

FELLOW CITIZENS!

ANTI-SEMITISM IS STUPIDITY AND BARBARITY!

The great majority of the German people, the thinking and decent man perceived that long ago. They are striving to rehabilitate the horrible crimes of the Nazis against European Jews, by kindness and aid to the remnants of the murdered. But still, there are barbarians among us who can not free themselves from Hitler's race-madness. I am continually receiving reports about the insulting, affronting and degrading of Jewish fellow-citizens by Germans. Even desecrations of Jewish sanctuaries and cemeteries have occurred.

FELLOW CITIZENS!

I ask you for the sake of the honor of the German name and for the sake of humanity to fight against such barbarities wherever you meet them. Reject also the malicious anti-Jewish remarks and agitations which nowadays are to be heard again. Spread everywhere the conviction "Anti-semitism is stupid and indecent". I am determined to oppose the incorrigible barbarians among us with the full extent of the law. The Liberation Law of 7 October 1947 stipulates that anyone who prevents recovery and the building of a peaceful and democratic state by spreading national, socialistic, militaristic, or racial ideas or by aiding the Nazis to flourish will be held liable to punishment. On the basis of this regulation the Spruchkammer (Denazification Court) can try everyone who is guilty of making insults or any other crime committed against Jewish Fellow-citizens and can punish the accused under the provisions of this Liberation Law and in severe cases by confining the accused to the Detention Camp.

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I ask you to accuse and give names of witnesses when you learn of anti-semitic actions of individuals. Such an accusation is not a denunciation, but a citizen's duty, exactly as it is your duty to report to the police a thief, cheat or a swindler. I ordered the Public Prosecutors of all Spruchkammers to prosecute at once in case of proven evidence.

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All decent Germans, without difference of class, party or religion, must cooperate in order to get rid of the last remains of Hitleristic Race-madness. It is a matter of the honor of German name in the world.

Binder
Minister of Political Liberation
Wiesbaden 15 January 1948