

NBC

August 26, 1977

Ms. Mary Jo Galbraith 4818 Ridgewest Drive Houston, Texas 77053

Dear Ms. Galbraith:

CBS has forwarded to us your letter concerning Mrs. Eddie D. Slovik since NBC had originally presented "The Execution of Private Slovik."

You are very thoughtful of Mrs. Slovik's present situation in forwarding a check to help with her legal expenses. However, we do not know her present address and the only suggestion we can offer is that you write to the Department of the Army, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310 to see if that agency has an address for her. We are returning the check you enclosed for \$10.00 made out to Mrs. Slovik.

We appreciate your interest and regret we are unable to assist you in this instance.

Muriel F. Mead

Muriel F. Mead

Audience Services

Dear Sir

The enclosed letter is self explanatory.

I would appreciate very much if

you would forward my check to

your solicy I would very much

your policy I would very much

appreciate the address. Thank your

appreciate the address. Thank your

P.S. Enclosed a stamped envelope for

DAAG-LRA

Mr. Bernard Edelson Attorney at Law 115 North Jackson Street Media, Delaware County, PA 19063

Dear Mr. Edelson:

At the suggestion of Mr. Francis Plant, Director, Army Military Review Boards Agency, I am forwarding a check received in the Department of the Army from Ms. Mary Jo Galbraith who requests that it be used for Mrs. Slovik's legal expenses.

I have provided Ms. Galbraith a copy of this reply.

Sincerely,

Inclosure

Ltr, 26 Aug 77 & check 212 dtd 8/13/77.

CHARLES R. THOMAS LTC, GS Chief, Reserve Components Liaison Office

cc: Mr. Mary Jo Galbraith

4818 Ridgewest Dr w/stamped envelope returned.
Houston TX 77053
MFR: Talked with Mr. Plant who suggested this action and provided address of attorney.

ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP					
1 TO MH. Stallace	INITIALS	CIRCULATE			
OMARC	DATE	COORDINATION			
2	INITIALS	FILE			
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Do NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disapprovals, clearances, and similar actions.

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Lucelle Campbell	12 mar 16
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OPTIONAL FORM 41	5041-101-01

AUGUST 1967 GSA FPMR (41CFR) 100-11.206

GPO: 1973 OF-499-218

Executive Office, TAGO ROUTING SLIP

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TAGO Form 1-4, Aug 76 (Proponent! DAAG-ZX)
Replaces TAGO Form 1-4, 18 Sep 73, which is obsolete.

SECURITY CLA

CATION (If any)

DISPOSITION FORMELETYPE MESSAGE FROM LIMSON UFFICE-AGO

FILE NO.

SUBJECT

DATE

COMMENT NO. 1

FOR CRIST PREC AND HIST BR

URMSG 67-30 OCT ON EDDIE D SLOVIK 36873415 EM INDUCTED 3 JAN 44 NO RECORD OF PRIOR SVC TRFD TO ERC ON DATE OF INDUCTION ENTERED ACTIVE DUTY 24 JAN 44

ROUTINE

JOHNSTON-Spec 2 Nov 53

9:00 a.m.

SIGNATURE:

THIS MEG RCD IN COMMUNICATIONS.

2 NOV 1953 TIME....

TRANSMITTED BY WIRE ON MSG.

Edward P. Edwards c/o Robert N. DeFinis 523 Edgemont Avenue Lansdale PA 19546

> President Gerald R. Ford White House Washington DC

Participal Selecting to Bulle Slovik Farit Rog & St. Rr 3 Nov 58 Lt Bol Williams/78153/bug jection to releasing to Mr. Bauen the informaed for simpliance with Coment So. L. THE PERSON NAMED IN POST OFFICE ASSESSMENT OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 2 IN Chief, Magnaine and Book Br.

DISPOSITION FORM

FILE NO.

Verification of Material Relating to Bidio

Cinfo

1. Transmitted herewith for appropriate action is a latter dated b Se 1958, from Philip E. Bannan, requesting verification of certain information of

2. This office has inspected pertinent court-pertial records and a par been placed after those portions of the letter which we were able to determine were correct. If a statement is incorrect, it has been corrected. In those instances where part of a statement is correct and the correctness of the other part is unknown to this office, such part has been placed in parentheses with a question mark slongside. If your office determines that the information should be released to Mr. Hannan, this file should be sent to the Office of The Adjutan General which should be able to verify and correct those statements which this office could not. It is believed that most, it not all, of this information w published in William Hote's book on the execution of Shovik.

3. In the event you desire to eventue the Slovis records, it is suggested that you telephone the action officer, Mayor Selbert, who can make them available.

4. This office has no Information concerning the author or what he intends to write.

Lar im Philip E Bannan dtd 6 Sept 58.

WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

WARVINGTON 28 D.C.

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2/1/17 Chief, Veterans Br. Oto of Mgint Asst, Reserve Compenents, TASO

N217

SLOVIK PHILADEL PHIA (A P. -- A LAWYER FOR THE WIDOW OF PUT. SLOVIK. THE ONLY AMERICAN SOLDIER TO BE EXECUTED FOR DESERTION SINCE THE CIVIL WAR. HAS REQUESTED THAT THE APMY REOPEN SLOVIK'S CASE AND PAY MILITARY INSURANCE BENEFITS TO THE WIDOW.

THE REQUEST FILED HERE THURSDAY CLAIMS THE ARMY COMMITTED LEGAL AND MORAL ERRORS IN EXECUTING SLOUIK. AN INFANTRYMAN.

TY FIRING SOUAD IN FRANCE ON JAN. 31. 1945.

BERNARD EDELSON. LAWYER FOR THE WIDOW. SAID HE HAS ASKED I HE ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECOPDS TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO MRS. SLOVIK OF \$61.000. THE PROCEEDS PLUS INTEREST ON SLOVIK'S MILITARY LIFE INSURANCE POLICY.

MRS. SLOVIK IS LIVING ON WELFARE IN A DETROIT NURSING HOME UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME. EDELSON SAID. BUT WAS FULLY INFORMED.

WEDNESDAY ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THE APPLICATION.

THE APPLICATION CLAIMS THE ARMY FAILED TO CONDUCT AN ADEQUATE SYCHIATRIC EVALUATION OF SLOVIK BEFORE HE WAS SHOT AND ALSO TAILED TO PROVIDE HIM WITH A RECORD OF HIS ONE-DAY TRIAL. AS MANDATED BY MILITARY, LAW. EDELSON SAID.

THE APPLICATION ALSO INCLUDES A RECENT LETTER FROM RETIRED ARMY OFFICER ARNOLD SHAW OF LUFKIN. TEX. . SLOVIK'S COMMANDING

OFFICER DURING HIS BASIC TRAINING.

THE LETTER. EDELSON SAID. GIVES SHAW'S ACCOUNT OF HOW HE REPEATEDLY PLEADED WITHOUT SUCCESS TO ARMY OFFICIALS NOT

TO PUT SLOVIK INTO COMBAT. BASED ON SHAW S LETTER. EDELSON SAID. THE APPLICATION CHARGES THE ARMY WITH FAILING TO ASSIGN SLOVIK TO DUTY WITHIN HIS CAPABILITIES.

THE APPLICATION ALSO WAS MADE ON BEHALF OF MAJ. WOODS (RET.). WHO WAS SLOVIK'S COURT- APPOINTED COUNSEL AT

THE COURT MARTIAL. WOODS IS NOT A LAWYER.

WOODS AND ROBERT DE FINNIS. BOTH OF NEARBY LANSDOWNE. SAID SUCCESS TO HAVE SLOVIK'S CASE REVIEWED.

MPS. SLOVIK HAS GIVEN BOTH MEN PERMISSION TO PURSUE THE MATTER ON HER BEHALF. DE FINNIS SAID. AND AT THEIR EXPENSE.

SLOVIK DESERTED FROM THE U. S. ARMY TWICE. ONCE IN AUGUST 1944. AND AGAIN IN OCTOBER 1944. HE VOLUNTARILY RETURNED

TO HIS HAIT BOTH TIMES. AFTER THE SECOND DESERTION. HE SUBMITTED A WRITTEN CONFESSION SAYING. ' I'LL RUN AWAY AGAIN IF I HAVE TO GO OUT THERE.' THE ARMY USED THAT CONFESSION AGAINST HIM IN ITS COURT MARTIAL. MUICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER 1944. HE WAS 24.

1204 1141APS

I Want

TO DOD - FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLING DATE NOV 1 9 1975

Mr. President:

Earlier this year you granted amnesty to Viet Nam draft evadors. Congress has just granted amnesty to General Robert E. Lee of the Confederate Army. I am asking you, Mr. President, to grant amnesty to Pvt. Eddie D. Slovik #36896415, the only American solider executed during World War II. I am also asking you to remove Pvt. Slovik's grave from Plot E Row 3 Grave No. 65 at Oise-Aise American Cemetry to either Plot A,B,C or D of this particular eemetry.

America has long forgiven Germany and Japen, Her enemies during the Second World War. America has given Okinawa back to the Japanese people, but why Mr. President can't America find it in Her heart to forgive Pvt. Slovik? This man was no coward, he answered his call to duty, and choose to fulfill his military obligation in other capacities, other than fighting on the front line.

It has been 30 years since the war ended how much longer will Mrs. Slovik have to suffer or live in fear?

In closing, I pray that you will remember Pvt. Slovik and the missing P.O.W.'s from the Viet Nam during America's Birthday Celebration. America cannot truly celebrate when so many of their Sons & Daughters are missing from their Homeland.

Sincerely Yours

Robert John Sabodos

WH 30808

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Marlier this year you are ted amnesty to viet am draft evadors. Congress has just granted amnesty to Congress hapert in Lee of the Confederate Cany. I at nation you, it. Procident, to great amnesty to ive. Endie D. Howis 3689415, the only American solider executed during world Mer II. I am also salider to conove ive. Slovith a grant when the sale drave in the conove ive. Slovith a grant when the flot drave in of this particular cemetry to either Flot they or D of this particular cemetry.

America has long lorely and done, and done, any enemies during the Second world war. America has riven Orinawa pack to the Impanese people, but why he. President cen't America riad it in Her neart to Corrive Ryt. Howill. This man was an coward, he answered him call to duty, and choose to Initial him of the from the capacities, other than Inguin on the from line.

It has been 30 years since the wan sided how much londer will are. Slovic have to suffer or live in fear.



DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie D. 36 896 415 (Nov 75)

2 5 NOV 1975

Mr. Robert John Sabados 22124 Donald East Detroit, MI 48021

Dear Mr. Sabados:

On behalf of President Ford, I am replying to your letter of November 1975 regarding Private Eddie Slovik.

Information necessary to reply to your inquiry is being obtained. soon as it is available, I will write you again. Should there be an appreciable delay, I shall keep you informed.

Sincerely,

PAUL T. SMITH

PAUL T. SMITH Major General, USA The Adjutant Geneval

Case feing sent to TJA 6 for info on amnesty to include in final reply

DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie

2'2 DEC 1975

Mr. Robert J. Sabados 22124 Donald East Detroit, MI 48021

Dear Mr. Sabados:

This is in further reference to your letter to President Ford regarding Private Eddie Slovik.

As much as he would like to, the President cannot reply personally to every communication he receives. Therefore, he has asked the departments and agencies of the Federal Government to reply in his behalf in those instances where they have special knowledge or special authority under the law. For this reason, your correspondence was forwarded to officials of the Department of Defense.

Private Slovik is not eligible to be buried in plots, A, B, C or D, Oise-Aisne American Cemetery. These are reserved for honored World War I Dead. Although your feelings in this matter are appreciated, granting of amesty to Private Slovik is not appropriate in view of the offense for which he was convicted.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

PAUL T. SMITH

PAUL T. SMITH Major General, USA The Adjutant General

MIR Coordination - Col Ryon - Duer Bottle Monuments Comm.

Cot grainer - TJBG

acceres Amnesty guestino Capt grains indicated by plane no objection to an statement. It is not a legal matter since oney thes can grant annesty and we assume bruce case referred fine of sense we have case referred in past that arrivesty is not apprepriate and no plane to grant. Jun

Sabados, Robert J. (Mr)

	21 Nov 75					
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Amnesty for Pvt	Slovik; change of gra	ve site	TCZ-C 2111538			
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DISPOSITION FORM

For use of this form, see AR 340-15; the proponent agency is The Adjutant General's Office.

REFERENCE OR OFFICE SYMBOL

SUBJECT

DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie

Amnesty for Private Eddie Slovik

TO JAAJ-CC

FROM DAAG

DATE 25 Nov 75 CMT 1

Mr. Wallace/70922/be

The attached letter regarding Private Eddie Slovik, is forwarded for information upon which to base a reply to that portion pertaining to amnesty.

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

1 Incl

Ltr from Robert Sabados

CHARLES R. THOMAS

LTC, GS

Chief, Office of Management Assistance, Reserve Components, TAGO

TO: DAAG

FROM: JAAJ-CC

DATE 10 Dec 75

James & Kenyang

CMT 2

CPT Grainer/s1b/756-1193

Inclosed fact sheet is forwarded in response to your request, subject as above.

FOR THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL:

2 Incl

1. Ltr from Robert Sabados

2. Fact Sheet

JAMES D. KEMPER, JR.

Clerk of Court



MAPOSITION PORM

For view at this form, see AR 340-13; the proponent agency is The Adjutent Constell's Office.

SUBJECT

EFERENCE OR OFFICE SYMBOL

DAAC-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie

Amnesty for Private Eddie Slovik

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PROM DAAG

DATE 25 Nov 75 Mr. Wallace/70922/be

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FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

1 Incl Ltr from Robert Sabados

CHARLES R. THOMAS LTC, GS

Chief, Office of Management Assistance, Reserve Components, TAGO

TO: DAAG

EROM: JAAJ-CC

DATE 10 Dec 75 CMT CPT Grainer/sib/756-1193

Inclosed fact sheet is forwarded in response to your request, subject as above.

FOR THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL

1 Incl

2. Fact Sheet

JAMES D. KEMPER, JR. Clerk of Court





FACT SHEET

Your comments concerning this case are certainly understandable. War is always tragic in its consequences.

One should, however, be wary of the false clarity of hindsight. When judgment was passed on Private Slovik, this nation was engaged in a desperate struggle with a power which had come dangerously close to enslaving mankind. The lives of thousands, both those on the battle-field as well as those in the infamous death camps of the Third Reich, depended upon the rapid prosecution and termination of the fighting. Shortly after Private Slovik's trial, American forces in Belgium were suffering heavy casualties in the enemy onslaught which has come to be known as the Battle of the Bulge.

When the Army Assistant Judge Advocate General transmitted the Board of Review's decision in this case to General Eisenhower, the then Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, for his consideration in determining whether to approve and order the sentence executed, the following points were made. Private Slovik had performed no front line duty and his conduct demonstrated a deliberate intent to avoid such hazardous service by obtaining incarceration in a safe place. The sentence adjudged was more severe than he had anticipated, but the imposition of a less severe punishment would only have accomplished the accused's purpose of obtaining freedom from those dangers which his comrades were required to face daily.

All of the above factors should be remembered when attempting to understand the tragedy of Private Slovik's case.

As evidenced by the cooperation accorded Mr. William Bradford Huie, the author of the book on Private Slovik's case, more than twenty years ago, it would not appear that there has been a suppression of the evidence of the matter.

L Soul

DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie

Amnesty for Private Eddie Slovik

JAAJ-CC

DAAG

25 Nov 75 Mr. Wallace/70922/be

The attached letter regarding Private Eddie Slovik, is forwarded for information upon which to base a reply to that portion pertaining to amnesty.

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

1 Incl Ltr from Robert Sabados CHARLES R. THOMAS

LTC, GS

Chief, Office of Management Assistance, Reserve Components, TAGO

M/R Interim Reply prepared for Mosig

310 Greenwood Road Lansdale, Pa. 19446 February 19, 1976

Office of The Adjutant General The War Department Washington, D. C. 20000

Sir:

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, please furnish me a copy of the Final Indorsement of The Service Record of Eddie E. Slovik, ASN 36896415, formerly Company G, 109th Inf. Regt., 28th Infantry Division.

If this is still considered privileged information, can it be furnished to me as his Defense Counsel, in the General Court Martial held at Roetgen, Germany, 11 November 1944?

Respectfully yours,

Edward P. Woods, (Formerly Major, Infantry, 0415575 Headquarters Special Troops 28th Infantry Division)

lic 23 fet 76



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL AND THE ADJUTANT GENERAL CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314

DAAG-AMR-S (FOIA 76-86)

24 FEB 1976

SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act Request/WOODS, Edward P. re: SLOVIK, Eddie E.

Commander
US Army Reserve Components Personnel and
Administration Center
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis, MO 63132

- 1. The attached request, received in this office on 23 February 1976, is forwarded for necessary action and direct reply.
- 2. Request this office be furnished a copy of action taken.

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

Incl

R. W. HAMPTON

R. Colonel, GS

Dir of Admin Mgt

CF:

Mr. Woods





AGUZ-PSD Slovik, Eddie E. ASN 36896415 2 March 1976

Major Edward P. Woods 310 Greenwood Road Lansdale, PA 19446

Dear Major Woods:

This is in reply to your request for information contained in the military personnel records jacket of Eddie E. Slovik, ASN 36896415.

The records of discharged Army personnel and organizational records are in the custody of the National Personnel Records Center, General Services Administration, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63132. Since we are collocated with that agency, I have referred your request to the Director of that activity for consideration and direct reply.

Sincerely,

JAMES S. MILLER

LTC. GS

Director, Personnel Services

CF: Director National Personnel Records Center 9700 Page Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63132

Inclosure Record in GSA Vault

EREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT INQUIRY

DAAG-TCZ-C (24 Feb 76)

16 March 1976

Mr. Edward P. Woods 310 Greenwood Road Lansdale, PA 19446

Dear Mr. Woods:

This is in further reply to your letter of 19 February 1976 regarding Eddie Slovik.

Inclosed is a copy of the document you requested.

Sincerely,

Inclosure Pge 23, Service Rec

CHARLES R. THOMAS LTC, GS T Chief, Office of Management Assistance, Reserve Components

cc furn: DAAG-AMR-S

Memo for Rec: Coordinated with Mr. Anderson, FOIA, Chief, AMD, 15 Mar 76. No reason to deny, since not invasion of privacy.

An



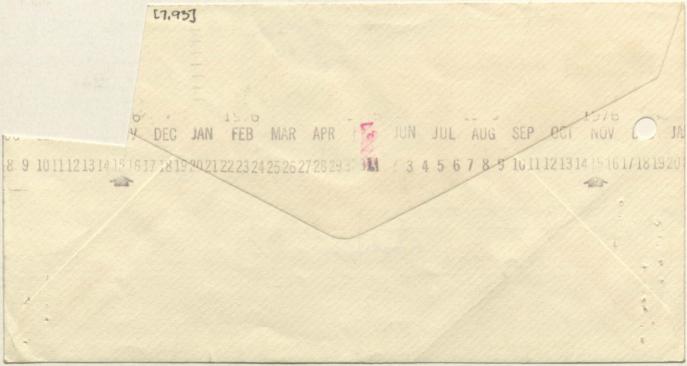
motor lodge

7801 NORMANDALE RD., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. 5543



ALWA ZIP

President General fred White Home Washington D.C.





7801 NORMANDALE ROAD BLOOMINGTON, MINNESOTA 55435

TO DOD - FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLING

Nov 12, 1976

Dear President Ford:

I om a simple traveling mon who was moved by the Christian action you took when you pardoned Mr. Richard Nixon While I listened to the news this morning, I learned that the widow of the only soldier shot for disertion in World War Two lives on welfore out East. She, Mis. Slovick (Sic) is not able to collect welfare. Please consider a Presidential Pardon. The innocent should not suffer with the quilty. An act of Christin compression will not hunt the Republica party.

Sincerely Dole Becke 158 Highwood Dr. Charles, Mr.

WH 20338 **TOLL-FREE RESERVATIONS**





TO DOD - FOR APPROPRIATE HAMP

OFF SECY OF DEFENSE 18 NOV 35 VON 8 1

WH 20338



November 15, 1976

Bernard Edelson, Esquire 115 North Jackson Street Media, Pa. 19063

Dear Mr. Edelson:

I am writing to you in response to a recent article concerning your efforts to obtain a pardon for Eddie Slovak. I wish to commend you for this effort and offer my support.

I am very familiar with this case, as I am originally from Ionia, Michigan and my father worked at the Reformatory where Slovak was incarcerated. We discussed this case on a number of occasions following the publication of William Bradford Huie's book. It was my impression from these discussions that he should never have been in a combat situation in the first place, as he was not emotionally equipped to do so. Certainly this would be mitigating circumstances to be considered at his court martial.

Please feel free to call on me for whatever I can do.

Philip E. Bannan

Sincerely

Director of Operations

PEB/k

EXH" ("

SHAW ADVERTISING

713 539-1488

1006 SHERWOOD ROAD LUFKIN, TEXAS 75901 November 18, 1976

Gentlemen:
I sincerely hope this letter reaches you because I am deeply interested in the Private Eddie Slovik case.
You see, I am the Lt. A. Shaw mentioned in William Bradford Huie's book, "The Execution of Private Slovik".

I was Eddie Slovik's C. O. during his 17 weeks of basic training at Camp Wolters, Texas, early in 1944. I didn't know his tragic fate until the book was published in 1954.

We recognized this man's total inability as a combat soldier, through no fault of his own. He was popular with the troops, non-coms and officers, but badly cast as an infantryman. We tried every means to get his discharge; failing this, we tried to get him transferred to a non-combat unit. Here again, we failed. As a last resort, we tried to remove his fear of weapons and simulated combat conditions. Tragically, we failed again.

If I can help in any way, please call on me.

Sincerely,

Arnold C. Shaw

"EXH A"

2 3 NOV 1976

DAAG-LRA Slovik, Eddie (12 Nov 76)

Mr. Dale Becker 158 Highwood Drive Chaska, MN 55318

Dear Mr. Becker:

On behalf of President Ford, I am replying to your letter of 12 November 1976 regarding a presidential pardon for Eddie Slovik.

As much as he would like to, the President cannot reply personally to every communication he receives. Therefore, he has asked the departments and agencies of the Federal Government to reply in his behalf in those instances where they have special knowledge or special authority under the law. For this reason, your correspondence was forwarded to officials of the Department of the Army.

The feelings which prompted your request for a pardon are appreciated. However, a pardon cannot be granted posthumously since delivery and acceptance are prerequisite to the validity of a pardon.

Sincerely,

PAUL T., SMITH
PAUL T. SMITH
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

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1.		ose: To obt	ain appro	val o	f letter at	Tab A in re	esponse t	o reque	st at Ta	ab B.
2.	. Disc	ussion:								
	a.	Mr. Becker	asks that	Pres	ident grant	a pardon to	Private	Eddie	Slovik,	decease
	b.	Private Slo	vik was e	xecut	ed on 31 Ja	nuary 1945 f	or deser	tion.		
	c.	TJAG previo	usly (9 A h they ob	pril taine	74) furnish d from the	ed informati Pardon Attor	ney, Dep	artment	of Just	arding ice.
	d.	Records of	Private S	lovik	are on loa	n to RCLO.	S'e	e TAB	<u>e</u> ,	
3.	Reso	urce Implica	tions: N	one.						
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TAGO Form 1-8, 1 Oct 75 PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE.

CHADWICK, De se M.						
TAGO ACTION CONT	DATE 2 4 NOV 1976					
SUBJECT/REFERENCE	SUSPENSE 30NOV76					
Pardon FOR Put. SIO	TAGO CONTROL NUMBER					
	OCSA CONTROL NUMBER -0505					
		ADDITIONAL CONTROL NUMBER				
ROUTING: A = ACTION	I = INFORMATION	✓ = COPY PROVIDED				
DCG, TAGCEN	DCS, PES	DCS, ADMIN SYS				
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TAG READING FILE						
ACTION: See attached Remarks/Instructions See TAG's comments, (on) attached Propare reply to mitter Prepare reply for signature of Prepare forwarding Memo for signature of Prepare draft reply; send to Take action as indicated below REMARKS						
DIRECTORATE ROUTING:	FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL	Inclosure(s)				
1. — 2. — 3. — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —						

TAGO Form 1-18, Aug 76, (Proponent: DAAG-ZX)

Replaces TAGO Form 1-18, May 76, which will not be used.



President Jerry Ford Clowhite House Washington, D.C. 20500

[7,100] 2506 Canterbury Ct. M-2 allany-Ca. 31707 OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR OR MAY SUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV 114 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 3C 3 14 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 1/ 18 19 20 3 12

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REMARKS							Prepare (draft) (final) reply for			
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DAS FORM 77, 1 Jun 74 REFERRAL SLIP							ADDRESSEE COPY 2			

23 ASST 10 Dear DOD FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLI 11-14-76 I am writing this letter in regard to Pot Edward D. I lovik. I realize that more than likely you'll never read this letter. I am in hopes though, that somehow it will have meaning. May Edward woods is going to petition the U.S army to review and pardom Put. Slovik. I and I know many Other people implore you to look into this matter. Sie, you have shown true Compassion during your office, even when so many people have disagreed with you. Please show the same compassion in this situation and pardom Pt. Slovik. If for no other reason, than just to show omce Again, our country is just, fair and lie do believe that WH 20505

regardless of race, creed or personal ideals are created equal. Let this man rest in peace.

Thankyow and men like yow for the right to express my feelings and then sign my mame.

> Sincerely Benisi M. Chadwick 2506 Canterbury Ct. #m-2 albany, Georgia 31202

OFF SECY OF DEFENSE

24 Nov 76 UA 38

C7,103] regardless of race, ored or personal wheal are created equal Let this man rest in seace. I love my courtry and man hind. Chankyow and men like you far the right to express my feelings and then Digin my mame 250c Conterbuy Ct ma allowy Georgia 31202 DEE SECK OF DEFENSE BE BO 94 NON 17 Z

30 NOV 1976

DAAG-LRA Slovik, Eddie (14 Nov 76)

Ms. Denise M. Chadwick 2506 Canterbury Court #M2 Albany, Georgia 31707

Dear Ms. Chadwick:

On behalf of President Ford, I am replying to your letter of 14 November 1976 regarding a presidential pardon for Eddie Slovik.

As much as he would like to, the President cannot reply personally to every communication he receives. Therefore, he has asked the departments and agencies of the Federal Government to reply in his behalf in those instances where they have special knowledge or special authority under the law. For this reason, your correspondence was forwarded to officials of the Department of the Army.

The feelings which prompted your request for a pardon are appreciated. However, a pardon cannot be granted posthumously since delivery and acceptance are prerequisite to the validity of a pardon. I am sorry that my reply cannot be more favorable.

Sincerely,

J. C. PENNINGTON

J. C. PENNINGTON
Brigadier General, USA
Acting The Adjutant General

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30 Nov 76		Luctare Car			30 No	ov 76						
1. Purpose: To obt	ain approval	letter at	Tab A in resp	onse to r	equest a	at Tab B.						
2. Discussion:												
a. Ms. Chadwick deceased.	asks that Pr	resident gran	t a pardon to	Private E	ddie Slo	ovik,						
b. Private Slovik was executed on 31 January 1945 for desertion.												
c. TJAG previously (9 April 74) furnished information to use in reply regarding pardon which they obtained from the Pardon Attorney, Department of Justice. (TAB Records of Private Slovik are on loan to RCLO.												
3. Resource Implica												
4. Recommendation:	That letter	at Tab A be	signed.									
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COORDINATION	APPROVAL INI	DATE	ACTION TAKEN	CONCUR AP	PROVE NO	TED SEE ME						
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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

2300 South 9th Street, #305 Arlington, Virginia 22204

REFER TO:

Private Eddie Slovik

February 7, 1977

DAAG, LRA
Department of the Army
Pentagon, D.C. 20310
Attention: Mr. Miller

Dear Mr. Miller:

Based on a telephone call with John Romero on February 2, 1977, we are requesting proof of death for Private Eddie Slovik.

This evidence is needed in connection with a claim for Social Security benefits filed by his widow.

I am enclosing a self-addressed envelope so that the information can be returned directly to my desk.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Lucille G. Fox Branch Manager DAAG-LRA

15 February 1977

Ms Lucille G. Fox Social Security Administration 2300 South 9th Street - #305 Arlington, VA 22204

Dear Ms. Fox:

Reference your request of 7 February 1977 for proof of death for Eddie Slovik, I am inclosing an authenticated copy of the official Report of Death.

However, because of the poor copy in the records, the date of death and date of birth did not reproduce clearly. I have indicated the correct dates on the form as a footnote. I hope this is sufficient.

If not please call me at 697-0922 and we can discuss other methods.

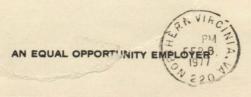
Sincerely,

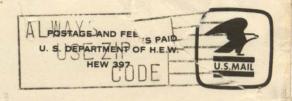
Inclosure

MILLER Chief, Veterans Branch Reserve Components Liaison Office TAGO

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22204

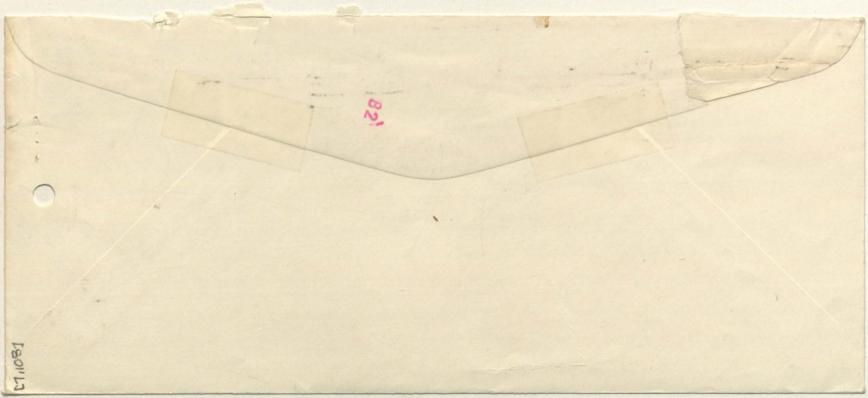
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE. \$300





DAAG, LRA
Department of the Army
Pentagon, D.C. 20310

ATTENTION - Mr. Miller





PENNSYLVANIA BUREAU of CORRECTION P. O. BOX 598 CAMP HILL, PENNSYLVANIA 17011 (717) 787-7480

May 23, 1977

Bernard Edelson, Esquire 115 North Jackson Street Media, Pennsylvania 19063

Dear Mr. Edelson:

Pursuant to your telephone conversation, I am submitting this letter for possible use in the forthcoming hearing on the Eddie Slovak case.

As I previously related to you, I have more than casual knowledge and interest in this case. My father was employed at the Michigan Reformatory in a number of capacities, including Deputy Warden, during the time that Slovak served two terms there.

When William Bradford Huie published his book, The Execution of Private Slovak, both of us read it. The book had a significant impact on us. I particularly remember my father telling me that "He should never have been in the army - particularly in a combat situation, in the first place." His reason for this feeling was the fact that he knew Slovak as an emotionally vulnerable, unstable person who would "fall apart" in most stressful situations. He also expressed the feeling that he was executed because they could make an example of him, as he had no one with any sort of influence.

I have also talked with a number of inmates who knew Slovak. Their stories are pretty much the same. He was inadequate and not emotionally equipped to handle things well. I would hasten to add that the inmates I spoke with were not the usual run-of-the-mill but rather particularly bright and articulate men with whom I worked for a number of years when I was employed at the State Prison of Southern Michigan.

It is my most sincere feeling that an injustice occurred in this case. I strongly feel that Mrs. Slovak has suffered far too long and too much and is entitled to at least receive benefits, if not compensation.

I am sorry that previous commitments prevent me from being in Washington on the 15th of June to appear at the scheduled hearing. I hope that my letter will serve as support for Mrs. Slovak.

P. E. Bannan

Director of Operations

PEB/k

RABBI DAVID MAX EICHHORN, D.D., D.H.L.

September 1 to April 15 311 Somerset Arms Apts. Satellite Beach, Fla. 32935 Ph. (305) 262-2076



April 15 to September 1 85-14 66th Avenue Rego Park, N.Y. 11374 Ph. (212) IL 9-2729 or TW 6-7147

June 16, 1977

Mr. Bernard Edelson 115 North Jackson Street Media, Pa. 19063 Office phone: 1-215-565-4430

Dear Mr. Edelson:

My name is David Max Eichhorn. I am a retired lieutenant colonel (0-482124) of the Army of the United States. I served on Extended Active Duty from 18 July 1942 until sometime in February 1946. From 27 June 1944 to 30 July 1945 I was on the chaplaincy staff of the XV Army Corps. From sometime in September 1944 until the summer of 1945 XV Corps was part of the Seventh U.S.Army.

The daily log I kept from 1 September 1944 to 14 November 1945 shows that I conducted a Jewish religious service at HQ 7th Army Rear on Sunday 21 January 1945. The reason that I was available to conduct that service will be found in the account that follows. The account is taken from pages 38 and 39 of my autobiography, written in September 1969 at the request of Jacob R. Marcus, director of the American Jewish Archives, 3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio h5220:

"The winter of 1944-45 was spent in Eastern France in the Vosges Mountains area in an endless round of activities for military personnel and for Jewish civilians who had either been hidden in the area or had returned to their homes from other hiding places. Our HQ was in Luneville until November 30 and then we moved to Saarebourg, 35 miles northeast.

"No American soldier had been executed for desertion in the face of the enemy since the American Civil War. During the Battle of the Bulge, December 16 to 30 (during which I was with a forward unit, the 103rd Infantry Division, that was completely isolated for almost a week), thousands of green American troops, who had been placed in what was thought to be a quiet sector, fled to the rear. To prevent a future re-occurrence of this kind of debacle, General Eisenhower's staff persuaded him that one deserter must be shot to convince would-be deserters what might possibly happen to them. The military prisons were combed to find condemned deserters who had thrown down their arms and fled from the enemy on two or more occasions. Six such were found. By some method, one was selected. He was a Jewish soldier from Philadelphia, the only Jew among the six. Preparations were begun for his execution. I was notified on 19 or 20 January 1945 by the Chaplains Section of HQ 7th Army Rear that I was to be his spiritual comforter during his last hours on earth and was also to be present at his execution and I was instructed to report to HQ 7th Army Rear as soon as

EXH

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possible for further instructions.]

(Prior to my being summoned to HQ 7th Army Rear) General Eisenhower ordered that all six should be given an intensive psychiatric examination. A number of the six (I do not know how many), including the Jewish soldier, were declared to be mentally unbalanced. (I was given this information by the Seventh Army Chaplain, Chaplain Donnelly, when I arrived at his office either late on Saturday 20 January or on Sunday morning 21 January 1945.) So the Jewish lad was not executed; but one of those who were given psychiatric "clearance," a Private Slovik, was shot. William Bradford Huie tells much of the story in his brilliant book, The Execution of Private Slovik. What I have just written he does not tell. I do not think he knew. If he had known, I believe he would have told. It should not be difficult to imagine my feeling of relief at not having to be part of this gruesome ordeal. A number of years later, I heard that the condemned Jewish soldier had ultimately been released from military custody, placed in a mental institution and remained there until he died."

Sincerely yours,

DAVID MAX EICHHORN

David Max Eichhorn

PHANAM

Mary Jo Galbraith 4818 Ridgewest Dr. Houston, TX 77045



Dept, of the army The Pentagon Washington, D.C. 20310 WAAR-IR