

Edgar Bronfman, in a "Progress Report" issued in October 1999. The commission called the Gold Train "a mysterious example of a single egregious failure of the United States to follow [its own] policy" regarding restitution of Holocaust victims' property after World War II. Now, however, in its recent filings in Federal court, the Justice Department claims that the PCHA somehow retracted or backed away from its findings. However, I recently received a powerful letter from Edgar Bronfman, the chairman of that commission. Mr. Bronfman makes plain that the commission stands by its report, which, as he points out, is still prominently displayed on its website. I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Bronfman's letter be made part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

EDGAR M. BRONFMAN,  
New York, NY, August 25, 2004.

Hon. HILLARY R. CLINTON,  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR: I have been reading your efforts as a member of the United States Senate to address some of the open but extremely important issues in the arena of restitution for living victims of the Holocaust and their heirs. In particular, I am aware, as was reported in the recent edition of The National Journal, that you have taken on a leadership role in seeking a fair and rapid settlement of the Hungarian Gold Train matter.

As you know, I had the privilege of serving as the Chairman of the Presidential Advisory Commission on Holocaust Assets in the United States ("PCHA") from its inception in 1998 through its conclusion in December 2000.

PCHA was established by act of Congress (P.L. 105-186) in 1998. The enabling legislation directed PCHA to "conduct a thorough study and develop a historical record of the collection and disposition of the assets" taken from victims of the Holocaust by Nazi Germany or by the governments it controlled, "if such assets came into the possession or control of the Federal Government" at any time after January 30, 1933. As part of its task, PCHA was directed to file such interim reports with the President as it deemed appropriate, and to submit a final report to the President containing any recommendations for legislative, administrative or other actions it deemed necessary or appropriate.

Puruant to its Congressional mandate PCHA issued one such interim report on October 14, 1999, the Progress Report On: The Mystery Of The Hungarian Gold Train ("Progress Report"). The Progress Report is a comprehensive and in-depth historical analysis of the Gold Train story and is, in my view, an accurate account of the United States' handling and disposition of the "Gold Train" property. Tragically, that report made public the long-concealed facts that the United States mishandled the Hungarians' property and disposed of it in violation of our laws, a blemish on an otherwise magnificent record at that time.

When I learned that the Department of Justice has criticized the Progress Report, and attempted to minimize its significance in the current Federal court litigation, I wanted to contact you about this urgent matter and state my position as the former PCHA Chairman.

In December 2000 PCHA issued its final report as required by P.L. 105-186. This report,

Plunder and Restitution: The U.S. and Holocaust Victims' Assets ("Plunder and Restitution"), did not repeat all the findings of the Progress Report. There was no need to repeat all of the specific findings because they had already been made public and remained available. Rather the findings were summarized along with many others in the final report. In no way, however, did PCHA intend to retract or retreat from the findings of the Progress Report. In fact, for years the Progress Report remained prominently displayed on PCHA's web site and it remains there today at <http://www.holocaustassets.gov/>.

I hope this clarifies the historical record and addresses any questions your colleagues may have on this point.

Yours sincerely,

EDGAR M. BRONFMAN.

Mrs. CLINTON. It is time for the Justice Department to do the right thing. It is time to stop the delay and stop hiding behind legalisms and technicalities. The Government should work with the survivors to pay fair, timely and long overdue restitution. As my colleagues and I wrote in May, for these survivors, justice delayed is justice denied.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### 40TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE LATIN AMERICAN RESEARCH AND SERVICE AGENCY

• Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize a significant service agency in my home State of Colorado.

Forty years ago in Denver, CO a small group of visionaries worked to achieve their dream of eliminating the disparities that existed between Latinos and the mainstream community.

Prior to the passage of the Civil Rights Act on July 2, 1964, these visionaries incorporated the first 501(c) 3 non-profit agency in the Nation to address the specific needs of Latinos. On March 3, 1964, the Latin American Research and Service Agency was born. Working with these visionaries was an enlightened philanthropic organization that was the first in the Nation to take a risk of giving a significant grant to a Latino based agency. That agency at the time known as the United Fund is today known as the Mile High United Way.

Much has happened over the past four decades since attorney Roger Cisneros first wrote the incorporation papers for LARASA. In November of 1964 Mr. Cisneros became the first Hispanic elected to the Colorado Senate since the early 1900's. Bernard (Bernie) Valdez, the first Hispanic appointed to a Denver Mayor's Cabinet was the first Chairman of LARASA's Board of Directors. Ms. Lena Archuletta who was the first Hispanic to serve as a school principal in the Denver Public Schools system was the first Secretary of the Board. Also serving on the first board of directors was Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales a leader in the Chicano Move-

ment and Herrick Roth former leader of the Colorado Labor Movement and founder of the Colorado Forum.

Today LARASA continues to provide leadership in the areas of health, education, public policy, leadership development and community outreach. On the occasion of their 40th Anniversary I am proud to recognize their significant achievements by entering this statement into the RECORD.●

##### RECOGNIZING IOWA EDUCATORS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE NATIONAL HISTORY DAY 2004 SUMMER TEACHER INSTITUTE, POLITICS AND THE PRESS: THE INFLUENCE OF THE MEDIA ON HISTORY

• Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to congratulate two Iowa educators, Kelly Smith Arickx, a teacher at Rockford High School in Nora Springs, IA and Naomi Peuse, an educator at the State Historical Society of Iowa in Des Moines, IA. They were part of a group of 25 educators selected from across America to participate in the National History Day 2004 Summer Teacher Institute, "Politics and the Press: The Influence of the Media on History." The institute took place from July 25 to July 30, 2004, at the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland.

This select group of participants from across the country had the opportunity to work with prominent journalists and historians. They were exposed to an array of resources, including oral histories and discussions, learning about various primary source materials that can be incorporated into teaching.

I am pleased to recognize Kelly Smith Arickx and Naomi Peuse for their accomplishment in having been selected to participate in the National History Day Summer Teacher Institute. I am proud to have had them representing my home State of Iowa.●

##### NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

• Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I wish to say a few words today about the significance of observing September 14, 2004 as National POW/MIA Recognition Day, which honors the memory of the POWs and MIAs who have served in our Nation's wars.

As my colleagues know, the United States has fought in numerous wars and thousands of Americans who served in those wars were captured by the enemy or listed as missing in action. In 20th Century wars alone, more than 147,000 Americans were captured and became Prisoners of War; of that number more than 15,000 died while in captivity. When we add to this number those who are still missing in action, we realize that we cannot do enough to remember their service.

As a veteran who served in Korea, I personally know that the remembrance