

ID# 319321

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

CO 074

DATE RECEIVED: APRIL 01, 1992

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. ABRAHAM MELZER

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO INTERVENE IN THE
CASE OF JOHN DEMJANJUK WHO HAS BEEN CONDEMNED
TO DEATH BY AN ISRAELI COURT FOR CRIMES
AGAINST HUMANITY

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
DEPARTMENT OF STATE		RAR ORG	92/04/01		A921 no date
REFERRAL NOTE:					
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COMMENTS: "SEMI TIMES" IS THE LARGEST INDEPENDENT
JEWISH MAGAZINE IN GERMANY

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:F INDIVIDUAL CODES: 4620 3500
MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*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.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TRANSMITTAL FORM

S/S 9207620Date May 2, 1992

FOR: Mr. William F. Sittmann
Executive Secretary
National Security Council Staff
The White House

REFERENCE:

To: President Bush
From: Mr. Abraham Melzer
Date: March 15, 1992
Subj: Urges the President to intervene in the case
of John Demjanjuk who has been condemned to death

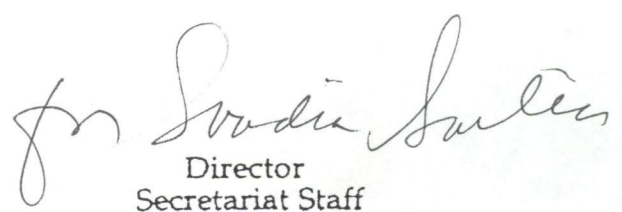
WH Referral Dated: April 8, 1992NSCS ID# (if any): 319321

_____ The attached item was sent directly to the Department of State.

ACTION TAKEN:

- _____ A draft reply is attached.
_____ A draft reply will be forwarded.
_____ A translation is attached.
☒ ☒ An information copy of a direct reply is attached.
_____ We believe no response is necessary for the reason cited below.
_____ The Department of State has no objection to the proposed travel.
_____ Other (see remarks).

REMARKS:


Director
Secretariat Staff



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Mr. Abraham Melzer
Publisher, "Semittimes"
Buchschlager Allee 28
6072 Dreieich 3
Federal Republic of Germany

Dear Mr. Melzer:

I am replying to your letter of March 15 to President Bush in which you inquire about the trial in Israel of John Demjanjuk.

Mr. Demjanjuk is not a U.S. citizen. His denaturalization trial was held before the United States District Court in Cleveland, Ohio, and on June 23, 1981, the court revoked his citizenship. The decision was affirmed by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and certiorari was denied by the Supreme Court.

Mr. Demjanjuk was extradited from the United States to face trial in Israel on charges stemming from his alleged work at the Treblinka concentration camp and his alleged involvement in the killing of thousands of camp inmates. He was convicted by an Israeli court in April, 1988, and sentenced to death. The death penalty is automatically appealed in Israel. Mr. Demjanjuk's appeal is still pending before the Supreme Court, which is considering new documentary evidence allegedly supporting the claim that Mr. Demjanjuk was not the camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible," as many witnesses in the trial testified.

The Department of State has followed this case closely. It would be inappropriate to comment further on the case until the Israeli Supreme court has analyzed the new evidence and rendered a decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. R. Brew".

William R. Brew
Director, Office of Israel
and Arab-Israeli Affairs

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THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

9207620

APRIL 8, 1992

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 319321

MEDIA: FAX DATED MARCH 15, 1992

TO: PRESIDENT BUSH

FROM: MR. ABRAHAM MELZER
PUBLISHER
SEMIT TIMES
BUCHSCHLAGER ALLEE 28
6072 DREIEICH 3 FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO INTERVENE IN THE
CASE OF JOHN DEMJANJUK WHO HAS BEEN CONDEMNED
TO DEATH BY AN ISRAELI COURT FOR CRIMES
AGAINST HUMANITY

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

SEMIT

9207620

319 321

Das unabhängige jüdische Magazin

Semit KG, Buchschlager Allee 28, 6072 Dreieich 3

An
Open Letter to his
Excellency, George Bush,
The President of the United States

White House
Washington D.C.

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6072 Dreieich 3
Telefon 0 61 03 / 6 30 61
Telefax 6 33 52
Dresdner Bank
Kto.Nr. 643 944 500
Blz. 500 800 00

Dreieich, 15th, March 1992

Mr. President, Sir:

As publisher of the largest independent Jewish Magazine in Germany, "SEMITTIMES", I direct this appeal to you in the name of justice, fair play, and human rights.

As you must certainly know, a former american citizen, John Demjanjuk, has been condemned to death by an israeli court for crimes against humanity. The prosecution claims that he is the notorious "Ivan the Terrible" who is responsible for the Death of countless Jews in Treblinka and the suffering of many who survived the terrible ordeal of this infamous concentration camp.

The chief evidence against John Demjanjuk, is an identity card purporting to identify him as a guard in Treblinka and a member of the dreaded SS "Death's Head" units. Not only has Mr. Demjanjuk continually denied ever having been in or near Treblinka, but this identity card has been proven to be a KGB forgery by a number of independent Experts, including the chief forensik expert of the german federal police (BUNDESKRIMINALAMT) Dr. A. Werner, who examined it at the request of the israeli judicial system and termed it "a plump forgery of poor quality."

This perversion of the evidence has led to a flawed verdict and thus to a perversion of israeli justice and threatens the fabric of democratic institutions in Israel.

As a Jew and as a voice of independent Jewry in Germany I urge You to interence in this case. As the President of the United States you not only possess the moral authority to demand fairness for John Demjanjuk but you also have the right to protect citizens of your country who become objects of a gross miscarriage of justice!

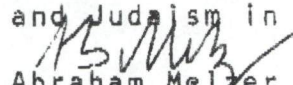
"SEMITTIMES" is eager to see every real murderer of Jews, every real torturer of jewish woman and children brought to justice, tried and condemnend. But we are not willing to accept a politically inspired farce in place of a real trial or a perhaps very minor actor in place of a real war criminal.

The Eichmann trial gave Jews a measure of revenge and retribution. Eichmann was a man whose actions were provable beyond any doubt and deserving death!

Demjanjuk is no Eichmann. He is not even a proven war criminal and

this trial and its verdict do nothing but bring discredit on Israeli justice, and dishonor to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

Mr. President, in the name of the blindfolded Goddess, stop this farce before it succeeds in doing irreparable damage to the image of Israel and Judaism in the world.


Abraham Melzer

Publisher (of Semittimes)