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03/07/2012

Douglas Shulman, IRS Commissioner
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

RE: American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science, Inc. – TIN 13-1623886

Dear Douglas Shulman,

The above-referenced organization raises tax-deductible funding for the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot, Israel. The Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot has been found by a US Department of Defense sponsored study to be supporting Israel's clandestine nuclear weapons program. Financing a secret nuclear weapons program in a foreign country does not meet the IRS definition of "charitable purpose." We therefore ask you to examine the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science, Inc's operations against the Defense Department's report. We ask that the IRS revoke American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science, Inc's tax exempt status immediately if US tax-deductible charitable contributions are being used toward such prohibited purposes. We call upon the Justice Department to initiate an investigation to determine whether any criminal statutes, e.g. Atomic Energy Act, may have been violated.

A 1987 Institute for Defense Analysis study stated "Weizmann Institute, whose scientists, the study said, studied high energy physics and hydrodynamics needed for nuclear bomb design, and worked on lasers to enrich uranium, the most advanced method for making the material dropped on Hiroshima in 1945."¹ According to news reports, Weizmann's supercomputers are connected to a network "helping to design an Israeli ballistic missile re-entry vehicle."²

Casting further doubt over the end-use of American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science, Inc. funds are the recently revealed roles of its leadership. In performing research for his book "Israel and the Bomb" author Avner Cohen documented that Israeli Prime-Minister David Ben-Gurion designated Abraham Feinberg as Israel's North American fundraising coordinator for the Israeli nuclear weapons program. In 1971, Feinberg became the president of the American and Israeli branches of the Weizmann Institute, which provided the cover of an established tax-exempt vehicle to raise funds for Israel's ongoing nuclear weapons development. Feinberg's FBI record reveals his lengthy past raising and laundering funds for conventional weapons for the Israeli underground in the 1940's while using campaign contributions and political influence to quash warranted prosecutions of violators of the Arms Export Control Act.³

I urge you to obtain and review the non-public Institute for Defense Analyses study from Director Dr. David Chu. In 2008 the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute of Science, Inc. gave \$51.3 million in grants to its affiliate in Israel and \$37.3 million in 2009 according to public IRS form 990 filings. It is unacceptable that an organization masquerading as an American charity is secretly funding a foreign nuclear weapons program.

Sincerely,

Grant F. Smith
Director of Research

Cc: Attorney General Eric Holder, President Barak Obama, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta

¹ "Israel Gets High-Speed Computers," The Risk Report, Volume 1 Number 1 (January-February 1995)

² "SUPERCOMPUTERS SLOW IN COMING" Jerusalem Post, May 25, 1990

³ Abraham Feinberg's declassified FBI file released under FOIA, <http://www.irmep.org/ila/feinberg>