

**Questions for the Record**  
**Charles E. Grassley of Iowa**  
**United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary**  
**The Truth Revealed: Hidden Facts Regarding Nazis and Swiss Banks**  
**February 3, 2026**

**Questions for the Simon Wiesenthal Center (Witness: Rabbi Cooper)**

**1) How were Swiss banks able to hide the Nazi's theft of money for so long?**

In my opinion, there are a few reasons. First, they could get away with it - Swiss bank secrecy laws protected against disclosing Nazi assets, and banks took full advantage of the opportunity. Second, a lot of the historic research during the past 80 years has been on the stolen assets of victims of Nazi persecution that were hidden inside Swiss banks, as was appropriate in context and during that time. Far less attention was paid to Nazi assets, despite the fact that the retention of Nazi assets was a major issue for SWC dating back even before the 1990s. And third, the underlying evidence of the Nazi assets is controlled by the banks involved, and getting access to that information is very difficult.

Mr. Barofsky's access is unprecedented yet incomplete and without continued robust Congressional oversight, his interim findings would still be secret today. Although he was reinstated, Mr. Barofsky is currently facing pushback from UBS, preventing him from completing the very investigation the bank hired him to do. We need continued Congressional oversight to stop the Swiss banks from continuing to hide the truth.

**2) Are you concerned that UBS will try to punish you with more legal action after your testimony in front of the Senate Judiciary Committee?**

Senator Grassley, they are punishing me right now. We are in federal court in New York because Credit Suisse brought us there and UBS has kept us there. I am more than concerned because it is a reality. In fact, SWC faces a hearing on March 10 before the federal district court to address a request by UBS that the court bar SWC from promoting any "controversy" about the Nazi-linked accounts. This is UBS' strategy; to intimidate charitable organizations from investigating history mercilessly.

But Simon Wiesenthal pursued truth wherever it led him, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center, created in his name, will do its best to continue pursuing its nonprofit mission and its commitment to follow the evidence wherever it leads.

**3) In light of the legal action, does SWC feel comfortable continuing to communicate with the Independent Ombudsperson and his team on information related to the investigation? Please explain.**

SWC is very uncomfortable. By continuing to provide information to and communicate with the Independent Ombudsperson, SWC places itself at more risk or retaliation. As documented in the exhibits to my written testimony, Credit Suisse has a history of using the federal court to try to silence SWC by, for example, making incorrect statements to the federal court in 2023 about Mr. Barofsky and SWC. We know from this history that anything attributed to SWC could be used

against SWC by the Bank as “promot[ing], assist[ing] in promoting or caus[ing] to promote any public controversy (in the media or otherwise)”. Further, UBS’s claim at the February 3 hearing that it is merely seeking clarification of the 1999 Settlement belies reality for two reasons. First, a comparison of the proposed order to the Settlement language clearly shows the expansion in the proposed language. Second, examining UBS’s request objectively, despite the bank’s testimony before you, the only reason to request the proposed order is to silence SWC or to prevent or deter SWC from providing more information to Mr. Barosky related to the Nazi-linked assets. It’s just that simple. I anticipate that in not too long SWC may be precluded from not only speaking to Mr. Barofsky, but also to you and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

END

**Questions for the Record**  
**Senator Amy Klobuchar**  
**United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary**  
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**Questions for the Simon Wiesenthal Center (Witness: Rabbi Cooper)**

Your organization is committed to ensuring that the crimes of the Nazi regime are never forgotten.

- **Why is it so important for Holocaust survivors and their families that Mr. Barofsky is able to complete his work fully and comprehensively?**

Simon Wiesenthal, a Holocaust survivor himself, taught that genocide always has an economic component. Those who aid and abet perpetrators of genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity must never be allowed to reap economic benefit from such blood stained assets, yet that is precisely what has happened and continues to happen.

More than 80 years after the end of World War II, we now know that the Swiss banks systematically concealed material information. The Swiss banks encouraged organizations like the Simon Wiesenthal Center to believe years ago that they conducted a thorough, detailed and complete review of their role with the Nazis. What now has been exposed is that those representations were incomplete, misleading, and in some instances blatantly false.

Mr. Barofsky must be able to complete his work because the truth matters and history should be accurate. We are watching, in real time, how disinformation spreads and how moral clarity erodes when truth becomes negotiable. After the Holocaust, denial did not emerge immediately. It grew slowly—through omission, deflection, and false equivalence. Today, we are seeing those same tactics deployed again. History teaches us that denial is not passive. It is a form of complicity.

The full and unvarnished facts of Credit Suisse banking the Nazis must be revealed, and there must be accountability. We need answers and we need the world to know that accountability extends beyond the men who pulled the triggers or operated the gas chambers. Justice also must be applied to those who made the machinery of genocide possible—those who financed it, laundered its proceeds, and protected its beneficiaries long after the war ended. History does not belong to the past alone. It is a moral inquiry—one that speaks directly to our societal values and our responsibility to past and future generations.

And we must remember that Neil Barofsky also must receive all the documents needed to complete his report in an unreacted format. To do otherwise would be a historical tragedy.

- **What are some of the biggest challenges to your organization's work uncovering previously unknown or undisclosed links to Nazis and their ill-gotten gains?**

The greatest challenge is lack of access to information, which is precisely why the current investigation is so critically important. The Swiss banks control all of the information. The banks hide behind Swiss bank secrecy laws to shield themselves from disclosing their Nazi assets and the underlying evidence of the Nazi assets is fully controlled by the banks involved. It is well reported that the Swiss banks destroyed a significant portion of their records pertaining to these Nazi-linked accounts decades ago. Gaining access to the remaining information is very difficult, and Swiss law exposes anyone investigating to potential criminal violations. Mr. Barofsky's access is unprecedented despite the fact that it is still incomplete and without Congressional oversight, his interim findings never would have been published. Continued Congressional oversight is essential to ensure the Swiss banks do not continue to hide the truth of their untoward past.

**END**