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(Trips: Economic Summit, Bonn, 05/03/1985-05/04/1985;  
Bonn, West Germany, 04/30/1985-05/06/1985)  
**Case file Number(s):** 315200-315499  
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THE WHITE HOUSE

May 14, 1985

Dear Mr. dalla Chiesa:

I returned to the United States with  
such happy memories of the warmth  
and hospitality of Italy, from such  
thoughtful people such as yourself.  
It was so kind of you to think of  
me and to express your welcome in  
such a special way.

Thank you very much for making my  
brief stay a pleasure.

Sincerely,

*Nancy Reagan*

Mr. Romeo dalla Chiesa  
Chairman of the Board  
Banco di Roma  
180, Viale U. Tupini  
00144 Rome, ITALY

315289

3500

4200

TR12301

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PR001

Rome May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1985

Romeo dalla Chiesa  
Chairman of the Board  
Banca di Roma

With respectful regards

180, Viale U. Tupini  
00144 Rome, Italy

Tel. (06) 5915682

315290

3500

TR123-01

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PP005-01

PP012-06

MA

PROO1

THE WHITE HOUSE

May 14, 1985

Dear Mr. Casarosa:

Thank you so much for making me feel so special at Castel Gondolfo. I enjoyed the day with the children and felt such tranquillity and peace in the beautiful surroundings. It is easy to see why the Community is enjoying so much success as the Castel promotes renewal.

I send my thanks as well for the award. And feel honored to be included with such recipients as Pope John Paul II. It was a moving experience for me and one I will long remember.

Please extend my best to all the young people who contributed so much to a very special day.

Sincerely,

Donal Reagan

Mr. Giovanni Casarosa  
Via Del Monte  
Pascolarf, 2  
Castel Gondolfo  
ITALY

315291

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- PR001

THE WHITE HOUSE

May 14, 1985

Dear Mr. Corelli:

Thank you so much for the wonderful day at Castel Gondolfo. Your fine sense of organization was very evident and reflects a dedication that is most refreshing. To be a part of such a prestigious awards ceremony in a most elegant atmosphere made the day very special for me.

The President joins me in sending our very best to you for your continued success.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

Mr. Juan Corelli  
Via Del Monte  
Pascolarf, 2  
Castel Gondolfo  
ITALY

THE WHITE HOUSE

May 14, 1985

Dear Don Picchi:

One of the highlights of my recent European trip was the visit to Castel Gondolfo. It is one of the loveliest settings I have ever seen, which was enhanced by the obvious sense of love and affection generated by the children. You are undoubtedly cherished by the young people and quite deservedly, for your concern and guidance of the Community is masterful.

I am honored to have been selected for the prestigious award that was presented during my visit. And I send my thanks for being included among the many other recipients of note. It was a stirring experience.

Please extend my best wishes to all who participated in the program and know that I will long remember the day as one of the best ever.

Sincerely,

George Reagan

Don Mario Picchi  
Via Del Monte  
Pascolarf, 2  
Castel Gondolfo,  
Italy

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Central Files —

Please file this.

The acknowledgment  
is being handled by  
the First Ladies Office.

M. Slepak

Gift Unit

x7133





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Sole agent  
~~Handwritten scribbles~~

WHITE HOUSE GIFT REGISTER  
(For President/First Lady)

315292  
TR123-01

Please Complete as Thoroughly as Possible

Send Gift and Register to: White House Gift Unit, Room 457, OEOb (456-7133) Date: 5-15-85

Date Gift Received: 5-3-85 Accepted By or Presented to: Mrs. Reagan

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Office: \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT INTENDED FOR

President:  First Lady:  President & First Lady:

Other First Family Member (Name): \_\_\_\_\_

DONOR INFORMATION

Name of Donor: Italian Solidarity Center (Centro Italiano di Solidarietà)

Title of Donor: Mr. Mario Picchi, Director, Project Man (Progetto Uomo)

Address of Donor: Piazza B. Cairoli, 118

00186 Rome Country Italy

PRESENTED BY:

Donor:  Other (Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

GIFT INFORMATION

Circumstances of Presentation: (including date, location, and purpose of event)

Mrs. Reagan's trip to Italy - May 2-4, 1985

Her visit to the San Carlo Community at Castel Gandolfo

Description of Gift: Bronze sculpture modeled after original at Castel Gandolfo

Sculptor of original - Alba Gonzales. Sculpture depicts in a modern key, man's yearning for hope.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Copy Attached: \_\_\_\_\_ To be Handled by Gift Unit:

Coordinate acknowledgment with other office: \_\_\_\_\_  
(ie, Hospitality, NSC, State)

REPORT PREPARED BY

Name: Christine Hathaway Tel: 632-0622

Office: Protocol - State Department Room No.: 1238

OTHER COMMENTS

Mrs. Reagan is the third person to receive this award. Other recipients His Holiness, John Paul II and President Pertini, President of Italy. She received the gift for her tireless promotion of a challenging program of prevention in the face of the complexities of drug dependence.

For Gift Unit Use: Date received: \_\_\_\_\_ Through: \_\_\_\_\_

June 21, 1985

Dear Mr. Picchi:

It was a special pleasure for me to visit San Carlo Community during my trip to Italy and I truly appreciate the warm hospitality I received on this occasion.

It was good to see you again and I continue to enjoy the lovely needlepoint that you presented to me in 1982. Now, words fail me to express my sincere thanks for the bronze sculpture, modeled after the original at Castel Gandolfo, which you presented to me in May. To be able to help young people in their battle against drug abuse is most heartening; and to know that I share your tribute with His Holiness John Paul II and President Pertini means more than I can say. Please know that I am deeply grateful to you and everyone who had a part in this generous award.

The President joins me in sending you and your colleagues our best wishes for the future.

Sincerely,

NR

Mr. Mario Picchi  
Director, Project Man  
Italian Solidarity Center  
Piazza B. Cairoli, 118  
00186 Rome, Italy

NR:CMF:JEH:AVH

DISPATCH THRU STATE.



- Students / Sisters of the Portuguese  
Dominicans call Louise Bell  
(Smita)

- Mario Picchi Deletu  
Director, Project Man  
Italian Solidarity Center

El Restaurante Botin Ignore

PHO'S Adley

GIFT UNIT

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Letter # \_\_\_\_\_

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

Fill-in: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Special Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosure(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

cc: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Referral: \_\_\_\_\_

Initials: \_\_\_\_\_



"C.E. I. S."  
SERVIZIO FOTOGRAFICO  
di FRANCO LIOCE

N. \_\_\_\_\_ data \_\_\_\_\_

00186 roma  
piazza b. cairolì, 118  
tel. 659.469



centro  
italiano  
di solidarietà

### Premio Internazionale "Progetto Uomo"

Nel settembre 1984, a conclusione dell'VIII Congresso Mondiale delle Comunità Terapeutiche, celebratosi in Roma, il Centro Italiano di Solidarietà inaugurava nella Comunità S. Carlo in Castel Gandolfo una scultura bronzea (mt. 3 di altezza) della scultrice Alba Gonzales, che interpretava in chiave moderna l'anelito dell'uomo verso la speranza.

Le forme, spezzate e lacerate del monumento sembrano acquietarsi nell'idea del cerchio quasi come la proposta di un mondo nel quale, l'uomo, fra speranza e profezia, riscopre l'armonia di tutto il creato.

Nel 1985, proclamato dall'Organizzazione delle Nazioni Unite come Anno Internazionale della Gioventù, il Centro Italiano di Solidarietà di Roma ha istituito il Premio Internazionale "Progetto Uomo".

Il premio che ripete in misure ridotte la scultura bronzea posta in Comunità Terapeutica S. Carlo, vuole divenire il segno concreto di un significativo riconoscimento da attribuirsi a Persone, Organismi o Associazioni che si siano qualificate per l'impegno esemplare e l'azione efficace svolta per la promozione dell'uomo, per una società più giusta, per una migliore qualità della vita e, in particolare, per un'autentica azione di prevenzione e riabilitazione nei settori della tossicodipendenza e dell'alcolismo.

Il Centro Italiano di Solidarietà ha voluto sottolineare con questo gesto l'assunzione di un impegno concreto che in Progetto Uomo favorisce il superamento di ogni condizione di dipendenza, di sofferenza e di sfruttamento, come segno di una trasformazione possibile della società, per capire, per amare, per servire e vivere prospettive più umane con spirito di rinnovata solidarietà.

I giovani del Ce.I.S., che più intensamente vivono il recupero della propria storia proiettata verso il futuro, hanno voluto che il Premio Internazionale "Progetto Uomo" fosse attribuito a Papa Giovanni Paolo II come l'interprete più fedele delle loro aspirazioni per un mondo migliore; a Sandro Pertini, Presidente della Repubblica Italiana, per l'esemplare impegno a costruire una società a dimensione umana; alla Signora Nancy Reagan per l'instancabile promozione di un impegnativo programma di prevenzione di fronte alla complessità del fenomeno della tossicodipendenza.



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THE WHITE HOUSE

May 14, 1985

Dear Mr. Miglio:

Thank you so much for your warm  
welcome to Italy. With such  
hospitality it would have been  
impossible to have anything but  
a lovely visit to your country.

Indeed I do remember meeting you  
and Mrs. Girombelli. It was such  
a special occasion for a very  
special person.

The President joins me in wishing  
you and yours the best. And my  
thanks, again, for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Nancy Reagan

Mr. Nando Miglio s.r.l.  
20135 Milano  
Viale Sabotino 19/2  
Rome, ITALY



MRS NANCY REAGAN  
C/o Embassy of United States  
of AMERICA  
Via vittorio Veneto, 119  
00187 ROME

Milan.1.5.1985

Dear Madam

I am very pleased to learn that you will be visiting Rome in the month of May.

As you may remember, Mrs Donatella Girombelli, President of the Genny company and myself had the occasion to meet you during the unforgettable Princess Grace inaugural weekend at the White House in Washington last February.

I would like to take this opportunity to bid you welcome and wish you a very pleasant stay in rome.

With the occasion, I extend my most sincere regards.

Your respectfully

Nando Miglio

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THE WHITE HOUSE

May 14, 1985

Dear Mr. Dermolino:

Thank you so much for your share in  
making my visit to Castel Gondolfo  
such a memorable occasion. Your  
warmth and hospitality made me feel  
very special and I will remember  
with fondness the beauty of the day.

Please give my greetings to your  
associates and my thanks for their  
participation.

Sincerely,

Wacey Reagan

Mr. Tony Dermolino  
Via Del Monte  
Pascolarf, 2  
Castel Gondolfo  
ITALY

10/

315342PD

TR 123-01  
LH Louisville

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 13, 1985

MEMORANDUM

FOR: JACK SVAHN  
FROM: CARLTON TURNER  
SUBJECT: Paper by Dr. Gabriel Nahas

Attached, for your information, is a paper by Dr. Gabriel Nahas, a long-time acquaintance of mine. Dr. Nahas makes a good point about Bitburg.

Also, while in Louisville, Kentucky last week, people there praised the President for his courage and consistency.

Sometimes, the inner-loop of the Beltway clouds our thinking.

ASSIGNMENT

TO:

DL      DW       SD

GH       MD

FROM: CT

Xerox       Make a File

# \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

File       Look Into

Draft       Contact

DETAILS/OTHER:

TO Jack Susan

From CT

Ref Note From Dr Gabriel

Dr Nahas

Dr Nahas make a  
point about Bitburg.  
ALSO at Louisville, Ky  
on Monday the 6th  
People praised the  
President for courage  
and consistency.

Sometimes the  
interior of the military  
clouds are thinking.

CT

On that rainy August morning of 1944, my battalion was engaged in a mopping up operation in the "Monts de Vannes" forest of Eastern France. The retreating Germans were holding the ridges of these forest covered hills, and were holding up our armor. At dawn, after an intense artillery barrage, our soldiers had advanced cautiously under the cover of the saplings and ironwoods, amidst sniper fire and exploding anti-personnel mines. As the battalion medic I had kept dressing shattered limbs and giving first aid to the wounded before they were carried to the ambulance.

By midday our soldiers had fought their way uphill and were close to the top. I could see them crossing a large clearing. Suddenly the clatter of a machine gun resounded and I threw myself to the ground under the rain of metal which was bouncing off the trees. Silence followed. Peeking cautiously, I saw several men lying motionless in the clearing. One was crying for help. Two of his buddies, arms raised over their heads advanced towards their wounded comrade. They were about to reach him when the machine gun rattled again briefly and two more bodies flopped to the ground. Gasps of anger resounded in the underwood and once again I joined my voice in cursing our enemies. I could see him 60 feet away, lying next to his two dead comrades, and I heard him crying out.

"Mama. Mama."

I clutched a stretcher and signalled to one of the medics.

"Let's go!"

We left the cover of the trees and climbed up the slippery grassy slope. The large red cross painted on our helmets was our only protection. We had now reached the wounded man who was lying against a tree stump. I was about to kneel next to him, when I saw crouching in a well camouflaged foxhole ten feet away, a German soldier pointing a machine gun at me. We made eye contact and I sent him the message 'Don't shoot'. I then gave a shot of morphine to the wounded man whom we tied on the stretcher and then hauled slowly

down the hill. As soon as we had reached the cover of the trees eager hands took the relay and carried their comrade to the ambulance.

"Well done Doc!" Said the Lieutenant. "But didn't you see any 'Boche' while you were out there?"

"There was one crouching over a machine gun."

"And where was he?"

"About ten feet above and to the left of where we made the pickup."

"Doc!" A soldier interrupted. "Come along! Some fellow just blew up on a mine!"

A while later two violent explosions broke the silence.

"They must have gotten the 'Boche'." Exclaimed a Sergeant.

In the clearing the man who had thrown the grenades was waving out to the soldiers who started moving slowly forward again.

I followed the last ones. As I passed the spot where we had picked up the wounded, I glanced at the foxhole and saw the body of the German soldier slumped over his machine gun.

"That guy won't kill no more!" Muttered a stretcher bearer.

I knew that a man had been killed because he had spared my life. At the time, in the heat of combat, my instinct for survival was so strong I could not experience guilt or compassion for him.

But today, 40 years later, if I knew where that unknown soldier was resting, I would like to visit his grave. Even if it was in Bitburg.

Gabriel G. Nahas

Sur proposition du Ministre de la Guerre, le Président du Gouvernement provisoire de la République française, chef des Armées cite :  
A L'ORDRE DE L'ARMÉE

Régularisation

.....  
N A H A S Gabriel - Médecin Lieutenant au (21<sup>e</sup>) Régiment de Dragons.

"Jeune Médecin Lieutenant dont le courage et l'abnégation sont devenus légendaires au Régiment. Toujours en première ligne, a réussi le 3 décembre 1944 devant le Col de la SCHUCHT, l'évacuation rapide d'un grand blessé dans des conditions extrêmement difficiles, brancardant lui-même de nuit dans la neige, dans un terrain miné et très abrupt relevant sans cesse le moral des hommes qui l'accompagnaient handicapé lui-même par une entorse du pied droit".

.....  
Ces citations comportent l'attribution de la Croix de Guerre avec palme.

PARIS, le 29 octobre 1945  
Signé : de GAULLE

J.O. novembre 1945

D . E C R E T

Portant nomination dans la Légion d'Honneur  
AU GRADE DE CHEVALIER

N A H A S Georges - Médecin Lieutenant des Ex-Forces Française de l'Intérieur de la 17<sup>e</sup> Région.

"Sujet de valeur, résistant de la première heure, a interrompu toute activité professionnelle, pour se consacrer au service du pays. Sous l'occupation allemande a organisé le passage en pays neutre de plusieurs centaines d'officiers, sous-officiers ou soldats anglais, américains, hollandais, dont 2 officiers généraux, convoyant lui-même plusieurs d'entr'eux de Suisse en Espagne. Rattaché ensuite au service de santé régional de la Résistance, a largement contribué à l'organisation sanitaire de la région et a participé brillamment aux combats de la libération. A fait preuve dans toutes ces missions du plus haut esprit de sacrifice et de patriotisme, témoignant d'un mépris absolu du danger".

.....  
Ces promotions et nominations comportent l'attribution de la Croix de Guerre avec palme.

PARIS, le 2 novembre 1945  
Signé : de GAULLE

J.O. du 22 juin 1946

DECISION N° 1359

Sur proposition du Ministre de la Guerre, le Président du Gouvernement provisoire de la République Française Chef des Armées, cite :

A L'ORDRE DE L'ARMÉE

.....  
N A H A S Gabriel - Médecin Lieutenant des Ex-Forces Françaises de l'Intérieur du 12<sup>e</sup> Régiment de Dragons de Reconnaissance.

"Médecin Lieutenant du plus grand courage, qui, lors des engagements des bois du Mont de Vannes (Haute Saone) les 25, 26 et 27 août 1944. A fait preuve de la plus complète abnégation en ramassant et soignant les blessés dans les postes les plus avancés, malgré le feu intense des armes automatiques ennemies. A sauvé en cette occasion de nombreuses vies humaines"

.....  
Ces citations comportent l'attribution de la Croix de Guerre avec palme.  
PARIS le 26 novembre 1945 - Signé de GAULLE.



JV

May 9, 1985

Dear Mr. Young:

Your suggestion that the President dedicate a bronze plaque in honor of the friendship between the United States and West Germany recently came to my attention by way of Senator Orrin Hatch. This is just a note to say that your thoughts are certainly appreciated.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Buchanan  
Assistant to the President

✓  
Mr. David Young  
199 East 6850 South  
Midvale, Utah 84047

PJB:CV:nlm-memory - 10

cc: C. Vedlik, Room 93

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PA002  
F0005

May 9, 1985

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Firmage:

Your suggestion that the President dedicate a bronze plaque in honor of the friendship between the United States and West Germany recently came to my attention by way of Senator Orrin Hatch. This is just a note to say that your thoughts are certainly appreciated.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Buchanan  
Assistant to the President

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Firmage  
2171 Arbor Lane  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84124

PJB:CV:nlm-memory - 10

cc: C. Vedlik, Room 93

May 9, 1985

Dear Bishop Olschewski:

Your suggestion that the President dedicate a bronze plaque in honor of the friendship between the United States and West Germany recently came to my attention by way of Senator Orrin Hatch. This is just a note to say that your thoughts are certainly appreciated.

Best regards,

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Buchanan  
Assistant to the President

Bishop Olschewski  
c/o Mr. David Young  
199 East 6850 South  
Midvale, Utah 84047

PJB:CV:nlm-memory - 10

cc: C. Vedlik, Room 93

Drafter: CV  
Date: May 6, 1985

Dear Mr. Young:

Your suggestion that the President dedicate a bronze plaque in honor of the friendship between the United States and West Germany recently came to my attention by way of Senator Orrin Hatch. This is just a note to say that your thoughts are certainly appreciated.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

**PJB**

Mr. David Young  
199 East 6850 South  
Midvale, UT 84047

*cc to C. Vedlik, Rm. 93*

Drafter: CV

Date: May 6, 1985

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Firmage:

Your suggestion that the President dedicate a bronze plaque in honor of the friendship between the United States and West Germany recently came to my attention by way of Senator Orrin Hatch. This is just a note to say that your thoughts are certainly appreciated.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

**PJB**

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Firmage  
2171 Arbor Lane  
Salt Lake City, UT 84124

*cc to C. Vedlik, Rm. 93*

Drafter: CV

Date: May 6, 1985

Dear Bishop Olschewski:

Your suggestion that the President dedicate a bronze plaque in honor of the friendship between the United States and West Germany recently came to my attention by way of Senator Orrin Hatch. This is just a note to say that your thoughts are certainly appreciated.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

*PJB*

Bishop Olschewski  
c/o David Young  
199 East 6850 South  
Midvale, UT 84047

*cc to C. Vedlik, Rm. 93*

---

United States Senate

MEMORANDUM

To Annet

Pat, here are the names and addresses  
of the Utahns who give this suggestion:

Mr. David Young  
199 East 6850 South  
Midvale, Utah 84047

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin and Gloria Firmage  
2171 Arbor Lane  
Salt Lake City, UT 84124

Bishop Olschewski  
c/o David Young  
199 East 6850 South  
Midvale, Utah 84047

ORRIN G. HATCH  
UTAH

135 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE: (202) 224-5251

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 30, 1985

COMMITTEES:  
(CHAIRMAN)  
LABOR AND HUMAN  
RESOURCES  
JUDICIARY  
INTELLIGENCE  
BUDGET  
OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY  
ASSESSMENT

The Honorable Patrick J. Buchanan  
Director of Communications  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Pat:

In remembrance of the friendship between America and Germany and with the President's announced trip to Germany, a number of constituents from Utah--David Young, Gloria and Ed Firmage and Bishop Olschewski--have asked that I pass along their suggestion.

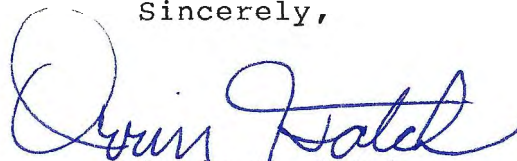
They have shared the following idea with me: that the President present and dedicate a bronze plaque in honor of the friendship between American and Germany. This would be a rectangular bronze plaque placed upon a stainless steel post with the following message with English on one side and German on the other:

FRIENDSHIP FOR U.S.A AND G.F.R.

AMERICA HONORS ALL PAST AND LIVING GREAT GERMAN STATESMEN,  
SCIENTISTS, MUSICIANS, AND ARTISTS WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO  
HUMAN PROGRESS AND TO THE MAKING OF THE MODERN WORLD.  
AMERICA ALSO HONORS THE BRAVE YOUNG MEN WHO PERISHED IN  
DEFENSE OF THEIR FATHERLAND BUT WHO DID NOT IN ANY WAY  
PARTICIPATE IN THE HOLOCAUST.

We certainly appreciate the time you have taken from your busy schedule to view this, and we are grateful for all the President continues to do for our great country and for peace throughout the world.

Sincerely,



Orrin G. Hatch  
United States Senator

OGH:pp



TO: Frank A. Madsen  
FROM: Miklos Radvanyi  
Senior Specialist European Law  
Division, CRS, Library of Congress  
DATE: April 29, 1985  
SUBJECT: President's Visit to Bitburg Cemetery

-----  
In reference to our brief conversation, I take the liberty to submit to you my thoughts concerning the controversy surrounding President Reagan's visit to the Bitburg Cemetery in Germany. As has happened so many times before, the public debate on a major issue has been misformulated by a media that never seems to be able to take a longer view of events and has been monopolized by a minority whose interests do not necessarily coincide with the larger interests of the nation. The real issue is not whether the President would offend the memory of the innocent victims of "Nazi Terror" by visiting a cemetery in which some members of the former Waffen SS are also buried, but whether the United States, as a nation, through its highest elected official and representative, the President of the U.S., can display the magnanimity that has become the hallmark of that great American nation throughout its history. This nation that comprises so many ethnic and religious

groups was created over 200 years ago to bring about the greatest fulfillment of man as a child of God, namely, human happiness in freedom. From out of this magnificent objective has grown the American individual and later the American nation, both of which have been the envy of the rest of the world. Until very recently Americans were known for their openness, love, and readiness to help those in need of spiritual and/or material support. To Europe we brought the Marshall Plan to rebuild a destroyed continent instead of seeking revenge for the pain and suffering that was inflicted upon us by Hitler's regime and its allies. In other words, we took a positive and constructive approach by stretching out caring hands to our enemies of yesterday. We did so because that is what the American dream is all about. That is what the American image is all about, and that is what the great majority of the American people are all about.

Regrettably, since our involvement in Vietnam, many have lost sight of the nation's objective as well as its image abroad. In the last 20 years the United States of America has presented itself to the world as a confused and divided nation in search of a new goal and a new identity. Not until the election of President Reagan has this apparent uncertainty started to diminish. I personally think that the greatest historic achievement of the President is that he restored the confidence of people both at home and abroad in the well known image of the U.S. To let this accomplishment be questioned or

even eroded by this controversy would be an unforgivable error on the part of the Administration. Instead of enveloping itself in silent uncertainty and trying to please everybody, I think that the President should take a bold and farsighted approach to the issue at stake.

The Federal Republic of Germany owes its freedom, independence, and wealth to our magnanimity. The German people know that, and they appreciate everything we have done for them. They are not only our allies but they are also expected to prevail in the forefront of European political and military division. They suffer from a seemingly permanent and irreversible division of their nation and from the historic errors that they feel were made by other generations. Their fervent desire is to be treated equally in this alliance of the western democracies. They do not want to forget, but they also do not want to be accused of crimes they feel they did not commit. To maintain the affection of this and future generations is not only in our national interest but also in the interest of freedom loving people throughout the world.

The U.S. must recognize that its responsibility goes beyond representing the eternal sufferings of one people. This responsibility is global and cannot be abdicated with impunity. The price of disregarding the American nation's long term interests will be very severe indeed. It will only play in the hands of the U.S.S.R. that under new leadership will certainly

be tempted to give another try to the cherished Soviet objective of splitting up the Western Alliance.

The seeds of great successes are often hidden in the greatest tribulations. The President is obviously not in an enjoyable position. Yet with a skilled speech he can turn the tables on his critics and then render a great historic service to his country and the rest of the world. Therefore, I propose a short speech along the lines of Lincoln's two great speeches, namely the Gettysburg Address and his Second Inaugural Address. The leitmotiv of the speech should center around the ideas of healing the wounds, forgiveness (with malice toward none, with charity toward all). Without trying to impose myself, I would be happy to assist in this in any way my limited abilities will permit.

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4000  
TR123-01

FROM  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON D.C.

Regina H. Schnetzer  
5986 Ranlyn Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

CO054-02  
PA001  
ND016  
PR005-01  
PR005-02

850521



To Regina H. Schnetzer - With great  
appreciation + very best regards.

Sincerely Ronald Reagan

Support re: Bitburg visit

10  
For President's sample

Regina H. Schnetzer

5986 Ranlyn Ave.

Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

4-19-85

Dear Mr. President Reagan?

AK  
Today I read an article  
in the Cincinnati Enquirer -  
Friday, April 19, 1985 "Reagan:  
SS Men Nazi Victims, Too."

I am so grateful, as a  
German born and naturalized  
American citizen that you can  
see the terrible tragedy of the  
many young men who became  
"SS men" at the end of WWII.

My parents did not know  
my brother was to be "SS",  
nor did he, when he was  
drafted, at the age of 16.

I hope we never forget

4

Regina H. Schnetzer  
5986 Ranlyn Ave.  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

how unfair a war is to  
its citizens and I hope  
you will be able and  
continue to let your heart  
speak.

A grateful Republican  
and supporter of the  
Reagan Administration.

Sincerely,

Regina H. Schnetzer

# Reagan: SS Men Nazi Victims, Too

ENQUIRER NEWS SERVICES

WASHINGTON—President Reagan defended his plans to lay a wreath at a West German cemetery where Nazi soldiers are buried, saying Thursday that to cancel the event would look like "I caved in" to the international furor the planned visit has caused.

Besides, Mr. Reagan said, the SS soldiers buried at the cemetery at Bitburg were "victims of Nazism—just as surely as the victims in the concentration camps."

MR. REAGAN made the remarks during a question-and-answer session with regional editors and broadcasters at the White House.

Most of the Nazi soldiers buried at Bitburg—about 30 of the 2,000 graves show SS tombstones—were teen-agers drafted and forced to serve the Third Reich in its closing days when the Nazis were running out of manpower, Mr. Reagan said. He added:

"I think that there's nothing wrong with visiting that cemetery where those young men are victims of Nazism also, even though they were fighting in the German uniform, drafted into the service to carry out the hateful wishes of the Nazis. They were victims just as surely as the victims in the concentration camps, and I feel there is much to be gained from this."

American veterans' groups

and Jewish groups have decried the Bitburg cemetery stop, especially because Mr. Reagan earlier said he would not visit a German concentration camp. He reversed that decision after the outcry.

ELIE WIESEL, a survivor of the Auschwitz and Buchenwald death camps and Reagan-appointed chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, added his voice to the criticism.

Speaking at a ceremony in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda the day before Mr. Reagan is scheduled to award him a Congressional Gold Medal, Wiesel again asked the President to cancel the cemetery visit. With Secretary of State George Shultz sitting nearby, Wiesel appealed to him to "tell those who need to know that our pain is genuine, our outrage is deep and our perplexity is infinite" over the visit.

Wiesel spoke before learning of the President's remarks that both the Jews slain in the Holocaust and the soldiers were victims of Nazism.

Thursday evening, as the 6 presidential appointees to the Holocaust Memorial Council debated mass resignations in protest, Wiesel counseled caution while expressing shock at Mr. Reagan's latest comments.

"I am puzzled and shocked to the point of disbelief," Wiesel said in an interview. "I always thought that the President has



compassion and understanding of this chapter in Jewish history. To compare the victims to Nazi soldiers may suggest that he doesn't know what it meant to be a Jewish victim in those times.

IN HIS speech earlier at the Capitol, Wiesel complained that the President seemed more concerned about the sensitivity of West Germans than that of his fellow Americans. Shultz, whose remarks followed, said he shared the concern that in the current spirit of reconciliation with West

Germany, "there is no place for understanding for those who took part in the perpetration of the Nazi horror."

On yet another front of the controversy, White House deputy chief of staff Michael K. Deaver was on his way back from a nasty visit to West Germany, where he was scouting sites for a presidential visit to a concentration camp. Mr. Reagan earlier said his trip would not include such a visit and suggested it would offend the government of West German chancellor Helmut Kohl.

4-19-85

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I hope we never forget how unfair a war is to its  
citizens and I hope you will be able and continue to let  
your heart speak.

A grateful Republican and supporter of the Reagan  
Administration.

Sincerely,

Regina H. Schnetzer

5986 Ranlyn Avenue

Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

REFERRAL

DATE: 30 APR 85

JV 1

MEMORANDUM FOR. SIMS, R

RM 174 OEOB

315391

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TR123-01

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION:

TO: PRESIDENT

Letter from Dr.

SOURCE: WEE, PAUL A. Wee

00054-02

DATE: 29 APR 85

R11001

KEYWORDS: GERMANY F R

BONN SUMMIT

ND016

FB011

to the

SUBJ: PRES. VISIT TO BITBURG CEMETARY & BERGEN - BELSON CONCENTRATION CAMP

re

13006-12

RM033-08

REQUIRED ACTION: ADVANCE / INFORMATION CY

DUE DATE:

COMMENTS:

*Handwritten signature*

FOR ROBERT M. KIMMITT

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

NSC 8503507

National Security Council  
The White House

System # I  
Package # 3507

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Bob Pearson	_____	_____	_____
Bob Kimmitt	<u>1</u>	<u>K</u>	_____
John Poindexter	_____	_____	_____
Paul Thompson	_____	_____	_____
Wilma Hall	_____	_____	_____
Bud McFarlane	_____	_____	_____
Bob Kimmitt	_____	_____	_____
NSC Secretariat	<u>2</u>	_____	<u>Still Sys I</u>
Situation Room	_____	_____	<u>info to Sommer</u> <u>Markin</u> <u>RCM</u> <u>SMS</u>

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

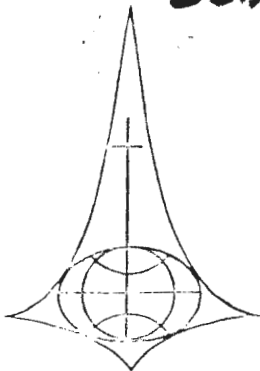
cc: VP    Meese    Regan    Deaver    Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS

Should be seen by: \_\_\_\_\_

(Date/Time)

Bob, I think this letter is no real significance.  
Doug Holladay.  
30 APR 85



# Lutheran World Ministries

USA NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

LUTHERAN CENTER, 360 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10010  
TELEPHONE 212 632-6350 CABLE LUTHOC NEW YORK TELEFLEX 62155 LUTWORLD  
PAUL A. WEE, GENERAL SECRETARY

April 29, 1985

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

Dear President Reagan:

You have made the difficult decision to visit the cemetery in Bitburg and the concentration camp in Bergen-Belson.

Although they have occasioned controversy and have elicited understandable emotion, these decisions are nevertheless authentic, appropriate and possibly even redemptive as well at this moment in history.

At Bergen-Belton you and all the world with you will remember those things that dare not be forgotten among us. You will honor those who were sacrificed to the false gods of nation and race, blood and soil. You will say that even as we honor these slain we vow never to forget the maligned mentality which forged the sinister structures of power which claimed them. You will say to every person of Jewish blood throughout the world, "Never Again."

At Bitburg there is a different message. You have never once intimated that you take this journey to honor the deeds of those who lie buried there. Rather you stand at Bitburg to say--by your very presence--to the people of Germany, America and the world, that the demonic forces of this terrible past do not hold the only key to the meaning of our historical pilgrimage. They do not have the power to hold us forever in the bondage of fear and alienation. They are not strong enough to have the final word for the future of our children and our children's children.

Should you choose, Mr. President, in the face of considerable pressure, to avoid the journey to Bitburg, many people in our country will of course be pleased, at least initially. But at the same time such action will only serve to reinforce the fatalistic view of some that there exists no power in God's world to redeem the past, that we are left only with haunting memory, guilt, and for the young of Germany especially, the continuing burden of spiritual rejection by the world community.

President Ronald Reagan  
April 29, 1985 - page 2

Mr. President, your historic journey to Germany is partly to remember, but also partly to redeem. In remembrance you honor the millions of victims of the Holocaust and World War II. In redemption you testify before those whom we called "enemy" and before all the world that even a past filled with so much hatred, alienation and unspeakable inhumanity is still not strong enough to hold back a future filled with understanding, cooperation and love.

At Bitburg you are not scheduled to speak, but a powerful word will nevertheless be spoken. It is not your word, Mr. President, but a word spoken through you if you allow it to be. It is a word which sets free, not from the remembrance or the lessons of things past, but from the devastating threat of the past to determine the safe course for the future. It is a word which can redeem and renew the life of the German people and the American people as well.

Expressions of anguished despair in the face of human misery run deep in all of Judeo-Christian history. So too does that powerful word of forgiveness by which despair is overcome and hope is born. Psalm 139 is an example. It is a psalm for Bergen-Belsen and for Bitburg.

Out of the depths I cry to Thee, O Lord!  
Lord hear my voice!  
Let thy ear be attentive to the voice of my  
supplications!

If thou, O Lord, shouldst mark iniquities,  
Lord, who could stand?  
But there is forgiveness with thee that thou mayest be  
feared.

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope!...

Respectfully,



Dr. Paul A. Wee  
General Secretary  
International World Ministries

Office of Communication and Interpretation  
LUTHERAN COUNCIL IN THE USA  
360 Park Avenue South  
New York, NY 10010

DR. PAUL A. HEE

Dr. Paul A. HEE is the general secretary of Lutheran World Ministries which is the U.S.A. National Committee of the Lutheran World Federation. The Lutheran World Ministries commission is composed of representatives from the American Lutheran Church, the Lutheran Church in America and the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches, all members of the international organization which has over 90 member churches with more than 53 million Lutherans around the world. In addition to serving as liaison between the member churches in the U.S.A. and the Lutheran World Federation, Lutheran World Ministries coordinates programs on behalf of these three churches in the areas of scholarship and exchange, missionary orientation, volunteer service and world community.

Before assuming his present post in 1975, Dr. HEE was senior representative of the LWF in Berlin (1968-74) and the Lutheran lecturer in Theology at Mansfield College, University of Oxford, England (1974-75).

Born February 6, 1937, in St. Paul, Minn., Dr. HEE graduated from Harvard University in 1959. He was a Rockefeller Fellow at Union Theological Seminary in New York from 1959-60, and was later awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for study in Germany.

He earned a B.D. (now M.Div) from Luther Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. and was ordained in 1960 by the American Lutheran Church. While in Germany, he earned a Ph.D. from the Free University of Berlin. In 1976 he was awarded the Order of Merit, First Class, by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

From 1964 to 1967 he was pastor of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Los Angeles and then served as associate pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Park Forest, Ill. He went to Berlin for the LWF in 1968.

Dr. HEE and Rene Grossfuss were married in 1960. They have three children -- Christopher, born in 1961; Deborah, born in 1962; and Steven, born in 1964. The family lives in Ridgewood, New Jersey.

It should be noted that Dr. HEE received the Order of Merit from the Federal Republic of Germany in gratitude for his work in creating understanding and reconciliation between the two Germanies and between Germany and the United States.

RECEIVED 30 APR 85 13

TO PRESIDENT

FROM WEE, PAUL A

DOCDATE 29 APR 85

URGENT

KEYWORDS: GERMANY F R

BONN SUMMIT

HOLLADAY, D

SUBJECT: PRES VISIT TO BITBURG CEMETARY & BERGEN - BELSON CONCENTRATION CAMP  
( LUTHERAN WORLD MINISTRIES )

ACTION: FOR RECORD PURPOSES DUE: STATUS C FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

MCFARLANE

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COMMENTS

REF# LOG NSCIFID ( HW HW )

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

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