

FOIA MARKER

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Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 5263

FolderID:

Folder Title:

Holocaust Museum VE Day Commemoration-Ralph Grunewald

Stack:

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Row:

29

Section:

7

Shelf:

2

Position:

3

Herman

2389

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

April 4, 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR BILLY WEBSTER

FROM: ANDREW D. SENS *DS*

SUBJECT: Holocaust Museum VE-Day Commemoration on May 8

The National Security Council staff recommends the President decline the invitation to speak at the United States Holocaust Museum's 50th Anniversary Commemoration on May 8, 1995. The President is currently scheduled to participate in commemorative activities at Arlington National Cemetery and Ft. Meyer that morning and will leave for Moscow at the conclusion of the Ft. Meyer event.

APR - 4 1995

2389

9 MAY
Staff

Scheduling Advice Memorandum

FROM: BILLY WEBSTER

DATE: 3/27
No Ack needed

TO:

DOUG SOSNIK _____
 ERSKINE BOWLES _____
 RAHM EMANUEL _____
 JOHN EMERSON _____
 MARK GEARAN _____
 JACK GIBBONS _____
 PAT GRIFFIN _____
 MARCIA HALE _____
 KAREN HANCOX _____
 ALEXIS HERMAN _____
 NANCY HERNREICH _____
 HAROLD ICKES _____
 ANDREW SENS X _____
 ANTHONY LAKE _____
 BRUCE LINDSEY _____
 AL SULLIVAN _____
 KATIE MCGINTY _____

MACK MCLARTY _____
 ABNER MIKVA _____
 LEON PANETTA _____
 JOHN PODESTA _____
 JACK QUINN _____
 CAROL RASCO _____
 LAURA TYSON _____
 ELI SEGAL _____
 PATTI SOLIS _____
 GEORGE STEPHANOPOLOUS _____
 ANN STOCK _____
 KITTY HIGGINS _____
 MELANNE VERVEER _____
 DANNY WEXLER _____
 MAGGIE WILLIAMS _____
 KIM TILLEY _____

RE: Holocaust Museum's VE Day ceremonies
 on May 8.

The Scheduling Office has received the attached invitation.
 Please advise us:

- ____ POTUS should/need not attend.
 ____ POTUS should/need not attend but should send a representative

____ If you think POTUS should attend please submit a scheduling proposal, WITH THE
 INVITATION ATTACHED, ASAP

Your Additional Comments:

PLEASE RETURN THIS MEMO TO ANNE MCGUIRE IN ROOM 185.5 BY 4/2

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

☐ O OUTGOING☐ H INTERNAL☐ I INCOMINGDate Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD)

1 / 1

Name of Correspondent:

Ralph Grunewald

☐ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A)

(B)

(C)

Subject:

Invites the President to Holocaust
Memorial Museum on May 8, 1995 for V-E
Day commemorations

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)

Action
CodeTracking
Date
YY/MM/DDType
of
Response

Code

Completion
Date
YY/MM/DD

SC McGU

ORIGINATOR

95-03-27

Referral Note:

NS SENS

A

Referral Note:

Referral Note:

Referral Note:

Referral Note:

ACTION CODES:

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

- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

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

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

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

Comments:

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



Fax Transmittal Cover Sheet
Office of External Affairs

Date: 3/22

Time: 8:45

of pages: 7

Receiver's Fax Number: 456 - 2883

To: Bruce LINDSEY

From: Ralph Grunewald or Andres Abril

Comments: Trailer!

Sender: Ralph Grunewald or Andres Abril

Phone: (202) 488-2633 or (202) 488-0420

Fax: (202) 488-2693

Billy W.

Does doing
this even
make sense?

Bruce

UNITED STATES
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

March 22, 1995

Bruce Lindsey
The White House
Washington, DC 20500
BY FAX: 202/456-2883

Dear Bruce:

Since the President has now decided to attend the V-E Day commemorations in Moscow on May 9, I am sending you this fax to help us expedite the attached request for the President to attend the Museum's V-E Day ceremonies on May 8.

7. / At the suggestion of White House staff members with whom he has been working, the Museum was encouraged to send an invitation to the President by Gen. Kicklighter of the Pentagon's World War II Commemorative Committee. Gen. Kicklighter reported to us the White House may welcome an opportunity for the President to speak at our ceremony as a balance to a then-possible trip to Moscow.

The invitation was sent to no particular person -- and we hope it has reached the proper people at the proper level in the Scheduling Office. Could you help us by making sure the right people see this invitation?

In addition to the Arlington Cemetery ceremony early on May 8, the Museum's event is tailor-made for the President's political agenda given his trip to Russia. As the attached program summary indicates, the Museum ceremony will focus on liberators, nurses and doctors, survivors of the Holocaust -- and of course pay tribute to those who died. We expect well over 1,000 people and will have representatives from all Veterans Service Organizations and from the 27 liberating unit veterans associations. In addition, we expect many survivors. The House and Senate will also be invited -- as will the ambassadors from every nation with embassies in Washington.

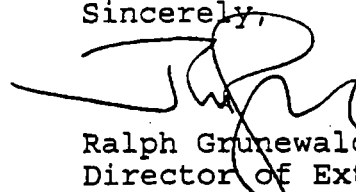
Bruce Lindsey
Page 2

You may also be interested to know that the Museum will present the Medal of Remembrance to Earl Harrison, posthumously. Mr. Harrison wrote an important report to President Harry Truman which exposed the plight and unbearable living conditions of the Survivors in the Displaced Persons camps. As a result, President Truman ordered an immediate improvement of the conditions at those camps. We have asked President Clinton to bestow this award to Earl Harrison, Jr. -- the headmaster at the Sidwell Friends School.

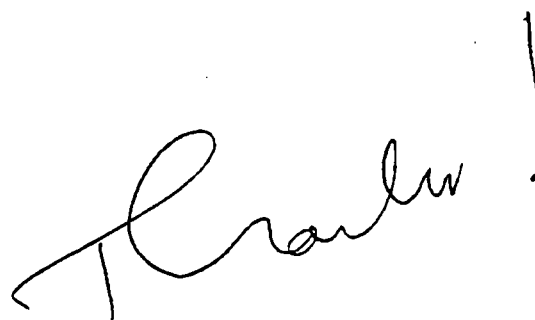
We would greatly appreciate your help in delivering our letter to the highest level possible.

Hope you are well. Best personal regards.

Sincerely,



Ralph Grunewald, Esq.
Director of External Affairs



UNITED STATES
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Miles Lerman
Chairman
United States Holocaust
Memorial Council

March 9, 1995

President Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, it is my great honor to invite you to deliver the keynote address on Monday, May 8, 1995 at the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of V-E Day. The ceremony will take place on the Museum's General Dwight David Eisenhower Memorial Plaza.

V-E Day not only marked the end of hostilities in Europe -- it also marked the end of the Holocaust. The months and weeks leading up to May 8, 1945, were punctuated with the liberation of concentration camps throughout Europe by United States and Allied forces.

While Americans at home were jubilant about the liberation of Europe from Nazi Germany, for the Survivors their personal liberation was mixed with great joy and great sadness. Indeed, May 8 marked the beginning of a long journey of renewed life for Survivors among the ruins of their families and communities.

Among the speakers, our commemoration will include a Liberator of Dachau and a Survivor of Buchenwald who was liberated by American troops. We will also pay homage to the American medical personnel and chaplains who played a critical role in healing the bodies and minds of the Survivors. In addition, we will honor the Jewish Brigade who fought against the Nazis and who took part in the liberation of various camps.

Finally, the Museum will present the Medal of Remembrance -- the Museum's highest award -- to Earl Harrison, posthumously. Mr. Harrison wrote a critically important report to President Harry Truman which exposed the plight and unbearable living conditions of the Survivors in the Displaced Persons camps. As a result, President Truman ordered an immediate improvement of the conditions at those camps.

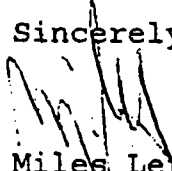
President Bill Clinton
Page 2

We expect the Medal of Remembrance will be accepted by Mr. Harrison's son, Earl Harrison, Jr. -- the Head of School of the Sidwell Friends School. We would be honored if you would assist us with the presentation of the award.

Mr. President, you have been a very close friend of the Museum since we opened our doors in April of 1993. We have cherished your support, as well as so many members of your Administration. We hope you will be able to join us on May 8.

Enclosed is a brief overview of our scenario for the program. Please have your Scheduling Office contact Mr. Ralph Grunewald, our Director of External Affairs, at 202/488-2633. We look forward to a positive response.

Sincerely,



Miles Lerman
Chairman

ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIONS WORKSHEET
[As of: March 22, 1995]

EVENT: LIBERATION IN EUROPE: THE HOLOCAUST ENDS

DATE: Monday, May 8, 1995
9:00 am - 10:30 am

CONCEPTS & PROGRAM ELEMENTS:

-- MONDAY, MAY 8, 1995:

1. Program Concepts:

Ceremony at Museum (9:00 am - 10:15 am)

- Medal of Remembrance presented posthumously to Earl Harrison
- Veterans groups invited and honored
- Survivors invited and honored
- Resistance Fighters invited and honored
- Nurses and medical personnel invited and honored
- Military Chaplains invited and honored
- Victims remembered
- International political & military leaders
- Full military color guards
- Allied color guards/trooping of liberating flags
- US military band and music

2. Program at Ft. Myer, VA (Summerall Field) following ceremony (start time: 11:00 am)

3. Moment of Silence in Museum (3:00 pm)

4. Special preview of Liberators Exhibition (all day) for program attendees

SPEAKERS:

1. Invocation and Remarks: Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut
[Theme: experience as military Chaplain at Dora-Mittlebau with US 104th Infantry Division]
2. Administration speaker: President Bill Clinton?
[Theme: defeat of evil and defense of liberty; honoring US veterans, chaplains & medical personnel]
3. Resistance: Miles Lerman
[Theme: the heroism of the Resistance Fighters]
4. Liberation: Felix Sparks
[Theme: liberation of Dachau]
5. Nurses and Doctors: Katherine P. Lynch
[Theme: medical conditions at Dachau and Buchenwald]
6. Survivors: Samuel Pizar
[Theme: liberation at Buchenwald]
7. Survivors: Hadassah Rosensaft
[Theme: liberation at Bergen-Belsen; life in DP Camps and renewed life afterwards]

- 2 -

8. Awarding of Medal of Remembrance to Earl Harrison posthumously -- Accepted by Earl G. Harrison, Jr. [Head of School, Sidwell Friends School]
[Theme: US government recognition of appalling conditions in DP camps]
9. Benediction: Rev. George B. Woods
[Theme: experience as military chaplain at Woebellin]

[NOTE: Underlined Names are confirmed]

HOURLY AGENDA OF EVENT:

VENUE:

MONDAY, MAY 8, 1995:

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| -- 9:00 am - 10:15 am | Eisenhower Plaza |
| Program | |
| -- 10:30 am | |
| Buses depart for | |
| Arlington National | |
| Cemetery | |
| (10:00 am - 5:30 pm: Private viewing of | |
| Liberators Exhibition for Program | |
| attendees wishing to remain at Museum) | |
| -- 11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Summerall Field |
| Program at | Ft. Myer, VA |
| Ft. Myer, VA | |
| -- 12:45 pm (approx.) | |
| Buses depart for Museum | |
| -- 10:00 am - 5:30 pm | |
| Private viewing of | |
| Liberators Exhibition | |
| for Program attendees | |
| -- 3:00 pm - 3:03 pm | |
| Moment of Silence | Museum & Annex |