — National Capital Area  
 Chapter  
 Nevev Shalom Congregation  
 Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation  
 Ohav Sholom Talmud Torah Congregation  
 Ohr Kodesh Congregation  
 Ohr Kodesh Congregation Sisterhood  
 Oseh Shalom (Jewish Congregation of  
 Laurel)  
 Pioneer Women  
 • Greater Washington Council  
 • Bilu' Club  
 • Braisheet Club  
 • Club No. 1  
 • Dimona Club  
 • Givat Olga Club  
 • Hanita Club  
 • Hatikvah Club  
 • Kinneret Club  
 • Medina Club  
 • Rachel Ben Zvi Club  
 • Ruach Club  
 President's Assembly of Conservative  
 Congregations of Greater Washington  
 Reconstructionist Havurah of  
 Greater Washington  
 Religious Zionists of America  
 (Mizrachi-Hapoel Hamizrachi)  
 Shaare Tefila Congregation  
 Service Guild of Washington  
 (American Committee for) Shaare Tzedek  
 Hospital — Washington, D.C. Region  
 Shomrim Society of Greater Washington  
 Silver Spring Hebrew Day Institute  
 Silver Spring Jewish Center  
 Southeast Hebrew Congregation  
 Southeast Hebrew Congregation —  
 Ladies Auxiliary  
 Temple Beth Ami  
 Temple Emanuel  
 Temple Israel  
 Temple Israel Sisterhood  
 Temple Micah  
 Temple Rodef Shalom  
 Temple Shalom  
 Temple Sinai  
 Temple Sinai Brotherhood  
 Temple Sinai Sisterhood  
 Temple Solel  
 The Generation After  
 Tifereth Israel Congregation  
 Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations,  
 Women's Branch  
 United Synagogue of America  
 (Seaboard Region)  
 Washington Area Friends of Histadrut  
 Washington Board of Rabbis  
 Washington Committee for Soviet Jewry  
 Washington Hebrew Congregation  
 Washington Hebrew Congregation —  
 Brotherhood  
 Washington Hebrew Congregation —  
 Sisterhood  
 Washington Society of the Jewish Deaf  
 Washington Zionist Federation  
 Women's American ORT  
 • Washington Region  
 • Bel Pre Chapter  
 • Business & Professional Chapter  
 • Chevy Chase Chapter  
 • Congressional Chapter  
 • Gaithersburg Chapter  
 • Northwest Chapter  
 • Olney Chapter  
 • Parkside Chapter  
 • Potomac Chapter  
 • Silver Spring Chapter  
 • White Oak Chapter  
 Woodside Synagogue — Ahavas Torah  
 Workmen's Circle  
 • Branch 92  
 • Branch 494-E  
 Young Israel Shomrai Emunah  
 Congregation  
 Young People's Synagogue  
 Zionist Organization of America —  
 Louis D. Brandeis District

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: RABBI ALFRED GOTTSCHALK

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION TO VISIT A  
MILITARY CEMETERY AT BITBURG

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                         | ORG         | 85/04/22         |              | C 85/04/26 PY             |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

- \*\*\*\*\*
- |                          |                      |                      |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION CODES:  | *OUTGOING            | * |
| *                        | *                    | * CORRESPONDENCE:    | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE        | *C-COMPLETED         | * CODE = A           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE *       |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY *       |                      |                      | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT. 2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



50  
HEBREW UNION COLLEGE ATTN RABAI  
3101 CLIFTON AVE  
CINCINNATI OH 45220 20AM

Western Union Mailgram®



*Con: Pres. visit Secor*

*Cincinnati*  
1-0136358110 04/20/85 ICS IPMBNGZ CSP WHSB  
5132815933 MGMB TDBN CINCINNATI OH 130 04-20 0139P EST

*m. Breyer*

4

#301625

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20500

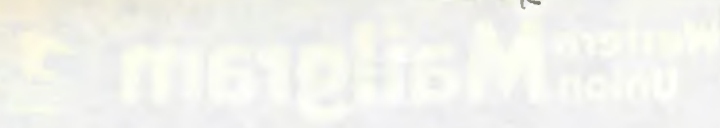
MR PRESIDENT

ALTHOUGH CHANCELLOR KOHL SAID YOUR PLANS WERE "FINAL" WITH RESPECT TO YOUR VISITING THE MILITARY CEMETERY AT BITBURG, I URGE YOU TO RECONSIDER. AS AN AMERICAN AND AS YOUR FRIEND, I MUST TELL YOU THAT IF YOU DO THIS YOUR ADMINISTRATION WILL BE BLEMISHED FOREVER IN AMERICAN AND WORLD HISTORY. RECONCILIATION IS NOT FOUNDED ON THE ABDICATION OF THE JUST BUT UPON CONFRONTATION WITH THE TRUTH. AS ONE WHO OFFERED A PRAYER AT YOUR INAUGURATION AT THE CAPITOL AND ONE WHO PRAYS FOR YOUR WELFARE NOW, I PLEAD WITH YOU TO CHANGE YOUR PLANS, PLANS THAT ARE NOT IN YOUR CHARACTER OR IN THE STYLE OF YOUR ADMINISTRATION.

RABAI ALFRED GOTTSCHALK, PRESIDENT  
HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, MEMBER OF U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL

13:40 EST

MGMCOMP



LEADER UNION COLLEGE WITH BARBERS  
1101 CLIFTON AVE  
CINCINNATI OH 45256 5048

170374302138 05/50/50 138 04-50 01509 EXT

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20503

MR PRESIDENT

ALTHOUGH AS A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY CENTERS AT BIRMINGHAM, I URGE YOU TO  
RECONSIDER AS AN AMERICAN AND AS YOUR COUNTRYMAN, I MUST TELL YOU THAT  
IF YOU DO THIS YOUR ADMINISTRATION WILL BE BLESSED FOREVER IN  
AMERICAN AND WORLD HISTORY. RECONSIDERATION IS NOT FOUNDED ON THE  
ABDUCTION OF THE LIFE OF A PRESIDENT, BUT ON A COMMITMENT WITH THE TRUTH, AS ONE  
WHO OFFERS A PRAYER AT YOUR INAUGURATION AT THE CAPITOL AND ONE WHO  
PRAYS FOR YOUR WELFARE NOW. I PLEASED WITH YOU TO CHANGE YOUR PLANS,  
PLANS THAT ARE NOT IN YOUR CHARACTER OR IN THE STYLE OF YOUR  
ADMINISTRATION.

HERMAN UNION COLLEGE, MEMBER OF U.S. HELDCAUST MEMORIAL COUNCIL  
BARBAR ALFRED GOTTSCHALK, PRESIDENT

OR DIAL WESTERN UNION'S COMPUTER DIRECTLY:

FROM TELEX I..... 6161 - FROM TELEX II (TWX)..... 910-420-1212

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. SHOSHANA S. CARDIN

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS DECISION TO VISIT CONCENTRATION  
CAMP BUT OPPOSES VISITING GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                         | ORG         | 85/04/22         |              | C 85/04/26 PY             |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | __/__/__         |              | __/__/__                  |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | __/__/__         |              | __/__/__                  |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | __/__/__         |              | __/__/__                  |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | __/__/__         |              | __/__/__                  |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | __/__/__         |              | __/__/__                  |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:T INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION CODES: *OUTGOING *
* * * CORRESPONDENCE: *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/PECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL * OF SIGNER *
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*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * * *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE * * *
*X-INTERIM REPLY * * *

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*M. Breger*

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PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC

DEAR MR PRESIDENT:

KNOWING HOW DEEPLY YOU FEEL ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST, WE WELCOME YOUR DECISION TO VISIT A NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMP TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO WERE MARTYRED BY NAZI GENOCIDE. BUT WE ARE DISTURBED AND PERPLEXED BY THE DECISION AND ITS JUSTIFICATION FOR VISITING A CEMETERY IN WHICH SS TROOPS ARE BURIED AND RECOGNIZED. WE BELIEVE, ALONG WITH VETERAN GROUPS, THAT THOSE WHOSE MEMORY SHOULD BE CHERISHED ARE THOSE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES TO LIBERATE EUROPE FROM NAZISM. THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR II SHOULD NOT BE MARKED

BY PAYING TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO SERVED - VOLUNTARILY OR INVOLUNTARILY - AS INSTRUMENTS OF NAZI TYRANNY AND BRUTALITY. WITH YOU, WE DO BELIEVE IN RECONCILIATION, AND IN THAT SPIRIT WE SHOULD RECALL THOSE GERMANS WHO HAD THE COURAGE TO STAND UP TO NAZISM, EVEN THOUGH IT COST THEM THEIR FREEDOM AND, IN MOST CASES, THEIR LIVES.

SHOSHANA S CARDIN PRESIDENT COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS  
575 LEXINGTON AVE  
NEW YORK NY 10022

1114 EST

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

APR 22 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ALANA S. KMASTER

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY

ACTION

DISPOSITION

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACT<br>CODE    | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD    | TYPE<br>RESP | C<br>D | COMPLETED<br>YY/MM/DD    |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------|--------|--------------------------|
| RONALD ALVARADO                         | ORG            | 85/04/22            |              |        | C 85/05/01 <sup>YZ</sup> |
| <i>Colhigg</i>                          | <del>ACT</del> | <del>85/05/03</del> | WARD         | C      | 85/06/05 <sup>AB</sup>   |
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RONALD ALVARADO

ORG 85/04/22

C 85/05/01 <sup>YZ</sup>

REFERRAL NOTE:

*Colhigg*

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~~85/05/03~~

WARD C 85/06/05

<sup>AB</sup>

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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2500

IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION CODES: *OUTGOING *
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*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
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# City of Hidden Hills

24549 Long Valley Road • Hidden Hills, California 91302  
(818) 888-9281

April 19, 1985

President Ronald Reagan  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Reagan;

I am outraged every time I hear about your persistence in visiting the German military cemetery.

Why can't you just admit that your advance men made an error and go somewhere else? Why compound your error by using "poor teenage" soldiers as equal victims of Nazism as a rationale for your mistake?

There is no reason why an American President should pay homage to soldiers who killed Americans in World War II, especially at American taxpayers' expense. I'm sure the German government could find a site that would be suitable for cementing U.S./German relations, that would be mutually acceptable and might even have some social merit.

A great virtue in an elected official is to admit his or her error and take corrective action; not compound it with further excuses and justifications.

Sincerely,

*Alana S. Knaster*

Alana S. Knaster  
Mayor, City of Hidden Hills

/cjw

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301642

TR/23-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. ARDEN E. SHENKER

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |

MARSHALL BREGER

ORG 85/04/22

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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION CODES: *OUTGOING *
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301642

*M. Berger*



# Jewish Federation of Portland

6651 S. W. Capitol Highway, Portland, Oregon 97219

Phone (503) 245-6219

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VICE PRESIDENTS  
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David Stern  
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Jay Zidell  
Min Zidell

April 15, 1985

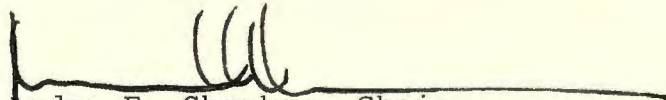
The Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Portland suffered in silence your decision not to commemorate the Holocaust at Dachau, on your trip to Europe forthcoming. We no longer can suffer in silence, at your decision to place a wreath in a German cemetery where Nazi soldiers are buried. The news media have accused you of insensitivity by such actions. We believe that that term is too soft to describe our sense of outrage and abhorrence at the inappropriateness of the conduct you propose.

You choose to honor the victimizers, rather than commemorating the victims. The enclosed editorial from our local newspaper describes that decision as "thoughtless nonchalance." That too is too soft a term.

Please, Mr. President, it is not too late to reverse this proposed offensive action.

  
Arden E. Shenker, Chair  
Community Relations Committee

Enclosure

AES/tc





# The Oregonian

Founded Dec. 4, 1850. Established as a daily Feb. 4, 1861. The Sunday Oregonian established Dec. 4, 1881. Published daily and Sunday by the Oregonian Publishing Co.,  
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WILLIAM A. HILLIARD, Executive Editor

ROBERT M. LANDAUER, Editorial Page Editor

DONALD J. STERLING JR., Asst. to the Publisher

PETER THOMPSON, Managing Editor

ROBERT N. SCHOENBACHER, Advertising Dir.

PATRICK L. MARLTON, Circulation Dir.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1985

## Let's not honor Nazi dead

President Reagan's plans to write a new script for World War II and place a wreath in a cemetery in West Germany where Nazi soldiers were buried after the "Battle of the Bulge" should be aborted. The president, in his visit to Europe at the end of April to attend an economic conference in Bonn, should seek a more appropriate way of recognizing the postwar friendship between Germans and Americans and the common suffering of both nations that ended 40 years ago.

An official presidential honor cannot be paid to the buried dead of an evil war machine without calling back the screams of its victims, millions of whom found no common grave in a neat military cemetery but were turned to ashes or buried like garbage in ditches. The German nation must not be permitted to forget the long night of terror it waged against humanity, nor the genocide its leaders committed against the German people and other races that fell under their unspeakable shadows.

While new generations who had no part in the monstrous crimes should not

be kept in a state of penance and guilt, they must be permitted to learn from the past, and its memories should not suffer distortions in the name of new friendships, national alignments and the politics of peace.

The president, in his thoughtless, nonchalant way of looking at the end of World War II, has been accused of focusing on the German dead in order to avoid having to recall the facts that America and the Soviet Union were allies and that dead Russian soldiers also fell in a common cause. That is a risk he need not take.

Reagan, in planning his trip to Europe, passed up an invitation to visit Dachau, one of the many German concentration camps that housed the Nazi horrors, for fear of opening old wounds. But in his reluctance to commemorate the sufferings of millions who were tortured; starved, gased and burned in ovens, he wounds the camps' survivors, and in honoring the memory of enemy dead with a wreath, he risks rearranging history.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301657

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 22, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. ALOYSIUS A. MAZEWSKI

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION TO VISIT  
A GERMAN MILITARY CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
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|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| LINAS KOJELIS                           | ORG         | 85/04/22         |              | C 85/05/06                |
| <i>V99DOS</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____      | <i>R</i>    | <i>85/05/09</i>  |              | <i>85/05/23 AB</i>        |
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| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  |              |                           |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIA: T INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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\*ACTION CODES:                   \*DISPOSITION CODES:           \*OUTGOING                       \*  
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\*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION   \*A-ANSWERED                   \*TYPE RESP=INITIALS       \*  
\*C-COMMENT/RECOM       \*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL       \*                       OF SIGNER               \*  
\*D-DRAFT RESPONSE       \*C-COMPLETED               \*                       CODE = A               \*  
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S/S # 8514376  
8514377

DATE MAY 28 1985

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
TRANSMITTAL FORM

FOR: Mr. Robert C. McFarlane  
National Security Council  
The White House

REFERENCE:

TO: President Reagan FROM: Mr. Aloysius A. Mazewski  
April 19, 1985  
DATE: April 15, 1985 SUBJECT: President's trip to  
Germany


WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: May 9, 1985 NSC # 301657  
302633

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY  
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

- A draft reply is attached  
 A draft reply will be forwarded  
 A translation is attached  
 An information copy of a direct reply is attached  
 We believe no response is necessary for the reason  
cited below  
 Other

REMARKS:

  
Nicholas Platt  
Executive Secretary

85 MAY 29 A 2: 40

WHITE HOUSE  
SITUATION ROOM



May 23, 1985

Mr. Aloysius A. Mazewski, President  
Polish American Congress  
1200 North Ashland Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60622

Dear Mr. Mazewski:

I am replying to your April 15 and 19 telegrams to President Reagan regarding his trip to the Federal Republic of Germany.

During his visit, the President made absolutely clear the revulsion all Americans feel for the horrors committed in the name of the German state before and during World War II, and our determination not to forget them. His itinerary included a ceremony at the site of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp to pay homage to those who perished at the hands of the Nazis. As he said on the April 21 anniversary of the liberation of that camp and again during his own visit, "There can and should be no absolution."

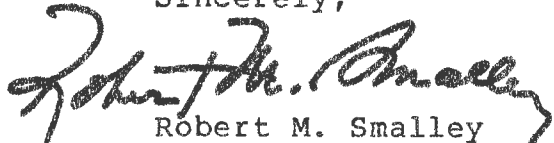
President Reagan strongly believes, as part of our efforts to learn from the experiences of this dark era, we must not reject opportunities for reconciliation. In this spirit, he was asked by Chancellor Kohl, and accepted the invitation, to visit a German military cemetery in Bitburg.

For four decades, the Federal Republic of Germany has faced up to the guilt and responsibilities of its Nazi past. It has demonstrated concretely in countless ways its commitment to democratic ideals and human rights, including standing shoulder to shoulder with us in the Alliance in defense of freedom. The President's trip to Bitburg included a visit to the large Bitburg Air Base, which houses members of both the U.S. and German Air Forces.

It is important to demonstrate, particularly to the younger generation in Germany, that although we continue to hold the nation responsible for its past, we do not consider them to bear individual responsibility for the crimes of Nazism. The President did not consider his appearance at Bitburg to represent an act of forgiveness for those crimes. Rather, it was an acknowledgment of the democratic society the German people have built. He considered this to be a positive gesture which in no way detracted from his full and

heartfelt commitment to remember and honor the victims of the Holocaust and the American soldiers who gave their lives to defeat the Nazi regime and its crimes.

Sincerely,

  
Robert M. Smalley  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
for Public Affairs

8514376

T H E   W H I T E   H O U S E   O F F I C E

REFERRAL

MAY 9, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:  
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 301657  
MEDIA: TELEGRAM, DATED APRIL 19, 1985  
TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN  
FROM: MR. ALOYSIUS A. MAZEWSKI  
PRESIDENT  
POLISH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THE  
U. S.  
6100 NORTH CICERO AVENUE  
CHICAGO IL 60646

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION TO VISIT  
A GERMAN MILITARY CEMETERY

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN  
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE  
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE  
(OR DRAFT) TO:  
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY  
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON  
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

# 301657

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*James Kojala*

8514376

1-020978A109 04/19/85

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PMS WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

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PMS HON. RONALD REAGAN,DLR

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON DC

ON A PERSONAL NOTE -- DECISION NOT TO CANCEL GERMAN CEMETARY VISIT AND REMARKS THEREAFTER REFLECT COMPLETE DISREGARD OF THE

FEELING AND CONCERN OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS.

DEFENSE OF THE ADVISORS IS COMMENDABLE BUT IT SHOULD HAVE ITS LIMITS. THE UNTHINKABLE AND UNRESEARCHED AND THOUGHTLESS ADVICE BY YOUR STAFF WILL HAVE PERMANENT AND SERIOUS REPERCUSSION IN 1988 AND THEREAFTER. THE LACK OF SENSITIVITY BY YOUR STAFF IS INDICATIVE OF THE CALLOUS ATTITUDE TOWARD THE ETHNIC COMMUNITY.

WE HAVE ALWAYS TRUSTED YOUR JUDGMENT AND KNOW THAT YOU HAVE THE COURAGE TO REVERSE YOUR DECISION AND ALLEVIATE THE GREAT ANXIETY AMONGST YOUR LOYAL SUPPORTERS.

ALOYSIUS A. MAZEWSKI, *President*

05008

*Polish National Alliance of the U.S.  
6100 North Cicero Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60646*