

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
Digital Library Collections

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

Collection:

Green, Max: Files, 1985-1988

Folder Title:

Commission for the Preservation of American Heritage
Abroad

Box: 31

To see more digitized collections visit:

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

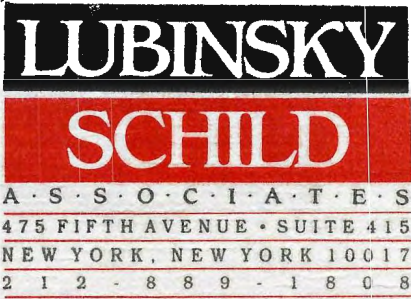
To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Inventories, visit:

<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/>



August 15, 1985

Mr. Marshall J. Breger
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Room 197
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Marshall:

As per our recent conversation, I am pleased to share with you some of my thoughts on the appointment of members to a commission on the preservation of cemeteries and other holy sites in Eastern Europe as is required by the law recently passed by Congress.

To begin with, I am sure that you are aware of the renewed interest in preserving some of the neglected cemeteries and holy sites in Eastern Europe. Travel to such countries as Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Rumania has dramatically increased in recent years. Some private funding has already been secured to repair some of the better known cemeteries, but is only a small fraction of the money that is needed. Although there have been many individuals and organizations that have been involved in this effort in the last couple of years, I am taking the liberty of proposing three people whose involvement is well known and who would certainly contribute to the work of the commission.

Rabbi Chaskel Besser - A well known Orthodox Jewish leader, Rabbi Besser is a member of the Presidium of Agudath Israel of America and the Executive of the Agudath Israel World Organization. He has served as one of the central figures in this effort and has traveled extensively to develop programs and activities to preserve the legacy of Eastern European Jewry.

Andor Weiss - He is the Executive Director of the Aishel Avraham Residential Health Care Facility, the largest non-profit nursing home under Orthodox Jewish auspices. Mr. Weiss devotes every spare moment to maintaining links with Hungary's 30,000 Jews. He is a member of the World Federation of Hungarian Jews and has been extremely active in the effort to restore the large Budapest Synagogue in Hungary as well as the preservation of the cemeteries. Weiss travels frequently to Hungary and is extremely

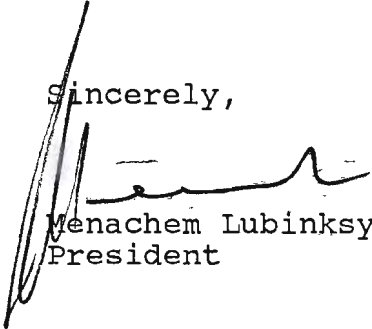
knowledgeable about all of the aspects of the proposed agenda of the newly established commission.

Leslie Keller - A frequent visitor to Hungary, Mr. Keller has become one of the strongest links between the Hungarian Jewish community and American Jews. As a prominent export-import businessman, he has also developed some extraordinary relationships in the highest echelons of the Hungarian government which has facilitated the cooperation that the restoration effort enjoys.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you as your input is sought into the appointment process.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Menachem Lubinsky
President

ML:em

CONGREGATION BETH EL

O F M O N T G O M E R Y C O U N T Y

8215 OLD GEORGETOWN ROAD

BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20014

652-2606

School Office: 652-2608

SAMUEL SCOLNIC, Rabbi

*file
Commission by
Preservation of
American Heritage
Abroad*

August 16, 1985

Dear Mr. Breger:

I am writing this letter on behalf of our Congregation Beth El in Bethesda, Maryland, to support the appointment of Mr. Israel Rubin to the Commission for the Preservation of American Heritage abroad. This Commission, as you know, is to help preserve and protect cemeteries, monuments and historic buildings which are located abroad and are associated with the foreign heritage of American citizens. We are particularly concerned with Jewish cemeteries in Eastern Europe which were holy sites for centuries and which today stand in danger of being totally obliterated.

Mr. Israel Rubin, who initiated the entire project of preserving such sacred places of the Jewish people, has performed a magnificent service in moving this matter through government channels. His diligent efforts have been rewarded with a Commission that will consist of 21 people who will be charged with preserving these sites, if at all possible. Surely, the man who was most instrumental in accomplishing this objective should be rewarded with a place on the Commission. More than anyone else, he will surely be a strong influence in realizing the goals of the Commission.

I know that every Rabbi and Congregation in our country that would hear of this effort would feel indebted to Mr. Rubin for all that he has done. This has been a labor of love for him for many years and it would be most unfortunate if he could not continue to influence the work of the Commission. I urge you to support his request for such an appointment, which will leave us all indebted to you.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Scolnic
SAMUEL SCOLNIC
Rabbi

התאחדות הרבנים דארצות הברית וקנדה

CENTRAL RABBINICAL CONGRESS OF THE U.S.A. AND CANADA

85 Division Avenue
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11211
384-6765

August 21, 1985

Dr. Marshall Breger
Special Assistant to the President for
Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building
The White House, Room 197
Washington, D.C. 20500

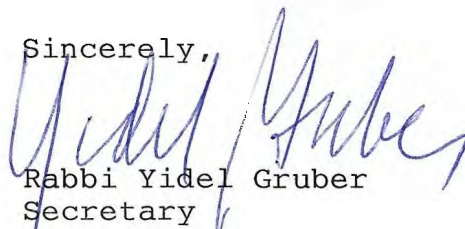
Dear Dr. Breger:

We are extremely pleased that the amendment to the Foreign Aid Bill which establishes a Commission for the preservation of America's Heritage Abroad has been passed.

It was Rabbi Zvi Kestenbaum whose original concept spurred the creation of this Commission. It was Rabbi Kestenbaum who singlehandedly convinced the President's Holocaust Commission to formerly call for the creation of a cemetery commission.

We feel that it is only fitting that Rabbi Kestenbaum be named to this Commission, and we are certain that we can rely on you to ensure that this body be comprised of equally capable and dedicated individuals.

Sincerely,



Rabbi Yidel Gruber
Secretary



ODA Economic
Development
Corporation

Comelawes commission

Opportunity Development Association

12 Heyward Street, Brooklyn, New York 11211 • (718) 522-5620

September 3, 1985

Dr. Marshall Breger
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building
The White House, Room 197
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Dr. Breger:

To keep you current of my efforts to preserve our heritage abroad, I am enclosing a recent article regarding these activities.

Once again, thank you for your support and guidance.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Zvi Kestenbaum
Executive Director

ZK:mu
Enclosures

SOLARZ BILL TO PROTECT OLD EUROPEAN CEMETERIES

The House-Senate Conference Committee adopted in full the amendment offered by Congressman Stephen J. Solarz (D-Brooklyn) that will create a commission to protect those cemeteries abroad which are associated with the ethnic or religious heritage of American citizens.

This legislation, part of the Foreign Aid bill, which was just signed into law by President Reagan, was primarily designed for Holocaust survivors in the U.S. who want to preserve and protect those cemeteries where their ancestors are buried.

The Solarz amendment passed the House of Representatives last month and was introduced in the Senate by Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Massachusetts).

Congressman Solarz serves on the United States Holocaust Memorial Council and served on the Council's predecessor organization, the United States Holocaust Commission. His legislation to protect cemeteries abroad grew out of a recommendation made by the Commission. The original concept came from Brooklyn Rabbi Zvi Kestenbaum. Rabbi Kestenbaum, of Hungarian Jewish descent, first brought this matter before the Congress in 1975. It was he who single-handedly convinced the President's Holocaust Commission to formally call for the creation of a cemetery commission.

"The Commission found that many cemeteries in Eastern and Central Europe were being destroyed, by weather and

decay or by hostile actions," Congressman Solarz noted. "Without vigorous action by our government, we risk losing a vital part of our heritage."

Solarz' victory marks a definite diplomatic breakthrough for the American Jewish community. "For nearly 50 years," Solarz said, "the sacred gravesites of our ancestors have been abused, ignored, vandalized, and often destroyed." Solarz continued, "the purpose of the commission is to identify foreign cemeteries which are in jeopardy — to which Americans have religious or cultural ties — and to recommend policies to the State Department by which the governments, in whose countries the cemeteries are located, can be encouraged to preserve them."

Cemeteries, monuments, and historic buildings are often the last remaining visible reminders of the communities our immigrant ancestors left behind. These landmarks are in danger of deterioration or destruction because there are no longer descendants or compatriots, in the communities where the landmarks are located, to care for them. In some cases, neglect or deliberate actions by hostile governments threatened to reduce these important memorials to rubble.

In Poland, for example, the last remaining wall of the Warsaw Ghetto was torn down in the mid-1970s. Before World War II, there were 800 Jewish cemeteries there; now, only 434 remain, of which only 22 are in decent condition. Similar stories can

be told about graves throughout the Eastern bloc countries, representing communities of all religious faiths.

The Solarz law mandates that the Commission identify and publish a list of landmarks abroad associated with the foreign heritage of United States citizens which are in danger of deterioration or destruction; second, that policies be pursued by the State Department to obtain assurances from the governments, in whose countries the landmarks are located, that the cemeteries, monuments, and historic buildings will be protected; third, that the Commission sponsor and support demonstration projects to preserve and protect these landmarks.

The Commission will be composed of twenty-one members, seven of which will be directly appointed by the President, seven by the Speaker of the House, and seven by the President pro tempore of the Senate.

In a stirring speech Solarz concluded by saying, "America's unity is strengthened by our respect for the diversity of our people's ethnic heritage. If we permit the decay and deterioration of the years — or destruction wrought by hostile or uncaring governments — to undermine the cemeteries, monuments, or historic buildings associated with the foreign heritage of U.S. citizens, all of us will lose an important part of our roots."

A BORO PARK VOICE NEWS BACKGROUND REPORT

Rabbi Kestenbaum was the originator and prime mover of the campaign to protect Jewish cemeteries abroad



The amendment to the Foreign Aid Bill introduced by Senator Kennedy in the Senate and Congressman Solarz to the House, just signed into law by President Reagan, which creates a commission to protect Jewish cemeteries abroad, is largely the result of the extraordinary efforts of one individual, Rabbi Zvi Kestenbaum.

Rabbi Kestenbaum's Campaign

(continued from page 3)

Rabbi Kestenbaum, who is the Executive Director of the Opportunity Development Association (which is another example of his numerous magnificent achievements), has been involved for many years in an intensive campaign to stop the erosion, willful neglect and malicious destruction of thousands of graves of revered rabbis and ancestors in European communities. These cemeteries are often the only remnants, the sole monuments to hundreds of years of flourishing Jewish existence and its glorious heritage.

Convinced that further apathy and inaction would be disastrous, Rabbi Kestenbaum founded and still leads an organization called The Society for the Preservation of Jewish Cemeteries whose central aim is to improve the maintenance and prevent the further deterioration of Jewish cemeteries in Europe.

The Society approaches its task from several different directions. It attempts to publicize the seriousness of the problem so that the community should be aware of the imminent dangers ahead. An integral part of Jewish history and heritage — one that has tremendous emotional significance to many thousands of American Jews — is threatened with gradual disintegration. This campaign to inform the public has been extremely successful. Conscious of the situation and acutely disturbed by the possible dire consequences, the Jewish community has responded by offering support not only for the Society's goals, but also for the Society itself and its Director, Rabbi Kestenbaum, has arranged and taken numerous trips to various European communities in Poland, Hungary,

Romania and Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia — several times in the illustrious company of the Grand Rabbi of Satmar, Rabbi Moshe Teitelbaum, to try to improve the situation personally. Since Jewish communities in these countries are very small, if they exist at all, Rabbi Kestenbaum dealt mostly with secular officials on all levels. Through the skillful use of persuasion, tact and diplomacy, he managed to accomplish a great deal in many places. Roads scheduled to be built through cemeteries were diverted, plans for buildings to be erected were cancelled, crumbling fences and monuments were repaired and arrangements were made for regular maintenance.

The most effective, most promising and most far-reaching remedy for the cemetery problem in the opinion of Rabbi Kestenbaum, is that the government of the United States officially recognize that the legitimate concerns of many thousands of American citizens are at stake and that, therefore, the State Department should pursue policies which will enable it to obtain assurances from the governments of the countries which contain the cemeteries that they will be protected and maintained. Such good relations with the United States is a priority for most governments; such assurances would not be hard to arrange and they would certainly offer the best hope for long-range preservation.

Understanding all this clearly right at the outset, Rabbi Kestenbaum embarked on a strenuous campaign which culminated in the great breakthrough legislation which was just signed by the President. A look at the correspondence archives of The Society for the Preservation of Jewish Cemeteries would find more than two hundred letters written or received by the Society — mostly written by Rabbi Kestenbaum regarding this issue. The correspondents include Ambassadors, Senators, Congressmen, Secretaries of State and other Cabinet members, Mayors of American and European cities. The

Wiesel, Chairman of the President's Commission on the Holocaust, and scores of other officials and community leaders.

It was Rabbi Kestenbaum who singlehandedly convinced the President's Commission on the Holocaust to include the following declaration in its report to the President:

"The Commission recommends that in recognition of the sanctity of the physical remains of the Jewish communities of Eastern Europe and the right of the dead to a final resting place, the State Department should continue to express its concern over the destruction of cemeteries, urging that they be maintained in a suitably respectable manner.

One of the few remnants of Jewish life in Eastern Europe are the cemeteries. In recent years, the cemeteries have been destroyed by new building projects, housing developments and road construction. The Commission strongly urges that pressure be brought to prevent vandalization, to repair markers or to supply markers where they are missing and to maintain grounds."

Rabbi Kestenbaum pointed out to the members of the Holocaust Commission that, aside from the importance of these cemeteries to Jewish individuals who are interested in specific graves, they also provide one of the best possible memorials to the Jewish history. Walking through these cemeteries, one realizes how many great personalities are buried here, and how many lived lives of incredible achievement whose teachings and ethics are still studied today, hundreds of years later. One is truly stunned by the enormity of what the Holocaust destroyed here.

It took five more years of sustained effort and activity to get from the Holocaust Commission's recommendation to the President to the signing of the Bill to create the Commission to protect the cemeteries. For Rabbi Kestenbaum the passage of this Bill is truly the first of a long and arduous labor of love.

ארום א היסטארישע דערגרייכונג

בית החיים. די גויה וואונט דארט עד היום און די האלט ראם ארט ריין. און היט עס אפ ווי מען כאדארף.

די צווייטע מעשה האט א שייכות מיט גאליציה. און מיטן ציון פונעם הייליגן "כני יששכר" אין רינה. ווי כאקאנט זיינען פילע פאריווכן געמאכט געווארן ארפצושטעלן אן אהל אויף דעם קבר. און עס איז אפילו געווען א זמן וואס עס האט געדראט אז ראם באנצע ארט זאל חלילה אויפגעקערט ווערן. ווייל מען האט דארט געלאזט צו מאכן א שאסיי. עס האט זיך אבער קיינעם נישט איינגעגעבן. מחמת פארשידענע סיבות. די הערשל האט אריף זיך גענומען די ארפונגע. איז געפארן קיין רינה. (מיט רער צווייטע פונעם "סטעיט רעפארטמענט") און דארט, אין שטאט פשעמישל, צו וואו דינוק קערט זיך אפ. קאנפערירט מיט דעם טרענאטור און אנדערע פירער. רעם טאג וואס ער איז צו זיי געקומען. איז פונקט געווען רער לעצטער טאג פון זיין געזונט. און פאר'ן אנהייב פונעם צווייטן, און אז כיינע זיינען דארט געווען אנטווענד.

רעגערניק וועגן זיין שליתות. האט איהם באהערשט א שטארקער רעש. און ער האט זיך צווייטן. דאס האט, ווייזט אויס, זיי באנומען. און אריפ'ן ארט האט זיך אנגעווען רער אריינגעצויגען שאטאסטאמן: "היינט איז מין לעצטער טאג אויף דעם ארט. און איך וויל ענדיגן מין קאריערע מיט א פיינעם טאט. דעריבער טו איך נאכגעבן ריין פארלאזן..." און ווי נאר ער האט פארענדיגט. האט זיך אנגעווען דער וויינע מיט א גוטע פעלה. האסטו דעריבער אריף מין פולע הסכמה... זיי כיינע האבן אונטערגעשריבן אריסן ארט. און די זאך איז געווען ערלעדיגט. באלד דערנאך האט מען געבאכט אן

קענדי. געמאכט דעם פארשלאג אין סענאט. און מ'ר: געהעריגער צוגרייטונג איז די זאך איצט א דורך כשלות. און עס איז געווארן א פאקט.

ווען מיר האבן געפרעגט ביי די הערשליך וואס עס האט איהם אויך געשטופט דערצו. אזש צו מאנען פון רער אמעריקאנער רעגירונג זיך אנצונעמען פאר די בחי החיים? האט ער אונט געענטפערט. אז די הצלחה וואס ער האט געהאט ביי די פירונגע פערולות למצבה די בחי החיים. האט איהם געוויזן אז אויב מען טוט קען מען נאך פול אריפטאן. און דעריבער האט ער כסדר געהאט כטחון אז אריף אזא ריזיקע קען פארזאמלעל זייערן אין א וויקליכקייט.

און ראט ער אונט געגעבן צוויי ביישפילן: דער ערשטער ביישפיל איז פארבונדן מיט זיין היים-שטאט ראצפערט. וואו ער האט באווכט מיט

אנקומען צו אמעריקא וועלן זיך מוזען רעכענען. און עס מוזען אונגעמען אלס די אפיציעלע מיינונג פון דער אמעריקאנער רעגירונג.

לויט'ן פארשיפט וועלן אין קומענדן מאנאט אקטאבער באשטעטיקט ווערן די אויסגעקליבענע "קאמישאן" מיטגלידער, וואס זי פון זיי ווערן "אפרינטער" ווערן פרעזידענט. 7 ווערן "ספיקער" פון קאנגרעס. און 7 ווערן פרעזידענט פון סענאט. אין א קורצע צייט רערויף וועט די קאמיסיע אנהייבן פונקציאנירן. און מיר וועלן בעדיה זעהן דערפון גוטע פירות. (פארשייט זיך אז אין דער קאמיסיע וועלן זיין פארטראטן היימישע אידן. עסקני הציונה, וואס וועלן האבן פאר זיך אן ארפונגע וואס איז פאר אלע אזוי הייליג און רינגער, און וועלן איהם טאן דאס בעסטע וואס מען קען.)

צו לייצען אזא נייעס כאריכט. נעמט נישט מער זיך א האלבע מינוט. און זיך צו פרייען רעכטיג. אפשר נאך עטליכע מינוט... אבער די לאנג ווערט דאס צו רעגיריך?

— באנצע צעהן יאר!...

מיט צעהן יאר צוריק. ווען דער אומערמדיכער עסקן די הערשל קעסטענבוים ניי האט געגרינדעט דעם "יער לשמירה בחי החיים באיראפע" מיט רעקאמענדאציעס און כרכות פון די גדולי האומדוים שליט"א, האט ער זיך באלד פארמאסטן. כדרכו. "צוגיין צום קאפ". און זייט ביי זייט מיט די פעולות וואס זיינען געטאן געווארן רא און רארט. עפי" רוב שטילערהייט. צו פארדיכטן און פארזימען מיט חיים. אויפשטעלן מצבה א.ד.ג. האט ער אריך געארבעט אריין צוגעברענגען אין וואשינגטאן א לעגיסלאטיווער פארשלאג. וואס זאל זיין פארבונדן מיט ארפונגעלן די אריישע בחי חיים אין יודא.

דער גוטער שליח אריף אויסצופירן דער זאך. איז געווען דער פאפולערער קאנגרעסמאן סטיוון סאליארש. וועלכער האט דאס פארגעלייגט פאר'ן קאנגרעס. און געפארט אז עס זאל ווערן אריינגעזען אלס טייל פון דעם כיל פאר אויסלעגרישער הילף.

עס האט גענומען יארן און די זאך האט זיך נישט גערייט פון ארט. די הערשל האט אבער נישט פארלידן זיין קראוש. ווען עס האט זיך געשאפן דער "האלאקאסט קאמישאן" האט ער געארבעט און דערגרייכט אז זיין ייער פראגראם זאל ארייןגענומען ווערן צו טאן אין דער ריכטונג פון העלפן אהייטן די בחי עלמין מעכר ליים. און איך דעם אפיציעלן "רעפארט טו דע פרוזידענט" פון די קאמיסיע. טרעפן מיר טאקע א באזונדערן פארנאגראף כנוגע די בחי עלמין אין אירופא.

דאס האט איהם אבער נישט באפרידיגט. ווייל למעשה איז פון זיי גארנישט געטאן געווארן ממשות'דיג און דער מצב איז געבליבן ווי געווען. איצט האט זיך געמאכט א שנע הכושד. און קאנגרעסמאן סאלארש האט ווידער אויפגעבעט דעם "כיל". ווי אריך האט סענאטאר ערווארד



ר' צבי קעסטענבוים

לאמיר אנפאנגען דארט וואו מיר האבן זיך אפגעשטעלט.

אינעם פריערדיגען אויסגאבע. וואו מיר האבן באשריבן באריכות די פילע מעשים און אויפטונג פונעם "איש המעש" וחי מיר האבן איהם דארט אנגערויפן. די הערשל קעסטענבוים האבן מיר פארענדיגט מיט זיין לעצטער רעגיריכונג אז די ערשטע אפטימונג אין קאנגרעס און אין סענאט ווען שאפן א רעגירונג קאנטראל איבער די פארבליבענע בחי חיים אין אייראפע. איז א דורך צום גינסטן. און מיר האבן צום פארענדיגט מיט דער אפגענונג אז עס וועט אריך ווייטער אנגענומען ווערן.

זינט דאן איז שוין פיל וואסער אפגעפלאסן און א סך נייע אנטוויקלונגען האבן פארנומען דעם פלאץ אין די נייעס כאריכטן פון דער פרעסע. אריף אויף דעם נעכטן האט זיך עס א רוק געטאן פאראויס. און מיט'ן אויבערשטענס הילף איז דער פארשלאג פולקאם אנגענומען געווארן סיי פון סענאט און סיי פון קאנגרעס. און האט שוין אריין באקומען די אונטערשריפט פונעם פרוזידענט.

די דערגרייכונג כאשטייט פון דעם, וואס עס וועט איהם געשאפן ווערן אן אפיציעלער קאמיסיע וואס וועט האבן אונטער זיך דעם כח און איינפלוס פון די אמעריקאנע ממשלה. פון 21 וואס עס איז גוגע די בחי חיים אין יודא, ויער פרעזערווירונג. רייניקייט וכיוצא. און וועלן זיין אויטאריזט צו נעמען א שטעלונג מיט העלכע די אנדערע דערגרינגען וואס אלע פון זיי דארפן

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פארענדיגט.

פ

The Heitman Group

MEMORANDUM

TO: Matt Zachari
Office of Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

FROM: Betty Heitman *BH*
Chairman
Commission on the Preservation of America's Heritage
Abroad

SUBJECT: Commission Membership

DATE: September 23, 1987

In response to the telephone call Wendy Shapiro of your office made to my office yesterday, I am herewith enclosing copies of the White House Press Releases on twelve of the twenty-one members of the Commission.

In addition, I have received the appointment affidavits from the following members:

Rabbi Zvi Kestenbaum, Brooklyn, New York
A. Morgan Mason, Los Angeles, California
Mary Lou O'Brien, Alexandria, Virginia
Judy Baar Topinka, Riverside, Illinois
Norman H. Stahl, Bedford, New Hampshire
Edgar Gluck, Brooklyn, New York
Rabbi Morris Schmidman, Brooklyn, New York.

The press releases on these seven must have been issued prior to the time I was named to the Commission. If you wanted the releases on these appointees you may be able to obtain them from your Press Office.

An additional member, Dalia Bobelis of St. Petersburg, Florida, has advised me she is attempting to have the spelling of her name corrected on her official appointment citation before returning her appointment affidavit to my office.

One appointment has not been announced as yet and any information on that appointment would have to come from Presidential Personnel.

Do hope this is helpful to you.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 16, 1987

The President today announced his intention to appoint the following individuals to be Members of the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad:

For a term of three years:

✓ BETTY GREEN HEITMAN, of Louisiana. She would succeed Kenneth Duberstein. Upon appointment, she will be designated Chairman. Mrs. Heitman is currently a partner with the Heitman Group in Washington, D.C. Prior to this, she served as Co-Chairman of the Republican National Committee, 1980-1987. Mrs. Heitman was born November 27, 1929 in Malvern Arkansas. She is married, has four children and resides in Arlington, Virginia.

For terms of two years:

✓ ARTHUR BERNEY, of Massachusetts. This is a new position. Since 1970, Mr. Berney has been a Professor at Boston College Law School. Prior to this he was an Associate Professor at Boston College, 1966-1970. Mr. Berney graduated from the University of Virginia (B.A., 1961; J.D., 1958); and was a Ford Foundation Fellow at Harvard Law School, 1964. He served in the United States Army, 1953-1955. Mr. Berney is married, has two children and resides in Brookline, Massachusetts.

✓ ABRAHAM FRIEDLANDER, of New York. This is a new position. Since 1979, Mr. Friedlander has been the Editor of Boro Park Voice in Brooklyn, New York. Prior to this he served as an Employment Counselor at the Federal Employment and Guidance Service, 1979-1980. Mr. Friedlander graduated from Chasan Sofer Rabbinical College (B.A., 1976). He was born October 21, 1954 in New York, New York. Mr. Friedlander is married, has three children and resides in Brooklyn, New York.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 9, 1987

The President today announced his intention to appoint the following individuals to be Members of the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad:

For terms of two years:

✓ LEVI GOLDBERGER, of New York. This is a new position. Since 1966, Mr. Goldberger has been a Field Underwriter for Mutual of New York in Secaucus, New Jersey. Prior to this, he served as the Supervisor of the Investors Planning Corporation, 1960-1966. Mr. Goldberger graduated from Rabbinical College of Galanta in Czechoslovakia, 1936-1938; Theological College, Bratislavia, Czechoslovakia, 1938-1943; and Mesifita Torah Vodaath - Post Graduate School of Rabbinical Studies, Brooklyn, New York, 1947-1950. He was born August 3, 1922 in Bratislavia, Czechoslovakia. Mr. Goldberger is married, has two children, and resides in Brooklyn, New York.

✓ ASHER J. SCHARF, of New York. This is a new position. Since 1976, Mr. Scharf has been President of the 33rd Street Real Estate Development Corporation in New York, New York. Prior to this, he was the owner and operator of senior citizen residences in New York, 1957-1976. Mr. Scharf graduated from the Yeshivah of Bobov, Poland, 1940. He is was born February 9, 1919 in Biala-Bielsko, Poland, Mr. Scharf is married, has three children and resides in Brooklyn, New York.

For terms of three years:

✓ GERALD E. ROSEN, of Michigan. This is a new position. Since 1979, Mr. Rosen has been a partner with Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone in Detroit, Michigan. He graduated from Kalamazoo College, (B.A., 1973), and George Washington University, (J.D., 1979). Mr. Rosen was born October 26, 1951 in Chandler, Arizona. He is married, and resides in Detroit, Michigan.

✓ EDWARD H. SIMS, of South Carolina. This is a new position. Mr. Sims is an author, and is currently Publisher of Editor's Copy Syndicate. He attended Emory University. Mr. Sims served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He was born May 29, 1923 in Orangeburg, South Carolina. Mr. Sims is married, has four children, and resides in Sarasota, Florida.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 17, 1987

The President today announced his intention to appoint the following individuals to be Members of the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad. These are new positions.

For a term of two years:

RABBI CHASKEL BESSER, of New York. Since 1965, Rabbi Besser has been affiliated with the Congregation Bnai Israel in New York, New York. He is a lecturer on Jewish law, history and lore. Rabbi Besser was born February 14, 1923 in Katowice, Poland. He is married, has four children and resides in New York, New York.

LAWRENCE J. MAJEWSKI, of New York. Since 1960, Mr. Majewski has been Professor of Conservation-Emeritus at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. He graduated from Yale University (B.A., 1951; M.A., 1954). Mr. Majewski served in the United States Navy, 1942-1945. He was born February 10, 1919 in Mason City, Iowa. Mr. Majewski resides in Wappingers Falls, New York.

For a term of three years:

ISRAEL RUBIN, of Maryland. Since 1979, Mr. Rubin has been a marketing, economic and insurance consultant in Washington, D.C. Prior to this, he was involved with the Interagency Council for Minority Business Enterprise at the U.S. Department of Commerce, 1977-1979. Mr. Rubin graduated from the College of the City of New York (BSSS, 1949), and Columbia University (M.A., 1950). He served in the United States Navy, 1945-1946. Mr. Rubin was born April 17, 1927 in New York, New York. He is married, has three children and resides in Potomac, Maryland.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

July 28, 1987

The President today announced his intention to appoint Leslie Keller to be a Member of the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad for a term of three years. This is a new position.

Since 1965, Mr. Keller has been President of Kelso, Inc. in Rego Park, New York. He was born September 2, 1920 in Salgotarjan, Hungary. Mr. Keller is married, and resides in Forest Hills, New York.

#

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Santa Barbara, California)

For Immediate Release

August 14, 1987

The President today announced his intention to appoint Julius Berman to be a Member of the Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad for a term of two years.

Since 1960, Mr. Berman has been a Partner with Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler law firm in New York, New York. He graduated from Yeshiva University (B.A., 1956) and New York University (LL.B., 1960). He was born August 2, 1935 in Dukst, Poland. He is married, has three children and resides in Forest Hills, New York.

#