amp

United States Army Washington D C

To Whom It May Concern
I am very upset on the story of Pvt Eddie Slovik which was shown on television on
Wednesday night March 13th at 8.30 PM Ny time. To think that the U S Army would
execute a man like Eddie, was the most terrible think that the army could do. Eddie
was killed because he was judge on his prison record before he entered the Army.
The officer in charge of his company could of put Eddie in some other detail to work
in., but no he could'nt show any favors. As far as the officers who judged Eddie not
one of them had any combat duty so how in the world can they judge Eddie when Eddie

told them he could not shoot a gun, he gave himself up and they could'nt send him to jail. no they had to make Eddie an example. I hope those officers have it on their mind for the rest of their lives, they murded Eddie as sure as they put him in his grave.

Eddie was judge on his prison record not his army ability, what has the army got to say about this expect a letter for this one II am sending, also am sending one to the president and one to Congress. This was an outrage think to do to one person, he could gone to jail not kill him. What about the other 49 deserters they didny died but you kill Eddie Why was Eddie the one I want answers to this letter I am sending one

to all the newspapers also I want some answers and they better be the right ones and we must not see that this happens again.

Sena Marley

Mrs/ Lena Morley

Mrs. Lena Morley 24 Mill Street Amityville, NY 11701

Dear Mrs. Morley:

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 demonstraced 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

WERNE L. NOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

M/R Based on TJAG input

MISS SLIPSON 14LAUREL BAY POSTAL CONFERM Wpg. manHoba R2Y2Y7 CODE P. TOP. Canada TAL COOK THE AMERICAN ARMY DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFFORE WASHINGTON, D.C. U.S. A.

March 14, 1974 AMOR Wear Sir: On Wednesday, March 13 & Radviewed a movie which was entitled "The Execution of Private Blovick! The movie was about Eddie d. Slovick, the only man executed since the Civil War, His execution took place in the year 1945 in a small town in France. The movie made me very upset so and now I would like to know more about Lim, This is where I feel you could help me. I would like to know more about Private Slovick's life, why he got cirafted (as it said in the movie he was not supposed to have been and most of all why he was the only one of the all the men who deserted the army to be execited, I would appreciate is greatly if you could sends

26,75] me the information! Lave requested. yours Sincerely, My Address 15 Hostigory SHERRIE LIPSON 14 LAUREL Bay Horrick, the one RAYAYT RAYAYT. made me deny uples so and non Dernell Life to know more along him, This is where I feet you could more about Private Movieks life, why he got another (pais wide in the movie he valo not exposed to have been and much of all why he was the only one of the all the men who described the army to be enter weld I would deparecial it greatly if you no

Miss Sherrie Lipson 14 Laurel Bay Winnipeg Manitoba, Canada

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Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

mil assit.



RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED The President of the United States

The White House

Washington 25, D. C.

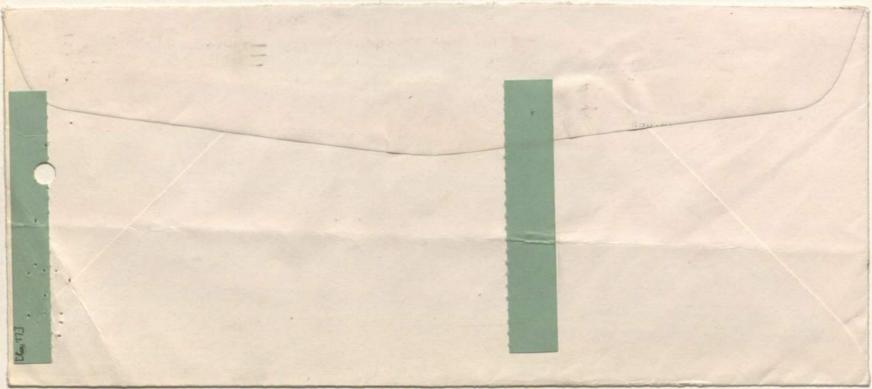
MAR 1 9 1974

CERTIFIED

No. 735981

MAIL

EIPT REQUESTED.



409 Hamilton Boulevard South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080 March 15, 1974

The President of the United States The White House Washington 25, D. C.

TO DOD - FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLING
MAR 2 0 1974

Mr. President:

There are so many times I have wanted to write you and complain about taxes, the continual rise in the cost of living, etc., but I know these won't change and there is really nothing you can do about them. Now, I am writing about a much more important matter that has affected the lives of many Americans, and, this is a request that you can grant.

I am writing directly to you, Mr. President, because I know you will take time from your busy schedule and help. Please assign this request to one of your officials and follow up on it personally.

On Wednesday night, March 13, 1974, N.B.C. had a special documentary on the life of Pvt. Edward Slovik. I am attaching an article from our local newspaper which will brief you on the circumstances of his life. Just like many other Americans, I am greatly upset about the injustice given to Pvt. Slovik and Washington's cruelty to Mrs. Slovik.

I am sure you can understand the troubled life Mrs. Slovik has led. No money or condolences can bring Mrs. Slovik the happly life she and Eddie could have had together.

He was executed as a so-called "deserter". It has been proven that he informed his superiors he couldn't do combat work, didn't run like so many do today, and asked to be transferred. At that time the Army assumed they should set an example of him. He was the only one executed, yet there were so many real deserters. What happened to them? Where do we get the nerve not tell his wife about it until nine years later? We have admitted our guilt. What a terrible mistake, and all those people involved with this incident will have to live with it. I can't understand how any human being could let this happen. I hope this isn't how we run our country.

Pvt. Slovik was no deserter but a real HERO. He belongs in the United States where we can admire him for his courage. I am therefore asking that you have his remains brought back to United States from France. Please give him a plot and a stone in Arlington National Cemetary or a plot someplace of Mrs. Slovik's choice. No doubt, we owe this to him and his family. It's the least we can do for them.

By doing this, I am sure you will give him the honor he definitely deserves. He died as a HERO and gave his life for the United States. You see, Mr. President, by granting this request you might stop a lot of crimes and change the thinking of some of our criminals. Perhaps, they will follow his example. You might even lessen Mrs. Slovik's pain for our wrongdongs and, wouldn't it be wonderful for her to know that we really care, admitted our mistake and are deeply sorry.

Eddie couldn't kill, not even his enemies. He gave his life for us so it's only right that he be brought back here and to the people that love him.

I know you agree and will grant this request.

WH 3863



A TONE

409 Hamilton Boulevard
South Plainfield, New-Jersey 07080
March 15, 1974
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WH 3863

The President of the U.S.

- 2 - March 15, 1974

One more thing, Mr. President. It would be most considerate of you if you could have one of your staff send a letter to the editor of the magazine and request that they give Mrs. Slovik back her photograph album. I'm sure anyone receiving a request from you, Mr. President, will be most cooperative and fulfill your request.

Thank you for your time and efforts on my behalf and on the behalf of my fellow Americans.

Respectfully yours,

Jananne Resare

Marianne Cesare

Clo1791

March 15, 1974

The Freeddent of the U.S.

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Mand some Deserve

22 MART 74 OH 21

Army ne er even told Slovik's widow of his fate

widow of the only American soldier shot for desertion since the Civil War 18 living here under an assumed name and trying to forget, a Detroit newspaper reports.

Antionette Slovik, wife of Pvt. Eddie-Slovik, who was executed during World War II, had been presumed dead for nearly a decade by all who knew her, except a few close relatives. She and Slovik had no children.

But obscurity may become more difficult for Mrs. Slovik,

now 60

NBC Television is scheduled to air a movie-length documentary Wednesday on the life of Eddie Slovik, whose execution was kept secret from even the Detroit GI's wife for nine years.

Based on a book by William Bradford Huie, the movie traces Slovik's path to an anonymous grave-in France reserved for GIs convicted of

violent crimes.

After Mrs. Slovik learned of her husband's execution, she married his older brother, Raymond. They are now

Raymond. They are now separated.

"If it hadn't been for the incident (Slovik's execution), my life would have been different," Mrs. Slovik fold the Detroit News in a copyright story. "But since then, it's been action but hall." nothing but hell."

"They took a sick man," she said of Eddie, who had been granted a deferment because of a prison record but was then reclassified and drafted.

"He had bad legs and really wasn't fit for combat," she

"He was asked to go deer hunting with some friends of his, but he told me he couldn't shoot anything, not even a rabbit."

An Army buddy, John Tankey of Dearborn Heights, recalled that in the fall of 1944 he and Slovik were lost in France after a German machine gun nest wiped out nine of 12 men in their squad.

After 45 days with a Canadian unit, they finally caught up with their unit in Elsenborn, Belgium.

Tankey recalled: "I reported . to a captain first and was in there about 45 minutes. He told me, 'You're a rifleman now, but you're going to be a

machine gunner.'
"Then Eddie went in. He was in there a long time and soon I could here shouting coming through the door.

"Eddie came out real fast, brushing by me and he didn't have his rifle. The captain told me, 'You'd better stop your buddy. He's going to get into a lot of trouble.'

"I asked Eddie, what are you doing? But he jerked his arm away from me and said, 'John, leave me alone. I know what I'm doing.' That was the last time I saw him, walking down a hill."

That was Oct. 8, 1944. The next day Slovik gave himself up and signed a paper saying he refused to carry a rifle.

Slovik was sentenced to death Slovik was sentenced to death by an Army court-martial, and two days before Christmas of that year, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the execution order. The order was carried out on Jan. 31, 1945.

Both Mrs. Slovik and Tankey

told the News they did not hear of the execution until Huie contacted her while resear-ching the Slovik case.

"Huie and I had to go to Washington to get Eddie's file released," Mrs. Slovik said. "They treated us like dirt.

"I tried to see Eisenhower, who was then president, but he refused to answer my letter and

"I don't even have any snapshots of him left," said Mrs. Slovik, who lives on a \$160 month Social Security Security disability pension.

"A magazine borrowed my photo album in 1954 for an article they were doing and never returned it....

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29 MAR 1974

DAAG-ZC Slovik, Eddie 36 896 415 (15 Mar 74)

Mrs. Marianne Cesare 409 Hamilton Boulevard South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080

Dear Mrs. Cesare:

This is in further reference to your letter to President Nixon 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 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.

The final disposition of the remains of the Dead of World War II was carried out under the provision of Public Law 383, 79th Congress and Public Law 368, 80th Congress which authorized the Secretary of War, upon application by the next of kin, to return such remains to the homeland of the decedent.

In the case of Eddie Slovik, there is no record that his next of kin requested return of his body and in the absence of such request, his remains were interred in Oise-Aisne Cemetery, France. A provision of the law specifically ended all authority to make further disposition of the remains on and after December 31, 1951.

Because of his status he would not be eligible for burial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Sincerely,

Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS Major General, USA The Adjutant General

RETURN TO OMARC,

MIR Hal Flier USAMAA

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3 par.

cc DACS-XSW(2) WH Case 3863 DAAG-ZC Slovik, Eddie R. (15 Mar 74)

27 MAR 19/4

Mrs. Marianne Cesare 409 Hamilton Boulevard South Plainfield, New Jersey 07080

Dear Mrs. Cesare:

On behalf of President Nixon, I am replying to your letter of 15 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,

Yerse L Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

cc DACS-XSW (2) WH Case 3863 EDC 10 Apr 74

MIR Mr. Womach, US Phenomis officien agey is fremishing four in brunging body back.

Sufo on what happened to other deserters question previously submitted TOPG for info on which to base reply. Must wait before final.

RETURN TO OMARC, TAGO

AMO-P

March 15, 1974

Dear General,

It was one of the greatest wrongs the U. S. Army ever did during World War 2. Was the exacution of Private Eddie Slovik.

From then on during the war you should have executed all deserters, not just one. Instead of shooting him, you should have given him 15-20 years, because he had a good record, sivilian and army.

Giving Slovik the death penalty, because he wrote a desertion slip, is cruel and inhumane. It's mean and unfair to execute a man for desertion, and then never fully, tocarry other execution on other deserters.

Would like to hand in your resignation to the President of your company, and he says, "From this resignation you will never beable to return to this company or any other job the in entire country." Then another guy comes along and hands in his resignation for the same reasonand the President says.

"You will never beable to return to this company, but will beable to gg to other jobs in the country." Thats not fair and was either was killing Private Slovik, who was with the Probo corp of the Canadian Army. Then he returned to G company.

I would like to see something done about it.

Sincerly yours, M. Hollingsworth DAAG-ZA 3 APR 1974

Mr. Mark Hollingsworth 736 14 Avenue Coralville, Iowa 52241

Dear Mr. Hollingsworth:

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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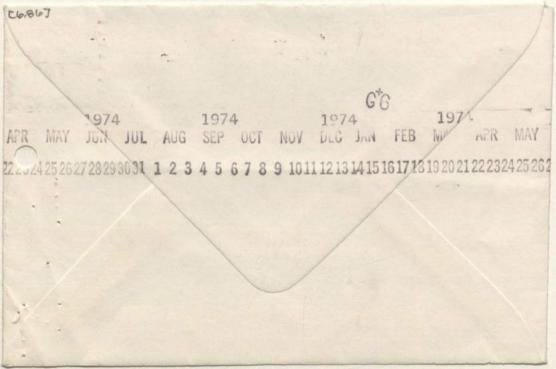
Sincerely yours,

Verne L. Bewers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General



PERSONAL



Milotay assistant to the Purident TO DOD - FOR DIRECT REPLY. March 18, 1974 810 Montie # 18 Lincoln Pack, Mich. 48146 Dear Mr. President, I am an american who proudly served in the United States Marine Corps during the Viet Nam conflict. I am very disturbed about the program that was recently shown on national television, The Execution of Private Slovik. There are a few suggestions I would like to make concerning this black mark in the history of america. First, I would recommend that awarded posthumously an Honorable or a General Discharge. Second, There should be some form of financial Passistance given to his widow who

(2)

is living in a slum area in Detroit.

No human being has the right to take another's life Inly Hod has that eight. My wife and I feel, as do many other americans, that a gross mistake has made and the government owes the public and Mrs. Slovek a sincere apology.

Please reply.

Respectfully, Ihaman Holland

[698] is been in a slum area in lotiont the underly with the come, that OFF SECY OF DEFENSE 15 01 15 8AM 25 RECEIVED

DAAG-ZC Slovik, Eddie R. 36 896 415 (18 Mar 74)

27 MAR 1974

Mr. Thomas J. Holland 810 Montie #18 Lincoln Park, Michigan 48146

Dear Mr. Holland:

On behalf of President Nixon, I am replying to your letter of 18 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 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.

Although I appreciate your concern in this matter, there is no authority for issuance of an honorable discharge in this case in view of the nature of the offense for which Private Slovik was convicted. For the same reason Mrs. Slovik is not eligible for any benefits administered by the Department of the Army.

Sincerely,

Varme L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General

cc DACS-XSW (2) WH Case 3971 Am Jun

TAGO OMARC

Ronald Rale Le3 Ce Dingledine Lima, Ohia President Richard M. Nixon White House Washington, D.C.



TO DOD militure Mr. President, TO DOD - FOR DIRECT REPLY way at priting to you about the Slovik incident. You 13 years ald and very interested. of would like to have some information about the case. word also like to know what you are doing to help the Private's undow, also why didn't she find out about his execution until mine years later, and whe did President E isenhouser refuse to see her ! Please send a reply. Sincerey, Ronald Rale 436 Ringledine Linas, Ohio 45804 218830 88 20 WH 3812

10,91] TO DOD - FOR DIRECT REPLY mel trebiani live 2 et troils and at edil sals become by Etourn I elt glet st anigh ero way to her bing els timber ufre ando trabiaer & bib when bono, notal analy OFF SECY OF DEFENSE 05 80 HT BAM 1 S WH 3812 RECEIVED

DAAG-ZC Slovik, Eddie

26 MAR 1974

Mr. Ronald Rall 636 Dingledine Avenue Lima, Ohio 45804

Dear Ronald:

On behalf of President Mixon, I am replying to your letter of recent date 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 the Army.

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

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.

These records do not contain any information regarding your question concerning President Eisenhower.

Sincerely,

VERNE L. BOWERS Major General, USA The Adjutant General

cc DACS-XSW (2)

WH Case 3812.
MIR Mp offamil from records
of Glovik

GOSZ FRY RD. BROOKPARK, ONIO 44142





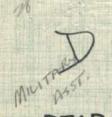


MR. RICHARD M. NIXON,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Concurred in by Colphuson WHCD Concurred in by Bland West OGC 19mar Celed Cal Kempf 19 March writing
for return call 21 march withing
left case on 22 march withingse
her I call to pick up on 26 march
will call to pick up on 26 march please Call mr. miller when initialed.

MR. LESUE M. GUZIK GO52 FRY ROAD BROOK-ARK, OHIO 44142



TO DOD = FOR DIRECT REPLY

DATE APR 1 1974

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

I WATCHED "THE EXECUTION OF

PRIVATE SLOVIK" ON TELEVISION LAST

WEDNESDAY IS MAR 74. TWO DAYS

LATER I READ THE BOOK. I AM CON
VINCED FIRMLY THAT MRS. EDDIE

SLOVIK SHOULD BE COMPENSATED

FOR HER LOSS.

ARMY AND I AM PROUD OF IT BUT I DO NOT RESENT EDDIE SLOVIK FOR

WHAT HE DID.

THE LORD MADE ALL OF US DIF-FERENT. SOME OF US ARE WEAK AND SOME ARE STRONG. EDDIE SLOVIK WAS WEAK. BUT IT WAS UP TO US STRONG ONES TO MAKE UP FOR HIS ABSENCE IN BATTLE; NOT TO EXECUTE HIM BECAUSE THE LORD MADE HIM DIFFERENT.

MR. PRESIDENT, PLEASE ALLOW AND TO BE GIVEN TO HIS WIFE. ONLY YOU AND GOD CAN HELP NOW.

SINCEPELY YOURS,

K

Lastin M. Cuzik

中国共和国的国际 AST THE SECRET PRODUCT OF SECRET OF LAND SECRET OF (36'07)

5 APR 1974

DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie

Mr. Leslie M. Cuzik 6052 Fry Road Brookpark, Ohio 44142

Dear Mr. Cuzik:

On behalf of President Nixon, I am replying to your letter of March 1974 regarding assistance for the widow of 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.

Although I appreciate your interest in the welfare of Mrs. Slovik, the nature of the offense for which Private Slovik was convicted precludes the 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.

Sincerely,

Verne L Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS Major General, USA The Adjutant General

DACS-XSW(2)

WH Case 4400

TAGO Wallasl

DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie

Mr. Leslie M. Cuzik 6052 Fry Road Brookpark, Ohio 44142

Dear Mr. Cuzik:

On behalf of President Mixon, I am replying to your letter of March 1974 regarding assistance for the widow of 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.

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Sincerely,

VERNE L. BOWERS Major General, USA The Adjutant General

cc DACS-XSW(2) WH Case 4400

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

26 MAR 74

Memo For_MR. MILLER

The response is fine for the clinit reply litters. Nawwer, if you get a letter that as he for a purposed sesponse for WH use, you will have to be more expansive. Peter Kernel

DAAG-ZC

Eddie Slovik

2 0 MAR 1974

DAJA

DAAG

Mr. Miller/70922

- 1. The attached letters received in this office regarding the case of Private Eddie Slovik, 36896415, are forwarded with request for information upon which to base a reply.
- 2. Since the information you provide will be used to respond to other similar cases that may be received, request your reply be expedited.
- 3. The military personnel records of Slovik are in the custody of Mr. Miller of this office (OX 7-0922) if they are needed.

FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

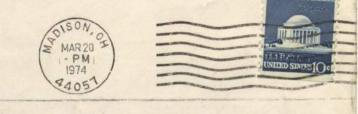
J2 Incl

1. WH Case 3637

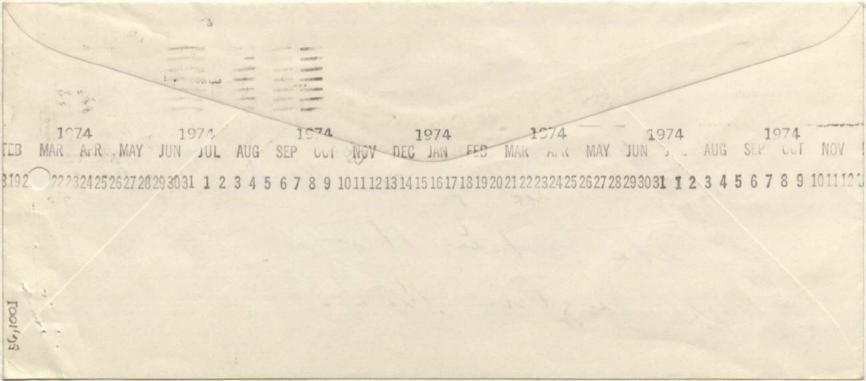
/2. Ltr fm Mrs. Mulch

THOMAS E. MINIX
LTC, AGC
Executive Officer

MIR To provide a reply to attacked caus will reguire into por 1006. Intermit



The President of the United States To The white House Washington D. C.



march 21, 74 MILITARY J Please kelp Mes. Slovak. Mes Joya Orhan N800 Palipadec Als Madi per Olico 44057 TO DOD - FOR APPROPRIATE HANDLING THE SECT OF MALESTA N WH 4395

[[0101] DEE SECK OF DEFENSE 15 01 PT AA \$ WH 4395 RECEIVED

DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie (21 Mar 74)

4 APR 1978

Mrs. Joyce Ochan 4800 Palisades Drive Madison, Ohio 44057

Dear Mrs. Ochan:

On behalf of President Nixon, I am replying to your letter of 21 March 1974 regarding help for Mrs. 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.

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

Sincerely,

Verne L. Bowers

VERNE L. BOWERS Major General, USA The Adjutant General

cc DACS-XSW (2) WH Case 4395

RETURN TO OMARC, TAGO Gallacl



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

22 March 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR Colonel Walter W. Plummer
Deputy Secretary of the General Staff
Office of the Chief of Staff, USA
Room 3E-669

The attached inquiry has been reviewed and, based upon the general tone of the letter, you should simply reply with the standard response which I understand is being prepared to cover "The Execution of PVT Slovik" inquiries. There is no need to address the suggestion regarding life insurance.

Kenneth R. Bailey

LTC, USA

Military Assistant

Attachment

AMERICAN POLISH FEDERATION

2925 W. LOGAN BLVD. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60647 MAR 29 12 53 PH 974

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STELLA LORENS Secretary

347

SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

March 25, 1974

Honorable Howard H. Calloway Secretary of the Army 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N. W. Washington, D. C., 20500

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Last week's televizing of NBC's film presentation of "The Execution of Pvt. Slovik", based on a book of the same name by William Bradford Huie, revived many unanswered, troublesome questions about this sad historical incident.

The book professes to be a documentary based, to a large extent, on the records of the U. S. Army. When it was published twenty years ago, we wrote to the then Secretary of the Army, the Honorable Robert T. Stevens, for an official report of the incident, but received none.

Since public commentaries on the film and the book underscore the Polish racial background of the subject, Americans of Polish descent have more than a passing interest in the matter.

To answer unwarranted aspersions, we should like to have the Army's official account of the execution of Pvt. Eddie D. Slovik.

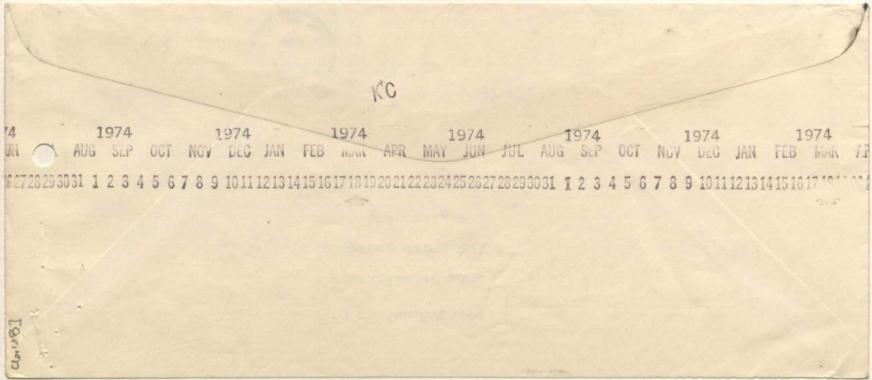
We should also be pleased to know:

- The number of percentage of Americans of Polish descent who have served in the U. S. Army during the First and Second World War.
- The number of U. S. Army deserters during that period, and the number who were executed.
- 3) The number or percentage of those Americans of Polish descent who died in action, those who had been wounded in action, and those who had received

OSA 201-SLOVIK, EDWARD

3/25/74

w: 3/14/7



MILITARET TO DOD - FOR DIRECT REPLY

TO DOD - FOR ARR 1 BYA

911 Forestburg Dr. Houston, Texas 77038 March 15, 1974

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

After watching the movie "The Execution of Private Slovik" the other nite on television I have come to the conclusion that he was treated unjustly. I feel that you being the President of The United States of America can rectify this and exonerate him of this matter.

Since Private Slovik has been the only deserter since the Civil War to be shot and their have been hundreds desert since that time. I feel he should be cleared. I can not understand why the President of the United States at that time-Mr. Roosevelt-could not have stepped in and prevented this mishap.

I pray that you will give this your deepest consideration and I hope that his widow might be compensated in some way for her sorrow.

Thanking you for your time and concern in this matter. I wish you the best of luck in the future and will continue to pray for you as your lead us.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Molter

V

WH 4393

911 Forestburg Dr. Houston, Texas 77038 March 15, 1974

> The President The White House 1500 Fennsylvania Ave. Washington, D. C.

> > Dear Mr. President:

After watching the movie "The Execution of Private Slovik" the other nite on television I have come to the conclusion that he was treated unjustly. I feel that you being the President of The United States of America can rectify this and excherate him of this matter.

Since Private Slovik has been the only deserted since the Civil War to be shot and their have been hundreds dissert since that time. I feel he should be cleared. I can not understand why the President of the United States at that time-Mr. Roosevelt-could not have stepped in and prevented this mishap.

I pray that you will give this your deepest consideration and I hope that his widow might be compensated in some way for her sorrow.

Thanking you for your time and concern in this matter. I wish you the best of luck in the future and will continue to pray for you as your lead us.

Sincerely, Williams

Ronald L. Molter

OFF SECY OF DEFENSE

STS OF PERSONS

BECEINED

DAAG-TCZ-C Slovik, Eddie

5 APR 1974

Mr. Ronald L. Molter 911 Forestburg Drive Houston, Texas 77038

Dear Mr. Molter:

On behalf of President Nixon, I am replying to your letter of 15 March 1974 regarding assistance for the widow of 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.

Although I appreciate your concern in this matter, there is no authority for issuance of an honorable discharge in this case in view of the nature of the offense for which Private Slovik was convicted. For the same reason Mrs. Slovik is not eligible for any benefits administered by the Department of the Army.

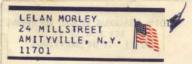
Sincerely,

Verne L. Bowers

ppp

VERNE L. BOWERS Major General, USA The Adjutant General

cc DACS-XSW)2) WH Case 4393 Return to DM PRC Godland







Ud S. army D.C.

