

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

WHORM Subject File Code: TR123-01
(Trips: Economic Summit, Bonn, 05/03/1985-05/04/1985;
Bonn, West Germany, 04/30/1985-05/06/1985)
Case file Number(s): 303640-303729
Box Number: 3

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories>

Contact a reference archivist at: **reagan.library@nara.gov**

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. HUGHES

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES LETTER FROM REVEREND JOHN M. TAYLOR
EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE PRESIDENT'S
UPCOMING VISIT TO THE BITBURG CEMETERY

ACTION DISPOSITION

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

M. B. OGLESBY ORG 85/05/03 *MLD* 1850508 **AB**

REFERRAL NOTE: _____

REFERRAL NOTF: _____

REFERRAL NOTE: _____

REFERRAL NOTE: _____

REFERRAL NOTE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230 _____

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

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

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear John:

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 John J. Duncan
~~Member of Representatives~~

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

WILLIAM J. HUGHES
2ND DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME

COMMITTEE ON MERCHANT
MARINE AND FISHERIES

SELECT COMMITTEE ON AGING

SELECT COMMITTEE ON
NARCOTICS ABUSE AND CONTROL

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

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

341 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6572

DISTRICT OFFICES:

2307 NEW ROAD
NORTHFIELD, NEW JERSEY 08225
(609) 645-7957

151 NORTH BROADWAY
P.O. BOX 248
PENNSVILLE, NEW JERSEY 08070
(609) 678-3333

April 30, 1985

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

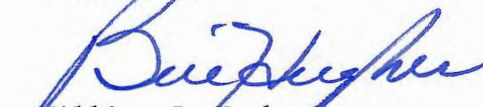
Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I received from a constituent of mine, Reverend John M. Taylor, expressing his opposition to your upcoming visit to the Bitburg cemetery. I hope you will take Reverend Taylor's comments into consideration and respectfully request that you respond to his letter.

Thank you in advance for your timely response.

With kind personal regards.

Sincerely,



William J. Hughes
Member of Congress

WJH:emp
Enclosure

APR 22 1985

INTER-FAITH AREA CLERGY OF ATLANTIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

"UNITED WE STAND"

P.O. BOX 1402 · ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08404

April 17, 1985

Congressman William J. Hughes
2307 New Road
Northfield, N.J. 08225

APR 19 1985

Dear Congressman Hughes,

I am writing to you in the hope that you would convey a message for me to President Reagan: I strongly believe that the President, in his forthcoming trip to Germany, should reconsider his planned trip to the Bitburg cemetery.

At work today, our men were talking of the President's desire to celebrate the forty years of armistice which exists between Germany and America. It is a modern marvel, possibly the longest period of cessation of warfare in modern times on European soil!

One of our men seemed to think that the trip to the Bitburg cemetery was a helpful gesture of goodwill on America's part. He commented that probably no German war cemetery would be without the presence of graves of the SS troops. Besides he commented, that's forty years ago and soldiers of totalitarian nations either followed orders or were shot.

This last comment disturbed me all day and was with me as I attended dinner and special commemorative 40th anniversary service of the holocaust here in Ventnor at Beth Judah Synagogue this evening. When I came home, I searched through my library to see if amidst writings on the holocaust, I could find a definitive word for the President, as well as a word of correction for my business associate. I believe I have found just such a word.

One of the great writings on the holocaust is the memoirs of French Pastor Aime Bonifas who was himself incarcerated by the Nazi, beginning Pentecost, June 13, 1943. Pastor Bonifas, who at the time of his capture was only a divinity student seeking to flee to Algeria via Spain, relates in his memoirs his imprisonment in such notorious camps as Buchenwald, Laura, Mackenrode and Osterhagen. Not only is this writing a telling of a hell of inexpressible suffering, as are other such writings, it is a marvelous demonstration—in the words of Pastor Marc Boegner of the French Academy—"that in the midst of the worst trials of the spirit and of the flesh, a man, servant of Jesus Christ, can manifest, in the liberty which his Lord gives him and in which He sustains him, the sovereign beauty of life, received as a gift from God, and preserved by His grace alone from the powers of death which conspire to destroy him."

In Pastor Bonifas's Epilogue, I rediscovered in my re-reading this evening words I believe which are relevant in considering the honoring of the German war dead. Writes Pastor Bonifas, "We were not enriched by our ordeal, but, as a result of our experience, we perceive more clearly what we should cultivate and defend. This lesson is for everybody, for the Nazis perpetrated their crimes against humanity. It would be necessary to delve deep into history, into periods of dark barbarity, to discover a comparable refinement of the art of exterminating human beings. The Nazis

INTER-FAITH AREA CLERGY OF ATLANTIC COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

"UNITED WE STAND"
P.O. BOX 1402 · ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY 08404

Page 2

Congressman William J. Hughes
April 17, 1985

made extermination a political goal and derived pleasure from watching their victims suffer. The responsibility of the German people is most disconcerting. Did not the civilians whom we met know? The representatives of large corporations, who exploited us as slaves, often sniggered when the SS bludgeoned us. Oh, the unfathomable evasions of the German soul. It frightens me that among those who seemed shocked that such incidents took place in their country, a majority brought Hitler to power, desired his victory, and would have covered up the crimes perpetrated to ensure a thousand-year domination by the master race. If Hitler is renounced today, he is renounced because he was defeated. Depraved individuals are to be found everywhere. Of course, I understand the economic, political, and social causes which explain the rise of Nazism in Germany, but how could Nazism find thousands and thousands of men for a police force of blindly criminal character. Indeed, I have never encountered a single member of the SS who was not a criminal. I do not know what accounts these criminals will be required to settle with God, but I believe that, in terms of human justice, it would be criminal negligence some day to exonerate these culprits as if nothing had ever happened."

Congressman Hughes these remarks I have quoted are contained in a writing that surprisingly contains so much that is positive amidst unspeakable horror. Writes Pastor Bonifas, "We do not want vengeance; we want justice and a measure of decency. And most of all we want never again to witness what has been. We do not seek vengeance against the German people, but we seek to help them cast out their demons, of which militarism is one of the most tenacious. We conquered the Nazis militarily, but did we conquer Nazism? Nazism is absolute evil, the power of demons who sleep in the hearts of all human beings ('I cannot emphasize strongly enough that frightful evidence demonstrated to us that man is a wolf to man, that he is naturally not altruistic but egotistic and that all of us are guilty') and who wait only to discover receptive spirits over which to cast their spell. Henceforth we must not tolerate disrespect for any person anywhere; we must not permit anyone to be hungry, to be brutalized by the police, to be committed to a degrading penitentiary, to become only a number in the blind cogs of economic interests. Nor can we permit racist propaganda to be freely disseminated. Furthermore, we must work passionately for peace, because peace is never definitively achieved. Each individual can work wherever he finds himself; he can work as he reestablishes a sense of belonging, as he cultivates through dialogue his relationship with others, as he ensures that no system, ideologies or myths will ever destroy this relationship. To this end we must educate our youth. Thus perhaps we shall spare our children the horror of the concentration camps. At least we shall-indeed, we must-spare them from becoming hangmen, even if we cannot save them from becoming martyrs."

Thank you Congressman Hughes for passing this on to the President or to whoever in his staff may find this helpful.

Warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,



The Rev. John M. Taylor, Member and a
past chairman INTERFAITH AREA CLERGY

NEON

ID# 303645

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

MAY 06 1985

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE BERYL E. ROTHSCHILD

SUBJECT: OBJECTS TO THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO MILITARY
CEMETERY IN BITBURG, GERMANY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
RONALD ALVARADO	ORG	85/05/03		C 85/05/06
<i>Chigg</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____	A	85/05/07	NAN	C 85/06/05
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				

COMMENTS: _____


ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2500 _____

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

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

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Anne -
Special drafts?




HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
CENTER

In the beginning...

The Holocaust Memorial Center is the fulfillment of a dream shared by Founder and Director Rabbi Charles Rosenzweig and his fellow members of Shaarit Haplaytah (Survivors of the Holocaust). It was first proposed twenty years before its completion. Through two decades of planning, community support grew. The historic nature of this project and our mutual obligation to remember and learn from the Holocaust were recognized by the Jewish Welfare Federation, United Jewish Charities and hundreds of Jewish and non-Jewish community leaders. They joined the Shaarit Haplaytah in making this dream a reality.

Ground was broken for the Holocaust Memorial Center on the grounds of the Jewish Community Campus, Maple and Drake Roads, West Bloomfield on December 6, 1981. Almost three years later, in September 1984, the Holocaust Memorial Center, the first institution of its kind outside of Israel, was dedicated.

Objectives

The word "holocaust" is derived from a Greek translation of a section of Genesis and means "total burning". The Holocaust has come to refer to the murder of six million Jews and the destruction of 4,500 European Jewish communities at the hands of the Nazis and their allies from 1933 to 1945.

This Center not only documents the horror of that period of modern history and the events leading up to it, but highlights the rich culture and history of a people, developed over 2,000 years, that was lost.

It is our hope that from this experience, and from the ongoing study of the period of the Holocaust available at this Center, we create a legacy for present and future generations to use as a guide for human behavior in maintaining an open, free society.

ENTRANCE HALL

The diorama in the entrance hall appears to show 20th Century European Jews streaming into waiting trains and certain death. But those figures represent all of the Jews who have been persecuted and driven out of their homes for 2,000 years, culminating in the marches to the trains.

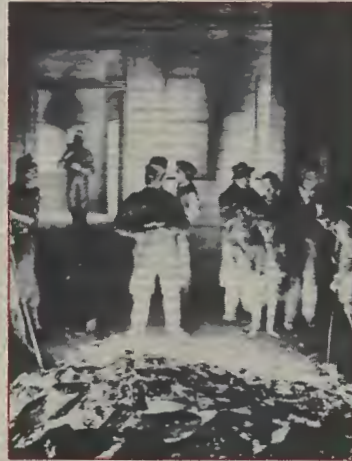
The poignant photo of clasped hands establishes a tone of renewal to which the Center is committed; a renewal of hope, love and cooperation in rebuilding a lost culture. We each clasp the hand of the survivor, identifiable by the tattoo, in a promise to "never forget".



SURVIVAL

Jewish history is synonymous with survival. This wall depicts this history from earliest times to the Europe of the 1920's. Since the dispersion from Israel in 70 C.E., Jews have settled in and been expelled from almost every European country throughout the centuries. Wherever they went, they carried with them their beliefs, their ethics and their traditions, symbolized throughout the Holocaust Memorial Center by the menorah, the candelabra first pictured in the relief from the Arch of Titus.

By the 19th Century, many Jews found refuge in Germany and became assimilated into the country of the Enlightenment. They participated in every aspect of German culture, making major contributions to literature, science and the arts.



THE GATHERING STORM

The defeat of Germany in World War I threw the country into turmoil. Uncontrolled inflation was followed by depression in the 1920's, and an anxious, unemployed, bewildered and embittered people searched for explanations and solutions to their problems. Hitler began his rise to power, and the ugliness of anti-Semitism reasserted itself as the Nazis offered the Germans a scapegoat for their woes. These panels chronicle the history of Hitler's rise to power.



HALL OF CULTURE

The diorama of a Nazi book burning introduces you to the Hall of Culture. Here, in stark juxtaposition, stands the moral, humane, 2,000 year old culture of the "people of the book" and the Nazi cult of racism, hatred and death. Hitler's laws gradually removed Germany's Jews from their society and culture. The Nuremberg laws were the turning point. Without this knowledge of the Jewish culture that existed before, one cannot begin to comprehend the magnitude of the Holocaust. With the outbreak of World War II, the unbelievable begins to happen.

THE UNBELIEVABLE...

You are about to enter a world of war, slavery, degradation, starvation, disease and mass murder. From 1939 to 1945, the Nazis, their allies and collaborators murdered six million Jews. Hundreds of concentration camps were built to hold potential and real enemies of the Third Reich. Many were slave labor camps. Six were expressly for the purpose of killing Jews. The first camps were in Germany. The six death camps were in Poland, with Auschwitz the primary factory of destruction.

The recreation of Auschwitz, and the rare documentary films included in this section, testify to the insane, technological assembly-line mass murders that were the horror of the Holocaust.



MEMORIAL FLAME

This flame burns for the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust. It is reflected in the panel behind it which lists the camps where these people died. Next to the flame, an exhibit lists the names of most of the European Jewish communities destroyed in the Holocaust.

The flame symbolizes an entire culture that was consumed by flame and the hope for the future informed by a knowledge of the past.



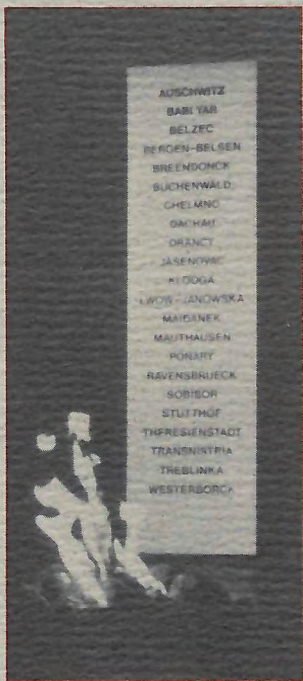
THE END IS NEAR

As the Nazis realized they were losing the war, symbolized by the diorama of the bombing of Berlin, they hurried to hide their crimes. Concentration camp prisoners were forced into death marches. More mass murders were carried out.

The films you are about to see here defy description. These are the scenes that greeted Allied troops when they liberated the camps. The British unit at Bergen-Belsen was sent to a sanitarium after one week here. This is what apathy, racism, and bureaucratic insensitivity allowed to happen.

RIGHTEOUS GENTILES

Here are the models for us and future generations: some of the few who are known to have helped save Jewish lives. There were many others whose names are not known. They are honored in the Garden of the Righteous in the courtyard at the entrance of the Holocaust Memorial Center.



VIDEO THEATER

In this intimate theater, you will hear the testimonies of Holocaust survivors. They tell their stories on videotape, accompanied by historic photographs illustrating their experiences. The Holocaust Memorial Center continues to collect these video testimonies as part of its archives to preserve this history for generations to come.

WARSAW GHETTO

This simulation of a portion of the Warsaw Ghetto wall symbolizes the Jewish resistance to the Nazis. The exhibit houses the history of Warsaw and the Ghetto through its final uprising. Jews were brought to major urban centers and forced to live in walled off areas under inhumane conditions: overcrowding, poverty, starvation. Warsaw was the site of the first of these compounds...and the first Jewish resistance.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

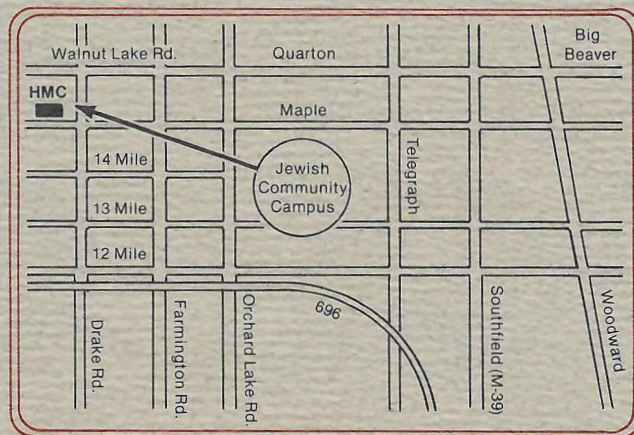
The Morris and Emma Schaver Library and Archives are the heart of the Center as a resource for the study of pre-War European Jewish history and culture, the Holocaust and related issues, and Jewish genealogy. Along with an extensive collection of rare books and documents, the library and archives include a video study center, an advanced computer center, and a conference center where scholars from all over the world can meet in educational symposia.

TODAY WE MAKE TOMORROW

This video statement reminds us that in witnessing the worst of human history, we should not lose sight of the fact that men perpetrated the Holocaust. These were men and women who lost any sense of a shared humanity, who abandoned their moral responsibilities and chose to ignore the consequences of their behavior.

More importantly, it places the Holocaust in historic and moral perspective. It warns us that we must be strong, vigilant and alert to protect our open, free society. We must embrace the humanity and courage of the righteous few as the standard for the many.

That is the meaning of this building, of the books and videotapes housed here, and the reason for your being here.



For information on the HMC, donations or membership applications, contact the Holocaust Memorial Center.

Rabbi Charles Rosenzweig, Director

Founded by: Shaarit Haplaytah

Exhibits designed by: James Gardner, London, England

On-site design associate: Deby Lebow, Southfield, Michigan

Hours: Sunday-Thursday — 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
 Wednesday — 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER

6602 West Maple Road
West Bloomfield, Michigan 48033
(313) 661-0840

#303645

37
Ron Alvarado

University Heights

The City of Beautiful Homes



Mayor
Beryl E. Rothschild

Council
Jeffrey H. Friedman, Vice Mayor
Leonard Davis
William T. Doyle
M. David Fredman
Lawrence Friedman
Alan Rutsky
Adele Zucker

Clerk of Council
Jeune McCormick

Director of Finance
Margaret O. Patrick

Safety-Service Director
Marshall J. Wien

Community Coordinator
Walter Stinson

April 24, 1985


The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
1700 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Dear President Reagan:

Last weekend I went to Detroit, Michigan to view the traveling exhibit of the "Precious Legacy" which is now being displayed at the Detroit Museum of Art. In addition, I had an opportunity to visit the Holocaust Memorial Center in West Bloomfield, a suburb of Detroit. It might be advisable for your advisors who are responsible for the colossal blunder regarding the German cemetery you will visit to fly to Detroit, Michigan and spend four hours of learning why there was such an uproar over your controversial stops in Germany. Even if you should continue with the visit to the German cemetery selected, you would at least be versed in the ways and wherefores of this emotional impact. Nobody who is informed about what the Germans did to people in World War II can ever forgive the Nazis or the SS, nor should they. The World War II veterans of this country certainly understand this and so should you, Mr. President. "Evil people even at the gates of hell do not change their ways." (Talmud-Tractate Eiruvim p.19a).

As a Republican Mayor of a community, I am highly embarrassed by what has happened with this issue. I'm afraid that you had better advisors during your first four years in office than you appear to have now. More care should be taken with these kinds of issues. One that comes to mind at this moment is regarding Japanese-Americans. The rhetoric coming out of Washington regarding the trade balance with Japan is making these U.S. citizens uneasy since they remember very well what happened to them during World War II. Another group that is concerned about injustice is the Armenian-Americans who also recall the genocide of their people at the hands of the Turks. Those who forget the lessons of history are bound to repeat the same mistakes, and that is what this uproar is all about. Insensitivity is inexcusable and unforgivable. This is just a reminder to you, Mr. President, that you personally should be on top of these things so they simply won't happen.

On another note - your wife, Nancy, is doing a fine job with attempting to educate the nation about drug abuse.

Sincerely,

Mayor Beryl E. Rothschild

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: BRIG. GENERAL B. R. LUCZAK RET.

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE
CEMETERY IN BITBURG, GERMANY

file
TR 123-01

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	85/05/03		C 85/05/06 ²
REFERRAL NOTE: PL PLWHIT	A	85/05/06		C 85/05/07 ¹²
REFERRAL NOTE: CO HIGG	A	85/05/08	NAN	C 85/06/12 AB
REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Anne Huggins</i>				
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: ¹² *not DOD*

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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

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

31

#313646



Brig. Gen. J. R. Luczak, USA (Ret)
1101 Community Drive
San Diego, California 92128

mil. office

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

April 20, 1985

Dear Mr. President.

As a veteran of WW II (from Omaha Beach to Passau), I applaud your effort to continue to "heal the wounds" by visiting a German cemetery. Your stated reasons for not planning to visit a concentration camp site, seem to me to be logical and correct.

It is disturbing to witness the "accommodation" being made to pressure by changing your plans. I consider the pressure has been orchestrated by a highly vocal minority led by the liberal elements of the press and the powerful Jewish Lobby.

Respectfully yours.

J.R. Luczak

ID# 303647

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MAJOR GENERAL R. M. CRAM RET.

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE
CEMETERY IN BITBURG, GERMANY

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	85/05/03		C 85/05/06
-------------------	-----	----------	--	------------

REFERRAL NOTE:

~~COPIED~~ ✓ PL Whit

A 85/05/06

C 85/05/07 ^{VZ}

REFERRAL NOTE:

~~COPIED~~ Anne Heggeni

VZ A 85/05/09

P2A A 85/06/14 ^{AL}

REFERRAL NOTE:

REFERRAL NOTE:

REFERRAL NOTE:

COMMENTS: ^{VZ} not DoD

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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

REFERRAL 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.

PNON

BITBURG 5 var.

RR / DE / AM

June 14, 1985

Dear General Cram:

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 nation.

Your comments confirm that 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

Major General R. M. Cram, Ret.
936 South Prospect Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401

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

850614

Vermonters Voice Criticism Of Reagan's Cemetery Trip

PRESERVATION COPY

The Associated Press

Several Vermonters, including former Gov. Richard Snelling and Jewish leaders, say President Reagan should cancel his scheduled trip to gravesites of German SS troops.

"It's a very bad idea," Snelling said. "Millions of us who went overseas during World War II know the difference between forgiving a nation, which I think we ought to do, and zeroing in on SS troops, whether they are dead or alive."

Rabbi Max Wall of Burlington said he does not understand why Reagan has stuck to his original plans. "It's as if he were far removed from the reality of human feelings. It's as if he were saying that the SS soldiers were the same victims as the people slaughtered in the SS concentration camps," Wall said.

Bruce Chalmer, spiritual leader of Beth Jacob Synagogue in Montpelier, said the president's understanding of the situation is "shallow at best."

A spokesman for veterans said he was upset, too.

"He's off his rocker," said Tom McTigue, commander of the Barre Veterans of Foreign Wars post. "He's so completely wrong that I can't

understand how he could be that bad. He shouldn't be anywhere near there."

Reagan and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl plan to visit the Bitburg Cemetery during the president's May 1-6 trip.

THE BURLINGTON FREE PRESS
APR. 22, 1985



mil. office

936 South Prospect Street
Burlington, Vermont 05401
April 22, 1985

Dear Mr. President,

I am sorry that you are getting so much flak over your proposed visit to the Bitburg cemetery. Your motives seem to me to be laudable: the recognition of the value of the West Germans as allies for about thirty years, the promotion of continued good German-American relationships, and the enhancement of the long, slow healing process.

Immediately after Pearl Harbor my squadron was assigned to anti-submarine patrol, flying obsolete aircraft. I shall never forget the burning tankers, the dead seamen floating below, nor the burned survivors who made it ashore,

and many of my friends were later killed by the Germans in Europe, including my former college roommate. But while assigned to SHAPE in 1955-1957 I met several German officers, found them to be true professionals and gentlemen, and that they, too, hated the SS. The healing process began for me during that tour.

As for the incredible horror of the concentration camps, Americans of our generation will never forget them, but they were a product of the NAZI regime. They should not, however, becloud our efforts to work in harmony with our German allies of today.

Respectfully,

Reginald H. Cram

To: Kathleen C.
AHL 387
cc: Alvarado

JWF 850530.7 STONE
AHL-387

ID# 303649

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

MAY 06 1985

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROBERT RADE STONE

SUBJECT: OBJECTS TO THE PRESIDENT'S PLANNED VISIT TO
THE CEMETERY AT BITBURG, WEST GERMANY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
RONALD ALVARADO	ORG	85/05/03		C 85 105 106 TR
✓ Kohigq REFERRAL NOTE: _____	A	85/05/07	TR AHL 85 06 04	TR
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:M INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2600 _____

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

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

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 4, 1985

Dear Mr. Stone:

On behalf of President Reagan, I wish to acknowledge receipt of the resolution adopted by the Pittsburgh City Council regarding the President's decision to visit the military cemetery at Bitburg, West Germany.

Your sending of this statement is appreciated, and the views contained in it have been communicated to the appropriate Administration officials. I am taking the liberty of enclosing copies of the President's speeches at Bitburg Air Force Base and the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp that you may wish to have available for the record.

With the President's best wishes to you and to the members of the City Council,

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

The Honorable Robert Rade Stone
President
Pittsburgh City Council
Room 510
City-County Building
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

*LETTER PROCESSING INFORMATION

Letter.....: JWF.850530.7
Name.....: The Honorable Robert Rade Stone
Letter Type..: WH
Signature....: AH
ENV/LBL.....: ENV
Number Pages.: 1
Number Copies: 1
Reviewer.....: MLO
Review Date..: 850603
Print Date...: June 4, 1985

Notes:

cc. R. Alvarado
enclosures: Bitburg and Bergen-Belsen remarks

--AVH387--

5/5/85 Remarks of the President at Bitburg and Bergen-Belsen

50 ✓
PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL J MASCIO
RM 510 CITY COUNTY BLDG
PITTSBURGH PA 15219 02AM

C. Human Trip

Western
Union Mailgram



1-0098738122 05/02/85 ICS IPMMTZZ CSP WHSB
4122552142 MGMS TDMT PITTSBURGH PA 158 05-02 0954A EST

#303649

R. Colorado
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN
WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

AT PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL AND PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 1 1985 COUNCIL APPROVED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WHEREAS, THE MEMORY OF AMERICAN LIVES LOST DURING WORLD WAR II STILL CAUSES GREAT SORROW FOR FAMILY AND FRIENDS; AND WHEREAS, THE PEOPLE OF GERMANY FRANCE ENGLAND POLAND AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY EXPERIENCED NATIONAL DEVASTATION BECAUSE OF THE NAZI REGIME; AND WHEREAS, THE HOLOCAUST SUFFERED BY THE JEWISH PEOPLE DURING WORLD WAR II IS THE DARKEST STAIN AGAINST HUMANITY IN THIS CENTURY; AND WHEREAS, THE DEEDS OF THE NAZI REGIME CAN NEVER BE RECONCILED NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF PITTSBURGH PROTEST PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PLANNED VISIT TO THE CEMETERY AT BITBURG WEST GERMANY BECAUSE IN IT ARE THE GRAVES OF NAZI SS OFFICERS WHO TOOK PART IN THESE BRUTAL CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY THIS RESOLUTION WAS PRESENTED BY COUNCILMAN RICHARD E GIVENS, YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS RESOLUTION IS REQUESTED

HONORABLE ROBERT RADE STONE PRESIDENT PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL
RM 510 CITY COUNTY BLDG
PITTSBURGH PA 15219

09:54 EST

MGMCOMP

Western Union
Mails

PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL
NO. 1015
PITTSBURGH PA 15219

REGISTERED MAIL - PITTSBURGH PA 15219-0000
NO. 1015

PRESIDENT RONALD BEARD
CITY OFFICE OF 15219

AT PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL AND PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF MAY 1 1988 COUNCIL APPROVED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WHEREAS THE MEMORY OF AMERICAN LIVES LOST DURING WORLD WAR II STILL CAUSES GREAT PAIN AND FOR THOSE WHO REMAIN IN AMERICA AND THOSE WHO REMAIN IN EUROPE AND POLAND AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY EXPERIENCED NATIONAL DESTRUCTION BECAUSE OF THE NAZI REGIME AND THE HORRORS OF THE HOLOCAUST SUFFERED BY THE JEWISH PEOPLE DURING WORLD WAR II IS THE DARKEST STAIN AGAINST HUMANITY IN THIS CENTURY AND WHEREAS THE GROSS OF THE NAZI REGIME CAN NEVER BE RECONCILED UNTIL IT IS RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF PITTSBURGH PROTEST PRESIDENT BEARD'S PLANNED VISIT TO THE CEMETERY AT PITTSBURGH WEST GERMANY BECAUSE IN IT ARE THE GRAVES OF NAZI SS OFFICERS WHO TOOK PART IN THE HOLOCAUST AND WHOSE DEATHS AGAINST HUMANITY THIS RESOLUTION WAS REQUESTED BY COUNCILMAN RICHARD S GIVENS YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS RESOLUTION IS REQUESTED
HONORABLE ROBERT RAOE STONE PRESIDENT PITTSBURGH CITY COUNCIL
NO. 1015
PITTSBURGH PA 15219

OR DIAL WESTERN UNION'S COMPUTER DIRECTLY
FROM TELEX I 6161 FROM TELEX II (TWX®) 910-420-1212
PITTSBURGH

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ANN H. REST

SUBJECT: FEELS THE PRESIDENT SHOULD NOT PROCFD WITH
PLANS TO VISIT BITBURG CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ROBERT GLEASON	ORG	85/05/03		<u>C 85/05/07</u> ^{VZ}
<i>Lo Higg</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____	<i>VZ</i>	<u>85/05/08</u>	<u>NAN</u>	<u>C 85/06/05</u> ^{AB}
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200 _____

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

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

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

#303652

Ann H. Rest

District 46A
Crystal-New Hope

Committees:

Crime and Family Law
Judiciary
Labor-Management Relations
Minnesota Academic Excellence Foundation
Tax Issues Task Force



Minnesota House of Representatives

Handwritten signature/initials

May 1, 1985

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

On April 24 the Minnesota House of Representatives passed a resolution expressing our sense that you should not proceed with your plans to visit Bitburg cemetery.

I am disappointed that you have not yet reconsidered your decision and again urge you to do so. Keeping to your plans is not a morally correct act. It instead sends a message of intransigence and lack of grace under pressure which is not the will of the American people and is a mockery, however unintentional, of the freedoms we all hold dear.

Please find a way to keep us from feeling ashamed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann H. Rest".

Ann H. Rest
State Representative

AHR:dv



13N/13N

ID# 303656

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. DEAN C. LOMIS

SUBJECT: OBJECTS TO THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE
CEMETERY AT BITBURG, GERMANY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
LINAS KOJELIS	ORG	85/05/03		C 85/05/03
199 DAS REFERRAL NOTE: _____	R	85/05/09		A 85/05/21 TR
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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

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

UNCLASSIFIED
(CLASSIFICATION)

S/S # 8514371

DATE MAY 30 1985

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

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

REFERENCE:

TO: President Reagan FROM: Dr. Dean C. Lomis
DATE: April 30, 1985 SUBJECT: President's trip to Germany


WHITE HOUSE REFERRAL DATED: May 9, 1985 NSC # 303656

THE ATTACHED ITEM WAS SENT DIRECTLY
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION TAKEN:

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

REMARKS:


Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED
(CLASSIFICATION)

85 MAY 30 P11:02

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 21, 1985

Dean C. Lomis, Ph.D.
Chairman
American Hellenic Institute
Public Affairs Committee, Inc.
1730 K Street, Northwest, Suite 319
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Dr. Lomis:

I am replying to your April 30 letter to President Reagan regarding his trip to the Federal Republic of Germany.

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

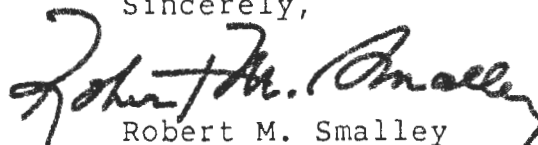
President Reagan strongly believes, as part of our efforts to learn from the experiences of this dark era, we must not reject opportunities for reconciliation. In this spirit, he was asked by Chancellor Kohl, and accepted the invitation, to visit a German military cemetery in Bitburg.

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

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

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

Sincerely,



Robert M. Smalley
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Public Affairs

8514371

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

REFERRAL

MAY 9, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 303656

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 30, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: DR. DEAN C. LOMIS
CHAIRMAN
AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE PUBLIC
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, INC.
SUITE 319
1730 K STREET, NW
WASHINGTON DC 20006

SUBJECT: OBJECTS TO THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE
CEMETERY AT BITBURG, GERMANY

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

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

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

5
L. Lomisa

303656

AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, INC.

1730 K STREET, N.W., SUITE 319/WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006/TEL.: (202) 659-4608/(800) 424-9607

April 30, 1985

8514371

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dr. Dean C. Lomis
Chairman
Wilmington, DE
Dr. Demetrios Politis
Vice Chairman (East)
Ann Arbor, MI
Prof. James Apostolos
Vice Chairman (West)
Los Angeles, CA
Leonidas Delyannis, P.E.
Treasurer
Arlington, VA
Katherine E. Timon, Esq.
Secretary
Long Island City, NY
Eugene T. Rossides
Special Counsel
Washington, D.C.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alexander Christy, Esq., Portland, OR
Dr. Takey Crist, Jacksonville, NC
Gregory Demetrakes, East Providence, RI
Anthony D. Kouzounis, Houston, TX
James N. Lardas, Pittsburgh, PA
Dr. Theodore A. Lyras, Merchantville, NJ/PA
Angelo Tsakopoulos, Sacramento, CA
Ernest J. Vardalas, Chicago, IL
Orestes Varvitsiotis, Brooklyn NY.

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

John Barlas, Saddlebrook, NJ
A. Steve Bezelos, Chicago, IL
Mary Bicouvaris, Newport News, VA
Prof. Evangel J. Bredakis, Lexington, MA
Peter B. Caloyeras, Marina Del Rey, CA
Dr. George P. Carayannis, Honolulu, HI
Evan A. Chriss, Esq., Baltimore, MD
Euripides P. Christulides, Pittsburgh, PA
Dr. Christopher Costis, Chicago, IL
John Daros, Chicago, IL
Gus County, Jr., Toledo, OH
Mary Dinell, Manchester, NH
Anastasius Efstratiades, Esq., Philadelphia, PA
Chris J. Eliopoulos, Esq., Denver, CO
Lucia Fakonos, Esq., Milwaukee, WI
John Galanis, Esq., Elm Grove, WI
Chris Ganos, Milwaukee, WI
Jerry Georges, Brooklyn, NY
Robert J. Harris, Syracuse, NY
Pavlos Kotrotsios, Upper Darby, PA
Dr. James G. Kellis, Fairfield, CT
Dr. George A. Krikos, Denver, CO
Pam Macricosta, Weirton, WV
George Pantas, Hampton, VA
Dr. Theodore G. Pantos, Detroit, MI
Steven N. Pappayliou, Oceanport, NJ
George N. Plastiris, Esq., Little Rock, AR
Fonda Poole, Topsfield, MA
Chris Sevast, Cherry Hill, NJ
Stavros Scourles, New York, NY
Dr. George J. Simitses, Atlanta, GA
Sam Solon, Deluth, MN
Steve S. Stavron, Esq., Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX
Nick J. Yiannias, Dubuque, IA
Nicholas Zonias, Essex Junction, VT

The President
The White House
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I wish to be included in the never-ending list of opponents to your proposed visit to the German cemetery in which troops of the dreaded SS units are buried.

There are millions of survivors of the Nazi atrocities -- victims of the Holocaust, of the Russian extermination and of the European occupation -- who remember vividly the many more millions who suffered and died cruel deaths as innocent victims of a ruthless regime. As German Chancellor Helmut Kohl stated recently, "Germany bears historical responsibility for the crimes of the Nazi tyranny." What he termed "never-ending shame" cannot be erased by the visit of an American President to the graves of the guilty, but by the goodwill and humane actions of the German people themselves, a process that they are carrying out.

I suggest, Mr. President, that rather than visit the Nazi cemetery, you commemorate the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II by sending high government officials to lay wreaths to cemeteries which bear the heroes of all allied nations which, united, won over the tyranny of the Nazis. Mr. President, please reconsider your visit with one to the West Germany's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, a genuine gesture of goodwill to the German people and not to those whose atrocious actions continue to haunt the mind of us all.

Respectfully yours,

Dean C. Lomis

Dean C. Lomis, Ph.D.
Chairman

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MOST REVEREND HOWARD J. HUBBARD

SUBJECT: OBJECTS TO THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE
CEMETERY AT BITBURG, WEST GERMANY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RFSP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ROBERT REILLY	ORG	85/05/03	RR	85/05/13
REFERRAL NOTE: _____	_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
REFERRAL NOTE: _____	_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
REFERRAL NOTE: _____	_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
REFERRAL NOTE: _____	_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
REFERRAL NOTE: _____	_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____

AB

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

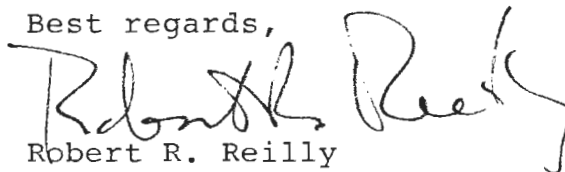
May 13, 1985

Your Excellency:

The President has asked me to respond to your letter of April 28th in which you voice your concerns over his visit to Bitburg. It is most unfortunate that the President's attempt to reinforce the reconciliation which has taken place between the German people and their enemies of World War II should have become so devisive.

In respect to the President's perspective on the Holocaust, I thought you might like to see the remarks he made both at Bitburg and at his visit to Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp.

Best regards,



Robert R. Reilly
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Most Reverend Howard J. Hubbard
Bishop of Albany
465 State Street
P. O. Box 6297
Albany, NY 12206

303666

BISHOP'S OFFICE
465 STATE STREET
P. O. BOX 6297
ALBANY, N. Y. 12206

Bob Kelly

April 28, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

I wish to lend my voice to the countless other Americans who have expressed dismay over your proposed visit to the cemetery at Bitburg, West Germany. On the one hand, I am appreciative that you would take the time to pay your respects at the graves of the deceased as a sign of our ongoing efforts for reconciliation between the two great peoples of West Germany and the United States. On the other hand, I find the cemetery at Bitburg to be a totally inappropriate setting for otherwise admirable intentions.

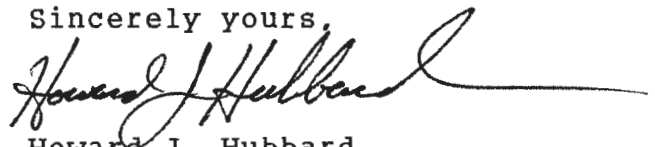
The atrocities of the Holocaust remain etched upon the minds and hearts of our Jewish brothers and sisters and ourselves as well. Indeed the respect we owe in deference to all victims of the Holocaust, our deceased Jewish and Christian brethren, demand reconsideration of the proposed visit to Bitburg and another more appropriate cite selected instead. May I suggest, as others have, the home of Chancellor Conrad Adenauer or another cemetery where you might be able to pay fitting tribute to the German people in such a way as not to be distracted by the scar of the Holocaust which we all carry.

I propose for your reflection the words of a prayer from the Yom Ha Shoah Service, a Holocaust Commemoration for Days of Remembrance:

Mercifully hear our prayer which arises from the anguish in our souls in recalling the holocaust in which millions of our brothers and sisters, your children of the house of Israel, were slaughtered and burned.

With every kindest regard, I am,

Sincerely yours,



Howard J. Hubbard
Bishop of Albany

Aut-387

ID# 303667

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

JPR. 850607.4

MAY 06 1985

Correct

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. CHARLES P. HUEY

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO RECONSIDER PLANT TO VISIT THE BITBURG CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
ANDREW CARD	ORG	85/05/03		C 85/05/08 ^{yz}
LOHIGG REFERRAL NOTE: <i>Correspondence</i>	^{yz} R	85/05/08	AKA	85/06/12 ^{AB}
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2130

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

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 12, 1985

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of President Reagan, I wish to acknowledge receipt of the resolution adopted by the Washington State Human Rights Commission regarding the President's decision to visit the military cemetery at Bitburg, West Germany.

Your sending of this statement is appreciated, and the views contained in it have been communicated to the appropriate Administration officials. I am taking the liberty of enclosing copies of the President's speeches at Bitburg Air Base and the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp that you may wish to have available for the record.

With the President's best wishes to you and to the members of the Commission,

Sincerely,

Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

The Members of the Washington State Human
Rights Commission
402 Evergreen Plaza Building
Olympia, WA 98504

*LETTER PROCESSING INFORMATION

Letter.....: JFR.850607.4
Name.....:
Letter Type...: WH
Signature.....: AH
ENV/LBL.....: ENV
Number Pages..: 1
Number Copies: 1
Reviewer.....: MLO
Review Date...: 850611
Print Date...: June 12, 1985

Notes:

--AVH387--

5/5/85 Remarks of the President at Bitburg and Bergen-Belsen
note2 copy outgoing for files

5
Andy C...
app

303667



STATE OF WASHINGTON
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

402 Evergreen Plaza Building • Olympia, Washington 98504 • (206) 753-6770

26 April 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

At our 25 April 1985 Commission Meeting, we the Commissioners of the Washington State Human Rights Commission discussed, at length, your proposed visit to the Bitburg military cemetery which contains, among others, the remains of Nazi SS troops. While we are aware of, and support, your desire for reconciliation with the German people, we wish to state that we are disappointed that you would put yourself in a position to acknowledge those soldiers who volunteered to participate in a state sanctioned action denying other human beings their basic rights which is contrary to basic human values and the tenets of our country, including those of the freedom of religion and the right to free speech.

Furthermore, we wish to express our concern that your recognition of these individuals is encouraging those in our country who are currently involved in Neo-Nazi groups, such as those which have most recently been in the news in Washington, Idaho, and Arkansas, whose stated purpose is to eliminate minority people.

In closing, we would respectfully request that you reconsider your plans, exclude your visit to the Bitburg cemetery, and select a more appropriate alternative to demonstrate your wish for reconciliation.

Respectfully yours,

Charles P. Huey SAA
Charles P. Huey, Chair

Darlene McHenry SAA
Darlene McHenry

Ron Takemura SAA
Ron Takemura

Catherine M. Haas SAA
Catherine M. Haas

The Commissioners of the Washington State Human Rights Commission

ID# 303679

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123 01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE DICK ARMEY

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS DECISION TO VISIT CEMETERY IN
BITBURG AND THE BERGEN BELSEN 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	85/05/03	<u>MO.</u>	<u>A8505/16</u> AB
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___	___	___/___/___
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___	___	___/___/___
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___	___	___/___/___
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___	___	___/___/___
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		___/___/___	___	___/___/___

COMMENTS: _____

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

```

*****
*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING                *
*                       *                                     * CORRESPONDENCE:        *
*A-A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED                *TYPE RESP=INITIALS     *
*C-COMMFNT/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.

May 10, 1985

Dear Dick:

President Reagan asked me to thank you for your letter in support of his decision to go to Bitburg, honoring Chancellor Kohl's request that he pay a visit to a German military cemetery. The President fully understands the depth of concern that was raised and his feelings about the crimes perpetrated against humanity by the Nazi regime are no less deeply felt.

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.

The President does not consider his appearance at Bitburg to represent an act of forgiveness for those crimes, but rather one of acknowledgement 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, and he appreciates your support for him in this regard.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Dick Arney
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

cc: w/copy of inc to Will Ball, Cong Affrs, State - FYI
MBO:STATE:NSC:KRJ:hlb

1/1
CONGRESSMAN DICK ARMEY
26TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

514 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-7772



COMMITTEES:
EDUCATION AND LABOR
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
May 3, 1985

LEWISVILLE OFFICE
250 SOUTH STEMMONS
SUITE 210
LEWISVILLE, TEXAS 75067
(214) 221-4527

ARLINGTON OFFICE
1141 WEST PIONEER PARKWAY
SUITE 101
ARLINGTON, TEXAS 76013
(817) 461-2556

Congress of the United States

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

House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. President:

Let me congratulate you on the resolve you have shown throughout the controversy over your visit to Bitburg cemetery. Once again, the press has demonstrated its ability to make the news instead of reporting it.

Although you have faced a great deal of criticism in the press, I believe you made the right decision in visiting the cemetery and the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. I fully understand the powerful feelings generated by your visit. I believe you have effectively answered the concerns of Jews who were offended by your visit by adding the stop at Bergen-Belsen, over the objections of those who felt that such a side-trip would be logistically impossible.

It is extremely important to remember the horrors of the Holocaust in order to prevent the possibility of another such disaster. However, I agree with Jody Powell's statement that, "...memory is mankind's curse as well as its blessing. It can bind us in its coils as well as strengthen, inform, and uplift. By what we choose to remember and how, we decide whether we will be the master of our memories or their slave..."

Becoming slaves to our memories forces us to live in the past. By walking backward we shall surely trip over such obstacles as the Berlin Wall. Your visit to Bitburg is important because it emphasizes the need to look to the future. A strong bond between the free nations of the world is needed to turn back communist aggression. Specifically, this means that a strong and unified NATO alliance is essential to the maintenance of freedom throughout the world. Your visit to Bitburg is a strong affirmation of our alliance with West Germany.

Again, I commend you on your commitment to our European allies, and urge you to make this important visit. Your espousal of a strong and consistent foreign policy is a refreshing alternative to Congressional foreign policy based upon vacillation and inconsistent application of principle.

Sincerely,

DICK ARMEY
Member of Congress

DA:pbD

Answer -
Reply -
[Signature]

[Handwritten initials]

ID# 303700

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 23-01

MAY 06 1985

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE MARIA BARNABY GREENWALD

SUBJECT: OBJECTS TO THE DECISION TO VISIT THE
CEMETERY IN BITBURG, GERMANY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
RONALD ALVARADO	ORG	85/05/03		C 85 05/06
<i>✓ Kohigq</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____	A	85/05/07	NA N	C 85/06/05 AB
<i>Don</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2500 _____

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

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

REFR QUFSTIONS 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.

#303700

5
R. Alvarado



Cherry Hill, New Jersey

Office of The Mayor
Maria Barnaby Greenwald

820 Mercer Street, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

April 30, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

As Mayor of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, I represent 70,000 people. I speak to you as an Italian-American, a Roman Catholic and as a local leader. I understand full well the awesome responsibilities you shoulder and I always pray that God will give you the strength to make proper decisions. However, sometimes we must admit we have made a mistake.

On behalf of Cherry Hill's Jewish community, the veterans of this community who served in World World II, and all of our citizens who deplore this visit, to the cemetery at Bitburg, I must express our united outrage over the incident.

During the last two weeks, in every township, borough and hamlet, the planned visit to the cemetery at Bitburg has become an emotional issue and prompted me to write to the President of the United States for the very first time.

Please don't ignore the voices of so many. Please, out of respect for the six million victims of the Holocaust, the 1,078,162 Americans who were killed or injured fighting in World World II, out of respect for the great generals of World War II; Eisenhower, Bradley, McAuliffe, Arnold, Patton, Marshall, Spaatz, Wainwright and MacArthur, do not visit the cemetery and honor those who committed atrocities unparalleled in the history of man.

I ask you in the name of my constituents, my uncles who served, my father, discharged from the Army Air Force as a Major, who served in Germany to please reverse this decision because of its great impropriety.

Respectfully,

MARIA BARNABY GREENWALD
MAYOR

MBG/d11

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 06, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE FREDERICK E. PAROLA

SUBJECT: OPPOSES VISIT TO THE BITBURG CEMETERY IN
WEST GERMANY

ACTION DISPOSITION

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

ROBERT GLEASON	ORG	85/05/06			<u>85/05/06</u> ^{YZ}
REFERRAL NOTE: <u>LTB #1166</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>85/05/08</u>	<u>NAN</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>85/06/05</u> ^{AB}
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /			/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /			/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /			/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /			/ /

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200 _____

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

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

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

303710

5
R. Blawie



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

FREDERICK E. PAROLA
ASSEMBLYMAN 14TH A. D.
ROOM 318 - LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12248

DISTRICT OFFICE
3700 HEMPSTEAD TURNPIKE
LEVITTOWN, NEW YORK 11756
(516) 731-3434

ASSISTANT MINORITY WHIP

COMMITTEES:
EDUCATION
ENERGY
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

CONTACT
 ALBANY OFFICE
 DISTRICT OFFICE

April 26, 1985

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President
United States of America
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As a friend and supporter, I fervently urge you in the name of decency to abandon your visit to Bitburg Cemetery when you are in Germany next month.

Your place is not where Waffen SS members lie. The vanguard of tyranny implemented Nazi injustice and atrocities for which civilized people still shiver in horror. It was they who perpetrated the ghastly inhumanity, terror and genocide that was the cornerstone of this barbaric regime.

Mr. President, your visit to that cemetery is an insult to those American soldiers who died fighting for liberation and freedom. It is an insult to those who were massacred at the hands of SS units at the Battle of the Bulge and at Malmedy.

Mr. President, the deafening cries of the six million Jews, and nearly six million Christians, gypsies and others the Nazis found "unacceptable" for their New Order that were martyred in the Holocaust demand that you alter your plan to visit Bitburg.

Mr. President, these victims of the Nazi slaughter cannot be equated with either the Waffen SS who elected to join these "elite" units or with the members of the Wehrmacht, the German Army soldiers, who collectively failed to resist Hitler and implemented the European War that constituted a crime against all of humanity.

Mr. President, I am pleased that you have decided to pay respects for the martyred at one of the Concentration Camps, but this does not rectify the moral inappropriateness of the visit to Bitburg Cemetery.

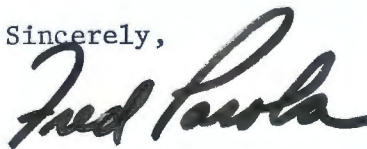
President Ronald Reagan
Page 2
April 26, 1985

Mr. President, there are those revisionists of history who contend that the Holocaust never occurred. They contend that the concentration camps were erected after the war. Your visit provides them with solace. Your visit provides support for their argument.

Mr. President, I urge you to please cancel your visit to Bitburg and schedule a visit that more appropriately symbolizes your concern for peace and reconciliation of all peoples.

The world is watching.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fred Parola". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Frederick E. Parola
Member of Assembly

FEP:nwn

NBA

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 303712

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 06, 1985

MAY 07 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE DAVID KEATING

SUBJECT: REQUESTS CANCELLATION OF TRIP TO THE
BITBURG CEMETERY IN WEST GERMANY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
RONALD ALVARADO	ORG	85/05/06		<u>C 85/05/21</u> YZ
<i>Chigg</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____		<u>A YZ 85/05/23</u>	<u>NAN</u>	<u>C 85/06/05</u> AB
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTF: _____		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2500 _____

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

```

*****
*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING                *
*                       *                                     * CORRESPONDENCE:      *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED                *TYPE Rfsp=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, OFOB) EXT. 2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

303712

R. Alvarado

CITY of HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA



GEN. JOSEPH W. WATSON CIRCLE • P.O. BOX 2207 • ZIP 33022 • PHONE (305) 921-3321

DAVID KEATING
Mayor

April 30, 1985

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear President Reagan:

It appears that your trip to Bitburg, Germany, to place a wreath at the cemetery seems to be dividing our country when our big need is unity of all races, colors and creeds.

Rather than going into great detail, I think you would do yourself and our country a great service if you would cancel your trip to the Bitburg cemetery.

Mr. President, we hope you consider this very seriously for the good of our country.

Sincerely,

David Keating
David Keating
Mayor

DK/sd

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 06, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE THOMAS F. HARTNETT

SUBJECT: FORWARDS LETTER FROM TED BATES, NEW YORK, NEW YORK SUPPORTING VISIT TO BITBURG CEMETERY AND ENCLOSING A SPEECH FOR THE PRESIDENT

ACTION DISPOSITION

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

M. B. OGLESBY REFERRAL NOTE: ORG 85/05/06 JMO AB 05/08 AB

REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE: REFERRAL NOTE:

COMMENTS:

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

*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION CODES: *OUTGOING *
* * * CORRESPONDENCE: *
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION *A-ANSWERED *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM *B-NON-SPEC-REFERPAL * 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, OFOB) 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 Tommy:

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 Thomas F. Hartnett
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

303721

5-
mm

THOMAS F. HARTNETT
1ST DISTRICT, SOUTH CAROLINA



WASHINGTON OFFICE:
228 CANNON BUILDING
(202) 225-3176

DISTRICT OFFICES:
334 MEETING STREET, SUITE 640
CHARLESTON, SC 29403
(803) 724-4175

POST OFFICE BOX 1538
BEAUFORT, SC 29902
(803) 524-2166

263 HAMPTON STREET
WALTERBORO, SC 29488
(803) 549-5395

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MILITARY INSTALLATIONS
AND FACILITIES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER AND
STRATEGIC AND CRITICAL
MATERIALS

MERCHANT MARINE AND FISHERIES

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

May 3, 1985

Mr. M. B. Oglesby, Jr.
Assistant to the President for
Legislative Affairs
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear B.,

Enclosed please find a copy of the letter I received from Mr. Ted Bates, regarding the President's visit to Germany. While I do not personally know Mr. Bates, I told him I would honor his request by sending his letter to the White House.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

Thomas F. Hartnett, M.C.

TFH/rd

Enclosure

120 West 94th Street
New York, N.Y. 10025
May 1, 1985

Congressman Thomas F. Hartnett
228 Cannon
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman:

On Monday, April 29, 1985, while watching a popular televised news station, I saw you commenting about your support for the President's trip to Germany, and, in particular, his desire to visit the cemetery at Bitburg. Since I was unsuccessful in contacting a presidential aide at the Executive Office (1-202-456-7639) due to a continually busy circuit, and in view of your remarks, I thought it best to call your office.

My wish, as I know yours is also, is to see that the President achieves success especially in attracting the full cooperation of the German government in the goal for peace, freedom and respect throughout the world.

The results of the Bitburg visit is crucial to how Americans and those abroad view the stature of the Office of the President. Consequently, I feel I must also contribute my effort if it would in any way add to such success.

Just laying a wreath at the gravesite may not be satisfactory. Communication to all people of all nations is essential.

I have enclosed a speech which I feel people can identify with and believe. It may go a long way in bringing together these groups of people who are vociferously negative to the Bitburg visit, and those who feel the President must go, so that both sides may reconcile their differences to support our President.

I feel the speech enclosed has something of value for all concerned about the visit and make the Presidential trip most successful.

If possible, please see that the speech reaches some aide of the President.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



AT BITBURG

Modern Germany is a staunch ally in the cause of Liberty and Human Rights everywhere.

Its people can be justly proud of its post-war accomplishments and should not have to bear the ignominy of the Holocaust, in the same light as present-day Americans and citizens of other nations, should not be charged with the inhumanity of slavery well over a century ago.

The challenges to life and the paths to glory are difficult enough. Must we convict the newborn of a crime, punishable for life, for which he or she is completely innocent?

Such is History and we must continually learn from history so that atrocities may never again occur.

The souls at Bitburg are in the hands of the Almighty whose judgment far exceeds our knowledge as to who and to what degree those here are truly responsible.

May God's judgment and mercy extend to all, living and dead. May He grant mankind the wisdom to live in harmony and mutual respect. May He encourage world leaders to be humbly sensitive to the needs and sanctity of each and every beating heart.

It is with these heavy concerns that I come to Bitburg and cry out to the world, "Never, never again!"

Speech devised by Ted Bates
120 West 94th Street
New York, N.Y. 10025
212 - 316-2936

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

MAY 07 1985

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MAY 06, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE WILLIAM H. HUDNUT III

SUBJECT: _____

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
RONALD ALVARADO	ORG	85/05/06		C 85/05/06 ^{2R}
<i>Cobrigg</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____	R	85/05/24	CP2A	85/07/03 ^{AB}
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: ^{IB} Request a letter from the President thanking Major Hudnut for his support of the goals of the Reagan Administration. Please copy Alvarado on any correspondence

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2400 _____
IA MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

- *****
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| *ACTION CODES: | *DISPOSITION CODES: | *OUTGOING | * |
| * | * | * CORRESPONDENCE: | * |
| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION | *A-ANSWERED | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | * CODE = A | * |
| *F-FURNISH FACT SHEET | *S-SUSPENDED | *COMPLETED = DATE OF | * |
| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NFC* | | * 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.

July 3, 1985

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your thoughtful and supportive letter. I deeply appreciate your understanding of what my visit to Bitburg meant. It is always uplifting to hear kind words about our efforts.

Your willingness to help convince Congress about our plan to bring the Federal budget under control and to get our fiscal house in order makes me proud. Like you, I believe the American people want our economy to continue moving forward.

Nancy joins me in sending our best wishes. God bless you.

Sincerely,

FRANK BEARD

A

The Honorable William H. Hudnut, III
Mayor of Indianapolis
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

cc: Ron Alvarado ✓

RR:DBL:DE:KCS:CADforAVH:vml-7pmnd

85 7 3

303726



CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS

WILLIAM H. HUDNUT, III
MAYOR

April 30, 1985

The Honorable Ronald W. Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

How thoughtful of you, in the midst of your busy schedule, to write me your get-well wishes. I appreciate very much your remembrance of me and your best wishes. As I don't have to tell you, good health is one of life's most precious blessings, as are good friends, and I am experiencing a new awareness and appreciation for safeguarding them both.

All good wishes to you on your forthcoming trip to Europe. For whatever it's worth, I want you to know that in my opinion you are absolutely right, theologically speaking, to go to Bitburg because of the message of reconciliation that it sends. In that connection, I am put in mind of the quotation from Alan Paton's introduction to his book Cry the Beloved Country: "I look forward to the day when we shall realize that the only lasting and worthwhile solution to our grave and profound problems lies not in the love of power, but in the power of love, without which life would be an intolerable bondage, condemning us all to an existence of violence, misery and fear."

Also, while I am writing you, let me just say that I think you are absolutely right, wise and courageous to be stressing the importance of limiting the growth of government spending in the Social Security and defense areas. I know this is politically difficult, but your remarks to the country the other night were right on target, so far as my perception is concerned. I may disagree with you about some of the domestic spending programs, but on the big overarching issues of controlling the rate of growth and the increase in defense and entitlement spending, I want to be as supportive as I can, and to that extent, if, as Mayor of the largest Republican city in the country, I can be of any help to you in spreading your "gospel," please let me know. I would be only too glad to try.

With warmest personal regards, and again, my sincerest thanks for your thoughtful note, I am

Faithfully yours,

Bill

William H. Hudnut, III

WHH:nc