Institute of Documentation
in Israel
for the Investigation of Nazi War Crimes
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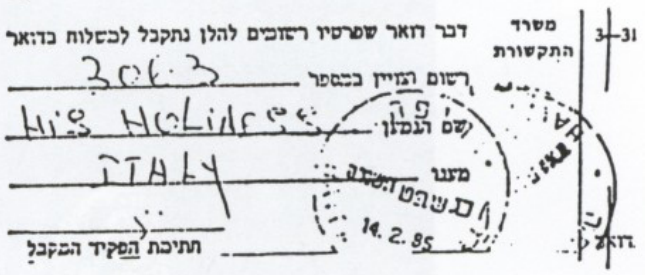
הסכון לדוקומנטציה
בישראל
לחקר פעולות הפושעים הנאצים
חיפה, רח' בן-יהודה 31
ת.ד. 4950 טל. 511192
ירושלים ת.ד. 848

HAIFA, 14.2.85



His Holiness
Pope John Paul II,
The Vatican, Rome.

Your Holiness,

I take the liberty to appeal to Your Holiness in the matter of the Nazi criminal, Dr. Josef Mengele, who served as chief doctor in the Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camp, and was responsible for the killing of a million Jews and carrying out experiments on thousands of children. I believe I need not describe the crimes and horrors of Auschwitz to Your Holiness. You know that half a million of your own countrymen including many Priests of the Church were kileed there.

Last week I received a letter from a German teacher from Bremen who taught German in Asuncion in 1978-80. His pupils included senior Paraguayan Police officers. They told him that Josef Mengele was at that time serving as personal physician to President Alfredo Stroessner and enjoyed his protection.

It is my belief that only You, Your Holiness, can influence President Stroessner, who is a member of Your Church, and previal upon him to deliver Mengele to justice. He must stand trial for his unprecdented crimes against humanity in Frankfurt, West Germany, where his case has been under investigation for many years.

I also ask you, Your Holyness, to grant an audience to a deputation of ten representatives of the Jewish People, survivors of Auschwitz and other horror camps, who want to personally ask you to publish an appeal for a worldwide effort to bring the last surviving major Nazi criminals to trial.

We hope for a positive answer,

and remain, Yours sincerely,

Towiah Friedman
Director.