JOINT DECLARATION OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

CONCERNING THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF PLACES OF COMMEMORATION

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany reaffirm their intention to implement the 1972 UNESCO Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

Both Governments are of the opinion that the existing international conventions, recommendations and resolutions concerning cultural and natural heritage demonstrate the importance, for all the peoples of the world, of safeguarding this unique and irreplaceable property, to whatever people it may belong.

Both Governments desire to pursue their co-operation in line with the principles of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Declaration of the Stockholm International Forum on the Holocaust of 28 January 2000.

Both Governments are guided by the desire to promote the mutual knowledge of their respective cultures and cultural heritage, and appreciate the continued mutual cooperation in the field of cultural heritage.

THEREFORE:

 The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany reaffirm their mutual interest in the protection and preservation of burial sites, places of worship, and other places of commemoration in their respective territories, in particular sites important to individuals and groups that were victims of genocide during World War II.

- 2. The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany emphasize their determination to continue to preserve the cultural heritage of national, ethnic or religious groups with all appropriate measures and to effectively prevent every form of discrimination against or prejudicial treatment of such groups.
- 3. The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany are committed to resolve issues that may arise related to this Joint Declaration of Agreement on an expedited basis, acting through the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany.

DONE at Wishington this 19 day of May 2003, in duplicate, in the English and German languages.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF A TERICA:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY: