

Germar Scheerer,
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Doc. 97, transl.



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TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM UNION OF
HUMANISTS, MAY 17, 2000

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To the Honorable Presiding Judge
at District Court Zurhausen
District Court Koblenz

56069 Koblenz

May 17, 2000

Ref.: 2101 Js 54963/96 – 5 Ns
Trial on My 23 of Mr. Hockemeyer for Incitement of the People

Dear Mr. Zurhausen,

As the oldest German civil rights organization we turn to you regarding the pending trial. The initial verdict of the County Court of Neuwied against Mr. Hockemeyer is known to us. It is to be expected that during the trial in your courtroom, the media and their published opinion will try to create a "climate of conviction." We urge you and your court to resist this pressure. We urge you to judge within a strict interpretation of the law, uninfluenced by the clamor of the media.

Mr. Hockemeyer is supposed to have committed incitement of the people according to § 130 German Penal Law by publishing his book "Jedem das Seine" (To Each His Own), in which the Holocaust is depicted as an alleged consequence of a "Law of Karma." According to the opinion of the County Court Neuwied, he is supposed to have denied or justified the Holocaust, hence committed incitement of the people against the Jews.

Translated by J. M. Damon



As a liberal civil rights organization of the Left which works for preservation of the state under the rule of law as well as preservation of basic and civil rights, we are not suspected of harboring right-wing tendencies. A look at our advisory board (see above) will confirm this. Our principal opponents in the struggle for a lawful state are right-wing extremist instigators and violent criminals.

However, part of the struggle for civil rights and a lawful state is to protect freedom of art and freedom of opinion, regardless of who benefits by the exercise of civil rights and regardless of whether or not one agrees with the opinions expressed. The County Court of Neuwied itself

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emphasized in its verdict that Mr. Hockemeyer did not write “with a basic National-Socialist tendency” and that he does not “act from a profoundly anti-Semitic or even aggressively hostile attitude against the Jews.” He did, however, write his book with a “esoteric/spiritual approach”. It must be permissible to write esoteric books – even with views which are considered to be weird. This has nothing to do with incitement of the people or insulting groups of the population. Freedom of art and expression are not restricted to those who operate within the mainstream. They must be available to those on the political left and right as well, even for esoteric views which are difficult to comprehend. It is incomprehensible that such a book could “incite to hatred against parts of the population” according to § 130 German Penal Code. It is even less comprehensible when one considers, as the verdict of the County Court Neuwied states, that due to its esotericism, the book has hardly any buyers.

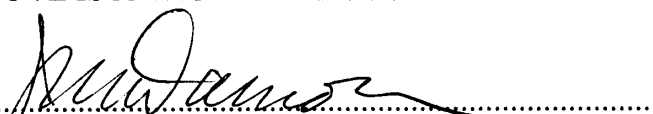
We appeal to you and your court to be guided by the constitution and a strict interpretation of the law, and not be tempted to hand down a verdict which is “demanded” by demagogues.

With friendly greetings

[signed]

Dr. Till Müller-Heidelberg
(Federal Chairman)

**TRANSLATOR’S AFFIDAVIT:
I CERTIFY THAT I POSSESS EXPERT COMPREHENSION OF BOTH
THE ENGLISH AND GERMAN LANGUAGES AND THAT THE
ABOVE IS A TRUE AND ACCURATE TRANSLATION.**



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August 27, 2001