

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Commissioners, Alternates, and Observers

**FROM:** Lawrence S. Eagleburger

**DATE:** August 14, 2003

**RE:** Claims Filing Deadline

---

I am writing to notify you of our intention to extend the ICHEIC claims filing deadline one final time, to December 31, 2003. We are doing so after consultations with various ICHEIC members, as well as with our colleagues at the Foundation, "Remembrance, Responsibility, and Future." ("The German Foundation"). We have decided to take this action for the following reasons:

- We initiated our outreach program to publicize the addition of 360,000 German names as well as more than 15,000 names from Central and Eastern Europe, the result of cooperative efforts between ICHEIC, the German Foundation and the German Insurance Association. This outreach program involves advertisements in local Jewish newspapers and other local press in key countries, an overhaul of the ICHEIC website to update information and make it more user-friendly, as well as articles, public announcements, and all other appropriate available means of communications. Given that Jewish newspapers in some important areas do not publish in August, and have a very long lead time for submitting material, the first notice of these additions to ICHEIC's published lists will not appear in these newspapers until early September. This fact alone obliges us to provide sufficient time to file a claim by those who may learn of the newly published names through these publications.
- It took longer than anticipated to reach final closure on the AXA, Winterthur, Zurich settlement agreement, despite the sincere efforts of all three companies. This delayed our ability to post the relevant names on the ICHEIC website.
- We anticipate the publication in the next few weeks of several thousand additional names from Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Switzerland and Yugoslavia. We would like to ensure adequate time to publish these new lists through our outreach efforts and similarly to allow time for those who learn of these lists through the outreach to have an opportunity to file claims.
- There have been reported delays between the time claim forms are requested and the time they are supplied to claimants (for those claimants who do not have

access to downloading the form from the ICHEIC website). We are addressing this problem with both the DF King Call Center and our printers, but again want to ensure that any such delays have not prejudiced the ability of claimants to file their claims.

We will incorporate the announcement of this final extension of the claims filing deadline into our lists outreach media program. It will also be posted on the ICHEIC website.