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From: Dovid Katz

To: Markas Zingeris; Kamilė Rupeikaitė; Neringa Latvytė-Gustaitienė

Sent: Friday, September 14, 2012 7:10 PM

Subject: Rumors of a partnership with the Genocide Center at an event in London

Vilna Gaon Jewish State Museum

Mr. Markas Zingeris, Director

Dr. Kamilė Rupeikaitė, Deputy Director for Research

Dr. Neringa Latvytė-Gustaitienė, Head of History and Holocaust Department

14 September 2012

Dear Markas, Kamilė and Neringa,

Greetings. I hope this note finds you and all colleagues at the museum well and thriving.

I have been asked to write to you by Lithuanian Holocaust survivors in London, Tel Aviv and here in Vilnius concerning a disturbing and hopefully baseless rumor that has been gaining traction since starting out in London, at the Imperial War Museum, earlier this week.

These reports claim that the Jewish Museum is planning to join forces with the antisemitic Genocide Center at a forthcoming London event.

The supposed legitimacy that would be conferred on that center by the team-up per se would cause incalculable pain to survivors and their families, and be seen as a further attempt to whitewash the Genocide Center that continues to employ a neo-Nazi as a "chief specialist" and that is responsible for the antisemitic and Holocaust-obfuscating exhibits at the Genocide Museum here in Vilnius and at Grūto parkas near Druskininkai, all in addition to a long history of massive expenditure of resources in the cause of rehabilitating and glorifying local Holocaust perpetrators, while defaming the noble and valiant Jewish partisans whose struggle against Nazism has made them genuine heroes of the free world.

Of necessity, such a partnership would be seen internationally as seeking to legitimize the distorted Holocaust narrative itself, one that came to full fruition in the 2008 Prague Declaration and other documents, with the help of the local “Genocide industry” and its well-oiled institutions. Tragically, it would also undermine the future credibility of the Holocaust section of the Jewish museum, which has enjoyed such a sterling and far-reaching international reputation for integrity (and principled distance from Double Genocide politics), achieved over decades under the inspired leadership of Ms. Rachel Kostanian and others, and with substantial input from such internationally renowned survivors as Dr. Rachel Margolis and Ms. Fania Yocheles Brantsovsky.

As our aged but energetic and dearest survivors are mustering their modest forces for new petitions and public letters on the subject, and members of the British Parliament have taken a keen interest, it seemed to me only right to contact you directly, hoping for confirmation that there is no substance to the circulating rumors. Your unambiguous confirmation would put this matter to rest rapidly, quietly and decisively.

Every good wish for a happy weekend, and a happy year, according to all the world’s calendars.

Best as ever
Dovid

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