

"We Don't Want Revenge" -- from the speech given by Dr.  
Zalman Grinberg

One thousand and seven hundred Jews, the last representatives of the European Jews, after the hardest period of sufferings ever heard of, are now here in the camp of Munich-Flakkaserne. These people are the last representatives of the venerable, old Jewish communities in Europe. Budapest and Prague, Warsaw, Kovno and Salonika are represented here. Millions of members of these communities are annihilated...

We have met here today to celebrate our liberation, but at the same time it is a time of mourning for us. For every bright and joyful day at present and in the future is shadowed by the tragic events of the past years. One per cent survived to see the liberation, and 99 per cent of this one per cent are very ill. Can you enjoy liberation?! Are you able to celebrate?!

Hitler lost all the battles on all the fronts, except the battle against defenseless and unarmed men, women and children! He won the war against the European Jews.

Indeed, he was helped by the German nation. However, we do not want revenge. If we took revenge, it would mean that we would fall to those moral and spiritual depths in which the German people have been lost for the last ten years.

We are not able to murder women and children! We are not able to burn millions of people! We are not able to starve hundreds of thousands!

We are free now, but we do not know how to begin our free but unfortunate lives. It seems to us that for the time mankind does not comprehend what we have gone through and what we have experienced during this period of time. And it seems to us, that we shall not be understood in future. We have

forgotten how to laugh, we cannot cry any more, we do not comprehend our freedom yet, and this because we are still among our dead comrades.

Let us rise and stand silent to commemorate our dead.

**Source: *Yad Vashem Archive, 033/1122.***