



**JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.**

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS: 1811 R ST. NW
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PETER J. NICKITAS, NATIONAL JUDGE ADVOCATE

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28 June 2022

Colonel Brad E. Orgeron, U.S. Air Force
AETC 80 FTW/CC
Sheppard Air Force Base
Wichita Falls, Texas 76311

Re: Painting, also known as "lithograph," of Nazi war hero Wolfgang Schenck

Dear Colonel Orgeron:

The Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America (JWV) is the oldest continuous veterans service organization in the United States. Founded in 1896 in New York by a group of Jewish veterans of the Union Army who responded to the slander that Jewish-Americans were not patriots, the JWV stands as the only veterans service organization that has explicitly opposed all forms of bigotry from its founding charter to the present. The JWV opposes all infringement of free exercise of religion under color of law or command. In so doing, the JWV has shown, from its founders through every war and conflict of the United States since 1896 through the present day, that Jewish Americans fulfill their civic obligations to the United States and their obligations to G*d with equal fervency.

I write you as the National Judge Advocate of the JWV, and as a 1982 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.

The JWV supports the Military Religious Freedom Foundation, whose founder and President, Mikey Weinstein, Distinguished Graduate, U.S. Air Force Academy 1977, is a member of the JWV, as are his family of Air Force veterans, in its effort to remove the painting, a/k/a lithograph, of one Nazi war hero, Me-262 pilot Wolfgang Schenck of the Luftwaffe. Has your command taken down this painting? With members who vanquished the Fascists in World War Two, with members whose relatives perished in combat in World War Two, with members who survived the Holocaust, and with members descended of Holocaust survivors, the JWV sees no place for an image of a hero to Nazis in a military installation of the United States. The JWV urges you, sir, to remove the image of Wolfgang Schenck from public display forthwith.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Peter J. Nickitas* (electronically signed)

Peter J. Nickitas, National Judge Advocate, JWV

cc: Alan Paley, National Commander, JWV
Norman Rosenshein, Chair, Coordinating Committee, JWV
Mikey Weinstein, Founder and President, Military Religious Freedom Foundation
Major General Craig Wills, U.S. Air Force