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Fax from Hans Corell to M. Cherif Bassiouni

M. Cherif Bassiouni 1937-2017

Hans Corell

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REFERENCE

23 March 1994

Dear Cherif,

In addition to my official letter today, allow me to say a few words of a personal and confidential nature. We have known each other for many years, and I consider you to be my friend. I must therefore ask what prompted you to make statements of the kind you did in Geneva last Friday. Who are the bureaucrats? Carl-August Fleischhauer, Ralph Zacklin?, me?.

It is apparent that the establishment of the International Tribunal supersedes the Commission of Experts. What we have to do now is to transfer the material from the Commission to the Tribunal. I know that you are disappointed over the way in which things have developed. From my point, I will certainly bring to the attention of the Secretary-General all the important and useful work which the Commission has done, and I am certain that this will be duly noticed and appreciated by the World community. But to belittle the Tribunal and the persons in my Office who have assisted it? Why call us "bureaucrats" when we are simply implementing the resolutions of the Security Council? I must confess that I cannot understand your attitude. We have worked on the question of establishing the international tribunal for some time together. Why should we not now join our efforts and act in support of the Tribunal, which is now about to undertake its primary work.

Best regards,


Hans CorellUnder-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs
The Legal CounselMr. Cherif Bassiouni
Chairman of the Commission of Experts
United Nations Office in Geneva