

to other people.

I was born in England and
served in the English Army for
two & half years, Married a
G.I. & came to this country &
became a Proud American
Citizen. I care about MRS
Shovik and what she has
suffered through, so please
with all your power, clear
his name.

Thank you Mr President,

Hilda Murchy
15 Mt Hope St
N. Attleboro

Mass
02760.

P.S. I am writing a letter
to Mrs Shovik hoping &
praying you can help.

RECEIVED

12 MAR 11 04 52
U.S. DEPT. OF DEFENSE

02/24

to other people.
 I was born in England and
 lived in the capital town of
 London for a long time. I
 was a half-breed and I
 lived with my mother and
 her American husband. I
 became a British citizen.
 I was a member of the
 House of Commons and I
 was a member of the
 Privy Council. I was
 a member of the
 House of Lords and I
 was a member of the
 House of Commons.

with all your power, clear
 your mind and your
 heart. I have a great
 deal of work to do and
 I must go now. I will
 write to you again soon.
 I am very truly,
 your devoted servant,
 W. Pitt Rivers

RECEIVED
 7.2.74
 09 25
 OFF SECY OF DEFENSE
 19 MAR 74

09.4.74

DAAG-ZC

Mrs. Hilda Murchy
15 Mt Hope Street
North Attleboro, MA 02760

Dear Mrs. Murchy:

On behalf of President Nixon, I am replying to your letter of 14 March 1974 regarding Private Eddie Slovik.

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

Sincerely,

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

CF: DACS-XSW(2)
WH #3687
EDC 10 Apr 74

DAAG-ZA

2 APR 1974

Mrs. Hilda Murchy
15 Mt Hope Street
North Attleboro, MA 02760

Dear Mrs. Murchy:

This is in further reply to your letter to President Nixon regarding the court-martial and execution of Private Eddie D. Slovik.

When judgment was passed on Private Slovik, this nation was engaged in an all-out war with a power which was dedicated to enslaving the world. The lives of thousands, both those on the battlefield as well as those in the infamous prisons 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 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 Private Slovik's case.

I trust that this provides the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

M/R Based on info from TJAG.

Mrs. T. Stellingwerf

Box 311
VERNON, N.J.

07462

Box 311, Route 1
(Opp. Plunket Club Hall)
Vernon, N. J. 07462



Dept. of U.S. Army
Dept. of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20301

~~Real Estate and Insurance~~

Box 311
VERNON, N.J. 07462
MARCH 14, 1972

AMOP

Dept. of U.S. Army
Dept. of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20301

Gentlemen:

Re: The MURDER OF PVT. Edward Slovik
By the U.S. ARMY

It is too bad that what is going on in our country today — TREASON, MURDER, MAIMING, etc. — is overlooked by our courts and that many of those committing these crimes can get out of serving a sentence by some trial error or mistake by those enforcing the Law.

Those who were responsible for the murder of PVT. Slovik should have paid some price, mistake or not. But, no — the deed was buried in a file for all of these years. Why was this human being shot as an example for others? Either shoot all of them or none of them. Is this what our country stands for — murder for an example to others not to run — some example!

What happened to PVT. Slovik's wife & what will be done to clear his name?

Yours Truly
Theresa A. Stellingwert

MRS. Theresa A. Stellingwert

DAAG-ZA

3 APR 1974

Mrs. Theresa A. Stellingwerf
Box 311
Vernon, New Jersey 07462

Dear Mrs. Stellingwerf:

This is in reply to your letter regarding the court-martial and execution of Private Eddie D. Slovik.

When judgment was passed on Private Slovik, this nation was engaged in an all-out war with a power which was dedicated to enslaving the world. The lives of thousands, both those on the battlefield as well as those in the infamous prisons 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 Battle of the Bulge.

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

I trust that this provides the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

M/R Based on info from TJAG.



UNITED STATES 10¢

ANDREW
JACKSON

President Richard M. Nixon
1600 Pennsylvania Ave,
Washington, D.C.

A handwritten blue mark or signature, possibly a stylized letter or initials, located in the lower right quadrant of the envelope.

[6/40]

1974

1974

1974

MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

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March 14, 1974

Military Asst. D

TO DOD - FOR DIRECT REPLY
DATE APR 1 1974

Dear Mr. President,

Last evening my husband and I witnessed the movie "The Execution of Eddie Slovik."

From all I saw I can believe what happened to that man. I implore you, as I hope many others will, to drop the charges against him and clear his name. I would also hope that full military benefits are given to his wife and/or mother and all pay for the past twenty nine years.

After the much publicized "slapping incident" involving General George S. Patton I can believe that an execution received little or ~~no~~ no press at all. If this

WH 4396

maligned person was to set an example
it was to no avail. His own wife
didn't learn that he was executed
until eight years after his death.
How was the public to know?

Please, Mr. President, bring
this matter to the attention of the
public and clear his name. He
died because no one really believed
he would.

Thanking you in advance,
Mrs. Cynthia M. Zack
RD 4
Snyder's Lake Rd.
Troy, New York 12180

ALL REG. OF DEFENSE
5 MAR 10 51

RECEIVED

CG 427

... to get on ...
... his own wife ...
... that he was ...
... after his death ...
... the public to know?

Please, Mr. President, bring
this matter to the attention of the
public and clear his name. He
deserves it because we are really believers
in the world.

Thanking you in advance,
Mrs. Cynthia M. Jack
Rt 4
Engler's Lake Rd.
Throy, New York 12180

OFF SECY OF DEFENSE

2 APR 74 10 21

RECEIVED

[Ch. 33]

3 APR 1974

DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie
(14 Mar 74)

Mrs. Cynthia M. Zack
R.D. 4, Snyder's Lake Road
Troy, New York 12180

Dear Mrs. Zack:

On behalf of President Nixon, I am replying to your letter of
14 March 1974 regarding the widow of Private Slovik.

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

Sincerely,

Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

cc DACS-XSW (2)
WH Case 4396 EDC 10 Apr 74
EK KKK

RETURN TO OMARG,
TAGO
Miller

DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie
(14 Mar 74)

5 APR 1974

Mrs. Cynthia M. Zack
R. D. 4, Snyder's Lake Road
Troy, New York 12180

Dear Mrs. Zack:

This is in further reference to your letter to President Nixon regarding 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 official military personnel record of Private Slovik shows that Mrs. Slovik was notified by telegram on 24 February 1945 of the death of her husband. This was confirmed by letter from The Adjutant General dated 27 February 1945.

Because of the nature of the offense for which Private Slovik was convicted, Mrs. Slovik is not eligible for any benefits administered by the Department of the Army.

Sincerely,

Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

RBB

cc DACS-XSW (2)
WH Case 4396

RETURN TO OMARG,

Wallace

Chet Wyman
8812 Allenswood Road
Randallstown, Md.

21133

Department of War
% United States Government
Washington D.C.



pent
miss

561453

6

March 14 1974
Chet Wyman

amop
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Dear Sirs

I recently viewed the film " The Execution Of Private Slevick ". As a project I tried to find out more on the subject. I found out very little. From what I did find out , the whole execution seems like a big mistake. It appeared to me that it was something that got out of hand and ended with the death of one soldier.

I have two questions to ask. Why was Private Slevik the only soldier shot for desertion? and Why was the author of the book " The Execution Of Private Slevik " not allowed to publish it during the term of president Eisenhower. Please mail your answer back to me.

Chet Wyman

CHET WYMAN
8812 ALLENSWOOD Rd.
RANDLLSTOWN Md. 21133.

DAAG-ZA

3 APR 1974

Mr. Chet Wyman
8812 Allenswood Road
Randallstown, MD 21133

Dear Mr. Wyman:

This is in reply to your letter regarding the court-martial and execution of Private Eddie D. Slovik.

When judgment was passed on Private Slovik, this nation was engaged in an all-out war with a power which was dedicated to enslaving the world. The lives of thousands, both those on the battlefield as well as those in the infamous prisons 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 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 Private Slovik's case. This office has no information regarding your contention that President Eisenhower did not allow the book entitled "The Execution of Private Slovik" to be published during his term of office.

I trust that this provides the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Verna L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

M/R Based on TJAG input.

Mr. & Mrs. James A. Leever
36618 Jackman Dr.
Sterling Hgts, MI 48077



Mr. Richard M. Nixon
President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

1974 1974 1974 1974 1974 1974 1974

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MIL ASST
TO PRES

D

20018 Jackman Dr.
Sterling Hgts, MI 48077
March 14, 1974

TO DOD - FOR DIRECT REPLY
DATE MAR 18 1974

Mr. Richard M. Nixon
President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

After viewing the TV presentation of the EXECUTION OF PVT. SLOVIK, my wife and I feel impelled to write to you to offer these suggestions. These, of course, are based on the assumptions that the facts as presented in the film are true and accurate.

We do not blame the Court Martial Board because we were at war at the time and they obviously did not have access to all the facts regarding Pvt. Slovik's life as we did in the film. In addition, they were trying to discourage others from deserting, but apparently didn't really believe their pronouncement of punishment would stand upon review by the Review Board.

Apparently, all involved in the incident felt he was a brave man and certainly not a traitor. His wife now lives on some form of limited state aid, but lives in fear of that being jeopardized. She has been harassed and almost lives in seclusion because of the execution of her husband.

It would appear to us that the United States Government ought to act now to

- 1) post humously reinstate Pvt. Eddie Slovik as a soldier in good standing with the United States Army,
- 2) grant his wife a pension as though Pvt. Slovik was killed in action, and
- 3) do everything necessary to restore the honor of the United States and that of Pvt. Slovik and his family.

To acknowledge that we made a mistake is not a sign of weakness, but rather of strength, for only the strong and secure can admit their errors.

Thank you for your kindness,

Jim + Carol Leever
Jim & Carol Leever

RECEIVED

WH 3637

MH 3031

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

John A. ...
18 MAR 74 11 22
JOHN A. ...
OFF SECY OF DEFENSE

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President of the United States
Mr. ...

DATE MAR 18 1974
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18 Mar 74 | NAME LEEVER, JAMES A (Mr&Mrs) | FILE NUMBER 3637 | CLASSIFICATION UUUU | 9259

WHITE HOUSE CASE | OCSA CASE | SMA CASE | SUSPENSE

SUMMARY: Reinstatement of Pvt Slovik; benefits for widow.
 OCSA: COB 21 Mar 74
 OSA:
 OSD:

ROUTING						A-Action		I-Information		ACTION	
DCSOPS	ACSFOR	COE	CMH	CLL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DIRECT REPLY WITH 2 COPY(IES) TO DACS-XSW					
DCSPER	ACSI	TSG	A	TAG	MILPERCEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CITE WHITE HOUSE CONTROL NUMBER				
DCSLOG	ACSC-E	TJAG	TPMG	CUSAA		<input type="checkbox"/>	PREPARE (DRAFT) (FINAL) REPLY FOR SIGNATURE OF _____				
COA	CORC	CNGB	CAR			<input type="checkbox"/>	PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AS REQUIRED _____				
CRD	TIG	CINFO	CCH			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	COORDINATE WITH (1) WHLO RM3E669 x73658 (2) Sp Asst to the SecDe * RM 3E947 x76691				

REMARKS: Coordinate in order listed.

AGENCY ROUTING: 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
 DAAG-ZC 20 MAR 74
 BY DIRECTION OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF: WALTER W. PLUMMER, Colonel, GS, Deputy Secretary of the General Staff (Staff Services), X77425/70740

DAAG-ZC

20 MAR 1974

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Leever
36618 Jackman Drive
Sterling Heights, MI 48077

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Leever:

On behalf of President Nixon, I am replying to your letter of March 1974 regarding Private Eddie Slovik.

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

Sincerely,

RBP
Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

CF: DACS-XSW (2)
WH Case 3637
EDC 10 Apr 74

*MR wants Slovik reinstated
& wife granted a pension.
Info being obtained from TTAG.*

Jan

DAAG-TCZ-C

12 APR 1974

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Leever
36618 Jackman Drive
Sterling Heights, MI 48077

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Leever:

This is in further reply to your letter to President Nixon regarding the court-martial and execution of Private Eddie D. Slovik.

When judgment was passed on Private Slovik, this nation was engaged in an all-out war with a power which was dedicated to enslaving the world. The lives of thousands, both those on the battlefield as well as those in the infamous prisons 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 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 Private Slovik's case.

Your concern for the welfare of Mrs. Slovik is understandable, however, the nature of the offense for which her husband was convicted precludes the

DAAG-TCZ-C

Mr. and Mrs. James A. Leever

granting of benefits or assistance by the Department of the Army. Benefits or assistance which may be available to her from other agencies of the Federal Government are determined by the specific agency involved.

I trust the above information will help you understand the Department of the Army's position in this matter.

Sincerely,

Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

RSP

cc DACS-XSW (2)
WH Case 3637

Memorandum For Record:

Input furnished by TSB6. Legal consideration was given the specific questions posed. However, TSB6 feels a general type reply is preferable ~~since it is~~ because of lack of available information to answer specific queries.

(This type of response has been used on similar type inquiries.)

Coord WHLO, LTC Johnson, 73658

" OSD, LTC Kempf, 4/12/74

Jan

4/11/74
[Signature]

Dobbs and Creed

REAL ESTATE — INSURANCE
325 N. Hudson — 482-3311
ALTUS, OKLAHOMA 73521



Headquarters,

United States Army,

Washington, D. C. 20000

66.547

87

OSCAR DOBBS
WEAVER CREED
WILLIAM L. DOBBS

Dobbs and Creed

PHONE 405 482-3311
325 NORTH HUDSON
ALTUS, OKLAHOMA 73521

REAL ESTATE ★ INSURANCE ★ LOANS ★ BONDS ★ RENTALS

AMO-P

March 14, 1974

Headquarters,
United States Army,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

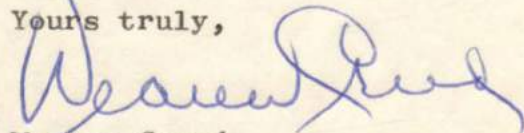
Last nite, I viewed with disgust the movie on NBC television, "The Execution of Private Slovik". As far as I am concerned this set your public relations back 20 years.

If this movie depicted the events as they actually happened, it would interest me to know how the Army could defend their action.

If Private Slovik had deserted a post in war time without advising his superior Officer, it would be different.

This movie didn't help the Army one bit!

Yours truly,



Weaver Creed,
Altus, Oklahoma.



DAAG-ZA

2 APR 1974

Mr. Weaver Creed
Dobbs and Creed
325 North Hudson
Altus, Oklahoma 73521

Dear Mr. Creed:

This is in reply to your letter regarding the court-martial and execution of Private Eddie D. Slovik.

When judgment was passed on Private Slovik, this nation was engaged in an all-out war with a power which was dedicated to enslaving the world. The lives of thousands, both those on the battlefield as well as those in the infamous prisons 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 Battle of the Bulge.

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

I trust that this provides the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Verne L. Bowers

RBB
VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

M. Roberta Chizzini

sound design associates

342 LEXINGTON AVENUE, MOUNT KISCO, NEW YORK 10549



U.S. Dept. of the Army

The Pentagon

Washington, D.C.

1850

sound design associates

AMO-P

14 March 1974

U.S. Dept. of the Army
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C.

Sirs:

I am amazed at how much robot-ized activity passed as justice in World War 2.

Gentlemen, are your priorities so warped, your love of duty and honor so grossly overemphasized, that you could actually shoot a man to death for his inability to take life in any form? Is this our great definition of democracy? Killing one man to underscore the so-called courage of others who killed many?

Of course I'm sure you could saddle my questions with many over-used labels like "love of country" (what about "love of mankind?") and "it was wartime."

But that's just the point. It's always wartime. And always will be as long as men persist in thinking that there is some superior solution and redemptive factor in pitting one set of lives against another. If we weren't all so programmed to hate people and adore power, perhaps Hitler would have been a restrained lunatic, and Edward Slovik would still be alive.

Private E. Slovik did the most honest, truthful, and idealistic thing in answer to the enigma of battle - nothing. If every other man on both sides had refused to fight, you could have left the technicalities of the situation to the leaders - those well-fed four star types and associates, behind those nice, polished desks. Maybe Roosevelt, Hitler, and Stalin could have had it out with rifles on some private beach.

Sure that's an insane idea. But more insane is taking the life of a man who simply refused to kill anyone else.

And please don't tell me desertors deserve to die. If so, why not those who desert their children, wives; why not all the other desertors of WW II? If you were so proud of your "humanitarian" move, how dare you not inform the widow that you had just murdered her husband? Where is that great military standby of strength before the enemy? Indeed, she was and is your greatest enemy simply because she is a woman, and would rather hold a man in her arms, than carry his corpse to some "hero's" grave. You can never logically explain your act to Mrs. Slovik; the code of power and violence has no compromise with love. Perhaps that is why you cowered behind the coat of a decade, hoping the irony and idiocy of it would fade just a little before she found out.

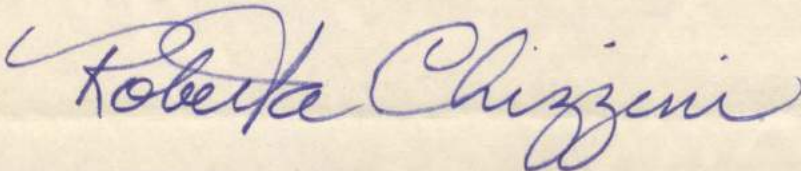
Almost 30 years after the death, we find out. I was always somewhat guilty when I marched against the Viet Nam war. But now I see that the survival of humanity rests only in brotherhood and in a unified world. Only when reason wins out over rifles, will there be justice. It won't be your kind; - a 20 man squad gunning down one poor, simple man, who could not philosophically talk himself into killing.

Suddenly I am ashamed that we won the war. ("won" - taken to mean until the next one, of course).

Perhaps physical slavery holds more self-respect than the selling out of one unchanging principle, "THOU SHALT NOT KILL."

I don't know how you can respect yourselves for the memory of that man, and the shameful treatment of his widow.

With profound disgust,



Roberta Chizzini
PROMOTION MANAGER

RC/eg

DAAG-ZA

8 APR 1974

Ms Roberta Chizzini
Promotion Manager
Sound Design Associates
342 Lexington Avenue
Mt. Kisco, NY 10549

Dear Ms Chizzini:

This is in reply to your letter regarding the court-martial and execution of Private Eddie D. Slovik.

When judgment was passed on Private Slovik, this nation was engaged in an all-out war with a power which was dedicated to enslaving the world. The lives of thousands, both those on the battlefield as well as those in the infamous prisons 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 Battle of the Bulge.

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

I trust that this provides the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Verns L Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

Mil. to Pres

75

24

TO DOD - FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLING
DATE _____
MAR 18 1974

11107 Clover
Detroit Mich 48
March 14, 1974

Dear Mr President

I watched on television last night the story of Private Flova.

I am an ex marine although never was I in combat. The United States was in my opinion overly severe in this instance. I do believe in discipline, and this is necessary in all organizations.

The person I am writing to letter is on behalf of his widow.

From the very brief interview with the WJI Reporter the lady seemed to be frightened, that something bad would happen to her such as her pension be taken away or receive some other reprisal if she had to speak to say I am acquainted with the lady in any way but I do feel that no person in this great country should live in fear.

I have at this time

night the story of private ^{John}
D. Carterman, although
never was in combat. The United
States was in my opinion overly
severe in this instance. I do
believe in discipline, and this
is necessary in all organizations

The reason I am writing this
letter is on behalf of his widow.

From the very brief interview
with the WJI reporter the lady
seemed to be frightened, that
something bad would happen to
her such as her pension be taken
away or receive some other reprisal
if she had to much to say. I am not
acquainted with the lady in any way,
but I do feel that no person in
this great country should live in
fear.

I know at this time you are very
busy with other problems. WH 3738

I feel that a letter from you
assuring her she has nothing to fear
because this is America would be
a great service on your part.
If there is anything the
government can do to make life
a little more fruitful & happy,

to Rappen.

Sincerely
Chester A. Owen



President Nixon
White House
Washington, D.C.

[60,604]

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3 Jappan zel In
Longwood Fla

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32750

21

Secretary Assist
to the President
Dear President

Slovik

3/14/74

TO DOD - FOR DIRECT REPLY
DATE MAR 19 1974

I just saw the movie, on TV about Pvt. Eddie Slovik. I think it is a disgrace to this country, that he was shot.

This man would have done anything for his country but kill - he wanted to stay in the Army, and do anything but kill someone.

Has he ever been brought back over here? I think he should be and given a decent burial and given a medal for what was done to him and his family.

also his widow should be given a pension for the rest of her life -

We have done so much wrong in this country - I think we should right a wrong once in awhile.

God, that was an awful thing, to do to a man!

X The last time I wrote a letter

WH 3715

2.
to the President, I got a firm
letter back, not even pertaining
to what I had written about.
Please at least give me the
courtesy to answer, even if it
is short.

Sincerely

Mr. C. C. Dabell, Jr
3 Tappan Zee Lane
Longwood, Fla 32750

RECEIVED

NOV 20 1964
SOMERSET

16/1/74

to the President, I got a fine
letter back, and was
to what I had written about
Please at least give me the
courtesy to answer even if it
is short

Sincerely

Mr. C. C. Ralston, Jr.
3 Joppon St. Lane
Washington, D.C. 20520

RECEIVED

20 MAR 74 04 39
OFF SECY OF DEFENSE

DAAG-ZC Slovik, Eddie
(14 Mar 74)

25 MAR 1974

Mrs. C. C. Dalzell, Jr.
3 Tappan Zee Lane
Longwood, Florida 32750

Dear Mrs. Dalzell:

On behalf of President Nixon, I am replying to your letter of 14 March 1974 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 department and agencies of the Federal Government to reply in his behalf in those instances where they have special knowledge or authority under the law. For this reason your correspondence was forwarded to the Department of the Army.

Private Slovik is interred in a cemetery in France maintained by the American Battle Monuments Commission. Before his death he went to confession, attended Mass and received Holy Communion. After his death the Catholic Chaplain in attendance administered the Sacrament of Extreme Unction and pronounced the prayers for the dead.

Although I appreciate your concern for Mrs. Slovik, because of the nature of the offense for which he was convicted she is not eligible for any benefits administered by the Department of the Army.

Sincerely,

Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

cc DACS-XSW (2)
WH Case 3715

MR: Info on cemeteries obtained from Colonel Ryan, ABMC (x36099). Last para previously coordinated w/WHLO OASD and General Counsel. JN Miller
21 Mar 74

RETURN TO OMARC,
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Dallad



The President

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania

Washington, D. C.

KC

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The bell with Mai Lai. Let's not point the finger until we can explain our own actions. Furthermore, I feel that you, as the media, must insist upon these answers from the military hierarchy. What right have they to be above the law, moral codes, and God? ☹

I truly hope and pray that you receive sufficient public demand to follow-up on the program. I have felt for several years now that the military echelon is a "Do as I say, not as I do" establishment and has NO place in what I feel is Americanism. How about making them answer our charges for a change instead of their dictating to us what ^{we} will do, when we shall have morals and ethical convictions, when there is a time to kill, who we shall honor and how we shall live.

Sincerely yours,
Marjorie Billington
1418 Fletcher Street
Hollywood, Florida 33020

DAAG-ZA

3 APR 1974

Mrs. Marjorie Billington
1418 Fletcher Street
Hollywood, Florida 33020

Dear Mrs. Billington:

This is in reply to your letter regarding the court-martial and execution of Private Eddie D. Slovik.

When judgment was passed on Private Slovik, this nation was engaged in an all-out war with a power which was dedicated to enslaving the world. The lives of thousands, both those on the battlefield as well as those in the infamous prisons 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 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 Private Slovik's case.

I trust that this provides the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Vernon L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

M/R Based on info from TJAG.

15 Mt Hope St
N. Attleboro
Mass. 02760



To
President of the United States
Mr Nixon
White House
Washington, D.C.

15444

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Mil. Dept.
to DOD

3-14-74
TO DOD - FOR DIRECT REP
DATE MAR 16 1974

MR. President,

No doubt you will never get to read this letter, but I have to write it anyway on even the smallest chance that you might.

Last night on TV. I watched the movie of The EXECUTION OF PVT Shovik. It really broke my heart to see one person executed during WWII. for supposedly desertion. All Pvt Shovik was guilty of was refusing to carry a rifle.

His wife now living in Detroit is now 60 yrs of age & 30 of those years she has suffered because of a great injustice.

MR President please clear Pvt Shovik's name while his wife is still alive to know that people care about what happens