

**Foundation PLATFORM ISRAEL**

Cooperation of Netherlands Jewish organizations in Israel

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*Archief Philip Staal*

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Re: Dutch Banking and Insurance concern 'ING'

Tel Aviv, 7 May 2000

Dear Sirs,

Following the publications in the media concerning the take over of Minnesota-based insurance company ReliaStar by the Dutch insurance company ING the following details about this company might be useful for you in order to take the right and necessary decisions in this matter. (Platform Israel is an umbrella organization representing all Dutch organizations in Israel dealing with holocaust survivors and post-war restitution.)

The Netherlands ING-concern consists of two divisions; a banking division and an insurance division. The insurance division contains an insurance company that previously operated under the name Nationale Nederlanden. This insurance division is a member of the Netherlands Association of Insurers.

Presently the Netherlands Association of Insurers is in a final stage of signing a M.O.U. to enter the so-called Eagleburger commission.

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This matter is being taking care for us by the World Jewish Congress.  
However, the Eagleburger commission does not cover the banking activities of ING.

The pivotal role the banks have played in the obstruction of the restitution after the war of securities stolen from Jews is one of the many issues still open with the Bankers. Other issues relate to robbed financial assets from the Jews in Holland are also open. All attempts, by others, to convince the Dutch Banks including ING-Bank and us to return the Jewish assets that are being held till today by the Dutch Bankers have failed. The Dutch Bankers including ING-Bank refuse till today to publish a list of dormant Jewish accounts kept by them since WW II. It's unthinkable that robbed Jewish money and assets during WW II are or will be used to purchase financial assets in the USA or Israel.

Platform Israel had asked the World Jewish Congress in the USA and Israel to assist her to convince the Dutch Financial institutions to return the stolen money to our community.

The German Nazi's and their Dutch collaborators murdered more 105.000 Dutch Jews. Only a few thousand of us were able survive.

Obviously many of our members are more than 75 years old. Our second largest group is WWII orphans who never received any restitution.

Professor Dr. P.Klein who wrote the official report for the Dutch Government about restitution of rights stated that "(Dutch Banks and AEX) were the robbers, the judges and the executioners of the Jewish financial assets" (which were trusted to them).

We trust this information will help you in taking the right decision in this matter. If you need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

( - )  
Avraham Roet  
President

( - )  
P.Staal  
Vice president

( - )  
B. Elburg  
Secretary

cc.:

**USA:**

Senator J. Leach, Chairman of Banking and financial services committee of the U.S Senate

Mr. S. Eizenstat Under-secretary of State, U.S. government

Mr. F.Greenspan, Chairman Federal Reserve Board

Mr. I. Singer, vice president World Jewish Congress

Dr. A. Hevesi, Chairman of Executive Monitoring Committee, Washington D.C.

Mr. E. Steinberg, Executive director NY

NAIC Executive Headquarters, Executive Division, Kansas City

NAIC, Federal and International Relations, Washington D.C.

## **Foundation PLATFORM ISRAEL**

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Members of National Association of Insurance Commissioners, USA ( 200 members)  
Mr. R. Bernstein, Attorney at law, Miami FL, USA

### **The Netherlands:**

Mr. G. Zalm, Minister of Finance, the Netherlands  
Drs. H. Markens, chairman Centraal Joods Overleg, the Netherlands  
Drs. J. Kleiterp, Chairman, Board of commissioner Amsterdam Stock Exchange (AEX)  
Mr. F. Majoor, Secretary General Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands  
Drs. C.J. Ruppert, Director project WWII assets, Ministry of Finance, The Netherlands  
Drs.G.A. Möller, President-Director Amsterdam Stock Exchanges (AEX)  
Drs. R. Naftaniel, Director CIDI, The Netherlands  
Prof. Dr. E. Fischer, Director Union of Dutch Insurers, The Netherlands  
Drs. H.G.M. Blocks, Director Union of Dutch Bankers, The Netherlands  
Mr. A. Kasdorp, Juridical Adviser Platform Israel , Amsterdam, The Netherlands

### **Israel:**

Rabbi M.Melchior, Minister of Israeli Society and the World Jewish Community  
Mr. D. Levy, Deputy Prime minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Israel  
MK, A.Hirschon, Chairman, Subcommittee for Restitution WWII Assets, Knesset Israel  
Dr. A. Becker, Director World Jewish Congress Israel  
Dr. M. Zanbar, Chairman International Umbrella of Worldwide Holocaust Survivors  
Organizations