



May 18, 2003

Board of Directors  
Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, Inc.  
15 East 26th Street, Rm. 906  
New York, NY 10010  
Fax: 001-212-679-2126

Dear Friends,

I would like to convey to you briefly my position regarding the upcoming debate on the topic of the division of funds allocated by the Claims Conference.

The greatest crime ever perpetrated against humanity -- the Shoah -- ravaged Jewish Europe, eradicating entire Jewish communities, devastating heritage and culture, all but obliterating an entire world of vitality and creativity.

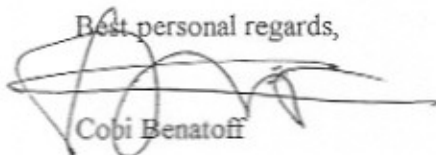
Regrettably, today, only sixty years later, I can state clearly from here in Europe that the need for education on the Shoah and its horrors, the need to study and realize the danger inherent in antisemitism, is essential.

We must educate the younger generation toward Holocaust remembrance, we must ensure the memory for generations to come, not only for ourselves, but also as our moral obligation to the victims, who are in fact the owners of the funds under discussion today.

We must support the remaining communities that suffered in the Shoa, where Jewish education was dealt a critical blow. Today they cry out for more intense educational activity in which Holocaust education has a central role.

If it is decided to open for discussion the topic of the manner in which funds are apportioned, than I can only request that the percentage of funds allocated today for Holocaust education and commemoration be increased, as the need for funding increases from year to year.

Best personal regards,



Cobi Benatoff

Conseil Européen des  
Communautés Juives

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היהודיות באירופה

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Office of the President:

02.7260541

Via C. Padovani 8, 20121 Milano, Italy - Tel +3902 86 01 0000 - Fax +3902 86 00 6351