

PRESS RELEASE

HOLOCAUST TASK FORCE SUPPORTS DECISION TO OPEN BAD AROLSEN GERMANY ARCHIVES FOR SCHOLARLY RESEARCH BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

ROME, ITALY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9...

At their plenary meeting in Rome on June 9, 2004, the member- countries of the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research welcomed the commitment of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service, together with the International Tracing Service and the International Committee of the Red Cross, June 1 in Jerusalem to establish an open access regime to the Bad Arolsen archives for scholars and other researchers by the end of 2004.

Under their commitment to the principles of the Stockholm Declaration of 2000, the members of the Holocaust Task Force urge that this important depository of Holocaust and displaced persons documentation become available for purposes of historical research.

To begin a dialogue with the International Tracing Service, and to gain a clearer understanding of the content and organization of the archives, and of the digitisation process underway, representatives from several Holocaust Task Force countries plan to visit Bad Arolsen in July. The Holocaust Task Force also will extend an invitation to International Tracing Service officials to brief the Task Force at its next plenary meeting on progress made in opening the Bad Arolsen archives for historical research.

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