

The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “Buchenwald Concentration Camp Liberation - 30th Anniversary Proclamation” of the John Marsh Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald R. Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

94TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 268

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 4, 1975

Mr. HELSTOSKI (for himself, Mr. O'NEILL, Mr. ANDERSON of California, Mr. ASPIN, Mr. BADILLO, Mr. BOLAND, Mr. BROWN of California, Ms. BURKE of California, Mr. DERWINSKI, Mr. DODD, Mr. DRINAN, Mr. EARLY, Mr. EDWARDS of California, Mr. EILBERG, Mr. FLORIO, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. HARRINGTON, Mr. HICKS, Ms. HOLTZMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. KOCH, Mr. KREBS, Mr. NEDZI, Mr. NIX, and Mr. RICHMOND) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

JOINT RESOLUTION

To designate April 24, 1975, as "National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man".

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That April 24, 1975, is hereby designated as "National
- 4 Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man", and
- 5 the President of the United States is authorized and requested
- 6 to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United
- 7 States to observe such day as a day of remembrance for
- 8 all the victims of genocide, especially those of Armenian

I



- 1 ancestry who succumbed to the genocide perpetrated in
- 2 Turkey in 1915, and in whose memory this date is com-
- 3 memorated by all Armenians and their friends throughout
- 4 the world.

94TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 268

JOINT RESOLUTION

To designate April 24, 1975, as "National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man".

By Mr. HELSTOSKI, Mr. O'NEIL, Mr. ANDERSON
of California, Mr. ASPIN, Mr. BADILLO, Mr.
BOLAND, Mr. BROWN of California, Mr.
BURKE of California, Mr. DERWINSKI, Mr.
DOBB, Mr. DRINAN, Mr. EAVES, Mr. EDWARDS
of California, Mr. ELLERRE, Mr. FLORES, Mr.
GILMAN, Mr. HARRINGTON, Mr. HICKS, Ms.
HOLTZMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Pennsylvania,
Mr. KOCH, Mr. KREBS, Mr. NEDZI, Mr. NIX,
and Mr. RICHMOND

MARCH 4, 1975

Referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil
Service



COMMEMORATING 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF
BUCHENWALD

Message of the President

Thirty years ago, on April 6, 1945, Allied soldiers liberated the survivors of Buchenwald's concentration camp, and the world discovered the atrocities committed there.

Time has dulled the shock of the terrors revealed by the liberation, but the inhumanity suffered at Buchenwald and other such camps must never be forgotten.

This Sunday, April 6, 1975, it would be appropriate to recall those horrors of thirty years ago, that we may be reminded of our responsibilities to our fellow human beings.

GERALD R. FORD



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 1, 1975

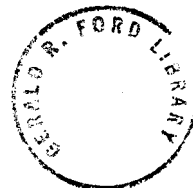
MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH

FROM: BOB WOLTHUIS *RW*

As you will note from the attached memorandum addressed to me and Warren Hendriks, Bill Nichols has disapproved the issuance of a Presidential proclamation on April 6 dealing with Buchenwald. They have drafted a Presidential statement to be used in lieu thereof.

We have not had a great deal of Congressional pressure on this issue. I checked with Kendall and he said that Javits has been moderate and Gilman of New York has also shown a fairly strong interest. Based on the logic contained in Nichols' memo, I recommend that we not issue the proclamation and go with the Presidential statement.

It is my understanding that perhaps six or eight Congressman have also written in recommending the issuance of a Presidential proclamation.





EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

GENERAL COUNSEL

APR 1 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB WOLTHUIS ✓
WARREN HENDRIKS

Subject: Buchenwald Holocaust

Shall the President proclaim April 24, 1975, as "National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man", in memory of all the victims of genocide, especially those of Armenian ancestry who succumbed to the genocide perpetrated in Turkey in 1915? There have been twelve joint resolutions introduced in the House which would ask him to do so (copy of H.J. Res. 268 is attached).

Or, shall the President proclaim April 6, 1975, in remembrance of the genocide committed by the Third Reich?

Or, do we try and salvage the value of Presidential proclamations by stopping the influx of new ones until we've weeded out the present list, which last year saw the year dedicated three times, eight months dedicated, 33 weeks set aside, and at least 30 separate days commemorated?

If the President proclaims Buchenwald because it passed the Senate, what about "Youth Art Month," "American Business Day," and "National Car Care Month" which also passed?

The draft has been revised for a Message of the President as was the solution for "Black Press Week" and "Black History Week." A similar approach was also used in response to the Chinese New Year and the Senate Resolution requesting an Energy Conservation Month.

The issuance of the proposed Proclamation is not approved by the Office of Management and Budget.

William M. Nichols
William M. Nichols
Acting General Counsel

Enclosures



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JIM CANNON

SUBJECT: Buchenwald Holocaust

Senator Javits has personally requested that you issue a proclamation to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the liberation of the survivors of Buchenwald concentration camp.

Background

S.J. Res. 56, which Senator Javits introduced, passed the Senate but did not clear the House prior to recess. Indications are that it will be passed April 8. Additionally, the Senate passed unanimously S. Res. 123 which also requests that the President issue an appropriate proclamation. Based on either resolution, the Senator requests issuance of a proclamation which may be read at a ceremony in New York on April 6th commemorating this occasion.

Discussion

OMB strongly recommends that the policy of only issuing proclamations which have passed both Houses be adhered to. Otherwise, it would be difficult to decline similar requests in the future and would hamper the effort to maintain the value of Presidential proclamations.

As an alternative, OMB recommends issuance of a Presidential message. A similar approach has been used recently for "Chinese New Year" and "Energy Conservation Month".

Jack Marsh, Bob Hartmann (Calkins), Max Friedersdorf, Phil Buchen (Lazarus), Bill Baroody (Marrs) and NSC concur in OMB's recommendation that you issue the attached message which has been cleared by Paul Theis.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the message at Tab A.



Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

Washington Post
Tuesday, April 8, 1975

George F. Will

Remembering Buchenwald

Elie Wiesel, the novelist, was a young boy when he, his parents, baby sister and other relatives were deported from Hungary to Auschwitz. His mother, sister and other relatives died there, and he and his father were moved to Buchenwald, where his father died shortly before the Americans arrived.

The counter-intuitive is always fascinating, and the Holocaust refutes those modern intuitions that flatter men.

"What a piece of work is man!" exclaimed Hamlet, who knew better, "How noble in reason! how infinite in faculty! . . . in action how like an angel! in apprehension how like a

As the Israeli court in the Adolf Eichmann trial noted, acidly: "The extermination of the Jews was . . . a complicated operation . . . Not everywhere was convenient for killing. Not everywhere would the local population submit to the slaughter of their neighbors."

The size of the gas chambers defined the issue. Their purpose was not

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE April 2, 1975

TO: Jack Marsh

FROM: WILLIAM T. KENDALL

TO REIMIND

Senator Javits office approves message in
place of proclamation, but suggests it be sent
to Temple Emmanuel in N.Y. Also they
want to present an appreciation plaque to
the United States can someone receive
it?

(Holocaust Proc.)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Temple Emmanuel
5th Ave and 65th St
NYC

Benjamin Meed
212-LO-4-1065

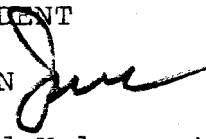
1:30 PM

ACTION

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
FROM: JIM CANNON 
SUBJECT: Buchenwald Holocaust

Senator Javits has personally requested that you issue a proclamation to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the liberation of the survivors of Buchenwald concentration camp.

Background

S.J. Res. 56, which Senator Javits introduced, passed the Senate but did not clear the House prior to recess. Indications are that it will be passed April 8. Additionally, the Senate unanimously passed S. Res. 123 which also requests that the President issue an appropriate proclamation. Based on either resolution, the Senator requests issuance of a proclamation which may be read at a ceremony in New York on April 6th commemorating this occasion.

Discussion

OMB strongly recommends that the policy of only issuing proclamations which have passed both Houses be adhered to. Otherwise, it would be difficult to decline similar requests in the future and would hamper the effort to maintain the value of Presidential proclamations.

As an alternative, OMB recommends issuance of a Presidential statement. A similar approach has been used recently for Energy Conservation Month.

Jack Marsh, Bob Hartmann (Calkins), Max Friedersdorf, Phil Buchen (Lazarus), Bill Baroody (Marrs) and NSC concur in OMB's recommendation that you issue the attached statement which has been cleared by Paul Theis.

Additionally, Jack Marsh advises that Bill Kendall has talked with Javits' office and was informed that they would be very pleased to have a statement in lieu of a proclamation.

RECOMMENDATION

That you approve the statement at Tab A.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENT ON 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION
OF BUCHENWALD

Thirty years ago, on April 6, 1945, Allied soldiers liberated the survivors of Buchenwald's concentration camp and the world discovered the shocking atrocities committed there.

Time may have dulled the horror of those tragic revelations.

But the inhumanity suffered there, and at other such camps, must never be forgotten, ~~nor ever permitted to happen again.~~

On this Sunday, April 6, 1975, it is not only appropriate to recall the atrocities of thirty years ago, but to also remember our responsibilities to our fellow human beings today. Let us resolve anew that ~~these~~ the horrors of the past will never occur again.

GERALD R. FORD



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

GENERAL COUNSEL

APR 1 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB WOLTHUIS ✓
WARREN HENDRIKS

Subject: Buchenwald Holocaust

Shall the President proclaim April 24, 1975, as "National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man", in memory of all the victims of genocide, especially those of Armenian ancestry who succumbed to the genocide perpetrated in Turkey in 1915? There have been twelve joint resolutions introduced in the House which would ask him to do so (copy of H.J. Res. 268 is attached).

Or, shall the President proclaim April 6, 1975, in remembrance of the genocide committed by the Third Reich?

Or, do we try and salvage the value of Presidential proclamations by stopping the influx of new ones until we've weeded out the present list, which last year saw the year dedicated three times, eight months dedicated, 33 weeks set aside, and at least 30 separate days commemorated?

If the President proclaims Buchenwald because it passed the Senate, what about "Youth Art Month," "American Business Day," and "National Car Care Month" which also passed?

The draft has been revised for a Message of the President as was the solution for "Black Press Week" and "Black History Week." A similar approach was also used in response to the Chinese New Year and the Senate Resolution requesting an Energy Conservation Month.

The issuance of the proposed Proclamation is not approved by the Office of Management and Budget.

William M. Nichols
William M. Nichols
Acting General Counsel

Enclosures

COMMEMORATING 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF
BUCHENWALD

Message of the President

Thirty years ago, on April 6, 1945, Allied soldiers liberated the survivors of Buchenwald's concentration camp, and the world discovered the atrocities committed there.

Time has dulled the shock of the terrors revealed by the liberation, but the inhumanity suffered at Buchenwald and other such camps must never be forgotten.

This Sunday, April 6, 1975, it would be appropriate to recall those horrors of thirty years ago, that we may be reminded of our responsibilities to our fellow human beings.

GERALD R. FORD

FRANCIS R. VALEO
SECRETARY

United States Senate

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

March 27, 1975

encl
MF
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am forwarding herewith for your
interest a copy of S. Res. 123, passed by the
Senate on March 26, 1975.

Respectfully yours,

Francis R. Valeo

Francis R. Valeo
Secretary of the Senate

Enclosure:
S. Res. 123



S. Res. 123

In the Senate of the United States,

March 26 (legislative day, March 12), 1975.

Resolved, That the sixth day of April 1975 is hereby marked in commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the liberation of the survivors of the Holocaust. It was on that day in 1945 that the Allied soldiers liberated the survivors of Buchenwald concentration camp exposing to the world the shameful genocide committed by the Third Reich. In order that such inhumanity never be forgotten the President is requested to issue a proclamation inviting the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Attest:

F. R. Valero

Secretary.

