

neboom
weg 50
d a/d Hoef/ Holland
: 02206-1885

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Egmond 27th October 1972

Dear Sirs,

Through this letter I should like to ask your attention for the following events which took place during the war of 1940-1945.

I was a very close friend of Mr. Jan Kasper Klein (born 8.6.1912) when the war broke out. I, being a Jew went into hiding in my own week-end cottage in Egmond-Binnen. During the course of the war the Dutch coast, on German order, had to be evacuated and I had to leave the place.

My friend Jan came to fetch me to go into hiding at his home at the Denneweg in The Hague (end '42 beginning '43) where he already lived with his friend Mischa Elkan. The raids gradually became more frequent and dangerous. More and more relatives and friends found a good hiding place at the Denneweg. Both my parents, my sister and my brother in law and also his relations came one by one into hiding until finally the number of 19 persons was reached.

It became too crowded and by that time Jan Kleins' mother, then living in The Hague, Agathastraat (part of town destroyed by airbombardments) invited me and some others into her house to relieve my friends house at Denneweg. Both addresses were very good and safe but we had to ask for assistance of the illegal organisation in order to get enough food.

When one of the members, a person called Davids, was caught by the Germans both addresses were discovered on February 19, '44 and all were deported. On the very day I had left for Amsterdam a couple of days before, for a very personal reason, and escaped those fatal moments.

Of all 19 persons only 5 returned. Namely, Jan Klein, prisoner from Dachau, Mischa Elkan from Bergen-Belsen (he died in Israel in the meantime) Mrs. Klein from Vught, whilst Mrs. Vos-Rijksman and Barend Visschoonmaker both returned from Auschwitz. I married Mrs. Vos-Rijksman whose husband also got killed in Auschwitz.

We should be very grateful if Mr. Jan Kasper Klein would be eligible for a distinction of your country, since to our opinion he, as inspired leader of this dangerous hiding practises, has himself devoted completely to his task without fear for his own life.

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Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

For your information Mr. Klein has been treated by Dr.^E Cohen, at Arnhem, Holland. *adres: Wagnerlaan 67*

Yours faithfully,

B. Denneboom

Undersigned in my presence

Mr. Herman Bockwinkel, notary in Alkmaar, the Netherlands
6 nov. 1972

