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## Letter from Anton and Liek Tjeenk Willink to Sandra Eben, March 23, 1991

Anton Tjeenk Willink

Liek Tjeenk Willink - de Jonge

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Dear Sandy,

Following your very clear telephonecall with the request to pursue our quest for one more generation, Anton and I went to Brasschaat (near Antwerp) and Brussels (both in Belgium) on the 14th of March. We did find the birth-registration of Johannes Nicolaus on 21-9-1756, in the Register of the Church of Attenhoven, nowadays kept in Brussels. Photocopy I-(Register number 1466)- yellow lined and the registration of the marriage of his parents - Photocopy II-(Register number 2710)yellow-lined. This week I went to a friend/archivist who helped me to read them and

to translate the Latin.

Photocopy I - Regnr. 1466 says:

quote -1756 die 21 septembris baptisavi joem nicolaum filium Leg. nicolai Le Cox et catharinae peters coniug. Susceptores fuerunt joas suiron, et anna peters ambo ex Cousen - unquote.

meaning:

1756 21st of September I have baptised Johannes Nicolaus Legitimate son of Nicolaus Le Cox and Catharina Peters his wife. Winesses werd Johannus Suiron (not sure of the spelling) and Anna Peters both from Cousen.

Photocopy II - Regnr. 2710 says: quote -1752 die 11 aprilis ..... matrimonium cum tribus proclamationibus nicolaus Le Cox et catharina peters coram pastore in Cosen - unquote

1752 11th of April was concluded (not exactly readable) the marriage with three proclamations of Nicolaus Le Cox and Christina Peters before the pastor in Cosen.

By the way: All registration of Attenhoven has been copied by the Mormons of Salt Lake City - Utah:

- Remarks: 1) The writing of the name Le Cocq, Le Coc, Le Coq or Le Cox was variable in those days. (We have had to look under the C, the K and the L, where we found them!)
  - 2) You can add on the application form for the Huguenot Society no.7 Nicolaus le Cox,born ?, married 11 of April 1752 in Cosen (Belgium) - his wife: Catharina Peters from Cosen, born ?.
  - 3) Cosen or Cousen is now called Kozen; a town in Brabant (Belgium).

From our friend we learned that the archives of Brabant are held in the Rijks Archieven (Government Archives) of Hasselt (Belgium). Anton phoned with them yesterday asking to produce this marriage-certificate and read it to him. We were looking for more details such as the age and place of birth of Nicolaus Le Cox and perhaps the name of his parents. But no such luck. So we have come to the conclusion that this is the end of our search, because looking for the birth of Nicolaus without a date or place in Belgium or France is searching for a needle in a haysteck.

I would like to state though that after this search and after talking with so many historically-educated people we came to two conclusions:

- 1) All Huguenots that came to Holland became members of the Walloon church and we have proof that y our ancestors were members. (see my former letter).
- 2) After escaping from France they may have stopped over in Belgium and Holland for several generations, but their crossing the Atlantic to the States had again a religous background.

I do hope all this reaches you in time for your application and more than that I do hope this information will be sufficient for the Huguenot Society to grant the scholarship. Do let me know sometime.

Now as for expense: Entrance-tickets and photocopies come to an amount of B.Frs. 500.— And one more entranceticket for the Archives in the Hague of N.f.5.— makes together another N.f.35.— or \$ 13,— Together with the expense mentioned in my former letter, it amounts to \$ 28.— in all.

Ofcourse we have had more expense than this amount, but we plan to visit all of you one day and then you can treat us on some interesting speciality in your region. Not this year though, maybe next. Do tell your father!, who wishes us to come straightaway!

Copies of this correspondence and photocopies of all the articles we found are with Renée. Anton and I are going to Indonisia for holidays on the 5th of April until the 3rd of May. Any more questions or doubts to be addressed to Renée.

Anton and I wish you all the best with the scholarship, with to all relatives, from

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## Quote – In Latin

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Meaning – in English

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Transcribed and translated by Anton & Liek Tjeenk Willink

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