

oral quarrel

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I think he has every right in the world to go. A lot of these Jewish groups that are protesting have already forgotten about their self-induced massacre in Lebanon a little over a year ago.

I think it is time to put the war to rest. It was 40 years ago. I am in favor of his going to Bitburg. There was Pearl Harbor, Bataan, the bombs over London. I think the war is over and I think that the Jewish people ought to realize that it is over and we never want it to happen again but it is over. Let's honor those that died.

President Reagan, as usual, cannot see the forest for the trees. He is the actor who can speak a good line but cannot comprehend the whole script.

I feel that his visit is an insult to humanity.

His decision to make the visit is the same as the decision not to do anything by government during the Holocaust during World War II.

I think that President Reagan definitely should not visit Bitburg.

I think the question is not what we think of the president's visit to Bitburg but what we think about our city council trying to increase taxes after we decided the issue in the election. Our city council members ought to look at that real hard.

I don't think he should visit that cemetery.

I think it was terrible of Reagan to think that the only way for reconciliation with the Germans was by honoring the evil that took place in their country. I don't believe in collective guilt. The present generation of Germans shouldn't be held responsible for the sins of the Nazis but Reagan had another choice.

Think how beautiful it would have been if he would have said, although we must never forget the evil that took place here, the Germans and Americans must join hands and look forward to the future. Reagan's statement that the Nazis were brainwashed and that they were the victims is blasphemy.

Hitler would never have risen to power without the support of his brown shirts or SA. It may not have maintained that control without his elite SS. German people stood by silently while Hitler tortured and persecuted the real victims in the concentration camps. These Germans were not brainwashed into thinking these deeds were correct or moral. They lacked the moral courage to stand up against this abhorrent evil and for this they should be blamed.

I think it is a good idea for the President to visit the cemetery. I think the war is over and has been over for 40 years and it is time we forgot. I fought the Japanese in the Pacific and I don't

hold any terrible hate toward them any longer. I would visit one of their cemeteries if it would help the cause of world peace.

I support our President's trip wholeheartedly. After all it has been 40 years since the end of the war and West Germany is now our friend and ally.

If the German people and the military had been responsible in two wars for murdering and killing the people, to visit the cemetery where soldiers who fought in this war is absolutely ludicrous.

My unit in World War II was the 28th Field Artillery Observation Battalion. 86 of its members were murdered by the Nazi SS in December 1944. It is now World War II against communism. The outcome is very much in doubt and we desperately need the West Germans as allies.

I think the trip to Bitburg Cemetery is OK. We should stop looking back and look ahead to the future.

I don't think there is any problem there. He isn't doing anything out of his way and I don't know why these people are making a fuss over nothing. Why didn't they invite him to a cemetery that they wanted him to go.

I think it is ridiculous to get all

worked up over this. What is there in visiting a cemetery. I think it is dumb. I can't see anything wrong with it.

I think it is a great idea. It's about time that war was over.

Yes, I think the President should visit the cemetery at Bitburg if it makes things better between this country and Germany.

I think his decision is wrong. Normally I agree with President Reagan but this time the great majority of the American people are against this visit and I think he would be better advised to cancel it. I am appalled that a German Chancellor can dictate American foreign policy to this extent. Surely this is not reasonable.

I congratulate and fully support President Reagan's planned visit to Bitburg Cemetery. I feel we should forgive these people. I think we should just forget it and bury it.

I can certainly tolerate an honest effort by an American president to be presently allied West German people to know that we share and respect their grief over all the young men on both sides who died in a terrible war.

I feel that President Reagan should visit Bitburg Cemetery after all our countries are at peace now. Remember

German males were drafted the same as American males. In my opinion it is the same as inviting the president or chancellor to visit our Arlington Cemetery. There are probably some generals buried there for whom they have bitter feelings. My motto is live, let live and stop harping about every little thing.

I am a WASP — White, Anglo Saxon protestant — and the president has no business in visiting Bitburg or any other place that those Nazis are buried. My motto is, buy Corvette not Mercedes.

I don't think that Mr. Reagan should have attended the cemetery as long as there were so many people that were against it. He should have abided by the people. We are the ones that are paying for his trip, not the chancellor of Germany.

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Ethiopian Jewry is discussed

"The Plight of Ethiopian Jewry: An Eyewitness Account," a discussion and slide presentation, will be given by Ann Mandelbaum and George Mann at the Birmingham Temple at 8:30 p.m. Monday, May 13.

The talk is cosponsored by the Birmingham Temple and New Jewish Agenda. Admission \$2.50, to be donated to the Ethiopian relief.

The speakers are a wife/husband team who visited Ethiopia last year and returned to the drought-ridden country earlier this year. Mandelbaum, a translator and inter-

preter, and Mann, a lawyer, became involved in the plight of Ethiopian Jews through the American Association of Ethiopian Jews.

They hosted Rachamin Elazar, one of the leaders of the Ethiopian community in Israel, while he was on tour in the United States and became convinced that the world needed to know more about the conditions of Jews in Ethiopia, both in terms of the families and in terms of discrimination.

The lecture goes into the background of the Beta Israel or "Falashas" (a term that was considered derogatory,

but that the people themselves seem to have adopted), a group that was estimated at close to one million people at one time but became decimated to 25,000 because of famines and persecutions. It shows how the Falashas found themselves caught in the power struggle between the different groups inhabiting Ethiopia — Moslems and Christians, landowners and Marxists.

They discuss the airlifts that brought thousands to Israel, the living condi-

tions of the ones who remain in Ethiopia, and the problems and hopes of the ones who are trying to make a new home in Israel.

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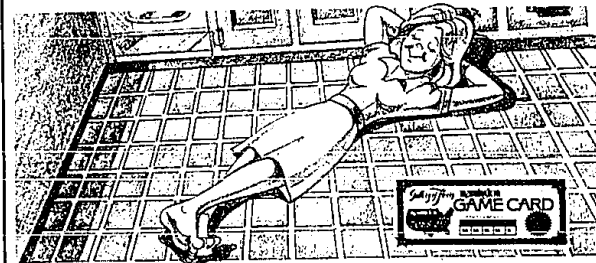
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