



DIVERSITY INCLUSION
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HOLOCAUST

Days of Remembrance: 24 April - 1 May



The U.S. Congress established the **Holocaust Days of Remembrance** as the nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a permanent living memorial to the victims.



LSA Observance Events



6K Event

Join us for a 6K Ruck, Walk, or Run to honor the approx. 6 million lives lost during the Holocaust.

Friday, April 29

0700

Movie Tent

The Following movies will play twice a day
0800 & 1800

Schindler's List.....April 24, 28

The Boy in the Striped Pajama's....April 25, 29

Defiance.....April 26, 30

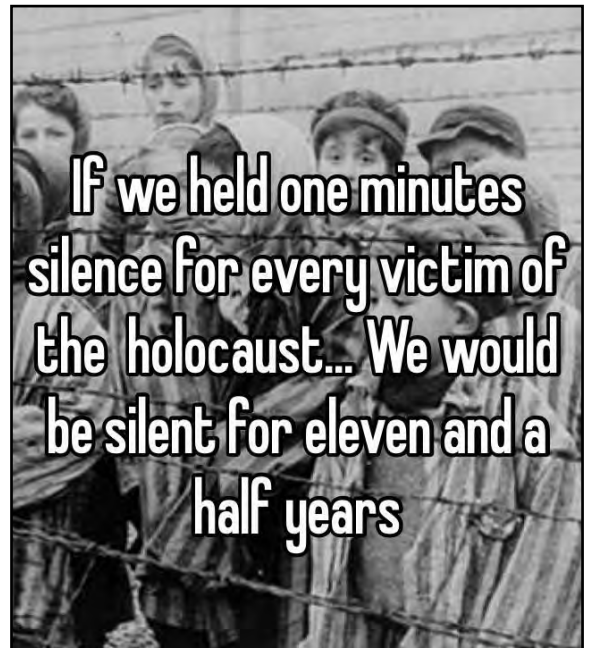
Life is BeautifulApril 27, May 1



Did you know...

The Days of Remembrance are different from the date of International Holocaust Remembrance Day because, in 2005, the United Nations established January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. January 27, 1945, was the day that Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated by Soviet troops. Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah) was established in 1951 by the Israeli Parliament (Knesset). The date was chosen to coincide with the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and with the liberation of the concentration camps in western Europe.

The Days of Remembrance dates change from year to year because the Israeli Parliament (Knesset) established Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah), to be observed on the 27th day of Nisan of the Hebrew calendar. The Hebrew calendar is a lunar calendar so the date changes each year in the United States. Observances and remembrance activities occur throughout the Week of Remembrance, which runs from the Sunday before Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah) through the following Sunday.





History Highlight



The only recognized Mexican-American holocaust survivor - US Army medic **Corporal Anthony Acevedo** survived Stalag IXB and the Berga slave labor camp after having been captured during the Battle of the Bulge.

A Red Cross care package arrived in March 1945 at the Nazi slave labor camp where he was imprisoned that contained a diary and a fountain pen. Acevedo recorded a grim roster of prisoner deaths (by dysentery, heart attack, jaundice, influenza and starvation); the cruelty of the guards; and rumors of American troops closing in on the Berga camp, a part of the Buchenwald complex. It was a rare accounting of Nazi atrocities by an American prisoner of war.

March 20 — 5 more men escaped today — Goldstein's body was returned here for burial — He was shot while attempting to re-escape. So they say but actually was recaptured and shot thru the head.

April 2 — Two more of our men died today & one last night makes 3 + 16 makes 19.

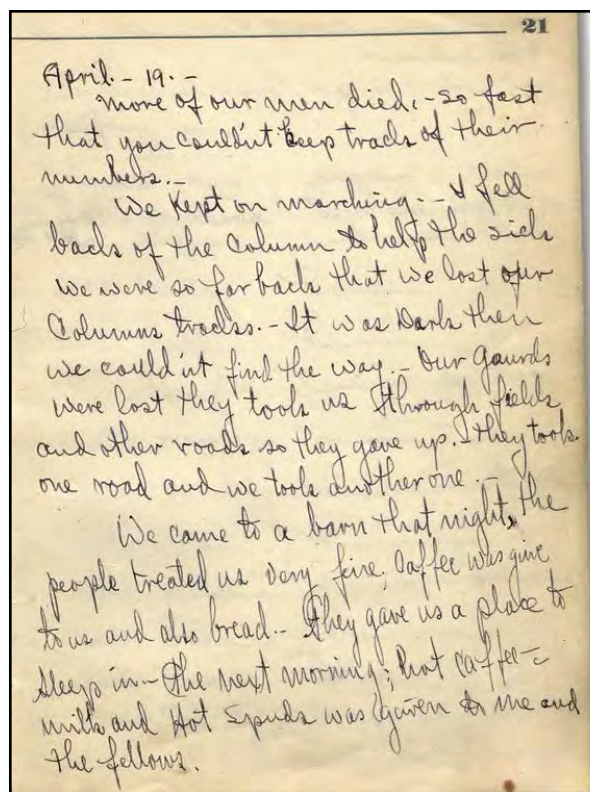
April 3 — Excellent news today — Americans are only 100 km from here. Rumors are that we are to be moved away.

The rumors were true. Acevedo and about 280 of his fellow prisoners were soon evacuated and taken on a forced march south — “the death march from Bataan couldn't be worse than this,” he wrote — with artillery fire exploding around them and fighters of the Army Air Forces dropping bombs. The war in Europe was near its end. But the P.O.W.s appeared no closer to freedom.

April 13 — Bad news for us. — President Roosevelt's death — We all felt bad about it — We held a prayer service for the Repose of his Soul. — Burdeski died today.

April 19 — More of our men died — so fast that you couldn't keep track of their numbers. We kept on marching.

On April 23, Acevedo and other prisoners were freed; he weighed just 87 pounds. They had been in a barn, and most of the guards had fled. But one “came up to us and gave himself up



and saying that we were free,” he wrote. “Boy everything looked to exciting that morning.”

Mr. Acevedo was liberated later that month but suffered for decades from night terrors and post-traumatic stress syndrome.

On Feb. 11, 2018 he died at the Veterans Affairs hospital in Loma Linda, Calif., having bequeathed his written testimony to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2010. He was 93.





Diversity & Inclusion Mission & Vision

Mission: Build upon an environment where all Red Tails can thrive, develop, and rise to their maximum potential.

Vision: Develop and take care of Warfighters by embracing equality through removing barriers and developing pathways that allow Red Tails to rise to their maximum potential.

Upcoming Special Observances

Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage month: 1 - 31 May

Women's Equality Day: 26 August

National Hispanic Heritage Month: 15 Sept - 15 Oct

National Disability Employment Awareness Month: 1 - 31 October

National American Indian/Alaska Native Heritage Month: 1 - 31 November

Right click links below, copy online link location for more

Resources



[CSAF on Diversity & Inclusion](#)
[Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr.](#)



[Echoes of Memory \(written\):](#)
[Survivors share their reflections](#)



[Eyewitness to History \(video\):](#)
[Holocaust survivor testimonies](#)



AF Instruction, Policy Directives:
[Diversity & Inclusion: AFI 36-7001](#)
[Diversity & Inclusion: APD 36-70](#)

Perspective

**Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr.,
Chief of Staff of the Air Force**

“I want the wisdom and knowledge to lead, participate in, and listen to necessary conversations on racism, diversity and inclusion. I want the wisdom and knowledge to lead those willing to take committed and sustained action to make our Air Force better.”



JoAnne S. Bass, Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

“Our Air Force is on the right side of history. We are creating not only historic moments ... we are focused on setting a foundation for all Americans to see themselves in this great institution.”