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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 302671

3423

Hold
file
No.

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 16, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JOHN KNIGHT

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING DECISION NOT TO VISIT A NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMP AND DECISION TO VISIT A GERMAN MILITARY GRAVEYARD

| 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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| MITCHELL DANIELS, JR. <i>Card-pu</i> | ORG | 85/04/16 | | C 85104125 ¹² |
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| <i>Wskimm</i> | R | 85104125 | | C 85104130 TR |
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| <i>199Das</i> | R | 85105021 ^{TR} | | A 85108109 |
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COMMENTS: *State*

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200

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

 *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 * * * *
 *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * * * * *
 *S-FOR-SIGNATURE * * * * *
 *X-INTERIM REPLY * * * * *

PEFEP QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
 (ROOM 75, OFOB) 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

S/S 8513680

Date August 9, 1985

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

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: The Honorable John Knight
Date: April 11, 1985 Subject: Expresses Concern Regarding
Decision not to visit a Nazi Concentration Camp
WH Referral Dated: May 2, 1985 NSC ID# 302671
(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

Dear Mr. Knight:

I have been asked to reply to your letter of April 11 to President Reagan regarding his trip to the Federal Republic of Germany.

The President made 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 the site of the 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 on April 21 of the liberation of that camp, and again during his own visit, there can and should be no absolution.

The President strongly believes that, as part of our efforts to learn from the experiences of this dark era, we must not reject opportunities for reconciliation. It was in this spirit that 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 and has, in countless ways, demonstrated concretely its commitment to democratic ideals and human rights, including by standing shoulder to shoulder with us in the Alliance in defense of freedom. (The trip to Bitburg included a visit to the large Bitburg Air Base, which houses members of both the U.S. and German Air Forces.) 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.

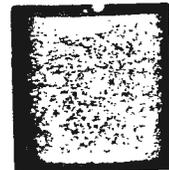
The Honorable
John Knight,
States Attorney,
Bond County Court House,
Greenville, Illinois.

The President did 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 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 yours,



Jayne H. Plank
Director, Intergovernmental Affairs
Office of Legislative and
Intergovernmental Affairs



8513680

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
REFERRAL

MAY 2, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:
DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 302671

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 11, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: THE HONORABLE JOHN KNIGHT
STATES ATTORNEY
BOND COUNTY COURTHOUSE
GREENVILLE IL 62246

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING DECISION NOT TO
VISIT A NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMP AND DECISION
TO VISIT A GERMAN MILITARY GRAVEYARD

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

85074601662

MS
M. Daniels

8513640 # 302671
3423

OFFICE OF STATE'S ATTORNEY

JOHN KNIGHT
BOND COUNTY COURT HOUSE
GREENVILLE ILLINOIS 62246
PHONE 618-664-2262

MICHAEL E SHEELEY
INVESTIGATOR

CAROLYN CURTIS
OFFICE SECRETARY

April 11, 1985

President Ronald Reagan
White House
Washington, D.C.
20013

Dear President Reagan:

The purpose of this letter is to voice my displeasure, anger and sorrow over two of your recent decisions. Being an elected official myself, I generally limit my letters to praise, commendation and appreciation of various decisions and actions. In this case, I would not forgive myself if I did not make an exception and let you, or I suppose more appropriately "Your Staff", know how I feel.

I was displeased with your decision not to visit the Nazi Concentration Camp during your upcoming visit to West Germany. My displeasure was not mitigated by your March 21 excuses that indicated you felt more harm would be done by recollecting such matters. In light of the opportunity that the 40th Anniversary of the end of World War II affords, I felt that your judgment was bad. My displeasure turned to anger when I became aware of your April 11 decision to visit a German Military Graveyard during the visit to West Germany. To visit a German graveyard and to place a wreath on the grave of a dead German soldier, in a place where no Americans are buried is despicable. The graveyard is located in a place where many Americans died during World War II and holds the bodies of Germans who fought for the torture, annihilation and genocide of millions of Jews, as well as any one who chose to attempt to halt the insane plan of the Nazis. I cannot even conceive of what noble purpose will be served when you when you visit that graveyard and place that wreath as head of state for the United States of America.

As I realize that this is just one letter and that it will be read by some low level member of your staff, I harbor no hope that you will be sensitive to my ideas. As I make this realization, my anger has matured into sorrow for the many Jews and the families of the many Americans who fought and died at the hands of the Germans in World War II and for the message that they will be receiving from your actions. I certainly hope that your sentiments are not a reflection of the majority of Americans. You have lost my respect.


John Knight

JK:cac

85074601664

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 16, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE LOUIS STOKES

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERATION OF SCHEDULED VISIT TO
THE MILITARY CEMETERY AT BITBURG DURING 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 | 85/04/16 | <i>Milo</i> | A 8505108 ^{AB} |
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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                *
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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.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Mr. Stokes:

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 Louis Stokes
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

LOUIS STOKES
21ST DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE

CHAIRMAN:
COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS
OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT

PRESIDENT:
CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS
FOUNDATION

FORMER CHAIRMAN:
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

FORMER CHAIRMAN:
CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

302675

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

2304 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-7032

DISTRICT OFFICE:
ROOM 2947
NEW FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING
1240 EAST 9TH STREET
CLEVELAND, OH 44199
(216) 522-4900

CLEVELAND HEIGHTS OFFICE
2140 LEE ROAD
SUITE 211
CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OH 44118
(216) 522-4907

April 15, 1985

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President
United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I urge you to reconsider the scheduled May 5th visit to the Military Cemetery at Bitburg during your official visit to West Germany. After appropriate review, I hope that you will either delete the Bitburg Cemetery ceremony or include a visit to the Nazi concentration camp at Dachau on your itinerary.

As you know, many Nazis were buried at the Bitburg Cemetery following the Battle of the Bulge. While the German people today cannot and should not be held responsible for the atrocities committed by the Nazis, the horrors of the Holocaust cannot be forgotten. Six million Jews were killed.

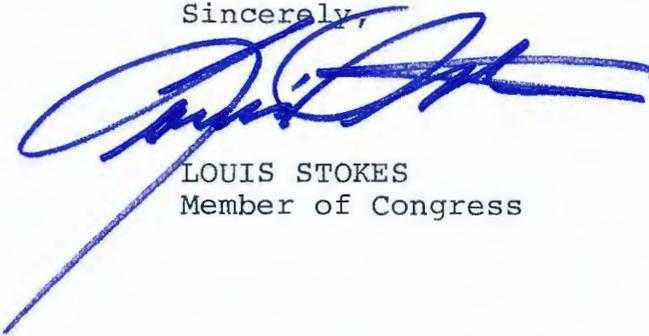
Thousands of American soldiers also lost their lives fighting the Germans during World War II. Those lost lives were the costly price of freedom. We cannot afford to forget that fact. Neither should the world ever forget the immortal lives of the Jews who died at Dachau.

Mindful of the past, America has become the world leader for peace and freedom. The Bonn Summit, in which you are participating, is a prime example of America's commitment to global cooperation, peace and freedom. However, a visit to the Bitburg Cemetery, particularly in the absence of a visit to Dachau, would reflect an insensitivity to the families and victims of the Holocaust which is not reflective of the views of Americans.

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
April 15, 1985
Page Two

Therefore, I request you to reconsider your plans. This week, ceremonies will be held at the U.S. Capitol and in the capitols of all 50 states commemorating the 40th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust. An official visit to Dachau during your trip to West Germany, would be an appropriate opportunity for you to remind the world of the historic statement made by Baal Shem Tov, "Forgetfulness leads to exile - while remembrance is the secret of redemption."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Louis Stokes", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

LOUIS STOKES
Member of Congress

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 16, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE PAT SCHROEDER

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERATION OF PLAN TO VISIT THE
GERMAN MILITARY CEMETERY NEAR BITBURG DURING
TRIP TO GERMANY

| ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION | | DISPOSITION | |
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| | 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: 1230 _____
MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING                *
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*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.

U

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Mrs. Schroeder:

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 Patricia Schroeder
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

302676

PAT SCHROEDER

1ST DISTRICT, DENVER, COLORADO

5
MO

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2410 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4431

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1767 HIGH STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80218
(303) 398-0970

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL
SERVICE COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
CHILDREN, YOUTH &
FAMILIES
CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS FOR
WOMEN'S ISSUES, CO-CHAIR

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

April 15, 1985.

Dear Mr. President:

Your plan to visit the German military cemetery near Bitburg is wrong. A few weeks ago you decided not to visit the Dachau concentration camp. I have visited that camp with my family. Everyone, government official or private citizen, should make that pilgrimage.

It is not a question of whether there are, as you remarked, "very few alive that remember even the war." Although your statement is obviously untrue, if it were true that would be all the more reason to visit Dachau.

Dachau is a chilling reminder of the power and inhumanity of a state gone mad. We need to be reminded.

I sincerely hope you will reconsider your plans.

Sincerely,

Pat Schroeder
Congresswoman

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE E. CLAY SHAW JR.

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDS AGAINST VISITING GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY DURING EUROPEAN ECONOMIC SUMMIT

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

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| M. B. OGLESBY | ORG | 85/04/17 | WMO | A 5/5/85 | AB |
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240
MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                               *                               *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                               *                               *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                               *                               *
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MANAGEMENT.

U
31-
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Clay:

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 E. Clay Shaw, Jr.
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MBO/STATE/NSC/KRJ/ech-MB08
cc: Will Ball, Cong. Affrs. ✓

302693

CLAY SHAW

15TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

322 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3026

DISTRICT OFFICE:
BROWARD FEDERAL BUILDING
299 EAST BROWARD BOULEVARD
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301
(305) 522-1800



COMMITTEES:
JUDICIARY

SUBCOMMITTEES:
MONOPOLIES AND COMMERCIAL LAW
CRIME

PUBLIC WORKS AND
TRANSPORTATION

SUBCOMMITTEES:
PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT
AVIATION

SELECT COMMITTEE ON
NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 12, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

I have been quite concerned over one segment of your itinerary for the Economic Summit in Europe. It has been reported that while your itinerary is still incomplete, it includes the possibility of a visit at a German cemetery for their World War II dead. I strongly recommend that you do not do this.

There are individuals and families living in the United States whose memories and lives remain scarred by not only World War II, but because of the atrocities committed by Adolf Hitler and his Nazi butchers. The Nazi Holocaust remains a vivid memory in the minds of the American people, both Jew and non-Jew. Although I am in no way questioning you or your staff's motivation in considering such a visit, I would hope that you would not do so as such a visit by the President of the United States would be most offensive to many people whom you and I serve.

Best wishes for a most successful Summit; you continue to make the American people proud by your representation.

Sincerely,

E. Clay Shaw, Jr.
Member of Congress

ECS:rds

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE HAMILTON FISH

SUBJECT: WRITES IN SUPPORT OF VISIT TO GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY AND URGES ALSO PLACING WREATH AT
SOME OTHER CONCENTRATION CAMP

| 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 | 85/04/17 | NAN | C 85/04/18 AB |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1241 _____
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              *COMPLETFD = 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.

37

1241

302694

HAMILTON FISH

655 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021

(212) 628-5592

April 13, 1985

mo

Honorable Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

I am glad you intend to place a wreath at the German ceremony connected with their armed forces. I also urge you to place a wreath at Dachau or some other German concentration camp where Jews were killed which would satisfy the 50 million Germans in this country and 6 million Jews and most of the American people. But if you fail to do so, not only Democratic Jews but the Democratic organization will try to make a racial issue out of it.

With kind regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



Hamilton Fish

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: REAR ADMIRAL GEORGE W. BAUERNSCHMIDT RET.

SUBJECT: WRITES IN SUPPORT OF 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 |
| EDWARD HICKEY, JR | ORG | 85/04/17 | | <u>C 8504/22</u> AB |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <u>Cluice Donovan</u> | | <u>85/04/22</u> | <u>SP11A</u> | <u>8506/14</u> |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

June 14, 1985

Dear Admiral Bauernschmidt:

Thank you very much for your kind message. I am most grateful for your generous words. They mean a great deal to me, especially in view of your own wartime experience and all your service to our country.

It seems to me we achieved something most unusual forty years ago. Back through history, wars were settled in such a way they planted the seeds for the next war. The hatreds and rivalries remained. Not this time. Here it is four decades later and our erstwhile enemies are our staunchest friends and allies.

Again, my thanks to you and very best wishes.

Sincerely,

A
RONALD REAGAN

RADM George W. Bauernschmidt, USN, Ret.
681 Hendler Road
Severna Park, Maryland 21146

RR/DE/AVH/efr BTBURG
Bitburg 5(v)

850614

PNON
BITBURG 5 var.

RR/DE/AVH

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

5
Mil. Affairs

302699

REAR ADMIRAL GEORGE W. BAUERNSCHMIDT, RET.
681 HENDLER ROAD
SEVERNA PARK, MD 21146
TELEPHONE (301) 647-5505

15 April, 1985

Dear President Reagan,

As a military professional who served in World Wars One and Two I applaud your decision to visit a cemetery of the German war dead. Those graves represent humans who differ from me only in that they are dead and they lost the war. But like me and many millions of other Americans they served their Country.

Again I applaud.

Sincerely,

George W. Bauernschmidt

| Name | |
|---------|---------|
| Stepher | 3/11/16 |
| | |
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| | |

The following information is for your reference only. It is not intended to be used as a substitute for professional advice. The information is provided for informational purposes only. It is not intended to be used as a substitute for professional advice. The information is provided for informational purposes only.

People's Community Bank

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS SALLY FRIEDMAN

SUBJECT: URGES CHANGING PLANS TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY AND SUGGESTS COMMEMORATING ALL
VICTIMS OF WORLD WAR II

| 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 | 85/04/17 | | C 85/04/19 |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <i>PL DONA</i> | | | | |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <i>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</i> | <i>R</i> | <i>85/04/19</i> | | <i>C 85/04/26</i> |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | / / | | / / |

DR

PY

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:M INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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*                       *                                     * CORRESPONDENCE:        *
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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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SALLY FRIEDMAN PA NATIONAL COUNCIL
6621 WOODWELL ST
PITTSBURGH PA 15217 16AM

Western Union Mailgram



Con. Pres. visit - German

Secretary

302702

1-003807S106 04/16/85 ICS IPMBNGZ CSP WHSB
4124210378 MGMS TDBN PITTSBURGH PA 64 04-16 0804A EST

RONALD REAGAN
WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

Marshall Burger

YOUR PLANS TO VISIT GERMANY MILITARY CEMETERY ON 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY A DISSERVICE TO THE MEMORY OF THAT DAY, THE VICTIMS OF THE HORRORS OF WORLD WAR II STILL LIVES, URGE YOU CHANGE YOUR PLANS AND COMMEMORATE ALL VICTIMS OF WORLD WAR II.

SALLY FRIEDMAN PA NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
6621 WOODWELL ST
PITTSBURGH PA 15217

08104 EST

MGMCOMP

5241 (R 7/82)

Western Union Mailgram

WESTERN UNION MAILGRAM
11500 JEFFERSON AVENUE
PITTSBURGH PA 15213

WESTERN UNION MAILGRAM
11500 JEFFERSON AVENUE
PITTSBURGH PA 15213

RONALD REAGAN
WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

YOUR PLANS TO VISIT GERMANY MILITARY CEMETERY ON BOTH ANNIVERSARY OF
ONLY A CLASSIC TO THE MEMORY OF THAT DAY, THE VICTIMS OF THE
HORRORS OF HOLLAND IT STILL LIVES, URGE YOU CHANGE YOUR PLANS AND
TO REPLY BY MAILGRAM MESSAGE: PHONE WESTERN UNION ANYTIME DAY OR NIGHT.
WESTERN UNION MAILGRAM
11500 JEFFERSON AVENUE
PITTSBURGH PA 15213

FOR YOUR LOCAL NUMBER, SEE THE WHITE PAGES
PITTSBURGH PA 15213

OF YOUR LOCAL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

OR
WESTERN

OR

DIAL (TOLL-FREE) 800-257-2241

OR DIAL WESTERN UNION'S COMPUTER DIRECTLY:

FROM TELEX I..... 6181 - FROM TELEX II (TWX)..... 910-420-1212

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. GUS TYLER

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY DURING TRIP TO GERMANY

| ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION | | DISPOSITION | |
|---|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| | ACT CODE | DATE YY/MM/DD | TYPE RESP | C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD |
| DOUG RIGGS | ORG | 85/04/17 | A | 85/05/10 |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | / / | | / / |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____ | | / / | | / / |

~~A~~ 85/05/10
DEAR 85050 AB

COMMENTS: _____

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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*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                                     *                       *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                                     *                       *
*****

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

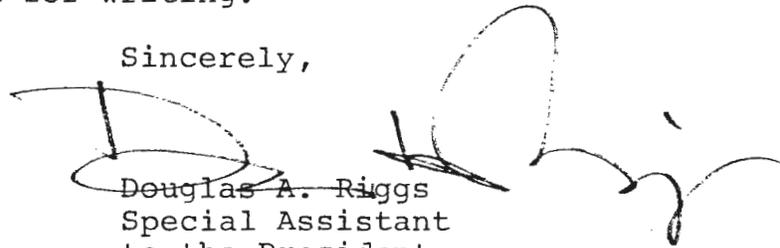
May 2, 1985

Dear Mr. Tyler:

Your letter to the President dated April 17, 1985 has been received at the White House.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Riggs", is written over the typed name of Douglas A. Riggs.

Douglas A. Riggs
Special Assistant
to the President
for Public Liaison

Mr. Gus Tyler
National Chairman
American Veterans Committee
1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 930
Washington, D.C. 20036

302709



AMERICAN VETERANS COMMITTEE

"CITIZENS FIRST, VETERANS SECOND"

NATIONAL OFFICE • 1346 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 930, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 • 202-293-4890

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Veterans Service Representative
- Irving Bakal
Veterans Service Officer

Doug Ryzar

April 15, 1985

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

The American Veterans Committee is greatly disturbed at your decision to visit the German cemetery at Bitburg during your forthcoming visit to The Federal Republic of Germany, after your decision not to visit a concentration camp.

Meeting in Washington this past Saturday, the National Board of the AVC passed a resolution which we are attaching.

We hope that you will reconsider your decisions and reverse them.

Sincerely,
Gus Tyler
Gus Tyler
National Chairman

ATTACHMENT: RESOLUTION

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- Samuel Byer
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- F.J. Pepper, M.D.
- Saul Rosen
- John S. Stillman
- Michael Straight
- *deceased

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- Judge Joseph Mazur
- Judge Abner Mikva
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- Frederick O'Neal
- Hon. Richard Ottinger
- Hon. Endicott Peabody
- Sen. Claiborne Pell
- Joseph L. Rauh, Jr.
- Hon. Henry Reuss
- Cong. Peter W. Rodino, Jr.
- Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.
- Hon. James Roosevelt
- Cong. James A. Scheuer
- Rudolph Sobernheim
- Hon. Neil Steebler
- Dr. Loundes Stephens
- Telford Taylor
- Judge William S. Thompson
- Hon. Franklin H. Williams
- Hon. G. Mennen Williams
- Hon. Ralph Yarborough
- Adam Yarmolinsky
- Cong. Sidney R. Yates
- Hon. Stephen M. Young

To achieve a more democratic and prosperous America and a more stable World

302709

TR123-01

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 17, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Pat Buchanan ✓

FROM: DOUGLAS A. RIGGS *DA*
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

SUBJECT: Letters to the President
from veterans opposing visit
to the German cemetery

For your information, I am forwarding
to you the attached letters:

302 709



AMERICAN VETERANS COMMITTEE

"CITIZENS FIRST, VETERANS SECOND"

NATIONAL OFFICE • 1346 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 930, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 • 202-293-4890

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- Lothar Nachman - Special Counselor
- Andrew E. Rice - Finance & Budget Chairman
- Lawrence Lewis - National AVAS Representative
- Rudolph Sobernheim - Legislative Chairman
- Michael W. Beasley - Veterans Service Representative
- Irving Baka - Veterans Service Officer

*Daily
Rings*

April 15, 1985

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The White House
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Sincerely,
Gus Tyler
Gus Tyler
National Chairman

ATTACHMENT: RESOLUTION

*25,000 Members
founded 1944*

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- Mickey Levine
- Bill Meardon
- W. Robert Ming, Jr.
- Chet Paterson
- F. J. Pepper, M.D.
- Saul Rose
- John S. Shuman
- Michael Straight
- deceased

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- Robert A. Low
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- Hon. Franklin H. Williams
- Hon. G. Mennen Williams
- Hon. Ralph Yarborough
- Adam Yamolinsky
- Cong. Sidney R. Yates
- Hon. Stephen M. Young



RESOLUTION AMERICAN VETERANS COMMITTEE

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- Robert Goldring
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National Counsel
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Special Counsel
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- Clay Paterson
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- Saul Rosen
- John S. Struman
- Michael Sirovint
*deceased

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- Jack M. Roberts
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- Hon. Orin W. Freeman
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- Hon. Jacob Javits
- Prof. Stanley A. Kaplan
- Admiral Gene LaRocque
- Robert A. Low
- Dr. Harry A. Marmon
- Judge Joseph Mazur
- Judge Aaron Mike
- Hon. James C. Harris
- Frederick C. Noel
- Hon. Richard Ottinger
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- Sam. Claiborne Peil
- Jesse L. Raun Jr.
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- Hon. James Roosevelt
- Cong. James A. Scheuer
- Rudolph Sobernheim
- Hon. Neil Staeber
- Dr. Laurence Stephens
- Telford Taylor
- Judge William S. Thompson
- Hon. Franklin H. Williams
- Hon. G. Mennen Williams
- Hon. Ralph Yarborough
- Adam Yampoursky
- Cong. Sidney R. Yates
- Hon. Stephen M. Young

WHEREAS President Reagan has indicated that he plans to participate in a memorial service at the Bitburg Military Cemetery honoring the German soldiers slain during the Battle of the Bulge in 1944

WHEREAS those buried at Bitburg included S.S. active Nazis and not just conscripts and that the Battle of the Bulge was closely linked to the Nazi plan of total domination of Europe and furtherance of its genocidal purposes against innocent peoples, and

WHEREAS President Reagan recently refused to visit any of the concentration death camps where Nazi death dealing monsters killed millions of innocent victims to further Nazi genocidal goals, and

WHEREAS such decisions by the President of the United States are wholly inconsistent with American ideals and purposes, and cannot be justified under any rubric of 'reconciliation' with modern German democracy which has also repudiated the objectives of the Nazi tyranny.

NOW THEREFORE, the National Board of the American Veterans Committee deploras President Reagan's decisions and urges that he reverse them.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR/23-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. SAMUEL GREENBERG

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 | 85/04/17 | | C 85/04/19 DD |
| ASMEFA PL DONA | | A 85 04 19 | | C 85/04/26 PY |
| REFERRAL NOTE: AHn: Frank Donatelli | | | | |
| 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 * | | | * |
- *****

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.

302713

M. Greenberg



Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America

1811 R Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009

(202) 265-6280

Samuel Greenberg

NATIONAL COMMANDER

0485130R

April 11, 1985

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20050

Dear Mr. President:

It is with a deep sense of indignation that I write to you today. As National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., I am appalled at your decision to visit a German military cemetery, and pay homage to German soldiers. To memorialize those who killed American soldiers fighting to preserve the world from the onslaught of Nazi madness is an outrage.

I protested your earlier decision not to visit a concentration camp and, in that communique, reminded you that the Germany we defeated -- the fascist, totalitarian regime of Hitler -- is not the Germany of today. We smashed and destroyed Hitler's Germany with our armed forces -- and we have a long list of American war dead by which to remember WWII.

In laying a wreath at the German military cemetery you show, not solidarity but, disdain for the American human sacrifices whose memory it is your duty, as Commander-in-Cheif, to sanctify.

It is not too late to reverse a bad decision. I urge you, in the name of all of our American war dead, not to cheapen their deaths by laying a wreath at the graves of their adversaries. Alliances are not made by denying what was but, rather, by acknowledging the past, learning from it, and dedicating ourselves to a better tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Samuel Greenberg
National Commander



302716
TR123-01

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 17, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Pat Buchanan ✓

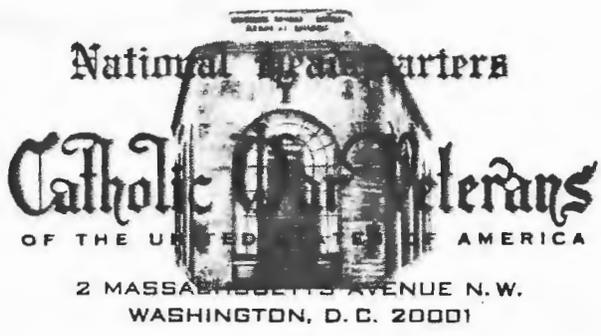
FROM: DOUGLAS A. RIGGS *DAR*
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

SUBJECT: Letters to the President
from veterans opposing visit
to the German cemetery

For your information, I am forwarding
to you the attached letters.

302716

31



202-737-9600

David Riggs

15 April 1985

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

My dear Mr. President:

We of the Catholic War Veterans, U.S.A., petition you to cancel your planned wreath laying tribute to the buried German military personnel at Bitburg on May 5th.

If the United States, and you as Commander in Chief, wish to commemorate the end of World War II without reawakening the memories and passions of that era, discretion would be the greater part of valor to demonstrate 40 years of peace and reconciliation in Europe by paying tribute to those Americans who made the supreme sacrifice at the Battle of the Bulge.

The wounds of World War II suffered by this nation's 28 million living veterans and their acts of heroism to preserve a humane world would be placed on a parallel with the inhumane war criminal acts of Nazi Germany. The atrocities and scars of our soldiers who were held prisoners of war by their Nazi captors cannot be eradicated within a short period of 40 years.

Mr. President, we of the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, appeal to you to forego any public demonstration on your part to pay homage in honoring the members of the German Armed Forces who fought to destroy humanity and freedom throughout the world.

Sincerely yours,
David J. Zielinski
David J. Zielinski
National Commander

*35,000 members
founded 1935*

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. DAVID J. ZIELINSKI

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 |

DOUG RIGGS

ORG 85/04/17

~~A~~ ~~85/05/02~~ **AB**
DEA 850502

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 2, 1985

Dear Mr. Zielinski:

Your letter to the President dated
April 15, 1985 has been received
at the White House.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Riggs', written over the typed name and title.

Douglas A. Riggs
Special Assistant
to the President
for Public Liaison

Mr. David J. Zielinski
National Commander
Catholic War Veterans
of the United States of America
2 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

300716

37



National Headquarters
Catholic War Veterans
 OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 2 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE N.W.
 WASHINGTON, D. C. 20001



202-737-9600

David Riggan

15 April 1985

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

My dear Mr. President:

We of the Catholic War Veterans, U.S.A., petition you to cancel your planned wreath laying tribute to the buried German military personnel at Bitburg on May 5th.

If the United States, and you as Commander in Chief, wish to commemorate the end of World War II without reawakening the memories and passions of that era, discretion would be the greater part of valor to demonstrate 40 years of peace and reconciliation in Europe by paying tribute to those Americans who made the supreme sacrifice at the Battle of the Bulge.

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Mr. President, we of the Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, appeal to you to forego any public demonstration on your part to pay homage in honoring the members of the German Armed Forces who fought to destroy humanity and freedom throughout the world.

Sincerely yours,

David J. Zielinski
 David J. Zielinski
 National Commander

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. PHILIP M. REIN

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO LAW WREATH AT 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 | 85/04/17 | | C 85/04/19 |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <i>PL DONA</i> | | | | |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <i>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</i> | R | 85/04/19 | | C 85/04/26 PY |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | | | |

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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| * | * | * CORRESPONDENCE: | * |
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Marshall - Buger

DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America

Commander
PHILIP M. REIN
1115 Brighton Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19111
(215) 725-6634 Res.
(215) 785-2855 Bus.



Adjutant
RAYMOND FEINBERG
81 Candle Road
Levittown, Pa. 19057
(215) 945-7253

Sr. Vice Commander
Saul Katz
144 Dithridges Street Apt. 814
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213
(412) 687-6266

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C.

4/15/85

Judge Advocate
Jack Litz, Esquire

Commander - Easter District
Jules Goldberg

Dear Mr. President:

Commander - Central District
Harry Smulovitz

On the 6 P.M. news, April 12, 1985,
you stated that you will visit a cemetery in Germany
and lay a wreath on a German soldier's grave.

Commander - Western District
Sidney Weiss

May I remind you Mr. President, you
will be visiting the grave of a soldier who defended
Adolph Hitler and his henchmen's slaughter of thirteen
million Christians and Jews. Six million Jews died be-
cause they were Jewish, seven million Christians died
because they did not adhere to Hitler's ideology. Not
to mention that over one million servicemen were either
killed or maimed for life.

Quartermaster
Ira Poliakoff

Co-Adjutant
Sydney Levin

Chiefs of Staff
Edward Blatt
Willie Herbst

As the Department Commander of the
Pennsylvania Jewish War Veterans of America, with a mem-
bership of thirty-six posts and thousands of members
throughout Pennsylvania, I must protest this action. I
personally feel that this visit will be a SLAP IN THE
FACE to all the people who served our country, both the
living and the dead.

Past Commanders

- Edward Blatt
- Harold Block
- Jerome Block
- LeRoy Bloom
- * Dr. Leon Braunstein
- Harold Bressler
- Oscar Brown
- * Josh Cohen
- Lou Cohen
- * Max A. Daroff
- Howard Fishbein
- Carl A. Gelb
- Leon C. Goldberg
- * Dr. Adolph Goldblum
- * Joseph J. Goldstein
- Samuel Greenberg
- * Benjamin I. Griffin
- * Barney Gross
- Charles Grossman
- Col. David Henshell
- * Harry Kessler
- Sheldon Kretzman
- Harry Markovitz, Esq.
- Nathan Mayerstein
- Dr. N.N. Mendelson
- Judge Paul Ribner
- Isadore Ritt
- * I.T. Rockman
- * Edgar Rolle, Esq.
- Eugene Rosenstein
- I. Bernard Rotberg, Esq.
- * Leon Sacks, Esq.
- Joseph Savitz, Esq.
- Harry Segall
- Jack Shapiro
- Martin Silver
- * Max Slepian
- Nathan Sokoloff
- Sydney Speen
- * William Unger
- Herman Weiner, Esq.
- Samuel Weiner
- * Danial Weise
- Theodore H. Yudkovitz
- Ronald Ziegler, Esq.
- Meyer Zucker

At this time, I must ask you to recon-
sider your honoring a German soldier and do not make
this visit to the cemetery.

As Commander-In-Chief of the Armed
Forces, please do not do this to those people who fought
for freedom and the thirteen million who died at the
hands of the Nazis.

Thanking you for your consideration
of this request.

Yours truly

Philip M. Rein
Commander

PMR/ehs
cc: United States Senate
House of Representatives

* DECEASED

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MRS. BARBARA A. MANDEL

SUBJECT: OPPOSES PLAN TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY AND URGES PUBLICLY COMMEMORATING ALL
VICTIMS OF WORLD WAR II

| 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 | 85/04/17 | | C 85/04/19 PI |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <u>PL DONA</u> | | | | |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <u>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</u> | R | 85/04/19 | | C 85/04/26 PI |
| REFERRAL NOTE: | | | | |

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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MANAGEMENT.



National Council of Jewish Women
15 East 26th Street • New York, N.Y. 10010
Telephone: (212) 532-1740 Telex: 428540 NCJW UI

302735

Barbara A. Mandel
National President

Dadie Perlov, CAE
Executive Director

37
Marshall Buger
April 15, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the 100,000 members of the National Council of Jewish Women, I must express how deeply disturbed we are with your plans to visit a German military cemetery next month, on the 40th anniversary of VE Day. To pay tribute to the German war dead, without honoring the Allied fallen, is a serious and tragic omission. The horrors of war respect no nationality, including the six million European Jews who died in the Holocaust, as I mentioned in our letter of April 3rd.

Thus, NCJW once again urges you to change your plans and publicly commemorate all the victims of World War II.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Mandel

Barbara A. Mandel
National President

BAM:sm