



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

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JAN 29 2002

GOVERNMENT REFORM
COMMITTEE

JAN 28 2002

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your letter of January 7 regarding Holocaust insurance issues.

This Administration is fully committed to the implementation of the U.S.-German Executive Agreement concerning Holocaust-era issues and will work to ensure that all aspects of the Agreement are fulfilled, including those dealing with unpaid insurance policies.

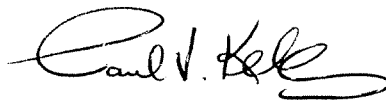
Some \$260 million is set aside in the German Foundation for claims against German insurance companies and for related administrative expenses, as well as for significant humanitarian payments. The International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims (ICHEIC), the German Insurance Association and the German Foundation, "Remembrance, Responsibility and the Future" have agreed on basic claims-handling procedures. They also are actively engaged in negotiations to finalize additional claims-handling procedures, including publication of policyholder names, with meetings scheduled throughout this month.

It is in the best interests of all concerned that the outstanding issues are resolved soon so that the \$260 million for insurance can be made available. The United States Government has worked actively to create an environment conducive to successful negotiations, and we continue to press all parties to demonstrate willingness to compromise so as to reach agreement without further delay.

The Honorable
Dan Burton, Chairman,
Committee on Government Reform,
House of Representatives.

We will keep you informed as the negotiations continue. We hope this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul V. Kelly". The signature is fluid and somewhat stylized, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Paul V. Kelly
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs