



**DIVERSITY MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS CENTER  
DEFENSE HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITY  
4800 MARK CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 06E22  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22350-4000**

**MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP  
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS**

**SUBJECT: 2021 Holocaust Days of Remembrance Observances**

Every year during annual Days of Remembrance, our nation comes together to remember the victims of the Holocaust, honor the survivors, and pay tribute to the liberators. This year, Days of Remembrance will take place between April 4, 2021 and April 11, 2021, with April 8, 2021, designated as Holocaust Remembrance Day.

This year's theme, "***Lessons from the Holocaust: Acknowledge, Preserve and Honor***", not only remembers the millions of Holocaust victims who tragically lost their lives, but also honors the survivors. Between 1933 and 1945, the German government, led by Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party, carried out the systematic persecution and murder of 6 million European Jews. This genocide is now known as the Holocaust. The Nazi regime also persecuted and murdered millions of other people it considered politically, racially, or socially unfit. The survivors who lived and endured the atrocities committed by the Nazi regime remind us to "never forget."

In Holocaust survivor and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Elie Wiesel's memoir, "Night", a work based on his experience as a Jewish prisoner in the Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps, he states, "Wherever men or women are persecuted because of their race, religion, or political views, that place must—at that moment—become the center of the universe." Remembering the Holocaust ties the past and present together with Wiesel's simple but powerful message: "Never Forget. Never Again."

Sadly, the generation of Holocaust survivors is dwindling rapidly. As the keepers and bearers of their legacy, the Days of Remembrance observance is our opportunity to remember and perpetuate the memory of the Holocaust's victims. For more information, connect to: <https://www.defenseculture.mil/Human-Relations-Toolkit/Special-Observances>.

Clarence A. Johnson  
Director