SUBMISSION OF CLAIM VIA SPECIAL MASTER JUDAH GRIBETZ

General Information

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Title of Project: THE WHY OF THE HOLOCAUST©

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Total estimated budget of project and amount of claim: $615,700
Summary of Project Content and Objectives

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT, RELATIONSHIP OF THE PROJECTS TO THE STUDY OF THE HOLOCAUST, DEMONSTRATED NEED FOR THIS PROJECT

A major obstacle in conveying the Holocaust to a new generation is that they may feel it is irrelevant to them. Alternatively, they may regard the Holocaust as painful, scary, threatening – something they would rather not know about.

Based on our experience in writing and producing successful educational seminars, we propose a seminar that will forge a tangible link between the young generation and the Holocaust.

"THE WHY OF THE HOLOCAUST
WHY THE NAZIS WANTED TO DESTROY THE JEWISH PEOPLE"

This seminar will educate the public about the Holocaust from a perspective that has been virtually untouched. There has been a good deal of material and research detailing physical loss, number of people killed – but almost nothing on the values, ideals and beliefs that the Nazis sought to destroy. The goal of the seminar is to educate about the Holocaust, while using the message of the Holocaust to connect our people with their own Judaism.

The President of the State of Israel has said that "100,000 Jews are lost to assimilation each year". At such a rate, the greatest problem faced in fostering remembrance of the Holocaust, will be the lack of Jews to do the remembering.

Our long-term goal is to dramatically up-grade the modern day Holocaust curricula.

The Holocaust needs to be taught in a way that connects to the modern generation. The modern generation needs to be taught about the Holocaust in a way that will help them to connect to their Judaism.

We have found a way to begin accomplishing both objectives in one seminar. This seminar will provide the template of success that will be emulated in other educational forums.

From the ashes of the past, their strengthened Jewish Identity will arise.
THE METHODOLOGY TO BE USED FOR THE PROJECT

We have found the medium of one-day seminars to be very effective. The modern audience generally does not have the time for an extended time commitment. A seminar on Sunday allows for a good deal of knowledge to be conveyed within the limited time realistically available.

TARGET GROUP

North American Jewry – with particular emphasis on the age brackets 16-35.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

It is the policy of Projects Inc. to minimize its own administrative structure. We have found that we can accomplish much more, at a lower cost, when we either direct/advise or sub-contract existing organizations in the Jewish world.

Projects Inc. will design the educational material for this seminar. In order to implement, we will sub-contract, train and supervise organizations which already have a proven track record in these areas.

For the purposes of this project we have selected the Discovery Seminar group. They have ran over 800 seminars with 120,000 participants during the past 10 years. They are certainly the most qualified organization available for our purposes. More importantly, they have a proven track record of working with Jews form all religious streams. So we can expect them to exhibit the necessary sensitivity to the wide variety of feeling and beliefs found amongst North American Jewry.

EXPERIENCE IN SIMILAR PROJECTS

We at Projects Inc. have been fortunate to experience a remarkable degree of success using this approach. We have designed seminars for Aish HaTorah (1989) which are still in use today. We have helped the Lev L'Achim organization in Israel expand and to develop a degree of "American professionalism" in their work. We designed and implemented a manpower training program that would allow their volunteers the ability to educate their fellow Israeli about basic Jewish concepts. We also designed and established a major telephone study program. In 1997 we initiated a major program that would allow children from non-religious homes the right to be accepted and integrated into religious schools if they desired. We have also advised other major educational organizations in North America, Israel and the FSU.

LONG TERM FUNDING

Our goal is to work with the other organizations that are involved with similar types of programming. Long-term funding will accrue from these organizations.