

IRmep
Calvert Station
P.O. Box 32041
Washington, DC 20007

<http://www.irmep.org>
info@irmep.org
Phone: 202-342-7325
Fax: 202-318-8009



06/13/2012

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

RE: American Committee for the Weizmann Institute: Secret Nuclear Weapons Fundraising

Dear Douglas Shulman,

On March 8, 2012 I sent you some extremely disturbing public information that indicates a US organization masquerading as a tax-exempt charitable non-profit was raising funds for Israel's clandestine nuclear weapons program.

Your office, as the IRS often does with such complaints, forwarded it to a remote division outside of DC where there is no transparency into whether warranted action will be ever taken. Since that last communication, recently declassified FBI files (now available online at <http://www.IRmep.org/ila/weizmann>) reveal that FBI counter-intelligence determined back in the 1990s that tax-exempt funding was being raised in the US for an organization engaged in nuclear weapons research. The investigation into Weizmann Institute cyber-spying resulted in Counterintelligence specifically stating that: "CI-3B believes that the Weizmann Institute is an academic organization which conducts research in high-technology issue areas, including theoretical aspects of nuclear and conventional weapons development."

Members of my organization do not think you are taking this situation at all seriously. Members of the public, responding to the attached news article have expressed public outrage that a charity is being used to fund a clandestine program that is operating outside the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, fomenting proliferation across the Middle East. Last month, we paid a \$1,000 fee for an IRS agent to issue a formal ruling on whether a proposed \$50,000 donation toward two activities long underway at Weizmann, laser-enriching uranium to weapons-grade, and ballistic missile design—would be tax-exempt. The IRS agent verbally advised that it would not, but pleaded with us to withdraw the request for a formal determination, possibly fearing the loss of his job.

At this point, "business as usual" fundraising by the American Committee for the Weizmann Institute **looks like a symptom of a deeper corruption that permeates the US Treasury Department on many matters related to Israel—especially fundraising for illegal settlements building.** We truly wish the IRS would take some public steps to assure Americans that debasing tax-exempt status through the promotion of activities utterly without charitable purpose was a crime taken seriously by you and your agency.

Sincerely,

Grant F. Smith
Director of Research

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Enclosure.

CC: President, Attorney General