

COMMENTS

RUS - 0024 169

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FROM: NAUM Z

REDACTED

Dear Mr. Gribetz:

I am writing to you regarding the distribution of money from the Swiss banks. I believe that this money should be distributed to those people who were in camps and ghettos, as well as to those who were forced to evacuate and leave all their property and valuables that they had gained over the years.

I was born in 1922 in the town of Dribin in the region of Mogilyovskaya in Belarus. Due to my disease I was judged not fit for military service. Therefore, I was sent away from the war front, to the region of Stalingradskaya, where I worked on a collective farm. There were 700 Jews in our town. They were all shot on October 7, 1941, my parents included. We had a home, furniture, valuables, a horse, a cow and so on and so forth. When I returned to Dribin, I did not recognize it: all homes were robbed, all properties and valuables were stolen, and nothing was left.

All Jews were placed on carts, brought to the forest ten kilometers away from Dribin where pits were dug, and they were shot there. After the war we dug up these pits, collected those people's bones in sacks, brought them to a Jewish cemetery and buried them there. We built a monument there, and my uncle and cousin helped me with this. Over time, this monument began to deteriorate.

We came to America in 1990. My cousin stayed in Minsk. I decided to take care of the repair of the monument. I kept in touch with my cousin. He went to Dribin and agreed with one company to do this job. They restored this monument and charged \$2,500 for it. I borrowed this money from my friends and have already started paying it back step by step. I am still in debt.

I believe, Mr. Gribetz, that you will act correctly if you distribute a set amount of money to all of the people who experienced the Holocaust, both to those who were in ghettos and to those who were evacuated.

Respectfully,

Naum Z