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NR

ID# 300657

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

29 MARCH 1985

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 29, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. HOWARD R. BAILEY

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING THE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS
IN RELATION TO THE REASONS WHY HE HAS CHOSEN
NOT TO VISIT DACHAU OR OTHER SITES

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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| *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.

NEBRASKA
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Howard R. Bailey
Executive Director of Ministries
P.O. Box 4553
Lincoln, Nebraska 68504

300657

Howard R. Bailey

March 27, 1985

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

Mr. President:

I write to express my dismay and disappointment concerning your comments in relation to the reasons why you have chosen not to visit Dachau or the other sites of the German destruction of the Jewish people during World War II.

It is true that the war in Europe ended forty years ago and that we hoped that would mark the beginning of a time of peace. Peace continues to elude us in our struggles for world power, position and prestige. However, it is not true that there are no longer persons who remember nor were living during World War II and the disclosure of the scope of the Nazi cruelty.

I think you owe the world, and especially the Jewish people, an apology.

Respectfully,

Howard R. Bailey
Howard R. Bailey
Executive Director of Ministries

HRB:em

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: MARCH 29, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE STEPHEN J. SOLARZ

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO RECONSIDERATION
DECISION NOT TO VISIT DACHAU

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	85/03/29	<u>NO</u>	<u>A850408</u> AB
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MANAGEMENT.

April 8, 1985

Dear Mr. Solarz:

Thank you very much for your letters of March 25 and March 28 in which you and a number of your colleagues urged that the President include a stop at Dachau in the schedule for his May visit to the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG).

At the outset, let me assure you that the President remains deeply committed to full recognition of the horrors surrounding the Holocaust. He has demonstrated his continuing concern both by words and actions.

Concerning your specific question, we and the German Government fully considered the possibility of a visit to Dachau in reviewing the President's itinerary. However, due to the limited amount of time available for the bilateral portion of the President's visit to the FRG, it did not prove possible to include a visit to the Munich area. Although the President will be in the FRG for several days, most of his time will be spent in Bonn for the Seven-Nation Economic Summit and talks with President von Weizsaecker and Chancellor Kohl.

Let me reemphasize that the President fully appreciates the special significance of events related to the Holocaust during this year, when we will be marking the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II. The German Government, and Chancellor Kohl personally, share this understanding, as indicated by the Chancellor's scheduled visit to the site of the former Bergen-Belsen concentration camp on April 22, the 40th anniversary of its liberation by Allied forces. Our Ambassador to the Federal Republic, Arthur Burns, will join Chancellor Kohl -- as the President's personal representative -- at the ceremonies at Bergen-Belsen. His presence at Bergen-Belsen, particularly given Ambassador Burns' high personal prestige, will emphasize the importance which the President, and all Americans, attach to this event. Again, we appreciate your interest in this important matter.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Stephen J. Solarz
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MBO:NSC:KRJ:jfc--(4MBOGA)

300673

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BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11235
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STEPHEN J. SOLARZ
13TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEES:
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIAN
AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS
BUDGET

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

March 25, 1985

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Reagan:

As the Member of Congress who represents the communities that contain one of the largest concentrations of Jews and Holocaust survivors of any District in the country, I must take issue with a remark you made in your press conference of March 21, 1985.

In response to a question concerning the itinerary for your upcoming trip to Europe to participate in ceremonies marking the 40th anniversary of V-E Day, you restated your decision not to visit a Nazi concentration camp. You indicated that your reasons for not visiting Dachau were a desire to avoid ". . . reawakening the memories and so forth, and the passions of the time. . ." and a belief that ". . . the German people have very few alive that remember even the war, and certainly none of them who were adults and participating in any way. . ."

Frankly, Mr. President, I found these reasons to be astonishing. Many people who are today citizens of the Federal Republic were alive during the war and some -- including some members of the West German government -- even participated in the war. I can understand your desire to commemorate the beginning of an era of peace and friendship between our nation and the Federal Republic of Germany, but this is no reason to avoid dealing with the reality of Nazi atrocities committed against 6 million Jews and millions of other people.

I'm sure you share my fervent hope that a conflict like World War II never occur again, and that a horrible and savage outrage such as the Holocaust is never repeated. In fact, I have publicly praised your strong support for the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council and the moving addresses you have delivered to Holocaust survivors during the annual Days of Remembrance ceremonies.

But to insure that such episodes in history do not recur, I believe it is absolutely imperative that the story of Nazi atrocities is never forgotten. People all over the world must be

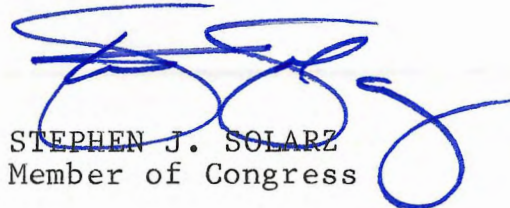
reminded that this event did happen -- especially now when so many survivors of the Holocaust are still alive to speak of their experiences.

The citizens of the Federal Republic of Germany have made significant efforts to deal with their past, and West Germany has compensated the State of Israel, and those surviving victims of the Holocaust, for the injustices and injuries inflicted upon them, with reparations. Certainly if you were to go to Dachau, your visit would not be construed as an accusation of the current West German government of complicity with the grievous wrongs committed by the Nazis 40 years ago. To refuse to visit Dachau for the reasons you have stated would be considered an abdication of responsibility to those who perished in the Nazi Holocaust and to those Americans who gave their lives in defense of our country and our values. For if the world forgets what happened in Nazi Germany 40 years ago, humanity may be doomed to repeat that sad chapter of history.

On the basis of a number of discussions I've had with West Germans who lived through the Nazi period, I believe there are a great many citizens of the Federal Republic who regret your decision. These Germans themselves are committed to remind their countrymen of the horrors that were committed by Germans during this period of time.

Mr. President, I urge you in the strongest possible terms to reconsider your decision. It would remind the entire world of the evil the Allies confronted 40 years ago and the importance of defending our values. A visit to Dachau would demonstrate your commitment to the belief that the lessons of the Holocaust should be taught and must be remembered.

Sincerely,



STEPHEN J. SOLARZ
Member of Congress

SJS:ms

ID# 300758

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 01, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ABRAHAM BERNSTEIN

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION
NOT TO VISIT A CONCERNTRATION CAMP SITE
DURING VISIT TO GERMANY

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
ROBERT GLEASON	OPG	85/04/01		C 85105103
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COMMENTS: _____

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2200 _____

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MANAGEMENT.

300 758



THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY 12247

ABRAHAM BERNSTEIN
33RD DISTRICT
COMMITTEES

March 27, 1985

DISTRICT OFFICE
729 PELHAM PARKWAY NO.
BRONX, NEW YORK 10467
(212) 231-1700

BANKS - RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS - ACTING RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
FINANCE
JUDICIARY
HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
INVESTIGATIONS & TAXATION
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Dear Mr. President:

It was with great amazement and shock that I listened to your comments and rationale concerning your decision not to visit a concentration camp site on your forthcoming visit to Germany. I could not believe what I heard.

I do not quarrel, although I disagree, with your decision. Your decision is not the issue. I do, however, quarrel with the reasons for your decision and your explanations.

The fair import of your remarks was that the murder of 6,000,000 people (for no reason other than being Jewish) was a necessary prelude to peace. Was it really a prerequisite to first impose this terribly inhumane blight on world history before peace could be sought? Did peace really begin then? Did friendship really start then? Do we have peace and friendship today?

Are you also saying that we should forget about the Holocaust simply because it occurred 40 years ago? Should we also forget the Civil War? The Inquisitions? Viet Nam?

Your comments only serve to bolster those who maliciously and deliberately seek to distort history --- those who falsely claim that the Holocaust never occurred --- those who want to sweep it under the rug. I invite your attention to the hateful and deceitful publication "Hoax of the Twentieth Century".

Do you for a moment really believe that your visit to a concentration camp site would re-ignite the passions and memories of those remaining victims and the families of those who were slaughtered? Their memories, their passions and their scars have remained and will always remain so long as they and their descendants live.

(cont'd)



ABRAHAM BERNSTEIN
33RD DISTRICT
COMMITTEES

BANKS - RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS - ACTING RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
FINANCE
JUDICIARY
HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
INVESTIGATIONS & TAXATION
VETERANS AFFAIRS

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY 12247

March 27, 1985

DISTRICT OFFICE
729 PELHAM PARKWAY NO.
BRONX, NEW YORK 10467
(212) 231-1700

-2-

Mr. President, you apparently do not understand the meaning and the purpose of keeping the memories of the Holocaust alive. You apparently do not understand the meaning and purpose of holding thousands of yearly Holocaust Memorial Services in the United States and throughout the world. You apparently do not understand the meaning and purpose of the thousands of permanent Holocaust Centers existing in so many countries. (Parenthetically I am very proud of the Center in my District, at the Bronx High School of Science.) You apparently do not understand the meaning and purpose of the Holocaust being part of the history curriculum of so many schools.

That purpose, that meaning is very simple --- to keep alive the memory of the Holocaust, as painful and as hurtful as it is, --- so that there will never again be another Holocaust.

Governor Mario Cuomo, in his letter to you, has very graphically expressed the feelings and hurts of so many.

I write this letter, not only as a New York State Senator but also as an American Jew and former President of the National Association of Jewish Legislators.

Respectfully yours,

ABRAHAM BERNSTEIN
Senator

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

AB:rs

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVER: APRIL 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE TOM LANTOS

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO VISIT DACHAU AND TO
WATCH THE TELEVISION MINISERIES "WALLENBERG:
A HERO'S STORY" ON APRIL 8 AND 9, 1985

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	85/04/03	<u>MO</u>	<u>485/04/03</u> AB
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COMMENTS: _____

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

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MANAGEMENT.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 8, 1985

Dear Tom:

Thank you very much for your letters of March 28 and April 3 in which you urged that the President include a stop at Dachau in the schedule for his May visit to the Federal Republic of Germany.

At the outset, let me assure you that the President remains deeply committed to full recognition of the horrors surrounding the Holocaust. He has demonstrated his continuing concern both by words and actions.

Concerning your specific question, we and the German Government fully considered the possibility of a visit to Dachau in reviewing the President's itinerary. However, due to the limited amount of time available for the bilateral portion of the President's visit to the FRG, it did not prove possible to include a visit to the Munich area. Although the President will be in the FRG for several days, most of his time will be spent in Bonn for the Seven-Nation Economic Summit and talks with President von Weizsaecker and Chancellor Kohl.

Let me reemphasize that the President fully appreciates the special significance of events related to the Holocaust during this year, when we will be marking the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II. The German Government, and Chancellor Kohl personally, share this understanding, as indicated by the Chancellor's scheduled visit to the site of the former Bergen-Belsen concentration camp on April 22, the 40th anniversary of its liberation by Allied forces. Our Ambassador to the Federal Republic, Arthur Burns, will join Chancellor Kohl -- as the President's personal representative -- at the ceremonies at Bergen-Belsen. His presence at Bergen-Belsen, particularly given Ambassador Burns' high personal prestige, will emphasize the importance which the President, and all Americans, attach to this event.

Again, we appreciate your interest in this important matter and have relayed to the President your suggestion that he view the miniseries "Wallenberg: A Hero's Story."

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Tom Lantos
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

MBO:NSC:KRJ:jfc--(4MBOGA)

ANTOS
RNIA

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BURLINGAME, DALY CITY, EAST
PALO ALTO, FOSTER CITY, HALF
MOON BAY, MILLBRAE, PACIFICA,
PALO ALTO, SAN BRUNO AND
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO



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

April 3, 1985

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE**
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND THE
MIDDLE EAST
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIAN AND
PACIFIC AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
**GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE**
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION AND
NATIONAL SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY
AND NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES
AND TRANSPORTATION
**SELECT COMMITTEE
ON AGING**
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

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

Dear Mr. President:

This letter is written in hope. That hope is predicated on your steadfast and heartfelt -- and very much appreciated -- support of my legislation to bestow honorary United States Citizenship on Raoul Wallenberg. Your support for this effort was consistent and firm from the outset, and was critical to its ultimate success.

My hope is also predicated on our shared experience of the Second World War, and our opposition to totalitarianism and the degradation that it brings to human life. More personally, my hope is based on your unforgettably moving speech at the American Military Cemetery at Omaha Beach ten months ago when we stood together commemorating the anniversary of the Normandy Invasion.

If we as Americans are not to be like a cork bobbing aimlessly on a stormy sea, we must be firmly anchored by an understanding of our past. And the experiences of 40 years ago -- which we both share -- are key to understanding our world today.

In that spirit, I am not now asking you to visit the Dachau concentration camp during your forthcoming visit to Germany. But I do ask you to do one thing before you make a final decision on that question: I ask you to watch the television miniseries "Wallenberg: A Hero's Story" which will be broadcast April 8 and 9.

After you have seen that incredible but true story, then decide whether or not to visit Dachau. You owe it to yourself to see this story of the heroism of Wallenberg and of the martyrs he sought to save. Then make the decision about whether to skip what is likely to be your only and last opportunity as President to stand symbolically with Wallenberg.

Cordially,

Tom Lantos
Member of Congress

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 300941

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROBERT G. TORRICELLI

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION'S
COMMITMENT OF THE MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF
THE HOLOCAUST

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/04/03	<u>MO</u>	<u>A 85/04/08</u>
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COMMENTS: _____

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

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MANAGEMENT.

April 8, 1985

Dear Mr. Torricelli:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 2 in which you urged that the President include a stop at Dachau in the schedule for his May visit to the Federal Republic of Germany.

At the outset, let me assure you that the President remains deeply committed to full recognition of the horrors surrounding the Holocaust. He has demonstrated his continuing concern both by words and actions.

Concerning your specific question, we and the German Government fully considered the possibility of a visit to Dachau in reviewing the President's itinerary. However, due to the limited amount of time available for the bilateral portion of the President's visit to the FRG, it did not prove possible to include a visit to the Munich area. Although the President will be in the FRG for several days, most of his time will be spent in Bonn for the Seven-Nation Economic Summit and talks with President von Weizsaecker and Chancellor Kohl.

Let me reemphasize that the President fully appreciates the special significance of events related to the Holocaust during this year, when we will be marking the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II. The German Government, and Chancellor Kohl personally, share this understanding, as indicated by the Chancellor's scheduled visit to the site of the former Bergen-Belsen concentration camp on April 22, the 40th anniversary of its liberation by Allied forces. Our Ambassador to the Federal Republic, Arthur Burns, will join Chancellor Kohl -- as the President's personal representative -- at the ceremonies at Bergen-Belsen. His presence at Bergen-Belsen, particularly given Ambassador Burns' high personal prestige, will emphasize the importance which the President, and all Americans, attach to this event. Again, we appreciate your interest in this important matter.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Robert G. Torricelli
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

✓ cc: w/copy of inc to Pat Buchanan - FYI

MBO: NSC: KRJ:jfc--(4MBOGA)

ROBERT G. TORRICELLI
9TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



300941

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
317 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
202-225-5061
DISTRICT OFFICE:
27 WARREN STREET
SUITE 201
HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY 07601
201-646-1111

37
m0

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

April 2, 1985

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. President:

Your remarks last week in response to a reporter's question have prompted confusion and concern over our nation's commitment to the memory of the Holocaust. A refusal to attend ceremonies next month at Dachau have raised questions throughout the world as to whether our nation's leaders believe that the Holocaust is to be forgotten in the pages of history or whether it shall remain as a living and constant reminder of the greatest of human tragedies.

This concern is compounded by remarks in the past by your new Communications Director Patrick Buchanan. His remarks have added to the doubts about your Administration's commitment to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. On several occasions over the last few years, Mr. Buchanan has criticized the efforts of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations to pursue the trail of Nazi war criminals. During an interview in 1982, Mr. Buchanan called for the "abolition" of the Office of Special Investigations, which he termed a "fruitless exercise" and "not a proper use of resources". During the discussion Mr. Buchanan insisted that there is no "singularity" about the Holocaust that warrants investing federal funds in "going after people who are about 70 years old now" and whose crimes "occurred thirty-five, forty years ago". He later authored two nationally syndicated columns in which he renewed his attacks on the Office.

Although in the past your Administration has supported the activities of the Office of Special Investigations, these statements and Mr. Buchanan's appointment to the highest councils of the White House now raise questions about the commitment of our nation's political leaders to the memory of the Holocaust.

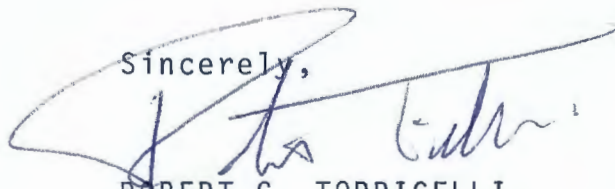
I believe it is important to take action to alleviate concerns and correct these wrong impressions. It is essential that a visit

be scheduled to the Dachau Holocaust site next month in order to participate in the Holocaust ceremonies and, just as importantly, it is essential that you assure the world that Mr. Buchanan's peculiar views are strictly his own and that these views will not be allowed to influence Administration policy or to interfere with the workings of the Office of Special Investigations.

Two years ago in a speech to more than 15,000 Holocaust survivors you stated, "Our most sacred task now is insuring that the memory of this greatest of human tragedies, the Holocaust, never fades -- that its lessons are not forgotten."

I hope that as the 40th Anniversary of this greatest of human tragedies approaches that you will do all that you can to insure that the memory of the Holocaust never fades nor is forgotten.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. G. Torricelli", with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

ROBERT G. TORRICELLI
Member of Congress

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

FR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 03, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE ROBERT G. TORRICELLI

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION'S
COMMITMENT OF THE MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF
THE HOLOCAUST

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
M. B. OGLESBY	ORG	85/04/03	MO	A 85/04/08
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
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REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: I INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230

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

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

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

April 8, 1985

Dear Mr. Torricelli:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 2 in which you urged that the President include a stop at Dachau in the schedule for his May visit to the Federal Republic of Germany.

At the outset, let me assure you that the President remains deeply committed to full recognition of the horrors surrounding the Holocaust. He has demonstrated his continuing concern both by words and actions.

Concerning your specific question, we and the German Government fully considered the possibility of a visit to Dachau in reviewing the President's itinerary. However, due to the limited amount of time available for the bilateral portion of the President's visit to the FRG, it did not prove possible to include a visit to the Munich area. Although the President will be in the FRG for several days, most of his time will be spent in Bonn for the Seven-Nation Economic Summit and talks with President von Weizsaecker and Chancellor Kohl.

Let me reemphasize that the President fully appreciates the special significance of events related to the Holocaust during this year, when we will be marking the 40th anniversary of the end of World War II. The German Government, and Chancellor Kohl personally, share this understanding, as indicated by the Chancellor's scheduled visit to the site of the former Bergen-Belsen concentration camp on April 22, the 40th anniversary of its liberation by Allied forces. Our Ambassador to the Federal Republic, Arthur Burns, will join Chancellor Kohl -- as the President's personal representative -- at the ceremonies at Bergen-Belsen. His presence at Bergen-Belsen, particularly given Ambassador Burns' high personal prestige, will emphasize the importance which the President, and all Americans, attach to this event. Again, we appreciate your interest in this important matter.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Robert G. Torricelli
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

cc: w/copy of inc to Pat Buchanan - FYI

MBO:NSC:KRJ:jfc--(4MBOGA)

ROBERT G. TORRICELLI
9TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:
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SUITE 201
HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY 07601
201-846-1111

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

April 2, 1985

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. President:

Your remarks last week in response to a reporter's question have prompted confusion and concern over our nation's commitment to the memory of the Holocaust. A refusal to attend ceremonies next month at Dachau have raised questions throughout the world as to whether our nation's leaders believe that the Holocaust is to be forgotten in the pages of history or whether it shall remain as a living and constant reminder of the greatest of human tragedies.

This concern is compounded by remarks in the past by your new Communications Director Patrick Buchanan. His remarks have added to the doubts about your Administration's commitment to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust. On several occasions over the last few years, Mr. Buchanan has criticized the efforts of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations to pursue the trail of Nazi war criminals. During an interview in 1982, Mr. Buchanan called for the "abolition" of the Office of Special Investigations, which he termed a "fruitless exercise" and "not a proper use of resources". During the discussion Mr. Buchanan insisted that there is no "singularity" about the Holocaust that warrants investing federal funds in "going after people who are about 70 years old now" and whose crimes "occurred thirty-five, forty years ago". He later authored two nationally syndicated columns in which he renewed his attacks on the Office.

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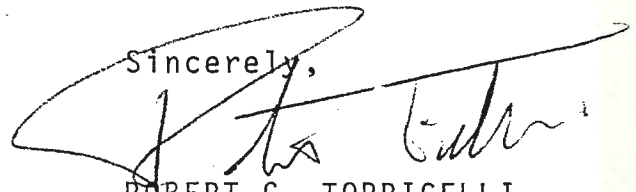
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be scheduled to the Dachau Holocaust site next month in order to participate in the Holocaust ceremonies and, just as importantly, it is essential that you assure the world that Mr. Buchanan's peculiar views are strictly his own and that these views will not be allowed to influence Administration policy or to interfere with the workings of the Office of Special Investigations.

Two years ago in a speech to more than 15,000 Holocaust survivors you stated, "Our most sacred task now is insuring that the memory of this greatest of human tragedies, the Holocaust, never fades -- that its lessons are not forgotten."

I hope that as the 40th Anniversary of this greatest of human tragedies approaches that you will do all that you can to insure that the memory of the Holocaust never fades nor is forgotten.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. G. Torricelli", written over a large, loopy flourish that extends to the left and right.

ROBERT G. TORRICELLI
Member of Congress

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 08, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MRS. BARBARA A. MANDEL

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES DISAPPOINTMENT IN DECISION NOT TO
VISIT DACHAU DURING TRIP TO GERMANY IN MAY 85

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
MARSHALL BREGER	ORG	85/04/08		C 85/04/19
REFERRAL NOTE: <u>PL DONA</u>				
REFERRAL NOTE: <u>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</u>		85/04/19		C 85/04/26
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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KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.





**National Council of Jewish Women**

15 East 26th Street  
New York, New York 10010  
212- 532-1740 Telex: 428540 NCJW UI

301115

*President*  
Barbara A. Mandel

*M. Brojer*

*Executive Director*  
Dadie Perlov, CAE

April 3, 1985

*Washington Office*  
1346 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-296-2588

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

Dear Mr. President:

*Israel Office*  
NCJW Research Institute  
School of Education  
Hebrew University  
Mount Scopus  
Jerusalem, Israel 91905  
NCJW Office: 02- 882-208  
Institute Office: 02- 882-016

On behalf of the 100,000 members of the National Council of Jewish Women, I must express our disappointment with your decision not to visit Dachau during your trip to Germany next month, forty years after VE Day. As you have so eloquently said in the past, "the Holocaust remembrance transcends all considerations of reviving the pain and the horror."

*Field Offices*  
1346 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-785-0222

The National Council of Jewish Women is hopeful that you will find another way to mark this tragic event when you visit Germany to remind the world -- not of German guilt -- but of humanity's responsibility to ensure that the Holocaust never happens again. The loss of six million European Jews is an event that must be remembered by the world.

Suite 204  
5945 W. Dempster  
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053  
312-965-5156-7

Sincerely,

Suite 202  
5220 Biscayne Blvd.  
Miami, Florida 33137  
305-757-1305

*Barbara A. Mandel*

Barbara A. Mandel  
National President

2734A College Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94705  
415-549-0788

950 Boylston Street  
Newton Highlands, MA 02161  
617-244-8000

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Shaker Heights, OH

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Janora Edinger  
Woodmere, NY

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Lynn Lynn  
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**Recording Secretary**

Julia Tappan  
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Salt Lake City, UT

Shirley I.

Hewlett Harbor, NY

Eleanor M.

Woodmere, NY

\*Former National President  
\*National Executive Committee  
\*\*District President





THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR/2301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 10, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE TOM CARPER

SUBJECT: WRITES CONCERNING LETTER FROM SIGMUND GOPSON,  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE URGING VISIT TO DACHAU  
DURING VISIT TO WEST GERMANY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |        |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|--------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C<br>D |

|                |     |          |            |                |           |
|----------------|-----|----------|------------|----------------|-----------|
| M. P. OGLESBY  | ORG | 85/04/10 | <u>MDA</u> | <u>85/04/1</u> | <u>BY</u> |
| REFERRAL NOTE: |     |          |            |                |           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: |     |          |            |                |           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: |     |          |            |                |           |
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| REFERRAL NOTE: |     |          |            |                |           |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1230  
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 *P-NON-SPEC-REFEPRAL * OF SIGNER *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED * CODE = A *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC * OUTGOING *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * * *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE * * *
*X-INTERJM REPLY * * *

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KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



April 10, 1985

Dear Tom:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 11 in which you indicated that your constituent, Mr. Sigmund Gorson, has urged that the President include a stop at Dachau in the schedule for his May visit to the Federal Republic of Germany.

At the outset, let me assure you that the President remains deeply committed to full recognition of the horrors surrounding the Holocaust. He has demonstrated his continuing concern both by words and actions.

We and the German Government fully considered the possibility of a visit to Dachau in reviewing the President's itinerary. However, due to the limited amount of time available for the bilateral portion of the President's visit to the FRG, it did not prove possible to include a visit to the Munich area. Although the President will be in the FRG for several days, most of his time will be spent in Bonn for the Seven-Nation Economic Summit and talks with President von Weizsaecker and Chancellor Kohl.

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With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Thomas Carper  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
MBO:KRJ:hlb



301231



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

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mo

THOMAS CARPER  
DELAWARE

March 11, 1985

President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

You recently received a letter from one of my constituents, Mr. Sigmund Gorson, of Wilmington, Delaware.

Mr. Gorson, a survivor of the Nazi death camps, wrote to urge you to visit Dachau during your visit to West Germany later this spring. He believes, rightfully so, that we must never forget the reality of the holocaust and the pain and suffering of its survivors.

I strongly urge you to give Mr. Gorson's request your fullest consideration.

With best wishes for a successful trip.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom".

Tom Carper  
Member Of Congress

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 10, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS RUTH W. POPKIN

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION NOT TO  
VISIT DACHAU DURING UPCOMING VISIT TO WEST  
GERMANY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                         |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                         | ORG         | 85/04/10         |              | C 85/04/19              |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                         |
| PH DONA                                 | R           | 85/04/19         |              | C 85/04/20              |
| REFERRAL NOTE: ATTN: Frank Donatelli    |             |                  |              |                         |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                         |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                         |
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| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                         |

COMMENTS:  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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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            | * |
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| *R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
| *S-FOB-SIGNATURE         |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY         |                      |                      | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

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MANAGEMENT.





50 WEST 58th STREET • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019 • (212) 355-7900 • Telex: HADASS 425191

April 8, 1985

הדסה  
THE WOMEN'S  
ZIONIST  
ORGANIZATION  
OF AMERICA,  
INC.

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

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to you as the National President of Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of the United States, which represents some 370,000 women organized in every state of the Union.

I feel it is important for me to voice our deep concern over your decision not to visit Dachau concentration camp during your upcoming visit to Germany. Your comments regarding this matter disturbed us and I can only believe that your choice of words was a mistake.

The end of the war, while joyous for many people, signified the liberation of the remnants of the Jewish people and an end to an infamous period in world history. Our joy was mixed with sorrow and despair at our loss. Your remark that "guilt feelings that have been imposed upon the German people" does not deal directly with the culpability of the German people during the Holocaust. While we do not wish to blame innocent Germans for the sins of their parents and grandparents, neither do we wish to expunge the memory of the Holocaust from the history books and to deny its reality.

As Jews, as women and as human beings we believe that it is imperative that mankind remember the crimes of the Holocaust and understand completely the potentiality for evil which exists in mankind. Only in remembering the atrocities of that period and the lack of concern and courage by many people in the time of this tragedy can we have any hope of averting disasters of this kind in the future.

I urge you to reconsider your decision not to visit Dachau. This visit would convey to the world your own well known abhorrence of the Holocaust.

Sincerely yours,

*Ruth W. Popkin*  
Ruth W. Popkin  
National President

RWP:1p

31

*Marshall  
Burger*

Founder  
Henrietta Szold  
President  
Ruth W. Popkin  
Treasurer  
Deborah Kaplan  
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Hadassah administers its programs through: Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.; Hadassah Medical Relief Association, Inc.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 11, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. RAE M. GINSBURG

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING RECENT REMARKS  
ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST AND THE FORTHCOMING 40TH  
ANNIVERSARY VE DAY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)     | ACTION<br>ACT CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | DISPOSITION |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
|                                             |                    |                  | TYPE RESP   | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                             | ORG                | 85/04/11         |             | C 85/04/19 <b>DD</b>      |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <u>PL DONA</u>               |                    |                  |             |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <u>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</u> | R                  | 85/04/19         |             | C 85/04/26 <b>PXI</b>     |
| 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 *
*P-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * * *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE * * *
*X-INTERIM REPLY * * *

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MANAGEMENT.

#301305

# JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

of Metropolitan Boston

72 Franklin Street, Boston, Mass. 02110 (617) 542-7525

Working since 1944 to maintain and strengthen the dignity, security, and integrity of Jewish life.

*m. Ginsburg*

April 9, 1985

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President Ronald Reagan  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston, we want to express a concern about your recent remarks about the Holocaust and the forthcoming 40th anniversary of VE Day. While the post WW II generation of Germany cannot be blamed for what occurred during the war, certainly those dark days must never be forgotten, for as you yourself said some years ago, "this greatest of human tragedies must never fade" and its lessons not forgotten.

Our belief is that no person in the world can better symbolize the need for remembrance than you, and our hope is that while you are abroad, you express such views once again.

With best wishes for a successful trip.

Sincerely,

*Rae M. Ginsburg*

Rae M. Ginsburg  
President

/ac

- Community Relations Associates**  
MARJORIE EPSTEIN  
BARBARA A. GAFFIN  
BARBARA B. KATZ
- Administrative Committee**  
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CONGREGATIONS  
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N.E. BRANCH  
UNITED SYNAGOGUES OF AMERICA  
VAAD HARABONIM  
WORKMEN'S CIRCLE  
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA





THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR/23-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 11, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: RABBI CHARLES H. ROSENZVEIG

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO RECONSIDER DECISION  
NOT TO VISIT THE DACHAU CONCENTRATION CAMP  
DURING UPCOMING TRIP TO EUROPE

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION<br>ACT CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | DISPOSITION |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
|                                         |                    |                  | TYPE RESP   | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                         | ORG                | 85/04/11         |             | C 85 04 19                |
| ✓ PL DONA REFERRAL NOTE: _____          |                    |                  |             |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    | R                  | 85/04/19         |             | C 85 04 26                |
| REFERRAL NOTE: ATTN: Frank Donatelli    |                    |                  |             |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |                    |                  |             |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |                    |                  |             |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |                    |                  |             |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |                    |                  |             |                           |

LOG  
PY

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:M 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 * *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE *C-COMPLETED * *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET *S-SUSPENDED * *
I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * * *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE * * *
*X-INTERIM REPLY * * *

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50  
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER  
6602 WEST MAPLE RD  
WEST BLOOMFIELD MI 48033

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3136610840 MGMB TDBN WEST BLOOMFIELD MI 234 04-10 1231P EST

*M. Breger*

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20006

DEAR MR PRESIDENT,  
AS AN ADMIRER OF YOU AND YOUR RECORD AS A FRIEND OF THE JEWS AND ISRAEL, I APPEAL TO YOU TO RECONSIDER YOUR STATED DECISION NOT TO VISIT THE INFAMOUS DACHAU CONCENTRATION CAMP DURING YOUR UPCOMING TRIP TO EUROPE.

IN MY EARS STILL RING YOUR POWERFUL WORDS AT THE GATHERING OF THE SURVIVORS OF THE HOLOCAUST IN WASHINGTON D.C. MR PRESIDENT, DO NOT PERMIT YOUR OTHERWISE HISTORIC RECORD WITH REGARDS TO HUMANITY, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY, JEWS AND ISRAEL TO BE MARRED BY YOUR REFUSAL TO VISIT DACHAU.

YOUR VISIT TO DACHAU WOULD CONFIRM TO THE WORLD LIKE NOTHING ELSE COULD, THAT AMERICA WILL NOT, AS YOU SO OFTEN STATED, FORGET THE ABOMINABLE CRIMES THAT DACHAU SYMBOLIZES. YOUR VISIT TO DACHAU WOULD BE A POWERFUL MESSAGE TO THE WORLD THAT AMERICA STANDS FOR HUMAN DIGNITY AND DEMOCRACY. YOUR VISIT TO DACHAU WOULD HAVE A HEALING IMPACT UPON THE THOUSANDS OF SURVIVORS OF THE HOLOCAUST WHOSE EXPERIENCES AT DACHAU ARE STILL TORMENTING THEIR SOULS.

MR PRESIDENT, FOR THE SAKE OF EVERYTHING THAT IS NEAR AND DEAR TO THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE AND HUMAN DECENCY, PLEASE VISIT DACHAU. WE HAVE SO MUCH FAITH IN AMERICA AND IN YOU. DO NOT DISAPPOINT US AND DO NOT BLEMISH YOUR HISTORIC RECORD.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER  
6602 WEST MAPLE ROAD  
WEST BLOOMFIELD MICHIGAN 48033  
RABBI CHARLES H. ROSENZVEIG DIRECTOR

12:30 EST

MGMCOMP



1951

WEST BLOOMFIELD MI 48303

212668840 WENT TOWN WEST BLOOMFIELD MI 48303 04-10 1531R EST

WASHINGTON DC 20504  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

DEAR MR PRESIDENT,  
AS A HEBREW BORN AND RAISED AMERICAN I AM WRITING TO YOU TO REQUEST THAT YOU RECONSIDER YOUR STATED DECISION NOT TO VISIT THE INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION DURING YOUR UPCOMING VISIT TO EUROPE.

IN MY EARLY YEARS YOUR FATHER'S WORDS AT THE GATHERING OF THE SURVIVORS OF THE HOLOCAUST IN WASHINGTON D.C. MR PRESIDENT DO NOT PERMIT YOUR OTHERWISE HISTORIC RECORD WITH REGARDS TO HUMANITY, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY, JEWS AND ISRAEL TO BE MARRED BY YOUR REFUSAL TO VISIT DACHAU.

YOUR VISIT TO DACHAU WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORLD LIKE NOTHING ELSE COULD. THAT AMERICA WILL NOT AS YOU SO OFTEN STATED, FORGET THE ADMIRABLE CRIMES THAT DACHAU SYMBOLIZES, YOUR VISIT TO DACHAU WOULD BE A POWERFUL MESSAGE TO THE WORLD THAT AMERICA STANDS FOR HUMAN DIGNITY AND DEMOCRACY. YOUR VISIT TO DACHAU WOULD BE AN INSURANCE OF THE HOLOCAUST'S IMPACT UPON THE INDUSTRY OF THE HOLOCAUST WHOSE IMPACT IS STILL FELT TODAY.

MR PRESIDENT, FOR THE SAKE OF EVERYTHING THAT IS DEAR AND DEAR TO THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE AND HUMAN DEMOCRACY, PLEASE VISIT DACHAU. WE HAVE SO MUCH FAITH IN AMERICA AND IN YOU, DO NOT DISAPPOINT US AND DO NOT DIMINISH YOUR HISTORIC RECORD.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL CENTER  
800 WEST MAPLE ROAD  
WEST BLOOMFIELD MICHIGAN 48303  
RABBI CHARLES H. ROSENBERG DIRECTOR

1510 EST  
RABBI

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 17, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. DAVID STERN

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERING DECISION NOT TO VISIT THE \_\_\_\_\_  
SITE OF THE DACHAU CONCENTRATION CAMP DURING \_\_\_\_\_  
VISIT TO WEST GERMANY \_\_\_\_\_

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)     | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                             | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                             | ORG         | 85/04/17         |              | C 85/04/19                |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <u>PL DONA</u>               |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <u>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</u> |             | <u>85/04/19</u>  |              | C 85/04/26                |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |              |                           |

DDI  
PY

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

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301321

ב"ח



# UNITED SYNAGOGUE YOUTH

## צעירי בתי כנסת המאוחדים

of the United Synagogue of America

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

April 14, 1985

37E  
Marshall  
Buzgar

**PRESIDENT**  
DAVID STERN  
דוד ישראל סטירן

882 Edgewater Trail  
Atlanta, Georgia 30328  
(404) 843-9657

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**  
KENNETH WEINSTOCK

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

**RELIGION/EDUCATION VICE PRESIDENT**  
MARNIN WEINREB

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

**SOCIAL ACTION/  
TIKUN OLAM VICE PRESIDENT**

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

**MEMBERSHIP/KADIMA VICE PRESIDENT**  
MICHELE HELLER

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

**COMMUNICATIONS VICE PRESIDENT**  
BELINDA MASON

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

**PAST PRESIDENTS**

- RABBI PAUL FREEDMAN
- ARTHUR PODELL
- ARTHUR PESCOE
- RABBI GERALD ZELIZER
- ALAN KAPLAN
- MARTIN DANK
- RABBI JAMES LEBEAU
- DAVID LISSY
- DANNY SIEGEL
- PETER GEFFEN
- RICHARD HOFFMAN
- ALAN MINTZ
- RABBI STEPHEN GARFINKEL
- OSCAR FRUCHTMAN
- RICHIE FINKELSTEIN
- DAVID SCHWARTZ
- MARC GARY
- LARRY BURROWS
- JIM KAUFMAN
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- ROBERT LENNICK
- RABBI JEF SEGELMAN
- DAVID YOLEN
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- DAVID MARCU
- JEREMY J. FINGERMAN
- BRUCE GORDON
- MARK DAVIS
- SHRAGA SHERMAN
- ERIC WEINSTOCK
- DAVID ISRAEL

**UNITED SYNAGOGUE  
OF AMERICA**

MARSHALL WOLKE  
President

RABBI BENJAMIN Z. KREITMAN  
Executive Vice President

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

Mr. President:

On behalf of the members of United Synagogue Youth, we add our voices to those who have protested your decision not to visit the site of the Dachau Concentration Camp during your visit to West Germany next month. As leaders of the largest Synagogue Youth Organization in the world, we ask you to pay honor to the memory of our ancestors who were slaughtered by the Nazis during World War II.

Given your frequent participation in Holocaust Commemora-tions, and your oft stated commitment to remembering what took place in Europe during World War II, we were surprised to note your reasons for not visiting Dachau. We have no right to "forgive". Only the victims themselves have that right. We, instead, have the obligation to remember, so that the horrors perpetrated by the Nazis will never happen again.

We write to you only hours before our departure for Poland where we will participate in an International gathering of Jewish Youth to commemorate the destruction of East European Jewry. As we ourselves walk through Auschwitz, Birkenau and Treblinka, we cannot help but be mindful of the millions of Jewish children and teen-agers whose lives were cut off so prematurely. It is on behalf of those who can no longer raise their voices that we ask you to reconsider and pay fitting tribute to their memory.

Sincerely,

*David Kaye*

David Kaye  
Social Action/Tikun Olam  
Vice President

*David Stern*

David Stern  
USY 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



*Handwritten initials*

ID# 301342

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. ALBERT SHANKER

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY AND UPGES HONORING ALL VICTIMS

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| DOUG FIGGS                              | ORG         | 85/04/18         |              | C 14/26 <b>AB</b>         |
| <i>AVH</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____         |             | 1/1              | NAN          | C 26/4/2 <b>AB</b>        |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | 4/26             |              | 06 85                     |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | 1/1              |              | 1/1                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | 1/1              |              | 1/1                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | 1/1              |              | 1/1                       |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MFDIA:T INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USFR 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 * * *

```

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.



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301312

*Doug Leggo*

4-026657S106 04/16/85

ICS IPMMTZZ CSP

2028794444 PDM TDMT WASHINGTON DC 83 0403 85 APR 16 10 40 P EST 42

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS IS PERPLEXED BY YOUR DECISION TO VISIT A GERMAN WAR CEMETARY NEXT MONTH. AT A MEETING OF AFT LAST WEEKEND IN WASHINGTON, MANY OBJECTIONS WERE RAISED CONCERNING YOUR PLANNED VISIT. IN THE NAME OF HUMANITY AND OUT OF RESPECT TO THE MANY ALLIED SOLDIERS WHO FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM IN WORLD WAR II AND FOR THE MILLIONS OF JEWS WHO DIED DURING THE HOLOCAUST THE AFT CALLS ON YOU TO HONOR THEM ALSO DURING YOUR EUROPEAN TOUR IN MAY.

ALBERT SHANKER PRESIDENT AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS AFL-CIO  
555 NEW JERSEY AVE NORTHWEST  
WASHINGTON DC 20001

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: DR. CURT C. SILBERMAN

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERING DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN  
MILITARY CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)     | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                             | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                             | ORG         | 85/04/18         |              | C 85/04/19                |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <u>PL DONA</u>               |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <u>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</u> |             |                  |              | C 85/04/26                |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                              |             |                  |              |                           |

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:T 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 *       |                      |                      | * |

\*\*\*\*\*

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



50

301343

*M. Bruger*

4-031723S106 04/16/85

ICS IPMNTZZ CSP

2129213871 POM TDMT NEW YORK NY 62 04-16 0350P EST 85 APR 16 P4:12

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

DEAR MR PRESIDENT,

ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF JEWS FROM CENTRAL EUROPE, THE  
ROOF ORGANIZATION OF FORMER GERMAN-JEWS WHO CAME HERE AS HITLER  
PERSECUTEES AND HAVE BECOME LOYAL CITIZENS OF THIS COUNTRY, I ASK  
YOU, KNOWING AND APPRECIATING YOUR SENSITIVITY IN REGARDS TO THE  
VICTIMS OF NAZI PERSECUTION, TO RECONSIDER YOUR CONTEMPLATED VISIT TO  
A GERMAN SOLDIERS CEMETERY.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

DR CURT C SILBERMAN PRESIDENT  
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF JEWS FROM CENTRAL EUROPE  
570 7 AVE  
NEW YORK NY 10018

1552 EST

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS CAROL KATZMAN

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY AND URGES HONORING ALL VICTIMS OF  
WORLD WAR II

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)     | ACTION      |                    | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                             | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD   | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                             | ORG         | 85/04/18           |              | C 85 104/19 <b>DD</b>     |
| <i>PLDONA</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____          |             |                    |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <i>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</i> |             | <i>R 85 104/19</i> |              | <i>C 85 104/26 PY</i>     |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             | ___/___/___        |              | ___/___/___               |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             | ___/___/___        |              | ___/___/___               |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             | ___/___/___        |              | ___/___/___               |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             | ___/___/___        |              | ___/___/___               |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:T 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  
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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



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301344

*M. Burger*

4-0387215106 04/16/85

ICS IPMBNGZ CSP

4023336526 POM TDBN OMAHA NE 111 04-16 05:16P EST 05 APR 16 P 9:40

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

DEAR MR PRESIDENT

AS STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHAIRWOMAN FOR THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN OF NEBRASKA, I REPRESENT 900 MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO ARE GREATLY DISTURBED ABOUT YOUR UPCOMING VISIT TO A GERMAN MILITARY CEMETARY. TO COMMEMORATE GERMAN WAR DEAD ON THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY WITHOUT PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE ALLIE FALLEN WOULD BE A SERIOUS TRAGEDY. AND TO IGNORE THE 6 MILLION EUROPEAN JEWS, VICTIMS OF TE HOLOCAUST, WOULD COMPOUND THE ERROR. ON BEHALF OF NCJW, WE URGE YOU

TO CHANGE YOUR PLANS AND PUBLICALLY HONOR ALL VICTIMS OF WORLD WAR II.

CAROL KATZMAN  
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHAIRWOMAN  
NCJW NEBRASKA  
16711 HICKORY ST  
OMAHA NE 68130

16711 HICKORY ST  
OMAHA NE 68130

1717 EST

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS HERMINE SILVER

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)     | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                             | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                             | ORG         | 85/04/18         |              | C 85/04/19 <b>B</b>       |
| <b>PL DONA</b> REFERRAL NOTE: _____         |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <b>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</b> | R           | 85/04/19         |              | C 85/04/26 <b>PY</b>      |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             | / /              |              | / /                       |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             | / /              |              | / /                       |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: T 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/RFCOM *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  
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KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



50 ✓

con: Pres. visit, German Cemetery

301345

M. Bryan

4-036465S106 04/16/85

ICS IPMBNGZ CSP

3138513599 POM TDBN FRANKLIN MI 70 04-16 0446P EST 85 APR 16 P 9: 57

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

ON BEHALF OF THE 3000 MEMBER FAMILIES OF NATIONA COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, GREATER DETROIT SECTION WE WISH TO CONVEY OUR DEEP DISTRESS OVER YOUR IMPENDING VISIT TO A GERMAN MILITARY CEMETARY. EVEN AFTER 40 YEARS WE CANNOT FORGET THE 6000 JEWS WHO DIED IN THE HOLOCAUST AND THE AMERICANS WHO DIED FIGHTING THE NAZIS. IT IS HARDLY A FITTING WAY TO COMMEMORATE ALL THE DEAD OF WORLD WAR II.

HERMINE SILVER, STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHAIRWOMAN

32546 SCOTTSDALE

FRANKLIN MI 48025

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR 123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

APR 19 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE JOSEPH COLBY

SUBJECT: SUGGESTS RESCHEDULING OF VISIT TO GERMAN  
MILITARY CEMETERY AND COMMENDS CONSIDERATION  
OF VISIT TO SITE OF A CONCENTRATION CAMP

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION<br>ACT CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | DISPOSITION |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
|                                         |                    |                  | TYPE RESP   | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| RONALD ALVARADO                         | ORG                | 85/04/18         |             | C 85/05/01 <i>YI</i>      |
| <i>Cohigg</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____      | <i>YI</i> A        | 85/05/03         | NAN         | C 85/06/05 <i>AB</i>      |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |                    | ___/___/___      |             | ___/___/___               |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |                    | ___/___/___      |             | ___/___/___               |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |                    | ___/___/___      |             | ___/___/___               |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |                    | ___/___/___      |             | ___/___/___               |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:T INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2600 \_\_\_\_\_

IA 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) FXT. 2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



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Cont,

301346

*Ron Almarado*

4-032897S106 04/16/85

ICS IPMNTZZ CSP

5169221173 TDMT OYSTER BAY NY 134 04-16 0404P EST

85 APR 16 P4:10

FMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN RPT DLY MGM

WHITE HOUSE DC

I COMMEND YOUR DETERMINATION TO AGAIN CONSIDER A VISIT TO THE SITE OF A CONCENTRATION CAMP DURING YOUR UPCOMING TRIP TO GERMANY. YOUR DECISION TO DO SO REFLECTS THAT REMEMBRANCE OF THE 6 MILLION AND THE IMPORTANT LESSON OF HISTORY WHICH MUST NEVER BE FORFOTTEN CONTINUES TO RECEIVE APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION BY OUR NATIONS LEADER. PLANS TO LAY A WREATH AT THE BITBURG CEMETARY HAVE CREATED SERIOUS CONCERNS AMONG AMERICAN JEWS AND VETERANS WHICH SHOULD BE ADDRESSED. IF THE BROADER IMPLICATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS IN ANY WAY PERMIT THE RESCHEDULING OF THIS EVENT TO A MORE APPROPRIATE LOCATION I URGE THAT STEPS TO ACCOMPLISH THIS BE IMMEDIATELY UNDERTAKEN. I BELIEVE THAT

SUCH ACTION IS NECESSARY TO RELIEVE THE DISTRESS THAT HAS INADVERTANTLY BEEN CAUSED TO VETERANS AND THOSE OF THE JEWISH FAITH IN THIS COUNTRY

SUPERVISOR JOSEPH COLBY TOWN OF OYSTER BAY COUNTY OF NASSAU STATE OF NEW YORK AUDREY AVE 11771  
AUDREY AVE  
OYSTER BAY NY 11771

1607 EST

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MISS TOBY WILLIG

SUBJECT: URGES SCHEDULE TO VISIT MAJOR CONCENTRATION  
CAMP

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)     | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                             | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                             | ORG         | 85/04/18         |              | C 85/04/19                |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             |                  |              |                           |
| <i>✓ PL DONA</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____       | R           | 85/04/19         |              | C 85/04/20                |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <i>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</i> |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             |                  |              |                           |

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:T 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           | * |
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| *I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC* |                      | * OUTGOING           | * |
| *P-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY * |                      |                      | * |
| *S-FOR-SIGNATURE *       |                      |                      | * |
| *X-INTERIM REPLY *       |                      |                      | * |
- \*\*\*\*\*

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



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Comdt. Pres. visit, Germany

301347

*M. Berger*

4-033141S106 04/16/85

ICS IPMMTZZ CSP

2125649045 POM TDMT NEW YORK NY 19 04-16 04085 EST 16 P4:12

PMS PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

IMPLORE YOU TO OFFICIALLY SCHEDULE MAJOR VISIT TO CONCENTRATION CAMP.  
URGE YOU ADDRESS THE ISSUES OF FREEDOM VS BARBARISM.

EMUNAH WOMEN OF AMERICA TOBY WILLIG VICE PRESIDENT PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CHARLOTTE DACHS NATIONAL PRESIDENT NY NY

370 7 AVE SUITE 11N

NEW YORK NY 10001

1609 EST

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR12301

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE RAYMOND J. MCGRATH

SUBJECT: URGES RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION TO VISIT  
GERMAN MILITARY CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                               |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD     |
| M. B. CGLESBY                           | ORG         | 85/04/18         | <i>MD</i>    | <i>A8505/68</i> <sup>AB</sup> |
| REFERRAL NOTE:                          |             |                  |              |                               |
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240 \_\_\_\_\_  
MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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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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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE  
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MANAGEMENT.



May 8, 1985

Dear Ray:

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 Raymond J. McGrath  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

RAYMOND J. McGRATH  
5TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

MEMBER  
COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS  
CHAIRMAN  
REPUBLICAN TASK FORCE ON  
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

301378

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

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ROOM 205  
CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
(202) 225-5516

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
203 ROCKAWAY AVENUE  
VALLEY STREAM, NY 11580  
(516) 872-9550

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MO

April 12, 1985

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

Dear Mr. President:

I write out of profound concern for the well-being of our nation. The decision to drop a scheduled visit to a concentration camp and to visit a cemetery where many avowed fighters for the cause of Nazism are buried threatens to polarize citizens around the country.

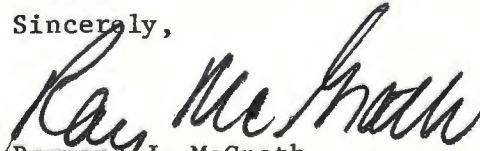
One of the most noble foreign policy initiatives of our nation has been to build and strengthen an alliance with the Federal Republic of Germany. But a relationship which ignores reality is built on a shaky foundation.

It has been said that a majority of Germans today were not born and do not know the events that occurred on their native soil and neighboring conquered territory 40 years ago, and drawing attention to this tragedy will inflict undue guilt and reopen emotional wounds. However, Mr. President, millions live with a daily memory of horrors past. These include death camp survivors and liberators who share the emblazoned images of crematoriums, suffering, starvation, disease, torture, the stench of death, and the fearful eyes of crippled victims who had not yet been sent to "their final solution". Others, whether they be parents, siblings, children, distant relatives or coreligionists, are scarred and haunted by the grim realization of the planned extermination of their people.

As the elected leader of the most powerful democracy on earth, you have the unique opportunity to make a gesture and take a stand for all humanity. During your visit to Temple Hillel last fall, a synagogue in my district, you told those assembled that the living have a responsibility to keep alive the memory and the fate of those who perished. As you so appropriately noted, it is "the fundamental moral obligation" of those who remember the lessons of the Holocaust "to assure never again".

I respectfully urge you to reconsider this decision. As our moral burden is to bear witness and remember, I am certain you will heed the message of Yom Hashoa, the Day of Remembrance.

Sincerely,

  
Raymond J. McGrath  
Member of Congress



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. SIEGI IZAKSON

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)     | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
|                                             | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| MARSHALL BREGER                             | ORG         | 85/04/18         |              | C 85/04/19                |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             |                  |              |                           |
| <i>DL DONA</i>                              | R           | 85/04/19         |              | C 85/04/26                |
| REFERRAL NOTE: <i>ATTN: Frank Donatelli</i> |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             |                  |              |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                        |             |                  |              |                           |
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

PL MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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| *A-APPROPRIATE ACTION    | *A-ANSWERED          | *TYPE RESP=INITIALS  | * |
| *C-COMMENT/RECOM         | *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL | * OF SIGNER          | * |
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| *X-INTERIM REPLY *       |                      |                      | * |
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MANAGEMENT.

301394

JEWISH SURVIVORS OF THE NAZI HOLOCAUST  
P.O. BOX 771205  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77215

37

*Marshall Bregan*



April 11, 1985  
K.Z. Camp Buchenwald  
Liberation Day

Mr. Siegi Izakson ✓  
President  
Dr. Adam Wolski  
Vice president  
Mr. Edward Bleiweiss  
Treasurer

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

Ms. Ruth Steinfeld  
Secretary  
Ms. Lea Markowitz  
Recording Secretary

Dear Mr. President,

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
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Mr. Cooper, Leon  
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Ms. Haber, Rosalyn  
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Mr. Spinner, Harry  
Mr. Stoger, Martin  
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne, Allen  
Dr. Wolski, Janina

From the press we learned that you plan to visit a German military cemetery while visiting that country next month.

We do not understand and it is hard for us to believe that you have refused to visit a concentration camp and an American cemetery instead.

Two years ago we assembled in Washington, D.C. when you addressed us with these words:

...Our most sacred task now, is ensuring that the memory of this greatest of human tragedies, the Holocaust, never fades, that it's lessons are not forgotten."

WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN TWO YEARS MR. PRESIDENT?

On behalf of the Houston Holocaust Survivors, their children and grand children, we strongly urge you to reconsider your ill-advised plans. Instead we respectfully suggest that you pay your respects to our American soldiers who sacrificed their lives to liberate us from the Nazi Death Camps 40 years ago and pay homage to the victims of those SS. troops whose graves you plan to visit.

On April 21-23, 1985, we shall meet in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the Inaugural Assembly of the American Gathering and Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, commemorating the 40th Anniversary of our liberation from Nazi Concentration Camps-WE CANNOT FORGET- how can you forget what really happened forty years ago?

Respectfully yours,

*S. Izakson*  
S. Izakson, Pres.

SI/es.



NOA

ID# 301403

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

TR123-01

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

APR 19 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE DAVID G. EPSTEIN

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION  |                             |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD   |
| RONALD ALVARADO                         | ORG         | 85/04/18         |              | C 85/05/01 <sup>YZ</sup>    |
| <i>Cohigg</i> REFERRAL NOTE: _____      | <i>HA</i>   | <i>85/05/03</i>  | <i>NAN</i>   | <i>C 85/06/05</i> <b>AB</b> |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             | / /              |              | / /                         |
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 2600 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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*ACTION CODES: *DISPOSITION CODES: *OUTGOING *
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# SANTA MONICA

1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California 90401

David G. Epstein  
Member of The City Council

April 12, 1985

*Ron Alvarado*

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, DC

Dear President Reagan:

I write to you as a Republican officeholder concerned about the announced plans for your visit to Germany. I believe it is mistaken both as policy and as a political matter for you to plan to visit a German military cemetery but not a concentration camp site.

I agree that we have a national interest in supporting the present democratic and pro-Western regime in Germany and in recognizing the emergence of a post-World War II generation. Your original decision not to make the obligatory ritual visit to a concentration camp site may have been defensible in that light. However, at the same time as you visit a German military cemetery, to fail to visit either an Allied cemetery or a site appropriate for remembrance of the victims of Naziism is to fail to acknowledge the special character of World War II as a just war against an especially nefarious tyranny. In view of your correct insistence on the moral distinction between the West and the Eastern totalitarian regimes, I believe that you are foregoing an important opportunity and occasion for moral leadership.

From a political point of view, many of us are attempting to wean sectors of the Jewish community from its historic liberalism and support of the Democratic party. Your policies in the Middle East and your noble efforts on behalf of Ethiopian Jewry certainly entitle you to support and recognition. An insensitive act like your announced travel plans gives an unnecessary argument to those who continue to identify the Republican party and conservatism exclusively with the "country club set".

I urge you to modify your plan appropriately.

Sincerely,

DAVID G. EPSTEIN  
Councilmember



*Handwritten initials*

ID# 301404  
TR123-01

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 18, 1985

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. WACLAW ZUROWSKI

SUBJECT: OPPOSES DECISION TO VISIT GERMAN MILITARY  
CEMETERY

| ROUTE TO:<br>OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME) | ACTION      |                  | DISPOSITION            |                           |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                         | ACT<br>CODE | DATE<br>YY/MM/DD | TYPE<br>RESP           | C COMPLETED<br>D YY/MM/DD |
| LINAS KOJELIS                           | ORG         | 85/04/18         |                        |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  | <i>C85104/22</i>       | <i>AB</i>                 |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  | <i>No Reply Needed</i> |                           |
| REFERRAL NOTE: _____                    |             |                  |                        |                           |
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COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
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POLISH WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
 POLSKI ZWIĄZEK ZIEM ZACHODNICH W AMERYCE  
 "Oddział "SZCZECIN" · Wisconsin

5505 BENTWOOD LA. \* GREENDALE, WI. 53129  
 Phone (414) 421-2294

14 April 1985

*Jan Kijelski*

THE PRESIDENT  
 THE WHITE HOUSE  
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

It was reported in the April 22, 1985 issue of *The Wall Street Journal* that you will attend a wreath-laying ceremony May 5th at a West German cemetery where World War II Nazi soldiers are buried.

We urge you not to attend. Rather, place a wreath on May 5th at any one of the many cemeteries in Europe where American soldiers are buried.

In our opinion, your proposed wreath-laying ceremony in West Germany will be looked upon with disdain by most allied veterans of WW II. How do you know whether German SS officers are not buried in this West German cemetery? The proposed wreath-laying could give the impression that our President is honoring the Nazi murderers! Please, reconsider.

It is a painful paradox that Poland—who was first to fight Nazi Germany's aggression in September 1939, and who continued the fight thru 1945—was deprived the liberty shared by the other victors! Poland contributed greatly to the victory; in 1945, 195,000 Polish troops were on the western fronts; about 400,000 on the eastern front, and hundreds of thousands in partisan activities. Poland's losses were substantial, 5 to 6 million of its citizens were murdered by the Germans in WW II, another 1.5 million citizens were brutally deported to the USSR by the Soviet KNVD, most of the deported died. Yet, you place no wreath at a cemetery for Polish soldiers!

Consider, that the Kremlin may well use the German wreath-laying event for its ividious progaganda. The Soviets might say, "The President of U.S.A. honored those who killed his own soldiers and who killed the soldiers of his nation's war-time Allies! "

The history of the German peoples is indicative that they look-out for their own self interest, often at the expenses of their neighbors. How, therefore, can a wreath-laying ceremony improve American-German foreign relations? West Germany's vital concern is U.S. protection against the threat of Soviet missile and tank superiority; wreath-lay seems to have no apparent connection to containing the Soviet threat. In fact, some Germans might look at the event in puzzlement (e.g. What kind of a leader would honor those who killed his own people and his people's friends?).



THE PRESIDENT  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
Washington, D.C.

Page 2

Let me conclude by commending the President for the many prudent things the President has done in office; you have called the Soviet leadership by what they have been (and are), liars. You have sought always to improve our national defense, despite the critics.

A few words on my background, so that you may know where I am coming from. On 1 September 1939, I was on active duty as combat officer in the Polish Army, I fought through the September campaign—even after the Soviet invasion of September 17, 1939. Avoiding capture, I fought as a partisan throughout the war. My partisan unit, the Holy Cross Brigade, crossed over in Czechoslovakia in 1945 to avoid annihilation by the Red Army, which was then occupying Poland. In Czechoslovakia, we liberated a German concentration camp and capture a German Panzer officer headquarters. The brigade then joined General Patton's 3rd Army, Indian Head Division. After the war, I served with the American Army that occupied Germany. As a result, I know of many crimes committed by German soldiers against allied prisoners of war and civilians alike.

Please, Mr. President consider laying a wreath at a cemetery for the American soldiers, or at a former German concentration camp. But not at a cemetery for those who killed in the name of Hitler and the German Reich.

Sincerely,



Wacław Żurowski,  
President of Wisconsin Division of  
POLISH WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

P.S. My best wishes and prayers for God to guide the President in all matters of our national concern.

cc: Senator William Proxmire  
Senator Robert Kasten  
Congressman Gerald D. Kleczka