Message from

DR ELI KLEINWALD

Chief Executive, Federation of Synagogues

Primo Levi, the famous Italian writer and Holocaust survivor, in the Preface to "I Sommersi e I Salvati" (The Drowned and the Saved), the last and most incisive book he wrote before his untimely death, tells us that the Nazi camp guards cynically used to admonish their victims:

"Whichever way this war will end, we have won our war against you; none of you will be left as a witness, but even if anyone should survive, the world will not believe...".

The cruel and despicable design of National Socialism in Germany was not only the suppression and destruction of our people, but also the obliteration of their memory.

The fortitude of the survivors and their promise that the events of 1939-45 should never be forgotten, have ensured that Amalek's evil deeds are recorded for future generations and remain an indelible mark on mankind.

With the voice of Holocaust deniers growing as time passes, your work acquires added importance and relevance. The global financial crisis we are experiencing is so reminiscent of the Great Depression of the early 1930s, the precursor to the rise of Nazism and World War II, that more than ever we need the testimony of those who survived to prevent history from repeating itself.