

PPF 6594  
Independent Order Brith Shalom

P. P. F.

6594

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Wm  
Byrd*

February 7, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

SECRETARY OF STATE *x10*

x So much of this letter from  
Morris B. Levitt, Chairman of Brith  
Sholom Award Committee as relates to a  
request for a message from the President  
is respectfully referred to the State  
Department for recommendation or for  
appropriate handling. //

WILLIAM D. HASSETT

attachment

Letter to the President; Feb. 2, 1944

Morris B. Levitt  
Chairman of Brith Sholom Award Committee,  
1711 Market St. Natl. Bank Bldg.,  
Juniper & Market Streets,  
Philadelphia (7) Pa.

Invitation for President to attend 5th  
Annual Award Dinner to His Majesty, King  
Gustaf V of Sweden for his humane endeavors  
and untiring efforts on behalf of persecuted  
peoples of Sweden; Feb. 23, 1944, at Town  
Hall in Philadelphia. Award will be pre-  
(OVER)

*xPPZ4963  
x167*

*x76-6*

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sented on behalf of Brith Sholom by Solicitor  
General of U.S.; will be received on behalf  
of King by Consul General of Sweden.

If President cannot attend request message.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 4, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY EARLY:

Dear Steve:

I am attaching herewith an invitation to the President from Mr. Morris B. Levitt, Chairman of Brith Sholom Award Committee. As the President cannot accept the invitation extended in this communication, I am passing it on to you for consideration of their request for a word of greeting, in lieu of his acceptance.

*Burr*  
E.M.W.

2-5-44

~~The [unclear]~~

previous cases?

*Feggette*

February 4, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY EARLY:

Dear Steve:

I am attaching herewith an invitation to the President from Mr. Morris B. Levitt, Chairman of Brith Sholom Award Committee. As the President cannot accept the invitation extended in this communication, I am passing it on to you for consideration of their request for a word of greeting, in lieu of his acceptance.

E.M.W.

RB:rlk  
Encl.

*\* Invitation Philadelphia, Pa*

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A  
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
MARCH 10, 1926

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

Morris B. Levitt,  
Chairman, Brith Sholom Award Committee,  
1711 Market Street Natl. Bank Building,  
Juniper & Market Streets,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF FEBRUARY SECOND, INVITING HIM TO ATTEND A MEETING FOR THE PRESENTATION OF AN AWARD TO HIS MAJESTY KING GUSTAF V OF SWEDEN FOR HIS EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE PERSECUTED PEOPLES OF EUROPE, THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED ME TO CONVEY TO YOU HIS APPRECIATION OF YOUR KIND INVITATION AND TO EXPRESS HIS REGRET THAT HE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND.

**WILLIAM D. HASSETT**  
Secretary to the President.

(jhl, upon Mr. Hassett's telephoned instructions from Hyde Park).

FROM **The White House**  
Washington

February 23, 1944

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

2-23  
With pay  
Send as telegram  
for his signature  
[Signature]

My dear Mr. Levitt:

~~With~~ <sup>with</sup> refer to your letter to the President of February 2, 1944 inviting him to attend a meeting for the presentation of an award to His Majesty King Gustaf V of Sweden for his efforts on behalf of the persecuted peoples of Europe.

The President has asked me to convey to you his appreciation of your kind invitation and to express his regret that he will not be able to attend.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]  
Telegrams

Mr. Morris B. Levitt,  
Chairman, Brith Sholom  
Award Committee.

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

February 23, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HASSETT

The Department has been unable to obtain any information about Brith Sholom except a statement in the 1943 edition of the American Jewish Yearbook that it is a Jewish fraternal order having 124 lodges and 14,623 members. While no objection is perceived to the sending of a message from the President it is felt that the matter is not of sufficient importance to warrant such a message.

I have therefore taken the liberty of drafting a letter which merely acknowledges the invitation and expresses the President's regret at not being able to attend.

*asB*  
Adolf A. Berle, Jr.

*Congratulations on a  
well-earned promotion -  
which will rejoice your  
many friends*

*asB*



Independent Order



# BRITH SHOLOM

A NATIONAL JEWISH FRATERNAL ORDER

OFFICE OF THE  
GRAND SECRETARY

1500 MARKET STREET  
PHILADELPHIA : PENNA.

ALEX F. STANTON  
GRAND MASTER  
FRANK E. BERNSTEIN  
VICE-GRAND MASTER  
MAURICE E. COHEN  
GRAND TREASURER  
LOUIS I. GILGOR  
GRAND SECRETARY

February 2, 1944

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

My dear President:

The Independent Order Brith Sholom, a national Jewish fraternity, will present its Fifth Annual Award to His Majesty, King Gustaf V of Sweden for his humane endeavors and untiring efforts on behalf of the persecuted peoples of Europe and through him to the people of Sweden for granting a haven of refuge to these victims of persecution on Wednesday evening February 23, 1944 at Town Hall in Philadelphia. The Award will be presented on behalf of Brith Sholom by the Solicitor General of the United States and will be received on behalf of the King of Sweden by the Consul General of Sweden.

Our Order would deem it an honor to have you with us on the above evening and trust that you may find the time to attend. |||

However, if you should find it impossible to be with us, we would appreciate a word of greeting.

Sincerely yours,

MORRIS B. LEVITT

Chairman of Brith Sholom Award Committee

MBL/cs

Kindly address your reply to the writer at:

1711 Market Street Natl. Bank Bldg.  
Juniper & Market Streets  
Philadelphia 7, Pa.