

What a fantastic conference we have just had in Berlin. Ute worked miracles to organise such a wonderful occasion and left us about an hour ago, absolutely worn out and looking forward to a good sleep. Thank you Ute, from every one of us.

Not only was it held in the German Parliament building, the Reichstag, but we had presentations from:-

Mechthild Rawert a German MP, who is very much interested in the cause and plight of children like ourselves

Dr Niels Zussblatt, who flew in from St Louis just for the event.

Lindsay Henderson, Consul at the US Consulate Frankfurt, who spoke about their efforts to assist us and how they organise workshops for individuals

Dr Heide Glaesmer from Leipzig University reported on a university study into the effects being a child who didn't know his father, be it as a result

of a relationship or as a result of their mother being raped.

Raimund Briechle from our Munich support group and

myself. I gave a brief biography of how TRACE was originally formed by Pamela Winfield and how we then got to where we are today.

Special thanks here must go to Daniela Jones who acted as a very accomplished translator throughout the day.

There were 80 delegates from countries such as:-

Germany

Austria

Denmark

Norway

United Kingdom

Uganda

United States

After the formalities we were allowed to visit the roof top and giant dome above the Reichstag.

German media picked up on the conference with a radio article and it has also appeared in a number of German newspapers over the weekend. In fact I have already received some emails from German 'children' who would now like us to help them search for their fathers.

After an enjoyable night on the town, we were today joined by various members of the 'Children Born of War' organisation (who were also meeting in the city yesterday) as we sailed around the city on a 3-hour boat trip also organised by Ute.

It is very obvious that both organisation have similar aims and will be working together in the future.

Anyone thinking that www.gitrace.org has run its course and old hat, couldn't be further from the truth - we are obviously very much alive and continuing to help others in the UK and Europe with their searches.

John Munro

john@shilsons.co.uk

07775 553242

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