

## **Appendix I**

**Opinions of four Holocaust scholars on  
a selection of Mr Kupka's Internet postings**

## ASSESSMENT REPORTS OF HANS J. KUPKA'S INTERNET DISCUSSION GROUP POSTINGS

The four reports presented here were obtained by Dr Douglas Pratt, Chairperson Department of Religious Studies and by Professor Dov Bing, Department of Political Science and Public Policy.

Three of the four scholars are native speakers of German, while the fourth, Professor Moses received his M.Phil PhD at German universities. The verdict of the four expert reports is unanimous. This means that Associate Professor Knufermann and Professor Peter Oettli were both wrong in their assessment of the Kupka internet writings.

### (A) PROFESSOR KONRAD KWIET

Professor Konrad Kwiet was Professor of German and Deputy Director of the Centre for Comparative Genocide Studies at Macquarie University. He is now Adjunct Professor for Holocaust Studies at Sydney University. From 1989-1999 he was the Chief Historian of the Australian War Crimes Commission. He is Australia's top scholar for Holocaust Studies.

'A few weeks ago I spent a few hours browsing through the Nizkor project searching for Kupka's "discussions" or "dialogues". Quite frankly, I found the messages not only disturbing and confusing but also quite boring, not to say garbage, or I rather should say cyber space junk. I share the views expressed by my colleague John Moses, and I also fully endorse the clear verdict handed down by Luise Freudenberg. Let me add the following judgement.

Herr Kupka presents himself - and is pleased with his role - as an intellectual who does not hide his antisemitism, Holocaust-denial and racism. His views indeed often expressed in a coded language, are marked by arrogance and cynicism, stupidity and hatred.'

(B) PROFESSOR EMERITUS JOHN MOSES

Professor Emeritus John Moses, History department, University of Queensland. Professor Moses took his MA & PH.D at German Universities. He is also an ordained Anglican Priest.

'Many thanks for your e-mail and the information regarding Herr Kupka having read the excerpts prepared by Luise Freudenberg, I can only agree fully with her assessment. The man is a right-wing fanatic who is incapable of taking on board the findings of mainstream post-war German scholarship on the Holocaust. In 1984 there was an international symposium on the Holocaust in Stuttgart and the proceedings edited by Eberhard Jaeckel and someone else. I ordered it for the University of Queensland library at the time. Among other things it took issue with such "revisionists" as Kupka who are a phenomenon not restricted to Germany. They are here in the One Nation Party and share a common anti-intellectual, mindlessly racist mindset.

There is no doubt that if Kupka attempts to come to New Zealand to interview Holocaust survivors he should be banned, just as John Howard has banned the English anti-Holocaust "Historian", David Irving, from entering Australia again. He has simply wanted to promote his hair-brained books that have a pseudo-scholarly façade. What Kupka has in common with Irving is the ability to play with language to give the impression of objectivity. Ultimately they are both hate-filled lunatics. If Kupka succeeds in entering New Zealand he should not be dignified by being taken seriously by either the universities or the media.

If there is anti-racist legislation in place in New Zealand it should be invoked to deny him entry.

I hope this is the response you expected from me. Indeed there is no other possible.'

(C) MS. LUISE FREUDENBERG

Ms. Luise Freudenberg is a Research Scholar in the German History Department of the University of Berlin, Germany.

'After spending tedious hours browsing through Kupka quotes from his Usenet newsgroup it is abundantly clear to me that he is a Neonazi, a rabid antisemite and apparently denies that there ever was a Holocaust (or at least, that there were gas chambers). He is careful not to say clearly "I hate Jews", "There never were gas chambers" etc. but you can read it everywhere between the lines. Also, the tone and language he uses to write about Jews and about the Holocaust is openly antisemitic. He uses stereotypes and polemical expressions that seem to come straight from Goebbels's speeches; he makes fun of the victims of concentration camps; he doubts that survivors who testified about the camps in court are believable; he doesn't want his tax money to be used for reparations to Holocaust survivors etc. etc.

I can safely say that given this evidence, there is no way Kupka could run for any public office in Germany or could get a teaching assignment at any German university or school. German politicians have had to step down for much, much more harmless speech.

If the research he needs to do for his thesis involves interviews with Jewish refugees from Germany or their families, I can't imagine how anyone who knows this evidence would agree to talk to him. The idea that a German-Jewish refugee who escaped by the skin of his teeth and whose whole family was murdered should receive someone like Kupka in his home is more than disgusting. And who knows what remarks Kupka might make during the interviews? Although I would expect him to be careful, it is still possible that something slips. Given the advanced age and possibly frail health of refugees, such a slip could even have serious medical consequences. In any event, in my opinion no university should allow somebody like Kupka to use its stationery, its name and its reputation as legitimation to contact victims of Hitler for his research purposes - people that he has nothing but hatred and disdain for and that he has only the most disgusting and hateful things to say about when he is "among friends", so to speak.'

(D) PROFESSOR PETER LONGERICH

Professor Peter Longerich, Director of the Institute for Holocaust Studies, University of London. Professor Longerich is one of the top European Scholars on Holocaust Studies.

'From these quotations it is quite clear that Mr Kupka's argumentation follows, in a very characteristic manner, the typical patterns of holocaust-denial. The fact that we have, for instance, an abundance of eyewitness-reports (survivors and perpetrators) on extermination camps which converge with massive documentary evidence is simply ignored by these people. In order to avoid responding to the evidence which is presented by these sources, a holocaust denier would tend to ask the sort of 'schoolboy-questions' posed by Mr Kupka: Why did Jews survive, if the Holocaust was carried out in a systematic manner? Why should we trust an SS-man's description of an extermination camp, if the SS was a criminal organisation? Why did the Nazis try to destroy their files on the extermination programme if this operation was known to many? Experience shows that these questions are typically asked by people who are not willing to debate the history of the persecution and murder of European Jews, and who cannot accept the complexity of this historical event'.