



CLASSMATES

THE FATES OF JEWISH STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED OUR SCHOOL,
GYMNAZIUM, MIKULÁŠSKÉ NÁMĚSTÍ, PILSEN

Ilena Dvořáková
Kristýna Homolová
Jan Jašhim
Monika Stehlíková
Aloj Turmavec

o. s. Humr

2008

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First English edition

Pilsen 2008

From the annual report of 1937/38

classes total

Religion

- Roman Catholic
- Mosaic [Jewish]
- Orthodox (Metod.)
- Evang. Church of Czech Brethren
- Unity of the Brethren
- Czechoslovak
- No affiliation

	TRÍDA								TRÍDA											Úhrnem	
	I.a	I.b	I.c	II.a	II.b	II.c	III.a	III.b	III.c	IV.a	IV.b	IV.c	V.a	V.b	V.c	VI.a	VI.b	VI.c	VII.a		VII.b
f) Náboženství:																					
Rímskokatolické	—	34	43	1	23	43	—	39	—	48 ¹	8	25	14	20	21	15	22	19	22	23	420 ¹
Moižišské	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	8
Pravoslavné (Metod.)	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Evang. českobratrské	17	—	—	13	—	—	8	2	—	—	10	5	6	3	5	4	4	1	1	6	85
Jednota českobratrská	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Československé	—	11	—	1	18	1	17	2	—	—	9	4	9	5	3	8	3	—	1	2	94
Bez vyznání	28	—	—	32	—	2	22	5	—	—	16	5	8	9	10	8	6	13	6	7	177
g) Věk: - Age																					
narozených 1926	43	43	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	127
born. in 1925	3	3	2	44	37	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	130
" 1924	—	—	—	3	4	5	46	35	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	94
" 1923	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	12	—	39	34	25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	115
" 1922	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	9	9	14	27	24	34	1	1	1	—	—	121
" 1921	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	9	11	5	26	22	28	1	—	105
" 1920	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	6	11	5	23	27	75
" 1919	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	6	11	22
" 1918	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
h) Nepovinné a relativně povinné předměty:																					
Zpěv relativně povinný	46	46	43	47	41	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zpěv nepovinný:																					
odd. III. A	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
odd. III. B	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Těsnopis:																					
odd. I. A	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
odd. I. B	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
odd. II.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Praktická cvičení chemická	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Náboženství nepovinné	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
i) Platby žáků:																					
Celé školné platili:																					
v I. běhu	5	19	10	8	9	12	9	13	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
v II. běhu	4	19	8	9	12	13	9	6	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polovici školného platili:																					
v I. běhu	4	3	8	2	2	4	3	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
v II. běhu	4	3	8	3	1	4	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Second state Czechoslovak High School in Pilsen (II. státní československá reálka v Plzni)

The "reálka" was a sort of "gymnázium" in the Czechoslovak interwar education system. Such institutions encompassed secondary education and culminated in a final exam (the "maturita"). At that time the "gymnázium" took seven years ("prima, sekunda, tercie, kvarta, kvinta, sexta, septima") and students usually graduated at the age of 19. In contrast to ordinary secondary schools and vocational high schools, the "gymnázium" offered students a universal education that prepared them for further studies at a university. Unlike the "klasické gymnázium," which focused on classical and traditional education in particular, the "reálka (reálné gymnázium)" emphasized the natural and technical sciences.

ANTI-SEMITISM

= explicit negation of Jews and Judaism for racial, national, religious, economic, or otherwise formulated, felt, or experienced reasons. The negation is connected to psychological as well as physical violence. It represents an irrational reflection of reality even though it often presents itself as scientific or rational. Anti-Semitism can assume various forms depending on the particular subjective circumstances and historical contexts:

Christian anti-Semitism: Aversion to Judaism due to its perception as a contradiction of so-called Christian values. This was the dominant type of anti-Semitism until the beginning of the 19th century.

Economic anti-Semitism: Jewish business owners are identified with the cruel capitalist exploiter or profiteer; a frequent motive of this kind of anti-Semitism is economic competition. At the same time, rich anti-Semites accuse Jews of supporting and spreading communist ideas (as in the term "Judeo-Bolshevik").

Nationalistic anti-Semitism: Nationalism is fed by a conviction that nations are ancient, natural groups of "blood and soil" with obvious entitlement to their own self-determination in their "own" states. Persons and groups who do not speak the national language, who practice a religion that is considered foreign, or who differ in some other way from the national majority are usually excluded or persecuted. In the European context, the victims of a nationalist "purge" were usually Jews. For example, Jews in Bohemia, who spoke mostly German, were perceived as an alien element that aligned itself with the Germans. Czech nationalistic anti-Semitism reached its zenith during the so-called Second Republic, i.e., between October 1938 and March 1939.

Racial anti-Semitism: The boom in racist theories in the 19th century is related to colonial expansion and abuse of Darwinism. Differences among individual cultures are interpreted hierarchically and justified on a biological basis. This racism denies that Jews have human attributes and Jews are perceived as parasites. One can not "leave" Judaism because it is a biologically given reality.

There is no clear line between the individual types of anti-Semitism; they blend together. Racial and nationalistic anti-Semitism became the main driving force of the Holocaust.

"On August 1, 1906, His Imperial and Royal Majesty graciously decided, pursuant to constitutional approval of the allotment of necessary resources, to allow **the establishment of the second state high school in Pilsen** with the Czech language as the language of instruction. The State High School in Pilsen shall be initiated as of the school year 1906/7, at first with the first grade; subsequent grades shall be added in such a way that each consecutive year the next higher grade shall be opened."

(From the contract signed by Portreeve Dr. Václav Peták)

In 1914, the school acquired a new, impressive building on Mikulášské Square. Chemistry professor and occasional poet Felix Vondruška, devoted an extensive poem to this event called "Along the Path of Life."

ALONG THE PATH OF LIFE Felix Vondruška

[...]
Anxiously [he] guards even the smallest
of his twigs
That a rough and ravenous hand
threatens to strangle;
He leads his youth in the classroom
Towards the light of truth, towards the
source of the life-giving waters,
So they can walk up the steep path of life,
Higher and higher,
All the way to where the silver snowflakes
swarm,
Where, out of the grasp of gravity,
Immortality shines in the white stars.

(Final stanza of the poem recited by Josef Cihla, a fifth-year student, on the occasion of the consecration of the new school building on February 22, 1914)



1933

January 30

Hitler is appointed as the German chancellor.

Hanus Lóví and Hanus Deiml start as first-year students at the school.

1934

Jiří Stein, Eva Brummelová, Hana Fantová, Hana Porgesová,* Niko Lauterstein, Egon Löbner and Arnost Epstein start as first-year students at the school.

Jiří Schranzer comes from the First State Czechoslovak High School and enters the third year.

* she leaves the school in June 1935

1935

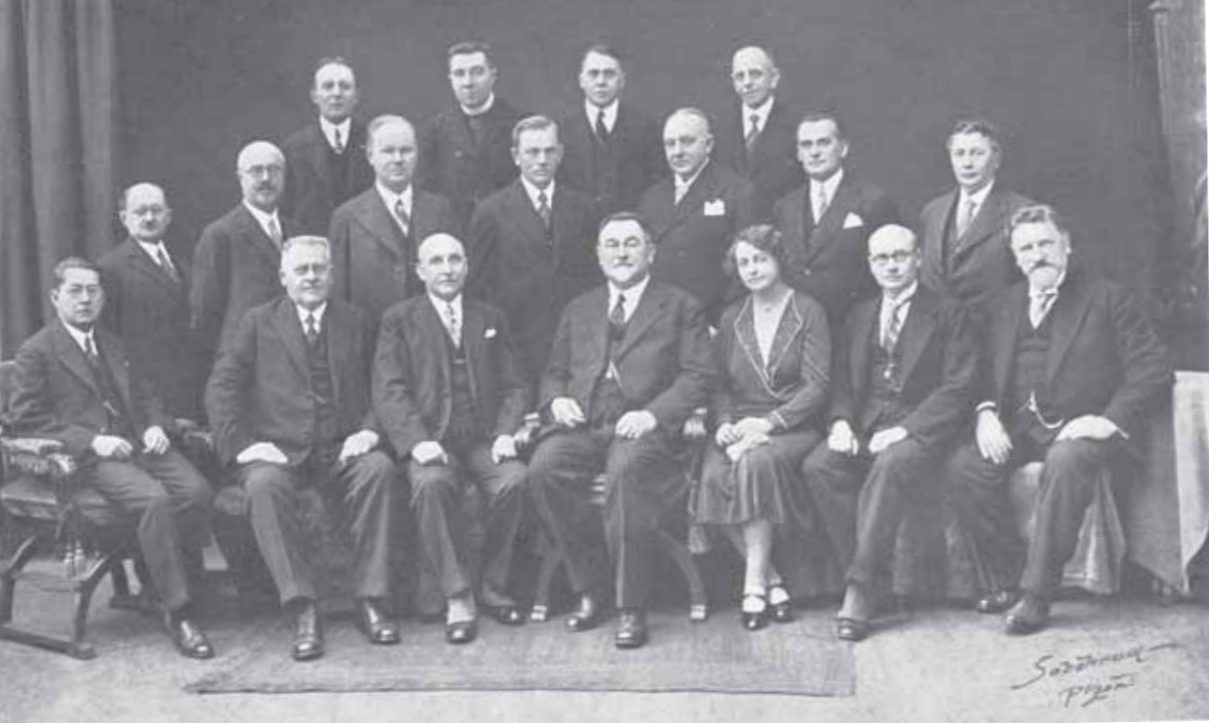
Emil starts as a first-year student at the school.

September 15

The so-called Nuremberg Laws are issued at the party congress of NSDAP in Nuremberg.

November 14

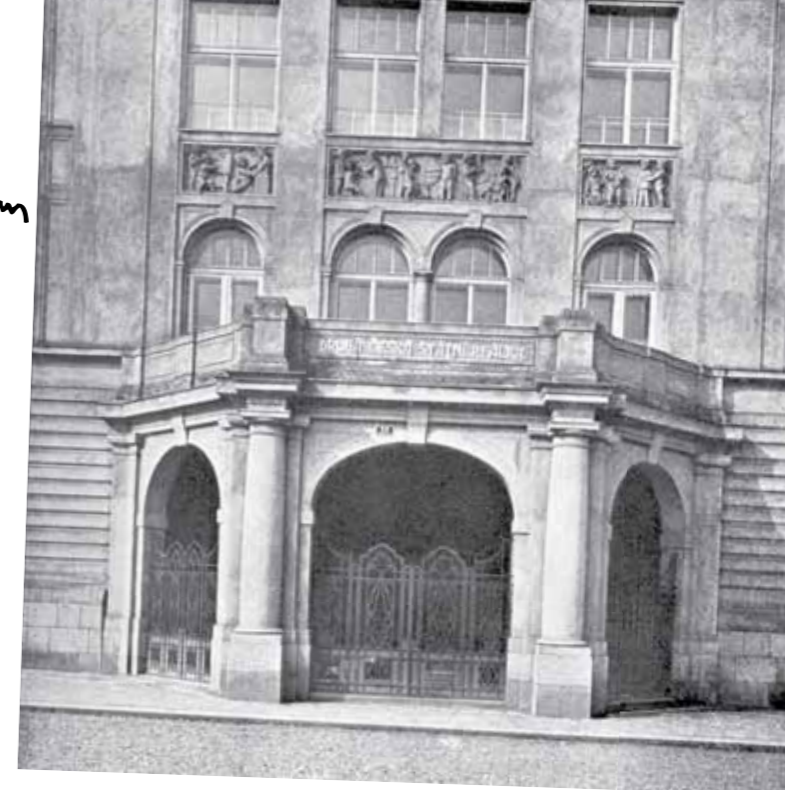
The first amendments to the so-called Nuremberg Laws are issued - they include definitions of a "Jew" and "mixed-blooded Jew."



In the second half of the 30s, the school staff numbered 36 teachers and two attendants.



auditorium



Second state Czechoslovak High School in Pilsen

"Machine Gun Company" →

Painted by Bohumil Konečný, a student in class VII-B. His schoolmates used to call him "Bimba." The man operating the machine gun is French teacher Rudolf Vobořil. The man standing behind him and pointing at the target is German teacher Karel Karásek. Observing the shooting is the calm history teacher, Dr. Jaroslav Fikrle. The next man in the row is chemistry teacher Čeněk Hecht and behind him is the married couple of mathematics and physics teacher Aleš Terš, the class master of VII-B, and his wife, Czech teacher Ludmila Teršová. The shooting is also observed by descriptive geometry teacher Jan Veselý and by gymnastics teacher Václav Krauz (with the pipe). At the end of the row, art teacher Josef Schuster is painting.



Nuremberg Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honor, September 15, 1935

Moved by the understanding that purity of German Blood is the essential condition for the continued existence of the German people, and inspired by the inflexible determination to ensure the existence of the German Nation for all time, the Reichstag has unanimously adopted the following Law, which is promulgated herewith:

Article 1.

- (1) Marriages between Jews and state subjects who are of German or related blood are forbidden. Marriages nevertheless concluded are invalid, even if concluded abroad to circumvent this law.
- (2) Annulment proceedings can be initiated only by the State Prosecutor.

Article 2.

Extramarital intercourse between Jews and state subjects who are of German or related blood is forbidden.

Article 3.

Jews may not employ in their households female state subjects who are of German or related blood who are under 45 years old.

Article 4.

- (1) Jews are forbidden to fly the Reich or National flag or to display the Reich colors.
- (2) They are, on the other hand, permitted to display the Jewish colors. The exercise of this right is protected by the State.

Article 5.

- (1) Any person who violates the prohibition under §1 will be punished by a prison sentence with hard labor.
- (2) A male who violates the prohibition under § 2 will be punished with a prison sentence with or without hard labor.
- (3) Any person violating the provisions under § 3 or §4 will be punished with a prison sentence of up to one year and a fine, or with one or the other of these penalties.

First Supplementary Decree of November 14, 1935

On the basis of Article III of the Reich Citizenship Law of September 15, 1935, the following is hereby decreed:

Article 2.

- (2) An individual of mixed Jewish blood is one who is descended from one or two grandparents who, racially, were full Jews, insofar that he is not a Jew according to Section 2 of Article 5. Full-blooded Jewish grandparents are those who belonged to the Jewish religious community.

[...]

Article 5.

- (1) A Jew is an individual who is descended from at least three grandparents who were, racially, full Jews...
- (2) A Jew is also an individual who is descended from two full-Jewish grandparents if:
- (a) he was a member of the Jewish religious community when this law was issued, or joined the community later;
 - (b) when the law was issued, he was married to a person who was a Jew, or was subsequently married to a Jew;
 - (c) he is the issue from a marriage with a Jew, in the sense of Section I, which was contracted after the coming into effect of the Law for the Protection of German Blood and Honor of September 15, 1935;
 - (d) he is the issue of an extramarital relationship with a Jew, in the sense of Section I, and was born out of wedlock after July 31, 1936.

On February 1, 1938, a memorandum reminded the students of the sixtieth birthday of [Prime Minister] Dr. M. Hodža. "We sent a congratulatory telegram to this important statesman and the display case in the hallway exhibited pictures relating to this exceptional moment."

From the 1937/38
Annual Report
(Chapter - "Chronicle of
the Institution")

1938

On March 5th the Central Association of Czechoslovak Professors organized a morning concert for students of secondary schools "in order to honor the noble memory of our late President-Liberator Dr. T. G. Masaryk on the occasion of what would have been his eighty-eighth birthday." On Monday, March 7th, on the day of his actual birthday, there was a commemorative gathering for students of the lower grades in our assembly hall. Among the performers was a fourth-year student, Eva Brummelová, who recited the poem "Man" by Mr. Hora.

At the beginning of March, our Czech professors reminded us of Masaryk's Day of Czechs and Slovaks Abroad. A collection organized among the students and teachers for their benefit raised 500 Czechoslovak crowns.

Occupation of Austria by the German army - the so-called Anschluss.

March 13,
1938

In connection with the Czechoslovak Red Cross' Easter drive, the Czech teachers explained to our students the importance of truth and sincerity as well as the importance of cleanliness of the body, school building, home, and community, and the importance of purity of thought as well as of action.

On May 7th, the Czech teachers instructed the students regarding proper respect towards their mothers.

(A year later, in July 1939, Eva leaves her "mother country" and thus saves her life - her family perishes at Auschwitz)

On May 10th, the state holiday of the Kingdom of Romania, the history teachers spoke during their lessons about the importance of Romanian-Czechoslovak friendship.

The birthday of our republic's president, Dr. Edvard Beneš, was commemorated on May 28th. A part of the program was the poem "Mother Country" by Viktor Dyk, recited by our popular elocutionist Eva Brummelová, a student in class IV-B.

Egon Löbner leaves the gymnasium - his father decides that it is more suitable for his son to learn something practical, so Egon transfers to a high school with a mechanical engineering curriculum.

Eva Brummelová transfers to a business academy.

The school year was concluded with a ceremonial gathering in the auditorium on June 22nd, during which the memory of Master Jan Hus was commemorated.

In an article written towards the end of the summer of 1938, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the foundation of the independent Czechoslovak state, Professor František Týml, writes:

"Our school was built on the healthy foundations of truth, science, and democracy – in Masaryk's spirit. We remember the twisted truths of the old school and the false and hollow education they provided. Our new curriculum expresses our ideals. It is an expression of a free school, of a school of science and diligence. It has, above all, the democratic spirit that makes the school an important epoch of [the student's] life during which the intellectual, emotional, and ethical part of the personality will be developed in an active and independent way.

Unfortunately, we have not been destined to always live a peaceful and happy life. Just as beautiful weather is often spoiled by storms, numerous worries and anxieties overshadow the splendor of our peaceful lives. Unbelievable efforts are trying to drag evolution a millennium backwards. Right now we are living through the same worries and hopes as we did twenty years ago. He who knows that peaceful times come after a storm, does not lose heart. We must not lose heart and become distressed even during the worst times. We do not want future eras to condemn us for losing heart and courage. That would be cowardice and betrayal. To lead and to encourage, that is the duty especially of those who uphold our culture and want to sustain it in the future – our intelligentsia.

No – it is not a cliché if we keep repeating to ourselves that we need to remember our great men: Hus, Komenský, Masaryk. Their motto was the truth. Hus died for it; Masaryk won with it. And there were times when the world was watching us with amazement: the period of the Hussites, the period of our resistance. Today, the eyes of the entire world are looking at this small country in the middle of Europe, which is a firm base of democracy and does not shiver under the shocks that can be felt all the way to its mountainous borders. And this country is today, once again, gaining the admiration and respect of the great ones that will not desert it."

Max B. Stýblo:
Before the Great Cleanup

We have sung odes to the West
for twenty years,
Until they cut up our loaf!
We have political parties here
and feed-troughs,
We have foreign immigrants,
We still bend our old Czech backs
Under foreign schmucks.
And what they got rid of elsewhere,
We feed in our republic.
We do have hoes! We do have
spades!
Leaning against the Czech gate,
We, the soldiers of this country call:
Gentlemen, give us - brooms!



Autumn 1938

↓ Reaction to the flow of German, and
especially Jewish refugees from the Reich

Max B. Stýblo:
Barrandov

In the past, laborers there dug
out rock,
Today, they dig up movies!
So the disgrace of Czech Prague
Can be even greater;
They speak Hebrew there
And German.
Ah, Barrand, you Gaelic son,
See how the nation has ended up!
Go get your hoe again.
In the past, you found ammonites
In the hard Czech soil;
Today, wherever you look,
you would find
An emigrant from the Reich.

Signing the Munich Agreement: Without the participation of Czechoslovak representatives, the Great Powers agreed on territorial dismemberment of Czechoslovakia. The so-called Second Republic comes into existence. Czech nationalists and anti-Semites are attacking the democratic and humanistic ideals of Masaryk's Czechoslovakia.

September 29,
1938

A pogrom known as "Kristallnacht" was unleashed in Germany and the Sudetenland. Most synagogues were either set on fire or damaged, Jewish stores were looted, and many people were murdered or hauled off to concentration camps.

November 9-11,
1938

Karel Čapek's success among Jews

Čin Magazine, led by the ideological communist Mr. Bohumil Prikryl, reports that the Hebrew Habima Theater in Tel Aviv has added Karel Čapek's play *The White Plague* to its repertoire. We do not protest and we congratulate Mr. Karel Čapek. The *White Plague* has finally ended up where it belongs. Indeed, the white plague rages among Jews.

"Večer," November 16, 1938, No. 319, page 3,
not signed.

Towards the end of 1938, Hana
Fantová terminates her studies
and begins to learn the trade
of seamstress.

You Will Recognize Them.

[...] We young people want to live. However, we see many obstacles in the way. We want to remove them. [...] We want only the working people to partake in the fruits of human labor. [...] The problem lies in the fact that the Czech economy is also in non-Czech hands. There will be no real political freedom without economic freedom. [...] Who rules our country's economy? You can tell who is at fault when you look at the low salaries and unemployment while others live in luxury. Those who live in luxury form about 3 percent of the population and they are enslaving us. Why? Because we do not actually know them; because we are too trusting. They proclaimed ideals for us and in foreign voices promised us castles in the air. We fought for those ideals while they meanwhile seized a great part of our national wealth, gained economic control over us, and have begun gaining political control as well. We have worked and we have been getting poorer – while they have done nothing and have been getting rich. Would you like to look for them? You will not find them where there is work, but you will always find them where there is wheeling and dealing. You will find them in stores of all kinds, in banks, theaters, movie theaters, law offices, medical offices. To be an employee – that is reserved for you; they own the companies. You will find them in cafes and bars; you will find them travelling abroad and in luxury spas. They are smart. They are misleading you by naming their corporations and other companies with Czech names. Watch them, ask questions. These people want to be represented in all political movements; they bet on all the cards in order to keep their power and to extend it ever further. Think about it – these people cannot live without you. Do not surrender to them; trust your own people instead. You can find them everywhere where money is made without work, without creating value, without even a shadow of counter value. You can find them as managers. [...] A simple question in the end: Do you recognize them?

(-zdeva-) "Venkov," December 11, 1938, No. 292, page 5.

1939

January 27

The Czechoslovak government decides that people of Jewish origin are not allowed to work in state services.

Hanaš Deiml leaves the high school in February

Rudolf Halík: Mother Land: The Safest Base

[...] Christianity does not contradict peasant culture, the law of the soil is not in contradiction to divine order. A man of the soil – a man of God – understands his life and his mission as a blessing and as an obligation to live and work on the land not only for temporal material gain, but also for those noble and valuable purposes that pertain to the existence of our souls. Just as the law of the soil is not paganism, neither is the struggle for racial purity. It would be a disaster for our nation were we not to make sure that Czech people are the first we take care of within our national boundaries. If the great German nation observes the purity of their race, the little Czech nation must do the same, because it cannot allow its territory to become the prey of another race. Care of the health and racial purity of the Czech nation is neither an expression of hate towards another race nor mysticism, it is simply an understanding of the obligations we have towards our nation. It is also here where the law of the soil, a calling engraved into the soul of the guards of our national soil, is a powerful positive factor that encourages people to start families of the same origin, blood, and language, and to guard the purity of the nation.

"Venkov," March 5, 1939, No. 55, page 1.

Opis.

P r e s i d i u m m i n i s t e r s t v a v n í t r a .

Čís. 2488.

V Praze dne 19. února 1939.

Zidovští příslušníci ve státní službě.

Důvěrné.
Velmi nutné.

Přílohy:

Panu zemskému presidentovi

v

P r a z e

B r n ě

na vědomí. K tomu sděluji toto:

I. Vláda republiky Česko-Slovenské se usnesla ve schůzi, konané 27. ledna 1939, aby v činné službě státní nebyli ponecháni zaměstnanci židovského původu.

Je tedy nutno učiniti opatření k tomu účelu, aby ve všech státních úřadech / ústavech, podnicích, fondech a zařízeních / přestaly vykonávat činnou službu osoby židovského původu.

Židovský původ je dán tehdy, jestliže oba rodiče / nemanželská matka / příslušeli, třeba jen po určité době, k židovskému náboženství nebo k židovské národnosti.

Za účelem splnění zmíněného usnesení vlády jest postupovati takto:

1/ Jest učiniti především pokus, zda dotčení zaměstnanci ne - odsjdu dobrovolně ze státních služeb, nebo zda nepodají dobrovolně žádost o pensionování. Při takovýchto žádostech je vzhledem k povaze věci míti vždy za to, že je splněna podmínka ustanovení § 79, odst. 1 služební pragmatiky, resp. obdobných ustanovení.

Copy.
Presidium of the Ministry of the Interior
Number 2488.
Prague, February 19, 1939

Jewish employees in state service.

Confidential.
Very urgent.

To Provincial Presidents in
Prague
Brno

For your information:

The government of the Czecho-Slovak Republic decided at its meeting on January 27, 1939, not to permit employees of Jewish origin to remain in active state service.

It is therefore necessary to apply measures for the purpose of terminating active service by persons of Jewish origin in all state offices (institutions, companies, funds, and other establishments).

A person shall be considered of Jewish origin if both parents (or unmarried mother) have belonged for any period of time to the Jewish religion or Jewish nationality.

In order to fulfill the government's decision, the following procedure shall be followed:

It shall first be attempted to have these employees leave state service voluntarily or to have them ask for voluntary retirement. In cases of voluntary termination of service, the stipulations of Section 79, Paragraph 1, on Service Pragmatism or similar regulations shall be considered to have been fulfilled.

March 15,
1939

Occupation of the Czech countries by the German army. Promulgation of the independent Slovak state. The Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia is declared on March 16th.

March 15th and the
time of occupation
in the memories
of Jiří Ruml,
a former student
of the high school.

Jewish employees in
state service

(...)

It is therefore necessary
to apply measures for the
purpose of terminating
active service by persons
of Jewish origin in all
state offices.

(...)

Vojtech Ježek, professor of Czech and French, was arrested for illegal activities on November 2, 1943. After being interrogated by the Pilsen Gestapo, he was transferred to the prison in Bory and later to Dresden. The so-called people's court sentenced him on December 8, 1944, to "loss of honor" and death for plotting high treason, aiding the enemy, and military espionage. He was executed in Dresden-Meissen on April 16, 1945, three days before the city was captured by the Red Army.

"Instead of going to our classrooms, we all go to the auditorium which is filling up quickly, but I do not see the boys and girls who come every day from Klatovy Švihov, Plzenec, and Chrást; perhaps the trains are not even running. But all the professors are present. Everybody wears a serious expression; none of the pupils dare to carry out any of the tomfoolery that is otherwise quite common at such gatherings.

Our principal, Mr. Pleva, does not even have to ask us to be quiet and can begin straightaway: 'Dear colleagues, professors, and students, it is my obligation to inform you that our president, Dr. Hácha, asked the Führer of the Great German Reich for protection of our country. The Führer generously agreed to answer his pleas and, as of today, the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia is established...'

Only the front rows, where students can be seen, continue to listen. There is a strange murmur floating through the spacious auditorium, so I cannot hear the entire sentences of our principal. I hear just their fragments: 'We must be grateful ... thousand-year history of our great neighbor ... order and discipline ... the safety of our lives under the protection ... our task at this historical moment ... new prosperity of our dear country ...'

[...]

Our history lesson today is on a special topic. Bišof reads to us from a piece of paper. It looks like he has had it prepared for a long time. It is about the history of the thousand-year empire and he reminds us that, a long time ago, the wise prince St. Wenceslas - he holds a greater place in history for professor Biskup than the Hussites - sent our neighbors a hundred grivnas of silver and three hundred oxen every year. We all agree that we could, at least in part, continue with the deliveries - there have always been enough oxen in Bohemia. [trans. note: This is a play on the Czech use of the word "ox" as an insult roughly equivalent to "fool" or "jackass."]

Some professors have begun to hide behind various regulations or instructions of their superiors, which means they have lost all our respect. There are even some who, when entering our classroom loudly kick their heels and lift their right arms in the Aryan salute on the same spot where they used to avoid wet sponges heaved, by chance, towards the door. This is, after all, their own business, but they require the same from us. Almost nobody wants to sit in the front rows because we who sit in the back can always use our right hand, which is supposed to make the salute, for scratching our ears or for adjusting our hairstyle.

Fewer and fewer of the professors perform this disgusting ritual merely perfunctorily and only exceptionally is one found who ignores it altogether - his lectures are now the most popular even if they used to be among the most feared.

The best among the good ones is our homeroom teacher, Vojta Ježek."

(From the memoirs of Jiří Ruml, "Znamínko na duši" [Mark on the Soul])

Tschechischer Landesschulrat
für Böhmen in Prag.
Prag III., Magdeburger Strasse 4.
Tel. Nr. 633 - 51.

Zahl: III - 4617 ai 1940.
Prag den 22. November 1940.

Runderlass für die
Mittelschulen Nr. 288.
Bezirksschulsausschüsse Nr. 305.

An die Direktionen.
Bezirks-(Stadt-)Schulsausschüsse.

Betreff: Verwendung des jüdischen
Schrifttums und der jüdischen Kunst
beim Unterricht.

Laut Zuschrift des Herrn Reichs-
protektors in Böhmen und Mähren vom
4. September 1940, Zahl XIV E I - J 3-
112/40, hat das Ministerium für
Schulwesen und Volkskultur mit dem
Erlasse vom 13. September 1940, Zahl
115.412/40-I/1, mit sofortiger Gültig-
keit bestimmt:

1. Es ist nicht erlaubt, beim Unter-
richt Werke (Auszüge aus Werken,
Leseproben) von jüdischen Schrift-
stellern und Autoren zu verwenden.
Dasselbe gilt von Abhandlungen über
die Kunst jüdischen Ursprungs jed-
weder Art.

2. Die Erwähnung jüdischer Wissen-
schaftler, Künstler und Schrift-
steller, wenn sie beim Unterricht
absolut nicht/ ^{zu vermeiden ist, muss mit} zurückgezogen-
heit erfolgen. Hierbei ist die nega-
tive Seite des jüdischen Charakters
und des Judentums überhaupt gehörig
zu beleuchten und auf den zersetzenden
Einfluss der jüdischen Rasse in
Kunst, Wissenschaft und Schrifttum
hinzuweisen.

3. Wenn es nicht möglich ist, beim
Unterricht oder in den Lehrbüchern
die Erwähnung eines Juden zu vermeiden,
muss er immer als Jude bezeichnet
werden. -

Hiervon setze ich Sie in Kenntnis.

Vizepräsident:

Dr. Dvořák.

Česká zemská školní rada
pro Čechy v Praze.
Praha III., Magdeburská 4.
Tel. čís. 633-51.

Číslo: III - 4617 z r. 1940.
V Praze dne 22. listopadu 1940.

Oběžník pro
střední školy čís. 288.
okres. škol. výb. čís. 305.

Reditelství.
Okresní (městský) školní výbor.

Věc: Používání židovského písem-
nictví a židovského umění při
vyučování.

Podle přípisu pana Říšského pro-
tektora v Čechách a na Moravě ze
dne 4. září 1940, čís. XIV E I - J 3
112/40, stanovilo ministerstvo
školství a národní osvěty výnosem
ze dne 13. září 1940, č. 115.412/40-
I/1, s okamžitou platností toto:

1. Používání při vyučování děl
(výpisů z děl, ukázky četby) židov-
ských spisovatelů a autorů není
dovoleno. Totéž platí o pojednáních
o jakémkoli druhu umění židovského
původu.

2. Zmínka o židovských vědci-
ch, umělcích a spisovatelích, nelze-li
se jí při vyučování vyhnouti vůbec,
musí být učiněna s největší zdržen-
livostí. Při tom jest třeba patrič-
ně osvětliti negativní stránku
židovského charakteru a židovství
vůbec a poukázati na rozkladný
vliv židovské rasy v umění, vědě
a písemnictví.

3. Není-li možno vyhnouti se při
vyučování anebo v učebních pomůckách
zmínce o židu, pak je jej nutno vždy
jako žida označiti.

O tom uvědomuji.

Vicepresident:

Dr. Dvořák.

25. 11. 1940 čís. 805

Czech School Board for Bohemia in Prague
Prague III, Magdeburská 4.

Number: III - 4617 from 1940
Prague, November 22, 1940

Circular for High school no. 288
District school board no. 305

Directorate
District (Municipal) School Board

Subject:
**Use of Jewish literature and Jewish art
in instruction.**

In accordance with directive No. XIV E I - J 3
112/40 of the Reich's Protector in Bohemia and
Moravia from September 4, 1940, the Ministry
of Education and National Enlightenment in its
decree No. 115, 412/40-I/1 from September 13,
1940, effective immediately, orders the following:

1. Using works (or extracts or readings from
books) of Jewish writers and authors is not
permitted. The same applies to discussions about
any kind of art of Jewish origin.

2. If it is not possible to avoid this completely,
mentioning Jewish scientists, artists, and writers
during the teaching process must be done with the
greatest restraint possible. At the same time, it is
necessary to properly explain the negative aspects
of Jewish character and Judaism generally and to
refer to the disruptive influence of the Jewish race
in art, science, and literature.

3. If it is not possible to avoid mentioning a Jew
during the teaching process, this must always be
done in such a way that the person is specified as
a Jew.

You have hereby been informed of this matter.

Vice-President:
Dr. Dvořák

A number of decrees against Jews are issued between March 1939 and November 1941, for example:

Jiří Schanzer successfully graduates from the high school in May.

Jiří Stein and Hanuš Lóšv terminate their studies and become laborers.

Eva Brummelová leaves with the "Kindertransport" for Great Britain in July.

September 1, 1939

Nazi Germany attacks Poland. Beginning of World War II.

With the intervention of the Gestapo, Emil Ehrlich leaves the school in September

① **Ban on the Use of Public Telephone Booths by Jews**

Prague, February 10th. The Directorate of Post Offices in Prague announces:

Jews who are required to wear the Star of David are not allowed to use public telephone booths (public telephone booths inside post offices, contractual public telephone booths, public coin-operated telephone booths).

Based on the ban stated above, delivering telephone summons and preliminary telephone announcements to Jews is also forbidden.

② **Ban on Providing Pork to Jews**

A decree of the Ministry of Agriculture in the Official Gazette from January 19, 1942, bans the provision of pork to Jews effective immediately. Communities shall mark all meat ration tickets for travelers and restaurants with the letter "J" prior to distributing the tickets. It is forbidden to provide pork for these ration tickets. Breaches of this ban will be prosecuted.

③ **Ban on Selling Czech Newspapers to Jews**

Prague: The Union of Publishers of Czech Daily Newspapers and Other Periodicals in Bohemia and Moravia advises that Jews are excluded from receiving Czech newspapers and magazines. It is therefore prohibited to provide Jews, by delivery, mail, or any other means, Czech newspapers and magazines of any kind. It is also prohibited to sell these newspapers to Jews at newspaper stands or through newsboys. In cases where Jews have a subscription to certain newspapers or magazines, their deliveries must stop immediately upon the expiration of their subscription or by the end of January 1942 at the latest. Any breach of this prohibition will be prosecuted. Specifically, any Jew who attempts to circumvent this prohibition in any way will be prosecuted.

Subject:

Use of Jewish literature and Jewish art in instruction.

① **Zákaz používání veřejných telefonních hovorů Židy.**
Praha, 10. února. Ředitelství pošt, Praha, sděluje:
Židům povinným nositeli židovskou hvězdu jest zakázáno používat veřejných telefonních hovorů (veřejných hovorů u poštovních úřadů, veřejných smluvních telefonních hovorů, veřejných mincovních telefonních automatů).
Z tohoto důvodu nelze také dopravovat a doručovat Židům telefonní výzvy a předběžná telefonní hlášení.

② **Zákaz výdeje vepřového masa Židům.**
Vyhláškou ministerstva zemědělství v Úředním listě ze dne 19. ledna 1942 se zakazuje okamžitou účinností vydávat vepřové maso Židům. Obce označí před výdejem lístků na poroviny Židům všechny ústřížky lístků na maso a lístků pro cestující a hostince na maso písmenem „J“. Na tyto ústřížky nesmí se vepřové maso vydávat. Přestupky budou stíhány.

③ **Zákaz prodeje českých novin Židům**
Praha: Svaz nakladatelů českých denních listů a jiných periodických časopisů v Čechách a na Moravě upozorňuje, že se Židé vylučují z odběru českých novin a časopisů. Je tedy zakázáno doručovat Židům české noviny a české časopisy všeho druhu donaškou, poštou nebo jakýmkoliv jiným způsobem a rovněž je zakázán prodej novin a časopisů Židům v prodejních kioscích nebo pouličními prodáváči (kameloty). Pokud Židé mají některé noviny nebo časopisy předplaceny, musí jejich dodávka být zastavena ihned, jakmile se předplatné končí, nejpozději však koncem ledna 1942. Každé neuposlechnutí bude

Jewish employees working in government offices and state institutions including courts and schools are dismissed; Jewish lawyers are not allowed to practice or to dispose of assets of any kind.

Jews are not allowed to sell real estate or businesses.

It is prohibited to educate Jewish children at state grade schools and high schools.

Jews are not allowed to visit restaurants or cafes. They are not allowed to visit municipal pools or public spas. ✪ In hospitals, sanitoriums, and almshouses, Jews are restricted to separate rooms.

They are not allowed to enter universities. They are obliged to surrender their radios. They are not allowed to be outdoors after 8 p.m.

Jews are completely excluded from engaging in business; their companies are transferred to Aryan hands.

Jews are forbidden to visit sports grounds.

Jews are forbidden to visit theaters and movie theaters.

Their identification cards have to be marked with the letter J.

They must surrender all of their valuables to banks.

They are not allowed to raise pigeons.

They are not allowed to rent cars.

They are not allowed to ride on steamboats.

They are allowed to do their shopping from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; later these hours are constricted to only 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

They are not allowed to use dining and sleeping cars on trains.

** In Pilsen, a lake by the road to Třemošná was reserved for Jews. The lake has been called "Židovák" (Jewish Place) till today.*

They are not allowed to ride in one-car streetcars; in two-car streetcars, they are allowed to use only the last deck.

They are not allowed to get vouchers for clothing or shaving soap.

They are not allowed to change their address or to leave their district.

They have to surrender their telephones, fishing permits, and driver's licenses. They are not allowed to attend driving schools or to fish.

They are not allowed to get rations of sugar, legumes, jams, or marmalades.

They are allowed to visit barbershops only between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

They are not allowed to enter any woods.

It is prohibited to publicly play or reproduce music created by Jewish composers.

They are not allowed to enter public libraries.

They are not allowed to smoke or to acquire tobacco products.

They are not allowed to buy or to receive as a gift fresh or canned fruit, cheese, sweets, fish, poultry, or game.

They are not allowed to sell or to donate their remaining belongings.

It is prohibited to accept Jews as apprentices.

They are not allowed to obtain onions.

They are not allowed to use buses, with the exception of war invalids and blind persons. They are not allowed to use trolley buses - no exceptions.

Jews must not be allowed to use Aryan names.

Among the anti-Jewish measures, I miss one that would direct the Jews to resume using their Jewish names, which they have exchanged for Aryan in recent years. You yourself wrote about the Jew Karny, whose name, twenty years ago, was Karpeles. Elsewhere Abeles changed his name to Alferd, Kohn to Kotek, Beck to Benda, etc. Rectification is urgently needed in this matter as well, so that one can tell immediately by the name with whom one is dealing. (V. Zounek, Kostelec n. Č. Lesy)

Half-Jews are still teaching in our schools.

As a teacher I find it hard to bear that so far our profession has not been thoroughly cleansed of unclean elements that weaseled their way into our midst — the educators of the young, the hope of the nation. Among us there are still a number of half-Jews who poison the souls of our youth and who are responsible for the fact that some of our teachers and professors are still living in the spirit of past years with that escaped traitor, Dr. Beneš, as their spiritual leader. If it is improper for a half-Jew to be a member of the staff of a newspaper, it is even less proper for him to be a teacher of our children!

(Božena Vornayová-Pokorná, teacher, Prague VIII)

"Polední List" (newspaper), November 11, 1941

living in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia begin wearing the Star of David with the inscription "Jude" on their clothes.

The fight against Judaism goes on (signed "Mch.")

[...] Many Czech people came to realize the extent of the Jewish infestation only on the day when this race began to wear the star. If everybody realized how many Jewish seeds have been secretly sown on our own Czech ground and how much weed, even now, still thrives at our every step, we would be much closer to the complete liquidation of the Jewish problem in our country. We will not get rid of the Jews and their influence with idle thoughts and indifferent observation. This is true not only for Jews stigmatized by their birth record or racial attributes but also for crossbreds and all of those who have absorbed their way of life and morals by living many years in close contact with them, for the Jew-Mason caste, and, last but not least, for the Jew-lovers who, with a completely misplaced compassion, think that we could deal with them in a different manner. These Jew-lovers have already been given sufficient information, advice, and words of warning. They must make their final decision, because our public interest cannot afford half-hearted solutions. Either they will align themselves with the awakened spirit of Aryan awareness and therefore also the Czech people, or they will stay with the Jews. In that case, however, they too will be put where they belong.

The first transport, the so-called "Construction Commando," arrives at Terezín.

Arnost Epstein is allowed to graduate from the high school despite his half-Jewish origin.

His sister, a fifth-year student, will be expelled from the school in 1943.

Attack of the German army against the Soviet Union ("Operation Barbarossa"). The process of murdering Jews begins in the conquered territories at the hands of the so-called Einsatzgruppen.

Emil Ehrlich, Jiri Stein, Hana Fantova, Egon Löbner, Hana Porgesova, Hanus Deiml and Hanus Löw, as well as their respective families and all Jews older than six years

1941

June 22,
1941

September 19,
1941

November 24,
1941

Jar. Pelíšek.



Zidé se stěhují z našlo
jsou pro nás navíd
Rozcházíme se s nimi
rozchodu, který bude
ký čas trvat, si můžeme
pomenout, zač jim m
vděčni, musíme si to př
protože je u nás čast
jsou stěhováním Zidů
stanoviaka jaksi zaražen
v duchu. VZ

Insolent Behavior of Jews

-mr- During the past several days, Jews have been buying sporting goods in Prague stores – rucksacks, knapsacks, hunting knives, silverware, etc. When they shop, they even demand goods that have already been sold and, overall, act so insolently that it would be appropriate if the shopkeepers simply threw these Jews out of their stores as undesirable buyers. If the Jews need rucksacks to wile away their time, they can sew them themselves from sheets instead of, once again, squirreling away things that do not belong to them and that they have no right to.

“Pražský List,” October 16, 1941

(Compassion in the wrong place). We have received news that some unknown Aryan men have been visiting Prague shops, especially in the suburbs, where they buy various items intended for travel, especially suitcases and rucksacks. They say these are for the poor Jews. These buyers claim that they are officers of the former army and when they encounter sympathy from the shop assistants, they talk favorably about Jews. First of all, these actions are a clear example of a breach of regulations related to the selling of goods to Jews, and, second of all, this is a case of very dangerous propaganda that could have terrible consequences not only for those who are spreading it but also for those who suffer from it. It is very regrettable that some are using their former army rank for inappropriate purchases. The compassion shown here by these Aryans (if it is compassion) is most definitely inappropriate and those who show it are in danger of being marked as Jews and therefore being subjected to the same fate that the Jews are now destined to.

“České Slovo,” October 18, 1941

RETRIBUTION (abridged)

Jar. Pelíšek

The Jews are moving out of our lands. In other words, we are done with them forever. We are parting with them and during this process, which will still take some time, we can remind ourselves what we are “grateful” to them for. This is worth recalling, because there are still some of us who somehow, looking at it as a humanitarian issue, don’t understand the removal of the Jews. Indeed, the Jews have been present everywhere and they have been behind everything. They have engaged in the most detestable game to destroy the lives and existence of nations from behind the sacred curtain, behind flags and banners of all colors. Just remember how it was. When Prague rejoiced with national euphoria on its streets festooned with banners on buildings belonging to Jews, only a few people realized that of all the glory, only the colors on the flags belonged to us.

However, much worse have been the consequences of the high-stakes games of Jews, played behind thrones and presidential desks, where the destinies of entire nations and the achievements of several generations have very often been at stake. The result of their effort on this field has been the fragmentation of Europe into tiny countries that have been suffocating in the knowledge of their own impotence. Moreover, people living in these countries have not been able to work creatively because they fear their neighbors. Instead of work, they formed mutual assistance pacts and bought guns made in Jewish arms factories.

The lost time of the past twenty years, during which Europe has not been able to advance on the world scene and during which many nations have raised a defeatist young generation of tramps and accordionists, who express their hopelessness in sappy songs, only confirms this.

However, from time to time, the Jews get what they righteously deserve. In our century, it is the Reich that is helping all of Europe escape the fateful trap that has been prepared for it by the Jews. And so these parasites of humanity are today getting the revenge they deserve from all European nations.

It is not possible to have mercy on their fate. And if the Israelite folk is leaving us with empty hands, it is only fair: they came here with just a backpack on their backs, so let them leave with just a backpack. And their helpers with them!

“Zlín,” November 5, 1941

Připomínky k sestavení výstroje

(platí jen jako směrnice, nikoliv jako předpis).

1. Příruční zavazadlo.

Jako příruční zavazadlo jest třeba vzít: sebou ty předměty, třeba pro několikadenní dobu.

Při sestavování příručního zavazadla jest podle možnosti a nutnosti

pokrývku nebo spací pytel	1 soupra
jídlo na 5 dní	mycí sou
jídelní misku nebo hrnek	ček, z
jídelní příbor	1 holicí
polní láhev	toiletní
kalíšek (kovový)	nejnutn
kapesní nůž	poišťáče
kapesní svítilnu a baterie	

2. Zavazadlo.

Zavazadlo není až do příjezdu na místo určení přístupné. Jest průběh během této doby nebude třeba.

Zavazadla vezměte s sebou zabalená v kufrech, bednách nebo míti popruhy, aby je bylo lze nositi na zádech.

Při sestavování zavazadel je podle možnosti míti na zřeteli:

Šatstvo:

teplý oblek, šaty
lehký oblek, šaty
pumpky — sukně
zimní kabát
plášť do deště
teplou příkrývku hlavy

Prádlo:

teplé košile
lehké košile
náčelníky
teplé spodky (dlouhé)
lehké spodky (krátké)
vlněné punčochy nebo ponožky
punčochy nebo ponožky
flanelové pyjama
pyjama
kapesníky
ručníky
utěrky
teplé pasy
ložní prádlo

Obuv:

pevné šněrovací boty
lehké boty
teplé bačkory

Nářadí:

Účastníci transportu nechtě vezmou s sebou tyto předměty, p

kamínka	truhláře
krumpáče	tesařské
lopaty	kladivo
sekery	kleště
tesařské pily	

Tyto předměty budou odvezeny současně se zavazadly a n

Tyto předměty je zvláště zabaliti a zevně označiti transp

Upozorňujeme znovu důrazně, že celková váha příručního za
a nářadí nesmí převažovati 50 kg, jinak zůstane zpět. Všeci
Vaším číslem a jménem.

Suggestion on what to take [Notes Related to Your Travel Kit] (guidelines only, not requirements)

1. Hand Luggage

You should pack in your hand luggage those things that you will absolutely need during the first several days.

When packing your hand luggage, you should consider the following:

blanket or sleeping bag, food for 5 days, food bowl or pot, silverware, water bottle, cup (metal), pocketknife, flashlight and batteries, kit for brushing your teeth, washing kit (sponge, 1 bar soap, comb, nail file, small mirror), shaving kit, toilet paper, most essential items of clothing for one week, small pillow or inflatable pillow

2. Luggage

You will not have access to your luggage until you reach your destination. You should therefore pack in it things that you will not need during your travels.

Your luggage can consist of a suitcase, box, or rucksack. All luggage must have straps, so that it can be carried on one's back.

When packing your luggage, you should consider the following:

Outer Garments: warm suit, dress, light suit, dress, knickers — skirt, winter coat, rain jacket, warm hat

Other Clothing and Linens: warm shirts, light shirts, undershirts, warm long underwear, short light underwear, wool stockings or socks, stockings or socks, flannel pajamas, handkerchiefs, towels, dish towels, warm belts, bed linens

Footwear: firm lace-up boots, light shoes, warm slippers

Accessories: tracksuit, pullover or cardigan, blankets, warm gloves (mittens), wool scarf, ear protectors

Daily Necessities: tools, nail brush, clothes, brush, mud brush, complete kit for cleaning, shoes, suspenders (belt), leather straps, shoelaces, garters, box of fat for leather, sewing kit (needles, safety pins, scissors, thread, buttons, darning, etc.), writing accessories, paper for writing, alcohol or kerosene stove, half-liter mug, sand for washing dishes, candles

Tools: Persons leaving with a transport shall take the following tools with them (if they have them):

heater, picks, spades, axes, rough carpentry saws, fine carpentry saws, rough carpentry axes (pole-axes), hammer (weight ½ kilogram), pliers of all kinds

These things will be taken together with your luggage and they do not count towards your allowed 50-kg weight limit.

These things should be packed separately and properly marked with your name and your transport number.

We want to emphasize again that the total weight of your carry-on luggage must not exceed 50 kilograms — excluding blankets, food, heaters, and tools. If it does, it will be left behind. All luggage must be marked with your number and name.

← Notes Related
to your Travel Kit

On January 17th, 22nd and 26th,
Emil Ehrlich, Hana Fantová,
Egon Löbner, Hana Porgesová,
Hanuš Deiml, Hanuš Lóvi,
and the other Pilsen
Jews were transport
to Terezín.

Pilsen becomes a "Judennrein"
Jew-free city, i.e. there
are no people left who are
defined as Jews by the
Nuremberg Laws.

1942

EXTERMINATION OF THE PILSEN JEWS

Radovan Kodera

More than sixty years ago an unprecedented event happened in Pilsen. Within ten days between the 17th and 26th of January, 1942 at least two thousand of Pilsen's citizens of all social classes and professions (from workers, craftsmen, tradesmen, and teachers to physicians, lawyers, bankers, and officials) were deported from the town in three large groups. Whole families, including old people and even very small children were deported. The only thing that made each of them appear different from the other inhabitants of the town was a six-pointed yellow star the size of the palm of one's hand sewn on the left side of their coats.

These people were labeled "Jews" on the basis of genealogical origin and of Nazi criteria without regard to their own nationality or denominational feelings. Under the so called "Nuremberg Laws," in effect since 1935 in the territory of the German Reich and, after the German occupation of the rest of Czechoslovakia also in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, they were gradually deprived of all their civil rights and liberties, their social status, property and employment, and they were subjected to gradually increasing administrative, psychological and physical repression. This forced transfer was merely another phase of a horrific process which was euphemistically called by its Nazi authors "The Final Solution of the Jewish Question".

The destination of the three special trains which left the Pilsen railway station on January 17th, 22nd and 26th, was the fortress town of Terezín, selected in the autumn of 1941 by Reinhard Heydrich as a place of concentration of all the Jewish people from the territory of the Protectorate. Along with the citizens of Pilsen there were also another 540 Jews, men, women and children, from nearby areas – the districts of Rokycany, Kralovice, Radnice, Zbiroh, Blovice, Manětín and Hořovice. Of all the trains heading for Terezín from the Protectorate and later from other European cities captured by Germans, these three transports from Pilsen were among the earliest.

Before the deportation, all involved were interned in the Sokol building in Štruncovy Sady for several days. Hundreds of people, men, women and children, spent days and nights together in the main hall and in adjacent rooms. They slept



on straw mattresses on the ground, cramped for space and treading on each other. On the date of departure, armed units of the German occupation army escorted them, already as prisoners and lined up in columns of four, to the trains. Each had to wear a label with their name and the transport number attached to their neck. The same markings were also used to label the luggage – suitcases and backpacks – which contained all their remaining property – warm clothing, a few personal items and food for several days. No one was allowed to carry more than fifty kilograms.

After many hours of travel the train finally arrived in the Bohušovice railway station, about two and a half kilometers from Terezín. From there they walked to Terezín carrying their luggage and accompanied by Czech gendarmes; the branch line into the town hadn't been built yet. Some old or sick people were transported on trucks. When they came to Terezín, the family members were separated – the town had not yet become an “open ghetto” and there were only army barracks serving as places of accommodation. Men able to work, women with children younger than twelve, and the old and sick were each assigned to different barracks. The barracks were not sufficiently prepared for the new inhabitants, however, and people had to sleep on straw on the ground. There were problems with sanitation and food. These barracks became prisons for their new “lodgers” – they were watched over by gendarmes, with no possibility of free movement. This changed on June 27th, 1942, when the eviction of the civilian [non-Jewish] population was completed and the gendarmes, under SS command, were withdrawn from the barracks to guard the city walls and gates.

The transports from Pilsen were marked with the letters “R”, “S” and “T”. They deported 2064 people from Pilsen itself and 540 from its surrounding districts. The oldest person was ninety year old Marie Ebenová from Litohlavý in the “T” transport. She died four days after her arrival in Terezín. By the end of January, another 21 aged people perished; eighty-year-old Luisa Schwarzová from Pilsen, coming in the second transport, died already on January 23rd. The youngest transported person was eight-month-old Eva Fischerová (the “T” transport). She survived in Terezín with her mother.

As early as March 11th and 18th, 1942, two transports designated “Aa” and “Ab” respectively, each with 1000 people, were sent from Terezín to the Izbica ghetto. They included 620 men, women and children from the Pilsen region.



Izbica is located in the Lublin area in eastern Poland or of the “General Gouvernement,” the Nazi name for occupied Poland. The ghetto was established in 1940 for the Jews of Izbica and surrounding areas. Similar ghettos were set up in many cities and towns with larger Jewish communities. Ghettos were usually enclosed by a wooden fence with barbed wire, and had several gates. They were guarded by SS units and Ukrainian guards. Jews interned there were used for slave labour in agriculture or nearby industrial plants. Their already inhuman living conditions were getting worse and worse as the situation of the German army on the eastern front changed.

During the first six months of 1942, fourteen transports of Czech Jews arrived in ghettos and concentration camps in the Lublin region – fourteen thousand men, women and children, that is, those who had previously been progressively concentrated in Terezín from the territory of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. 1320 people in these transports, i.e. more than a half, came from the Pilsen region. Subsequent transports to General Gouvernement departed from Germany and other countries of Nazi occupied Europe.

During the following eight months, other people from Pilsen were deported from Terezín to ghettos, concentration camps and extermination camps in eastern Poland, Belorussia, Estonia and Latvia. On October 26th, 1942, the first transport to Auschwitz left Terezín; the “KL Auschwitz II – Birkenau” camp became the destination of all later transports leaving Terezín.

Two hundred and eight people transported to Terezín from the Pilsen region died in Terezín during 1942 (and another seventy-one by the time of liberation in May of 1945). By the end of 1942, almost all deportees to the East had died under particularly horrific circumstances in ghettos and extermination camps. In December 1942, eleven months after the Jewish inhabitants left Pilsen to build “the town donated to the Jews by the Führer,” not even one third of the deportees was alive; more than one thousand eight hundred men, women and children were dead. Other people died during the succeeding years at various places, mostly in Auschwitz. Of the more than two thousand people deported from Pilsen to Terezín in 1942, only two hundred and four survived to the end of the war.

Photographs documenting the transport of Jews from Pilsen to Terezín (January 1942).



CLASS III. A

- 1, BALDA MILAN FROM PILSEN. 2, BENEŠ JAN FROM STARÝ PLZENEC,
3, BERAN STANISLAV FROM PILSEN. 4 BRABEC JAN FROM PILSEN. 5, CAJTHAML
FROM OLEŠNÁ (PILSEN). 6, ČERNÝ VÁCLAV FROM ŽÁKAVA. 7, ČERVENKA MIROSLAV
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FROM PILSEN 10, FEURICH VLADIMÍR FROM CHABAROVSK, USSR (ST. PLZENEC).
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NĚBĀNY, WITHDREW]. 24* LANGOVÁ JIŘINA FROM PILSEN (BOŽKOV). 25* LOJDA
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LUMÍR FROM NOVÉ ZÁMKY (PILSEN). 28, MAŠIN FRANTIŠEK FROM CHUST (PILSEN)
29, MATĚJKA KAREL FROM ZBIZOH (PILSEN). 30, MUŠEK JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN
31* MUŠKOVÁ SUKATAVA FROM BRNO (PILSEN). 32, MYSLÍK JAROSLAV FROM ZADOBÝČKE
(STARÝ PLZENEC). 33, NĚMEČEK MILOŠ FROM PILSEN. 34* NEŽDAL ENIL FROM PILSEN.
35, NOVÁK LUMÍR FROM PILSEN 36, NUSKA JAN FROM PILSEN. 37* PANZER BOROUŠ
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FROM OLOMOUC (PILSEN). 40* ŘIHA JAROMÍR FROM PILSEN. 41, ŘIŠSKÝ LIBOR FROM
ŽIŠTÁ (PLAS). 42, SKOLEK ZDENĚK FROM PILSEN. 43, SOPR VOJTECH FROM LIBLÍN.
44, STEIN JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 45, STĚPŠKA JAROMÍR FROM PILSEN.
46, ŠVĚTÍK ŠVEC FROM MĚST (CHRAST). 47* THOŘ ZDENĚK FROM PILSEN. 48, TOMÁŠEK
KAREL FROM KATOVY (PILSEN). 49, VAŘNA JAROSLAV FROM DOMÁŽICE (PILSEN).
50* VÍTHR ARNOŠT FROM PILSEN. 51, ZAVITKOVSKI JAN FROM PILSEN.
(50 students remained)

STATE PROFESSOR ANTONÍN HECHT,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

EMIL EHRlich

(December 24, 1923 Pilsen - ? May 18, 1944, Auschwitz)

Příjmení: E h r l i c h		Zaměstnání: pen. dělník		Region: 53350	
Jméno: Emil		Míst. adresa: P i l z e ň Bendova 5		Datum: 24.12.1923	
D a p o r t o v a n í (a):					
26.1.1942	Terezín	T 115			
18.5.1944	Osvětim	Bb 2173			
Z a m ě n í (a):					
				I.W.	

Summons to the transports were delivered by representatives of the Pilsen Jewish Community. People assigned to a transport were rounded up a few days prior to their departure at Štruncovy Orchards, where they spent the night sleeping on hay in an adjoining building. On January 26, 1942, Emil and his parents left in the last of the three transports dispatched from Pilsen to Terezín. When the people to be transported were being lined up, a sign was put around Emil's neck with the label "T 115." His mother's brother and father were assigned to the same transport. They, as well as his grandparents on his father's side, transported on January 18, 1942, in transport R, perished in Terezín.



The house on Sedláčkova Street in which the Ehrlich family ran a shop.

Prošívání přikrývek,

poplaky (kapny), peřiny,
matrace, slamníky atd.

nejlevněji přímo u známé firmy

Ehrlich v Plzni,

Třída českosl. legionářů 46.
Příliška: Sedláčkova 8, u rohu Ráské ul.

An advertisement promoting feather quilts, mattresses, etc. from the Ehrlich's shop

Emil was born on December 24, 1923, to Josef (born on August 29, 1893) and Hermína (maiden name Weissová, born on March 28, 1896, in Předence) Ehrlich. His parents married in June 1920. They lived at 5 Bendova Street and owned two clothing stores - one of them on Hájkova Street and the other on the corner of Říšská and Sedláčkova Streets.

In 1935, Emil entered the Second Czechoslovak State High School in Pilsen where he studied until the occupation in 1939. He studied French with his schoolmate Karel Matějka.

"Little Ehrlich went to the first year with us. He was the shortest of all of us and had the most absences [from class]." (Mr. Libor Říšský, classmate)

"He was a pretty quiet boy. He was not well endowed physically, but rather weak. He was sick quite often. He also had some kind of rash on his arm and behind his ear. He was treating it for a long time, the entire time I knew him, and I do not think he actually cured it." (Mr. Karel Matějka, classmate)

"He was a nice, quiet boy who was small of stature; he did not cause any problems, was unobtrusive, always tidy, and had polite manners." (Mr. Zdeněk Thoř, classmate)

"His face was pale with several pinkish spots. He also suffered from chronic colds. He tried his best to attend school but he suffered from these illnesses quite a bit. He would strive to catch up and would always ask us what we had learned when he was not present. But before long the situation would repeat itself. Otherwise, he was always dressed neatly; his parents took exemplary care of him and tried to help him succeed in his studies. They often walked him to school." (Mr. Josef Čipera, classmate)

"In the third year, I began studying French with him. I would say he was above average when it came to studying, but he was not good with French. That is why his parents asked Professor Endrýsová, who taught us French, if she could recommend somebody who would study with him. And she recommended me. So the entire year I studied French with him twice a week. We would study after school either in our house – I lived on Dobrovského Street – or we would go to their store on today's Prešovská Street. They used to sell underwear, shirts, sweaters, ties – that was their type of goods – and they had a little office behind the store. I was paid five crowns per hour. Back then this was the price of a monthly pass for the tram, so I had the money for that. What I often remember is Christmas 1938 when I got two shirts from his mother. I had them for a long time and when I had them on, I would always remember him." (Mr. Karel Matějka, classmate)

"When the German army occupied the future Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, he attended school for a part of the year but eventually was expelled. I still remember when they expelled him. That day we were sitting in our classroom when the school's principal knocked on the door. He walked in and talked to our teacher. He then ordered Emil to pack his things into his bag and to follow them. The door opened and there were two men in leather coats behind it – German Secret Police, the Gestapo. We never saw Emil after that. I secretly discussed the event with my schoolmates. We suspected the reason for his expulsion because the newspapers had already published articles on the solution to the Jewish question. But nobody had anticipated yet how terrible the fate was that awaited these people." (Mr. Josef Čipera, classmate)

"He had nice hair and long nails. He used to wear knickers and knee socks that were constantly dropping down on him. I clearly remember him always trying to pull them up but they would drop down again within a few moments. He also used to wear a small jacket and striped sweater." (Mr. Pavel Hauk, classmate)

"You could say he was unobtrusive but friendly, so there simply were no problems with him. In my opinion, everybody in our class - we had just four girls, the rest were boys – was nice to him. Any kind of racism would not even have crossed our mind back then. He was simply one of us." (Mr. Karel Matějka, classmate)



Emil's classmates at a class reunion in 2004. The arrow points to Mr. Karel Matějka.

When Emil began the fifth year, there was no other student of Jewish origin to whom the Nuremberg Laws applied left in the school. Some of them transferred for a short time to schools that taught more practical subjects, but only until they were expelled from those too.

Dear Miss:

Thank you for your detailed letter from which I have learned some things I did not know about our former high-school classmates. I am very sorry that you confirm the sad fate of these two schoolmates, about whom we have not heard anything since the fourth year, i.e., since 1939.

I hope you will understand that we remember only a very little about these boys, who did not stand out in their behavior or academic achievements up to the fourth year class (which had, hardly imaginable today, 52 students)!

I remember Emil Ehrlich, a petite, ailing boy, going first during the introductory warm-up exercises. It was admirable, considering his health conditions, that he did not attempt to avoid physical education activities, which must have been very demanding for him.

I would like to add that we also lost touch with other schoolmates who, after finishing the fourth year, transferred to one of the many vocational schools.

I am sorry, dear miss, that I cannot give you more information for your remarkable and praiseworthy work. I sincerely wish you success in further investigation!

Sincerely,
Miroslav Červenka

Pilsen, March 14, 2004

After he left the school, Emil worked as a laborer. His father continued, though in a subordinate position, to oversee the production of quilts. His mother worked at home. After two years and three months in Terezín, where they lost all of their other relatives, the three of them were deported to the East on May 18, 1944. They arrived at Auschwitz in transport Eb together with 1,062 men and boys and 1,437 women and girls. They were placed in B II b - the so-called Terezín Family Camp.

The Terezín Family Camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau

On September 6th, 1943, two transports (Dl with 2,479 people and Dm with 2,588 people) left Terezín. Their destination was Birkenau, in particular the newly created "Terezín Family Camp," a section of the camp designated as "BIIB." By Auschwitz standards, a relatively unusual reception awaited the deportees: they did not go through the standard selection, their hair was not cut, they were allowed to meet other family members (living in different barracks but in the same section) and the children had their own special children's section where they could play together and where they were secretly taught by their instructors. Their games were sometimes observed even by SS-members, including Dr. Josef Mengele. In all other ways the living conditions were as cruel as in the rest of Birkenau - prisoners suffered from hunger, cold, exhaustion from hard physical labour, diseases, and dreadful sanitary conditions. The Auschwitz underground movement found out that in the BIIB inhabitants' documents there was a note "SB" (Sonderbehandlung - special treatment). This was a term used for people destined for extermination.

On the 15th and 18th of December two other transports were sent from Terezín to the "family camp". They carried five thousand prisoners. On March 8th, 1944, almost 5,000 prisoners from the September transports were first separated from the others and then murdered in the gas chambers during the night.

Three more transports heading for this "family camp" and carrying 7,500 people left Terezín on the 15th, 16th and 18th of May, 1944. The prisoners from the December and May transports went through selections and therefore some of them got out of Birkenau to other concentration camps. At the beginning of July there were still more than six thousand people remaining in BIIB. All of them were murdered by gas between the 10th and 12th of July, 1944.

Out of the seventeen thousand five hundred prisoners of the "Terezín Family Camp" only 1,274 survived to the end of the war. Neither Emil Ehrlich's nor Eva Brummelová's family was among them.



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(50 students remained)

STATE PROFESSOR ANTONÍN HECHT,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

JIŘÍ STEIN

(January 16, 1923 Pilsen - ? September 1, 1942 Raasiku)

Příjmení: Stein		Zaměstnání: poz. dělnice		Bydletě. čís.: 55254	
Jméno: JIŘÍ		Datum narození: 16.1.1923			
Míst. adresa: Pilsen, Chebská 20					
D o p o r i o v á n (o):					
Dne	K a m T	Transp. čís.	Bez	K a m T	Transp. čís.
22.1.42	Terezín	B 259			
1.9.42	Raasiku	Be 165			
Z o m e l (o):					Přítel: 31

Jiří was born on January 16, 1923, to Otto (born on July 24, 1890, in Horní Sekyřany) and Hedvika (maiden name Hellerová, born on August 13, 1893, in Louny) Stein. His parents were married in February 1922 in Teplice. They also had a daughter, Hana (born on November 7, 1926). They lived at 20 Husova Street and they owned a clothing store.

In September 1934, Jiří entered the third year of the Second Czechoslovak State High School in Pilsen. When he was repeating the third year, one of Jiří's classmates was Emil Ehrlich.

He had left the school by the end of the 1938/39 school year and, just like Emil, entered "real life" as a day laborer. His father had a similar job just before his transport to Terezín; his mother worked at home, and his sister, Hana, helped out as a maid.

On January 22, 1942, Jiří, Hana, and their parents were transported to Terezín. On September 1st of the same year, they were deported in transport Be to Raasiku in Estonia. Here, about 200 young people from their transport were selected for work – it is not known whether Jiří and his sister were among them. The rest were transported to the Kalevi Liiva sandbank, shot, and buried in a mass grave there. Nobody from the Stein family survived the war.

"When I was in the first grade, Jiří was in class 2C; the homeroom teacher was professor Julius Lenk. Stein had to repeat the third grade, so he is recorded twice in the Annual Report – which means he is also listed in my class with homeroom teacher professor Antonín Hecht; that was in the school year of 1938/39.

I remember that on the whole he was unobtrusive, with dark hair, of heavier build and medium stature. He was really not the studious type."

(Mr. Zedněk Thoř, classmate)

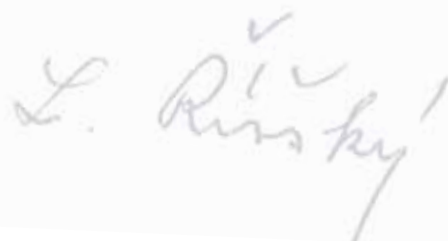
Miss Dvořáková,

Engineer Červenka and I reminisced about both of our former schoolmates but they were inconspicuous. Little Ehrlich went to the first year with us. He was the smallest of all of us and had the highest absence from class. I only remember that he was of the Mosaical [Jewish] faith. Stein did not come to our class until probably the third year. He was of medium build and was a born businessman. He would bring extra sheets of drawing paper to our painting class and would sell them to us with a profit of 5 hallers apiece. Our relationship was friendly. I do not remember that they had any closer friends. Stein was a member of the Stopa Boy Scout troop. I do not remember anything else.

Sincerely,

L. Říšský

December 14, 2003



Jiří's sister
Hana in
a photograph
taken in
the Terezín
ghetto.



| Kateri Liiva



THE “BE” TRANSPORT TO ESTONIA

Lukáš Příbyl

On Tuesday morning, September 1st, 1942, one thousand Jews were led from Terezín to Bohušovice train station where a passenger train had already been prepared for them. They had their luggage of maximum weight 50 kilograms on small carts and their numbers hanging around their necks. Old and sick people were transported to the train on vans. The next morning the train was already far beyond Dresden; the subsequent route led through Posen, Bromberg, Marienburg and Tilsit. The deportees did not suffer from hunger – they received bread and canned food in Terezín and were even given some water at several stops. But it was hot in the wagons, there was too little room and people's legs got swollen from being seated so long. The train arrived in Riga on the fourth day, but moved on again several hours later. A rumour quickly spread: Riga's ghetto was full and the involuntary passengers of the train had been rejected by the local authorities. Further on, the route led through thick northern forests and past small railroad stations with unpronounceable names. On the morning of September 5th, the train arrived in the Raasiku station, the wagon doors were abruptly opened, and people began to get off the train. They were awaited by Estonian SD [Sonder Dienst, special service] members, young Estonian guards with guns and cudgels and a few German SD and SS men.

When the Czech Jews were stretching their legs after the long journey, none of them had any idea that within a few hours four fifths of them would be murdered.

The Czech deportees were immediately sorted by a group of officers. The strong and young ones were sent to one side, children and old people to buses on the other side. The Jews were reassured a little when they saw such modern blue buses with shiny chrome plating, and some expressed the view that the situation could not be bad when such good transportation was provided. Soon there was a crowd because everyone was exhausted after the long journey and wanted to sit down. The young were told to get the luggage off the train and load it onto trucks. People unwilling to be separated from each other were assured that the separation was only temporary and that they would meet again in the camp. The young ones were told to leave the seats to old people and children, to help load the luggage, and to ride on the trucks, which old people could fall out of. Whenever a truck was loaded, the guards chose several girls to get on and to leave with the luggage. Young men stayed in Raasiku until all the girls and women had left. All the time the old people and children were boarding the busses. The vehicles always left and after a while they returned for other groups of Jews. No one had the slightest idea that the blue buses meant death and that the people leaving in them would never be seen again.

One of those who were in command of the massacre testified: “Everything was prepared for the shooting in Kalevi Liiva. The pit had already been deepened and the firing squad with submachine-guns was waiting in there. Three Estonians and three Germans stayed by the bus and ordered the prisoners to get off and undress. Most of the members of the firing squad had cudgels in their hands and beat the prisoners who were undressing too slowly or unwillingly. As they were passing by me on their way to the ditch I was taking their earrings, rings and watches off. From the pit came the sound of gunfire. Afterwards, heartbreaking screams and moans came from the pit. The prisoners who were getting undressed at the bus began to get agitated and those who had already passed by me didn't want to go into the ditch. So they start to beat them with the cudgels. Then the screaming from the pit stopped and everything proceeded normally. Only shouting could be heard: schneller, schneller, schneller! [faster] as they chased the prisoners into the pit.

Later it turned out that the horrible screams were caused by two members of the execution squad because they started pulling out prisoners' teeth with pliers before killing them. The shooting took the whole day, with short pauses between the arrivals of prisoners. During these breaks vodka was drunk and pastry was eaten.”

This incident with the teeth was later officially investigated because such behaviour could have affected the “peaceful” process of murder. Litres of vodka and the victims' gold were used to forestall any possible arousal of compassion among the guards and killers.

During the execution of the first transport there was no attempt at escape. While the passengers of the blue busses were dying in Kalevi Liiva, two hundred young people with their luggage were taken in groups on trucks several kilometres through the beautiful northern countryside to a camp in Jägal.

Fewer than fifty people from the Be transport survived the war.

CLASS IV. B.

- 1, *BARTUŠKOVÁ JARMILO FROM BRNO-KRAČOVO POLE (PILSEN). 2, BLAŽHA JOSEF FROM NÝŘANY. 3, *BRUNNHELOVÁ EVA FROM PILSEN.
4, *ČERNA ŠÁRKA FROM POŽÍCANY (PILSEN) 6, *FANTOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 5, FANT JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 7, GRUBER VÁCLAV FROM ZBÜCK. 8, HÉVR ANTONÍN FROM UŽHOROD (PILSEN). 9, HELOUBKOVÁ KVĚTOSLAVA FROM PILSEN.
10, HOLÝ MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 11, HEDINA KAREL FROM PILSEN. 12, LABAŤ KAREL FROM ZÁLUŽÍ. 13, KOHOUT RUDOLF FROM VELKÉ HYŠŤICE (PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA).
14, LAUTERSTEIN MIKRO FROM PILSEN. 15, *LODLOVÁ JARMILO FROM DLOUHÉ HRADISTĚ (TYMAKOV). 16, *LÜBNER EGON FROM PILSEN.
17, MAŘÍK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 18, MORAVEC JAROSLAV FROM KOZČÍN. 19, NEBESÁŘ MILAN FROM NEZVĚSTICE (PILSEN). 20, NOVÝ VLATISLAV FROM PILSEN.
21, PECKOVÁ MIROSLAVA ~~TRNAVA~~ FROM TRNAVA (PILSEN). 22, PEBŠEK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 23, PETŘÍK JIŘÍ FROM PLASY. 24, PROCHÁZKA VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN. 25, RLS HUBERT FROM PODMOKLY, ROZTYCANY (PILSEN) 26, SOUČEK JAN FROM PILSEN. 27, STRAFA MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN (DÝŠINA). 28, STREJC JAROSLAV FROM BUKOVEC. 29, SUCHÁ ŠÁRKA FROM NOVA HUTĚ. 30, SUCHÝ JAROSLAV FROM CHRAST. 31, ŠYKORA JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 32, ŠVEDIVÝ FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN (LÚJEZO). 33, ŠLOUF JAN FROM KOPORNO (PILSEN). 34, ŠMÍD MIROSLAV FROM LIPNICE (PILSEN). 35, ŠTEFNER LADISLAV FROM PILSEN. 36, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN (ČERNICE). 37, SUCH JAROSLAV FROM ZDENTYSLICE (PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA).
38, *TEJŠKA JIŘÍ FROM OBOZA. 39, VACEK VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA. 40, VALEČKA MIROSLAV FROM DOBŘANY (PILSEN). 41, VALEŠ JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN.
42, VOŘÁPKOVÁ MARIE FROM PLASY. 43, VURM KAREL FROM DRUSCOVA. 44, WILDMANNOVÁ BOHUMILA FROM PILSEN. 45, ZÁLESKÝ JAROSLAV FROM NÝŘANY (PILSEN SKVŘANY). 46, ZAWITKOVSKI JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.

(49 students remained)

STATE PROFESSOR JULIUS LENK,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

EVA BRUMMELOVÁ

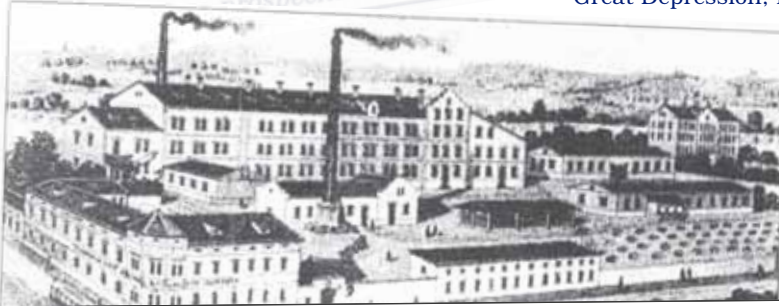
(July 15, 1923 Pilsen)

Eva Anna was born on July 15, 1923, the first daughter of Leo (born on March 10, 1890) and Gertruda (maiden name Liebsteinová, born on September 22, 1899) Brummel. Their second daughter, Eliška Karolína, nicknamed Lilly [or "Lilka"], was born three years later (March 14, 1926). They lived at 100 Klatovská Street. Eva's father was a co-owner of Brummel, Bloch, and Waldstein Tannery, which used to be on the corner of Kalikova and Přemyslova Streets. Their nanny, Beta, from Bručná, was a permanent member of the household.

The Brummel family came from Nová Ves in the Rakovnic area. Grandfather Mořič learned the tanning trade in Kožlany and later moved to Klatovy where the family lived until 1905. Father Leo graduated from the state high school (gymnasium) in Klatovy. He was a prisoner of war in Russia; after his return he took over the tannery in Pilsen. When the company went bankrupt during the Great Depression, Leo worked in Sušice.

The brothers Jan and Leo married the Liebstein sisters - Jana and Gertruda (Jan and Jana Brummel survived Auschwitz). Markéta Brummelová, Leo's sister, married Leo Eisenschiml from Klatovy (she perished in Birkenau).

*Brummel, Bloch and Waldstein
company advertisement*



Brummel, Bloch, and Waldstein

The company had its origins in the factory of Joachim Kohn and Son, founded in 1862. It is among the oldest tanneries in Bohemia. The former owners made almost exclusively full-grain leather. They supplied the military with tanned calf hides for backpacks. The Brummel, Bloch & Waldstein Company makes tanned shoe soles, tanned-compound shoe soles, belt leather (oak tanned and chrome-tanned), and smooth leather for horse-trappings, as well as leather for haberdashery and all industrial purposes. There is a modern belt shop attached to the factory where renowned machine drive belts of all kinds are made. The factory is equipped with every modern technical device due to the purchase of the most modern specialized machines for treating leather. A steam engine of 250 HP with a

generator provides electric power that, through several engines, drives the individual machine departments. Work areas are spacious and well lit. All devices necessary for workers' safety have been carefully put in place. A large apartment building for the workers has been purchased near the factory. The products of the Brummel, Bloch & Waldstein Company are known and liked everywhere for their excellent quality and workmanship; they have won awards at many exhibitions. The company's goods are distributed throughout the entire Czechoslovak Republic. It supplies renowned leather companies and industrial firms, as well as shoe factories. Among their permanent customers are the military, the Czechoslovak State Railroad, and several other state institutions. The company is also very well known abroad - it exports its products not only to the succession states of the former Monarchy, but also to Germany, England, and the United States

The Brummels spoke Czech at home, except that during family meals the parents insisted on speaking German. Eva was supposed to learn a little more German in her school – the Second City School at Chodské Square. She also occasionally conversed in French with her mother. In 1934, Eva entered the Second Czechoslovak State High School. Her schoolmates acknowledged her as a “very talented student, whose knowledge was above average; she was often pointed out as a model example by the professors but she always behaved very modestly” (according to Václav Gruber, one of her schoolmates). When she finished the fourth grade in 1938, Eva left the high school and went to study at the Business Academy on Petákovo Square for a year. Thanks to Nicholas Winton, she left for Great Britain in July 1939.



Eva and Lilka with their aunt
Markéta from Klatovy

Observations from the memories of a schoolmate, Mrs. Jarmila Bartůňková-Kreyzová:

“We used to go for walks with Eva to Borský Park. There were about five of us girls, schoolmates, who saved some money and then organized a little party at the Brummels. Their cook made us a cake, so we had a feast. Their parents were always gone somewhere and Eva and Lilka were often home alone in the evenings.

I already knew how to dance and, during the period when the boys had their physical education classes, I taught Eva, and also other girls. I can remember that melody... Eva had an aunt who lived in a villa on Husova Street. The house had a flat roof, so we would go there with Eva to sunbathe. The aunt had all kinds of old gramophone records and we would dance to them.

For half a year before she left for England, she attended the Business Academy with my (future) husband. At that time, Eva took private English lessons, so she was probably preparing herself to leave.

And if I remember correctly, her dad stayed in Pilsen for a long time. I used to see him shoveling snow by the train station. At the time when they had to wear the star, Lilka was friends with Honzina. Honzina was a poor girl and they helped her a lot. When Lilka was not allowed to go shopping anymore, Honzina would do the shopping for her and bring it to Mrs. Brummelová.”



Mother Gertruda



Eva and Lilly



father Leo

Eva (at the
time of her
departure)



At Christmastime in 1938, a twenty-nine-year-old British man named Nicholas Winton arrived in Prague. He had been heading for Switzerland but his friend Martin Blake persuaded him to come to Czechoslovakia instead. Martin worked for a British refugee committee and organized the emigration of adults who were endangered by the Nazis. Winton was trying to find a way to get Jewish children to safety. He was acting alone, so he had to overcome several bureaucratic obstacles. He arranged visas, medical certificates, and so on. But most of all, he had to find people who were willing to take individual children. He managed to organize transports to Sweden and especially to Great Britain. Unfortunately, his last train with 250 children never left. It was September 1, 1939 - World War II had just started. Thanks to his exceptional efforts, Nicholas Winton saved the lives of 664 children.

Eva's parents had debated for a long time about their children's opportunity to emigrate alone, without them. Eventually, they let them decide for themselves. While Eva decided with no hesitation to leave, Lilka decided to the contrary. Her mother was basically happy with this situation - she was glad that at least one of her children stayed home with them.

Shortly after she arrived in Birmingham, Eva wrote a letter home (correspondence took place without significant limitations until 1940; during the war, it went through the Red Cross).

"Dear All!

July 3, 1939

I am sure you have already received my telegram that Mr. Pament sent immediately after my arrival, so you know I arrived safely. I am very happy now too - Beckenham is so heavenly beautiful that you can hardly imagine it. Well, I am going to describe my feelings and all the events as they unfolded.

We left Prague after a huge delay and the children were already very sleepy and tired. Mom, I took my shoes off as you told me to. The following kids were in our compartment (I was supposed to look out for them and I did; a really cool Russian girl, Tařana Bogosov, was helping me): 5-year-old Renata Kressov, 9-year-old Lia Blumov, then the little Rita Hackerov from Pilsen - they put her in our compartment immediately after our departure from Prague. In addition, there were two girls, about 12 years old, but one of them was not assigned to our compartment, she was just visiting. And finally Tařana and me; that is enough, isn't it? So, first of all, we arranged everything and put those 3 smaller kids to sleep, while we were just drowsing, sitting but not sleeping. Rita screamed terribly for about half an hour but eventually fell asleep and slept for a long, long time. We arrived at Terezn on the Czech-German border this way. We were stalled there for 4 hours because the lady who was going with us forgot our tickets in Prague. At least that is what I think it was. During the day, we would take turns sitting on the seats (we covered ourselves with jackets and cushioned ourselves with all kinds of things) but I did not fall asleep. I had a really good talk with Tařana, who is very smart and has already been to Russia, France, England (twice), Sweden, Norway, Yugoslavia, and I do not know where else. We also spoke a little bit of English - she speaks very well; she has an uncle here. I would also read aloud a little to the Bruners' kids from the Punfa book. There was a German inspection on the German-Dutch border and a Dutch inspection in the first Dutch town we arrived in. Both of them were very reasonable. In Holland, they gave us warm cocoa and an excellent piece of bread with butter and cheese. The bread was nothing like the bread at home; it was completely white like a sandwich (did I write it right?). Then

3. VII. 39.

Milá vřichní

dajíte jí mate miš telegram, který pan Pammment odeslal
 hned jak jsem přijela a vše se jsem dobře došlo. Také teď
 jsem tu velmi šťastná a Beckenhau je tak bořsky krásný,
 že si to sotva dovedete představit. Budu Vám tedy teď líčiti
 mé dojmy a vše tak jak to bylo za sebou.

Š Práhy jsme vyjeli s krásným křovidlem a děti už
 byli krásně ospalí a unavení. Mamko, vlekla jsem si
 ihned boty, jak jí mi to řekla. V našem oddělení byli
 tyto děti (na ty jsem měla dávat pozor. Také jsem dá-
 vala, pomáhala mi jedna krásná milá šába, Ruska jmé-
 nemu (Pátina Bogrová) Šti letá Renata Krenová
 Šti letá Lila Blumová, potom ta malá Rita Glácherová
 z Plzně tu nám tam dali hned po odjezdu z Práhy.
 Dítě dvě asi tak tři leté šáby, ale ta jedna nepatří
 ta do našeho kř kupa a byla tam jen na návštěvu
 vě. A pak šába a já, to státi ne? Tak napřed jsme
 vši urovnaly a pak jsme uložily ty 3 menší děti a
 my jsme podruhovaly v sedě, ale usopaly jsme.
 Rita asi 1/2 hodiny děsně vřela, ale pak usnula
 a šabla děsně dlouho. Pak jsme došli do Píseň



Eva in 1945,
in England



Meanwhile, Eva's parents and her sister moved to a smaller apartment in Pilsen on Veleslavínova Street. Lilka would meet her group of friends at Židovák pond - including Zuzana Růžičková and Hana Fischerová, who survived the concentration camps, and Hana Steinová, who probably perished in Estonia. The top picture here shows Lilka (on the left) and next to her František Příbyl, the son of the Pilsen Museum curator; František has little Viktor (Viky) Stein on his back - Victor died in Majdanek. The other picture shows, from the left: Erich Ordner and Hanzi Benischová, who wanted to get married after the war, and Lilka Penížková; top row: Karel Kumpera and Marie (Mimka) Ehrlichová; on the end are Polda Weisskopf and František Příbyl again, lying on the ground. When Hanzi Benischová and Lilka Penížková returned from Křivoklát (where they labored in the woods during their captivity in Terezín), they were sent on a transport to Auschwitz. There, they died in September 1943 together with Erich Ordner, who went with them voluntarily.

Lilka, photographed by
Mr. Kumpera in Pilsen, 1942



Karel Kumpera, together with his like-minded friends, led a private war against the German occupiers. However, as he himself says, he only did what he considered to be the right thing to do. He would meet with Jewish youth (including Lilka) in houses of persons of Jewish origin who were protected by the fact that they were married to an Aryan - Mrs. Marta Rappová, whose parents owned a delicatessen, or Mrs. Františka Kubičková on Sedláčkova Street. The card written by Truda (Gertruda Brummelová) after her arrival in Auschwitz on September 7, 1943, was addressed to Mrs. Kubičková. Mrs. Rappová would collect parcels with food that could be sent to individual persons in Terezín; the parcels were then taken to Pilsen-Doubravka - the only post office from which it was permitted for them to be sent.



Mr. Kumpera recounts:

“Mr. Brummel would lie down at nine and immediately fall asleep and we would read in the next room. They had two twin beds side by side, Lilka and her mother, so I would lie between them and read. Those were fantastic times.

Mr. Brummel was a very sociable type. He was always merry, and it was always fun to be with him.”



The Brummels were not sent on any of the transports from Pilsen. Instead, they went to Terezín from Prague in July 1943. Once in Terezín, Lilka and her aunt Jana were sent to work in the woods around Křivoklát. At that time, Karel Kumpera was camping with his friends nearby. They were able to secretly meet there and even to pass along parcels containing food.

On September 6, 1943, Leo, Gertruda, and Lilka were deported to the Terezín Family Camp in Auschwitz. During Christmastime in 1943, Leo Brummel met the Sachsel family there (Hana Sachselová married Karel Kumpera after the war) and gave them several pieces of "invaluable advice." He told them that nobody could last in Auschwitz longer than half a year. On March 8, 1944 (six months after their arrival in Auschwitz), Lilka, Gertruda, and Leo were murdered during the mass liquidation of the Terezín family camp.

→ see Emil Ehrlich

After the war ended, the remaining relatives wanted Eva to return home and study medicine, which she had become interested in while in England. She came home in the summer of 1947 and then did not return again until 1960 when she came for the funeral of her uncle Jan. After the war, some of her relatives worried that the British authorities might not let her return; after 1948, there was a danger that the Czechoslovak authorities might not let her leave (despite the fact that she already had British citizenship). Since the end of the war, Eva has corresponded with her relatives in Pilsen and as of about 1970 she also began visiting Czechoslovakia on a regular basis. Among her schoolmates, she kept in touch with Šárka Černá and Egon Löbner.

In 1955, Eva married Michael Brian Nelson in Birmingham and after they had children they moved to Bristol. Their older daughter, Susan (born on June 11, 1958), lives in Bristol. The younger, Gillian (born on November 19, 1959), lives with her family in Worthing (West Sussex). Eva has four grandchildren: Richard (18), Kiera (16), Adam (15), and Chloe (11).



Eva and her husband Michael Brian Nelson

CLASS IV. B.

- 1, *BARTUŠKOVÁ JARMLA FROM BRNO-KRAČOVO POLE (PILSEN). 2, BLAŽHA JOSEF FROM NÝŘANY. 3, *BRUNNMELOVÁ EVA FROM PILSEN. 4, *ČERNA ŠÁRKA FROM POŽÍCANY (PILSEN) 6, *FANTOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 5, FANT JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 7, GRUBER VÁCLAV FROM ZBÜCK. 8, HÉVR ANTONÍN FROM UŽHOROD (PILSEN). 9, HELOUBKOVÁ KVĚTOSLAVA FROM PILSEN. 10, HOLÝ MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 11, HEDINA KAREL FROM PILSEN. 12, LABAŤ KAREL FROM ZÁLUŽÍ. 13, KOHOUT RUDOLF FROM VELKÉ HYŠŤICE (PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA). 14, LAUTERSTEIN MIKRO FROM PILSEN. 15, *LODLOVÁ JARMLA FROM DLOUHÉ HRADISTĚ (TYMAKOV). 16, *LÜBNER EGON FROM PILSEN. 17, MAŘÍK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 18, MORAVEC JAROSLAV FROM KOZČÍN. 19, NEBESÁŘ MILAN FROM NEZVĚSTICE (PILSEN). 20, NOVÝ VLATISLAV FROM PILSEN. 21, PEČKOVÁ MIROSLAVA ~~TRNAVA~~ FROM TRNAVA (PILSEN). 22, PĚŠEK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 23, PETŘÍK JIŘÍ FROM PLASY. 24, PROCHÁZKA VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN. 25, RLS HUBERT FROM PODMOKLY, ROZTCANY (PILSEN) 26, SOUČEK JAN FROM PILSEN. 27, STRAFA MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN (DÝŠINA). 28, STREJC JAROSLAV FROM BUKOVEC. 29, SUCHÁ ŠÁRKA FROM NOVA HUTĚ. 30, SUCHÝ JAROSLAV FROM CHRAST. 31, ŠÝKORA JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 32, ŠEDIVÝ FRANTOŠEK FROM PILSEN (LÚJEZD). 33, ŠLOUF JAN FROM KOPORNO (PILSEN). 34, ŠMÍD MIROSLAV FROM LIPNICE (PILSEN). 35, ŠTEFNER LADISLAV FROM PILSEN. 36, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN (ČERNICE). 37, SUCH JAROSLAV FROM ZDEŇTYSLICE (PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA). 38, *TEJŠKA JIŘÍ FROM OBOZA. 39, VÁCEK VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA. 40, VALEČKA MIROSLAV FROM DOBŘANY (PILSEN). 41, VALEŠ JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 42, VOŘÁNKOVÁ MARIE FROM PLASY. 43, VURM KAREL FROM DRUSCOVA. 44, WILDMANNOVÁ BOHUMILA FROM PILSEN. 45, ZÁLESKÝ JAROSLAV FROM NÝŘANY (PILSEN SKVŘANY). 46, ZAWITKOVSKI JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.

(49 students remained)

STATE PROFESSOR JULIUS LENK,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

HANA FANTOVÁ

(November 18, 1923 Pilsen - ? March 19,
1942 Izbica)

"I would walk with her even when she had the star. We used to ride our bikes to the Židovák pond. She had the typical Jewish hair, black and curly. I thought that nothing could happen to me. Nobody ever stopped us. Mr. Fanta would tell me, 'you must not associate with us,' but I would not listen. She would even come to our house in Tymákov... and then, in the fifth year, we took dancing lessons, and she went although she was not allowed to — there she is in the picture. We would go there together with students from an agriculture high school. Afterwards, I would always sleep at their house when there were no trains or busses going back to Tymákov.

She had to learn the trade of seamstress. She sewed my graduation dress for me. But I do not remember which shop she used to work for. I learned how to sew from her. She was helping her mother — they had a shop and they would tailor clothes there. Sometimes they would sew into the evening, even on Saturdays.

Everything was taken from them. When I knew them, they had just a little store on Poděbradova Street left. They were mending shirts. They were not allowed to be employed anywhere. They had nothing to live on. It was a terrible disaster. There would be up to three families living in one apartment. They were not allowed to go anywhere. In the winter, she probably would go skating. She was cheerful and social. It was a pity to lose her. She was a good girl.

They arrested and beat her father even before they transported them. I went to visit them; they lived in the street below the theater at that time, where the House of Technology is today. Mr. Fanta had just returned from interrogation at the Gestapo. He sent everybody else out and told me not to tell the others, but that they would never come back. They had beaten him so badly and treated him in such a bad way that he knew they would not survive. But he asked me not to tell them, so they would have at least some hope. And two or three days later they had to leave. They were allowed to pack only twenty kilos. It was terribly sad. We could not do anything, we could not help in any way.

I would send her packages in Izbica. I remember I was allowed to send packages weighing at most a quarter of a kilo. I made them caramel, so they would get some sugar. Nothing else was actually allowed anyway. And it was a little package for documents, basically an envelope clinched with a staple."

(Mrs. Jarmila Lodlová-Brychcínová, classmate)

Hana was born on November 18, 1923, to Adolf (born on November 24, 1889, in Horní Ročov by Louny) and Regina (maiden name Glaserová, born on January 14, 1887, in Čivice by Planá) Fanta. Her parents got married in February 1923 in Pilsen. They lived at Nádražní Street No. 12, Koperníkova Street Nos. 22 and 25, Skrétova Street No. 36, Pražská Street No. 16, Saská Street No. 3, and Kramářovy Orchards No. 6. They had a small tailor shop on Poděbradova Street. Hana's mother was a seamstress there. Hana's father worked as a shop assistant. When they lived on the street below the Main Train Station, they employed a Catholic nanny— Marie Balická.

In 1935, after she went through the first year of the First Czechoslovak State High School, Hana transferred to the Second Czechoslovak State High School in Pilsen. She was supposed to leave the institution on June 20, 1938, but did not actually leave the school until the first semester of the following school year.

She was among the brightest students. When she was expelled from school, she first trained as a seamstress and later helped her mother with the sewing at their shop. She was friends with her former schoolmate Jarmila Lodlová from Tymákov. The class graduation party in 1941 took place in part in the pub run by her friend's parents.

On January 22, 1942, Hana Fantová and her parents were transported to Terezín (S 35, S 36, and S 37).

There were a total of nineteen transports that went through Izbica between March 13 and June 15, 1942. These transports carried a total of 18,395 prisoners. The Fantas arrived on the second transport from the Protectorate, i.e., even before the displacement of the local Jewish Polish population. More than 3,000 people died in the ghetto as a result of bad sanitation, living conditions and lack of food. We were not able to determine the fate of the Fanta family from available information. If they did not die in the ghetto, they were murdered in one of the nearby extermination camps — Belzec or Sobibor.



At dancing lessons in Neštánská Beseda (The arrow points to Hana, to the left her is Šárka Černá, Jarmila Lodlová is on the right.)

In the Ledl's garden in Tymbalkov. (from the left: Šárka Černá, Hana Fantová, Jarmila Lodlová)



At the pond called Židovák (Hana Fantová is on the left, in the middle is Jarmila Lodlová)

A reunion of Hana's former class, Tymbalkov 1941: Hana Fantová with bicycle.



Next to her are Jarmila Lodlová and Bohumila Wildmannová.

The gentleman with the hat is J. Devetter - the homeroom teacher, on the right are the teachers Triska, Blaha and Turc, in the background is the teacher Frisl.

Hana Fantová

Friends of Jews Are Enemies of the Nation the Same as the Jews

Unfortunately, there are still many people among the members of our nation who cannot be convinced that the primary guilt for today's war and the economic hardship of all nations and especially of our nation lies with the Jews. These people, who are indifferent to their own fellow citizens, even weep for Jewish intruders when they are being punished for their criminal activities.

These Jew lovers maintain contacts with Jews out of ignorance or even deliberately. They are helping them and therefore they breach regulations and bans that have been issued to fight the Jewish influence and to bar Jews from activities directed against the Reich as well as our nation. Naturally, even Jew lovers must not act as they wish but instead must conform to regulations issued in the interests of society. If they do not want to obey these rules, they must be dealt with in the same way as the Jews.

A Jew lover is an enemy of the nation, the same way that a Jew is, and will therefore be sent where the Jews are sent. The life of the nation must be purified and that is why mercy or compassion is not appropriate.

Our ancestors used to say: "Wherever someone wants to go, lets help him to get there" and therefore we will deal with Jew lovers the way they want us to deal with them, i.e., in the same manner as the Jewish exploiters. Kb.



Hana Fantová teacher Svoboda



the gym teacher, Saidlová

nosch. dveře

Příjmení: Pantová
 Jméno: Hanna
 Rodič. čís.: 53453
 Post. adresa: Píseň, Saská 3
 Dat. nar.: 18.11.1923
 Vzdělání se a bydlí:

Depořtoran (a):
 Dne: 22.1.42 Terezín 3 37
 17.3.42 Myškovice Ab 1000

Z o m e r i (a):
 Píseň 31

Rodiče muže:
 otec: Fanta
 křestný: Hermanina
 matka: jméno Hermanina

Všechny 4 díly vyplnit inkoustem.

Alle 4 Teile nur mit Tinte ausfüllen

Meldezettel für Aftermieter
Ohlašovací listek pro podnájemníky

Wohnort, Strasse, No. / Místo, ulice, číslo pop. a or. Píseň, Saská č. 7-3

Vor- und Zuname des Gemeldeten / Jméno a příjmení přihlašovaneho	Lebensberuf / Zaměstnání	Geburtsort und Jahr / Den a rok nar.	Geburtsort u. polit. Bezirk / Místo narození, politický okres	Heimats-gemeinde u. polit. Bezirk / Domovská obec a polit. okres	Stand - Slav / Religion - Nábož	Ort, Tag u. Jahr der Trauung / Místo, rok a den sňatku	Vor- u. Zuname der Eltern (bei Mutter Geburtsname) / Jméno a příjmení rodičů (u matky rod. jm.)
Adolf Fanta	domák	24.11.1889	Píseň	Píseň	židovská	22.11.1922	Hermanina Fanta Hermanina ro. Long Bernardina Theresia ro. Píseň
Regina ro. Glasera	domák	13.5.1887	Píseň	Píseň	židovská		
Hana Fantova	nevdaná	18.11.1923	Píseň	Píseň	židovská		

Staatsbürgerschaftsnachweis, Heimatschein, Taufschein
 wurde am _____ Jahr _____ ausgestellt
 wo? _____
 Osvědčení o státním občanství, domovský list (občanská legitimace)
 vydán dne 25. 9. 1940
 kde? Píseň

Unterschrift des Wohnungsinhabers / Podpis majitele bytu:
 Eingezogen am: / Strana se přistěhovala dne: 27. VIII. 1941
 25. 10. 1941
 Regina Glaserova

Frühere Wohnung / Dřívější bydlíště: Horná 204 č. 6

Izbica

The small town of Izbica lies about 20 kilometers north of Zamošć, near the road leading to Lublin. Until World War II, Jews formed the majority of its population; today there aren't any. By the spring of 1943, all of them had perished, some in gas chambers in Bełżec or Sobibor, others gunned down either right in the ghetto or on the edge of mass graves they had to dig themselves at the Jewish cemetery. The same fate also awaited the Czech Jews who arrived from Terezín in the early spring of 1942.

Hundreds of Czech Jews are buried at the Jewish cemetery in Izbica. Among them are many men, women and children deported from Pilsen and its surroundings to Terezín in the three transports of January 1942.



mass graves at the Jewish cemetery in Izbica

Bełżec

The Bełżec extermination camp was founded in November of 1941. The camp was divided into two parts: one for prisoners selected from arriving transports and working as the service staff, the other for murder. In the first phase there were three gas chambers that were filled with exhaust fumes from diesel engines. The process of extermination was put into full operation on March 17th, 1942. The camp security guards consisted of about thirty SS members and about one hundred Ukrainian warders.

Karl Alfred Schluch, an SS member who spent 16 months in Bełżec describes what went on further inside the camp: "A work commando [work detail], directed by a capo and supervised by two or three Germans from the camp, carried out the processing of the transport. During the procedure we told the Jews that they had come there for redistribution, but first that they were going to have a bath and be disinfected. Right after that they were led to the changing room. There was one for men and another for women and children. When they left the changing room I took them straight to the gas chamber. I believe I made their way easier - I had to use words and expressions that convinced them that they were really going to have a bath. The Jews entered the gas chamber; the Ukrainians locked the door securely. Then the gassing engine was started up. After five to seven minutes - I'm estimating the duration, though - someone looked in through a peephole to see if everybody was dead. After that, the rear door was opened and fresh air was let in. When the chamber was aired out, the commando led by its capo began to drag the dead out. The Jews were very closely packed in there. Therefore they weren't lying on the ground but were intertwined. At least some bodies were dirty with excrements and urine; others were partly covered with vomit. I could see a blue tinge on their lips and tips of their noses. Some had their eyes closed, others wide open. The bodies were pulled out of the chamber and searched by a "dentist" who stripped them of gold teeth and rings. They threw these things into a cardboard box which sat a ways off. Then the bodies were buried in mass graves."

Beginning in December 1942, and over the course of 1943, the mass graves were reopened and the bodies exhumed and burned. After that the camp was disassembled and the remaining roughly six hundred Jews were sent to Sobibor. The Nazis transformed the area into a farm and passed it on to one of the Ukrainian supervisors.

Altogether, around six hundred thousand people were murdered in Bełżec.



CLASS IV. B.

- 1, *BARTUŠKOVÁ JARMLA FROM BRNO-KRAČOVO POLE (PILSEN). 2, BLAŽHA JOSEF FROM NÝŘANY. 3, *BRUNNHELOVÁ EVA FROM PILSEN. 4, *ČERNA ŠÁRKA FROM POŽÍČANY (PILSEN) 6, *FANTOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 5, FANT JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 7, GRUBER VÁCLAV FROM ZBÜCK. 8, HÉVR ANTONÍN FROM UŽHOROD (PILSEN). 9, HELOUBKOVÁ KVĚTOSLAVA FROM PILSEN. 10, HOLÝ MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 11, HEDINA KAREL FROM PILSEN. 12, LABAŤ KAREL FROM ZÁLUŽÍ. 13, KOHOUT RUDOLF FROM VELKÉ HYŠŤICE (PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA). 14, LAUTERSTEIN MIKRO FROM PILSEN. 15, *LODLOVÁ JARMLA FROM DLOUHÉ HRADISTĚ (TYMAKOV). 16, *LÜBNER EGON FROM PILSEN. 17, MAŘÍK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 18, MORAVEC JAROSLAV FROM KOZČÍN. 19, NEBESÁŘ MILAN FROM NEZVĚSTICE (PILSEN). 20, NOVÝ VRATISLAV FROM PILSEN. 21, PEČKOVÁ MIROSLAVA ~~TRNAVA~~ FROM TRNAVA (PILSEN). 22, PEBER MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 23, PETŘÍK JIŘÍ FROM PLASY. 24, PROCHÁZKA VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN. 25, RLS HUBERT FROM PODMOKLY, ROZTYCANY (PILSEN) 26, SOUČEK JAN FROM PILSEN. 27, STRAFA MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN (DÝŠINA). 28, STREJC JAROSLAV FROM BUKOVEC. 29, SUCHÁ ŠÁRKA FROM NOVA HUTĚ. 30, SUCHÝ JAROSLAV FROM CHRAST. 31, ŠYKORA JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 32, ŠVEDINÝ FRANTOŠEK FROM PILSEN (LÚJEZD). 33, ŠLOUF JAN FROM KOPORNO (PILSEN). 34, ŠMÍD MIROSLAV FROM LIPNICE (PILSEN). 35, ŠTEFNER LADISLAV FROM PILSEN. 36, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN (ČERNICE). 37, SUCH JAROSLAV FROM ZDEŇTYSLICE (PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA). 38, *TEJŠKA JIŘÍ FROM OBOZA. 39, VACEK VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA. 40, VALEČKA MIROSLAV FROM DOBŘANY (PILSEN). 41, VALEŠ JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 42, VOŘÁPKOVÁ MARIE FROM PLASY. 43, VURM KAREL FROM DRUSCOVA. 44, WILDMANNOVÁ BOHUMILA FROM PILSEN. 45, ZÁLESKÝ JAROSLAV FROM NÝŘANY (PILSEN SKVŘANY). 46, ZAWITKOVSKI JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.

(49 students remained)

STATE PROFESSOR JULIUS LENK,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

MIRKO LAUTERSTEIN / Lánský

(July 24, 1923 Pilsen
- 1996 Pilsen)

Mirko was born on July 24, 1923, to Hugo (born on October 14, 1888) and Anna (maiden name Kuralová, born in 1892) Lauterstein. He had an older sister, Helena. They lived on Jungmannova Street and Havlíčkova Street. His mother's father lived with them, too, and the family took care of him. His father worked as a salesman for the Stolwerck Company.

In September 1934, Mirko entered the first year class of the Pilsen high school (the same class as Eva Brummelová, Hana Fantová, Hana Porgesová, and Egon Löbner).

"At one time I sat in school next to Mirko Lauterstein (his nickname was 'Mirko All-Rock'). He lived at 21 Havlíčkova Street. His father was a salesman, his mother - well, she was a classic mama type; it was a mixed marriage. I visited him several times regarding our studies; he liked bicycle riding - he had a racing bike with a gear shifter, which was not common back then - so he came a few times to our community of Zbůch, supposedly just going for a ride, as he would say. After the war, sometime at the beginning of June 1945, I wanted to visit him but their name was not on the doorbell and a man from the building told me that the Lautersteins 'moved out' during the war - and even that is not so clear because somebody told me later that he saw Mirko with the Star of David on his jacket."
(Mr. Václav Bruber, classmate)

"I met him with his daughter after the war - it was at Sokol II, where people used to go back then. We did not talk but I did recognize him because he had not changed at all. That is where I found out that his name was not Lauterstein anymore."
(Mrs. Jamila Bartůňková-Kreysová, classmate)

"We met when my husband was supposed to serve as a military 'intern' in Cheb, but he ended up in the Pilsen Military Hospital instead because of the veins in his legs. They gave him an office job there because he knew how to type - he was an excellent student, he had straight A's in school. He wanted to study at a university but they closed them down..."

Towards the end of the war, he spent some time in a concentration camp - Postoloprty - where he painted machinery. He managed to escape from there. I did not even tell my children that he was a Jew. They found that out from their dad's school reports when they wanted to know how good he was in school. I did not want to burden them with it. Indeed, at the time I married Mirko, my acquaintances reproached me because of his Jewish origin.

In order to be able to claim some activity during the communist regime, my husband was a member of a tourist committee [and I was a member of the Youth Union]. This way, we were at least able to travel to some neighboring countries. Our youngest son subsequently moved to Germany and that was yet another slap at the communists."

(Mrs. Dagmar Lánská, wife)



Mirko was able to finish his studies without interruption and graduated in 1941. He worked in the Třemošín paper mill and until 1944 at the Škoda Works.

According to the Terezín memorial book, Mirko's father was summoned to a labor assignment (transport AE 2 from Prague to Terezín) on February 4, 1945. He was liberated at the end of the war in Terezín.

After the war, Mirko changed his name to Lánský and became a member of the Freedom Fighters Association. He married his wife, Dagmar, in 1949. They had three children. Mirko Lánský died after a long illness in 1996.

Hugo Lauterstein proved with this document that his children were not Jews pursuant to the Nuremberg Laws.

Towards the end of the war, Mirko Lauterstein was jailed (from February 15, 1945) in the Postoloprty labor camp that was designated also for so-called Jewish mixed breeds. →

Copy

Administration of the Jewish Register Office
Smetanovy Sady No. 5
Telephone: 1971

Reference Number: 153-IV/41

The undersigned Jewish Register Office confirms that Helena Lautersteinová, born in Pilsen on September 7, 1919, and her brother Mirko Lauterstein, born in Pilsen on July 24, 1923, both children of Hugo Lauterstein and Anna, maiden name Kuralová, were not registered in the Jewish Birth Register when they were born. They were not of the Jewish faith in 1935 and they have not converted to the Jewish faith since.

Rabbi Erich Weiner

April 7, 1941

Stamp: Jewish Register Office in Pilsen

Fee stamp - 3 crowns

This copy is identical to the one-page original or verified copy. The copy cost 0 crowns.

November 17, 1942

Stamp of the District Court in Pilsen

Opis.

Správa Židovských Matric v Plzni.

Telefon 1941.

Smětanový Sazky 5.

Číslo: 153-IV/41.

Podpsaná matricí správa potvrzuje, že
Helena Lautersteinová, nar. v Plzni dne 7. IX. 1919 a její
bratr
Mirko Lauterstein, nar. v Plzni dne 24. VII. 1923, Otci
Hugo Lauterstein a Anna roz. Kuralové,
nebyli zapsáni v židovské roční matrice při
narození, ani v roce 1935 židovského opudání nebyli.
Po této době do Dneska také k židovské víře nepřistou-
pili.

Právník:
Jed. Matricní úřad
Žid. Správa Matric
v Plzni.

Rabbi Reich Weiner v. r.
7. IV. 1941



Opis tento souhlasí doslovně s prvopisem,
kterým opisem - o 1/2 archu, opatřeným
číslem za K

...ní kancelář okresního soudu v Plzni.

dne 17. LIST 1942



Handwritten signature



Mirko's parents at his wedding

Mirko with his bride Dagmar



Copy

District National Committee
in Falknov nad Ohří

Falknov nad Ohří, September 26, 1946

Reference Number: 1006/46

Certificate

Based on the submitted certificate from the District National Committee in Pilsen, issued by its Legal Department on June 14, 1945, No. 145/45, we certify that, based on the concluded investigation, we have not found anything objectionable in the political activities, or the behavior during the German occupation, of **Mírko Lánský**, born on July 24, 1923 and that no objections are raised regarding his national and political reliability.

For the District Committee:
Šrom, in his own hand

Stamp of the District Committee
in Falknov nad Ohří

Fee stamp - 8 crowns

Stamp of the District Committee in Falknov

This copy is identical to the original.
It consists of 1 page and an 8-crown fee
stamp is attached to it.

Office of the District Committee
in Falknov nad Ohří,

September 27, 1946

O p i s .

Okresní Národní Výbor
ve Falknově nad Ohří

Falknov n.O., dne 26. září 1946.

Čís.jedn.: K č.j. 1006/46

Osvědčení.

Dle předloženého osvědčení Okresního národního výboru v Plzni, vydaného dne 14. června 1945, N.V.práv.odbor čis.145/45 se osvědčuje, že podle provedeného šetření nebylo proti

Mírku Lánském,
narozeném 24.7. 1923 v jeho politické činnosti a chování za německé okupace nic závadného shledáno a že není námitek proti jeho národní a politické spolehlivosti.

Za Okresní národní výbor :

razítko

Okresní národní výbor
ve Falknově n.O.

v.r. Šrom.



ento souhlasí doslovně s prvopisem
- certifikátu : 7/4
- a spíše výkazem ze
- h
- oddělení národního soudu ve Falknově n.O.
dne 27. IX. 1946

Šrom

CLASS IV. B.

- 1, *BARTUŠKOVÁ JARMLA FROM BRNO-KRAČOVO POLE (PILSEN). 2, BLAŽHA JOSEF FROM NÝŘANY. 3, *BRUNNMELOVÁ EVA FROM PILSEN. 4, *ČERNA ŠÁRKA FROM POŽÍCANY (PILSEN) 6, *FANTOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 5, FANT JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 7, GRUBER VÁCLAV FROM ZBÜCK. 8, HÉVR ANTONÍN FROM UŽHOROD (PILSEN). 9, HELOUBKOVÁ KVĚTOSLAVA FROM PILSEN. 10, HOLÝ MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 11, HEDINA KAREL FROM PILSEN. 12, LABAŤ KAREL FROM ZÁLUŽÍ. 13, KOHOUT RUDOLF FROM VELKÉ HYŠŤICE (PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA). 14, LAUTERSTEIN MIKRO FROM PILSEN. 15, *LODLOVÁ JARMLA FROM DLOUHÉ HRADISTĚ (TYMAKOV). 16, *LÖBNER EGON FROM PILSEN. 17, MAŘÍK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 18, MORAVEC JAROSLAV FROM KOZČÍN. 19, NEBESÁŘ MILAN FROM NEZVĚSTICE (PILSEN). 20, NOVÝ VLATISLAV FROM PILSEN. 21, PEČKOVÁ MIROSLAVA ~~TRNAVA~~ FROM TRNAVA (PILSEN). 22, PĚŠEK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 23, PETŘÍK JIŘÍ FROM PLASY. 24, PROCHÁZKA VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN. 25, RLS HUBERT FROM PODMOKLY, ROZTCANY (PILSEN) 26, SOUČEK JAN FROM PILSEN. 27, STRAFA MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN (DÝŠINA). 28, STREJC JAROSLAV FROM BUKOVEC. 29, SUCHÁ ŠÁRKA FROM NOVA HUTĚ. 30, SUCHÝ JAROSLAV FROM CHRAST. 31, ŠYKORA JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 32, ŠVEDIVÝ FRANTOŠEK FROM PILSEN (LÚJEZD). 33, ŠLOUF JAN FROM KOPORNO (PILSEN). 34, ŠMÍD MIROSLAV FROM LIPNICE (PILSEN). 35, ŠTEFNER LADISLAV FROM PILSEN. 36, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN (ČERNICE). 37, SUCH JAROSLAV FROM ZDENTYSLICE (PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA). 38, *TĚŠKA JIŘÍ FROM OBOZA. 39, VÁCEK VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA. 40, VALEČKA MIROSLAV FROM DOBŘANY (PILSEN). 41, VALEŠ JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 42, VOŘÁPKOVÁ MARIE FROM PLASY. 43, VURM KAREL FROM DRUSCOVA. 44, WILDMANNOVÁ BOHUMILA FROM PILSEN. 45, ZÁLESKÝ JAROSLAV FROM NÝŘANY (PILSEN SKVŘANY). 46, ZAWITKOVSKI JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.

(49 students remained)

STATE PROFESSOR JULIUS LENK,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

EGON LÖBNER

(February 24, 1924 Pilsen
- December 30, 1989 Palo Alto, California)

Egon was born on February 24, 1924, to Emil (born on April 26, 1897, in Heřmanova Huť by Stříbro) and Josefina Klára (maiden name Köserová, born on November 23, 1897) Löbner. His parents married in May 1923. Their second son, Vilém, was born two years after Egon (March 13, 1926). They lived in the House at the Red Heart that stood on today's Republic Square in Pilsen. Later, they built a villa on Schwarz Street (No. 50). Egon's father imported exotic foods and other specialties (his company was named after its original owner, R. E. Erben). In addition, he also serviced two hundred gasoline stations in Western Bohemia and was a member of the Jewish Community and the local Zionist Organization. The two children grew up in a bilingual environment - their parents alternated between a Czech-speaking and a German-speaking nanny every other year.

Egon (on the left) and Vilém
with their mother Josefina



Egon

In the beginning of the 1934/35 school year, Egon entered the first year of the Second Czechoslovak State High School in Pilsen. He studied there for four years with outstanding grades. He was a leader of a Boy Scout troop called Stopa. Egon dreamed of becoming a diplomat. In 1938, he left the school in accordance with his father's wishes and began studying the more practical field of mechanical engineering at a vocational school.

"He was open and merry, he had a sense of humor. He enjoyed reciting - he always did it with such enthusiasm! One time, professor Devetter asked him to recite a poem called "The Storm." Egon was holding the book and when he read the line 'Let his little boat run like a fox on the heavy waves to...,' he gestured the movement of a boat with his hand. You can imagine how hard we all laughed."

(Mrs. Jarmila Bartůňková-Kreysová, schoolmate)

"Löbner was an ambitious boy. Once, I forgot my math homework and thus had to finish it during a recess in the bathroom - we had a chest there where I was able to write. He was lurking behind the door and then he went to tell on me. Well, he simply wanted to get straight A's."

(Mrs. Bohumila Wildmannová-Cervenková, schoolmate)

"He was a smart boy, very smart! I sat next to him in German class and he saved me. His German was perfect. And he also spoke very good - what is it called? - Hebrew! He would read to me from Hebrew books and he also knew French."

(Mr. Karel Kabát, schoolmate)

"By May 1938 we were getting ready for war and my dad insisted that I change schools. While his insistence that I train for the engineering profession saved my life many times over, I bitterly resisted his snuffing out my educational goals and professional dreams."

(Egon Löbner)



Josefina Löbnerová

"My mother was terrified and wanted to leave as fast as possible. My Dad thought it was not going to be so terrible. He was wrong and she was right. But the decision went his way. [...] Mother was ready to go with my brother and me. She threatened that she was just taking the kids and leaving Dad behind, but finally she decided not to do that."

(Egon Löbner)

Parents



In 1939, the Löbner family
sold their car and piano
for well below their worth.



Emil Löbner
Partner of A. Erben Company, Pilsen.

July 15, 1939, Pilsen

Stamp of the District Office of Pilsen

Fee stamp - 5 CZK

To: District Office of Pilsen

I am requesting approval for the sale
of a truck owned by the Adolf Steiner
Company in Marienbad, Praga A.N.,
built in 1930, four-cylinder, bore 75,
upstroke 110, 14 HP, serial number
24718, No. 88.226; the purchase price
was approximately 50,000 crowns.

Emil Löbner

The buyers are the married couple
Josef and Marie Dürs, employed in the
carrying trade, 23 Zábělská, Pilsen in
Dobruška.

The sale price is 9,500 crowns + 3%
sales tax. Due to my credits with Adolf
Steiner, Marienbad, I am entitled and
have been authorized to sell this car
and therefore to partially cover my
credits.

I am also attaching my letter to the
Gestapo in Pilsen regarding this same
subject. I request that you approve my
application and return the enclosed
documents.

Faithfully yours,
Emil Löbner



Emil Löbner
společník fy A. Erben
Plzeň
Vamberk 3. / 11.

V Plzni dne 15. července 1939.



Fit.

O k r e s n í ú ř a d ,

V P l z n ě .

Žádám o svolení prodeje nákladního auta firmy
Adolf Steiner, Mariánské Lázně, Praga A.N., rok výroby 1930,
čtyřválec, vrtání 75, zdvih 110, 14 HP výrobní číslo 24718,
č-88.226, nákupní cena byla cca 50.000 K.

Kupující jsou manželé Josef a Marie Dřr, po-
voznictví, Plzeň v Doubravce, Zábělské 23.

Prodejní cena je 9.500 K + 3% ní daň z obrátu.
Mám na vůz majetkové právo, následkem mých pohledávek u fy
Adolf Steiner, Mar. Lázně. Byl jsem zmocněn k prodeji tohoto
vozu a inkasi, abych tím z části kryl své pohledávky.

Přikládám zároveň svůj dopis ve stejné zále-
žitosti z 1. / IV. na Gestapo v Plzni, a prosím o Vaše schválení
a navrácení příložených dokladů.

S yešnou ústou:

Emil Löbner

Datum		17. VII. 1939
Číslo		56809
Příl.	Kel.	

V 16. 50

Egon's relatives from Carlsbad and Marienbad had to leave the Sudetenland when it was occupied. They came to Prague. In April 1939, Egon's uncle Walter was identified as a member of an illegal anti-Nazi organization and was jailed in Terezín. Egon's younger brother Vilém left the country in December 1939 and went to Palestine. Beginning in 1940, Jews were not allowed to attend high schools. Egon continued meeting his friends - most often in the Křížkovy Orchards. In the fall, he began working in a factory that produced airplane parts but he was eventually fired when it came to light that he was a Jew. Later, he worked as a draftsman for an electrical engineering firm. The Löbner family moved to 18 Kollárova Street. Their house later became an officer's club of the Luftwaffe.

"There were two brothers named Mizel in Pilsen. Their job was to find suitable apartments for Nazis moving into town."

(Egon Löbner)

Prv. 1
Em. Mrožíček
old.
K form. sml.
svět. úst. úst.
svět. úst. úst.
4. 11. 1939
1. 11. 39
1. 11. 39

844
26. 7. 39

Příjmení: L ö b n e r		Zaměstání: dělník		Regist. čís. 54467
Jméno: Egon		Dat. nar. 24.2.1924	Vzdělání se a bydlí: <i>Štěrba Schwarzova 60</i>	
Posl. adresa: Plzeň Kollárova 18				
D e p o r t o v á n (a):				
Den	z a m ?	Transp. čís.	Den	z a m ?
18.1. 1942	Terezín	R 405		
28.9. 1944	Osvětim	Ek 363		
<i>Prof. Rosen</i>				
<i>Hausenburg</i>				526
Z o m e l (a):				
jméno:	adresa:	jméno:	jméno:	jméno:

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On January 18, 1942, Egon, Josefina, and Emil Löbner were taken to Terezín. Egon worked there in the technical department helping to design the ghetto's water system. He lived in room number 127 (L218 Jugendheim). He studied there at an "underground university," acted in plays, was a member of the Hechaluc Zionist movement, and also helped at the hospital (working in an organization called Yad Tomekhet, where Fredy Hirsch [a prominent Zionist youth leader] also worked, he helped look after old and abandoned people).

Thanks to a contact with a member of the Jewish self-administration, his father got a job at the so-called dispatch department - he would receive bread from the nearby bakery in Bohušovice and pass it on to Terezín storerooms.

On September 28, 1944, Egon and his father were deported to the east. Transport Ek, consisting of 2,499 persons, arrived in Auschwitz the following day. During the entrance selection process (Durchgangslager BIIc) about 20% of the healthy men and women were selected for work. The remaining 80%, approximately 2,000 persons, were killed in the gas chambers of Birkenau. Among them was Egon's father, Emil Löbner.

Three hundred seventy-one persons from this transport survived to the end of the war.

"Three weeks later our names were being called out throughout all the men's camp in Birkenau. It was Walter who had arranged with the Camp commandant of Janina to find his brother and nephew among the new arrivals from Theresienstadt. He was half lucky. They found me. A few days later I jumped from the truck into Walter's arms. It was a remarkable reunion after five and one half years of separation!

I found the second Walter quite different from the first Walter that I had known before the war. He was strong. He was tough. He appeared in his white coat of a physician. He was second in command after Dr. Erich Orlik who headed up the infirmary (Krankenbau) in Janina, a small coal-mining side camp of Auschwitz owned by I.G.Farben, west of Krakau. The SS called it „The Grube der guten Hoffnung“, the Mine of Good Hope. Walter immediately spoke to the camp Kommandant on my behalf. I was excused from the deadly work in the mine and assigned to the „Schlosser“ detail working on the surface, repairing the wagons that carried the coal and doing hard work of carrying railroad tracks and shoveling coal. Walter helped me in many ways. He gave me extra bread to eat and admitted me for a few days into the infirmary to recuperate from the hard work.“

(Egon Löbner)

On October 19, 1944, transport Es with 1,600 persons was sent from Terezín to Auschwitz. One of the persons in this transport was Josefína Løbnerová. During the selection process, 173 men and 169 women were selected for work. The remaining 1,158 men, women, and children were killed in the gas chamber of crematorium No. III in Birkenau. There is no way to learn more about the fate of Egon's mother. But one thing is certain – she was not one of the 51 persons from this transport who survived to the end of the war.

Shortly after his arrival in Auschwitz, Egon met his uncle Walter in the auxiliary camp called Janina. They were part of the long death march to Gross-Rosen. Once they got there, each was assigned to different work. On February 14, 1945, Egon was transferred to Flossenbürg in Bavaria. Thanks to his mechanical engineering education, he was able to work there as a controller in the Messerschmit factories. The camp was liberated in May 1945 by General Patton's army.

"We spent another three weeks after January 18, 1945 on the death march to Gross-Rosen. On the march everybody had to take care of himself. We tried and managed not to get separated. However we became separated in Gross-Rosen where we volunteered for a transport of „Schlosser's“. While marching naked past an SS-doctor Walter was recognized and yanked out from the line of volunteers. We did not see each other for another five months, each of us undergoing severe hardships in different concentration camps."

(Egon Løbner)

Freed prisoners from Flossenbürg.





Egon with his brother
Vilém in Palestine



“I made an illegal trip to Paris, where I applied at the British Consulate for a visitor’s visa to see my sick brother in Jerusalem.”

(Egon Löbner)

When he returned to Pilsen, Egon first finished his high school studies and then in December 1945 went abroad.

“I did attempt to restitute my parent’s property and my own health. I was not able to repossess items that they hid with non-Jewish people in Pilsen. People just would not want to return them. I got back my citizenship, undid my expulsion from school, collected some monies in father’s accounts and returned my body to better health in a sanatorium. The returned property constituted family photos and legal papers deposited with my father’s attorney. I did not bother to reestablish my father’s business and I had to sell our house because the mortgage payments far exceeded my income [...]

I fell in love with a young refugee woman from the Carpathian-Ukraine. I helped her and her sister to escape across the border into the Deggendorf Displaced Person Camp in Bavaria. When the US Army withdrew I went through a ‘war graduation’ and escaped across the border because Plzen’s mayor Hrbek was after me for having insulted him by calling him before his subordinates an anti-Semite. I joined my girl in Deggendorf where I became a teacher and secretary of the Zionist organization. When my girl left to join her nearest of kin in Buffalo, New York I gave her my school certificates because I had applied for Foreign Student Scholarship with the B’nai B’rith Hillel Foundation in the United States.” **(Egon Löbner)**

In 1950, Egon married Soňa Sajovicova, also a war survivor. They had three children – Gary (1953), Ben (1955), and Mindy (1964). They settled in the United States, where they received their citizenship in 1952. Egon had gradually fulfilled his dream of working in the field of diplomacy. On top of this, he became a respected scientist in optoelectronics. He spent most of his professional career with Hewlett-Packard.

Egon with his
wife Sonja →

“The School of Engineering at the University of Buffalo was not what I expected. With the assistance of Albert Einstein, I was permitted to switch to the College of Arts and Sciences and enroll in Physics major.”

(Egon Löbner)



1946 - Leaves for the USA

1950 - Earns Bachelor's degree at the University of Buffalo

1954 - Moves from Buffalo to Boston

1955 - Earns Ph.D. degree (Princeton)

1955-61 - Member of the Development Center

1959 - The beginning of optoelectronics - he contributes to the process of its acceptance as a scientific discipline

1967-74 - Teaches at Princeton, takes over the Knoll's Storage Light Amplifier project, involved in the semiconductor revolution and LED diodes

1974 - Moves to California

1974-76 - Attaché for Science and Research at the U.S. embassy in Russia

1970's - Works for Hewlett-Packard in Silicon Valley, collaborates on the transfer of applications of optoelectronics to medicine

Egon Löbner has patented more than 60 inventions

Extra

ORDINARY PEOPLE

Egon Loebner—scientist, engineer, inventor—was having his picture taken for *Measure*.

Glancing at the soft-light equipment arched overhead, he asked, "Did you know that one of your lights is bluer than the other?" The photographer, instantly concerned, wanted to know more. In the world of cameras, blue light is bad.

It turns out, of course, that early in his richly varied career Egon was the first researcher to measure changing color in photo flash bulbs. "You're probably one of the few people in the world who could spot this," said the photographer, awestruck.

Egon, who is the counselor for science and technology at HP Laboratories, has a way of astounding people.

The constant whirring of his mind has produced inventions of his own—he holds more than 40 patents—and stimulated other members of the technical staff at several companies.

Egon has been characterized as "a high-risk guy" who works at the fringes of an emerging field—or preferably 10 emerging fields at one time. In his constant pursuit of the unknown, he's not afraid to "win a few and lose a few," says longtime associate Paul Greene of HP Labs.

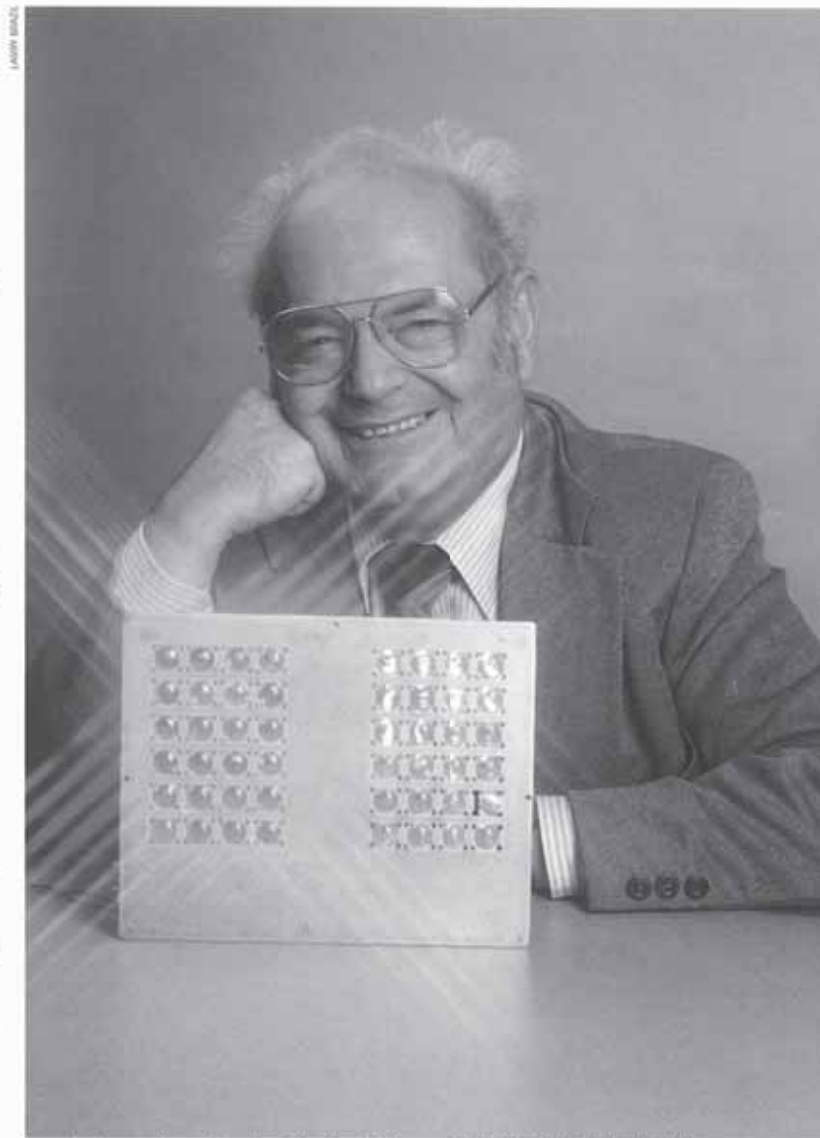
He adds that Egon "is a great inventor, one of the few people who can capture on paper the essence of an invention." Often Egon is inventing a new technology: something that is possible but hasn't yet been done.

For 25 years Egon was a pioneer researcher in the field of optoelectronics, both in the generation of light and optical sensing in solids. On record, he was the first to use the term "optoelectronics" (see page 26).

But that's just the first part of the story. The citation which accompanied his election this January as a Fellow of The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) reads:

"For contributions to optoelectronic materials, devices, and networks, and for transdisciplinary research across life, social and computer sciences."

"Transdisciplinary" is another Loebner-coined term and one dear to Egon's heart. He firmly believes—and has proved it repeatedly—that pre-



Egon Loebner, a pioneer in optoelectronics, holds an array of today's showy light-emitting diodes—descendants of early LEDs that couldn't be seen in daylight.

“27 members of our family did not survive the Holocaust - my father, mother, a younger brother she was pregnant with, aunts, uncles, cousins. My uncle Walter and my brother Vilem, who committed suicide in 1953, and I remained.”

(Egon Löbner)

Egon's sons Gary and Ben live with their respective families in Palo Alto, California. They are both managers of information technology companies.

Mindy Löbnerová is a physician and lives in Minnesota with her two sons, Alex and Joshua.

Egon Löbner has spent his life giving testimonies about his experiences during the Holocaust. Shortly after the war, he participated in court proceedings against a member of the SS who was a guard at the Auschwitz camp Janina. Egon did some private investigation trying to figure out why the Allies did not bomb Auschwitz.

On December 30, 1989, a few hours before he died, Egon still managed to write a letter to Václav Havel, the new president of free Czechoslovakia.



Egon (on the right) with his uncle Walter

TEREZIN'S BREAD TELLER **Egon Löbner**

On January 18, 1942, Emilek L. became ghettoized in Terezin. He was the 7,771st Jew from the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia to be imprisoned in this three quarter square mile, walled in garrisoned town which had become an involuntary „Jewish Ghetto“ on November 24, 1941.

Unbeknown to the Czech Jews setting up the Ghetto at that time, Deputy Protector SS Obergruppenfuehrer Reinhard Heydrich (chief of all but the municipal police in the Third Reich, as well as chief of its Foreign and Domestic Intelligence) had met on October 10, 1941, with his SS subordinates at the Prague Castle to establish the so called Ghetto Terezin (also known as Theresienstadt) as a temporary concentration camp for central and west European Jews before their shipment to the conquered eastern territories where they would face mass extinction. According to the records of Heydrich's October 10 meeting in Prague, Terezin would eventually become a model settlement for Germans. Indeed nearly 87,000 Czech, German, Austrian and Dutch Jews were deported between January 9, 1942, and October 28, 1944 from Terezin „to the East.“ Of these, less than 3,000 survived the end of World War II. The number of prisoners who died in Terezin itself was recorded on August 31, 1944, to be 32,647. These plain figures belie the Nazi claim for Terezin to be a „ghetto paradise“ and „spa,“ even though a majority of the prisoners died in bed. They succumbed to digestive disorders, malnutrition and respiratory diseases and unlike prisoners in other camps, were privileged to receive a decent burial. Their individual and mass graves are there today.

At the time of his arrival Emilek was 44 years old. He was accompanied by his wife of eighteen years and their seventeen-year old son. Each of them brought with them the allowed 110 pounds of belongings, most of which consisted of a month's supply of food. The rest of their belongings were left in their home in Pilsen. Each piece of furniture, clothing, tableware, knick knack, utensil, tool and every piece of property such as shares, life insurance policies and bank books had to be listed on forms which were turned in to a gun wielding SS officer upon arrival at the Rifle Association Clubhouse, which was the collection point of the to be deported Pilsen Jews. Under the watchful eye of the officer all the listed belongings were signed over to the Jewish Resettlement Administration, an SS owned bureau which financed the destruction of European Jewry. Emilek, a prominent and well regarded businessman, knew better. Instead of turning over his cashable valuables, he burned them. But prior to their destruction he deposited all of their serial numbers with his non Jewish attorney. It worked. The SS never found out.

When, way before the deportation, Jews were deprived of white bread, meat, egg, dairy, poultry and coal rations, Emilek sold his car to a Czech butcher, and his wife sold her piano to a coal merchant. These below the table deals provided them with rationless meat and fuel for many months. They joked that they ate the car and burned the piano. On the day that Emilek left his home he showed his defiance by placing a night pot full of urine in the middle of the living room, carefully locked up the apartment, and an hour later handed the keys to the SS officer at the Rifle Association Clubhouse.

Upon arrival in Terezin the men were separated from the women and children, to be housed in separate military barracks. For many months most of the families were not able to see each other, except for those who were reunited prior to the dreaded deportation „Eastward.“

A few weeks after arrival in Terezin the food supplements brought from home became exhausted and an irritating and aching hunger set in. It drove some to steal. Many women of all ages succumbed to prostitution with men on work details in women's barracks. Fear and uncertainty also intensified the sex drive when cohabitation was forbidden and punishable.

There was a scramble for work and positions which would protect one and one's family from further deportation „Eastward“ and/or provide opportunities for supplementing one's starvation diet. The struggle for survival took on many forms. Thus jobs in the kitchens and bakeries provided additional food by misappropriation. The word stealing was only used when prisoners deprived each other of their meager possessions. This happened very seldom. Other types of illegal appropriation were called „sluicing.“ This euphemism derived from the German designation of the place where incoming transports were searched and many of their belongings taken from them. It was called “Schleusse” in German, a metaphor for the passage of human beings from civilian to prison life. While sluicing from the kitchen or bakery deprived other prisoners of their full measure of provisions, it was accepted as a way of life in a camp where the strong took advantage of the weak in a callous and desperate attempt to prolong life and avoid starvation.

There was a second way of sluicing that did not deprive fellow prisoners of their allotted rations. This was stealing from the SS. It was very dangerous, and severe punishments were meted out to those who were caught. Those who were not caught by either the Czech gendarmes or the SS guards were considered heroes by their co prisoners. Examples of such stolen goods were tomatoes and potatoes taken by those who were privileged to work in the fields outside the Ghetto that supplied vegetables and fruit for the SS kitchen.

The other kind of jobs that were highly desired were those that were designated essential and that provided a protection from being included in the next transport „Eastward“ (called nach Osten in German). Such jobs were those of certain needed skills in carpentry, engineering and also assignments close to the top echelons of the Jewish Council of Elders which administered the camp in strict obedience to the orders of the SS Commandant. Many high placed appointees within the administration exercised de facto powers of life and death over the other camp inmates.

Emilek was very fortunate to secure for himself a very special job. He was appointed by Mr. Schliesser, one of the elders, to a low ranking job of Terezin's Bread Teller. Since not all the bread could be baked in the Terezin bakery, somebody very trustworthy had to be responsible to receive and certify delivery of bread that was shipped by truck into Terezin from Czech bakeries in the nearby Czech village of Bohushovitse. That became Emilek's job only a few days after his arrival in Terezin. The Bread Teller's job consisted of counting every loaf of bread that was unloaded from the truck and received by the storehouse manager in the half a dozen warehouses scattered throughout the town of Terezin. The Teller signed the shipping papers for the bread truck driver and in turn received a receipt from the warehouse manager.

Emilek, who was of short stature, less than five and a half feet, found it difficult to climb into the truck. As a Jew with a yellow Star of David on his coat, he was not allowed to ride in the cab. Only the Czech gendarme sat there. Emilek could not leave his post for a moment. He was fully responsible for the proper delivery of most of the bread to the Ghetto. His life depended on the proper count.

Why was Emilek so fortunate to get such a unique job? The first 1,300 men who set up the Ghetto were volunteers. Nearly all of the Ghetto builder leaders, approved by SS Sturmbannfuehrer Adolf Eichmann (then head of the SS Jewish Emigration Post), were prominent leaders of the Prague General Zionist Organization. This included Mr. Gora Schliesser, who became the Elder in charge of the Administration's Economy and Supply Department. Emilek was among the Zionist leaders of the provincial city of Pilsen. Mr. Schliesser knew him well as an ardent Zionist and trustworthy businessman. That is why he appointed him to the job of Bread Teller.

Bread was the gold of Terezin. Besides its life sustaining function it was also the medium of exchange. One could purchase almost anything for a loaf of bread. It was, together with the illegal cigarettes, the currency standard in the Ghetto. Each third day the inmates received their bread rations. Workers received half a loaf, nonworkers a third and old people a quarter. No wonder that Emilek's job of being a Bread Teller resembled the job of bank teller, and bread delivery vehicles were treated as armored cars. During unloading of the bread, Emilek was obligated to count aloud each loaf. The counting took place in the Czech language so that the Czech gendarme could follow and check the total count when the unloading was completed.

Over a period of several weeks Emilek succeeded to work out a system by which the actual number of delivered loaves exceeded by about six the official count to be delivered by the Czech baker to the Ghetto. When the truck arrived, the driver whispered into Emilek's right ear (Emilek was deaf in his left ear) the number of excess loaves he was bringing that day into Terezin. Emilek then carefully watched the gendarme. When he thought that the gendarme became inattentive to the monotonous droning of the long count, he miscounted. He would repeat the same number twice or even three times. Thus he would count 43, 44, 45, 46, 46, 47, 48, 49, 49, 50 and so on until the correct number of excess loaves passed onto him by the truck driver became unloaded. In this way additional breads, which did not have to be accounted for, reached the warehouses

of the concentration camp. The excess breads, which this resourceful teller undercounted into the Terezin Ghetto, were then divided between the warehouse manager and Emilek, who came later, usually when all was quiet during the noon break, to collect his share.

The most remarkable part of this true story is that Emilek did not use his windfall of bread riches for personal profit. Naturally he kept his wife and son from slow starvation. But the greatest portion of this undercount windfall was given free and without obligation to needy friends and strangers alike. Emilek became a one man social agency that kept over a dozen people alive for a very long time. One of Emilek's „clients“ who received a regular bread supplement was his 80 year old high school professor, Vlastimil Kraus. After the war, Kraus, an ordained Rabbi who gave up his pulpit to become a teacher, returned to Pilsen where he died a free man a few months later. He told me that besides Emilek's bread gifts, what kept him alive was a strong desire to outlive Hitler. Emilek would „adopt“ a young mother from Berlin and bring milk to her sick baby lying in the attic on a little bit of straw. And there were many others who received sustenance for months and years. They were known only to Emilek. Some may have survived but most, I am sure, did not. Neither did Emilek.

A train carrying 2,499 men, comprising transport Ek, left Terezin on September 28, 1944. In one of the cattle cars were Emilek and his son. „Destination unknown“ turned out to be Auschwitz. Even though he knew he had to undergo the rigors of a long and unpleasant journey, Emilek fasted the whole day of Yom Kippur, which preceded by one day his departure. In the cattle car, Emilek volunteered to sit underneath the excretion filled pail. As the train negotiated curves, the contents of the pail kept spilling on him.

After a few days the train reached Auschwitz. Emilek, who was only 47 years old, looked sick, exhausted and very aged. As the men became arrayed in rows of five they saw an eerie surrealistic scene. Prisoners dressed in striped pajamas were unloading the luggage left on the train. Their posture and movements were cat like and not human. They seemed like the tiger in Kipling's stories of the jungle. Not far was a building with a chimney whose exhaust flamed just as the burning exhaust from a refinery. There was a terrible stench in the air. Emilek's son turned to an SS guard, pointed to the building and asked in German: „What is that?“ The guard replied without hesitation: „A candle factory.“

Something was happening in front. An SS officer was sending the men in two directions. Emilek turned to his son and said: „I will go this way and you will go the other way.“ The son understood. His father often quoted the Bible when he explained why he divided his family rather than keeping it together in times of danger. It was Jacob, who, fearing the wrath of his heavily armed brother Esau, divided his family and belongings into two camps. When their turn came, there was no choice. The SS man, now known the world over as the notorious Dr. Mengele, separated Emilek from his son. I am that son.

CLASS IV.B.

- 1, *BARTUŠKOVÁ JARMILO FROM BRNO-KRAČOVO POLE (PILSEN). 2, BLAŽHA JOSEF FROM NÝŘANY. 3, *BRUNNMELOVÁ EVA FROM PILSEN. 4, *ČERNA JÁRKA FROM POŽÍCANY (PILSEN) 6, *FANTOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 5, FANT JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 7, GRUBER VÁCLAV FROM ZBÜCK. 8, HÉVR ANTONÍN FROM UŽHOROD (PILSEN). 9, HELOUBKOVÁ KVĚTOSLAVA FROM PILSEN. 10, HOLÝ MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 11, HEDINA KAREL FROM PILSEN. 12, LABAŤ KAREL FROM ZÁLUŽÍ. 13, KOHOUT RUDOLF FROM VELKÉ HYŠŤICE (PILSEN-DOUBRAVKA). 14, LAUTERSTEIN MIKRO FROM PILSEN. 15, *LODLOVÁ JARMILO FROM DLOUHÉ HRADISTĚ (TYMAKOV). 16, *LÜBNER EGON FROM PILSEN. 17, MAŘÍK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 18, MORAVEC JAROSLAV FROM KOZČÍN. 19, NEBESÁŘ MILAN FROM NEZVĚSTICE (PILSEN). 20, NOVÝ VLATISLAV FROM PILSEN. 21, PEČKOVÁ MIROSLAVA ~~TRNAVA~~ FROM TRNAVA (PILSEN). 22, PĚŠEK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 23, PETŘÍK JIŘÍ FROM PLASY. 24, PROCHÁZKA VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN. 25, RLS HUBERT FROM PODMOKLY, ROZTYCANY (PILSEN) 26, SOUČEK JAN FROM PILSEN. 27, STRAFA MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN (DÝŠINA). 28, STREJC JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 29, ŠIMON JÁRKA FROM NOVA HUTĚ. 30, SUCHÝ JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 31, ŠEDIVÝ FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN (PILSEN). 32, ŠMÍD MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 33, ŠMÍD MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 34, ŠMÍD MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 35, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN. 36, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN. 37, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN. 38, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN. 39, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN. 40, ŠCORNER ADOLF FROM PILSEN. 41, VALEŠ JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN. 42, VILDMANNOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 43, VILDMANNOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 44, WILDMANNOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 45, WILDMANNOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 46, WILDMANNOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 47, WILDMANNOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 48, WILDMANNOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 49, WILDMANNOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN. 50, WILDMANNOVÁ HANA FROM PILSEN.

HANA PORGESOVÁ

BY THE 1937/38 SCHOOL YEAR, HANA PORGESOVÁ NO LONGER ATTENDED THE HIGH SCHOOL. SHE LEFT THE SCHOOL DURING HER FIRST YEAR, IN 1935.

STATE PROFESSOR JULIUS LENK,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

HANA PORGESOVÁ

(March 11, 1923, Pilsen - June 13, 1942?)

Hana was born on March 11, 1923, to Emil (born on July 28, 1887) and Hedvika (maiden name Spitzová, born on May 18, 1887, in Buštěhrad by Kladno) Porges. Her parents married in February 1914 in Prague-Karlín. Their first daughter, Gerta, was born soon afterwards (April 20, 1915). They lived in the Příbram district until they moved to Pilsen, where they lived successively at 3 Zbrojnická Street, 6 Husova Street, and 9 Bendova Street. Hana's father was a butcher.

In September 1934, Hana began studies at the Second Czechoslovak State High School in Pilsen, but she left the school the very same school year - she received her official exit papers on July 1, 1935. We do not know why she left the school.

Porgesová Hana
Pilsen v xeni P



Prospěch v jed

náboženství: *israel.*

jazyku československém:

jazyku německém:

jazyku francouzském:

dějepis:

zeměpis:

matematice:

přírodopise (.....)

Emil Porges,
ředitel,
Plzeň,
Klusova tř., č. 6.

First-year students on a
school trip to Buben castle (1935)

← in the bottom row:

(from the right)

Hana Porgesová,

Eva Brummelová,

Sárka Černá;

middle row:

(from the right)

Jarmila Bartůňková,

Sárka Suchá,

Květoslava Hlubová;

at the top:

Bohumila Wildmannová

Hana's older sister, Gerta, married Kurt Schneider (born on May 19, 1910). They lived in Prague and Hlinsko. At the beginning of 1942, they lived in an apartment at 2 Saská Street in Pilsen. During the period just before they were deported, Kurt worked as a laborer and Gerta worked at home. On January 26, 1942, they were deported to Terezín and less than three years later were sent further east. Transport Ev, carrying 2,038 persons (949 men and boys and 1,089 women and girls), arrived in Auschwitz on October 30, 1944. After selection procedures at arrival, 217 men and 132 women capable of work were assigned to the camp (Durchgangslager BIIc). The rest, 1,689 men, women, and children, were killed in the gas chambers of Birkenau. They were in the last transport from Terezín that was gassed upon arrival at Birkenau. Neither Gerta nor Kurt returned from Auschwitz.

Hana moved with her parents to 15 Fodermayerova (Smetanova) Street. On January 22, 1942, the family was sent to Terezín. On June 13 of the same year, they were assigned numbers 290, 291, and 293 on a poorly documented transport, AAi. This transport carried 1,000 persons to the labor camp of Trawniki. According to the latest findings, the transport traveled all the way to Sobibor, where the great majority, including Hana and her parents, were killed in the gas chambers.

Sobibor

The extermination camp Sobibor was located to the east of Lublin. It began operating in March of 1942; in April, Franz Stangl (later transferred to Treblinka) became its commander and organized the camp according to the model of nearby Belżec. Both camps served only one purpose – to murder as many people as possible. That's why they had a simple organizational structure. The Sobibor camp was divided into three sections: Camp 1 with the approach ramp and quarters for German and Ukrainian guards, Camp 2 where the incoming prisoners were undressed, shaved and robbed of their possessions, and Camp 3 with gas chambers, mass graves and Jewish prisoners' barracks. The staff consisted of about thirty Germans and more than a hundred Ukrainian guards. 1,000 prisoners from the incoming transports were selected for work. When they got weak they were liquidated and the workforce was filled out with newcomers. There was an uprising in the camp on October 14th, 1943 and twelve Germans (including the camp commander) and several Ukrainians were killed. 300 prisoners escaped, but most of them died on the run. About fifty prisoners survived the war.

Jews were deported to Sobibor from Poland, Slovakia, the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, Germany, Holland and France. The last transports arrived from the liquidated ghettos in Vilnius, Minsk and Lida. In all, about two hundred fifty thousand people were murdered there.



CLASS M.C.

- 1, BĚLOHLÁVEK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 2, BLÁŽEK OTTO FROM STRAŽICE (PILSEN).
- 3, BROŽEK VÁCLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 4, BURIANOVA JARMILO FROM PILSEN.
- 5, ČEČIL FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 6, DOLEŽ ZDENĚK FROM BOLEVEC.
- 7, EISENREICH LUBOMÍR FROM PILSEN.
- 8, EPŠTEIN ARNOŠT FROM NÝRANY (PILSEN).
- 9, EDWARD JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 10, [GRUND BOJKUSLAV FROM HORNÍ BĚŽA, WITHDRAW].
- 11, *HAVEL JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 12, *HIZBKOVÁ JARMILO FROM PILSEN.
- 13, HRUŠKA JIŘÍ FROM PRAGUE (PILSEN).
- 14, *CHODORA JAN FROM PILSEN.
- 15, JÄGER MILAN FROM SPÁLENÉ POŘÍČÍ.
- 16, JINDRA JAROSLAV FROM LOSINÁ (STARÝ PIZENEC).
- 17, KABAŤ VÁCLAV FROM BOLEVEC.
- 18, KAPKA VÁCLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 19, KOVAŘÍK KAREL FROM PILSEN.
- 20, KOVAŘÍK MILOŠ FROM ŽDÍREČ (BLOVICE).
- 21, KRÁINTR VLADISLAV FROM KLATOVY (PILSEN).
- 22, [KRAĽOUSKÁ VĚRA FROM MALOMĚŘICE (TŘEKOŠNÁ), WITHDRAW].
- 23, KREISINGER MIROSLAV FROM STRAŽ.
- 24, KRŠTÁL MILOŠ FROM BOLEVEC.
- 25, KVASNÍČKA OLDŘICH FROM PILSEN.
- 26, ~~LAJKA~~ LÁVIČKA VLADIMÍR FROM VOLDUČKY (PILSEN).
- 27, LUKEŠ FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 28, MACH FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 29, MALEC MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 30, POLÍVKA ZDENĚK FROM BLOVICE.
- 31, PRŮCHA ROMAN FROM PILSEN.
- 32, RIPP L VÁCLAV FROM PILSEN (BOLEVEC).
- 33, REŽÁB JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 34, SEPR JAROSLAV FROM LIBLÍN (PILSEN).
- 35, ŠTEFL MIROSLAV FROM KOŘEKLEDOVY (TĚNOVICE).
- 36, *ŠINANDLOVÁ MARIE FROM OBORA (PILSEN).
- 37, ŠONSRY JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN (ZBŮČ).
- 38, ŠTECH JOSEF FROM PILSEN.
- 39, ULCĚ VÁCLAV FROM BLOVICE (PILSEN).
- 40, VALEŠ FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 41, ULCĚ VÁCLAV FROM BLOVICE (PILSEN).
- 42, VALEŠ FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN.

(40 STUDENTS REMAINED)

STATE PROFESSOR
EMILIE PIZBÍKOVÁ - KĚNOUZOVA,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

ARNOŠT EPSTEIN

(March 1, 1923, Pilsen

– March 23, 1999, Pilsen)

Arnošt was born on March 1, 1923, to Arnošt (born on December 15, 1892) and Aloisie (maiden name Šperlová, born on April 22, 1901) Epstein. They lived in Nýřany and later in several places in Pilsen. Their last address was 17 Palackého Street. Arnošt's father worked as a business agent. He was originally a Jew who after his marriage converted to the Roman Catholic faith. He had his children – Arnošt and his younger sister, Charlotte, also called Lotka (born on November 4, 1925) – baptized.

Arnošt entered the Second Czechoslovak State High School in September 1934. He graduated from the school in 1941 and entered a civil engineering college. Restrictions placed on so-called half-Jews were milder than the measures taken against "full-blooded" Jews. However, they were excluded from public schools in 1943. This measure also affected Arnošt's sister.

Towards the end of the war, Arnošt was jailed in the Postoloprty labor camp, from which he escaped in 1945.

After the war, Arnošt worked for a construction company. He never married. He died in 1999.

"My father was one of nine siblings and only two of them survived. One of them survived because he settled in France – he married a French woman in Strasbourg. The other one was my dad – he survived because he lived in a mixed marriage. At first, my dad was not taken, but all the other siblings left in the transports in 1942 - going to Terezín, Auschwitz, etc. All seven of them died there. My father was not taken to Terezín until the beginning of 1945, when the war was approaching its end. He was not taken to the Terezín prison [the dreaded "Little Fortress"], just to the ghetto. He was there for four months. The first few days he spent at the Gestapo station on Anglické Nábřeží Street. My mother went there and because she spoke perfect German — she was from Nýřany, which was in the Sudetenland — she was able to chat them up a bit, but to no avail.

Arnošt, as a male mixed breed, was sent to the labor camp in Postoloprty in September 1944. Conditions were a little better - he could even receive food packages. However, he wouldn't even open the packages; he immediately re-wrote the addresses and sent the packages to dad in Terezín. He was there until May 1945 and then he escaped – three weeks before the end of the war. He was acknowledged as a member of the national liberation movement.

And the women? My mother and I had stayed here, but in 1945 they ordered us to Prague, to Dejvice, where we were registered. This was probably the first step towards our deportation. But they ran out of time – the war ended.

In addition, Jews had to wear yellow stars, while we, mixed breeds, did not. That was one of the breaks we got. The Germans took our apartment and we moved to Prokopova Street, where we lived in a four-room apartment with two other families. During the war, food was rationed; the rations for my father, as a Jew, were minimal – for example, he got no meat rations. Tobacco was rationed, too – actually, my father did not smoke, but if he did, he would not have been allowed to anyway. He would sweep the streets and my mother worked with bricklayers, so that she could buy me a watch. I was working as a messenger. I returned to school after the war but my class didn't take the usual set of final exams ("maturity examinations") – we just received some sort of certificates allowing us to study at a university. When my father returned from the concentration camp, the first thing he said was: 'Lotka will go to college!' My brother was not really a studious type." (Mrs. Charlotte Epsteinová, sister)



Arnošt and Charlotte with their father, Arnošt



Arnošt and Charlotte

"The camp in Postoloprty was designated for questionable individuals and people whom the Nazis did not want to be in contact with the public. The inmates worked on the construction of an airfield for jet airplanes in Žatec. There was another labor camp nearby, in Bažantnice, consisting of eleven newly constructed wooden barracks built on piles.

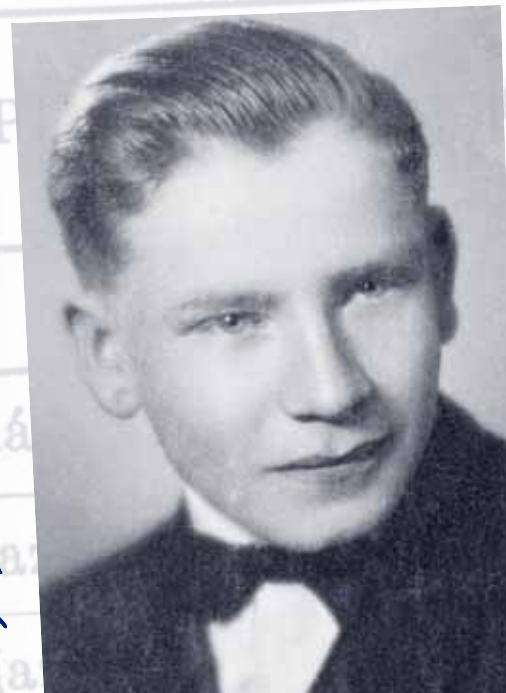
Arnošt worked for Starbach Construction Company, which was building runways and hangars. The inmates were taken to work every day on a train.

The inmates worked eleven hours every day; older people would stay in the camp, cooking, cleaning, fetching water, and taking care of the sick. A bin of coal, allocated for a week, would hardly last two days - there was a lot of stealing.

We escaped together on April 21, 1945 - to Děněšice, to bombed-out Rakovník, and Blatno. We took the last train to Třemošná, and from there we continued on foot to Pilsen."

(Mr. Evžen Czinner, fellow inmate from Postoloprty)

Arnošt's photograph from the graduation tablean



Arnošt's father, as a shop assistant, worked for several businessmen.

During the occupation, these businessmen were summoned to the District Authorities to report on his services.

Here are the minutes of one such interrogation.



Transcript [of Investigation]

on September 3, 1941, conducted at the District Office in Pilsen with Mr. Jan Kraus, coal salesman from Pilsen, Hradištská No. 10

Subject:
Attending to official business through Epstein the Jew.

1) Was using the services of the Jew Epstein for errands at the District Office your initiative or did he himself offer you his services ?

Epstein offered me his services himself.

2) What did he promise you to gain your trust to use his services?

He never promised me anything.

3) What kind of remuneration did you offer him for his services or what kind of remuneration did he ask for?

I have never offered him any remuneration and he has never asked me for one either. He was satisfied with the fact that I placed the order with [illegible name of a company].

4) Has he done any other work for you besides errands at the District Office?

No.

5) Why have you not done the errands at the District Office yourself?

Because Mr. Epstein offered me his services and because I have not had any extraordinary expenses related to his services. So it was convenient for me to have Epstein run these errands for me.

6) Do you not think that you are being blackmailed, which is what Jews do, for the provided services?

No, because Mr. Epstein has never asked me for any kind of remuneration for his services.

7) Why have you not informed the authorities about this situation and why have you not stopped using his services?

Because I was not aware that I am supposed to inform the authorities about such situations.

8) Are you going to continue using his services?

If the authorities permit it, then yes.

9) Do you have anything to add to the above?

I do not.

Z á p i s

konaný dne 3. IX. 1941 u okresního úřadu v Plzni s p. *Janem Krausem*

obohodníkem uhlím v Plzni, *Hradištská 10.*

P ř e d m ě t.

Vyřizování úředních záležitostí prostřednictvím žida Epsteina.

1/ Používal jste služeb žida Epsteina k pocházkám na okresní úřad z vlastního popudu, nebo se Vám sám nabízel ?

Epstein se mě sám nabídl.

2/ Co Vám sliboval, aby získal vaší důvěru k službám ?

nikdy mě nic nesliboval.

3/ Jaké odměny jste mu nabídl, nebo jaké odměny si od Vás vyžadoval ?

žádné odměny jsem mu nenabídl, a on také nikdy žádné nepožádal. Byl spokojen pouze s tím, že jsem muji objednávky poslal k. Řepku a Stěhulku.

4/ Dělal pro vás ještě jiné práce v obchodě mimo pocházek na okr.úřad ?

ne.

5/ Proč jste si nevyřizoval ~~obchodní~~ úřední záležitosti s okresním úřadem sám ?

Epstein se mě p. Epstein sám nabídl a protože jsem s tím neměl žádné mimořádné výlohy, bylo mi vhodné, když se mě p. bylo požadováno vyřadit.

6/ Nedomníval jste se, že jste židovskými vydírán za vykonané služby ?

ne, protože p. Epstein ode mě nikdy žádné odměny nevyžadoval.

7/ Proč jste věc neoznámil úřadu a nepřestal používat jeho služeb ?

Epstein mě nikdy neřekl, že to má být úřadu oznámiti.

8/ Hodláte používat jeho služeb i nadále ?

Je-li to úřadu dovoleno, pak ano.

9/ Máte ještě něco k podotknutí ?

ne.

Jan Kraus

[Signature]

CLASS V.8.

1, DEIML HANUŠ FROM KOŽLANY (PILSEN). 2, KABOŇ BOHUMIL FROM PILSEN. 3, LOUBEK JAROSLAV FROM BLOVICE (PILSEN). 4, *KRASL JAN FROM PILSEN. 5, KUTZENDÖRFER VÁCLAV FROM PILSEN. 6, NEINER JAN FROM PILSEN. 7, NĚNCOVÁ MILADA FROM KORAŽDŮVICE. 8, NĚNEČKOVÁ MILADA FROM BUKOVEC (STARÝ PLZENEC). 9, *PÁŠEK LADISLAV FROM LITICE. 10, PÍHELT KAREL FROM PILSEN. 11, POLLAR ALEŠ FROM LEDCE (CHRASTO). 12, RAČL VÁCLAV FROM PILSEN. 13, REITSCHLEGER JAKUB FROM TLUMÁČOV (PILSEN). 14, REŠCH JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 15, *RŮŽICKA KAREL FROM PILSEN. 16, SAZAMA JAN FROM HRADEC NILAVEC (STAD). 17, SKÁLA MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN (TRENČANSKÉ TEPLICE). 18, SKALICKÁ VĚRA FROM PILSEN. 19, SIOLÁK JOSEF FROM BOLEVEC. 20, *STULÍK JIŘÍ FROM BEZDĚKOV (PILSEN). 21, ŠEBEK MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN. 22, ŠKODA LUBOMÍR FROM PILSEN. 23, ŠMAT KAREL FROM STŘEŽOVICE (PILSEN). 24, ŠNEIBERG BOHUMIL FROM PILSEN. 25, ŠVAJCR VÁCLAV FROM PILSEN. 26, TOMAŠEK JOSEF FROM ÚJEZD. 27, *TOMAŠEK VRATISLAV FROM KLATOVY (PILSEN). 28, TURČ JAN FROM PILSEN. 29, VACEK JOSEF FROM BOŽICOV (PILSEN). 30, VANÍČEK VITĚSLAV FROM CHOTĚŠOV (PILSEN). 31, VANŽUZA JAROMÍR FROM HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ (BÍLÁ HORA). 32, VENCLÍK JAROSLAV FROM BRNO (PILSEN). 33, VONDRÁK JAN FROM VRANOV (PILSEN). 34, *VRABEC ANTONÍN FROM ULČICE (PILSEN). 35, ZAHRADNÍK VÁCLAV FROM BLOVICE. 36, ZAVÍČEK JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN (STARÝ PLZENEC). 37, ZEMANOVÁ JIŘINA FROM KOSTELEČ NAD LABEM (KŘEHNICE). 38, ŽALOUDEK ZDENĚK FROM PILSEN. 39, I PAŘBAL ETUL FROM SOKOLOV, (KLARAVA), STUDENT VIA CORRESPONDENCE]

(38 STUDENTS REMAINED)

STATE PROFESSOR VIKTOR SCHWING,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

HANUŠ DEIML

(June 6, 1922, Kožlany - July 31, 1972, Prague)

Příjmení: Deiml		Profese: dělník		Region. čís. 53290	
Jméno: Hanuš		Míst. adresa: Plasy 29		Vydán na: 0.6.1922	
Míst. adresa: Plasy 29		Vydán na: 0.6.1922		Vydán na: 0.6.1922	
D e p o r t o v á n í (a):					
Dne	K a m ě	Transp. čís.	Dne	K a m ě	Transp. čís.
18.1.1942	Terezín	R 760			
18.12.1943	Osvětim	Da2392			
Z e m ě l (a):					
pod:	rod:	Pracovní	Pracovní	Pracovní	Pracovní
					Str.

Hanuš was born on June 6, 1922, to Pavel (born on October 14, 1891) and Olga (maiden name Löblová) Deiml. They lived at 8 Plachého Street. His father was an office worker at a construction company.

Hanuš left the Second Czechoslovak State High School in February 1938, that is, during the fifth year. Along with his father he began working as a forest laborer; his mother stayed at home. At this time, their permanent residence was at 29 Plasy, at the house of his father's brother. On January 18, 1942, the entire Deiml family was deported to Terezín. On December 18, 1943, they were included in the DS transport to Auschwitz. His father and his uncle Bedřich and Bedřich's wife, Adele, did not make it through the entry selection and were murdered.

"I remember Hanuš Deiml only from seeing him in the hallway. He was a distinctive, handsome boy."

(Mrs. Jarmila Bartůňková-Kreysová, a younger schoolmate)

"After he returned from the concentration camp, he lived for a little while with his cousin Jiří in Plasy. When they got an apartment in Prague and when his mother, who became seriously ill in the concentration camp towards the end of the war, finally returned too, all three of them lived in Prague. Hanuš found a job with an engineering company. Later he worked as a member of a works council and was a manager in the main mechanical department."

(Mrs. Jarmila Coudková-Deimlová, wife)

Towards the end of the war, Hanuš was liberated in Altenburg, a town in central Germany. He married Jarmila Čoudková and two years later, in 1951, their son Pavel was born.

Hanuš died in 1972 and his son Pavel in 1995. His grandchildren Katka and Petr Deiml live in Prague.

Hanuš's cousin Jiří Deiml emigrated to Israel in 1968 and married Erika Rott. Their grandson Elon Deiml is currently studying at Charles University in Prague.



li-li u rodičů:

II. polol.

Poznámky:

(Zprávy rodičům, chování žákovy, změny v studiu, opravy a jiné zkoušky a rizici.)

Hanus Deiml



With his bride



CLASS V.C.

- 1, BELŠAN VLADIMÍR FROM PILSEN.
- 2, BENEŠ BEDA FROM PILSEN.
- 3, BERAN FRANTUŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 4, BREJCHA JOSEF FROM PŘEHÝŤOV (NĚMANY).
- 5, ČIMELA JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 6, *JANDA FRANTUŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 7, JANDA MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 8, JEDLIČKA JAN FROM PILSEN.
- 9, JŮHL IVAN FROM PILSEN.
- 10, KAŇÁK KAREL FROM PILSEN DOUBRAVKA.
- 11, KAREL JAN FROM PILSEN.
- 12, KLEMENT JAN FROM BLOMICE.
- 13, KÖGLER MILOŠ FROM PILSEN.
- 14, KRÁL FRANTUŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 15, KRANL VÁCLAV FROM VLKOV (PILSEN).
- 16, KRIVANEC MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 17, KUDLIČKA JIŘÍ FROM BOROVICE (ŽDÍREK).
- 18, LAŠTOUČKA FRANTUŠEK FROM PŘESTICE (STÁHLAVY).
- 19, LENK JAN FROM PILSEN (LHOTA U DOBRAN).
- 20, LHOŠKÝ LIBONÍR FROM PILSEN.
- 21, LŮW HANUŠ FROM PILSEN.
- 22, NAŇOUSEK JARONÍR FROM PILSEN.
- 23, NÁSEK BOHUMIL FROM ŽRUC.
- 24, NÁSEK BOHUSLAV FROM VÍSKY.
- 25, NOSEK KAREL FROM LITICE (PILSEN).
- 26, NOUOTNÝ JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 27, TOPOVSKÝ OTOMAR FROM SVATA KATEŘINA (PILSEN).
- 28, ŠADKÝ OTAKAR FROM PILSEN.
- 29, SLAVÍK JAN FROM PILSEN.
- 30, STEJSKAL MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 31, SUCHÝ JOSEF FROM PILSEN.
- 32, ŠAFARČEK FERDINAND FROM ČEPIČKA.
- 33, ŠAŠEK JAROSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 34, ŠÍLA JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN.
- 37, ULN ZBENĚK FROM PILSEN.
- 38, *VOTAVA VÁCLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 39, VRAŠTIL JARONÍR FROM HORAŽŮVICE (CHOTĚŠOV).
- 40, VYSKOC JOSEF FROM PILSEN.

(40 STUDENTS REMAINED)

STATE PROFESSOR JAN VESELÝ,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

HANUŠ LÖW / Lamač

(February 14, 1922, Pilsen)



Hanuš was born on February 14, 1922, to Vítězslav (born on April 21, 1895) and Irma (maiden name Neubauerová, born on December 9, 1895) Löw. They lived at 19 Kramářovy Orchards. His father worked as a salesman. When he finished studies at a German school on Jungmannova Street, Hanuš entered the Second Czechoslovak State High School in Pilsen. However, in 1939, he had to discontinue his studies there.

Hanuš Lamač remembers:

“When the Germans came, I had to go to work. At first I worked at a large commercial orchard. Later, the Germans sent me to work in the porcelain factory in Horní Bříza. It was very hard work and I got SCHWERSTARBEITER LEBENSMITTELKARTEN (“food rations for heavy laborers”), and that really meant something. I would get up at five in the morning to catch my train at six. I would not get back home until late in the evening. We lived in our own apartment on Sedláčkova Street until the Germans sent us in transport T to Terezín in January 1942. We were allowed to take only a small suitcase with us. We had to leave everything else in the house as it was, including our key in the door. The winter of 1942 was very cold — it was freezing — the temperature was minus 10 to 15 degrees Centigrade.

I went through various jobs in Terezín until I ended up in the bakery, which was useful. We were not hungry, I was together with my parents, and life in the ghetto was therefore relatively bearable. I even dated a very pretty young lady, whose name

Pilsen, Sedl.

1. transport

25. 1. 1942

ÚSTŘEDNÍ KARTOTÉKA — TRANSPORTY.	
R. č. 54.477	HLÁŠEN OPĚT EVIDENCE
Löw Hanuš	
Rodná data: 14.2.1922	
Adresa před deportací: Pilsen, Sedláčkova ul.č.19	
1. transport	2. transport
dne: 25. 1. 1942	dne: 18.5.1944
č. 271	číslo: Eb - 835
	do: Osvětím



at farmhouses, every night someplace different, waded through snow, and were freezing – it was minus 20–30 degrees Celsius. We also spent a short time in a Krakow monastery. We wanted to join Svoboda's army as volunteers, so we had to cover more than 400 kilometers to get to Poprad, where the army had its headquarters. We made our way there partially on foot and partially on Russian military trucks. Finally, we made it all the way to Poprad and, after complicated explanations of who we were (we had no identification documents), all three of us were accepted into the army.

After fighting in several battles, I returned to Prague as a soldier. There I found my fiancée, who had survived the war together with her mother in Terezín. I finished my studies just like many other soldiers who fought in England, Russia, or Africa. After brief service in the Sudetenland, we were released from the army in September 1945. I served there with Honza Müller, with whom I later lived in Karlín in Prague.

I was trying to get into a university but instead started working in a law office whose owners were both also soldiers, but from England. Later I got a job with Canadian Commercial Enterprises, which was an affiliate of the Bafa Factory that detached itself from the Czechoslovak firm. I began as a correspondent working multilingually in English, German, and French, and in the end I became the second-ranked member of the office. The director was an Englishman, Mr. Maltby. Our company was charged with espionage and our offices were shut down within one hour in February 1948.

A year earlier, in February 1947, I had married Kitty Zentnerová. After everything that had happened I did not want to live in Europe anymore and was trying to get transferred somewhere overseas. The very next day after the wedding, I left for Holland and England. My wife, Kitty, stayed in Czechoslovakia and had a lot of difficulty when she tried to join me abroad. In the end she managed to get out through Denmark, where her mother had gotten married after the war. That was in September 1948 – four months later we took a boat from Liverpool to Chile. I have been living in Chile now for 56 years. I arrived there on February 14, 1949 – on my birthday. Back then, I was still young; I was 27 years old.

We immediately liked it here. We had acquaintances here and it was a beautiful country with a European style. In the beginning we did whatever we could until we learned proper Spanish. We got lots of support from several Czechs and Slovaks who had emigrated here before the war or later.

Kitty had heart problems and she died in Santiago de Chile in 1952. She was twenty-six years old.

In 1955, I remarried. My new wife was born in Germany, grew up in England, and during the war moved to Chile, where her parents and her brother were living.

In 1973, we moved to Vancouver, Canada, because we did not want to live in a communist country and to have Allende as a president – it seemed that Chile would become another Cuba. The situation fortunately changed and we returned to Chile in 1975 after our son Miguel graduated from his studies in Canada."

Hanuš is currently retired and his son Miguel runs their family business. They live in Santiago de Chile.

CLASS VI.C.

- 1, BENEŠ VÁCLAV FROM KVIHLY (PILSEN).
- 2, BOKUSLAV EMMANUEL FROM KLATOVY (ROKYKANY).
- 3, ČERNÝ JAN FROM PILSEN.
- 4, ČIHERA MILOSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 5, FENCL ZDENĚK FROM PILSEN.
- 6, PIŠER BOHUMIL FROM PILSEN.
- 7, GROSS MILOSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 8, HLADÍK JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN.
- 9, HRUŠKA LADISLAV FROM STARÝ PŮZENEC.
- 10, HUNNER JIŘÍ FROM PROSTĚJOV (PILSEN).
- 11, JENÍČEK FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 12, JIRKA MILOSLAV FROM TLUČNA'.
- 13, JUŘEL JOSEF FROM PILSEN.
- 14, *KRAĀLOVÁ MILADA FROM MALOMĚŘICE U BRNA (TŘEMOŠNÁ).
- 15, [KŘEN JAROSLAV FROM SKOČICE (PILSEN), WITHDREW].
- 16, KUBAŤ KAREL FROM BLOVICE (PILSEN).
- 17, KULE JAN FROM BUKOVEC.
- 18, LAVIČKA FRANTIŠEK FROM VOLDUČKY (PILSEN).
- 19, *NACH ZDENĚK FROM PILSEN.
- 20, NLEŽIVOVÁ VLASTA FROM PRAHA (PILSEN).
- 21, POLÍVKA MILOSLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 22, PRESSL BOHUMIL FROM PILSEN.
- 23, SCHANZER JIŘÍ FROM DOLNÍ LUKAVICE.
- 24, SKAĀLOVÁ MILOSLAVA FROM PŘECHOVICE.
- 25, STRAKA ANTONÍN FROM PILSEN.
- 26, STRUŽKA MIROSLAV FROM PILSEN (SENEC).
- 27, SVÍTIL RUDOLF FROM PILSEN.
- 28, ŠAŠEK LADISLAV FROM PILSEN.
- 29, TRESCHL FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 30, VENCLÍK FRANTIŠEK FROM PILSEN.
- 31, *VÍŠEK JOSEF FROM VOCHOV (PILSEN).
- 32, VOJTA JOSEF FROM NÝRÁNY.
- 33, WANKA ANTONÍN FROM BOLEVEC.
- 34, ZYKUNND JIŘÍ FROM PILSEN.
- 35, ŽENÍŠEK ADOLF FROM KRŤR (PILSEN).

(34 STUDENTS REMAINED)

STATE PROFESSOR KAREL KARÁŠEK,
HOMEROOM TEACHER

JIRÍ SCHANZER

(October 22, 1921, Dolní Lukavice
- 2. Auschewitz)

Jiří was born on October 22, 1921, to Heřman (born on February 28, 1891) and Emilie (maiden name Bendová, born on February 23, 1898, in Nezvěstice by Mirovice) Schanzer. After Jiří's mother's death, Heřman married Eliška Wollnerová, with whom he had a second son, Josef. They lived together with Jiří's grandparents at 91 Dolní Lukavice, where they also ran a grocery store.

At the end of the 1930s and beginning of the 1940s, there were only two Jewish families registered in Dolní Lukavice. The other family was the Blochs, who lived next door and owned a butcher shop. The nearby Jewish cemetery and converted synagogue provide evidence that in its time, the local Jewish community must have been relatively extensive.

In September 1927, Jiří entered the public school in Dolní Lukavice where religious instruction was offered by a Roman-Catholic pastor and also by Rabbi Leopold Singer.

In 1934, after the merger of the two schools, Jiří transferred from the First to the Second Czechoslovak State High School in Pilsen. He successfully graduated in 1939. Subsequently, he wanted to study chemistry at the university in Prague.



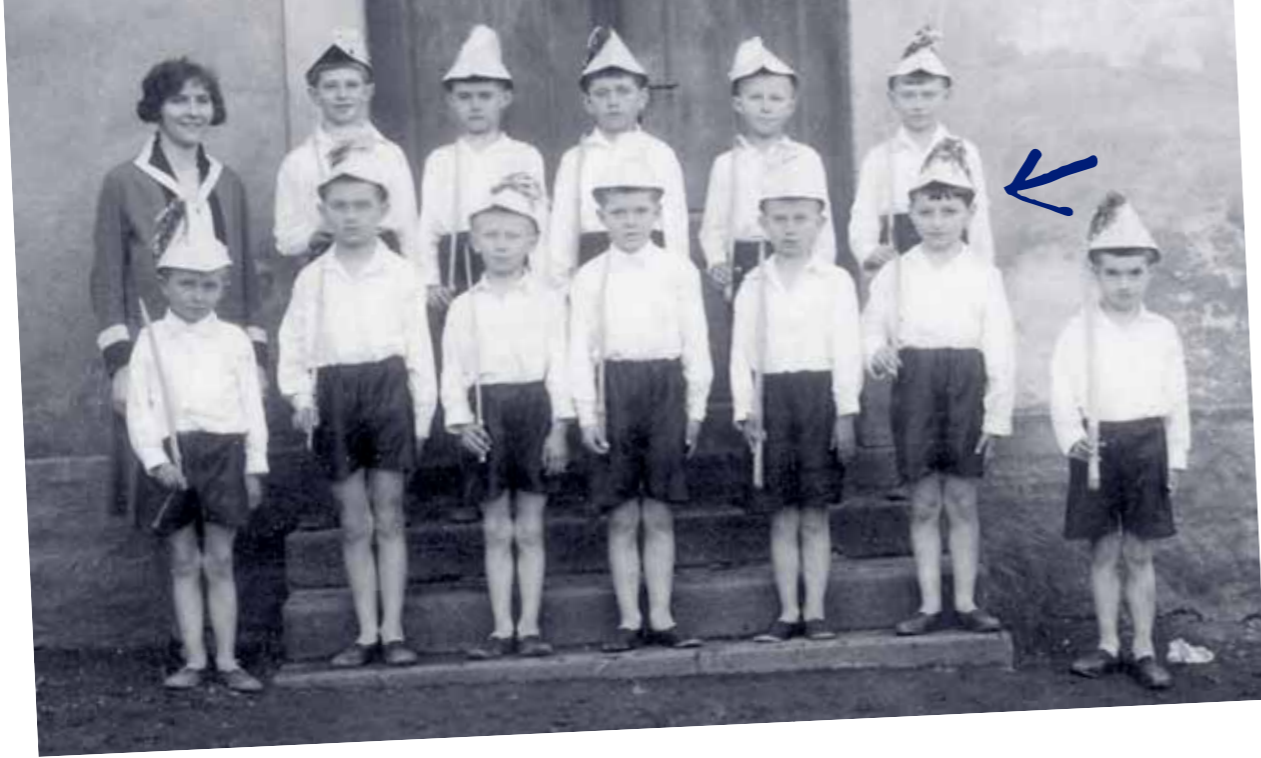
The Schanzer's house (1920)

"They had a fox terrier but he was a rascal. As soon as he heard a hen cackling, he would go and eat the egg. My uncle would beat him for that. Then, somebody told him to buy a rotten egg. They sell them in gardening stores. The dog tasted it and never tried to eat another egg again."

[...]

"He was not really one of my friends. He actually did not have any friends because he was a nerd. He would just read books - I never saw him go anywhere or talk to anybody, to the boys for example, or even go dancing. I used to ride my bike to his house and I would show up unexpectedly but he was usually in that laboratory of his. He would do experiments in the attic, until one day when it exploded. He was a good student, so good that he almost blew up their house. My uncle as well as my aunt used to praise him - I mean until the explosion. He was good university material. My uncle had it sorted out - Jirka would study and Pepík would inherit the shop."

(Mr. Milan Plešák, step-cousin)



from the public school
in Dolní Lulečovice

v chemii:

ve fyzice:

v deskriptivní geometrii—rýso

ve filosofické propedeut

v kreslení:

v

OKRESNÍ SOUD v AŠI.
 Dne 9 10 46
 M 10/46
 M 10/46
 rubr. 101
 Cd 213/46

Okresnímu spudu

v Aš i .

V opatrovnické věci nezvěstného Jiřího Schanzer, navrhuje Věra Hartmannová, aby Jiří Schanzer byl prohlášen za mrtva a udává:

Můj bratranec Jiří Schanzer, nar. 21.10. 1921 v Dolní Lukavici, okres Přeštice, svobodný, československý státní občan, národnosti české, příslušný do Dolní Lukavice, studující, posledně bytem v Dolní Lukavici odešel dne 7. ledna 1940 z domova, aby vstoupil do zahraničního odboje. Při přechodu hranic byl Gestapem zatčen a vězněn v Uherském Hradišti, Brně, Dachau a Buchenwaldu, odtud od něj došly poslední zprávy.

Jelikož od té doby od něj nejsou žádné další zprávy, zahynul patrně v Buchenwaldu, nebo v některém jiném koncentračním táboře. Vzhledem k tomu jsou dány podmínky dle dekretu presidenta republiky ze dne 17.10. 1945 čis. 117 a navrhuji, aby zahájeno bylo řízení k prohlášení Jiřího Schanzer za mrtvého.

Žádá se za výslech sl. Věry Kreindlerové v Aši, Mikulášská 3 o těchto okolnostech.

Okresní soud v Přešticích odd.I.

dne 2. října 1946.

JUDr. Jaroslav Meduna
 Za správnost vyhotovení
 řídicí karte oddělení

St! voly shora
 na G. 11 - 13 hod. do 13

Pro: Věra Hartmannová
 za mrtva Jiřího Schanzer
 Kde: Kde výslech

Doslo: 25 X 1946
 opráno:
 porovnáno:
 vypraveno:

15711

42

M 10/46

To the District Court in Aš:

With regard to the custody case of missing person Jiří Schanzer, Věra Hartmanová proposes to proclaim Jiří Schanzer dead and she states:

My cousin Jiří Schanzer, born on October 21, 1921, in Dolní Lukavice, District Přeštice, single, of Czechoslovak citizenship, Czech nationality, registered in Dolní Lukavice, student, last residing at Dolní Lukavice, left home on January 7, 1940, to join the resistance abroad. When crossing the border, he was arrested by the Gestapo and jailed in Uherské Hradiště, Brno, Dachau, and Buchenwald, from which the last news of him was received.

Because there has been no other news of him since, he probably died in Buchenwald or another concentration camp. With regard to the above, the conditions of the decree of the President of the Republic from October 17, 1945, No. 117 have been fulfilled and I therefore propose to commence proceedings with the objective of pronouncing Jiří Schanzer to be dead.

Questioning of Miss Věra Kreindlerová from Aš, 3 Mikulášská Street, is requested with regard to these circumstances.

District Court in Přeštice, Department I
 October 2, 1946

Jaroslav Meduna, LL.B.
 The accuracy of the document is confirmed by the manager of the office:
 [signature illegible]

After his departure from home in January of 1940, Jiří joined the resistance. While trying to cross the Hungarian border, he fell into the hands of the Gestapo. He was deported to Slovakia and Moravia, where he was imprisoned in Uherské Hradiště and in Brno. He passed through Dachau and Buchenwald concentration camps, where he was last heard from in November of 1942 - a letter (which has not been preserved) to his father. According to the recollections of a surviving fellow prisoner, Mr. Schejbal, Jiří survived in Auschwitz, where he was transferred over the course of subsequent years, until January 1945, and finally only died on the death march. In all likelihood, he was buried in a mass grave in Stod, near Pilsen.

Heřman, Eliška, and Josef Schanzer were taken from Klatovy to Terezín on November 26, 1942, and on January 20, 1943, they were deported to Auschwitz. There is no information about their fate after this date, nor is there any information about the destiny of the grandparents on the father's side.

"There was a man in Litice who was with him on the death march. He told us that Jirka made it almost all the way to Pilsen. This was the train into which people from Pilsen were throwing bread."

(Mr. Milan Plešák, step-cousin)

As a so-called mixed breed of the first degree, Milan Plešák was jailed in Postoloprty near Žatec. His non-Jewish father was in jail in Bystrice by Prague. His mother, Marta Plešáková (after the war, she had her brother-in-law - Heřman Schanzer - declared dead), was held in the Hagibor, previously a Jewish sports club. Věra Hartmannová (who initiated the proceedings to have her cousin Jiří Schanzer declared dead) survived Auschwitz. The overwhelming majority of her relatives from Kozolupy (the Štěpán family) died in Lodž.

Jiří Schanzer, naroz. dne 22. října 1921 v Dolní Lukavici, s. o. Přeštice, z rodičů Heřmana a Emilie roz. Bendové, israelita, příslušný do Dolní Lukavice, naposledy bytem v Dolní Lukavici čp. 91, svobodný, studující.

V roce 1940 se pokusil přestoupiti hranice, byl však dopaden, zatčen gestapem a vězněn až do jara 1945 v koncentračním táboře u Buchenwaldu, odkud byl převezen do Osvětimi a od té doby jest nezvěstný.

Poněvadž podle toho nastala zákonná domněnka smrti po rozumu § 17 dekretu č. 107/45 Sb., zahajuje soud k návrhu Věry Hartmannové, Praha XVI., Krokova č. 7, řízení k prohlášení jmenovaného za mrtva.

Zprávy o pohřešovaném budtež podány lo 25. listopadu 1947.

Okresní soud v Přešticích, odd. I., dne 21. listopadu 1946. 41467/263

Jiří Schanzer, born on October 22, 1921, in Dolní Lukavice, to Heřman and Emilie, maiden name Bendová, an Israelite belonging to Dolní Lukavice; his last residence at 91 Dolní Lukavice; single, student.

In 1940, he attempted to cross the border but was caught, arrested by the Gestapo, and jailed until the spring of 1945 in the concentration camp by Buchenwald, from which he was transported to Auschwitz. He has been missing ever since.

Due to the above-mentioned situation, it can be presumed in view of the law, in accordance with Section 17 of Decree No. 107/45 Coll., that he is dead. The court therefore commences legal proceedings, as proposed by Věra Hartmannová, Prague XVI, 7 Krokova Street, to pronounce the above-mentioned person to be dead.

Any information about the above-mentioned missing person shall be submitted by November 25, 1947.

District Court in Přeštice, Department I, November 21, 1946.

Heřman Schanzer, naroz. dne 28. února 1891 v Dolní Lukavici, okres Přeštice, syn Josefa Schanzera a Pavlíny r. Freundové, židovského vyznání, příslušný do Dolní Lukavice, okres Přeštice, posledně bytem v Dolní Lukavici čp. 91, byl za okupace a rasové persekuce dne 26. listopadu 1942 deportován do Terezína a odtud dne 20. ledna 1943 dále do Osvětimi, kde patrně zahynul v plynové komoře.

Poněvadž podle toho jest pravděpodobné, že jmenovaný zemřel, zahajuje soud na návrh Marty Plešákové, manželky krejčího v Liticích čp. 58 u Plzně, řízení k prohlášení jmenovaného za mrtvého.

Zprávy o pohřešovaném budtež podány do 31. října 1946.

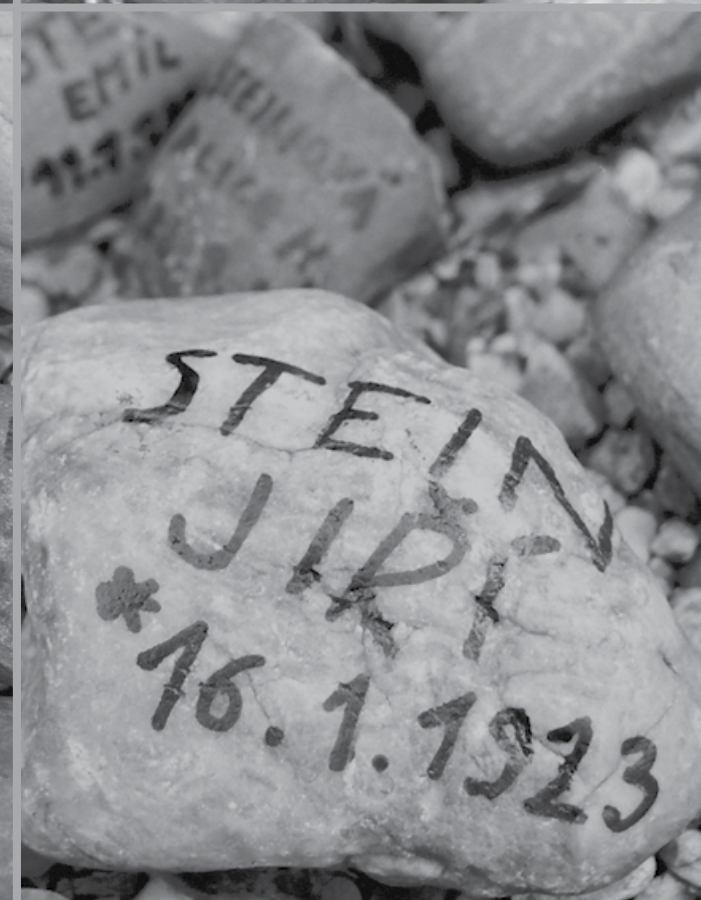
Okresní soud v Přešticích, odd. I., dne 14. září 1946. 31389/263

Heřman Schanzer, born on February 28, 1891, in Dolní Lukavice, District Přeštice, the son of Josef Schanzer and Pavlína, maiden name Freundová, of the Jewish faith, registered at Dolní Lukavice, District Přeštice, last residency at 91 Dolní Lukavice, was deported to Terezín on November 26, 1942 under the occupation and racial persecution. From there, he was further transported to Auschwitz on January 20, 1943, where he probably died in the gas chamber.

Due to the above-mentioned facts, it is probable that the above named person died. The court therefore commences legal proceedings, as proposed by Marta Plešáková, wife of the tailor in 58 Litice by Pilsen, to pronounce the above-mentioned person to be dead.

Any information about the above-mentioned missing person shall be submitted by October 31, 1946.

District Court in Přeštice, Department I, September 14, 1946.



The Monument of the Pilsen Holocaust Victims - The Garden of Memories

It was created in 2002 thanks to Radovan Kodera. In the course of one week, the citizens of Pilsen and students of Pilsen schools inscribed more than 2,600 stones with the names of citizens murdered during the Holocaust.

The monument is located in the so called Jewish school next to the Old Pilsen Synagogue.

CONCLUSION

1947



Annual Report of the State High School in Pilsen for the 1946/47 school year. An excerpt from the introductory text Fate of the Institution during the Period of Subjugation and up to the School Year 1946/47:

"After a six-year crusade by the nation, we are, once again, publishing this annual report. In the fall of 1938, we were left alone and deserted in the conflict provoked by the Berchtesgaden thug, who tore the border areas from the body of our beloved republic like a wild storm rips leaves from the trees, and pushed our western border all the way to the western edge of our Pilsen. The people of Masaryk and Beneš were making the hardest sacrifices, even though to prevail was beyond their strength. Events were striking the nation's heart like a poisoned arrow and there was no doctor who could soothe and heal these terrible pains. Then the fatal fifteenth of March arrived. While it was snowing and a bitter wind was blowing, frozen werewolf hordes, prepared to claw to pieces the nation they hated and to plunder and burn down its dwellings, were pouring into our historic lands from all directions. Distraught hearts of all Czechs were tolling death bells, lips were warding off the dark future with a prayer: I believe by God that we will one day get our own destiny back into our own hands, oh, Czech people ... while the robber's boots muddied the castle of the Czech kings and presidents and while with his jaundiced eyes he was devouring Prague, the mother of Czech towns, from its heights. Germanization was sneaking into the school like a thief. The tree of the Czech secondary education system, which had blossomed in the past, was dropping one leaf after another. For not dropping them all, we can thank the Czech professorial staff who remained, with the exception of a few aberrant individuals, faithful to its two great teachers and models - Masaryk and Beneš."

The above is followed by seventeen pages of text describing the fate of the school – bureaucratic changes for the purpose of Germanization, transfer of the Masaryk Gymnasium, whose building was occupied by the Nazis, into the building of the Second Czechoslovak State High School, the moving in of the headquarters of the Fourth Police Ward and other institutions, including a sanitary unit of the American Army. The school's collections suffered from the moves; some books were discarded; instruction suffered due to a lack of coal, air strikes by the Allies, lack of textbooks, intervention in the curriculum, especially in the humanities, the limitations on the number of students, and the drafting of some professors and staff, as well as students into forced labor in Germany ("Totaleinsatz").

A special chapter is dedicated to the Nazi persecution of professors and former students of the institution and to their participation in the fight for liberation. In April 1945, Professor **Vojtěch Ježek** was executed after spending a long time in jail; in March 1944, Professors **Karel Rachač**, **Květoslav Endrýs**, and **František Biskup** were arrested. František Biskup was released after ten days of

Fate of professor
V. Ježek
→ see p. 20

detention. Karel Rachač was charged with exhibiting a hostile attitude towards the Great German Reich, illegal activities, and spreading news broadcasted by foreign radio stations. He passed through several penitentiaries and concentration camps and was finally liberated in Hamburg in April 1945. Květoslav Endrýs was interrogated at Pankrác in Prague and subsequently spent two years in prison. Several former students of the institution also died fighting the enemy: lieutenant-pilot **Jindřich Křepel** died while serving in the RAF, staff captain **Zdeněk Dienstbier** was executed in Dresden, **Josef Elsnic** died in Mauthausen, **Josef Knap** was tortured to death in Terezín's Small Fortress, **Ladislav Ropp** was executed in Dresden, and general **Václav Šára** was executed in Prague. The following students of the institution died during Allied air raids: **Ota Rozsypal**, **Jiří Rund**, **Eva Štemberová**, **Stanislav Veselý**, and **František Konáš**.

Nowhere in the report is there any mention of anything regarding the persecution of persons who were targeted by the Nuremberg Laws. Nowhere does the almanac mention the departure of Jewish students from the gymnasium, nor their subsequent fates. We are therefore, sixty years later, setting right this omission and reminding you that **the following students were killed in extermination camps or other unknown places: Emil Ehrlich (Auschwitz), Hana Fantová (Izbica?), Hana Porgesová (Sobibor?), Jiří Schanzer (Auschwitz?), and Jiří Stein (Raasiku). Egon Löbner, Hanuš Deiml, and Hanuš Löw were sent to the Terezín ghetto and Auschwitz, and their families were murdered. Eva Brummelová left for Great Britain in 1939, but her entire family was murdered in Auschwitz. Arnošt Epstein and Mirko Lauterstein, who came from mixed marriages, were deported to the labor camp in Postoloprty. Most of their families on their fathers' sides were killed in extermination camps.**

Principal resources:

Acta Theresiana sv. 1 (Denní rozkazy Rady starších a Sdělení židovské samosprávy Terezín 1941 – 1945).

Institut Tereziánské iniciativy, Sefer 2003

Danuta Czech: Kalendarz wydarzeń w KL Auschwitz, Muzeum Osvětim-Březinka 1992

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Kodera, Radovan: K výročí deportací plzeňských židů, Izbica – cíl transportů z Terezína v březnu 1942,

Likvidační transporty z Terezína v druhé polovině roku 1942, Osvětimské inferno – série článků vycházejících v průběhu roku 2002 v regionální příloze deníku Mladá fronta.

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Ruml, Jiří: Znamínko na duši, Evropský kulturní klub, Praha 1990.

Téma: Holocaust – Informační materiál pro učitele k výuce na základních a středních školách

Výroční zprávu gymnázia:

- Druhá výroční zpráva II. české státní reálky za školní rok 1913 – 1914
- Dvacet pět let druhé reálky v Plzni (1906 – 1931)
- XXVI. výroční zpráva II. st. čs. reálky v Plzni (1937 – 38)
- Výroční zpráva státního reálného gymnasia v Plzni za školní rok 1946 – 47

Contemporary anti-Semitic newspaper articles:

Přátelé Židů jsou stejnými nepřáteli národa jako Židé; Plzeňský kraj, r. 35, č. 49, str. 3 (z 5. 12. 1941)

Zákaz výdeje vepřového masa Židům; Plzeňský kraj, r. 36, č. 4, str. 7 (z 30. 1. 1942)

Další příklady české antisemitské propagandy jsou převzaty z www.holocaust.cz.

Protižidovské zákazy a nařízení nám poskytl Radovan Kodera.

Translation of the Nuremberg Laws: University of the West of England, Bristol [with minor corrections added]
<http://www.ess.uwe.ac.uk/documents/gerblood.htm>

Photographs were generously provided by Mrs. Eva Brummelová, Mr. Michal Brummel, Ms Kateřina Deimlová, Mrs. Charlotte Epsteinová, Mr. Radovan Kodera (photographs of concentration camps), Mr. Hanuš Lamač, Mrs. Dagmar Lánská, Mrs. Jarmila Brychcínová, Mr. Gary Loebner, Mr. Lukáš Příbyl, Mr. Milan Plešák, Mrs. Zuzana Růžičková, Mr. Jan Roček and the Ethnographic Department of The Museum of Western Bohemia in Pilsen

Photographs from the archive of the Ethnographic Department of the Museum of Western Bohemia in Pilsen:

- Dolní Lukavice (L1887)
- Deportation of Jews from Pilsen to Terezín (p. 26: NMP 59104, NMP 686a; p. 28 NMP 686b, NMP 59105)

Photographs on page 27 contributed by Radovan Kodera.

Archival materials:

Ústřední archiv v Praze, Milady Horákové 133

- Matriky židovského obyvatelstva (HBMa 1548 N 1916 – 1949; HBMa 1553 O 1911-1949)

Archiv města Plzně, Veleslavínova 19

- Presidiální spisy – uprchlíci, zcizení židovského majetku (OÚ V.16 A 1938 – 41; 932)
- Školská správa a školy: Gymnázia a reálky – II. státní čsl. reálka v Plzni/Hlavní katalogy, Třídní katalogy (16 B)
- Domovské archy

Státní oblastní archiv v Plzni, Sedláčkova 44

- Policejní přihlášky

www.holocaust.cz

www.jewishmuseum.cz

www.pamatnik-terezin.cz

www.reinhard.mysteria.cz

www.yadvashem.org

CLASSMATES

THE FATES OF JEWISH STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED OUR SCHOOL,
GYMNÁZIUM, MIKULÁŠSKÉ NÁMĚSTÍ, PILSEN

Published by the Gymnázium na Mikulášském náměstí v Plzni
and the HUMR civic association.

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(Kristýna Homdová)

The goal of the student project "Classmates" (Spolužáci) was to gather as much information as possible concerning the fates of former students of the Second Czechoslovak State High School in Pilsen (today the Gymnázium na Mikulášském náměstí v Plzni) who were persecuted under the Nuremberg Laws during the course of their studies.

After two years of research, we succeeded in identifying a total of twelve children. A memorial plaque in the school now serves as a reminder of their fates. The "Classmates" project was inspired by "Neighbours Who Disappeared" (Zmizelí sousedé) and presented within the framework of "Homage to the Child Victims of the Holocaust" (Pocta dětským obětem holocaustu) - projects of the Jewish Museum in Prague and the Forgotten Ones Civic Association.