Dr. MOSHE BEJSKI
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ד"ר משת בייסקי שופט בית המשפט חעליון (בדימוס) רח' המתנדב 46, אפקה, תל-אביב 60490 טל - מקרס: 6418061 - 2-79

June 15, 2003

· To:

Members of the Board of Directors

Dr. Israel Singer, President

Mr. Julius Berman, Chairman

Mr. Gideon Taylor, Executive Vice President

Conference of Jewish Material Claims against Germany, Inc.

Fax: (212) 696-9545

Dear Friends,

Pursuant to the communication to members of the Board of Directors of the Claims Conference on April 11, 2003, concerning the adoption of a written stance on the request by several members to rediscuss the allocation of resources for needy Holocaust survivors' welfare and for purposes of Holocaust education, commemoration, and research, I wrote on April 28, 2003, a brief memorandum that expressed my views, i.e., that the ratio of 80 percent (welfare) to 20 percent (other purposes) should not be changed in any way. This ratio was chosen recently, after comprehensive and thorough debate that took account of needs and of our duties in regard to all present and future programs.

I asked to have a copy of my memorandum forwarded to the members of the Board of Directors. For the sake of sound procedure, I attach a copy of the memorandum herewith.

I would not trouble the members of the Board with this additional letter had I not received (after returning from the hospital) another letter from our friend Mr. Roman Kent, dated June 10, 2003, in which he makes various proposals as the representative of the two largest organizations of 80 percent of Holocaust survivors worldwide.

I do not purport to know in minute detail the stance of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors on this issue; neither do I know whether it ever debated the issue and took a resolution in the spirit of the stance that our friend Mr. Kent has presented. I merely assume that Holocaust survivors in the U.S. do not have a monolithic attitude and some hold different views.

However, I may state with absolute certainty that insofar as the Center of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel is concerned, the issue has never been debated and, perforce, no resolution has ever taken in the matter, least of all a resolution in the spirit of Mr. Kent's assertions, as if he represents 80 percent of Holocaust survivors in the entire world in this respect.

Although I am not speaking in terms of absolute numbers, I know, as a person who is immersed in the lives of Holocaust survivors, that very many survivors regard education, commemoration, and research as a sacred duty that is ours and specifically ours as long as we live. What is more, they object to any infringement of the resources that are allocated to these purposes.

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Parenthetically, I should mention that Mr. Kent's proposals totally disregard institutions such as Massuah and Moreshet-among others-which for decades have voluntarily been performing the sacred toil of educating the young generations, training teachers for Israel and the world, so that what befell the Jewish people in the Holocaust never be forgotten.

I would be thankful if you would forward a copy of this letter, too, to the members of the Board, in order to complement my memorandum of April 28, 2002.

Sincerely,

Br. D. Payler

Dr. Moshe Bejski