June 18, 2007

Dear Reader:

The International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims (ICHEIC) has completed its mission to identify, settle and pay individual Holocaust era insurance claims, at no cost to claimants. Through close cooperation with 75 European insurance companies and partner entities throughout Europe, the Commission has resolved more than 90,000 claims.

Having fulfilled its mission, ICHEIC has now closed its doors. To ensure that the history of how the Commission was created and carried out its mandate is readily accessible, Vice Chairman (and former Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner) Diane Koken and I provide the enclosed final report. The report describes the efforts of the US insurance regulators and the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, Holocaust survivor representatives from around the world, European insurance companies, the German Foundation “Remembrance, Responsibility, and the Future”, and the Sjoa Foundation in the Netherlands.

Through the Commission’s work, a total of $306 million was offered to 48,000 Holocaust survivors and their heirs. More than half of this amount was awarded on policies located as a result of ICHEIC’s archival research (which matched claimants to policy information) or through the Commission’s humanitarian claims processes. ICHEIC also committed more than $169 million in additional funding for humanitarian programs, such as social welfare benefits for Holocaust survivors worldwide (including healthcare and home-services to assist recipients with basic daily tasks).

As the working days of the Commission come to a close, I recognize that no Commission can resolve the wrongs that were done by the Holocaust. I hope, however, that our efforts have brought some measure of justice to the lives of thousands of survivors, their families and the families of those who did not survive. I also hope that you will be sufficiently interested in their stories to review this report, to learn more about how we carried out our mission.

Sincerely,

Lawrence S. Eagleburger
Chairman
The International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims