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Last Updated: 03/09/2023

THE WHITE HOUSE

1500 1140 1140 118123-01 18085

April 8, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR MICHAEL DEAVER

FROM:

FAITH WHITTLESEY TO

I am leaving as you know. I would like to discuss this letter with you if you have a chance. This letter has not been delivered to the President. I am leaving it with you. It will require some kind of an answer. You should know that the group is completely flexible as to the proposed location of the religious service. It need not be at Dachau.

In my judgement, the downside domestically of failing to acknowledge the human rights aspect of W.W. II slaughter will be significant in the religious community, Christian as well as Jewish.

If you decide to stand by the original decision, I will convey the message through the intermediary who came to me. I have shown the letter to Pat Buchanan and Craig Fuller. Both indicated it was up to you.

There will be no publicity regarding this letter from the signatories. It is completely confidential and will remain so.

Letter to the President Regarding Visit to Dachan

John T Walker

Joshua D' Slaberman

Elie Hiesel

John & D'Country

Grandlen & Littell

arthur & Entders

Gold beng

April 2, 1985

The President
The White House

My dear Mr. President:

We, along with many Americans, are aware of and concerned about your announced decision not to visit Dachau, during your forthcoming visit to West Germany as the guest of its government to join in the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of V-E Day.

We also are aware of your conviction that this visit should not be a celebration of a victory in war but an occasion for reconciliation between former adversaries and present allies.

We, therefore, presume to offer a suggestion which, with deference to your sensitivities, would, nevertheless, permit an appropriate commemoration of the fact that V-E Day not only marks the end of World War II but also the liberation by allied forces of the survivors of the Holocaust from Dachau and the other death camps.

Our suggestion is that the undersigned undertake to invite you, if agreeable, to an ecumenical service, hosted by us, at Dachau during your visit to West Germany. This service would be non-governmental and non-political. We envisage a solemn and solely religious observance.

If our suggestion has merit, in your eyes, the undersigned would issue in our names an invitation to you to join us in such a service. Thus, the West German government would not be the host and the considerations which impelled you to announce that you would not visit Dachau would not apply.

Our proposal is founded on precedent. The undersigned, Archbishop O'Connor and Justice Goldberg were participants at a Human Rights Conference in Berchtesgaden several years ago. At that time the Archbishop was Chief of Chaplains of our Armed Forces, with the rank of Admiral, and the other clerical participants were Chief Chaplains of the NATO powers.

After Justice Goldberg delivered his address on the subject of basic human rights, it was suggested that the Conference recess and en masse conduct religious services at the Catholic, Protestant and Jewish chapels at Dachau. The visitation by the Conference, it was uniformly agreed, was appropriate, inasmuch as what occurred at Dachau and other death camps, was a supreme violation of fundamental human rights. Further, it was agreed that the services at Dachau would be solely religious.

It will interest you to know that rather than offending West German sensitivities, the visitation by the NATO Chaplains and the religious services they conducted at Dachau were welcomed by the West German Government and people. Indeed, the homily at the Catholic Chapel at Dachau was delivered by His Eminence, the Cardinal of Munich, who spoke in forthright terms of the horrendous violations of human rights which occurred there and in other death camps.

Further, the Cardinal emphasized that the lesson of the Holocaust needs telling again and again if reconciliation between Germans and Jews is to endure.

We express the hope that you will give due consideration to our proposal and advise us, at your early convenience, whether you deem it appropriate to join us for this solemn observance.

Respectfully yours,

+ John T. Walker
Episcopal Bishop of Washington

His Axcellency John J. O'Connor Archbishop of New York

Rabbi Dr. Joshua O. Haberman Senior Rabbi, Washington Hebrew Congregation The Rev. Dr. Franklin H. Littell-Professor of Religion Temple University, Philadelphia

Professor Elie Wiesel
Author & Chairman of the U.S.
Holocaust Memorial Council

Arthur J. Goldberg
Former Justice of the Supreme Court
and Honorary President of The
American Jewish Committee

% The Washington Hebrew Congregation 3935 Macomb Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. 20016

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

april 30 25

Dear Mr. Mery

Don Regan has first shown me your letter and your article; for both of thank you from the brotten of my heart. We are only a few hours from take off and I furt wanted you to house how much I appreciate you herry hour much I appreciate your bridness and your offer of help. Please aroone this harty scrawl.

I'm taking your corlumn with me and will make use of it at an appropriate time and place, again - my heartfelt Thanks and very best regards.

Sincery Romed Reagon

EDWARD MALOUF ASSOCIATES, INC. TR.123-01

11226 COTILLION

DALLAS, TEXAS 75228 May 17, 1985

Mr. Don Regan c/o The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Regan,

Rnclosed is a part of the latest issue of the TEXAS CATHOLIC. Although they cut the article because of space, it got the message across. I know of two Catholis priests who are going to give talks this coming Sunday in their church concerning this article.... and it will be PRO REAGAN. It's not much, but it is a start. But they DID put it next to the Bishop's message. (And he knows that I was baptised in the Mormon church,

Kindest regards

Ed Malouf

Viewpoint

PRESERVATION COPY

Matthias is a little-known Apostle

Bp. Thomas Tschoepe



On May 14 we celebrated the feast of St. Mat-We thias. are more familiar with Matthew who wrote one of the Gospels. In the first chapter of the οf Apostles we are

told how Matthias was added to the eleven Apostles. This took place after the ascent of Our Lord and before the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost:

"Together they (the eleven Apostles) devoted themselves to constant prayer. There were some women in their company, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

"At one point during those days, Peter stood up in the center of the brothers: there must have been a hundred and twenty gathered together.

'Brothers,' he said, 'the saying in Scripture uttered long ago by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of David was destined to be fulfilled in Judas, the one who guided those that arrested Jesus. He was one of our number and he had been given a share in this ministry of

'That individual bought a piece of land with his unjust gains, and fell headlong upon it. His body burst wide open, all his entrails spilling out. This event came to be known by the inhabitants of Jerusalem, who named the property Field of Blood - "Akeldama" in their own language.

'It is written in the Book of Psalms, "Let his encampment be desolate. May no one dwell on it."

'And again, "May another take his of-

fice."
"It is entirely fitting, therefore, that

Texas Catholic

Publisher: Bishop Thomas Tschoepe

Asst. to Publisher Msgr. Thomas W. Weinzapfel

Associate Publishers: Antonio Ramirez Jr., Debbie Landregan

Editor: Debbie Landregan

General Manager: Antonio Ramirez Jr. Fort Worth Editor: Mavis Belisle Dallas Editor: Kathy Vilim DaGroomes

Bookkeeping: Elaine Smith Advertising: Louis Lesmes

while the Lord Jesus moved among us, from the baptism of John until the day he was taken up from us, should be named as witness with us to his resurrection.

"At that they nominated two, Joseph (called Barsabbas, also known as Justus) and Matthias. Then they prayed: 'O Lord, you read the hearts of men. Make

known to us which of these two you choose for this apostolic ministry, replacing Judas, who deserted the cause and went the way he was destined to go.' They then drew lots between the two men. The choice fell to Matthias, who was added to the eleven apostles.

Clergy silence decried

One of the basic fundamentals of the Christian religion is forgiveness. It is one of the attributes that really sets apart that religion from others. And, though I am a Christian I cannot bring myself to practice that attribute when it comes to the German SS organization. This is my own personal problem with which I shall have to deal when I meet my maker.

On April 25 there appeared in the Dallas Morning News an article, written by me, which stated that I thought that our president should go to the Bitburg cemetery and place a wreath on the grave of an ordinary German G.I. In that article there was not one mention of God, or Christ, or Jesus. In thinking back, perhaps it was the unforgiving nature of the article that prompted me to leave out those names.

Since forgiveness is such a strong pillar of support of the Christian religion, I am wondering about the strange silence of the entire Christian clergy in the United States when it came to supporting President Reagan's visit to the Bitburg cemetery. One prominent Christian clergyman in New York had the unmitigated gall to even ask the president not to go. I wonder what Christ thinks of him. The Christian clergy should have supported the president even if he were going there to forgive the Nazis and SS (which he wasn't). Shame on all of you.

I am proud of how President Reagan handled the visit. He was absolutely perfect, in my opinion. He did a job that needed to be done and he did it with courage. Some have said that we needed to wait a longer period of time before something like this should be done to bring us closer to the German people. I say, "What period of time would you - maybe about 2,000 years?" Perhaps he should have waited for another president to do it, but he was asked to do it by a friend who represented a nation which is our friend, and I'm glad he did it now. I'm glad he did it in spite of the pleadings of a near hysterical House and Senate that he not do so. And I am glad because, rather than divide this nation and alienate our friends, it will bring us closer together.

I was interviewing a student from a

local high school for employment under the V.O.E. program and I was really im-

pressed with what she wrote about her

Puzzled by clergy

Edward Malouf Dallas

214-528-8792, 817-927-8291

TEXAS CATHOLIC (USPS 616610) is TEXAS CATHOLIC (USI'S 610010) is published weekly by Most Rev. Thomas Tschoepe, Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas, 3915 Lemmon Ave., P.O. Box 190347, Dallas, TX 75219. Subscription rates are \$12.00 for one year, \$22.00 two years, \$33.00 three years. Second-class

Readers' Views

simplicity of her statement expresses the beauty of simple truth.

I was also raised up to have a simple trust in our bishops and priests. I still try to very hard, but I am puzzled by some of the things that are happening these days. I hear the bishops solemnly proclaim unity with the Holy Father on many traditional teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, yet I find that my children and grandchildren are being taught that "Humanae Vitae" is not the teaching of the church and that abortion is not always wrong. But my faith is stronger than the evil one who is responsible for these erroneous teachings because you see I still helieve in an almighty God from whom my faith receives its strength.

Like the little girl who was able to say: "I help my mother, I babysit for my brother and wash the dishes and clean up" because it was the truth, without any concern about human respect, I can say God is almighty and I have faith in his teachings and I believe in all of his teachings through his church and I need not be concerned about anyone who tries to teach otherwise.

Alfred W. Brewerton

Cast out enemies

Chilling documentation of the horror of abortion was shown on Channel 49 May 2. The nation's only pro-life TV show will be shown weekly on Thursdays at 10 p.m. on Channel 49. The program name "Fight for Life."

I am very proud to be a part of the pro-life movement. I attended a town hall meeting along with a group of prolife supporters April 27. Our guest was Congressman John Bryant of the 5th district. From the 35 in attendance, there were 16 people wearing pro-life badges. Some supporters came late and failed to receive badges as the meeting was in session.

Bryant was approached regarding his 100 percent voting record for abortions and quoted from 1982 where he said he would not support a human life amendment. Like Geraldine Ferraro he tried to hedge the issue, when asked if he would reverse his voting record, he stood tall, said "No, I won't do it to please you." The clear message to us is he intends to make it difficult for Right to Life.

...,Those of us who value life should

Miracle of death is abstract

Maryann Miller



The day is Sunday and I'm at the hospital with my friend waiting for her mother to die. It's only a matter of hours, we all know that, all of us gathered here at her bedside, and at times I'm

surprised by my own detachment. I realize I don't share the same bond, the same life connection the rest of the people have to the old woman, but I'm still surprised. And my surprise makes me unsure of myself, so I do what I always do when I'm unsure of myself, I wonder.

I wonder why I am there. On the surface, I know the answer to that question. I'm there because I promised my friend I would be. She said she wanted me, so there was no thought of not being there. But I wonder if there's another reason, a deeper reason. A reason just for me.

As the minutes and hours passed from one to another, and we were still waiting, I kept thinking about the last time I'd been in that hospital waiting. That time I'd been waiting for the birth of my grandson, and the waiting today had many similarities. I wanted to express this thought aloud, but I was afraid of how the other people would react. It's a similar experience, yet different, and the difference is the painful

Birth and death are each a passage into a new beginning, but with birth the new beginning is very tangible for everyone involved. The new baby is the living proof of the miracle of life and we can see him, touch him, hold him, and believe. The new beginning from death still remains a mystery.

Those of us who kept that vigil for all those hours had nothing to see, to touch, to hold, when the old woman made her passage. She was no longer there, that was very evident to me even before my friend caught my eye and nodded her head, but how her new beginning was actually playing out was still an unknown. The miracle of death will always be abstract for those of us left behind.

And as I sifted through all my thoughts and reactions when it was all over, I found my reason. Despite the pain of grief, there was a peacefulness in her passage that eased my fears of my own mortality, and bolstered my belief in immortality.

(Mamiann Miller is a free-lance writer

EDWARD MALOUF ASSOCIATES, INC.

11226 COTILLION DALLAS, TEXAS 75228 May 16, 1985

Dear Mr. Regan:

I couldn't resist sending this cartoon to you from this mornings' DALLAS MORNING NEWS.....THE CARTOON by Bill DeOre.

After the big stink about Bitburg our president no only came up "smelling like a rose..which IS incredible....he came up smelling like a couple or three DOZEN roses. And THAT makes him pretty damn special!"!

You have taken a few barbs yourself from the press. I would place you, also, in that bouquet. May I suggest that you secures a recipe for preparing "crow", and disseminate it to the press. They need it since they'll be eating it for quite a while.

I am including a PULLET SURPRISE certificate for your use. I originated it five years ago when I got tired of the press picking on people who didn't deserve it. It is copyrighted, but you have my permission to copy it and fill in the blanks when you feel someone deserves it. You can sign my name to it, then get a HALLMARK card (LITE) that says: CONGRATULATIONS...... you have just won the PULLET SURPRISE. (It is for contributing to the backward progress of mankind.)

Congratulations to YOU for a job well done !!

Kindest regards,

Ed Malouf

Reflections on Nicaragua

To the editors: Incredible! President Reagan warns the U.S. House that we must give aid to freedom-fighters in Nicaragua or possibly see Central America fall to the Communists. When the Nicaraguan president flies to Moscow the same week, House members are shocked at the close ties. Tip O'Neill stated that "Ortega embarrassed us."

God help a nation that has a speaker of the House more concerned with being embarrassed than being wrong, most especially about freedom and communist oppression in our hemisphere.

> —DAVID BAUCOM, Sulphur Springs, Texas

No Wonder

To the editors: Re: The Viewpoints article (April 29) by James K. Hopkins, "The Sandinistas' Right to Rule." That article was so full of left-wing prop-

aganda that it's no wonder the public is confused about what's happening in Nicaragua.

Hopkins backs up his analysis of the Nicaraguan situation by citing alleged human-rights violations by the freedomfighters/contras as reported by the Council on Hemispheric Affairs. Similar reports emerge regularly, compiled with the enthusiastic assistance of the Sandinista regime. A case in point is a recent report of so-called "contra atrocities" entered into the Congressional Record by Rep. Samuel Geidenson, D-Conn., which had a lot to do with the recent congressional defeat of the bill authorizing aid to the contras.

According to the April 23 editorial of the Wall Street Journal, that report was originated and paid for by the law firm of Reichler and Applebaum of Washington, D.C., the official



registered agent in the United States for the Nicaraguan government. The Sandinistas pay Reichler and Applebaum a hefty \$320,000 a year to lobby Congress in their behalf. Of course the members of the House Western Hemisphere Subcommittee were never told of the origin of this

"objective and unbias

President Daniel his Marxist junta have the revolution and guan people. The fre promised have been c in the words of one leafugee, Jenalee Boble moved one dictator at him with nine more."

By denying the c funds they need to fig the for freedom in O'Neill and company i will deliberately forc to the point that free in Central America. W be faced with the sam in Mexico, our borde uncontrollable as mill ugees flee tyranny, an nism will be rampa hemisphere.

--COLLEEN

Nicaraguan 1

To the editors: Rea of the letters, some b sponsible people, a help for the contras gua, a few questions ar

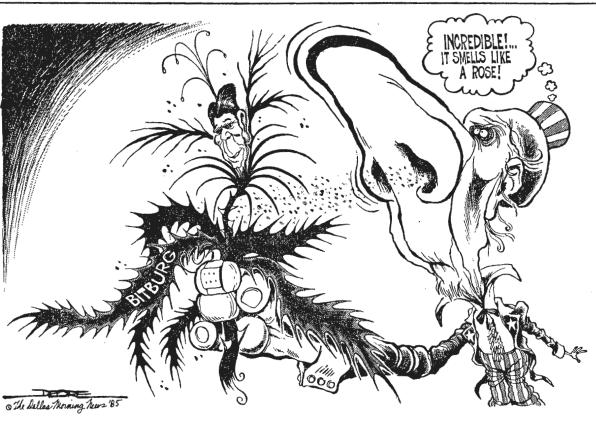
(1.) When did the States government de on Nicaragua? Whene tion funds revolution: other nation, that is was

(2.) Just where did mation come from the tras are democratic fighters? Anti-Commu but democratic freedor unproved.

If the communist Nicaragua is a threa United States and we f war by mercenaries or is a must, let us so de quit sneaking around.

Frankly, like most A
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Bill DeOre, Staff Cartoonis

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Presented by the American Chicken Society Colonel Slanders Chief Plucker



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Surprise

For Conspicuously And Consistantly Foul, Chicken Stool Action In The Field Of:

> This Rotten Fgg Award Is Presented To:

Presented by the American Chicken Society Colonel Slanders Chief Plucker



no reply

EDWARD MALOUF ASSOCIATES, INC.

11226 COTILLION

DALLAS, TEXAS 75228

May 14, 1985

Mr. Donald Regan c/o The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Regan:

I see no need to further clutter up your mail, so this will be my last letter for a while. I want you to know, however, that I shall continue to write articles for the news media, and write letters (such as the enclosed to Sam Donaldson of ABC News) until three things are made clear:

- 1. That President Reagan was ABSOLUTELY PERFECT in his Bitburg and Belsen visits, as was his lovely wife.
- 2. That the Christian clergy was derelict in it's duty to support the president EVEN IF HE WENT TO BITBURG TO FORGIVE THE NAZISSAND THE SS (which he didn't.) FORGIVENESS is one of THE foundations of the Christian religion. Shame on them for not publicly supporting the president.
- 3. That Congress be made aware of it's stupidy in "pushing the panic button" regarding the presidential visit (52 Senators and Representatives excluded).

Should any progress be made towards these goals I shall drop you a BRIEF note.

I want to thank you, and Ms. Reed, and Ms. Vosburg for your helping me get a good nights sleep for the first time in six weeks. It was a comfort to me, knowing that the president got my message "from the boondocks".

> Sincerely yours, Ed Malour

P.S. Please tell the president that I am impressed with his speechwriters AND his delivery. I noticed that he had the Communists on the run a couple of times in Europe EVEN BEFORE HE STARTED TO TALK. NOW, THAT is BEING EFFECTIVE!

Mr. Sam Donaldson c/o The White House News Room Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Donaldson:

I guess the case of "Bitburg" will never be laid to rest. For twenty-five years now American service men have been laying wreaths at the same place in the cometery, but of course, THAT is not the same as the president's doing so. Or is it?

I am writing this letter to you because you seem to be a "barb" in the president's side, and this is only from the stand-point of being a good newsman (..WANTING THE ACCURATE STORY and not being treated like a mushroom (kept in the dark and fed manure). And I did not want to send it through the White House because of the "born skepticism" of good newspeople.

The enclosed article was written by me and was published in the DALLAS MORNING NEWS on April 27th, opposite it's editorial page. In the following two weeks I received fifteen phone calls and two letters. One was from another dogface who was with the 8th infantry Division which was on our left flank. (We stabilized the northern flank of the Bulge.) ALL BUT TWO WERE FOR THE PRESIDENT'S going to Bitburg!! TWO of the positive calls were from Jewish friends who had changed their minds because of the article... THEY wanted the president to go. The two NEGATIVE comments were from a Jewish lady from Luxembourg who said," I just don't want him to go." The other was from an ex-prisoner of war who had been shot down and spent two years in a prison camp. His reason was that the president's purpose in going to Germany was for an economic conference and that the side trip had detracted from the business at hand. He said, "What the hell is all the fuss about? Everyone. including the Germans, know that the SS was a bunch of bastards. Nobody is going to forgive or forget 'em. So even if the SS members are buried in the cemetery, so what? The president is REMEMBERING THEM, and I'll bet he says something about "How he remembers them". " (And the president DID say a few things about the SS and Nazis.) He made it plain and simple that we would neither FORGIVE nor FORGET them. BUT WE SHALL REMEMBER THEM.

I sent an express mail envelope to the White House the day before the president left for Germany. I enclosed the article, plus a letter. In the letter I volunteered to help the president carry the wreath and lay it on the grave. I offered to dust off my combat badge, Presidential Unit Citation (Remagen), Purple Heart (Battle of the Bulge), Bronze Star (130 Consecutive days of Combat) and a few others, and then let those who criticize CRITICIZE ME. And I'd tell them to go to hell. We are NOT GOING TO FORGET THE HOLOCAUST, NOR THE SS, NOR THE NAZIS. And I am not going to FORGIVE.)

What is more important to me now is the people who are living NOW under similar circumstances. We should focus our attention and efforts in saving THEM.

Being a "BORN AGAIN" skeptic myself (I classify most politicians in the phylum Entoproct, rather than Cordata, for obvious reasons.) Please let your fellow skeptics know that there are a considerable number of people out here who are 100% FOR the president's visit to Bitburg. I have nine kids, and every one of them have had a REAL AWAKENING about FREEDOM because of the hullabaloo over the Bitburg visit. I'm glad that President Reagan did what was morally right and stuck with his convictions. He was ABSOLUTELY PERFECT . You might also tell them that I'm a John Glenn Democrat, or actually, an independent voter.

Thanks for your time,

Sincerely yours,

Ed Malouf

I hope you'll bring up the Bitburg visit in the president's next news conference. Ask him, " Mr. President, of the cards and letters you received concerning your Bitburg visit, how many of the writers were veterans of the Battle of the Bulge, and of these, How many were FOR your visit to Bitburg ?" I think you'll find that the OVERWHEALMING majority would be for EXACTLY what the president did. HE WAS ABSOLUTELY PERFECT !!

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Donald Regan's office, so that in case you DO ask the question, they might be able to answer.

TR.123.01
Ed Malouf 005402 11226 Cotillion Dallas, TX 75228 May 8, 1985

MEMO

FROM: Ed Malouf

TO: Donald Regan

The Dallas Morning News already has 4 editorials this week on Bit burg, so they aren't going to publish mine. I have sent it to Chicago Tribune and Waskington Post. Also sent letter to Dr. Pat Robertson at Christian Broadcasting at Virginia Beach, VA., taking ALL Christian leaders to task for not supporting the President. Will keep you posted.

Re: article on Visit to betburg

303596

Ed Malouf Jr. 11226 Cotillion Dallas, TX. 75228 May 6, 1985

My TRIBE OI

Dear Mr. Regan:

Enclosed is the first draft of an article that has been scheduled for the VIEWPOINTS page (opposite the editorial page) for Friday Morning the 10th of May. IF it comes out, I'll send you a copy. (DALLAS MORNING NEWS).

I appreciate the President's writing me a note just before he left for Germany. I have NEVER been as proud in my life to be an American. And I would have given him hell if he didn't do a good job, believe me. The people I am going to ra ise a little hell with right now are the two in the article. Their actions and lack of actions was what predicated my involvement.

THE CHRISTIANS AND THE

So long as "they" continue throwing barbs at our President, I'll keep writing and throwing barbs back.

I hope you'll excuse me for cluttering up your mail for this short period of time.

Very kindest regards to you, Ms. Reid, and Ms. Vosburg Ed Malouf One of the basic fundementals of the Christian religion is FORGIVENESS. It is one of the attributes that really sets apart that religion from others. And though I am a Christian I cannot bring myself to practice that attribute when it comes to the German SS organization. This is my own personal problem with which I will have to deal when I meet my maker.

On April 25th there appeared in the Dallas Morning News an article, written by me, which stated that I thought that our President SHOULD go to the Bitburg Cemetery and place a wreath on the grave of an ordinary German G.I.. In that article there was not ONE mention of God, or Christ, or Jesus. In thinking back, perhaps because it was that there was an unforgiving nature to the article.

What concerns me now is that if FORGIVING is such a strong pillar of support to the Christian religion, where were all of the Christian leaders when our president announced that he was going LERRY FALLWELL AND to Bitburg? Where was the moral majority, Billy Graham, Jesse Jackson, Oral Roberts, the Pope, and ALL the others WHEN THEY COULD PRACTICE WHAT THEY PREACH ----FORGIVENESS--and supported our president? Support him EVEN if he were going there to FORGIVE the SS, (which he wasn't). I watched the president very carefully. When he didn't place the wreath directly on the grave of an ordinary German G.I. (he placed it at the base of the main monument in the cemetery) I became a little concerned. The T-V commentator remarked, "The president is avoiding the SS graves on the left

side of the cemetery." I thought, "So what, he's taking the shortest route to where he's going to place the wreath." The commentator dramatically said, "The President has his back turned to where the SS troops are buried." Again, I thought, "Big deal, he has his back turned to ALL the graves." I thought, "Mr. President, you're letting me down, BUT I'll wait to see what you have to say at the Air Force Base."

After hearing what the President had to say I was elated! He said that the SS had committed the most heinous crimes in the history of mankind, and we won't forget them. He said that only two of the SS troopers buried at Bitburg were "older men". Most of them were teen agers 14 to 17 years old. What it boils down to is that we really don't know what crimes, if any, each of them might personally have committed as an SS trooper. These young children were conscripted into the SS near the end of the war. The implication is that they were victims of evil men who gave them an SS uniform and a gun, and were sent off to war. And the President is right when he says that they were "victims" of the Nazi regime. We were ALL victims, but not in the sense of those who suffered the experience of the German SS concentration camps. I look and listen to Elie Wiesel on T-V and say to myself, "What a wonderful, marvelous, sensative human being! How could ANYONE ever want to harm him?" And then I think of the SS and receive my answer. And although the Jewish people were seemingly the prime target of their abuse- witness to the fact that the SS was building a "Museum to An Extinct Race" in CZechoslovakia during

this time - there were Christians, anti-Nazi Germans and others who felt their abuse. I am proud of the small part I played in helping prevent this museum from being completed. I am also proud of how President Reagan handled the visit. He was absolutely perfect, in my opinion. He did a job that needed to be done and he did it with courage. Some have said that we needed to wait a longer period of time before something like this should be done to bring us closer to the German people. I say, "what period of time would you suggest---maybe about 2,000 years?" Perhaps he should have waited for another president to do it, but he was asked to do it by a friend who represented a nation which is our friend, and I'm glad he did it now. I'm glad he did it in spite of the pleadings of a near hysterical House and Senate that he not do so. And I am glad because, rather than divide this nation and alienate our friends, it will bring us closer together.

The Russian leaders have been strangely silent, as witnessed by their little press coverage. They must be very confused. Could it be that they see in their own treatment of their people that they are following the Nazi type pattern of governing? They are even using the Jewish population of their country as their "whipping boy". Christianity exists there, but under severe restrictions. Isn't it a pity that we have to spend so much on arms so that our fate would not become as their's? The President referred to Afghanistan, Nicaragua and others as being under the Communist yoke. But there are other governments just as bad. The South African Government is not communistic, but should be classified as "tyrannical."

What we should have learned from this latest controversy that has been caused by President Reagan's going to Bitburg is that, contrary to the United Nations charter, WHAT HAPPENS TO A PEOPLE WITHIN A COUNTRY DOES CONCERN US, AND IT IS OUR BUSINESS." And it has brought a keener awareness to our younger population of the utter misery inflicted upon innocent people when a group of despots gained control of a country. In future years, long past the time we "older" folks are gone, these youngsters will have a better memory of why WW II was fought. That memory will remain fresher, longer. And it will have been because Ronald Reagan had the courage of his convictions to do what was morally right.

I shall always remember Bitburg as being the "Second Battle of the Bulge". Instead of McAuliffe telling the Nazi SS, "NUTS", when asked to surrender, we have our august body, the Congress of the United States, with the exception of 52 individuals, surrounding our President and Chancellor Kohl - and their answer was, "NUTS".

Our President placed a wreath at a German soldiers' cemetery in an act of remembering them. He remembered "my" special ordinary German G.I. whom I respect, since I was an ordinary American G.I.. And he remembered the SS for a very different reason. And, Mr. President, this old dogface appreciates it!

Independent"

Edward Malouf is a Dallas businessman. (He, also, is NOT a Republican). He was a Pfc. with the 78th U.S. Infantry Division in WW II and holds the Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star, Presidential Unit Citation (Remagen), the Purple Heart (Battle of the Bulge) and several other medals.

TR 12301

THE WHITE HOUSE



Mr. Edward J. Malout. Sound Malout Duc. 11226 Cotillin

Biff Berley April 30, 1985

The President asked me to mail this letter this afternoon

after you had gone.

Elaine

Sealed

suly article regarding Presidents Visit to bithing

EDWARD MALOUF ASSOCIATES, INC.

11226 COTILLION DALLAS, TEXAS 75228 April 29, 1985

Mr. Donald Regan c/o The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

One Ple

Dear Mr. Regan:

Normally I am a passive and analytical individual when it comes to politics, but when I see the furor caused by the pending visit to Bitburg by our President I cannot help but do what I can to correct the situation.

The enclosed article which I wrote will explain.

If you talk with the President, please tell him that I would be HONORED and PROUD to help him place a wreath on the grave of that ORDINARY German soldier. And, if he wants, I will bring my medals out of the closet and bring them along. They include the Combat Infantry Badge, The Bronze Star, The Purple Heart (for wounds received in the Battle of the Bulge), the Presidential Unit Citation (for the Remagen Bridge operation), plus a few more. But DON'T get the idea that I was a hero. I was a 19 year old kid who was drafted by my government and who served the best he could, (like the German Medic.)

If the President would want my help, and should a security clearance be needed you can check with the Army and Air Force:

WW II Army serial # 38-683-309
Korean War U.S. Air Force, I.G. Office of Special Investigations (Special Agent)

My prediction is that Mr. Reagan will turn this incident into one of his greatest moments. My phone has been ringing off the hook since the article ran, and EVERY ONE HAS BEEN COMPLIMENTARY. Perhaps the finest was from a good friend of mine who had relatives in German concentration camps. (His name is Phil Simon.) He said, "I want you to know what a fine article that was, and I HAVE CHANGED MY MIND...THE PRESIDENT SHOULD GO TO BITBURG."

Sincerely yours,

Edward J. Malouf

ician. He won't make a kabe based on how he judges

alf to be the most formidapublican prospects. If that

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nio writer and lawyer who

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n, of Mount Zion Hospital as to say that learning how

not an argument for in-I reread his results, his is iate balance between work ment for taking the time to ou can still enjoy them.

couctions he gave his pasated for heart attacks:

ething nice and unpredict-15 minutes and do nothing being wrong, even if you talk ... and don't say anylay a game and plan to lose.

und California chauvinism is not surprise me such a California.

ledman argues for are elemprecisely called the "Calition in which people work n put as much energy into ⇒ quality of life.

why many people leave the t, I suppose, is why Califor-0 and 1960 doubled every 20

ners don't enjoy their own a fact, though, that the noit adjunct to work has more i "ever found for it in New ington, D.C.

n California's population is ... monal average, no one can ther variables besides life-

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rning to relax is the best t and your work. As for that rred to play in the snow ...ly: He soon left the newscame back to California. He thing about the place being ut the door.

ito<mark>r, publisher and president</mark>

In defense of Ditburg visit

EDWARD MALOUF

READER'S REPLY

set about President Reagan's lay-

ing a wreath on the grave of a German soldier. He says "an SS trooper," but he is incorrect. Were it to be an SS trooper, I would object, for those criminal animals should never be forgiven.

Let us hope our children and all future generations will never forget man's inhumanity to man. The Holocaust Museums will keep the memory of this shameful period of human — or should it be inhumane — activity alive.

News service reports state that most of the SS men who are buried at Bitburg appear to have been casualties of the Ardennes, better known as the Battle of the Bulge. The American death toll in that battle has been placed at 19,000. It includes the bulk of the U.S. 106th "Timberwolf" Infantry Division. It also includes members of the 78th "Lightning" Division of which I was a member.

At the time of the German breakthrough another GI and I were "volunteered" to man a two-man troop shelter in the no-man's-land between German and American lines, just southwest of Simmerath, Germany. Our purpose was to give the frontline troops to the rear a warning in case Germans attacked.

It was not a particularly comfortable position in which to be. From Dec. 9, 1944, to Dec. 31, 1944, our company of 184 had lost 102 men. The occupation of the troop shelter, which was at the deepest penetration of Germany at that time, wasan invitation to add a couple of more casualties.

But I had it easy compared to a cousin who lives in Wills Point. He was a member of the 106th Division which was so badly mauled during the initial German onslaught. He and a few buddies managed to get some artillery pieces and form a pocket of resistance, firing all night long until on Christmas morning of 1945, German tanks moved in on them — just as clouds broke and the Air Force began to skip-bomb the Germans.

I asked him, "Would you object to our president laying a wreath on the grave of a German soldier, so long as it wasn't a grave of an SS trooper." He thought a moment and then answered, "No.".

The situation in the Bulge was serious. Our communications had been

M i k e cut off, so we came under the com- face by a piece of shrapnel. Royko is up- mand of the British. Efforts to eliminate the "Bulge" and keep the German soldiers from getting to the security east of the Rhine was completed March 7, 1945, when the American 9th Armored Division captured the bridge at Remagen intact.

> It is interesting to note that today there is a large U.S. base near Bit-

Mike Royko is on vacation. His column will resume Saturday, May

burg and that 16,000 American children have been born there. Also, 5,000 German women have married American GIs. It is ironic that the SS used Bitburg as a staging area for their Ardennes offensive.

Germany is a democracy now. From all appearances it will stay that way. It has progressed to the point where people are protesting and demonstrating against the planned

His jaw was left hanging by a shred of skin. Before we could get our gear off so we could move faster to go back to pick him up, the Ger man medic bolted out the door, through the artillery barrage and got to the American. He pulled the jaw back up to his face with a kerchief, then brought him piggyback through the barrage and back to the farm house.

Had the German medic been an American he probably would have received the Silver or Bronze Star. He was an ordinary German GI who had been conscripted into service by his Nazi government.

I'd like to offer Royko a free trip to Germany in May. We can watch our president place the wreath on the grave of an ordinary German soldier. We can both make sure be doesn't pay tribute to the SS.

The German people have to live with what happened in their country

Germany is a democracy now. From all appearances it will stay that way. It has progressed to the point where people are protesting and demonstrating against the planned meetings of the living members of the SS.

meetings of the living members of the SS.

Four groups of SS troopers will be meeting at Nesselwang, Germany, about the same time our president will be at Bitburg. The Nesselwang town council tried to ban them, but German federal law permits the right to assemble, so the council passed a resolution condemning the SS and that for which it stands.

Local political action groups have sprung up to oppose the gatherings. Labor unions are joining in the protests, and several Jewish and civil rights groups have called for a ban on the SS veteran groups.

To describe the SS organization as "insidious" or "barbaric" would be to use inadequate adjectives. I cannot put the ordinary German Gl in the same category. This is because the greatest act of heroism I ever witnessed in combat was by a German medic we had captured in the Ruhr, near the end of the war.

We had just gone through a withering artillery barrage from German 88s when we came across the German medic treating a couple of wounded. It was in the relative safety of a farm house. While we were going through the barrage, a member of my squad was hit in the pessman.

when they allowed Hitler and his cutthroats to come to power. Six mil lion Jews, six million Catholics and Protestants, 20 million Russians and millions upon millions of others per ished because of the Third Reich.

The German people have reached out and the Jewish people in Germany have responded. Chancellor Helmut Kohl was invited to speak at the commemoration of the Holocaust which took place recently at the Belsen concentration camp.

I think the President should visit the German cemetery and take that opportunity to tell the SS, "No, wt don't forgive you. Nor will we for get you. Nor will we allow people like you ever again to perpetrate this sort of crime against humanity."

In the meantime, let us not sit around and let virtually the same thing happen to slave laborers in Russia. When the summit meeting commences with the Russians, this topic should be as important as the reduction of arms. If we can get the Russian leaders to act as civilized members of the human race, arms re duction will be automatic. There will be no more need of war.

Edward Malouf is a Dallas busi

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6803 Poplar Place, Suite 300, McLean, Virginia 22101, (703) 556-0001

MEMORANDUM

DATE:

May 9, 1985

RE:

President Ronald Reagan's Visit to Bitburg:

The Public Reaction

Objectives

To measure as accurately as possible the changes, if any, that occurred between April 27 and May 8 in the public's view as to whether or not it was appropriate for Ronald Reagan to visit the German military cemetery at Bitburg on Sunday, May 5. One thousand adult Americans were interviewed between April 25 and 27 to establish the base line on these attitudes. Seventy five percent (746 respondents) of that group were reinterviewed between May 6 and 8 to measure the direction and the magnitude of any induced changes in attitude.

Overview

- Before the President left to attend the Economic Summit in Bonn, the public divided almost evenly (49% for and 47% against) the President's Bitburg visit. After viewing the wreath laying ceremony at Bitburg and listening to the President's two speeches at Bergen-Belson and Bitburg -- and the consequent media coverage -- a substantial number of American adults viewed the visit as appropriate. Six out of ten felt that the President's Bitburg stop was proper; 39% remained convinced that because of the Nazi SS soldiers buried there, he should not have gone. Eleven percent of all Americans favored the visit more after it occurred than did so prior to the event.
- Groups whose attitudes about the visit shifted most positively include: those with some highschool education, Republicans, Hispanics, Farm Belt residents and registered Democrats and Independents now leaning toward the Republican banner.
- There also occurred during the same period, improvement in the mood of the country. Prior to the President's departure 44% felt the country was going in the right direction, now 55% do so.

• The President's job rating remained stable over those eleven days with 60% approving of the way he is handling his job, however, the number of Americans who approved of the way he was handling foreign affairs bounced from 46% pre-Summit to 51% post-Bitburg.

Specific Findings

The bitburg Visit: Few if any events since 1980 have generated as much criticism about the Administration as the Bitburg visit. Clearly, the press covered the unfolding of the Bitburg visit with intensity and repetition far surpassing the Economic Summit itself. Nevertheless, only a third of all Americans (CBS/New York Times poll; May 6th) said they had "paid a lot of attention to the issue."

The Sunday event itself appears to have induced a sharp, substantial, and positive change in attitudes about the President and his Bitburg visit. This reflects in the tables below:

TABLE I

Changes in Attitudes Toward Bitburg April 27 vs. May 8*

"As you know, President Reagan (is planning to) visit(ed) a German war cemetery (recently). I'd like to read you the opinions of two imaginary people, let's call them Smith and Jones. After I read you both opinions, please tell me whether you feel like Smith or like Jones.

Smith feels that Reagan should not (have) visit(ed) the cemetery because some Nazi SS soldiers are buried there.

Jones feels that Reagan should (have) visit(ed) the cemetery to show the post-war friendship between the United States and West."

		April 27 (%)	May 8th (%)	Change (%)
JONES:	Should (have) visit(ed)	49	60	+11
SMITH:	Should not (have) visit(ed)	47	39	-8
Don't Kn	OW	4	1	-3

*NOTE: Question was put in the present tense in April 27th study and the past tense in the May 8th panel.

From Table II below the magnitude shift can be seen clearly. Forty percent of those who said initially the President should not visit the cemetery felt after the event that it was a good thing for him to have gone; and 59% of those who said, in April, that they did not have any opinion about his going to Bitburg felt after the visit that it was a good thing to have done. Groups that shifted more dramatically in favor of the President's going to Bitburg include: Republican partisans, those who live in the farm belt, senior citizens, Hispanics, those with some high school education and the registered Democrats who consider themselves to be Republicans.

TABLE II

The President's Visit To Bitburg:
A Changed Perspective

April 27th Should Not Should Don't Visit Visit Know (47%)(49%)(4%) (%) (%) May 8th Should have visited (60%) 40 80 59 Should not have visited (39%) 60 19 39 Don't know (1%) 1 2

Groups which were least likely to move positively include: those in the Jewish community, 55 to 64 year olds, residents of the Mountain states and Democrats. Not unsurprisingly the Jewish community in the United States was by far the most strongly opposed of all groups to the visit. Eighteen of the twenty one Jews we contacted still opposed the event after the visit, but 20 of these same 21 Jews opposed prior to the visit.

Inspite of claims made by the press, veterans before the visit favored the President's going to Bitburg by 54% to 46%. After the visit, 63% felt that it was appropriate, 36% did not.

It is evident that there have been few, if any, events which triggered such a steady drumbeat of negative media commentary. If Bitburg had been of greater initial concern to Americans and if the President had not spoken so eloquently and strongly there and at Bergen-Belsen the visit could well have inflicted severe damage on the Administration. This study shows clearly that did not happen.

Note

Note Two-T The Mood Of The Country: Are We Going in the Right Direction or Have We Seriously Gotten Off on the Wrong Track: Citizens interviewed in the period of April 27 just prior to the President's leaving for the Summit were not very sanguine about the direction the country was going. Forty seven percent said that the country had seriously gotten off on the wrong track, 49% said we were going in the right direction. It would seem that part of that pessimism was generated by the fact that Americans were refighting and loosing for one more time the Vietnam war. All three networks gave extensive coverage to our loss in Vietnam during April. Additionally, in these same weeks, the media focused on the President's setback in securing aid for the Contras and on the budget battle.

Now the nation's mood has moved back into a somewhat more positive range with 55% saying the country is going in the right direction; 43% believe that we have seriously gotten off on the wrong track.

The President's Job Rating: Given the above findings, it should not be surprising that the President's job rating has remained both stable and high with six out of ten Americans now approving of the way the President is handling his job and 39% disapproving.

The Bitburg event seems to have also boosted the President's foreign policy rating. Now 51% approve of his handling of foreign policy -- up five points in eleven days.

Groups who improved their rankings of the President on foreign policy most significantly: senior citizens, Hispanics, Veterans, the least and the most educated segments of the population, and political Independents.

In Summary

All in all it has not been a bad twelve days.

SOME SELECTED CROSS TABULATIONS ON BITBURG

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Q 12: As you know, President Reagan visited a German war cemetery recently. I'd like to read you the opinions of two imaginary people, let's call them Smith and Jones. After I read you both opinions, please tell me whether you feel like Smith or like Jones.

Smith feels that Reagan should not visit the cemetery because some Nazi SS soldiers are buried there.

Jones feels that Reagan should visit the cemetery to show the post-war friendship between the United State and West Germany. PANEL

B 1: CONSTITUENCIES, SEX/AGE

			CO	NSTITUE	ENCIES									SEX/A	GE	
										WHITE		4				
	TOTAL	BASE		18-24			TRICU	HICON	WOMEN	SOUTH	iche.	UETO	FMALE 18-44		MALE 18-44	MALE
	TOTAL		BELI	TEARS		LEANK		TISPN	WUMEN	BAPIS	JEWS	VE 15	18-44	45+	18-44	45+
BASE=TOTAL SAMPLE	746	199	42	101	118	289	113	30	403	66	21	152	202	200	198	137
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Smith	291 39%	46 23%	14 34%	26% 26%	43 36%	107 37%	42 37%	13 42%	1 60 40%	32 49%	1 <u>B</u>	55 36%	73 36%	87 43%	64 32%	64 47%
<u>Jones</u>	449 60%	150 75%	28 66%	72 71%	637	180 62%	69 61%	17 58%	240 59% (32 48%	3 . 16%	96 63%	127 63%	112 56%	133 67%	72 53%
Just like Smith	193 26%	24 12%	6 13%	11 11%	32 27%	22% 65	27 25%	9 29%	110 27%	21 32%	12 56%	38 25%	44 22%	66 33%	36 18%	46 34%
Somewhat like Smith	98 13%	22 11%	9 20%	15 15%	11 9%	42 15%	13 11%	4 13%	51 13%	11 17%	6 / 27%	18 12%	29 14%	21 10%	28 14%	17 13%
Somewhat like Jones	217 29%	62 31%	9 22%	32 31%	30 25%	94 32%	29 26%	10 35%	123 30%	12 18%	2 / 8%	40 26%	67 33%	56 28%	60 31%	32 23%
Just like Jones	233 31%	88 44%	19 44%	41 40%	44 37%	86 30%	40 35%	7 23%	117 29%	20 30%	2 ×	56 37%	60 30%	56 28%	72 37%	40 29%
Na opinion	6 1%	2 1%	-	3 3%	1 1%	2 1%	3 2%		3 1%	2 4%	_	1 1%	2 1%	1 1%	1 1%	1 1%

Smith feels that Reagan should not visit the cemetery because some Nazi SS soldiers are buried there.

Jones feels that Reagan should visit the cemetery to show the post-war friendship between the United State and West Germany. PANEL

B 2: SEX, AGE, EDUCATION, ETHNICITY

		58	EX	22540		A()E		=====	=====		EDUCAT	I ON			ETHN	ICITY	
	TOTAL	MALE	FMALE	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	SOME HS	HS GRAD	SOME COLL	COLL GRAD	POST GRAD	WHITE	BLACK	HISP	OTHER
BASE=TOTAL SAMPLE	746	334	403	101	162	137	99	120	118	209	275	127	90	37	552	82	30	82
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Smith	291	128	160	26%	56	54	41	66	43	84	118	40	33	13	209	36	13	33
	39%	38%	40%	26%	35%	40%	42%	55%	0 36%	40%	43%	32%	36%	34%	38%	44%	42%	41%
Jones	449 60%	205 61%	240 59%	72 71%	106 65%	60% 82	57 57%	54 45%	74 N63%		155 56%	85 67%	57 64%	25 66%	338 61%	46 56%	17 58%	48 58%
Just like Smith	193	82	110	11	35	33	31	49	32	57	82	22%	15	9	129	29	9	27
	26%	25%	27%	11%	22%	25%	31%	41%	27%	28%	30%	28	17%	24%	23%	35%	29%	33%
Somewhat like Smith	98	45	51	15	21	21	10	17	11	26	36	13	17	4	80	7	4	6
	13%	14%	13%	15%	13%	15%	10%	14%	9%	13%	13%	10%	19%	10%	15%	9%	13%	8%p
Somewhat like Jones	217	92	123	32	59	36	31	27	30	61	30%	35	23	15	155	27	10	cision/
	29%	28%	30%	31%	37%	26%	31%	23%	25%	29%	82	28%	25%	39%	28%	33%	35%	29%/
Just like Jones	233 31%	112 34%	117 29%	41 40%	46 29%	46 34%	26 26%	27 22%	44 37%	63 30%	73 26%	50 39%	34 38%	10 27%	183 33%	19 23%	7 23%	24 Waking 30%
No opinion	6 1%	2 1%	3 1%	3 3%	-	1 **	1 1%		1 1%	2 1%	2 1%	2 1%	-	-	4 1%		-	Information

Smith feels that Reagan should not visit the cemetery because some Nazi SS soldiers are buried there.

Jones feels that Reagan should visit the cemetery to show the post-war friendship between the United State and West Germany. PANEL

B 3: 4-PT GEOCODE, 8-PT GEOCODE, DATE

	4-PT GEOCODE						B PART GEOCODE									TIME OF INTERVIEW			
		=====		*=====	====	NEW				*******		120222							
	TOTAL	NORTH EAST	MID- WEST	SOUTH	WEST	ENG-	MID- ATLAN	GREAT LAKES	FARM BELT	MOUN -TAIN		OUTER SOUTH	DEEP SOUTH	MON NIGHT	TUES DAY	TUES NIGHT			
BASE=TOTAL SAMPLE	746	169	195	243	131	38	131	153	42	34	96	168	74	290	119	303			
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%			
<u>Smith</u>	291	76	73	86	54	16	60	58	14	12	41	60	26	109	51	118			
	39%	45%	37%	3 5 %	41%	42%	46%	38%	34%	35%	43%	35%	36%	37%	43%	37%			
<u>Jones</u>	449 60%	55	122 62%	152 63%	77 59%	22 58%	71 54%	94 61%	66% 28	22 65%	55 57%	106 63%	46 62%	182 63%	68 57%	180 59%			
Just like Smith	193	53	41	56	41	13	41	35	6	9	32	36	20	73	38	75			
	26%	32%	21%	23%	31%	33%	31%	23%	13%	25%	34%	22%	27%	25 %	32%	25%			
Somewhat like Smith	98	22	32	30	13	3	19	23	9	3	9	23	6	36	13	42			
	13%	13%	16%	12%	10%	9%	14%	15%	20%	10%	10%	14%	8%	12%	11%	14%			
Somewhat like Jones	217	47	57	72	40	11	35	48	9	23%	32	49	23	85	30	89			
	29%	28%	29%	30%	30%	30%	27%	31%	22%	8	33%	29%	31%	29%	25%	30%			
Just like Jones	233	47	6 5	80	37	1 1	36	46	19	14	23	58	23	97	39	70			
	31%	28%	33%	33%	29%	28%	27%	30%	44%	42%	24%	34%	31%	33%	32%	30%			
No opinion	6 1%	_	1 1%	4 2%	_		_	1 1%	_	_		3% 3%	2 2%	_	_	6 2%			



Smith feels that Reagan should not visit the cemetery because some Nazi SS soldiers are buried there.

Jones feels that Reagan should visit the cemetery to show the post-war friendship between the United State and West Germany.

B 4: PARTY ID W/LEAN, PARTY REGISTRATION, SAW/HEARD SPEECH ON BUDGET, SPEECH IMPRESSIONS

		DART	/ TD 11	// EAN /	DARTY I	PENTETE	AT7MN	REG:	SAW/HE	EARD B	JDGET S	SPEECH	IMPRE	ESSION	THE	RMOME	TER
			TU W			REGISTF	CHEERER (WIION	DEM/ IND+				NO/ HEARD		EECH	ÇOP	DEM	+
	TOTAL	REP	IND	DEM	REP	DEM	IND	ID: LN	YES/		/READ			UNFAV	DEM	GOP	EQUAL
BASE=TOTAL SAMPLE	746	278	138	331	209	301	59	0m 42	95	159	84	408	162	158	305	291	150
Smith_	100% 291	100%	100% 53	174	100% 57	100%	26	100%	100% 38	100% 73	100% 29	100%	30	100%	61	100%	60
Jones	39% 449	23%	38%	53%	27% 153	48% 155	45% 32	21%	40% 56	46% 83	34% 56	37% 255	19% 131	64% 54	20%	59% 117	40% 88
<u> </u>	60%	76%	60%	47%	73%	51%	55%	777.)	59%	52%	66%	62%	80%	34%	80%	40%	59%
Just like Smith	193 26%	36 13%	26 19%	131 40%	31 15%	113 37%	14 23%	6 15%	31 33%	50 31%	17 20%	95 23%	20 12%	72 46%	37 12%	126 43%	31 20%
Somewhat like Smith	98 13%	28 10%	27 20%	43 13%	26 12%	32 11%	13 22%	3 6%	6 6%	23 14%	12 14%	57 14%	10 6%	29 18%	2 4 8%	45 15%	29 20%
Somewhat like Jones	217 29%	94 34%	37 27%	85 26%	65 31%	81 27%	21 35%	13 30%	26 27%	47 30%	20 24%	124 30%	59 36%	29 18%	111 36%	58 20%	47 32%
Just like Jones	23 3 31%	117 42%	46 33%	70 21%	88 42%	73 24%	12	20 47%	31 32%	35 22%	36 42%	131 32%	71 44%	25 16%	132 43%	59 20%	41 27%
No opinion	6 1%	2	2% 2%	1 *	-	2 1%	_	1 2%	1 1%	3 2%		1 **	2 1%	3 2%	1 *	3 1%	2 1%

Smith feels that Reagan should not visit the cemetery because some Nazi SS soldiers are buried there.

Jones feels that Reagan should visit the cemetery to show the post-war friendship between the United State and West Germany. PANEL

B 5: Number 1 problem

#1 PROBLEM

			#I FRUDE	.C/1 ========	
	TOTAL /	POCKTBK	FOREIGN POLICY	SOCIAL PROBLEMS	OTHER
BASE=TOTAL SAMPLE	746	300	150	169	62
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
<u>Smith</u>	291	109	68	73	33%
	39% 🗸	37%	45%	43%	20
Jones	449	189	81	96	39
	60% √	63%	54%	57%	63%
Just like Smith	193	64	51	48	15
	26%	21%	34%	28%	25%
Somewhat like Smith	98	46	17	25	5
	13%	15%	12%	15%	8%
Somewhat like Jones	217	92	27	53	19
	29%	31%	20%	31%	31%
Just like Jones	233	96	52	43	20
	31%	32%	34%	25%	32%
No opinion	6 1%	2 1%	1 1%	<u>-</u>	3 5%

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Decision/Making/Information

Smith feels that Reagan should not visit the cemetery because some Nazi SS soldiers are buried there.

Jones feels that Reagan should visit the cemetery to show the post-war friendship between the United State and West Germany. PANEL

			-VISI	
		NO		
		VISIT		-EF
BASE=TOTAL SAMPLE				
	100%	100%	100%	100%
<u>Smith</u>		209 60%		
Jones		140 40%		
Just like Smith	193 26%	145 41%		_
Somewhat like Smith		64 18%		
Somewhat like Jones		78 22%		
Just like Jones		63 18%		
No opinion		1 #		

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 02, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE FRED J. ECKERT

SUBJECT: ENCLOSES LETTER FROM JOSEPH A. KEEGAN REGARDING THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO GERMANY

		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACT DATE CODE YY/MM/DI		/
M. B. OGLESBY REFERPAL NOTE:	ORG 85/05/02	NO A 870508	AB
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REFERRAL NOTE:			
ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA MAIL USER CODES: (A)			

REFEP QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75,0FOB) 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 Fred:

Thank you for sharing with us your constituent's views concerning the President's State Visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. We fully understand the depth of your constituent's 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 your constituent agrees 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 Fred J. Eckert House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

#303617

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

ROOM 427

CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

202-225-3615

DISTRICT OFFICES:

ROOM 311 FEDERAL BUILDING

100 STATE STREET

ROCHESTER, NY 14614

716-263-3155 216 MAIN STREET

BATAVIA, NY 14020 716-344-2407

-FRED J. ECKERT 30TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

TASK FORCE ON **FOREIGN POLICY**



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

30 April 1985

Mr. Max L. Friedersdorf Assistant to the President The White House Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Max:

A constituent has made a suggestion for the President's visit to Germany which merits consideration.

I am bringing it to your attention for that purpose.

My best regards.

Cordially,

Fred J. Eckert Member of Congress

E/nb

957 Highland Avenue Rochester, New York 14620 15 April 1985

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Please forgive this gratuitous suggestion. It may have some value.

The reaction to your announced trip to Germany and a visit to "that cemetery" is regrettable. Perhaps the original choice of itinerary was dubious as well, but that's another matter.

Response from The White House up to the moment suggests you have lost the initiative in a very delicate area.

My suggestion is to make the point that the visit to the cemetery is not to "honor" those dead, but to mourn them.

Real and symbolic mourning does not imply honoring the subject. In this case, the gesture would relate to the entire tragic consequences for all the parties. The rationale goes along these lines -- I'm sure your staff can weave the ideas into a more suitable mode.

It is very "American" for us to be active and respectful about our own values and to offer them to all men everywhere. Even to fallen enemies.

Offering those values has been the character of our relations with West Germany ever since VE-Day. The Marshall Plan. The Air Lift. EEC. Assistance in military and economic matters. I'm sure there are fuller and better illustrations.

Pause.

Imagine what the world would be today if that kind of partnership had begun in 1919 instead of 1945.

This cemetery and many, many others would not exist. The travesties and horrors that were visited on all the parties would not have occurred. The cemeteries; the camps; the ovens; indeed -- even the veterans hospitals and all those ramifications need never have occurred in the light of these forty years of enlightened cooperation.

That those things occurred is something to mourn. Nothing to do with "honoring" anybody or anything.

To take this position brings other benefits:

It is respectful to the Germans who can only regret that history as well. It does not criticize.

It is meaningful to the Russians in that it says we deplore what happened -- even though we were powerful enough to win the struggle -- and to save them in the bargain.

It says to anyone that defense of our values makes us strong enough to prevail against any threat. And at the same time, it says that our values inherently are strong enough to restore and inspire those who were defeated.

And, it seems to me, the position disarms those in this country who would make capital of your gesture as it is framed today.

We know who we are and we have proven what we can do.

We invite all people to share in these values -- with full independence and integrity.

We mourn those who did not and may not believe this.

Mourn.

I apologize for the somewhat melodramatic phrasing of this idea. Time is short. From the Sunday news coverage (14 April), the choices seem to be to call off the visit which would be awkward, to proceed as planned and take the considerable lumps, or try a revision of the nature I'm suggesting.

I won't belabor the point: It flies or it doesn't. Seems to me that it is very hard to disarm those who are linking your gesture with a forgiveness for Malmedy unless you can regain the initiative.

Respectfully.

Joseph A. Keegan

cc: Honorable Fred J. Eckert
Honorable Frank Horton
Honorable Daniel P. Moynihan
Mr. Larry M. Speakes

Gentlemen:

Recognizing the difficulty in gaining the President's attention, perhaps your offices and contacts may expedite the receipt of this suggestion.

Da Kerge

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 303625
TR 123-01

INCOMING

85 MAY 6 P5: 25

DATE RECFIVED: MAY 02, 1985

NAMF OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. JANKLOW

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO CANCEL PLANNED VISIT

TO BITBURG CEMETERY

		ACTION		DI	N	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF)			DATE YY/MM/DD			
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*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET					DATE OF	*
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC			*		OUTGOING	
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*S-FOR-SIGNATURE	*		*			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY	*		*			*
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RFFER QUESTIONS AND POUTING 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 PECORDS MANAGEMENT.

S ...



William J. Janklow
GOVERNOR

April 29, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

Your road to Bitburg Cemetery, like the proverbial road to Hell, was paved with good intentions. You have the power to show our world the road less traveled by.

Your visit was intended to be an act of friendship to Helmut Kohl. Yet, the Chancellor is now shrouded in a gathering storm that threatens to cloud his courageous accomplishments for the German people. You have the power to release him from his anguish.

Your trip was intended to celebrate 40 years of peace and the spread of democracy. Yet, the Second World War was in itself a great battle in the eternal war between good and evil, between liberty and despotism. You have the power to affirm that that war shall never end.

Your journey was intended to showcase your commitment to human freedom. Yet, by summoning the very real ghosts of massacres, tortures, and exterminations, this caustic controversy endangers our hopes of bringing freedom to still-oppressed peoples around the world. You have the power to lead your nation into that battle.

As our President, you have temendous powers. Historians will record that your greatest power was not telling America where to go, but showing America—and the world—where to go. Now, as you stand alone upon the world's stage, you have the opportunity for the rarest act of power and courage.

The Honorable Ronald Reagan Page 2 April 29, 1985

Affirm you good intentions, because they were good indeed. Recognize the bitter legacy of the deepening maelstrom of your visit, because it is a bitter harvest indeed. And then please show us again that the world's most powerful man holds the world's most powerful job. Please cancel your planned visit to Bitburg Cemetery, thus telling a world hungry for moral leadership that yes, indeed, in his heart of hearts, Ronald Wilson Reagan knows the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

THE WHITE HOUSE COPRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE PECEIVED: MAY 02, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE DEAN G. SKELOS

SUBJECT: OBJECTS TO THE PRESIDENT'S PLANNED VISIT TO THE BITBURG CEMETERY

		ACTION		DISPOSITION		
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)			DATE YY/MM/DD			
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE (ROOM 75,0EOB) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.

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Al

#303629



DEAN G. SKELOS
9TH DISTRICT
CHAIRMAN
AGING COMMITTEE

THE SENATE STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY 12247

RM. 903 LOB ALBANY, N. Y. 12247 (518) 455-3171 DISTRICT OFFICE 55 FRONT STREET ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N. Y. 11570 (516) 766-8383

April 25, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

Like many of my fellow citizens, I am writing to formally protest your intended visit to Bitburg Cemetery while you are in Germany next month.

I share with them the bitterness felt by families who lost their sons or brothers to the Nazi war machine; the pain of those whose homelands vanished forever after the Nazi conquest; and the horror of those who survived the Holocaust.

Also, I write you on behalf of a constituency which lives trapped behind the Iron Curtain -- the silenced minority who are Soviet Jews! For these people, Mr. President, the Holocaust is more than a memory. For these people it is the future they expect to perish in, should the United States weaken its moral resolve.

I was in the Soviet Union last August and felt, even there, the excitement of your re-election campaign. Visiting with Soviet Jews trapped in Leningrad and Moscow, I was told again and again that your policies of military strength and diplomatic pressure combined successfully to block Soviet intentions to destroy the already persecuted Jewish minority.

These people are convinced that a Soviet-made Holocaust is in the making and they asked us, as free men, to support your re-election as their best hope for their survival. Despite their oppression, Soviet Jews are a hopeful people and they pin their hopes on you, Mr. President.

The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan April 25, 1985
Page two

Last October, you honored my Senatorial District with your historic visit to Temple Hillel, in Valley Stream. I was in attendance that day and was overjoyed to think of the message of hope which your visit would send to the Jewish friends I had made in the Soviet Union.

On their behalf, I ask you to reconsider and to cancel your visit to Bitburg. Do this for the living, Mr. President, for those who could only understand your visiting Bitburg as a message of desolation.

Sincerely,

Dean G. Skelos

Senator - 9th Senatorial District

DGS/jhm

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THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 02, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. BARNETT ZUMOFF

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO CANCEL THE BITBURG

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		ACTION		DISPOSITION		
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF	NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE	C COMPL D YY/MM	
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*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NE			*		OUTGOING	
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*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY	*		*			*
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL PEFERENCE (ROOM 75,0EOB) EXT. 2590

KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT.



THE WORKMEN'S CIRCLE

45 East 33rd Street, New York 10016 Telephone: 889-6800

April 30, 1985

President Ronald Reagan The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. President:

By now you are well aware of the universal outrage and protests by all segments of American society about your plans to honor the dead German soldiers, including SS members, at the Bitburg military cemetery. Despite the outcry, you have insisted on carrying out the plans, apparently because of misguided notions about saving political face for both you and Chancellor Kohl. At the same time you have insisted that you understand and are sensitive to the outraged and horrified feelings of the Holocaust survivors and the American veterans about your plans.

Now, however, you have publicly stated that your cemetery visit is "morally right". This statement makes a very bad situation infinitely worse. To call an offensive and disgraceful action that is unjustifiable "morally right" is to finally confirm our worst feelings about your lack of true sensitivity to the issues involved.

Mr. President, even the political purpose you hoped to serve has now been irrevocably compromised and lost. It is abundantly clear to all the world that the American people, including both houses of the Congress, are overwhelmingly opposed to the planned cemetery visit. If you go there, you are representing only yourself, not the American people. The furor before the visit, and the ugly scene of demonstrations you can expect at the cemetery, have made any such visit counterproductive to its original purpose of German-American reconciliation and therefore doubly unjustifiable.

In the name of decency, and even of your own self interest in preserving the political creditability of your administration, I and the 50,000 members of the Workmen's Circle, urge you to cancel the Bitburg visit and substitute a visit to honor the grave of a distinguished anti-Nazi German such as Konrad Adenauer.

Sincerely yours,

Barnett Zumoff

President

BZ:sjr opeiu-153