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THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301903

TR/23-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. GERALD S. OSTROW

SUBJECT: WPITES IN SUPPORT OF VISIT TO BERGEN-BELSEN  
BUT OPPOSES VISIT TO 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	85/04/25		C85/04/26 <sup>P1</sup>
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:M INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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*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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50

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301903

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20500

*M. Buzer*

KNOWING HOW DEEPLY YOU FEEL ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST, WE WELCOME YOUR DECISION TO VISIT THE NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMP AT BERGEN-BELSEN TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO WERE MARTYRED BY THE NAZI GENOCIDE. NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE DISTURBED AND PERPLEXED THAT YOU ARE STILL SCHEDULED TO VISIT AND LAY A WREATH AT THE BITBURG CEMETERY WHERE SS TROOPS ARE BURIED. YOUR OFFICIAL VISIT WILL HONOR THOSE GRAVES AND YOUR WREATH LAYING WILL SYMBOLIZE THE PAIN OF TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO SERVED AS INSTRUMENTS OF NAZI TYRANNY, BRUTALITY AND MURDER. ON THIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR II WE BELIEVE, ALONG WITH VETERAN GROUPS, THAT THOSE WHOSE MEMORIES WHO SHOULD BE CHERISHED ARE THE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES TO LIBERATE EUROPE FROM NAZISM. IF YOU ARE TRULY INTERESTED IN RECONCILIATION, THEN YOUR VISIT SHOULD RECALL THOSE GERMANS WHO HAD THE COURAGE TO STAND UP TO NAZISM EVENTHOUGH IT COST THEM THEIR FREEDOM, AND IN MOST CASES, THEIR LIVES.

WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT YOU WILL RECONSIDER YOUR VISIT TO THE BITBURG CEMETERY. YOUR PRESENCE THERE WILL CAUSE GREAT PAIN AND ANGUISH IN OUR COMMUNITY. HONORING SS TROOPS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY CANNOT HELP FURTHER THE PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION BETWEEN NATIONS OR EASE THE MEMORY OF PEOPLE WHO SUFFERED DEATHS AT THEIR HANDS

GERALD S OSTROW PRESIDENT UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER  
PITTSBURGH 234 MCKEE PL PITTSBURGH PA 15213

10:27 EST

MGMCOMP

5241 (R 7/82)

20102

WESTERN MALIGNANT UNION  
1100 BROADWAY, N.Y. 10036  
1-212-697-1100

WESTERN MALIGNANT UNION  
1100 BROADWAY, N.Y. 10036  
1-212-697-1100

KNOWING HOW DEEPLY YOU FEEL ABOUT THE HOLIDAY, WE WELCOME YOUR  
DECISION TO VISIT THE NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMP AT BERGEN-BELTZER TO  
REMEMBER TO VISIT AND TO VISIT THE NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMP AT BERGEN-BELTZER TO  
NEVERTHELESS, HE WAS DISTURBED AND REFLECTED THAT YOU ARE STILL  
CONVICTED TO VISIT AND TO VISIT THE NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMP AT BERGEN-BELTZER TO  
THOSE ARE BURIED, YOUR SPECIAL VISIT WILL HONOR THOSE GRAVES AND  
YOUR GREAT LIVING WILL SYMBOLIZE THE RAIN OF TRIBUTE TO THOSE WHO  
SERVED AS INSTRUMENTS OF DEATH, DESTRUCTION, DEPRIVATION AND HURDER. ON THIS  
BOTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR II WE BELIEVE, ALONG WITH  
VETERAN GROUPS, THAT THOSE WHOSE NAMES WHO SHOULD BE CELEBRATED ARE  
THE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE THEIR LIVES TO LIBERATE EUROPE FROM  
NAZISM. IF YOU ARE PROUD OF YOUR ANCESTRY AND CONCERNED FOR THE  
VISIT SHOULD RECALL THOSE GERMAN WHO HAD THE COURAGE TO STAND UP TO  
NAZI ENTHUSIASM IT COST THEM THEIR EYEWEAR, AND IN MOST CASES,  
THEIR LIVES.  
WE SINCERELY HOPE THAT YOU WILL RECONSIDER YOUR VISIT TO THE NAZI  
CONCENTRATION CAMP AT BERGEN-BELTZER. YOUR PRESENCE THERE WILL CAUSE GREAT PAIN AND ANGUISH IN  
OUR COMMUNITY, HONORING AS THOSE WHOSE NAMES WHO SHOULD BE CELEBRATED ARE  
FURTHER THE PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION BETWEEN NATIONS OF ASSESS THE  
FROM TELETYPE UNIT, 1100 BROADWAY, N.Y. 10036  
WESTERN MALIGNANT UNION  
1100 BROADWAY, N.Y. 10036  
1-212-697-1100

1957 OCT  
WESTERN

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. NANDOR LAZAR

SUBJECT: WRITES WITH SUGGESTION FOR HOLOCAUST  
MEMORIAL

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	85/04/25		C 85/04/26
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REFERRAL NOTE: _____		__/__/__		__/__/__

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

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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	*
*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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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

37  
M. Buger

301905

Mr. President Reagan.

I am wondering if it  
would be possible to produce a  
monument around the Vietnam  
memorial. They are the losers  
in the wars.

Thank you  
for your time and trouble  
Nando Lazat

Please for give me for my bad English

# UNITED JEWISH FEDERATION OF TIDEWATER

7300 Newport Avenue • Norfolk, Virginia 23505 • (804) 489-8040

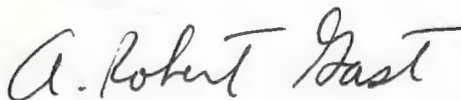
April 1, 1983

The Holocaust Commission of the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater is pleased to endorse Nandor Lazar's one-man effort to introduce his poster of the Holocaust into homes, synagogues, churches and schools around the world.

A message on the poster reads:

"1933-1945, in memory of 6 Million European Jews" and continues "This memorial is dedicated to all who perished in the Nazi concentration camps during World War II."

As a survivor of the Holocaust, he has donated his efforts to give the world a symbol of the Holocaust which will perpetuate the memory of the Jews and others who died at the hands of the Nazis.



A. Robert Gast  
Executive Director



Ruth Fekete  
Chairman, Holocaust Commission

ARG/RF:kje



1933 - 1945

6  
MILLION  
EUROPEAN  
JEWS



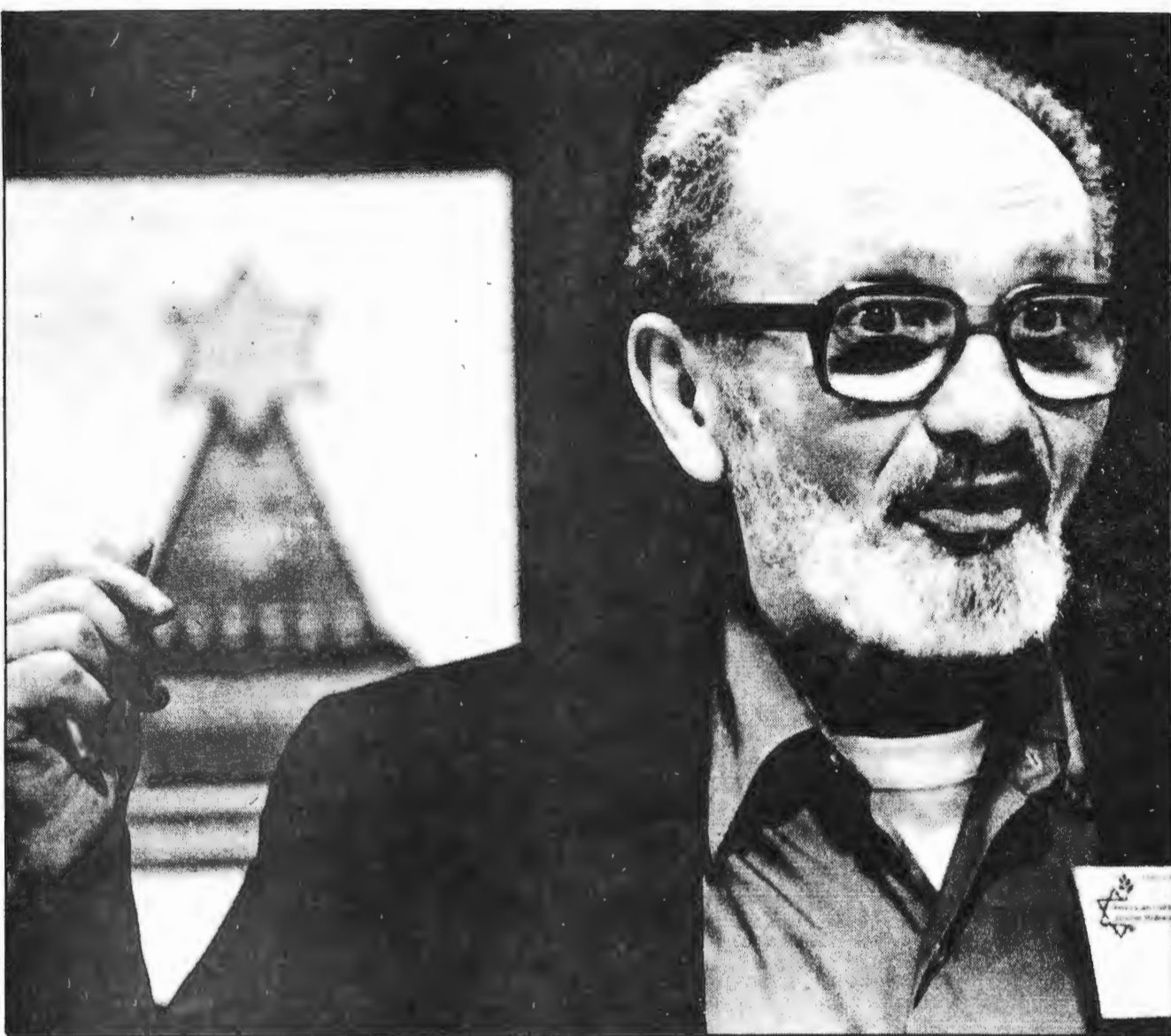
THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO ALL  
WHO PERISHED IN THE NAZI CONCENTRATION  
CAMPS DURING WORLD WAR II



Nandor Lazar,  
Holocaust Survivor

THE SINGLE CANDLE HONORS THOSE NON-JEWS  
WHO ALSO PERISHED IN THE CAMPS





Nandor Lazar considers it just an accident that he survived the war in Nazi work camps. "I'm not smart," he said. "I'm not strong."

## A simple poster pays tribute to victims of the Holocaust

By LISA ELLIS  
Staff Writer

NORFOLK — Nandor Lazar never has liked to talk much about the years he spent, near-starved and frozen, in Nazi work camps at the Russian front.

A quiet, self-effacing man, he still struggles a little with the English language he began to learn when he fled Hungary for the United States in 1948.

But now Lazar, 72, has chosen another way to express his feelings about the Holocaust that claimed the lives of 6 million of his fellow Jews. After a year of work and dozens of painstaking drafts, he has produced a poster that pays tribute to those who died.

Lazar, who has never taken an art lesson, cherishes high aims for the simple drawing. He hopes that before long the posters will appear on the walls of homes, synagogues, churches and schools around the world.

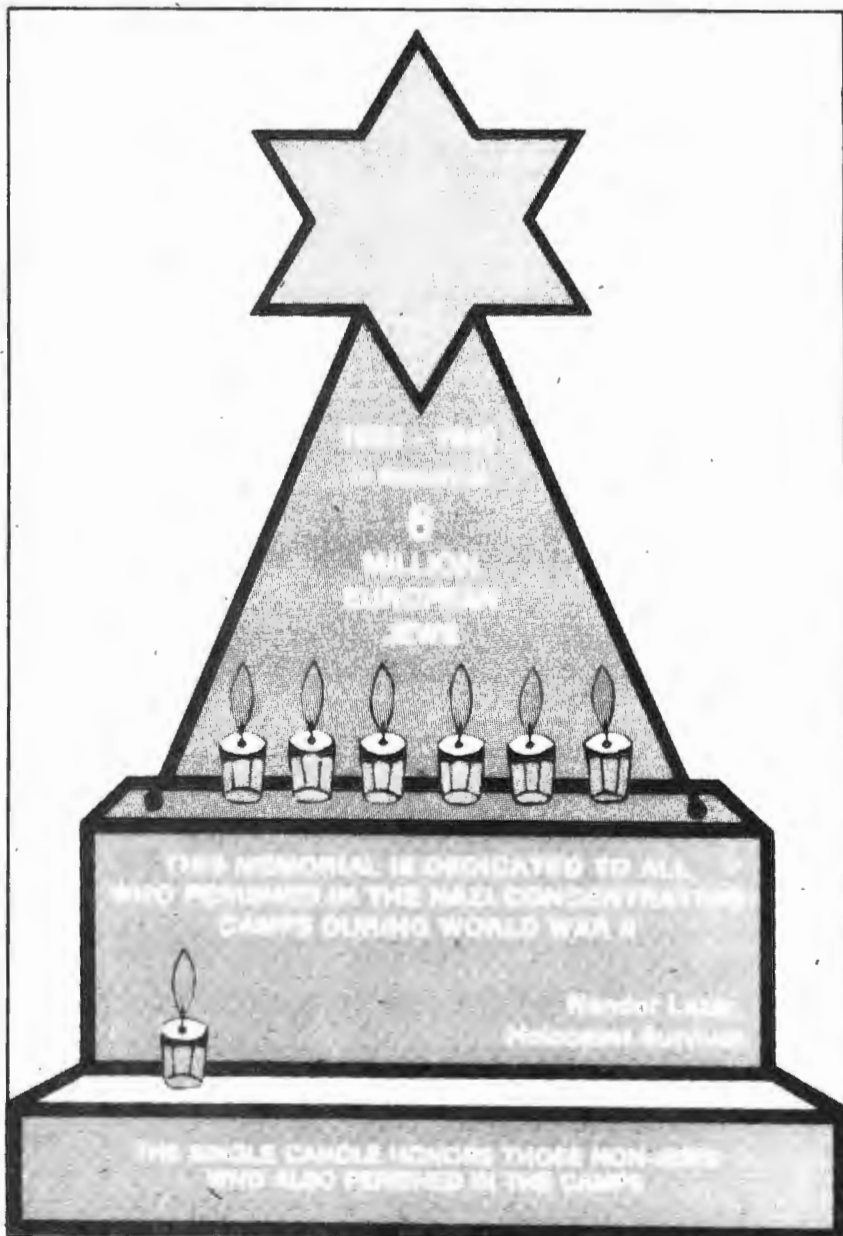
He sold several dozen of his 3,000 copies at the convention of Holocaust survivors in Washington last week. But it is the rest of the world — especially Christians — that Lazar is trying to reach.

The message, he said, is that "any minority can get in trouble — like in India they kill so many Muslims. The Christian can have it, too, to remember they can get in trouble if they elect the wrong leaders."

Lazar's one-man effort to give the world a symbol of the Holocaust began a year ago with a crude sketch of a tombstone. A rabbi told him it was too depressing, he said, so he replaced the tombstone with a monument and kept working.

Finally, he was satisfied. The final product, about 17 by 11 inches, shows a gray, stair-stepped monument topped by a triangle and a yellow, six-pointed star like the ones Jews had to wear under the Nazi regime.

The triangle bears a message in white letters: "1933-1945, in memory of 6 million European Jews."



Lazar wants his poster to become a symbol of Nazi victims — as the cross stands for Christianity.

On the top step sit six crudely drawn yellow candles, on the bottom step a single candle. "This is the 6 million Jews — the six candles," Lazar said. "And this candle is for the non-Jews," the 5 million others who died in Nazi camps.

Lazar said he wanted his poster to become a symbol of the Nazi victims, as the cross stands for Christianity.

"They've written so many books," he said. "The historian look at it. Private (citizens) is not going to look."

"Here," he said, pointing to the poster, "a child can see it. 'Mama, what is that?' And they explain it. He wants to know more; he goes to the library and looks for the book."

Lazar, a short, slender man with a gray beard and glasses, figures it was just an accident that he survived the war. "I'm not smart," he said. "I'm not strong."

He agreed to talk about his experiences only because it might draw attention to the memorial. "I don't count," he said. "They died, thousands and thousands. My main purpose is this (poster), to be a symbol."

Born in Somkerek, Hungary, Lazar ran a household goods store in Budapest until the war. In 1941, he was forced to join a work crew of Jews who followed Hungarian and German troops into Russia.

"We done the dirty work" for the soldiers, he said. "We moved always along. I served 20 jobs. One time I worked in a hospital. The sick people came. We had to undress them, wash them, and the clothes they had a lot of lice."

Another time, he and several others were ordered to move a barbed-wire barrier from one place to another in deep snow. "My hands froze," Lazar said. "No gloves, no nothing."

In their weakened condition, they were easy prey for diarrhea and typhus. Only 30 of Lazar's work group of 200 made it through the war, he said.

And when they died, "we buried them like sardines" in mass graves. "After the war," he said, "everybody look for somebody. They say to me, 'Why you not make a mark where my husband is buried?' I say, 'I bury him today and tomorrow somebody bury me.'"

His brother, now in Israel, also survived the war, but their parents died in a concentration camp.

In 1949, Lazar came to Norfolk under the sponsorship of local residents. Still a Norfolk resident and a bachelor, Lazar is retired from a grocery clerk's job he held for 25 years.

Like many of those who suffered during the war because they were Jews, Lazar has asked himself often where the God of Abraham was when so many of the chosen people were slaughtered.

"I believe in God, but he is sleeping a little," Lazar said with a little cackling laugh. "It looks like it to me."

"I ask so many times, 'Help,' and no help," he said. "I was more religious before. . . . I don't have explanation. He (God) is helpless."

"But what is religion?" he asked. "It's history. You learn from the past."

And so Lazar hopes his posters will perpetuate the memory of the Jews and others who died at the hands of the Nazis.

If they don't sell, he said, he will give them away. Any profits will go toward the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater.

"I'm not doing it to be rich," he said. "A 72-year-old man, what do he need? I don't have children; I don't have a wife. I live a simple life because when I was in concentration camp I say I need a bed, I need clothes, nothing else."

The memorial posters are available from the United Jewish Federation at 7300 Newport Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia 23505, 489-8040. The cost is \$5.



1933 - 1945

In Memory of

6

MILLION  
EUROPEAN  
JEWS



THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO ALL  
WHO PERISHED IN THE NAZI CONCENTRATION  
CAMPS DURING WORLD WAR II



Nandor Lazar,  
Holocaust Survivor

THE SINGLE CANDLE HONORS THOSE NON-JEWS  
WHO ALSO PERISHED IN THE CAMPS

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301907

TR 12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. ISAAC ASIMOV

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RFSP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
MARSHALL BREGER	ORG	85/04/25		C 85/04/26 <span style="color:red">PY</span>
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		__/__/__		__/__/__
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:T INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                               *                               *
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37  
m. Buger

301907

4-037092S114 04/24/85

ICS IPMNTZZ CSP

7168395080 POM TDMT BUFFALO NY 119 04-24 0535P EST

15 APR 24 P 6:23

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

THE AMERICAN HUMANIST ASSOCIATION VIEWS WITH DISMAY YOUR PLANNED OFFICIAL VISIT TO A GERMAN MILITARY CEMETERY. THIS VISIT CAN ONLY BE SEEN AS INSENSITIVITY TO THE MANY MILLIONS OF VICTIMS OF NAZI BARBARISM AND AS HOMMAGE TO THE INSTRUMENTS OF NAZI TERROR. WE URGE YOU TO UPHOLD OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD NAME BY CANCELING THE CEMETERY VISIT. OUR COUNTRY HAS ALREADY WELL ESTABLISHED ITS GOOD WILL TOWARD POST-WAR WEST GERMAN DEMOCRACY. THE CEMETERY VISIT CAN ONLY STRAIN OUR RELATIONS WITH THE GERMANS AND OTHER PEOPLES.

CC: MANAGING EDITOR WASHINGTON POST 1150 15TH STREET NORTHWEST

WASHINGTON DC 20071

MANAGING EDITOR NEW YORK TIMES 229 WEST 43 ST NEW YORK NY 10036

MANAGING EDITOR BUFFALO NEWS 1 NEWS PLAZA BUFFALO NY 14210

ISAAC ASIMOV, PRESIDENT; EDD DOERR, VP; FRED EDWARDS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

7 HARWOOD DR BOX 146

AMHERST NY 14226-0146

1735 EST

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301910

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURE LETTER FROM MS. RITA JACOBS  
REGARDING THE PRESIDENT'S UPCOMING VISIT TO  
GERMANY

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

M. R. OGLESBY

ORG 85/04/25

*MD 185 75/08* **AB**

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

**AB** See I.D. 311879

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                               *                               *
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MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Ben:

Thank you for sharing with us your views and those of your constituents concerning the President's State Visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. We fully understand the depth of your concerns and assure you the President's feelings about the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Nazi regime are no less deeply felt. President Reagan has attempted to make absolutely clear during his visit the revulsion all Americans feel for the horrors which were committed in the name of the German state and our determination not to forget them. As you know, his itinerary included a ceremony at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in order to pay homage to all those who perished at the hands of the Nazis. As he said on the anniversary of the liberation of that camp April 21, there can and should be no absolution.

President Reagan is certain you agree that, as part of our efforts to learn from the experiences of this dark era, we must not reject opportunities for reconciliation. The President was asked by Chancellor Kohl to pay a visit to a German military cemetery in Bitburg, and he has honored that request.

For four decades, the Federal Republic of Germany has faced up to the guilt and responsibilities of its Nazi past and has, in countless ways, demonstrated concretely its commitment to democratic ideals and human rights, including standing shoulder to shoulder with us in the Alliance in defense of freedom. With particular regard to the younger generation in Germany, it is important to demonstrate that, while we continue to hold the nation responsible for its past, we do not consider them to bear individual responsibility for the crimes of Nazism.

Let me make clear that the President does not consider his appearance at Bitburg to represent an act of forgiveness for those crimes, but rather one of acknowledgment of the democratic society the German people have built. He considers this to be a positive gesture which in no way detracts 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,

M. B. Oglesby, Jr.  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman

MBO/STATE/NSC/KRJ/ech-MBO8

cc: Will Ball, Cong. Affrs. ✓

#301910

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN  
2ND DISTRICT, NEW YORK

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
NARCOTICS ABUSE AND  
CONTROL  
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

31  
MO

April 22, 1985

CHAIRMAN,  
TASK FORCE ON  
AMERICAN PRISONERS AND  
MISSING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

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

Dear Mr. President:

It has been brought to my attention that one of my constituents, Ms. Rita Jacobs, corresponded with you recently regarding your upcoming visit to Germany. To date, she has not received a response.

I am enclosing for your information another copy of Ms. Jacobs' letter, for your review, and look forward to hearing from you soon.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

*Ben Gilman*  
BENJAMIN A. GILMAN  
Member of Congress

BAG/db  
Enclosure  
cc: Ms. Rita Jacobs

PLEASE REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2160 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
 TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3776

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P.O. Box 358  
MIDDLETOWN, NEW YORK 10940  
 TELEPHONE: (914) 343-6666

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
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MONTICELLO, NEW YORK 12701  
 TELEPHONE: (914) 798-1621

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
233 ROUTE 59  
MONSEY, NEW YORK 10952  
 TELEPHONE: (914) 357-9000

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
32 MAIN STREET  
HASTINGS-ON-HUDSON,  
NEW YORK 10706  
 TELEPHONE: (914) 478-5550

21 CONTINENTAL DRIVE  
WEST NYACK, NEW YORK 10994  
MARCH 23RD, 1985

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU RECONSIDER YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT WHY YOU ARE CHOOSING NOT TO VISIT DACHAU CONCENTRATION CAMP WHEN YOU COMMEMORATE V-E DAY IN MAY OF THIS YEAR. I AM CERTAIN THAT YOU ARE UNAWARE OF THE INACCURACIES AS WELL AS THE IMPLICATIONS. PLEASE ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN.

YOU SAID THAT YOU PREFER NOT "...REAWAKENING THE MEMORIES AND SO FORTH..." AS A SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER, I HAVE SPENT 16 YEARS OF MY LIFE TEACHING MY STUDENTS ABOUT EVENTS FOR WHICH THEY COULD NOT POSSIBLY HAVE ANY MEMORY PRECISELY FOR THE REASON YOU CLAIM IT UNNECESSARY - BECAUSE PEOPLE FORGET. WE MUST NEVER FORGET THE DEPTHS OF DEPRAVITY THAT PEOPLE CAN SINK TO IF BIGOTRY AND ANTI-SEMITISM ARE ALLOWED TO GO UNCHECKED. HEIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENT AND DEPTHS OF DEPRAVITY-THIS IS THE CORE OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND HISTORY. TO EMPHASIZE ONE AND IGNORE THE OTHER IS INACCURATE HISTORY. I CANNOT IMAGINE A CEREMONY COMMEMORATING THE CIVIL WAR IN OUR OWN COUNTRY AND NOT MENTIONING SLAVERY! THE PURPOSE OF POINTING OUT THE NEGATIVE EXPERIENCE IS NOT TO ENCOURAGE BITTER FEELINGS, BUT TO USE IT PUBLICLY TO MAKE THE STATEMENT THAT WE WILL NOT TOLERATE INJUSTICE ANYWHERE. SURELY, YOU COULD HAVE USED THE CONTRAST TO FURTHER DEMOCRATIC AIMS.

FURTHER, I AM PUZZLED BY YOUR STATEMENT THAT "...SINCE THE GERMAN PEOPLE HAVE VERY FEW ALIVE THAT REMEMBER EVEN (SIC) THE WAR, AND CERTAINLY NONE OF THEM WHO WERE ADULTS AND PARTICIPATING IN ANY WAY...AND THEY HAVE A GUILT FEELING THAT'S BEEN IMPOSED UPON THEM..." THIS IS OBVIOUSLY UNTRUE. NOT ONLY ARE THERE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF REGULAR CITIZENS WHO STORMED THEIR JEWISH NEIGHBORS' HOMES AND BURNED THE SYNAGOGUES AND BRUTALIZED THE JEWISH PEOPLE DURING THE HOLOCAUST STILL ALIVE, BUT EVEN IN GERMANY THE SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE NOT BEING TAUGHT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE!

I PERSONALLY FEEL GUILT AND SHAME FOR THE ACTIONS OF THE HUMAN RACE DURING HITLER'S REIGN AND I WAS NOT EVEN ALIVE THEN. WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTIONS OF ALL OF US-UNLESS WE DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO STOP INJUSTICE AND INTOLERANCE. YOU HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO USE YOUR POSITION AND PRESTIGE TO GIVE A CLEAR SIGNAL TO THE WORLD THAT THE PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS WILL NEVER AGAIN BE TOLERATED.

YES, PRAISE THE GROWTH OF GERMAN DEMOCRACY, ENCOURAGE THE CONTINUANCE OF STRONG ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL TIES; BUT VISIT THE UNMARKED GRAVES AT DACHAU AND REMEMBER.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS,  
RITA JACOBS



Name	Date
Harrod	6/2/13

Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is too light to transcribe accurately.

*NEW*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301925

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. RICHARD B. SHULL

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
ANNE HIGGINS	ORG	85/04/25	<u>NAN C</u>	<u>85/06/25</u> <b>AB</b>
REFERRAL NOTF:		___/___/___		___/___/___
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIA:T INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_  
MI 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           | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET    | *S-SUSPENDED         | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
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| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         |                      |                      | * |
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301925

AH

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2124773360 POM TDMT NEW YORK NY 90 04-24 0930P EST

15 APR 24 P 9:55

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

DEAR MR PRESIDENT WE RECOGNIZE YOUR DEEP AND ABIDING COMMITMENT TO SALVING THE WOUNDS OF THE PAST AND YOUR CONCERN WITH A FUTURE OF FRIENDSHIP AND ALLIANCE BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF WEST GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES. IT IS THEREFORE WITH A COMPASSIONATE VIEW WE IMPLORE YOU TO CHOOSE A CEMETARY WITH LESS OFFENSIVE PROFILE TO HONOR IN GERMANY, SO THAT YOUR UPCOMING TRIP WILL NOT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

THE CAST AND DIRECTOR OF "THE MARRIAGE OF BETTE AND BOO" NOW IN REHEARSAL AT THE NEW YORK SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL PUBLIC THEATRE

RICHARD B SHULL  
16 GRAMERCY PARK  
NEW YORK NY 10003

2131 EST

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301933

TR/2301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS LAURIE STROM

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERING VISIT TO THE 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	85/04/25		C 85/04/26 <span style="color:red">FY</span>
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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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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*C-COMMNT/PECOM        *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       *                       *                       *
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7800 Northaven Road, Suite A Dallas, Texas 75230

214 369-3313

31

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Assistant Executive Director

April 16, 1985

President Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. President,

I strongly urge you to reconsider your visit to the Bitburg Cemetery where members of the SS are buried.

We must remember our past, both good and bad, in the hope of living a more peaceful future. If we blot out horrors, like the Holocaust, which evoke guilt, sadness, outrage, we surely will live to see it happen once again.

Sincerely,

*Laurie Strom*

Laurie Strom  
Campaign Associate

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ID# 301934

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

*f*  
TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 25, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. NATHANIEL LANDE

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

COMMUNICATIONS

REFERRAL NOTE: ATTENTION:

ORG 85/04/25  
SUE MATHIS

*C 15/04/85* **AB**

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COMMENTS:

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

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*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED              *COMPLETED = DATE OF   *
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*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                       *                       *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE        *                       *                       *
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301934

**TIME**  
INCORPORATED

**NATHANIEL LANDE**

Magazine Group  
Director  
Special Projects

TIME  
LIFE  
FORTUNE  
SPORTS ILLUSTRATED  
MONEY  
PEOPLE  
DISCOVER

April 23, 1985

~~See notes~~

Dear Mr. President:

It is very hard to let the events of the last week pass without expressing my deep concern. Your sense of history seems to be inaccurate, and more disappointing, your decision is ill-advised.

I would hope that upon study and reflection, you will gain sensitivity and understanding. Unfortunately, your act of strengthening friendship with West Germany appears to be condoning inhumanity. We all pray that it is not part of a pattern.

A staff reply is not necessary to respond to this letter. Awareness of the reaction of people everywhere is.

Respectfully,

*Nathaniel Lande*

The Honorable Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, DC

# After the Nightmare

On the 40th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe, the world refuses to forget

**A**ll this sound and fury must seem terribly mysterious to Ronald Reagan—a national uproar over visits to a German cemetery. Are we not the future-facing republic? Is it not right to celebrate V-E day with a show of American magnanimity? The nation's response has been a loud and firm no, but it is a no that derives from history, not from meanness of spirit.

The nightmare of World War II is simply not to be smiled away, first because the war touched everywhere, not just the Western Front, but Piccadilly and the Champs Elysées and Stalingrad. Second, because it was both a war and a crime—6 million Jews and perhaps 4.5 million others exterminated. What Reagan may not understand is that cemeteries house visible ghosts. At Bitburg, the SS troops still rant and hunt. At Bergen-Belsen the children still weep.

On May 8 of this year, all such ghosts reappear, along with the happier memories of relief and victory. Forty years ago, Europe emerged from six years in a dark and terrifying room into sudden light. There were the cheering citizens tossing hats in the air, and there were the dead in piles and ditches. There was also the promise of a peaceful future that would soon show Europe to be neither dead nor wholly revived. No more grandly expanding empires. No more nationalistic war whoops—the egotism and sentimentality of 19th century European romanticism having found its deadly end in the Nazis and the Fascists. Victory in Europe may be said to have lasted one day. Andy Rooney, then a staff writer for *Stars and Stripes*, wrote of U.S. and Soviet troops meeting and embracing at the Elbe: "You get the feeling of exuberance, a great new world opening up."

So how should one celebrate V-E day 40 years later, with the Europe that was set free now cut in half, and much of the great new world closed tight? One sees little hugging at the Elbe these days. Only a few weeks ago, a Soviet soldier in East Germany shot and killed a U.S. military officer for trespassing. Perhaps V-E day requires a more sober and moderate reaction than celebration. There are things simply to consider: the selfless heroism of the millions who fought to prevent Hitler's onslaught; the cooperation of proud powers in a right and necessary cause. As a practical lesson, one must also consider how quickly and easily the world allowed a madman to seize it by the throat.

Then too, there is Europe to consider. Finally, after centuries, a purely European war is unthinkable, but the peace has difficulties. Rough times for Europe in 1985: high unemployment, signs of racism, terrorism, ennui. So far all the dreams of a unified Continent have resulted in a relatively successful economic alliance but not a political entity.

There are subtler problems: How does the Continent retain the glory of its history and avoid functioning merely as America's antique shop? How should Europe and the U.S. deal with each other? "Can we never extract this tapeworm of Europe from the brain of our countrymen?" asked Ralph Waldo Emerson in 1860. World War II performed the extraction. The U.S., a child of Europe, became an uncomfortable parent, uncomfortable in part because it is often right.

Still, there is something to consider that has only a tangential connection with geopolitical repositionings but has a direct relationship to Reagan's unfortunate blunders of the past few weeks. Whatever the victory in Europe represented, it was centrally the triumph over pitiless evil. A British journalist who witnessed the liberation of Bergen-Belsen wrote in his dispatch: "It is my duty to describe something beyond the imagination of mankind." But the death camps were not beyond the imagination of people; they were the inventions of people. That is what the world refuses to forget.

—By Roger Rosenblatt





*BNB*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TD 301944

TR123-01

INCOMING

APR 26 1985

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE EUGENE C. MAZZOLA JR.

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCEPNING VISIT TO 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
<del>RONALD ALVARADO</del>	ORG	85/04/26		C 85/05/01 <sup>vz</sup>
<i>Cohigg</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____	<sup>vz</sup> A	85/05/03	UAW	C 85/06/05
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2600 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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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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30944

# TOWN OF IRONDEQUOIT



37

*Ron Reagan*

April 19, 1985

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

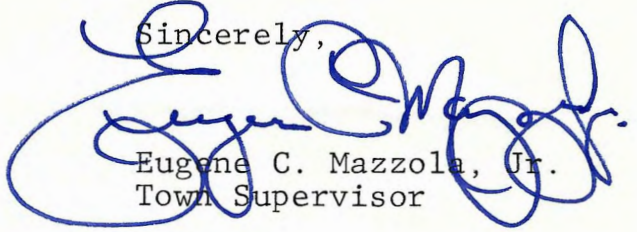
Dear Mr. President:

Our town of more than 60,000 persons is not unlike many towns across our great nation. Irondequoit is a melting pot of many ethnic groups, of many religions, of many cultures.

Yet as diverse a group as we are, we stand united on issues of humanity and compassion. Some of our citizens are concerned about your upcoming visit in Germany to the resting grounds of storm troopers from World War II.

In light of the concerns of these persons, as well as others across our land, we ask that you take all facts into consideration before you make your visit.

The people of the Town of Irondequoit thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
  
Eugene C. Mazzola, Jr.  
Town Supervisor

ECM/mk

cc: Frank Horton  
Fred Eckert  
Al D'Amato  
Daniel Moynihan

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301945

*TR123-01*

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. BERNARD BRISKIN

SUBJECT: WRITES AGAIN FORWARDING NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL  
REGARDING VISIT TO 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	85/04/26		<i>CS 104/26 PY</i>
REFERRAL NOTE:				
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REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: SEE ID #301733

*Hold for Ann Higgins  
re Germany visit*

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

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

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Arden Group, Inc.

301945

37  
11/6/85

BERNARD BRISKIN  
President

April 23, 1985

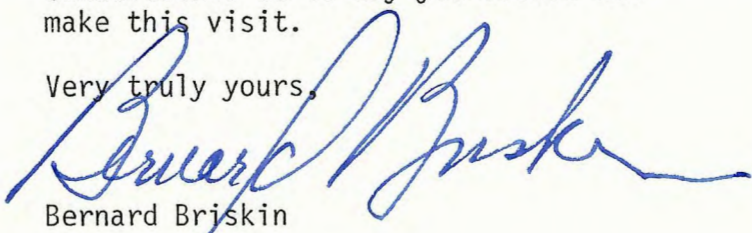
The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

My Dear Mr. President:

I recently wrote to you regarding my objections to your visiting the West German military cemetery at Bitburg.

Enclosed is an editorial from the LOS ANGELES TIMES of April 23, 1985, which expresses the views of many of your constituents as to why you should not make this visit.

Very truly yours,



Bernard Briskin

Enclosure

cc: Senator Alan Cranston  
Senator Pete Wilson  
Congressman Anthony Beilenson

---

# What the SS Was All About

---

Time that works to heal wounds can also weaken memories that deserve to be kept strong. President Reagan, who should know better, has suggested that the SS graves in the West German military cemetery that he plans to visit next month are those of very young men, children almost, impressed into service in the last months of the war and free from any association with the crimes of the Nazi era. The President has even suggested that those buried at the Bitburg cemetery, like those who died in the concentration camps during the Nazi period, are equally victims of Hitlerism. To believe this is utterly to miss the point of what the SS was all about and what the controversy over Bitburg involves.

Who is buried at Bitburg is unimportant. It is the SS insignia on certain graves there that are of paramount significance, and it is these that make a presidential pilgrimage to the site inconceivable. The world knows nothing of the SS men buried at Bitburg. It knows more than can ever be comprehended about what the SS stood for and what crimes it committed. The SS graves at Bitburg are the stark symbol of the horror that descended on Europe when it fell under Nazi domination. The SS, in its several roles, embodied the unspeakable evil of that era.

The SS ran the concentration and extermination camps, as everyone knows. It was responsible for mass murder, organized and carried out on a scale

unique in history. Jews were the primary though by no means the exclusive victims of the SS. While 6 million Jews perished at the hands of the Nazis, millions of non-Jews were also deliberately killed along with them. Not all died in the camps. The grisly work of the SS was conducted in the field as well.

By the end of the war the military arm of the SS—the Waffen SS—totaled 39 divisions. These were Hitler's elite, carefully selected for their loyalty, their fanaticism, their brutality. Where they went terrorism and atrocities followed—in Poland, in Czechoslovakia, in France, in Russia, in Belgium. It was an SS officer who gave the order near Malmedy in Belgium to slaughter U.S. prisoners of war—“*Machen alle kaput.*” It was SS men who obeyed that order and murdered more than 200 Americans.

The controversy over Reagan's planned visit to Bitburg and the homage that he will pay there is hardly only a “Jewish” issue. Neither does it touch only the victims of Nazism and those who fought the war against it. It is above all a moral issue, posing a choice between respect for the enormous tragedy of the near past and the satisfaction of transient political interest. For the President to go to Bitburg would be not just inappropriate but also wrong. For the President to pay his respects near SS gravesites would be not just a blunder but also an insult to humane values.

---

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE GORDON J. HUMPHREY

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING THE VISIT TO THE BITBURG  
CEMETERY AND URGES GESTURE BE FOUND THAT DOES  
NOT GIVE APPEARANCE OF CONDONING HOLOCAUST

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

M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/04/26	<i>MD A</i>	<i>85/05/08</i>	<b>AB</b>
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1220

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.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Gordon:

Thank you for sharing with us your views concerning the President's State Visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. We fully understand the depth of your concerns and assure you the President's feelings about the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Nazi regime are no less deeply felt. President Reagan has attempted to make absolutely clear during his visit the revulsion all Americans feel for the horrors which were committed in the name of the German state and our determination not to forget them. As you know, his itinerary included a ceremony at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in order to pay homage to all those who perished at the hands of the Nazis. As he said on the anniversary of the liberation of that camp April 21, there can and should be no absolution.

President Reagan is certain you agree that, as part of our efforts to learn from the experiences of this dark era, we must not reject opportunities for reconciliation. The President was asked by Chancellor Kohl to pay a visit to a German military cemetery in Bitburg, and he has honored that request.

For four decades, the Federal Republic of Germany has faced up to the guilt and responsibilities of its Nazi past and has, in countless ways, demonstrated concretely its commitment to democratic ideals and human rights, including standing shoulder to shoulder with us in the Alliance in defense of freedom. With particular regard to the younger generation in Germany, it is important to demonstrate that, while we continue to hold the nation responsible for its past, we do not consider them to bear individual responsibility for the crimes of Nazism.

Let me make clear that the President does not consider his appearance at Bitburg to represent an act of forgiveness for those crimes, but rather one of acknowledgment of the democratic society the German people have built. He considers this to be a positive gesture which in no way detracts 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,

M. B. Oglesby, Jr.  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Gordon J. Humphrey  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

MBO/STATE/NSC/KRJ/ech-MBO8  
cc: Will Ball, Cong. Affrs.

GORDON J. HUMPHREY  
NEW HAMPSHIRE



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

April 24, 1985

Dear Mr. President,

You are correct that generations of Germans born since WWII should not be made to bear the sins of their predecessors. And you are right that some gesture of reconciliation is in order.

However, I urge that some gesture be found that does not give the appearance of condoning the crime against humanity which was the Holocaust.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gordon J. Humphrey".

Gordon J. Humphrey, USS

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

301953

37  
MO



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE AL SWIFT

SUBJECT: REQUESTS A CHANGE TO THE ITINERARY OF THE  
VISIT TO WEST GERMANY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/04/26	<u>NO</u>	<u>ASSISTANT</u> <b>AB</b>
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REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

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

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230 \_\_\_\_\_  
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     *
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*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                      *          OUTGOING    *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                      *                      *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                      *                      *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                      *                      *
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MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Al:

Thank you for sharing with us your views concerning the President's State Visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. We fully understand the depth of your concerns and assure you the President's feelings about the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Nazi regime are no less deeply felt. President Reagan has attempted to make absolutely clear during his visit the revulsion all Americans feel for the horrors which were committed in the name of the German state and our determination not to forget them. As you know, his itinerary included a ceremony at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in order to pay homage to all those who perished at the hands of the Nazis. As he said on the anniversary of the liberation of that camp April 21, there can and should be no absolution.

President Reagan is certain you agree that, as part of our efforts to learn from the experiences of this dark era, we must not reject opportunities for reconciliation. The President was asked by Chancellor Kohl to pay a visit to a German military cemetery in Bitburg, and he has honored that request.

For four decades, the Federal Republic of Germany has faced up to the guilt and responsibilities of its Nazi past and has, in countless ways, demonstrated concretely its commitment to democratic ideals and human rights, including standing shoulder to shoulder with us in the Alliance in defense of freedom. With particular regard to the younger generation in Germany, it is important to demonstrate that, while we continue to hold the nation responsible for its past, we do not consider them to bear individual responsibility for the crimes of Nazism.

Let me make clear that the President does not consider his appearance at Bitburg to represent an act of forgiveness for those crimes, but rather one of acknowledgment of the democratic society the German people have built. He considers this to be a positive gesture which in no way detracts 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,

M. B. Oglesby, Jr.  
Assistant to the President

The Honorable Al Swift  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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MBO/STATE/NSC/KRJ/ech-MBO8  
cc: Will Ball, Cong. Affrs. ✓

L SWIFT  
TT, WASHINGTON

DISTRICT OFFICES:

308 FEDERAL BUILDING  
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON 98225  
(206)733-4500

37  
mo  
201 FEDERAL BUILDING  
EVERETT, WASHINGTON 98201  
(206) 252-3188

TOLL FREE  
1-800-562-1385

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

1502 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-2605

301951  
COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS,  
CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND FINANCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY CONSERVATION  
AND POWER

COMMITTEE ON  
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

CHAIRMAN,  
TASK FORCE ON ELECTIONS

April 24, 1985

The Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

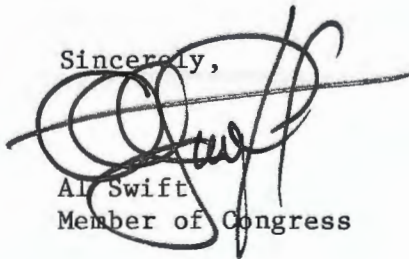
Dear Mr. President:

I wish to respectfully ask you to rethink plans you have made concerning your forthcoming trip to West Germany. I think I understand your intent in trying to emphasize reconciliation between our nation and the West German Republic. And I could support that intent.

However, the careless, unthinking and ultimately disastrous way in which the plans unfolded require a new and different approach. The sensitivities of Jewish Americans who are concerned that we never forget the awful lessons of the Holocaust, the sensitivities of Americans who served or sent their sons and daughters to fight against the Nazis in Europe, and the sensitivities of every American who is willing to reach out the hand of friendship to modern Germany but who will not forgive or forget the horrors Nazi Germany forced on a peaceful world--those sensitivities have been trampled by the itinerary announced by your Administration.

I urge you to do everything you can to change your itinerary so as to recall the Holocaust, honor the modern, democratic ally that is West Germany, and pay proper tribute to all of those--Germans, Americans and Jews--who fought to keep all men free.

Sincerely,



Al Swift  
Member of Congress

AS/ds

*NDA*

ID# 301968

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

*TR123-01*  
*file under*  
*name file*  
*-DE*  
*(earlier letter*  
*also filed)*

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. JOHN W. SPELLMAN JR.

SUBJECT: HAS INFORMATION JUSTIFYING CANCELLATION  
OF THE VISIT TO THE BITBURG CEMETERY  
IN 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 |

|              |     |          |              |                           |
|--------------|-----|----------|--------------|---------------------------|
| ANNE HIGGINS | ORG | 85/04/26 | <u>NAN C</u> | <u>85/04/18</u> <b>AB</b> |
|--------------|-----|----------|--------------|---------------------------|

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

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

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

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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           | * |
| *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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REFRR QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
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MANAGEMENT.

REQUEST FOR FILE SERVICE

TO: SUPERVISOR, SEARCH AND FILE UNIT, RECORDS MANAGEMENT, 720EOB  
EX 2242

FROM: Don Pyle Rm. 96  
NAME OFFICE

Please furnish the following

- Communication(s) referred to letter
- Entire file on writer John W. Spellman, Jr. ~~6/10/68~~
- Entire file on organization
- Request(s) other than above (specify) by 6/10/68

- Salutation (THE PRESIDENT)
- Salutation (Other) \_\_\_\_\_

Specify

- Address (business)
- Address (Home)

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

This may be closed out.

No answer needed.

Don Engler  
Rm 26  
x 7610

7  
BETTY SPELLMAN REALTOR  
315 PLANTATION DR  
NEW BERN NC 28560 25PM

Western  
Union Mailgram®



1-0238511115 04/25/85 TWX ESL62859514 WHSB

301968

AH  
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20501

I HAVE THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO JUSTIFY CANCELLATION OF THE BITBURG VISIT. THE S.S. MEN BURIED THERE WERE PART OF THE GROUP RES

POSSIBLE FOR THE MASSACRE AT MALMEDY. THE ONLY TWO SURVIVORS AND I WERE EVACUATED IN THE SAME AMBULANCE.

PLEASE CALL ME OR HAVE SOMEONE ON YOUR STAFF CALL AS I HAVE COMPLETE AND AUTHENTIC INFORMATION ON THIS ATROCITY.

SINCERELY,

JOHN W. SPELLMAN, JR.

919-633-1637

P.S. PLEASE READ THE LETTER I HAVE SENT YOU WITH THE DETAILS ON THIS MATTER.

19:38 EST

MGMCOMP

BETTY SPELLMAN REATOR  
212 REATION DR  
NEW BERN NC 28560 2284

30128

1402301113 0455428 TXK EAL4502214 KH88

RESIDENT RONALD BEARD  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20501

I HAVE THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO JUSTIFY CANCELLATION OF THE BIRD  
VISITING YAG SWYNA NOWN WSTWY BNDH SCALM SCALM WYBAM BYER TO  
POSSIBLE FOR THE PASSAGE AT HALLEY THE ONLY TWO SURVIVORS AND I WERE  
EVACUATED IN THE SAME AIRCRAFT  
PLEASE CALL ME OR HAVE SOMEONE ON YOUR STAFF CALL AS I HAVE COMPLETE AND  
AUTHENTIC INFORMATION OF THIS AIRCRAFT OF YOUR LOCAL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

OR

JOHN W. SPELLMAN, JR.  
910-422-1212

P.S. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WITH THE DETAILS ON THIS  
MATTER

17138 EST

WCHDHR

OR DIAL WESTERN UNION'S COMPUTER DIRECTLY:

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



*N/K*

ID# 301969

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROBERT E. SCHAEFER

SUBJECT: WRITES REGARDING ITINERARY OF VISIT TO WEST  
GERMANY AND OTHER SUBJECTS

| 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 |
| ROBERT GLEASON                          | ORG         | 85/04/26         |              | C 85105P 3                |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <i>CO H/66</i>           |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                           |
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| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                           |

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200

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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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.

37

R. Gleason



301969

19 April 35

State Representative  
Legislative District No. 11  
ROBERT E. SCHAEFER

My Dear President -  
you have made a couple  
of errors in judgment of  
late that are not in character  
with my conservative appraisal  
of you.

While in the Air Force in Germany  
I failed to visit an SS cemetery  
and do not feel the less for it.

Please <sup>review</sup> counsel provided you  
and consider whether the benefits  
and harm are out weighed by  
some other thing.

What is happening in Afghanistan?  
Recommend that you become familiar  
with CAUSA. Can you say "Paternalism".  
God Bless a Christian Annica Schaefer

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE  
C2

House of Representatives,  
STATE OF IDAHO



State Representative  
ROBERT E. SCHAEFER  
P.O. Box 55, 1200 E. Karcher  
Nampa, Idaho 83653



President  
Ronald Reagan  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington, D.C.

Con Bit 4

ID# 301970

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS NANCY S. JACOB

SUBJECT: OPPOSES VISIT TO BITBURG CEMETERY IN 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 BPEGER                         | ORG         | 85/04/26         |              | C 85/04/29                |
| <i>C. Higg</i> REFERRAL NOTE: <i>2</i>  | A           | 85/04/29         | AH           | A 85/06/25                |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
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| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             | / /              |              | / /                       |

AB

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL COPRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES:

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

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| *ACTION CODES:           | *DISPOSITION CODES:  | *OUTGOING            | * |
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| *R-DIRFCT REPLY W/COPY * |                      | *                    | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE         | *                    | *                    | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         | *                    | *                    | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

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MANAGEMENT.

June 25, 1985

Dear Miss Jacob:

President Reagan has asked me to acknowledge your message and your deep concern. Although this response has been delayed, I can assure you that the President understands the personal sense of pain you expressed as a relative of those who perished in the Holocaust.

The President has asked me to send you the enclosed transcripts of his remarks at the Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp and at Bitburg Air Base. He hopes that they will help you understand his conviction, asserted anew following his visit to Bergen-Belsen, "We will never forget, and we say with the victims of that Holocaust: Never again."

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins  
Special Assistant to the President  
and Director of Correspondence

Miss Nancy S. Jacob  
President  
The Generation After  
Post Office Box 7478  
Silver Spring, MD 20907

Enclosures

AVH:CAD:AVH:sewf3  
ConBB4 (AVHNON)

301970

31

# The Generation After

April 22, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

We are the sons and daughters of Jewish Holocaust survivors. Our organization, the Generation After, represents over 300 such persons in the Washington, D.C. area.

With regard to your upcoming trip to West Germany, we were both saddened and alarmed to hear of your decision to visit Bitburg cemetery wherein lie the remains of those who inflicted such suffering and barbarism on our relatives. It is especially incongruous that you should choose to visit a cemetery when in fact we cannot visit the cemeteries of our grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and young brothers and sisters who were robbed of the chance to grow into adulthood. Their cemeteries are the crematoria, ditches, fields and places that are known only to the Eternal. We cannot honor their memory by visiting their gravesites for they have none.

We implore you, Mr. President, to consider the pain that we bear for our slain relatives who have no final resting place and who shall therefore know no eternal peace.

Your goal of emphasizing harmonious relations between the governments of the United States and West Germany is to be lauded. Yet there are ways of demonstrating that commitment without inflicting pain on the memories of those who can no longer speak and without causing pain for those of us who must do so on their behalf.

Mr. President, you are a man of conscience. Please search deeply into yours. A decision not to visit the Bitburg cemetery is the only right and honorable one.

Sincerely,

*Nancy S. Jacob*  
Nancy S. Jacob

President

*NOH*

ID# 301971

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 16, 1985

*file*

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS PHYLLIS L. PULLMAN

SUBJECT: OPPOSES VISIT TO THE BITBURG CEMETERY IN  
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 BRFGER                         | ORG         | 85/04/16          |              | <u>C8504/29</u>           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | <u>A 85/04/29</u> |              | <u>C85/06/11</u>          |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | ___/___/___       |              | ___/___/___               |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | ___/___/___       |              | ___/___/___               |
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| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | ___/___/___       |              | ___/___/___               |

*CO H/99*

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

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

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

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| *                        | *                    | * CORRESPONDENCE:    | * |
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| *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.

301971

37



# Jewish Teachers Association

To Promote the Religious, Social and Moral Welfare of Children

45 EAST 33rd STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016 • 684-0556

PHYLLIS L. PULLMAN  
*President*

ELI NIEMAN  
*Vice President*

SUZAN SANKEL  
*Secretary*

WILLIAM LEINWAND  
*Treasurer*

*Handwritten signature/initials*

April 18, 1985

*Vice President of Regions  
and Special Interest Areas*

- ROBERT ACKERSON - *Bronx*
- RUTH BOTWINIK - *Queens / Nassau*
- MAX C. EPSTEIN - *Retired Teachers*
- WILLIAM LEINWAND - *Staten Island*
- SEYMOUR SAMUELS - *Manhattan*
- RONNIE SIMONS - *Brooklyn*

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

Dear Mr. President:

We of the Jewish Teachers Association are outraged by your decision to visit the Bitburg Cemetery containing the graves of men of the SS. The victims of these men did not die as an accident of war. Rather, the SS systematically sort to exterminate them. They are the victims - not the men who sort to destroy them. The SS killed millions - Jews and non-Jews alike. Therefore, it is an affront to all people for you to honor them in any way.

On behalf of the 10,000 members of the Jewish Teachers Association, I ask you to reconsider your decision and not carry out these plans which show a great insensitivity for the feelings of so many people.

Respectfully,

*Handwritten signature: Phyllis L. Pullman*

PLP:rl

Phyllis L. Pullman  
President



*MS*

ID# 301972

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. HERBERT I. WEISSMAN

SUBJECT: OPPOSES VISIT TO THE BITBURG CEMETERY IN  
WEST GERMANY

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

MARSHALL BREGER

ORG 85/04/26

*CB 04 29*

REFERRAL NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRAL NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRAL NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

REFERRAL NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

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-SPFC-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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MANAGEMENT.

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301972

*M. Kurt L. Metzger*

Temple Beth-El  
THE MONROE TEMPLE OF LIBERAL JUDAISM  
314 NORTH MAIN STREET MONROE, NEW YORK 10950

RABBI.  
DR. KURT L. METZGER

OFFICE 914/783-2626  
RABBI'S STUDY 914/783-7756

PRESIDENT:  
DR. JACK NIZEWITZ

1ST VICE PRES.:  
HERBERT WEISSMAN

2nd VICE PRES.:  
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STUART KALMANOWITZ

FINANCIAL SEC.:  
JOAN BIRNBAUM

RECORDING SEC.:  
CAROL GOLDSTEIN

CORRESPONDING SEC.:  
BETTY GOLDRICH

April 21, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President,

Following the impassioned plea of Elie Wiesel I do not delude myself that my letter to you can dissuade you from visiting the Bitburg cemetery. Nevertheless my duty is to try.

As the moral leader of the world the United States commits a grievous wrong should it choose to stand amongst the graves of the SS murderers of innocent civilian men, women and children. Should you do so Mr. President, you will stand there in shame and dishonor and convey to all that the morals of this country can be compromised for the sake of so called political expediency.

Cannot a blunder be recognized and rectified by a simple explanation to the German people and to the world which is watching you in this matter and by some alternative gesture of reconciliation? Are not the range of choices for gestures of reconciliation infinite or are we limited by our own self-imposed restriction?

Respectfully,

*Herbert I. Weissman*

Herbert I. Weissman  
Chairman, Holocaust Remembrance  
Committee

cc: Hon. Patrick R. Moynihan  
Hon. Benjamin R. Gilman

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ID# 301974

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 26, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. MYRON W. WASYLYK

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS VISIT TO THE BITBURG CEMETERY IN  
WEST GERMANY

f

| 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         | 85/04/26         |              | C 85106128                |
| ✓ CO HGG<br>REFERRAL NOTE: _____        |             | R 85100101       |              | C 85107102 AB             |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | __/__/__         |              | __/__/__                  |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | __/__/__         |              | __/__/__                  |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | __/__/__         |              | __/__/__                  |
| 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   *
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*S-FOR-SIGNATURE      *                                     *                       *
*X-INTERIM REPLY      *                                     *                       *
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301974



# Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Inc.

**NATIONAL OFFICE:**  
203 Second Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10003  
Phone (212) 228-6840/6841

**WASHINGTON OFFICE:**  
810 18th St. N.W. Suite 807  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
Phone (202) 638-0988

*Handwritten signature/initials*

**PRESIDIUM OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

April 25, 1985

- IGNATIUS M. BILLINSKY  
President
- WOLODYMYR MASUR  
First Vice President
- JOSEPH LESAWYER  
Vice President
- ASKOLD LOZYNSKY  
Vice President
- GEORGE NESTERCHUK  
Vice President
- MICHAEL SNIHUROWYCH  
Vice President
- DARIA STEPANIAK  
Vice President
- BOHDAN FEDORAK  
Vice President
- MYROSLAW CHARKEWYCH  
Vice President
- IHOR DLABOHA  
Secretary
- JOHN TELUK  
Treasurer
- OLEXA KALYNNYK
- MYKOLA SEMANYSHYN

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

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing you on behalf of Mr. Ignatius Billinsky and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America regarding your upcoming visit to Bitburg.

It is the sense of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America that this and future generations of Germans should not be held responsible, in perpetuity, for the actions of a renegade few.

We must recognize Germany's progress since World War II and the fact that Germany is our strongest ally and mainstay in NATO.

We feel that the need to remember the tragedy of the Holocaust can be fully met by your concurrent visit to Bitburg. Furthermore, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and his government have taken appropriate steps to memorialize the tragedy as a nation to ensure that such an abhorration does not recur.

Ukrainians and other national and ethnic groups were victims of the Nazis, but as Americans we feel it is vital for the United States to strengthen its ties with Germany. We therefore support your visit to the Bitburg cemetery as a symbol of mutual respect between the people of the United States and Germany.

Sincerely,

Myron W. Wasylyk  
Director  
Washington Office