



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 19, 2003

Contact: Janet Keller
818/777-4999
janetk@vhf.org

**SHOAH FOUNDATION EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS
USED IN TURKISH SCHOOL**

Impact of Archive Felt around the Globe

February 19, 2003; Los Angeles - Educational materials developed by the Shoah Foundation and based on its archive of over 50,000 Holocaust survivor and other witness testimonies are now being incorporated into classrooms in Istanbul, Turkey. The Ulus Jewish School is the first in the region to integrate visual history into high school curricula.

One Human Spirit, the Shoah Foundation's first video created expressly for classroom use, and its first CD-ROM, Survivors: Testimonies of the Holocaust, are just two educational products that the organization hopes will further its mission to overcome prejudice, intolerance, and bigotry-and the suffering they cause-through the educational use of the Foundation's visual history testimonies. Both products, along with accompanying study guides and teacher activities, will be used by teachers at the Ulus Jewish School to teach Holocaust history and illustrate the connections between past and present through the life stories of real people.

Douglas Greenberg, Shoah Foundation president and CEO, said, "We are thrilled at the prospect of having survivor testimony used in a Turkish school. For the first time, we will be collaborating with a school in a Muslim country. The teachers in the Ulus School have set a precedent that we hope will be emulated in other parts of the Middle East. We hope, too, that the testimonies of survivors can help call attention to contemporary issues of prejudice and racial hatred, most especially in a part of the world that is struggling for peace."

The far reaching impact of the Shoah Foundation's archive in communities such as Istanbul underscores the urgent need to bring Holocaust, tolerance, and anti-bias educational materials to underserved populations around the globe. Shoah Foundation materials are currently being used in dozens of international communities such as Penza, Russia; Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro; Rome, Italy; Heidelberg, Germany; Amsterdam, the Netherlands; and Sydney, Australia.

For information about One Human Spirit and Survivors: Testimonies of the Holocaust, along with other educational materials from the Shoah Foundation, visit www.vhf.org.

About the Shoah Foundation

Since Steven Spielberg established Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation in 1994, the Foundation has videotaped the testimonies of more than 50,000 Holocaust survivors and witnesses in 56 countries in 32 languages. Today, the Shoah Foundation's mission is to overcome prejudice, intolerance, and bigotry-and the suffering they cause-through the educational use of the Foundation's visual history testimonies. To this end, the Foundation preserves and provides access to the archive; builds and supports educational programs; and develops educational products based on the testimonies. Individuals interested in supporting the Shoah Foundation are encouraged to call 818/777-4673 or write to PO Box 3168, Los Angeles, California, 90078-3168.