

Declaration of Greg Raven in Support of the Application of Germa Scheerer for Political Asylum

I, the undersigned Greg Raven, am the president of the Legion for the Survival of Freedom, an educational publisher, which does business as Institute for Historical Review (IHR). I have been involved with this group and with the revisionist movement since 1979. From personal experience and in my position as a revisionist writer, I am familiar with the revisionism and am competent to testify to the following facts. The matters stated herein are of my own personal knowledge,

If called as a witness, I am competent to testify to the truth of the following.


Our offices are located at 1650 Babcock Street, Costa Mesa, CA 92627. We maintain a web site at <http://www.ihr.org>

Founded in 1978, the Institute for Historical Review is a not-for-profit research, educational and publishing center devoted to truth and accuracy in history. The IHR continues the tradition of historical revisionism pioneered by distinguished historians such as Harry Elmer Barnes, A. J. P. Taylor, Charles Tansill, Paul Rassinier and William H. Chamberlin.

The Institute's purpose is, in the words of Barnes, to "bring history into accord with the facts." The IHR is at the center of a worldwide network of scholars and activists who are working — sometimes at great personal sacrifice — to separate historical fact from propaganda fiction by researching and publicizing suppressed facts about key chapters of history, especially twentieth century history, that have social-political relevance today.

Its work is funded through sales of books and cassette tapes, subscriptions to its *Journal of Historical Review*, and donations from supporters around the world.

With growing support from across the United States and many foreign countries, the IHR works to bring sanity to America's foreign policy, to liberate people from pseudo-religious intimidation, and for the First Amendment right of free speech. The IHR also works to tear down barriers to international peace and understanding by encouraging greater awareness of the root causes, nature and consequences of war.


I Germa Scheerer 78660016

NOV 29 2000

DOC.
#1
29

Bitter experience has taught us just how little we can trust politicians and governments, especially during wartime when official and semi-official propagandists are most busy deceiving the public. As American historian Harry Elmer Barnes put it: “Truth is always the first war casualty. The emotional disturbances and distortions in historical writing are greatest in wartime.”

Powerful interests — including politicians and the major media — often distort the historical record for self-serving reasons. Textbooks, motion pictures and television routinely present history in a slanted and partisan way. As George Orwell aptly noted in his classic *Nineteen Eighty-Four*: “Who controls the past controls the future. Who controls the present controls the past.”

As shrewd observers have long understood, history is written by the victors. This is particularly true with regard to the history of the Second World War. Routinely the origins and nature of that catastrophic conflict are deceitfully portrayed as a simplistic struggle between good and evil.

Americans have been misled into one costly, devastating, and needless war after another. During the Vietnam and 1991 Gulf Wars, for example, government officials and much of the media lied to and deceived the American people to justify needless slaughter and devastation.

In seeking to replace ideologically-driven and emotion-charged portrayals with truth and fact, the Institute promotes historical awareness, understanding and mutual respect among nations. Artificially maintaining the hatreds and passions of the past prevents genuine reconciliation and lasting peace. As Barnes emphasized, historical revisionism is the key to just and lasting peace. There can be no Peace without Justice. There can be no Justice without Truth.

An awareness of real history provides understanding about the great issues of the present and the future. The work of the IHR in “blasting the historical blackout” (Barnes) is all the more relevant in this final decade of the twentieth century, as the political-economic order imposed by the victorious powers of the Second World War breaks apart — and along with it a distorted and one-sided historical perspective.

In a world often saturated with historical lies and self-serving propaganda, the Institute for Historical Review stands as a precious beacon.

While media coverage of the IHR is often hostile, the Institute and its work have been receiving more widespread and respectful attention. The IHR is now grudgingly accepted as an established part of the American social-cultural landscape.

For example, millions of Americans were introduced to the Institute through the March 20, 1994, broadcast of CBS's "60 Minutes," one of the country's most widely viewed television shows. The IHR *Journal* was also introduced, and the front cover of the Nov.-Dec. 1993 issue was shown on screen. The IHR has been cited in major newspapers and magazines, including *Time*, *Vanity Fair*, *The New Yorker*, *The Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. Institute spokesmen have been heard and seen on numerous radio and television appearances.

Moreover, steadily growing numbers of scholars and educated lay persons — across the United States, throughout Europe, and in Asia, Latin America and the Middle East — support the work of the IHR.

A major task of the Institute is the publication of solid works of history. It brings long-neglected revisionist classics back into print, and breaks fresh ground with professionally edited and attractively designed first editions of important new works.

Numerous college and university educators have assigned IHR books as required reading in their courses. Most IHR books can be found in major libraries around the world. One title alone has sold more than 50,000 copies. Several IHR titles have been published in foreign-language editions.

In addition to its own titles, the IHR distributes scores of worthwhile books issued by other publishers. More than a hundred solidly researched books and dozens of compelling audio and video tapes are listed in the IHR catalog.

The Institute's *Journal of Historical Review*, says best-selling British historian David Irving, "has an astounding record of fearlessly shattering the icons of those vested interests who hate and fear the truth. That is why I strongly endorse it, and suggest that every intelligent man and woman in America, Britain and the dominions subscribe."

The Journal of Historical Review — the leading periodical of its kind in the world — appears six times yearly in an attractive, handsomely illustrated magazine format. (Until January 1993, it was published four times yearly in a smaller size format.) More than 60 issues have appeared since it first began publication in 1980.

In addition to individual scholars and discerning lay readers, libraries of leading university and academic centers around the world subscribe, including the libraries of Harvard University, Princeton University, Yale University, Penn State University, Howard University, and the Institute for Contemporary History in Munich.

More than 20 distinguished historians, educators and other scholars are members of the *Journal's* Editorial Advisory Committee. *Journal* contributors have included respected scholars from around the world.

Journal articles are frequently reprinted, translated and circulated in many foreign countries. Selected *Journal* articles (along with IHR leaflets and other IHR materials) are disseminated through the Internet to many tens of thousands around the world.

A *Journal* reader typically has a keen interest in understanding how and why the world has become what it is today. He is fed up with the recycled wartime propaganda that is passed off as “history.” He detests socially destructive lies and bigotry. He wants a sane and healthy future for himself, his family and his country, indeed for all humanity, and realizes that it can be achieved only through an understanding of history based on truth and reality.

Since 1979, the IHR has held thirteen conferences, presenting speakers from Europe, Asia, and Australia, as well as the United States. IHR conference speakers have included:

- Pulitzer prize-winning American historian John Toland, author of several best-selling works of history.
- Dr. James J. Martin, an American historian with a 25-year career as an educator. Author of several meticulously researched historical studies. Contributor to the Encyclopaedia Britannica.

- British historian David Irving, perhaps the most widely read historian in the English-speaking world. Author of numerous bestselling works.
- Fred Leuchter, America's foremost expert on execution hardware. Author of a widely discussed forensic report on the alleged extermination "gas chambers" at Auschwitz.
- Hideo Miki, retired professor at Japan's National Defense Academy and retired Lieutenant General of Japan's Self-Defense Forces.
- John Bennett, noted Australian civil liberties attorney and activist, and president of the Australian Civil Liberties Union.
- Former U.S. Congressman Pete McCloskey (Dem.-CA), the U.S. Marine Corps veteran who braved enemy fire in Korea, Richard Nixon on Capitol Hill, and most recently the Israel-first Anti-Defamation League.

Hundreds of thousands of leaflets from our popular introductory series have been sold and distributed. A speakers' bureau makes IHR speakers available for meetings. Depending on availability of financial resources, the IHR also helps fund primary scholarly research of critical historical issues.

Germar Scheerer writes in the tradition of thoughtful and scholarly revisionism. His works are well-researched, educated discussions of questions relating to the Holocaust story. Yet Mr. Scheerer is subject to years of imprisonment if he returns to Germany simply for the revisionist opinions expressed in his published works.

The persecution of revisionists in Germany and elsewhere is justified by bald-faced political expediency sustained by an amazing dose of hypocrisy. Without further explanation, revisionists are simply labeled "Nazis" or "skinheads"; enough said ... books are burned, historians are jailed, and careers are ruined, all under the false banner of fighting "hate."

The simplest review of Mr. Scheerer's writings shows the absurdity of the German authorities criminalization of these two works. The section "The Controversy about the Extermination of the Jews — An Introduction," written by Mr. Scheerer (pages 13ff) makes this clear. Mr. Scheerer points out the great common history of Jews and Germans and the mutual benefits had and given as well as the solidarity of the two groups. Quite simply, he calls for "reconciliation between both people" pg. 14. He calls for "open discussion" and "free scientific discus-

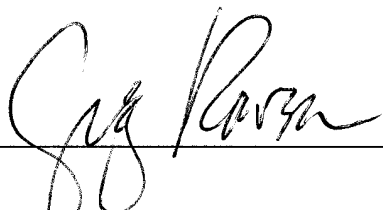
sion” *ibid*. That German politicians would burn this book shows only that these same politicians are in the throes of a political witch-hunt.

Equally absurd is the specious claim that his writings “whitewash the Nazis.”

Mr. Scheerer makes it clear that he feels that the National Socialist government was guilty of gross injustices and brutalities against Jews, but also of the crime of genocide as defined by Section 220a of the German Criminal Code (*Ibid* pg. 33). With declarations such as this as part of his writings, one wonders what the German government is seeking from its historians. The answer is, of course, that Gernar Scheerer has not said anything outrageous, extreme, hateful, or violent. He is the target of political persecution.

Finally, I point to Appendix 3 in *Dissecting the Holocaust* (pg. 565ff), which provides a wealth of sources and supporting evidence concerning questions of present day censorship in German. In summary, it shows that from 1994 to 1999, inclusive, German authorities brought 58,148 criminal prosecutions for what can only be called thought crimes. This figure includes prosecutions of all minority political groups, but shows that Germany denies fundamental political rights on a basis far more regularly than is generally known. It is a part of this “crackdown on extremists” that lead to the persecution of Mr. Scheerer.

The foregoing is true and correct from my own knowledge except as to those matters stated on information. Executed under penalty of perjury at Costa Mesa, California, on November 22, 2000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Raven", written over a horizontal line.

Greg Raven