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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301741

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. MICHAEL KORENBLIT

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETRY

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

MARSHALL BREGER	ORG	85/04/24		C 85/04/26 PY
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REFERRAL NOTE: _____

REFERRAL NOTE: _____

REFERRAL NOTE: _____

REFERRAL NOTE: _____

REFERRAL NOTE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: _____ MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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

Cm / personal

301741



International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, Inc.

One Park Avenue, Suite 1900 • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016

DIRECT DIAL:

Michael Korenblit
7739 Marshall Heights Ct.
Falls Church, VA. 22043
703/356-0718
April 15, 1985

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

- M. Buzgar*
- MENACHEM Z. ROSENSAFT
Founding Chairman
 - JERZY B. WARMAN
President
 - ROSITTA E. KENIGSBERG
MICHAEL KORENBLIT
Executive Vice Presidents
 - HOWARD J. BUTNICK
Treasurer
 - SARAH L. DUCORSKY
Secretary

Dear President Reagan,

I am writing to you on behalf of the sons and daughters of the survivors of the Holocaust. When your decision was first announced that you would not be going to Dachau to commemorate the six million Jews who were murdered by the Nazis, we were deeply stunned. When you gave your response as to why, we were deeply shocked. Then we heard of your decision to lay a wreath at the cemetery in Bitburg to honor the Nazis who had died at the Battle of the Bulge. We were engulfed in anger and horrified.

Mr. President, as you near your 75th year you are in excellent health. So, too, are many Germans of your age. You served in the Army during World War II, as did many living Germans. When my parents were liberated from their concentration camps they were just 20 years old; when Eile Wiesel was liberated from Buchenwald he was 16. Both my parents, Professor Wiesel, and other camp survivors were guarded in their camps by Nazis in their early 20s. Many of those guards are living in Germany or other parts of the world today. They remember well what took place in those camps and the part they played. We should also remember, not out of vengence or hatefulness but as a reminder.

Speaking before a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on the ratification of the Genocide Treaty, Professor Wiesel made the following statement, "It is the honor of our country to have lead the war, and what a war, what a heroic and noble war, against those who practiced genocide. Tens of thousands of young Americans have given their lives to defeat Nazis, and their war, our war, was not a political war. It was a moral war. And therefore, it is still being glorified and extolled by all of us with justified pride."

Please think carefully about those thousands of young Americans who died for our country and what they died for as you make that decision to pay honor to the very men they fought. I will not try to convince you to visit Dachau or even Flossenbergl, where there is a marked grave for American soldiers who were murdered in that concentration camp. Nor will I try to explain why it is important that you do so. Instead I will share with you the following quotes.

"Imparting the message of the Holocaust, using it to reinforce the moral fiber of our society is much more than a Jewish responsibility. It rests upon all of us who, not immobilized by cynicism and negativism, believe that mankind is capable of greater goodness.

Our most sacred task now is ensuring that the memory of this greatest of human tragedies, the Holocaust, never fades; that its lessons are not forgotten...that its significance is not lost on this generation or any future generation. Though it is a dry scar, we cannot let the bleeding wound be forgotten."

Those words were spoken to me, my parents and 15,000 other survivors and children of survivors at the Capital Center on April 11, 1985 by you, Mr. President. We believed the truth in those words when they were spoken then, and we still believe in them now. What better way to put meaning to those words than to make that short trip to Dachau and give them the power from which they were spoken.

Respectfully yours,

Michael Korenblit

Michael Korenblit
Executive Vice President

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301742

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. HERBERT KRONISH

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
MARSHALL BREGER	ORG	85/04/24		C 85/04/26 ^{PY}
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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

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MANAGEMENT.

301742

M. Breyer

KRONISH, LIEB, SHAINSWIT, WEINER & HELLMAN

1345 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10105

TELEPHONE (212) 841-6000

TELEX WU 64-0007

TELECOPIER (212) 765-8943

PAUL R. ALTER
RUSSELL S. BERMAN
WILLIAM L. CASTLEBERRY
JACK K. FEIRMAN
JUSTIN N. FELDMAN
BRIAN J. GALLAGHER
STEPHEN D. GARDNER
DONALD A. GOLDSMITH
ELIZABETH GRANVILLE
JOHN HARTJE
JOSEPH S. HELLMAN
HAROLD M. HOFFMAN
LAURENCE J. KAISER
VICTOR F. KEEN
HERBERT KRONISH
ALAN LEVINE
RICHARD LIEB
WILLIAM JAY LIPPMAN
PETER J. MANSBACH
RONALD J. NUSSBAUM
TODD S. PICKARD
ALLAN SALOVIN
BERNARD L. SANOFF
IRA A. SCHREGER
SEYMOUR SHAINSWIT
GEORGE J. SOLOMON
RALPH J. SUTCLIFFE
ADAM WALINSKY
STEVEN K. WEINBERG

COUNSEL
JAMES S. EUSTICE
SPECIAL COUNSEL
ROBERT A. KAGAN
STANLEY M. KATZ

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER
(212) 841- 6010

April 18, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

Your administration made a grave error in judgment when you decided to visit the German military cemetery in Bitburg.

How could you forget all the Americans who were killed and wounded in the Battle of the Bulge! How could you forget the massacre at Malmedy! Where was your consideration for the feelings of the families of those who died to save the world from the horrors of Hitler! How could you be so insensitive to the pain and suffering of the entire Jewish people!

Yes we should be reconciled with our former enemies. But we should not forget - we must remember what men did to their fellow men, what evil mankind is capable of, so that it will never happen again. Of all people, the Germans surely must not be permitted to forget. Even now there are men and women who would rewrite history and say that the Holocaust never happened.

Mr. President going to the cemetery at Bitburg is wrong. Going to a concentration camp does not make that decision right. I urge you to admit that an error was made and to change your plans to visit Bitburg.

Yours truly,

Herbert Kronish
Herbert Kronish

*Chairman
The Great New York Conference on
Soviet Jewry*

301747
TR12301

156 

National Security Council
The White House



System # I
Package # 3509
1741

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Pearson	<u>1</u>	<u>P</u>	
Bob Kimmitt	<u>2</u>	<u>K</u>	
John Poindexter	<u>3</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>OK?</u>
Paul Thompson			
Wilma Hall		<u>OK</u>	
Bud McFarlane			
Bob Kimmitt	<u>4</u>	<u>K</u>	
NSC Secretariat	<u>5</u>		<u>D</u>
Situation Room			

I = Information A = Action R = Retain D = Dispatch N = No further Action

cc: VP Meese Baker Deavier Other _____

COMMENTS Should be seen by: _____
(Date/Time)

I'm afraid these are late.

NSC 8503509

RECEIVED 30 APR 85 14

TO BALL, W

FROM JAFFKE, K

DOCDATE 25 APR 85

PLATT, N

27 APR 85

KEYWORDS: GERMANY F R

CO

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE RE PRES FRG VISIT

ACTION: MEMO KIMMITT TO KATHY JAFFKE DUE: 03 MAY 85 STATUS S FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

SOMMER

LEHMAN, C

SABLE

COMMENTS

*To Lou
I concur. Hope you
handle. I am on
my way to Europe.
Peter Sommer*

REF#

8512609

LOG

NSCIFID

(LB)

ACTION OFFICER (S)	ASSIGNED	ACTION REQUIRED	DUE	COPIES TO
<i>RLK</i>	<i>X 5/1</i>	<i>Lou L...</i>	<i>5/4</i>	
	<i>C 5/02</i>	<i>Kimmitt sgd</i>		<i>RS, PS BP</i>

DISPATCH

W/Attch

W/ATTCH FILE

(C)

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE GARY L. ACKERMAN

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY

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

M. B. OGLESBY	ORG,	85/04/24	REC A	85/05/08 ^{AB}
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REFERRAL NOTE:	_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
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REFERRAL NOTE:	_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
REFERRAL NOTE:	_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____
REFERRAL NOTE:	_____	____/____/____	_____	____/____/____

COMMENTS: ^{AB} Acknowledgement sent to all agencies
 N5C 8503509

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230 1240
 MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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

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

May 8, 1985

Dear Mr. Borski:

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 Robert A. Borski
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

1 c to all signees



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 5-7-85
TO: B. Kathy
FROM: Max F.
SUBJECT:

THE ATTACHED IS FOR YOUR:

Information _____

Action _____

Letter response _____

File _____

OTHER I recommend this letter
be drafted for staff signature
rather than Presidential. 1

Invitation:

Accept _____ Decline _____

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 1, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF
M. B. OGLESBY, JR.

FROM: KATHY RATTÉ JAFFKE *KRJ*

SUBJECT: Draft Response on President's
Itinerary for Germany

The State Department has provided the attached draft to respond to the Congressional letters we received about the President's agenda while in Germany. NSC has reviewed the response.

Do you concur with this acknowledgment?

MAX - Do you think that RR should sign these letters rather than us - strong responses - might provide further long. responses -

"B" I think we should sign, rather than President.

NR - ok (per Maggie)

Dear Senator/Congressman:

Thank you for sharing with me your views concerning my upcoming state visit to the Federal Republic of Germany. I fully understand the depth of your concerns and assure you my own feelings about the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Nazi regime are no less deeply felt. I intend to make absolutely clear during my 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, my itinerary includes a ceremony at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in order to pay homage to all those who perished at the hands of the Nazis. As I said on the anniversary of the liberation of that camp April 21, there can and should be no absolution.

I am 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. I have been asked by Chancellor Kohl to pay a visit to a German military cemetery in Bitburg, and I intend to honor 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 ~~by~~ 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 I do not consider my 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. I consider this to be a positive gesture which in no way detracts from my full and heartfelt commitment to remember and honor the victims of the Holocaust and the American soldiers who gave their lives to defeat the Nazi regime and its crimes.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald Reagan

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

May 2, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR KATHY JAFFKE

FROM: ROBERT M. KIMMITT *Bob*
SUBJECT: Congressional Correspondence Regarding
President's FRG Visit

Attached is a State drafted response for the numerous letters from Congress on the President's FRG visit.

The NSC concurs with the draft response.

Attachment

Tab A Draft Response



8512609 3049
United States Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

UNCLASSIFIED

April 27, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROBERT C. MCFARLANE
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Congressional Correspondence on the President's
FRG Visit

As requested by the White House Director for Congressional Correspondence, attached is a draft response for the President's signature to the numerous congressional inquiries concerning the itinerary of the President's trip to the FRG. We believe the text to be sufficiently broad to cover the variety of emphasis of the congressional letters, copies of which were forwarded to the Department.

Nicholas Platt
for Nicholas Platt
Executive Secretary

UNCLASSIFIED

8512609

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 25, 1985



MEMORANDUM FOR: WILL BALL
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations
Department of State

FROM: KATHY RATTE JAFFKE *KRJ*
Director, Congressional Correspondence

SUBJECT: President's Visit to Germany

Over the past few weeks the President has received approximately 30 letters signed by about 240 Members of Congress concerning the controversy over President Reagan's visit to Germany.

We have not responded to these letters as yet because the matter has been under constant review. I raised this issue with Max Friedersdorf at our staff meeting, and at his direction I am requesting an appropriate draft response or responses for these inquiries.

The letters fall into three categories:

- don't visit the cemetery
12 letters
146 total signers
- don't visit the cemetery, visit concentration camp
11 letters
65 total signers
- visit concentration camp
6 letters
25 total signers

I would appreciate your help in securing appropriate acknowledgments as soon as possible to enable us to respond by the time the President departs for Europe on Tuesday.

Thanks so much for your help.

37
mo

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

90 cosigners
104

April 19, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing with respect to your upcoming visit to Germany from April 30-May 10. Although we recognize your desire to work toward full reconciliation with our German allies, we believe it is inappropriate to visit the cemetery in Bitburg where soldiers from the elite Nazi guard, the SS, are buried. We believe that a ceremony at this cemetery would be a dishonor to the American soldiers who fought to save the world from Hitler's deadly campaign, as well as for victims of the genocide perpetrated by the Nazis.

We feel that a ceremony to commemorate the death of even one individual who participated in the Nazi war crimes would denigrate the significance of your trip. As you know, many of us would have preferred that your original itinerary include a stop at the Dachau concentration camp, the site where tens of thousands of innocent victims lost their lives to the Nazis. However, a visit to such a site does not obviate the insult of the ceremony at Bitburg.

Reconciliation is a goal which all Americans can support. However, at the same time, we firmly believe that retaining our commitment to remembering the victims of this terrible period in history cannot be overshadowed. We fear that could easily be the result of the planned ceremony at Bitburg. The crimes which took place during the Holocaust are of such great magnitude that the United States, as the leader of the free world, must maintain a vigilant respect for those Americans and Europeans who lost their lives to the Nazis. Therefore, the act of laying a wreath at the tombs of the Waffen SS is a particular affront to countless Americans, and other people throughout the world, whose closest relatives and friends lost their lives during World War II. Therefore, we respectfully urge you to remove the Bitburg ceremony from your itinerary and replace it with a visit to a site which would signify your commitment to remembrance in addition to reconciliation.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Borski

Gary L. Ackerman

See ID 301377
OMIT

✓ Les AuCoin ✓
Les AuCoin

Sander M. Levin ✓
Sander M. Levin
OMIT see 301377

✓ William Lehman ✓
William Lehman

Robert A. Roe ✓
Robert A. Roe
OMIT see 301377

✓ Robert J. Mrazek ✓
Robert J. Mrazek

Ben Erdreich ✓
Ben Erdreich
OMIT see 301377

OMIT see 302755
Ted Weiss ✓
Ted Weiss

Howard L. Berman ✓
Howard L. Berman

OMIT see 301377
Cecil Heftel ✓
Cecil Heftel

Robert A. Young ✓
Robert A. Young

✓ William D. Ford ✓
William D. Ford

Bruce A. Morrison ✓
Bruce A. Morrison

✓ Richard A. Gephardt ✓
Richard A. Gephardt

Charles E. Schumer ✓
Charles E. Schumer
OMIT see 302603

✓ Henry A. Waxman ✓
Henry A. Waxman

Joseph P. Addabbo ✓
Joseph P. Addabbo

OMIT see 302525
Mario Biaggi ✓
Mario Biaggi

Sala Burton ✓
Sala Burton

OMIT
see 30145

Norman F. Lent
Norman F. Lent

Tom Lantos
Tom Lantos

OMIT
see 310656

✓ *Ron Wyden* ✓
Ron Wyden

Lawrence J. Smith ✓
Lawrence J. Smith

✓ *Robert Garcia* ✓
Robert Garcia

Joseph J. DioGuardi ✓
Joseph J. DioGuardi

✓ *John Bryant* ✓
John Bryant

Harry M. Reid ✓
Harry M. Reid

✓ *Morris K. Udall* ✓
Morris K. Udall

Joe Moakley ✓
Joe Moakley

✓ *Peter H. Kostmayer* ✓
Peter H. Kostmayer

Barney Frank
Barney Frank

OMIT
see 301377

✓ *Barbara Boxer* ✓
Barbara Boxer

Barbara A. Mikulski
Barbara A. Mikulski

OMIT
see 301539

✓ *Dan Glickman* ✓
Dan Glickman

Michael D. Barnes
Michael D. Barnes

OMIT
see 301377

✓ *Edolphus Towns* ✓
Edolphus Towns

Gerald D. Kleczka ✓
Gerald D. Kleczka

OMIT
see 301376

Raymond J. McGrath
Raymond J. McGrath

Vic Fazio
Vic Fazio

OMIT
see 301377

Mel Levine
Mel Levine

Donald J. Pease
Donald J. Pease

Ed Jenkins
Ed Jenkins

Albert G. Bustamante
Albert G. Bustamante

Parren L. Mitchell
Parren L. Mitchell

Louis Stokes
Louis Stokes

OMIT
see 302675

James L. Oberstar
James L. Oberstar

James J. Howard
James J. Howard

Julian C. Dixon
Julian C. Dixon

Robert G. Torricelli
Robert G. Torricelli

OMIT
see 301861

Hamilton Fish
Hamilton Fish

James J. Florio
James J. Florio

Jim Moody
Jim Moody

Bill Lowery
Bill Lowery

Walter E. Fauntroy
Walter E. Fauntroy

Stephen J. Solarz
Stephen J. Solarz

✓ Lane Evans ✓
Lane Evans

Ben Gilman
Benjamin A. Gilman

omit
see 311879

omit
see 302676

Pat Schroeder
Patricia Schroeder

J. Downey ✓
Thomas J. Downey

omit
see 302605

Sam Gejdenson
Sam Gejdenson

Paul Kanjorski ✓
Paul Kanjorski

✓ Buddy McKay ✓
Buddy McKay

✓ Don Edwards ✓
Don Edwards

omit
see 301377

Bill Richardson
Bill Richardson

Marcy Kaptur ✓
Marcy Kaptur

✓ Matthew McHugh ✓
Matthew McHugh

Bob Edgar
Bob Edgar

omit
see 310464

✓ James Scheuer ✓
James Scheuer

Mike Synar ✓
Mike Synar

omit
see 302758

Edward Feighan
Edward Feighan

Wyche Fowler ✓
Wyche Fowler

✓ Matthew Martinez ✓
Matthew Martinez

Barbara B. Kennelly ✓
Barbara Kennelly

✓ Alan Wheat ✓
Alan Wheat

Henry Gonzalez ✓
Henry Gonzalez

✓ T. Coelho ✓
Tony Coelho

✓ John Porter ✓
John Porter

Duplicate

✓ Tom Stanton ✓
Tom Stanton

✓ Ferry E. Studts ✓
Ferry E. Studts

✓ Thomas Foglietta ✓
Thomas Foglietta

✓ Jim Cooper ✓
Jim Cooper

OMIT
see 301377

✓ Jim Saxton ✓
Jim Saxton

✓ Tony P. Hall ✓
Tony P. Hall

Howard Wolpe ✓
Howard Wolpe
OMIT
see 301377

✓ Charles Hayes ✓
Charles Hayes

✓ Anthony Beilenson ✓
Anthony Beilenson

✓ Buddy Roemer ✓
Buddy Roemer
OMIT
see 301377

✓ Mickey Leland ✓
Mickey Leland
OMIT
see 302003

✓ Ronald Coleman ✓
Ronald Coleman

✓ Gerry Sikorski ✓
Gerry Sikorski

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301749

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE BILL GREEN

SUBJECT: URGES CANCELING PLANS TO VISIT GERMAN
MILITARY CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/04/24	<i>AB</i>	<i>4/25/85</i>
REFERRAL NOTE:				
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COMMENTS: _____

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

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

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 Bill Green
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

BILL GREEN
15TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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

301749
WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1110 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2436

NEW YORK OFFICE:
GRAND CENTRAL POST OFFICE BUILDING
110 EAST 45TH STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10017
(212) 826-4466

37
7000
April 19, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

I have grave concerns about your recent comments on, and plans for, your upcoming trip to West Germany.

As a Member of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, I know that you have the utmost sympathies for the victims of the Holocaust and their families as well as for the American and allied troops that died in World War II. I also know that you do not intend any disrespect to these groups as you seek to improve personal and official ties to the West German government.

Yet one cannot avoid the fact that the decisions and comments made about your itinerary are causing legitimate concern among many Americans.

One can and must separate Nazi war criminals from the present West German leaders and citizenry, but one cannot separate the soldiers of the SS from their deeds. Nor can one equate those soldiers, even SS conscripts, to civilian victims of the Nazi war machine and the Holocaust.

I strongly urge you, Mr. President, to cancel your planned visit to Bitberg. I am sure there is some other, suitable way to demonstrate our nation's close ties to present-day West Germany.

Sincerely,



Bill Green
Member of Congress

BG:hrd

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JAN MEYERS

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/04/24	<i>WV</i>	955 15/08 AB
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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COMMENTS:

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

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

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MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Jan:

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 Jan Meyers
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

30754

JAN MEYERS
 3D DISTRICT, KANSAS

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

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 1407 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
 (202) 225-2865

DISTRICT OFFICE:
 204 FEDERAL BUILDING
 KANSAS CITY, KS 66101
 (913) 621-0832

RICHARD L. BOND
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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

April 22, 1985

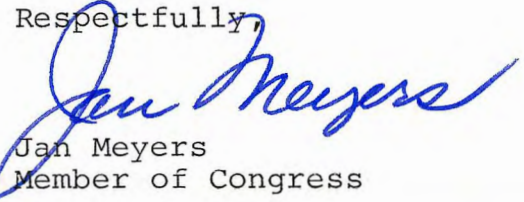
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Dear Mr. President:

The recent decision to visit a German military cemetery and thus pay some degree of homage to those who conceived, directed and implemented the mass extermination of millions of Jews troubles me a great deal.

To honor in any manner those who would have enslaved the world somehow serves to dishonor and cheapen the supreme sacrifice made by American and Allied servicemen and women as they fought to eliminate the Nazi menace.

While I appreciate the fact that there may be young German soldiers buried there who served against their will, also interred there are members of the SS, who willingly and maliciously participated in atrocities against mankind. As a result, I fail to understand the logic for this decision for I am concerned we are sending a message to all the peoples of the world that America is lessening its commitment and resolve in the cause of human freedom, human rights and human dignity.

Respectfully,

 Jan Meyers
 Member of Congress

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

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE LAWRENCE COUGHLIN

SUBJECT: URGES CANCELLING PLANNED VISIT TO BITBURG
CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLFSBY	ORG	85/04/24	<i>MLT</i>	A 85/0508 AB
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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COMMENTS:

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

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| *ACTION CODES: | *DISPOSITION CODES: | *OUTGOING | * |
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| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION | *A-ANSWERED | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER | * |
| *D-DRAFT RESPONSE | *C-COMPLETED | * CODE = A | * |
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| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * | | | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE | | | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY | | | * |
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Larry:

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 Lawrence Coughlin
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

LAWRENCE COUGHLIN
13TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

37
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

MEMBER

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MEMBER

SELECT COMMITTEE ON
NARCOTICS

30755

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

April 22, 1985

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2467 RAYBURN BUILDING
(202) 225-6111
DISTRICT OFFICE:
607 ONE MONTGOMERY PLAZA
NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 19401
(215) 277-4040
596-1755

41
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I ask that you place your planned visit to the Bitburg Cemetery in the proper perspective by cancelling it.

Surely, relations between the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany do not depend on your visit to this one particular site. It is neither a question of caving in to anyone nor offending anyone. Quite simply, it is a question of common sense.

Along with many other Americans, I am distressed that a cemetery in which Nazi soldiers and SS troops are buried so close to a history-turning battle where American prisoners were massacred at Malmedy would be chosen for your visit.

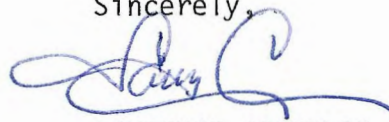
Do not--even as a symbol--pay homage to those who directly or indirectly promoted the Holocaust. Do not honor the Waffen SS who ordered the slaughter of 124 American prisoners at Malmedy during the Battle of the Bulge.

No one questions your sensitivity to the survivors of the Holocaust or other Nazi crimes. I urge you, however, to put yourself in the place of a Holocaust survivor who lost his family in a concentration camp or an American who lost his father in the Battle of the Bulge or the massacre at Malmedy. I think you will agree that a mistake has been made and an inappropriate site chosen.

I sincerely hope that, together with Chancellor Kohl, you will select a more appropriate site to cement the new bond between our Nation and his.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely,



LAWRENCE COUGHLIN

LC:mrt

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE LEON E. PANETTA

SUBJECT: UPGES INCLUDING VISIT TO DACHAU DURING
UPCOMING TRIP TO GERMANY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/04/24	<i>MU A 83 P5108</i>	<i>AB</i>
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230
MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING           *
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Leon:

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.

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Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Leon E. Panetta
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

LEON E. PANETTA
16TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

30756

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
339 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2861

DISTRICT OFFICES:
380 ALVARADO STREET
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA 93940
(408) 649-3555
HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA
(408) 837-0500
MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA
(805) 772-9035
SALINAS, CALIFORNIA
(408) 424-2229
SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA
(408) 429-1976

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

April 19, 1985

37
mo
COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DOMESTIC
MARKETING, CONSUMER RELATIONS,
AND NUTRITION
HOUSE ADMINISTRATION
CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL AND POLICE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON HUNGER
CHAIRMAN
TASK FORCE ON DOMESTIC HUNGER
DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

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

Dear Mr. President:

Next month you will undertake a state visit to West Germany, partly to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of V-E Day. This visit is, and rightly should be, a celebration of 40 years of friendship between our two governments. But that, of course, is not the only issue here.

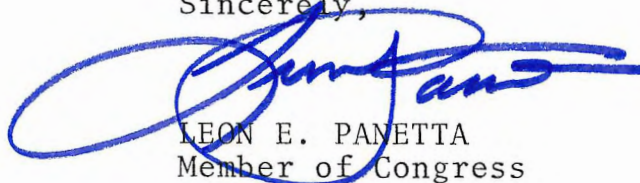
For many Jewish people, in America and around the world, it is impossible to separate the defeat of Nazi Germany from the liberation of the Jewish people from concentration camps throughout Eastern Europe. This liberation, of course, came only after one-third of the Jewish population had been brutally tortured and killed.

Recently, the plans regarding your visit to West Germany have come under fire because of the obvious exclusion of a visit to any kind of Jewish memorial. While I understand your desire to emphasize the alliance between our two countries, it is impossible to overlook that which millions of Jews still feel so acutely.

I do not believe a visit to a Jewish concentration camp, such as Dachau, would change the emphasis of your visit. Moreover, I am convinced that such a visit is necessary to remind the Jewish people around the world that their sacrifice, and that of their parents and grandparents, shall never be forgotten.

I, therefore, respectfully urge you to include a visit to Dachau on your itinerary. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



LEON E. PANETTA
Member of Congress

LEP/ktk

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE DEAN A. GALLO

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/04/24	<i>MD</i>	<i>AB 05/08</i>
REFERRAL NOTE: _____				
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COMMENTS: _____

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

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1985

Dear Dean:

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Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Dean A. Gallo
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

301759

DEAN A. GALLO
11TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
WATER RESOURCES

SMALL BUSINESS COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE:
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PROBLEMS

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1724 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5034

DISTRICT OFFICES:
140 LITTLETON ROAD
PARSIPPANY, NJ 07054
(201) 334-8000

22 NORTH SUSSEX STREET
DOVER, NJ 07801
(201) 328-7413

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

37
mo

April 18, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing you to convey to you the feelings of so many of my constituents who feel that you should reconsider your itinerary for your upcoming trip to West Germany.

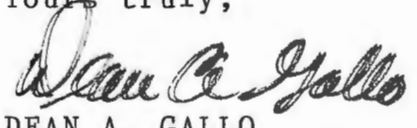
It is not my intention to join with those who would pander politically over this situation. Those who would do so only help to make an unfortunate situation worse.

It is my intention, however, to inform you that I agree with my constituents that the itinerary should be changed and that the scheduled stop at the burial site of the Nazi SS should be cancelled.

I do not believe that the scheduled visit is in our best domestic interests, nor do I believe that the visit is in any way in the best interests of our foreign image and policy.

On behalf of my constituents, I would like to reiterate my feelings that your itinerary should be reconsidered.

Yours truly,



DEAN A. GALLO
Member of Congress

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE DON J. PEASE

SUBJECT: REQUESTS INVITATION FOR CONSTITUENT TO ATTEND
WREATH-LAWING CEREMONY IN BITBURG, GERMANY ON
MAY 5 85

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

M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/04/24	<i>mw</i>	A 850502 AB
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COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230
MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*ACTION CODES:          *DISPOSITION CODES:      *OUTGOING           *
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*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED              *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL    *          OF SIGNER *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED           *          CODE = A   *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED            *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                      *          OUTGOING  *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                      *                      *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                      *                      *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                      *                      *
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KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.

May 2, 1985

Dear Don:

Thank you for your letter of April 16 on behalf of your constituent, who would like to attend the wreath-laying ceremony at the Bitburg cemetery during President Reagan's visit to Germany.

I regret that we are not able to accommodate this request. All preparations for these types of events, including the official list of participants, are determined well in advance and are strictly controlled. I am sure your constituent will understand the reasons for this policy.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Don J. Pease
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MBO:KRJ:JID:jid

DON J. PEASE
13TH DISTRICT, OHIO

1127 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3401

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND
UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

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

April 16, 1985

301775
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:
BILL GOOLD
DISTRICT OFFICE:
MRS. NANCY YOOD
1936 COOPER-FOSTER PARK ROAD, LORAIN
(216) 282-5003
PART-TIME OFFICES:
MRS. BARBARA FLOWERS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, MEDINA
(216) 725-6120
MOIC BUILDING, MANSFIELD
(419) 526-6663
MR. JOHN WALKER
THE CENTRE, ASHLAND
(419) 325-4184
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, NORWALK
(419) 668-0206

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MD
Office of Congressional Liaison
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

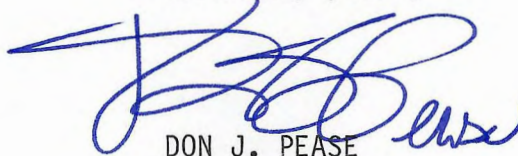
Dear Sir or Madam:

This is in regard to a recent telephone call I received from a constituent of mine who is planning a trip to Germany at the same time that President Reagan intends to be there.

My constituent would like to attend and possibly participate in the May 5 wreath-laying ceremony at the Germany military cemetery in Bitburg. I would appreciate your informing me as to the exact time of this ceremony and whether or not it would be possible for my constituent to participate in it.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely yours,


DON J. PEASE
Member of Congress

Send letter

DJP/sg

59

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 301788

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. DAVID STERN

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY
CEMETERY

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

MARSHALL BREGER	ORG	85/04/24		C 85/04/26 PYI
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COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: _____ MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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

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*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                       *                       *
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MANAGEMENT.

301788

נ"ח



UNITED SYNAGOGUE YOUTH

צעירי בתי כנסת המאוחדים

of the United Synagogue of America

155 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010/212-533-7800

37E
M. Bruger

PRESIDENT

DAVID STERN
רוי ישראל סטורן
882 Edgewater Trail
Atlanta, Georgia 30328
(404) 843-9657

April 23, 1985

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

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

KENNETH WEINSTOCK
חיים שלום וינסטוק
13 La Salle Avenue
Cranford, N.J. 07016
(201) 272-6684

Dear Mr. President:

RELIGION/EDUCATION VICE PRESIDENT

MARNIN WEINREB
אלימלך וינרב
2801 Lake Street
San Francisco, Ca. 94121
(415) 668-3896

I am writing to you out of fear. The fear is that the world will forget what happened to over 10 million human beings during World War II.

SOCIAL ACTION/ TIKUN OLAM VICE PRESIDENT

DAVID KAYE
דוד אריה קיא
1651 Valecroft Avenue
Westlake Village, Ca. 91361
(818) 889-7067

This past Monday, I returned from a week long visit to Poland. I went as a representative of United Synagogue Youth along with representatives of other Jewish youth organizations throughout the world. We went to Auschwitz, Majdanek, Treblinka, and the Wrasaw Ghetto. I would like to tell you a little of what I saw and felt and experienced.

MEMBERSHIP/KADIMA VICE PRESIDENT

MICHELE HELLER
מירל הלר
5 Eastern Road
Hartsdale, N.Y. 10530
(914) 693-6617

When I was told that I would be going to Treblinka, the first thing that came to my mind was a picture that I had seen of the ematiated, dying people after the liberation of one of the camps. I expected to see huge barbed wire fences and horrible accomadations. I mentally prepared myself to see a place where over 350,000 of my people were killed. When I got there, nothing I had done to prepare myself was enough.

COMMUNICATIONS VICE PRESIDENT

BELINDA MASON
בלומה יהודית מסון
232 Halsey Avenue
Jericho, N.Y. 11753
(516) 681-0253

The first shock was the fact that there is nothing there. There is absolutely nothing left from the original camp. The only way I could tell at first glance that there had ever been a death camp in that spot was because of the monuments that the Polish government had erected. I began to wander around the camp. I watched the ground as I walked. All along the paths and all along the ground were little white pebbles. I asked our guide what they were. They were bones, he said. Human bones.

PAST PRESIDENTS

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- ARTHUR PODELL
- ARTHUR PESCOE
- RABBI GERALD ZELIZER
- ALAN KAPLAN
- MARTIN DANK
- RABBI JAMES LEBEAU
- DAVID LISSY
- DANNY SIEGEL
- PETER GEFFEN
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- ROBERT LENNICK
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- DAVID YOLEN
- JEFF SCHOENBERG
- DAVID MARCU
- JEREMY J. FINGERMAN
- BRUCE GORDON
- MARK DAVIS
- SHRAGA SHERMAN
- ERIC WEINSTOCK
- DAVID ISRAEL

I stood by the monument at the center of the camp and began to think. I tried to conceive of what had happened in the place where I standing. I glanced down. I saw something that looked as if it did not belong. I brushed away the small amount of dirt that covered the object and picked it up. I almost screamed. A child's tooth lay helplessly in my hand.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA

MARSHALL WOLKE
President

While standing over the sight of a mass human grave (one

RABBI BENJAMIN Z. KREITMAN
Executive Vice President

RABBI PAUL FREEDMAN
Director

JULES A. GUTIN
Assistant Director

MIRJAM MUNDSZTUK-ORBACH
Projects Director

ENID ANISMAN
Kadima Director

KAREN LEGMAN SEGAL
Projects Coordinator

ELLIOT FORCHHEIMER
Activities Coordinator

ERIC SHERBY
Program Coordinator

RABBI STEPHEN GARFINKEL
Educational Consultant

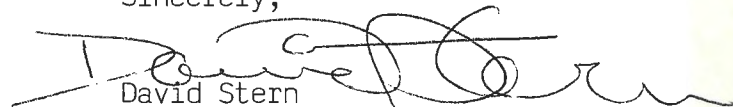
can still see the indentation in the ground where the humans were buried alive as well as dead), I began to understand just where I was. I was in a cemetery. Beneath my feet was not soil, but bones - one piled on top of another. Anywhere I looked, I could see pieces of human beings who were tortured and crushed and finally killed.

Now, in 1985, not a single building, or fence, or wall, or even the smallest reminder that the camp was there remains. Only a monument constructed in my lifetime remains.

It is so much easier to forget. It is so difficult to comprehend the scale of the tragedies that took place that it is easier to deny that they ever took place. THEY DID TAKE PLACE. I saw with my own two eyes the crematorium of Auschwitz, the mass graves of Treblinka, and the pain and suffering of those who managed to survive. Even though Auschwitz still stands (though part is in ruins), the people of Poland have already begun to forget. I saw houses and playgrounds within fifty feet of the barbed wire fences. The main German headquarters at Auschwitz is now a hotel with a restaurant next door. The Polish children ran through the camp as if it was just another historical landmark.

Mr. President, if you visit the Bitburg cemetery which contains the graves of forty-seven SS men, you will begin the road to forgetting the Holocaust. You, as the leader of the American society will lead this country toward a horrible fate. Those who forget history are doomed to repeat it. The United States of America stands for morality and decency. We are a symbol of freedom to the world. We cannot condone the actions of murderers and still remain moral. I ask you, Mr. President, on behalf of the 17,000 Jewish youth in my organization as well as on behalf of all who are moral and upright and good citizens of this country not to visit the graves of those who tried to exterminate an entire people from the face of this earth.

Sincerely,



David Stern
International President
United Synagogue Youth

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John Doe	2/1/21

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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE REVEREND EDWARD A. WHITE

SUBJECT: URGES CANCELLING PLANS TO VISIT GERMAN
MILITARY CEMETERY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
DOUG HOLLADAY	ORG	85/04/24		C 85/04/29
Bob Kinnett REFERRAL NOTE: Ann Higgins, Corresp. A		85/04/29	NAW	C 85/06/05
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

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MANAGEMENT.

37

301790



Interfaith Conference
of Metropolitan Washington

April 23, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

We appeal to you to cancel your plans to visit the German military cemetery at Bitburg. We are of the opinion that if you, the president of the United States, visit this cemetery which contains the graves of 47 Nazi SS troops, you will commit a morally outrageous offense against American veterans and against Jews of every nation. By paying tribute to SS troops as if they were normal military casualties of a normal war, you will serve those forces seeking to rewrite the history of the Nazi regime, a regime which systematically exterminated 6 million Jews and many thousands of others.

Jews in the United States and elsewhere are rightfully offended by your apparent belief that German conscripts and the inmates of Nazi concentration camps are somehow equal victims of Hitler's regime. We join our Jewish brethren in outrage over this distortion. We urge you to re-examine your position on the Holocaust.

Perhaps some foreign policy gains may be made by visiting Bitburg. They would be offset many times over by the cost to civilization of weakening our memory of the atrocities man is capable of inflicting on his brother and sister. There is still time to find another site in which all can share as a point of reconciliation. Please do so, Mr. President.

Sincere good wishes,

The Rev. Edward A. White ✓
President

Doing Well always

OFFICERS:

- The Rev. Edward A. White
President
- Rabbi Andrew Baker
First Vice-President
- Bishop John H. Adams
Vice-President
- The Most Rev. James A. Hickey
Vice-President
- Imam Sultan Muhammad
Vice-President
- Dr. Elaine K. Hollander
Secretary
- The Rev. Edwin A. Porter
Treasurer
- The Rev. Clark Lobenstine
Executive Director
- Mrs. Naomi U. Kaminsky
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Chairman
- Mr. Abdul-Lateef Sabir
Vice-Chairman
- Rev. Ernest R. Gibson
Secretary
- The Rev. Frederick Barnes
- The Rev. Canon Lloyd S. Casson
- Dr. Elaine K. Hollander
- Dr. James A. Langley
- The Most Rev. Eugene A. Marino
- The Rev. William H. Montgomery
Dr. Sidney Schwarz

PAST-PRESIDENTS:

- Rabbi Eugene J. Lipman
- The Most Rev. Eugene A. Marino
- The Rt. Rev. John T. Walker

EAW/nuk

1419 V Street, N.W., • Washington, D.C. 20009 • (202) 234-6300

Bringing together the leaders of its member faith communities—Islamic, Jewish, Protestant and Roman Catholic—in interfaith dialogue and united work on critical issues facing our metropolitan area.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR/23-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. HARRIS GILBERT

SUBJECT: INFORMS OF RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY COMMISSION
ON SOCIAL ACTION OF REFORM JUDAISM OPPOSING
VISIT TO GERMAN CEMETERY

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

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COMMENTS: _____

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301791



איחוד
ליהדות
מתקדמת
באמריקה

37

Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS—CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS
838 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 (212) 249-0100 CABLES: UNIONUAHC

April 22, 1985

M. Berger

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

Dear Mr. President:

At its meeting in Washington on April 17, the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism - representing rabbinic and lay leadership of the Reform Jewish movement - unanimously adopted the following resolution and asked that it be transmitted to you.

By calling to mind the murder of six million Jews, the Holocaust symbolizes for all of us the ongoing and ever present danger of human beings sinking to the depths of subhuman brutality. For us Jews in particular, it represents a searing image that must never be extinguished from the memory of the nations of the world.

We members of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism, gathered in Washington, therefore join fellow Jews and other Americans in expressing our outrage and protest at the President's decision to visit a cemetery where men who sought to conquer the world in the name of an unconscionable ideology lie buried. We appreciate his decision to commemorate the victims by visiting one of the concentration camps, but urge that he seek reconciliation with contemporary Germany elsewhere than upon the graves of Nazi soldiers.

Chairman
Harris Gilbert
Director
Albert Vorspan
Associate Director
Rabbi David Saperstein

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF
TEMPLE SISTERHOODS
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF
TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS
NORTH AMERICAN FEDERATION
OF TEMPLE YOUTH
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
TEMPLE ADMINISTRATORS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
TEMPLE EDUCATORS
AMERICAN CONFERENCE
OF CANTORS
ASSOCIATION OF REFORM
ZIONISTS OF AMERICA

Sincerely,

Harris Gilbert
Chairman

HG:rh

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 24, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE REVEREND J. STEPHEN O'BRIEN

SUBJECT: WRITES IN SUPPORT OF PLANNED VISIT TO THE
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 REILLY	ORG	85/04/24	RR	APR 25 1985 AB
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PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 1, 1985

Dear Father O'Brien:

On behalf of the President, let me thank you for your very kind note of April 20th supporting the President's decision to visit the German cemetery at Bitburg. It is a great relief amidst all the controversy swirling about this issue to hear your sane and charitable views.

Best regards,



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

Rev. J. Stephen O'Brien
Executive Director
Department of Chief Administrators
National Catholic Educational Association
1077 30th Street, N.W., Suite 100
Washington, DC 20007-3852

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ASSOCIATION

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SUITE 100
1077 30TH STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC
20007-3852

(202)
293-5954

part. 11/14

April 20, 1985

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

Dear President Reagan:

My congratulations on your strong stand on the value of reconciliation with our former enemies from World War II. You have taken a lot of criticism on your planned visit to the German cemetery at Bitburg and have been put under a lot of political pressure to cancel the trip. I think your solution to visit a concentration camp as well is a good one.

More important is your statement that we must be reconciled to our enemies. I think it shows a deep wisdom about the horrors of war regardless of whose side one is on. I also think it showed courage in the face of some vocal and highly credible critics who stated that there are some things that are not forgivable. On this issue you have shown courage and firmness based on compassion.

Thank you for your leadership. I hope you will show the same sense of courage and compassion in the face of other enemies.

Sincerely,

J.S. O'Brien

Reverend J. Stephen O'Brien
Executive Director
Department of Chief Administrators