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Bonn, West Germany, 04/30/1985-05/06/1985)
Case file Number(s): 311200-311799
Box Number: 4

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JV

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YE 4610

TR123-01

COO54-02

PA001

ND016

HU030

ED

THE WHITE HOUSE

Dear Herb:

Appreciate the idea, and the thoughts,

(re: Bitburg)

Pat Buchanan

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dean Herbert London
College of New York University
Gallatin Division
715 Broadway
New York, New York 10003

New York University
A private university in the public service

Gallatin Division
Office of the Dean

715 Broadway, 6th Floor
New York, N.Y. 10003
Telephone: (212) 598-7760

April 16, 1985

Mr. Pat Buchanan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear Pat,

Recognizing the problem generated by Mr. Deaver's bad judgment and Chancellor Kohl's pressure, the President is in a fix - to put it mildly - with Jewish organizations and veterans groups over his visit to a Nazi war memorial. I have an idea, however, that could conceivably mitigate the dilemma. It is an idea that emerged from a conversation with Leo Rosten.

Suppose the President sponsored a meeting of Veterans of Foreign Wars, The American Legion and Concentration Camp Survivors in which tribute is paid to those American and Allied soldiers who liberated Jews from the camps. Suppose Elie Wiesel, who has been so critical of the President's trip, leads the Jewish delegation in what can only be viewed as a heartfelt response to the Allied effort. If handled properly - always a problem - this meeting could defuse the negative criticism of the President and most importantly reassert the President's interest in our victory over Naziism and the liberation of Jews.

I hope this suggestion proves to be useful to you.

Sincerely,

Herbert London
Dean

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) / /

Name of Correspondent: Alfride in Sizario

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Supports President's trip to Germany

ROUTE TO: Office/Agency (Staff Name)	ACTION Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	DISPOSITION		
			Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>PLKOJE</u>	<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>085,04,19</u>			<u>0850419</u>
<u>✓ 99DOS</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>85,04,21</u>			<u>A850513^{AB}</u>
		<u> / / </u>			<u> / / </u>
		<u> / / </u>			<u> / / </u>
		<u> / / </u>			<u> / / </u>

- ACTION CODES:**
 A - Appropriate Action
 C - Comment/Recommendation
 D - Draft Response
 F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
 I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
 R - Direct Reply w/Copy
 S - For Signature
 X - Interim Reply
- DISPOSITION CODES:**
 A - Answered
 B - Non-Special Referral
 C - Completed
 S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:
 Type of Response = Initials of Signer
 Code = "A"
 Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: L Individual Codes: 4000 _____

Prime Subject Code: TR 123-01 Secondary Subject Codes: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C _____	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP _____	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

- CPn - Presidential Correspondence**
- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
- n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
- n - 3 - Ron
- n - 4 - Dutch
- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

- CLn - First Lady's Correspondence**
- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

- CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence**
- n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

- B - Box/package
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- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8512580

Date May 13, 1985

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

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Mr. Elfriede Sisario
Date: April 16, 1985 Subject: Supports President's
Trip to Germany

WH Referral Dated: April 24, 1985 NSC ID# 311403
(if any)

 The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State

Action Taken:

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

Remarks:

Tom Collins
for Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Mr. Elfriede Sisario
14432 Pinebrooke Drive
Tustin CA 92680

Dear Mr. Sisario:

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas M.T. Niles", written in a cursive style.

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

8512580

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

REFERRAL

APRIL 24, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 311403

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 16, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. ELFRIEDE SISARIO
14432 PINEBROOKE DRIVE
TUSTIN CA 92680

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO 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

4-16-85

311403

Dear Mr. President,
I, of the German-American
Community of Orange County
support you in your noble
endeavors while in Germany.

Sincerely,
Alfredo M. Sisario
14432 Pinebrook Dr
Tustin, CA 92680

Charles Carroll

Patriot



U.S. Domestic Rate

The President of the United States
The White House
600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Attn: Linus J. Kojelis

©1982 USPS

311405

ID #

TR/23-01

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) / /

Name of Correspondent: Mr. & Mrs. G. Popke

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) (B) (C)

Subject: Supports President's trip to Germany

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code Tracking Date Code YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>PLKQJE</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>C 85/04/19</u>
<u>✓ 99 DOS</u>	Referral Note: <u>R</u>	<u>A 85/05/13^{AB}</u>
	Referral Note:	
	Referral Note:	
	Referral Note:	
	Referral Note:	

ACTION CODES:
 A - Appropriate Action
 C - Comment/Recommendation
 D - Draft Response
 F - Furnish Fact Sheet
 to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
 R - Direct Reply w/Copy
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FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:
 Type of Response = Initials of Signer
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RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: T Individual Codes: 4400 _____

Prime Subject Code: TR 123-01 Secondary Subject Codes: AK 013-92 _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
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C	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
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DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____
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SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence

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- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

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- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

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- D - Official document
- G - Message
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- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8512579

Date MAY 13 1985

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

Reference:

To: Linas Kojelis From: Mr. and Mrs. G. Popke
Date: April 16, 1985 Subject: Supports President's
Trip to Germany
WH Referral Dated: April 24, 1985 NSC ID# 311405
(if any)

_____ The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State

Action Taken:

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

Remarks:

for *Tim Collins*
Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Mr. and Mrs. G. Popke
4343 Ranch Gate Road
Anaheim CA 93807

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Popke:

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas M.T. Niles".

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

8512579

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

REFERRAL

APRIL 24, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 311405

MEDIA: TELEGRAM, DATED APRIL 16, 1985

TO: LINAS KOJELIS

FROM: MR. AND MRS. G. POPKE
4343 RANCH GATE ROAD
ANAHEIM CA 93807

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO 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

311405

4-0333445106 04/16/85

ICS IPMNTZZ CSP

7149982066 TDMT ANAHEIM CA 29 04-16 0410P EST

PMS ATTN LINAS G KOJELIS

WHITE HOUSE DC

AS A MEMBER OF THE GERMAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF ORANGE COUNTY WE
SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT NOBLE EFFORTS DURING HIS VISIT IN GERMANY.

MR AND MRS G POPKE

4243 RANCH GATE RD

ANAHEIM CA 92807

1612 EST

85 APR 16 P4:12

PURPOSE

ID # 311406

Handwritten initials/signatures

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR/23-01

- OUTGOING, INTERNAL, INCOMING, Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD)

8512658

Name of Correspondent: Hans W. Eberhard

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) (B) (C)

Subject: Writes in support of President's trip to Germany

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Table with columns: Office/Agency (Staff Name), Action Code, Tracking Date (YY/MM/DD), Type of Response, Code, Completion Date (YY/MM/DD). Includes handwritten entries like 'PLKOTE', '99DOS', 'ORIGINATOR', 'D', 'A 850513B'.

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action, C - Comment/Recommendation, D - Draft Response, F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure, I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary, R - Direct Reply w/Copy, S - For Signature, X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

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FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer, Code = "A", Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments:

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RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: L Individual Codes: 4900 _____

Prime Subject Code: TR 123-01 Secondary Subject Codes: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

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- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

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- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Mr. Hans W. Eberhard
German American Business
Association of California, Inc.
15125 Burbank Boulevard
Van Nuys CA 91401

Dear Mr. Eberhard:

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas M.T. Niles".

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

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 8512658

Date May 13, 1985

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

Reference:

To: President Reagan From: Mr. Hans W. Eberhard
Date: April 15, 1985 Subject: Writes in support of
President's Trip to Germany
WH Referral Dated: April 24, 1985 NSC ID# 311406
(if any)

 The attached item was sent directly to the
Department of State

Action Taken:

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

Remarks:

for Tom Collins
Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

8512658

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

REFERRAL

APRIL 24, 1985

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DRAFT REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF WHITE HOUSE STAFF MEMBER

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 311406

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED APRIL 15, 1985

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. HANS W. EBERHARD
GERMAN AMERICAN BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA, INC.
15125 BURBANK BOULEVARD
VAN NUYS CA 91401

SUBJECT: WRITES IN SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO
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



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Mr. Hans W. Eberhard
German American Business
Association of California, Inc.
15125 Burbank Boulevard
Van Nuys CA 91401

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Sincerely,

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

1
177

311406

April 15, 1985

The President of the
United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20230

8512658

Dear Mr. President:

Recent criticisms deliberately aimed at countering your noble endeavor while in Germany this year are not only deplorable but are thoroughly rejected as well. We are reminded of Emerson's statement that rightfully there is no history, only biography. Through the ages men in places of power have made (and broken) the course of mankind's destiny. Far too few of these have elected to undertake the seemingly less popular course of reconciliation, of healing - - these steps you have elected to take.

We are writing this letter not only to let you know, Mr. President, that we fully support your currently planned and noble undertaking, and that without reservation; but we also want to convey to you our deeply felt reassurance that honest, unencumbered history will some day prove you right; and that every truly holy writing, however conceived and inspired, is also, and above all, on your side.

It is our fervent hope that you will not be swayed by those whose interests, false ideology, and willfully misdirected public relations would attempt to dictate another course to you.

Respectfully yours,

Hans W. E b e r h a r d

COPY

PRAESIDENTEN DER VEREINIGTEN STAATEN

RONALD REAGAN

WEISSES HAUS

WASHINGTON/DC

JV

File (no address for reply)

RECEIVED

APR 18 1985

SCHEDULING OFFICE

85 APR 17 P 5: 01

DACHAU AM 16.4.85 DEAR MR. PRESIDENT, I HEARD IN THE NEWS OF RADIO ABOUT YOUR VISITS IN GERMANY, SPECIAL IN DACHAU (CONCENTRATIONCAMP) AND BITBURG. IF YOU COME TO HERE, SPEND A SHORT VISIT IN MY GAESTHOUSE (STADTBAHNHOF LITTLE YELLOW RAILWAY STATION).

311497
3500
4200
TR123-01
C005402
IV085
PA001
PA002
HLL030
BE003

COL 16.4.85

0101111317 REAGAN PAGE 2/49

IT'S ONLY TWO KM FROM THE CAMP AWAY I WERE GLAD TO SEE YOU HERE AND SPEAK SOME SENTENCE WITH YOU PLEASE COME TO MY HOUSE.

IT IS A SYMBOL FOR FREEDOM AND PHILANTROPY, AND WE ALL HAVE TO DO SO FOR OUR LIBERTY. BEST GREETINGS

FROM

X
CLAUS DAHMEN

COL NIL PSE READ 1 ST TEXT PAGE 2/

IT'S ONLY



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
April 18, 1985

311527
1118
LDJ TR12301
00054-02
PR001
H0013-92
PR003

MEMORANDUM FOR PAT BUCHANAN

FROM: LINAS KOJELIS *LK*

SUBJECT: President's Trip to Germany -

Pat, I thought you might be interested to see the attached copies of telegrams we have received from German-American organizations supporting the President's intention to visit Bitburg. Of course, these groups are not especially well organized and do not constitute a powerful lobby in Washington, a factor worth considering. On the other hand, there are 49 million German-Americans, they vote, and 68% of them voted for the President last November.

I thought this information might be of interest to you.

31
302586
4-018011S105 04/15/85

ICS IPMBNGZ CSP

3128707666 POM TDBN MOUNT PROSPECT IL 156 04-15 85 122445 EST 1:01

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

DEAR PRESIDENT REAGAN

GERMAN AMERICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS SUPPORTS YOUR PLAN TO LAY A WREATH AT THE CEMETARY IN BITBURG WEST GERMANY AND GERMAN AMERICANS AGREE WITH YOU THAT IT IS NECESSARY TO COMMEMOATE THE WAR DEAD EVERYWHERE AND IN EVERY COUNTRY IF LASTING PEACE IS TO BE THE WORLDS FUTURE

THIS SYMBOL WOULD BE AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, PARTICULARLY FOR THE YOUNG WEST GERMAN NATO SOLDIERS THAT THEIR FATHERS - SOME OF WHOM MIGHT BE BURIED AT BITBURG - WERE ALSO FIGHTING COMMUNIST EXPANSION WHILE GIVING THEIR LIVES FOR THEIR COUNTRY (NOT FOR THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST

PARTY)

IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES TO EMPHASIZE THIS ASPECT OF THE COMMEMORATION FOR THE END OF WORLD WAR II

IT WOULD SEEM A SHAME IF THE HEAD OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES WOULD REFUSE TO PARTICIPATE IN A CEREMONY SIMILAR TO THE ONE IN WHICH THE FRENCH PRESIDENT MITTERAND TOOK PART WITHIN THE PAST YEAR

SINCERELY

ELSBETH M SEEWALD NATIONAL PRESIDENT GERMAN AMERICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

999 ELMHURST RD

MOUNT PROSPECT IL 60056

April 15, 1985

The President of the
United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20230

Dear Mr. President:

Recent criticisms deliberately aimed at countering your noble endeavor while in Germany this year are not only deplorable but are thoroughly rejected as well. We are reminded of Emerson's statement that rightfully there is no history, only biography. Through the ages men in places of power have made (and broken) the course of mankind's destiny. Far too few of these have elected to undertake the seemingly less popular course of reconciliation, of healing - - these steps you have elected to take.

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It is our fervent hope that you will not be swayed by those whose interests, false ideology, and willfully misdirected public relations would attempt to dictate another course to you.

Respectfully yours,

Hans W. E b e r h a r d



GERMAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION INC.

15125 BURBANK BLVD. - VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA 91411

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED



Mr. Linas Kojelis
Associate Director

50 ✓
GERMAN AMERICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS
4740 NORTH WESTERN AVE
CHICAGO IL 60625 16AM

Western Union Mailgram



all: Bus. visit Simon

Simulation
1-0366668106 04/16/85 ICS YPMBNGZ CSP WHSB
3127847329 MGMS TDBN CHICAGO IL 35 04-16 0448P EST

302748

▶
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN
WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

L. Reinke

AS PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN AMERICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS CHAPTER CHICAGO
NORTH WITH 4,000 MEMBERS, WE SUPPORT YOUR PLAN TO GO TO BITBURG WEST
GERMANY IN THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND NATO,
SIEGFRIED REINKE, PRESIDENT
4740 NORTH WESTERN AVE
CHICAGO IL 60625

16149 EST

MGMCOMP

JOHN SCHANK
230 SOUTH MARIGOLD ST
FULLERTON CA 92631 16AM



1-0326538106 04/16/85 ICS IPMMTZZ CSP WH3B
7145262645 MGMB TDMT FULLERTON CA 42 04-16 0402P EST

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN
ATTN LINES G KOJELIS
WHITE HOUSE
1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVE NORTHWEST
WASHINGTON DC 20500

WE THE GERMAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF ORANGE COUNTY SUPPORT THE
PRESIDENT IN HIS NOBLE ENDEAVORS WHILE IN GERMANY
JOHN SCHANK HONORARY PRESIDENT
GERMAN AMERICAN SCHOOL ASSN

16102 EST

MGMCOMP

5241 (R 7/82)

ID # 311532

TR123-01

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 85104122

Name of Correspondent: Pete Wilson

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Urges against visiting Bitburg Cemetery

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>LAOGL</u>	<u>D</u> ORIGINATOR	<u>85,04,23</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>A 85,05,08</u> AB
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:			

ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
- D - Draft Response
- F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A - Answered
- B - Non-Special Referral
- C - Completed
- S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: _____

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: L Individual Codes: 1220 _____

Prime Subject Code: TR 123-01 Secondary Subject Codes: _____

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C	_____	Time: _____	P- _____
DSP	_____	Time: _____	Media: _____

SIGNATURE CODES:

- CPn - Presidential Correspondence**
- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
- n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
- n - 3 - Ron
- n - 4 - Dutch
- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
- n - 6 - Ronald
- n - 7 - Ronnie

- CLn - First Lady's Correspondence**
- n - 0 - Unknown
- n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Nancy
- n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

- CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence**
- n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
- n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

- B - Box/package
- C - Copy
- D - Official document
- G - Message
- H - Handcarried
- L - Letter
- M - Mailgram
- O - Memo
- P - Photo
- R - Report
- S - Sealed
- T - Telegram
- V - Telephone
- X - Miscellaneous
- Y - Study

311233

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Pete:

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

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

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

Let me make clear that the President does not consider his appearance at Bitburg to represent an act of forgiveness for those crimes, but rather one of acknowledgment of the democratic society the German people have built. He considers this to be a positive gesture which in no way detracts from his full and heartfelt commitment to remember and honor the victims of the Holocaust and the American soldiers who gave their lives to defeat the Nazi regime and its crimes.

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Pete Wilson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

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



UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

Received SS
1985 APR 18 PM 10:35

PETE WILSON
CALIFORNIA

April 18, 1985

311532

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

Dear Mr. President:

Your own revulsion and moral outrage at the Holocaust and your sympathy and grief for its victims and survivors have long been clear to anyone with knowledge of your record on the issue.

The deserved respect accorded you by people like Elie Wiesel is based on that record.

Regrettably, however, your proposed visit to Bitburg cemetery threatens to undo your heretofore record and at the very least to confuse that record.

Your purpose in making such a visit, I assume, is to pay a deserved tribute to the present generation of our staunch West German allies and to focus upon our present alliance and shared future.

I respectfully suggest that this commendable purpose can be much better achieved by some more appropriate observance, and that indeed Bitburg quite understandably is a symbol of a past we cannot commend nor forget, and that therefore a visit there would be wholly inappropriate to your purpose.

Let us say forthrightly that while we cannot in conscience visit the sins of the fathers upon their children whom we embrace and value as allies, neither can we in conscience ever forget the Holocaust or allow such a nightmare to be threatened ever again.

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
April 18, 1985
Page Two

The two views are in no way inconsistent. To the contrary both views are held and expressed by today's West Germany leadership. It is entirely appropriate to observe the significance of the Holocaust by a visit to one of the death camps. Such a visit could not legitimately offend anyone. It in no way condemns present day West Germany. Rather the occasion could provide the opportunity not only to properly observe the Holocaust but to contrast the freedom and democracy of today's Federal Republic of Germany with the nightmare of Nazism, and to praise the character and courage of those Germans who can be proud of the change they have wrought.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pete".

PETE WILSON

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

311571

4800

TR123-01

COO54-02

PROOF

PP005-01

WE

JV

LD

April 19, 1985

Dear Miss Fisher:

On behalf of Mrs. Reagan, I wish to thank you for your kind invitation to visit your community in Frankfurt while she and the President are in Germany.

Unfortunately, her schedule is such that she is unable to accomodate your request. However, we certainly appreciate your writing and informing us of the activities of the Frankfurt Milcom Community Service Able Children Together Program.

The First Lady is deeply grateful for your thoughtfulness and has asked me to express her very best wishes.

Sincerely,

Kenneth L. Barun
Director of Projects
Office of the First Lady

Miss Mona Fisher
I Klingenf 2113 A4
50 Frankfurt 6000
WEST GERMANY

Schedule

I Klingenf 2113 A4
50 Frankfurt 6000
21 March 1985

*Schedule
file
OK copy to Sargent
Shriver*

Mrs. Nancy Reagan
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mrs. Reagan:

It has come to my attention that you and President Reagan will be in Germany during May 1985. As Chairperson of the Frankfurt Milcom Community Service Able Children Together (ACT) Program, I am extending an invitation to you to visit our area.

ACT is an activity program for Exceptional Family Members. The program is open to all special needs persons in the Frankfurt United States Military Community and surrounding communities.

Currently our activity program includes an arts and crafts program, summer day camp program and a swimming program. Our community is also preparing for the Special Olympics to be held here 31 May 1985. Invitations to the Special Olympics are sent Germany wide.

Several private organizations help support our ACT program by providing financial assistance and volunteer aides. Organizations also sponsor special activities for our special people.

The area professionals and families of children with special needs have organized to form a support group. This group, Parents Children Community Together (PCCT), meets once a month to discuss areas of interest.

As a community we will be honored by a visit by you and the President.

Sincerely,

Mona Fisher

THE WHITE HOUSE

311691

YZ 1170

TR 123-01

CO054-02

JV

Dear Frank:

Thanks for the idea; dropped it
into the mix before they departed.

PAD01

ND016

ND007

ITD24

Best,
Pat

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Commissioner Frank A. Whetstone
International Boundary Commission
4251 Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

Lo Anne Wagner

X

Had a very
nice

"Warm Regards"
Visit

With Boy,
the other day!
Lets lunch together!
Frank



Frank A. Whetstone
COMMISSIONER
UNITED STATES SECTION

INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND CANADA
WASHINGTON, DC 20001

425 I ST. NW
ROOM: 150
(202) 632-8058



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

UNITED STATES AND CANADA
425 I STREET, NW., ROOM 150
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001



April 24, 1985


Dear Mr. Buchanan:


The enclosed suggestion, the more I consider it, seems to have tremendous merit for the consideration of President Reagan and his forthcoming trip to Europe.

I submit it with the suggestion that someone discuss the idea further with Lo Anne Wagner whose telephone number is to be found in the last paragraph of the memorandum.

I urge your immediate consideration for, if you feel favorable, it should be brought to the attention of the correct officials at the White House, including President Reagan.

I hope you will find this helpful.

Friendliest personal regards


Frank A. Whetstone
COMMISSIONER

Enclosure:

Memorandum from Lo Anne Wagner

Mr. Patrick J. Buchanan
Director of Communications
The White House.
Washington, D.C.

PRESERVATION COPY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Frank A. Whetstone

DATE: April 24, 1985

FROM: Lo Anne Wagner

SUBJECT: President Reagan's
Visit to West Germany

President Reagan could overshadow the criticism he has received for his planned visit to Bitburg cemetery by adding a stop to his current itinerary: GENERAL GEORGE PATTON'S GRAVE IN LUXEMBOURG.

This stop should be added to the itinerary and should be the last stop on his trip for the following reasons:

1) Gen. Patton was, of course, one of our greatest military strategists in planning the conquest of Hitler;

2) Gen. Patton was a ground commander of soldiers who eventually liberated those in the German concentration camps as well as private anti-Nazi citizens in France and Luxembourg;

3) Gen. Patton is buried in Luxembourg as a co-equal with his troops -- his grave marked by only the standard white cross used on all the Americans buried in Luxembourg. I have visited the cemetery and it is lovely. Also, it is a moving experience for an American to witness how revered this man and his troops remain among the citizenry,

4) Tiny Luxembourg's citizens offered strong resistance to Hitler's effort and took our wounded soldiers into their homes as they crossed Luxembourg into Germany. I am not an authority on Luxembourg's plight during WWII, but from stories told by relatives of mine in Luxembourg, even the children committed quiet acts of sabotage against Hitler. For example: young girls were taken from their homes and put to work mending Nazi uniforms. One form of sabotage these 8, 9 and 10-year olds committed was to sew the legs of uniforms closed. My cousin, who was a participant, is still living in Luxembourg and I could get more details if desired.

Frank Whetstone
April 24, 1985
Page Two

PRESERVATION

I believe the President should stick with his intended objective of symbolic reconciliation with the German people by visiting Bitburg despite the disdain we all feel for the SS troopers. But he could add the dimension of paying tribute to an American hero like Patton who inspired his men to endure the horrors of war as they literally inched their way across Europe -- thousands dying in the process -- to bring freedom to today's generations in Western Europe.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. My office number is 377-6280 (FHLBB) and home number in Virginia is 573-1716.

311691

1170

JV TR13301

JV

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 30, 1985

Dear Frank:

On behalf of Mr. Regan, thank you for the suggestion regarding the President's trip to Germany. He appreciated receiving your thoughts, and has given them consideration.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Dawson
Deputy Assistant
to the President

Mr. Frank A. Whetstone
Commissioner
International Boundary Commission
United States and Canada
425 I Street, N.W., Room 150
Washington, D.C. 20001

To Anne Wagner

Apr 24 letter also to Mrs. Reagan



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION

UNITED STATES AND CANADA
425 I STREET, NW., ROOM 150
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001



April 24, 1985

Dear Mr. *Doan* Regan:

The enclosed suggestion, the more I consider it, seems to have tremendous merit for the consideration of President Reagan and his forthcoming trip to Europe.

I submit it with the suggestion that someone discuss the idea further with Lo Anne Wagner whose telephone number is to be found in the last paragraph of the memorandum.

I urge your immediate consideration for, if you feel favorable, it should be brought to the attention of the correct officials at the White House, including President Reagan.

I hope you will find this helpful.

Friendliest personal regards

Frank
Frank A. Whetstone
COMMISSIONER

Enclosure:

Memorandum from Lo Anne Wagner

The Honorable
Donald T. Regan,
Chief of Staff and
Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

PRESERVATION COPY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Frank A. Whetstone

DATE: April 24, 1985

FROM: Lo Anne Wagner

SUBJECT: President Reagan's
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Frank Whetstone
April 24, 1985
Page Two

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Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. My office number is 377-6280 (FHLBB) and home number in Virginia is 573-1716.

file



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND CANADA
425 I STREET, NW., ROOM 150
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001



April 24, 1985

Nancy
Dear Mrs. Reagan:

The enclosed suggestion, the more I consider it, seems to have tremendous merit for the consideration of President Reagan and his forthcoming trip to Europe.

I submit it with the suggestion that someone discuss the idea further with Lo Anne Wagner whose telephone number is to be found in the last paragraph of the memorandum.

I urge your immediate consideration for, if you feel favorable, it should be brought to the attention of the correct officials at the White House, including President Reagan.

I hope you will find this helpful.

Affectionately,

Uncle

Frank A. Whetstone
COMMISSIONER

Frank

Enclosure:

Memorandum from Lo Anne Wagner

Mrs. Nancy Reagan,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

PRESERVATION COPY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Frank A. Whetstone

DATE: April 24, 1985

FROM: Lo Anne Wagner

SUBJECT: President Reagan's
Visit to West Germany

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Frank Whetstone
April 24, 1985
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Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. My office number is 377-6280 (FHLBB) and home number in Virginia is 573-1716.

~~UK~~ Central Files

3 11696

JV

April 10, 1985

4000

1150

Dear Mrs. Reagan -

It is almost May - and the time for yours and President Reagan's visit.

TR123-01

We Embassy wives in Bonn are getting more and more and more excited - by the week; by the day; by the hour! We can't wait to see you, especially! (Bets are on: she will wear red; she won't wear red; et cetera!)

PP005-01

We all wish you both a safe flight to West Germany and hope that your visit here will be constructive and pleasant. We shall help in any way we can.

FD002

Warmly,
Stelen Burns

CO054-02

PR007-01

Burns
U.S.A. Embassy
Bonn, W. Germany
Box 215 A.P.O. N.Y. 09680

JV
LEONARD GARMENT
2101 L STREET, N W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20037

TR

311697

4200

TR123-01

C0054-02

PA001

ND016

HU013

HU01360

April 22, 1985

(File)

Pat,

In preparation for next week's ceremonies and to help break the negative momentum -- which is getting more rather than less hysterical -- I think you might consider getting the following letter (an adaptation of what I gave you through Ed Meese) off to Elie Wiesel. It would be timely through tomorrow.

Forgive me for kibbitzing, but I hate to see this happening; and I think it can be deflected if the right steps are taken. There is a fair amount of political exploitation involved, but the basic feeling is genuine and non-political. It's just that Jews want everyone to feel about the holocaust precisely the way they do; but it's not possible, so we have convulsions instead.

But this, too, shall pass.

Best,

Le

I spoke to Elliott Abrams who felt this letter -- or something like it -- would be useful. You might check him out on this.

The Honorable Patrick J. Buchanan
Director of Communications
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Elie:

Please accept these few words of personal appreciation for your remarks at Friday's White House holocaust ceremony. They evoked the pain and heartbreak of that ghastly time in a way that was truly unforgettable.

The debate goes on about my plans to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Europe from the Nazi tyranny. I am not insensitive to the arguments and concerns. I have not exhausted my ability to learn about the holocaust, a time of extraordinary horror which befell the world. The implications of that event are immense, almost beyond anyone's capacity to describe and comprehend. Let me tell you a little bit of what is in my mind, after listening to you and thinking again about the holocaust years.

We must remember those years not only with sorrow but with shame. There was the shame of a Nazi regime so murderous that even today our minds strain to comprehend it. Some people watched this Nazi terror unfeelingly. Some gave only weak cries of protest. I have the great privilege of leading a nation that helped crush this monster to death, but there is enough evil in the holocaust to shame all of us. Few among us, wherever we lived, saw quickly enough what was happening. Few among us did all that we could.

Some hope did arise from the ashes, just enough to tell us that God had not forgotten His world. The state of Israel emerged from the fire. In West Germany, out of the nightmare of the totalitarian years arose a strong democracy that has become one of our staunchest allies in the fight against the dehumanization that totalitarianism brings.

These transformations have been swift and confusing. The memories of the past are hard to piece together with the political realities and necessities of the present. For some of us, talk of the holocaust upsets strong political convictions. It poses an even deeper challenge to the ability of others to think of themselves as decent human beings. Some of us do not know enough about the event. Some of us try to avoid it. Some of us make the wrong choices in trying to decide how best to remember and commemorate it. None of this should be surprising. None of this should be beyond our ability as Americans to understand and forgive in one another.

In the days to come, as I remember the holocaust and the war in my travels here and abroad, I will speak of responsibility and of reconciliation. I consider both the blaming and the peace-making part of my duty to build memorials to the innocent, so that in some way they may triumph over the dreadful death that overtook them. I ask for your understanding and your help in this solemn task.

Sincerely,

311711
5300
TR123-01
PR003
PR00502

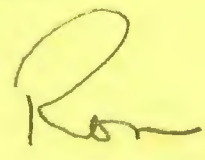
TR

April 23, 1985

Dear Elsa:

Just a line to thank you for your letter. You brightened my day considerably. It was kind of you and typical. The press has been out for blood on the subject of the trip to Germany. I'm going to do what I believe is right, and you've made me feel a lot better. Thanks, and God bless you.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Elsa Sandstrom
Apartment 112
8860 Villa LaJolla Drive
LaJolla, California 92037

RR/AVH/ams

85 424

HANDWRITING

To Mrs. Ella Sandstrom - 3860 Villa LaJolla Dr.
#112 LaJolla Calif.
92037

Dear Ella

Just a line to thank you for your letter.
You brightened my day considerably. It was
kind of you & typical. The press have
been out for blood on the subject of the
trip to Germany. I'm going to do what I
believe is right and you've made me feel
a lot better. Thanks & God bless you.
Sincerely Ron

ELSA SANDSTROM
8860 Villa LaJolla Drive #112
LaJolla, Ca. 92037

April 20, 1985

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D. C. 200

Dear Mr. President -

Our sincerest commendations to you for the steadfastness and strength you have shown in dealing with your opposition since entering your second term. We are indebted to you; and we know you will continue to have our country's best interests at heart.

Kudos to you also for standing firm on your commitment to place a wreath in the German cemetery. Having been invited to do so by the German Chancellor, it would have been most discourteous to ~~refuse~~. We are all aware of the atrocities of war; and deplore them with all of our hearts and do not forget. However, as you have so eloquently stated, there is also a time for reconciliation . . .

Sincerely,


Elsa Sandstrom (Mrs.)

"Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the Lord." Romans 12:19

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance. Psalms 33:12

"But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night." Psalms 1:3

JV

ID # 311768

WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR/2301

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 85, 04, 23

Name of Correspondent: Marge Roukens

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Urges you to reconsider your itinerary for your visit to Germany. Specifically opposes your trip to Bitburg.

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
LAOGL	ORIGINATOR	8510424	AD	A850508
	Referral Note:			
	Referral Note:			
	Referral Note:			
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RECORDS MANAGEMENT ONLY

CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: _____ Media: 2 Individual Codes: 1240

Prime Subject Code: TR 123-01 Secondary Subject Codes: 00054-01 RM032
PA001
ND 016

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C		Time: _____	P- _____
DSP		Time: _____	Media: _____

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- n - 5 - Ron Reagan
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- Y - Study**

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Marge:

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

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

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

Let me make clear that the President does not consider his appearance at Bitburg to represent an act of forgiveness for those crimes, but rather one of acknowledgment of the democratic society the German people have built. He considers this to be a positive gesture which in no way detracts from his full and heartfelt commitment to remember and honor the victims of the Holocaust and the American soldiers who gave their lives to defeat the Nazi regime and its crimes.

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Marge Roukema
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4-22-85

Kathy R.J.

Please handle -
given to Max
personally.

Alan -



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

MARGE ROUKEMA
FIFTH DISTRICT
NEW JERSEY

April 20, 1985.


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Dear Mr. President,

I am writing this personal note to urge that you reconsider your decision on the itinerary for your visit to Germany.

I personally commend you for your sincere and noble intentions of focusing this visit as a symbol of reconciliation with our German ally. And, I believe, our Jewish brethren agree that we do not ascribe collective guilt.

However, the unfortunate choice of Bitberg has distorted the issue and has unjustly circumscribed your motives with suspicion.



Emotions have been aroused on both sides of this issue that make rational judgment impossible.

Only you, Mr. President, can restore both dignity and peace of mind for Americans and Germans alike.

Therefore, I respectfully implore that you revise the itinerary so that American and German soldiers can be dignified in a solemn ceremony.

With great respect and gratitude for your consideration, I remain,

Most sincerely,
Marge Rankema