

February 5, 2017

Mr. Marcin Chumieki  
Director  
The Polish Mission  
3535 Commerce Road  
Orchard Lake, MI 48324

Dear Mr. Chumieki,

As the granddaughter of General of the Army Omar N. Bradley, the nation's last five-star general, I am honored to write to you about my grandfather's experience at the Buchenwald concentration camp, our family's veneration of West Point, and the utmost importance of Holocaust education. I am very sorry to be unable to attend the milestone event on February 9<sup>th</sup> to be part of your honoring the victims and survivors of the Holocaust.

General Bradley was a member of West Point's Class of 1915, which has been labeled "the class the stars fell upon" because so many of its members, including General Eisenhower and my grandfather, proceeded on to become general officers and leading figures during World War II. West Point served as the seminal and vital training ground for my grandfather and his classmates who, unbeknownst to them in 1915, would command American forces in one of the world's greatest conflicts of all time. General Bradley also taught mathematics at West Point, and my mother, his only child, was born at West Point in 1923. Our family feels a deep connection with West Point and its unparalleled vital and storied mission.

On April 12, 1945, my grandfather, together with Generals Eisenhower and Patton, entered the Ohrdruf part of the Buchenwald concentration camp. It was the first camp discovered by the American forces that still housed prisoners and corpses. My grandfather movingly recounted the pervasive smell of death that was simply everywhere, present even before entering the camp. Upon entering the stockade, he experienced and expressed the sheer horror of seeing 3,200 emaciated bodies thrown into shallow graves and other bodies strewn on the streets. My grandfather recalled that General Eisenhower's face was as white as a mask, and he said the shock of the grisly sight was punctuated when General Patton, a battle-hardened leader, became physically ill.

When my grandfather returned from the War, the first thing he spoke to my grandmother about was the visit to Ohrdruf. The omnipresent smell of death, the evil and horror he witnessed very much remained with him until his death in 1981.

Like General Bradley, my family and I will never forget about the utter evil and terror of the Holocaust. The commitment to Holocaust education must remain inviolate to ensure the world never allows such a monstrous event to happen again.

We salute the United States Army's future leaders at West Point as the guardians of freedom in the coming decades and implore you never to forget past evils against which your predecessors at West Point so bravely fought.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Melanie Dorsey". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name.

Melanie G. Dorsey  
Granddaughter of General of the Army Omar N. Bradley