

6 June 2016

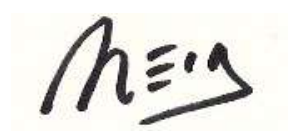
Mr. Hirt,

I am a public school History teacher in northern New York State. I recently accompanied some of my students (including my own daughter) to see your public presentation in Lowville, NY, in April. I went to the presentation and encouraged my students to do so as well because I wanted them to take advantage of one of the few remaining chances to hear such testimony (in fact, I was hired for my first teaching job by a Polish-American administrator who had survived the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp). However, as I listened to your presentation, I was disturbed by the fact that several details you mentioned in your presentation I knew to be historically false. I have spent the past few weeks investigating your alleged story, and I have uncovered an overwhelming amount of evidence that you are an impostor and a fraud. Enclosed you will find a copy of my research. You will see that, among others, I have checked with the Auschwitz Museum in Poland, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the records from the Fort Ontario Refugee Shelter in Oswego, NY, and members of your own family. I was also assisted in my research by the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

I have sent copies of the enclosed research to all of the media and press who have covered your story over the past few years – as I have supplied them with your contact information, I have no doubt that some of them will contact you for comment. I have also been in communication with and sent copies of my research to members of the Mennonite communities in Lewis County and Lancaster County who have been coordinating some of your recent speaking engagements, as well as Mr. John Ruth who has been accompanying you. I have also notified the school districts you have visited.

I appeal to you to use any opportunity given you to publically recant your fraudulent claims and apologize to the communities and school children that you have deceived. If I do not see evidence of such a public repentant response in the near future, I will petition the District Attorneys in Lewis and Lancaster Counties to proceed with a criminal investigation, as much of your activity fits the legal definitions (in both the states of New York and Pennsylvania) of felonies and misdemeanors such as fraud, identity theft, and forgery. I am not particularly interested in seeing you punished – I am mostly interested in (1) stopping you from continuing your false claims and (2) seeing you make things right with people whose trust you have abused.

Regretfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. Reid", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andrew Reid