

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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MEMORANDUM

January 24, 2020

To: Members of the Committee on Oversight and Reform

Fr: Committee Staff

Re: Hearing on “75 Years After the Holocaust: The Ongoing Battle Against Hate”

On Wednesday, January 29, 2020, at 10:00 a.m., in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building, in recognition of International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Committee will hold a hearing to examine the importance of remembering the Holocaust in the ongoing battle against hate.

I. BACKGROUND

This hearing is the latest in a series being held by the Committee during the 116th Congress on the need to combat bigotry, discrimination, and hate of all kinds.

On May 15, 2019, the Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties led by Chairman Jamie Raskin held a hearing on efforts to collect accurate statistics and combat white supremacist hate crimes and domestic terror. On June 4, 2019, the Subcommittee held a hearing examining the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Department of Homeland Security to combat white supremacist extremist violence. On September 20, 2019, the Subcommittee held a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on National Security that looked at the increasingly global and transnational terrorist threat to U.S. national security of white supremacist extremism.

On Tuesday, January 28, 2020, the Subcommittee will hold another hearing on efforts to combat global religious persecution. The Committee and Subcommittee are planning additional hearings on voter suppression in minority communities, Islamophobia and anti-Muslim discrimination, anti-immigrant rhetoric and actions, and issues facing LGBTQ individuals.

II. HEARING PURPOSE

On Monday, January 27, 2020, the world will come together to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day and the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. Wednesday’s hearing will examine the importance of remembering the Holocaust in order to help combat bigotry, hate, and violence today.

III. WITNESSES

Nat Shaffir

Holocaust Survivor

Brad Orsini

Senior National Security Advisor, Secure Community Network

Former Director of Community Security, Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh

Dr. Edna Friedberg

Historian

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Jonathan Greenblatt

Chief Executive Officer

Anti-Defamation League

Deborah M. Lauter

Executive Director

Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes

NYC Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice

Hilary O. Shelton

Director, Washington Bureau & Senior Vice President for Advocacy and Policy

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

Staff contacts: Kelly Hennessy, Alex Kiles, or Courtney French at (202) 225-5051.