

No. 43 July 1997

### ACTIVITIES AT BEIT TEREZIN

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#### THE ANNUAL MEETING

This time again, at our annual meeting on May 17, 1997 at Givat Hayim-Ihud, the participants preferred by far the social and conversational side as against the necessity, to conduct the formal meeting as required by law. In the morning there was a dialogue of the generations, led by Amram Haisraeli, titled "What you wanted to ask..." - what, when and how (if at all) did the survivors tell their children and grandchildren about their holocaust experiences.

The general meeting began with a minute's silence in remembrance of the dead. Then the "Zamarin" - choir from Zikhron Yaakov under the baton of Dedi Schlesinger performed a potpourri of songs. The last one was the song of Terezin (by Schwenk), in Hebrew and Czech. The meeting was greeted by the Czech ambassador Dr. Jiri Schneider, by the kibbutz secretary Mira Ziv and by Narda Kuczinski in the name of the second generation. Narda talked about the problems of communication between the founders and the second generation regarding our work - though there is no question about continuing it. Our chairman M. Livni reported on the activities during the last year. The meeting, chaired by Willy Groag, absolved the outgoing board unanimously and proceeded to elect a new one according to the proposal of the nomination committee. The meeting ended with the performance of "Altermann in Slippers" (by Margalit Tubi, presented by her and Gila Hassid).

All the participants at the meeting expressed their appreciation to Bilha Rubin and Nurit Dayag for the excellent organisation of the event.

#### THE NEWLY ELECTED BOARD

Chairman: Mordechai Livni, manager of Beit Terezin: Alisah Schiller, assistant manager of B.T.: Bilha Rubin, secretary of the association: Ronit Fischl, members: the above, Shimon Lomsky, Anita Tarsi, Hanna Oren, Yehudit Ashkenasi, Ruth Bondy, Uri Bass, Willy Groag, Nir Drori, Yehuda Huppert, Amram Haisraeli, Eli Loewenthal, Yaakov Tsur, Miriam Cervenka, Narda Kuczinski, Dani Kedar-Kraus, Hans Reines, Alisah Sheck.

Committees:

Finances: Sh. Lomsky (chairm.), Hanna Oren, Ruth Bobek, Noemi Ben-Dom, Amram Haisraeli, Vera Meisels.

Events: Uri Bass (chairm.), Ruth Elias, Mihal Efrat, Arie Brodavka, Moshe Dayag, Shosh Sade, Noga Reines, Nurit Dayag.

Education: Yehuda Huppert (chairm.), Hanna Oren, Dov Barnea, Willy Groag, Anita Tarsi, Otto Kraus, Narda Kuczinski, Nira Shmueli, Nurit Rahav-Drori.

Expositions: Alisah Sheck (chair), Mihal Efrat, Yehudit Ashkenasi, Dvora Ben-Yehuda, Willy Groag, Katya Manor, Eli Loewenthal.

Computerization: Alisah Schiller (chair), Natalia Marmasse, Anita Tarsi, Yoram Faran.

Contributions: Dani Kedar-Kraus (chairm.), Nir Drori, Ruth Bondy.

Control: Arie Brodavka (chairm.), + 2 members of the second generation (to be appointed).

Further members of our association, who want to participate in a committee, are requested to contact the chairman.

## EXHIBITION ROOM

The financial report for 1996, which was distributed to all participants of the meeting, includes the sum of NIS 60.000 as down payment to the kibbutz for the release of the "Mishkan Yaakov" room. Givat Hayim-Ihud had the use of this part of Beit Terezin since its erection in 1975. We plan to redesign the room in the near future for the display of art from our collections. Together with the architekt O. Manor from the Department of Museums we are now going over the proposals by two architects.

The problem of the (unwanted) echo in the remembrance room, which also serves for study days, will be solved shortly by the addition of a special layer to the walls.

## THE FUTURE OF BEIT TEREZIN

To define anew the aims of our association - in the eyes of our members - our board and some additional members held a meeting on December 28, 1996, chaired by Eli Loewenthal. An exchange of viewpoints took place and finally an objective list of our aims evolved - without undue influence of dominant personalities. Each of the participants wrote down the three most important aims according to his views, these (totalling 26) were written on a blackboard. The four scoring highest were:

1. Continuing existence of Beit Terezin and its activities at least at the present scope.
2. Further development of the educational center, research on holocaust and Central Europe.
3. Widening of its function as remembrance site.
4. To deepen the relationship of the 3 generations.

## MOBILIZING RESOURCES

To start a drive for very much needed contributions, we applied to a firm specialized in this line of work. We received a first proposal and invited the professional of this firm for a lecture. He illuminated the subject from many sides and we will take concrete measures in the near future. We will have to invest much resources and work before any results will materialize.

## EDUCATIONAL CENTER (JANUARY - JUNE 1997)

## STUDY DAYS

In this epoch we held 78 study days for high school pupils, teachers, educators, also students and others from Germany and the Czech Republic. Since Bilha Rubin started working in Beit Theresienstadt we were able to increase the number of study days.

Many thanks to all those who contributed their work and especially those, who related their personal holocaust experiences.

## “YOUTH IN THE GHETTO” - COMPUTER AIDED EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT, PART 2

This project is being carried out by the educational center together with members of the second generation. These days we are preparing the second part. Like the first one it deals with the moral and ethic dilemmas educators and children faced in the ghetto.

## “CHILDREN’S HOMES IN GHETTO TEREZIN”

The multimedia-CD created by Sharon Huppert became the base for the development of a teaching curriculum, made in cooperation with the Youth Department of the Isr. Ministry of Education. It is intended for High schoolers and may be ordered for the price of NIS 180.- at Beit Terezin (in Hebrew).

## “TO BE IN TEREZIN” - DATABASE ON GHETTO TEREZIN ON THE INTERNET

The program is intended for use by teachers, students and pupils and was prepared by our Multimedia team in cooperation with the Multimedia team for teaching history of the Technological Educational Center. The site is still being developed, but even now one can get an impression regarding graphics and scope. We invite our friends and readers to visit the site and to let us have their comments. The address:  
<http://www.cet.ac.il/history/terezin>

We want to remind you, that Beit Theresienstadt is also developing a site in the Internet, in Hebrew and in English. In the near future we will add information about the activities of the second generation, about our computerized files of the ghetto inmates, our archives and collections. The address: <http://www.cet.ac.il/terezin>

This newsletter will be included in the site, too - in Hebrew, English and German.

(Compiled by Anita Tarsi)

ACTUALITIES

## A LETTER FROM MADELEINE ALBRIGHT

After US newspapers published details about the Jewish roots of the US Secretary of State M. Albright and about the death of her grandparents in the holocaust, the manager of Beit Terezin Alisah Schiller sent her - through the good offices of the US embassy in Tel Aviv - excerpts from our card files. These included data about the parents of her father Josef Koerbel, Ernst Koerbel, born 1878, who died in ghetto Terezin on Sept. 18, 1942 a few weeks after arriving there and his widow Olga, born in the same year, who was deported in Oct. 1944 to Birkenau. We also transmitted data about two women named Anna Spiegel - the name of her maternal grandmother: one born 1889, the other 1899. The one perished in Auschwitz, the other in Treblinka. Toward the end of March 1997 Ms. Albright replied: "Dear Alisah Schiller, thank you very much for sending me the computer printout data about my mother's and father's families. The news of these tragic events is overwhelming. My family is looking further into the facts. We very much appreciate your help. Sincerely, Madeleine Albright".

After the publication of an article by Tal Bashan on Feb.10.1997 in the Tel Aviv newspaper "Maariv" about the data of M. Albright's family in the Beit Terezin database, the report of the "Washington Post" in Israel and representatives of many other foreign newspapers applied to Beit Theresienstadt for more information. The author Avigdor Dagan, who worked with M. Albright's father Josef Koerbel in the Czechoslovak Foreign Service of the CSR government in exile in London, related to Tal Bashan the story of his acquaintance with the family from before WWII.

## "TO LIVE AS IF" - EXHIBITION IN NETANYA

On May 1, 1997, a few days before Holocaust Day, an exhibition of paintings and drawings from the archives of Beit Terezin and from the collection of Emmo and Trude Groag was opened in the Municipal Gallery of the Netanya Cultural Center. This is the first time, that works from our collection are shown publicly in Israel. The exhibition was arranged by the curator Iris Kritzmann. Among the guests at the opening were representatives of the Netanya municipality and also the singer Viktoria Gabai, with songs by Schwenk. Willy Groag, who also painted in the ghetto, spoke about the significance of artistic creation under loss of freedom, terror, hunger and humiliation. The exhibition, which closed on June 16, raised considerable attention.

## THE EXHIBITION: "BLUE - WHITE" IN COLOUR

about 100 years of Zionism is being shown since Oct. 16, 1996 at the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv and is due to close in Nov, 1997. There are posters, Keren Kayemet documents, picture postcards, stamps and New Year cards documenting the Zionist vision and mainly the halutzim (pioneers). Our archives lent for the exhibition a blue - white pennant with the embroidered Hebrew word "Dror" - which was the symbol of one of the youth homes in the ghetto and also a small album with dried flowers from Palestine, brought to the ghetto by one of the inmates.

## SYMPOSIUM: "RECORDING THE NAMES"

In June 1997 an international meeting was held at Yad Vashem named "Recording the Names" - of those who went through the holocaust. About 60 specialists from Israel and abroad participated. Natalia Marmasse, the computer expert of Beit Theresienstadt for the computerization of the ghetto card file, gave a lecture about our process of computerization, carried out entirely by volunteers. All the almost 160.000 cards are by now in the computer and we are now able to retrieve not only particular names, but also general research data about sorted groups. We are still in the process of updating, data correction and correlating new information.

During the 3 days of the symposium the participants saw projects in various stages of development. The exchange of information and viewpoints enriched all and resulted in connections for future cooperation. Books of name lists were published in Italy, the Czech Republic, Austria and various German cities, but they are not seen as final and more information is being continuously added.

Michael Frank read a lecture by Miroslav Karny about the computer program of the "Terezinska Iniciativa" foundation. The program was started in 1990 and carried out in cooperation of the Institute for Information Science of the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Central State Archives in Prague and "Pamatnik Terezin". 1500 exemplars of the first two volumes of the memorial book with the names of the inmates of ghetto Terezin from Bohemia and Moravia were already sold. In Oct. 1996 an English Guide to the Terezin Memorial Book was published (130 pages) for the two Czech volumes. Now a volume with the names of the 42.000 Jews from Germany who were in Terezin is in preparation. In the beginning of 1998 work will begin on the fourth volume - about the Austrian Jews.

The English Guide may be ordered for the price of US\$ 15.- at:

Nadace Terezinska Iniciativa, Dlouha 37, 110 00 Praha 1, Czech Republic

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Beit Terezin joined the "Association of Holocaust Organizations" based in Bayside, New York, USA, The publication of this association, which informs about holocaust research institutes and memorial sites all over the world, brought in its issue from April 1997 an item about the computerized ghetto files of Beit Theresienstadt, where information is available for a nominal fee.

## TESTIMONIES

Channel 8 of the Isr. TV brought for Holocaust Day, on May 3, 1997 a feature titled "Living Testimony" about the collection of video testimonies by holocaust survivors, initiated by Steven Spielberg. The film - by Mordechai Kuerschner - centered around the testimony of Miriam Cervenka, as told to Adi Yaguri. Miriam spoke about her childhood in Czechoslovakia, about ghetto Terezin and about her new life with her husband Mila in kibbutz Givat Hayim-Ihud. The program ended with a close-up of the wealth of the Cervenka's: 4 children and 10 grandchildren.

More than 26.000 survivors were already interviewed in the framework of Spielberg's collection and this year tens of thousands more will be added, from 35 countries. Among the 3200 recordings from Israel quite a number was made by former inmates of Theresienstadt ghetto.

## "BRUNDIBAR" IN GERMAN CITIES

For Holocaust Day, held in Germany on January 27, the date Auschwitz was liberated, Ruth Elias from Israel was invited to attend a performance of the children's opera "Brundibar". It was performed in seven German cities. The Minister for Women, Seniors and Youth Ms Claudia Nolte related at a press conference in Bonn, that more than 500 young people are participating in this project, which was initiated by the international organization "Jeunesses Musicales". The minister added: "We, the younger ones, are lucky that there are people who are ready to tell about the horrible experiences they went through during the Nazi regime. That is the only way for us to approach the past and to learn from it. The present young generation is the last one able to meet witnesses from those times - victims of National Socialism - personally. That is what makes such meetings so valuable". Each of the 14 performances was accompanied by a holocaust survivor. The general secretary of "Jeunesses Musicales" Mr. Rietschel declared, that next Holocaust Day according to plan the "Brundibar" project will encompass about 100 German schools. Ruth Elias remarked in her speech, that at ghetto Terezin each role of the children's opera was

studied by two children - in case the little singer would be sent with his parents in a transport to the East. Next day Ruth Elias travelled to Schwerin, where "Brundibar" was performed 4 times. On this occasion an exhibition of works by the artist Helga Weissova-Hoskova from Prague was held at the towns History Museum and there was also another exhibition of drawings by the Schwerin artist Werner Schinko titled: "Traces of Jewish Life in Mecklenburg". Children's drawings from Theresienstadt ghetto framed the exhibition.

On February 2, 1997 the cast of 65 from the Schwerin performances visited Israel, accompanied by 20 adults and the director of the Schwerin conservatory Mr. Volker Ahmels, who had initiated the project. First they went to Beit Terezin for a study day about the ghetto. The young singers then performed "Brundibar" at a senior's home in Kfar Saba and also at kibbutz Meggido. At this last performance some 500 young Israelis were awaiting them and at the close of the performance the German participants walked toward the Israelis with outstretched hands. The last song was intoned by all.

For the performances of "Brundibar" in Frankfurt/M, Mannheim, Stuttgart, Weimar, Munich and Schwerin a brochure about ghetto Theresienstadt and the story of the children's opera was published by "Jeunesses Musicales".

We want to add, that the first performance of "Brundibar" in German was produced by Sister Veronika Gueters in Freiburg. She carried out the translation of the libretto and the orchestration in 1985 and in general she contributed a great deal to acquaint German youth with "Brundibar".

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The "SERVICE CULTUREL" of the Paris opera performed in April 1997 Krasa's and Hofmeister's childrens opera "Brundibar". After 6 performances in the Bastille Opera the children, 11 soloists and 70 members of the choir aged 8 - 14, traveled to other French cities. The critics praised the opera under the baton of Scott Alan and the staging by Charlotte Nessi.

#### FILM ABOUT NAAVA SHAN

On October 9, 1996 the Czech TV showed a program called "Schuzka s pani Pohodou" (Date with Ms Leisure) about the actress Naava Shan, whose name in her

youth in Prague was Vlasta Schoenova. The Czech TV producer Olga Struskova got the idea for the feature after reading Naava Shan's autobiographical book "I wanted to be an actress", translated some 4 years ago from the Hebrew original into Czech.

This same evening there was also a film "Nevyuctovany zustava zivot" (Life's account is not closed) - reminiscences about the Czech theater producer Gustav Schorsch and his work in ghetto Terezin.

## JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER IN KARLOVY VARY

In February 1997 a new Jewish Community center was ceremonially opened at Bezrucova street in Karlovy Vary (Karlsbad) in the presence of the Czech chief rabbi Karol Sidon. It consists of a synagogue, library, clubroom and offices. Though the Jewish community there has only 70 members, the center serves also a large number of Jewish visitors to the spa. On this occasion the local newspaper "Karlovarsko" published a detailed history of the Jews of Karlovy Vary and vicinity. It includes a description of the burning of the synagogue and of the anti-Jewish violence during the "night of the broken glass" (Kristallnacht) in November 1938. It also remarks on the many complications connected with the return of nationalized community assets.

## THE BOYS

The biographer of W. Churchill and holocaust researcher Martin Gilbert dealt during the last years with the fate of 300 young people brought after the end of WWII from ghetto Terezin to England. His book "The Boys: Triumph over Adversity" was published by Weidenfeld & Nicholson, London, in autumn 1996. On this occasion a meeting of 95 of the "boys" was held in October 1996 at King's College in London. M. Gilbert related, that he started to collect the material for the book at the time, when his son David was just of the age of the "boys of Birkenau" - "and now, as the book is coming out, my younger son Josh is of the age you were, when you were in the camps and death marches".

After 50 years Helmut Szprycer, now retired antiques dealer in Belgium, met in London in May 1997 the engineer Harry Loewit from London - in the frame of the video documentation project by Steven Spielberg. During the selection at the time of the liquidation of the Birkenau family camp in July 1944 all children were ordered to march to the left, to their death. Helmut stood at attention in front of the SS physician Dr. Mengele and begged in his Berlin idiom to spare his life and to let him go with

those destined to live. Harry, who spoke only Czech, implored Helmut to approach Mengele once more - he, too, wanted to live. Helmut took the risk, but Mengele declined angrily and wanted them to draw lots, to decide which of them would live. Harry lost, but after Helmut's repeated request Mengele decided to spare them both. "This story remained locked in our hearts for 50 years, nobody wanted to hear" said Helmut, "I told it to my family and to my friends, but they believed, that I had invented it all".

## IN THE HALL OF THE CZECH EMBASSY IN BELGRAD

an exhibition of children's drawings from ghetto Terezin named "The Caress of a Butterfly" was opened on May 9, 1997. It was transferred to the museum of Belgrad's Jewish community on May 20. The Czech embassy there provided for the transport of the copies from the Prague Jewish Museum (because of the deterioration of the originals, these are no longer exhibited), the Israeli Embassy did the public relations. The Isr. Ambassador in Belgrad Mr. Daviv Sasson remarked, that the exposition's success was far above expectations. It was mentioned in all the media - the Serbian TV station BK prepared a special program.

## PHANTASY AND REALITY

are often very close to each other. This was proven in a program about the filming of "The Last Butterfly", shown on channel 8 of the Isr. TV in January 1997. The film by Karel Kachina, with Tom Courtney in the lead, describes the fictional story of a Gentile pantomime sent from Paris to ghetto Terezin for the production of a children's performance. At the time the film was made in November 1989 in Terezin the "velvet revolution" happened and the local actors did not turn up for work. Instead they went to many places all over the country to demand freedom. The camera team in Terezin had no idea of what was happening - the media did not report anything. Both in the film and in reality a regime of lies, deception and terror was seen - and the striving for freedom.

## GHETTO TEREZIN IN BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"THE 'PROMINENTS' IN GHETTO TEREZIN 1942 - 1944" was published in 1996 by the Institute for Contemporary History in Prague, edited by Anna Hyndrakova, Helena Krejcová and Jana Svobodová. The book brings in the German original - with Czech translation - 3 documents of the SS about "prominents": a list, an album and a

card file. The list of 83 “prominents”, who were given special rights in the ghetto and their biographies starting in the fall of 1943 was published first in 1945 in Copenhagen by Ralph Oppenheim, who was a prisoner of Terezin, too. A copy of the official album of “prominents”, prepared in January 1944 for the visit of the delegation of the International Red Cross, is in Beit Terezin. The workers card file of the “prominents” is in the collection of the Prague Jewish Community. The book contains the biographies of a total of 225 persons and also a list of 41 Jews (the majority “mixed marriages” or converts), who were designated by the “Protektorat” president Hacha in July 1940 as “presidential exceptions”. The introduction stresses the difference between the officially recognized, often world known celebrities, who were important to the SS - and those, who gained this status through their function in the ghetto.

“WHOLE FRACTIONS”, an autobiographical book by Ruth Bondy was published (in Hebrew) in April 1997 by “G’vanim”. Though the book is mostly about Ruth Bondy’s 50 years in Israel, the holocaust experience is the central thread throughout. The chapter about her relatives records the history of the families Bondy and Hermann in those times, “Survival” analyzes the factors (among them mainly pure chance), which made the difference between life and death and “Acclimatization Ltd.” describes how the veteran Israelis related to the newly immigrated holocaust survivors.

“THE SEARCH FOR RELATIVES” is the title of a collection of poems (Hebr.) by Vera Meisels, who arrived in ghetto Theresienstadt in December 1944, aged 8. The poems, published in the series “Halonot” by “G’vanim”, emphasize the sadness of the loss of family, home and childhood. “Father returned from there to hug me / we got acquainted again / he did not want caviar / he just wanted goose drippings / slide down his throat / his heart stopped / for me / sated with standard bread “.

“IN MEMORY’S KITCHEN”, the cook book with 82 recipes written down in ghetto Terezin, published in 1996 by “Judaica Press”, USA, met with great interest. There were reports about it in the “New York Times”, “Newsweek” and other known publications. The grandson of Minna Paechter David Stern from Greenbelt, Maryland USA, related on the occasion of Holocaust Day on May 4, 1997 in Larchmont, what he knows about his grandmother (who wrote down - while hungry - the opulent recipes) : after the death of her husband she worked as an art dealer in Bodenbach (Podmokly) and during the German occupation she worked in the Palestine Office in Prague. In November 1939 she succeeded to send her daughter Anni with husband and 8 year old David to Palestine. She herself did not make it - she died, aged 68, in ghetto Theresienstadt on Yom Kippur 1944.

There are some who perceive in the book testimony of the will to live, others believe that the book’s success is undeserved.

## SMALL TRANSPORTS

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In the newsletter of "Terezinska iniciativa" (January 1997) appeared an article by Yaakov Tsur about the fate of a number of small transports out of Terezin. On March 20, 1944 transport Dx with 40 mental patients, four nurses and a physician left the ghetto. The patients were brought directly to the Birkenau gas chambers, the medical staff was spared. In transport Eg (July 4, 1944) were 15 prisoners who had come to the ghetto from Holland: they were sent to Bergen Belsen. Contrary to what was believed, at least 6 of them survived. One day before the large transport of men left Theresienstadt on September 28, 1944, including also Otto Zucker, 20 prisoners left the ghetto with special transport Ej for an unknown destination. None survived. Until today neither the reason nor the destination of this transport are known.

## CONSERVATION OF CHILDRENS DRAWINGS

"Judaica Bohemiae", the yearbook for the history of Czech Jewry, published in the beginning of 1997 by the Prague Jewish Museum, describes in detail the activities of the museum in the last year. The director Leo Pavlat writes about the condition of the museum's 5729 childrens drawings from ghetto Terezin. 1322 of the drawings were drawn on both sides of the paper, the colours are fading. For this reason the permanent exhibition will show copies only. The originals will be stored, each separately, in transparent covers in non-acidic cardboard folders and these in boxes of 30 each.

## PRISONERS IN SCHWARZHEIDE

In its issue of May 1997 the newsletter of the Jewish communities of the Czech Republic "Ros Chodes" published an article about the victims of the concentration camp Schwarzheide. After the selection in the family camp in Birkenau, in July 1944, 1000 men aged 18 - 45 were sent to this camp. Under the inhuman conditions - 12-hour shifts, 7 days a week - 300 of the prisoners died in Schwarzheide during the first 8 months. On February 22, 1945, 300 sick and wounded inmates - not only former Czechoslovaks - were transported to a so called "recuperation camp" - none survived. During the death march towards Terezin in April 1945, more of the prisoners died, many were shot. The newsletter publishes names and places of burial, insofar as the committee of former Schwarzheide prisoners was able to discover this information. On May 7, 1945, 228 men - out of the 1000 - arrived in Theresienstadt more dead than alive. 40 others survived in Sachsenhausen.

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## 100 YEARS SINCE THE BIRTH OF KARL FLEISCHMANN

physician, author, poet and painter - "Ros Chodes" in its issue of February 1997 published a contribution by Tomas Pekny about this man of many talents. He was born in Klatovy but spent most of his life in Ceske Budejovice, from where he was deported in April 1944 to Terezin. In the ghetto he managed the health and welfare department, wrote a diary and poems and drew almost feverishly the reality of the ghetto - with pencil, ink, india ink and chalk. Most of his nearly 600 drawings and paintings were created in 1943 and are now in the Prague Jewish Museum. After 1943 tiredness overcame him and maybe a premonition of things to come: in 1944 Dr. Fleischmann was sent to his death in Birkenau.

## IN THE TOWNLET OF TEREZIN

The central holocaust memorial in the Czech Republic "Pamatnik Terezin" published for 1997 a calendar with drawings by Czech children. The drawings were created in 1996 in Terezin under the influence of paintings by ghetto artists - in the framework of a competition titled "Way of Hope". The competition was initiated by Hana Greenfield.

The director of the memorial Dr. Jan Munk writes in the annual report, that the number of visitors to the ghetto museum rose in 1996 by 16%, the share of young visitors from abroad by nearly 80%. In the process of redesigning the "Magdeburg" barracks as an additional memorial site, plans for two new exhibitions were prepared: one - the reconstruction of a typical dormitory in the ghetto, the other will be dedicated to music in the ghetto and to some of the outstanding personalities connected with it. The history department of "Pamatnik Terezin" wound up a research, lasting four years, on the camp for German prisoners, which existed in the "Small Fortress" from 1945 to 1948.

## HOLOCAUST IN JAPANESE

Beit Terezin is in contact with the director of the Holocaust Museum in Hiroshima Makoto Otsuka, since he started to build this institution. This time we met him at the international meeting "Education and Holocaust", held in October 1996 in Yad Vashem. A publication of the museum (spring 1997) reports on the meeting. The director of the education department of the museum Takeo Sato related in an interview for the newspaper "Yediot Aharonot", that all visitors of the museum are requested to complete a questionnaire. It turned out, that 40% of the pupils knew nothing about the holocaust of the Jews until they visited the museum.

## OTHER COLLECTIONS

The collection of documents from ghetto Terezin in the "Wiener Library" in London was enlarged by a valuable addition - a diary of 1000 pages, written by Philipp Manes (in German) in the ghetto.

P. Manes organized many different cultural activities in the ghetto - lectures, performances, cabarets - most of them in German. The diary not only describes everyday life in the ghetto - there are also poems and drawings by artists and records of conversations with important personalities in the ghetto. Philipp Manes and his wife Gertrud were sent in October 1944 to Birkenau, both perished there. In its issue of winter 1996 the "Wiener Library Newsletter" informs, that they received the diary from the daughter Eva Manes, who left Germany before the war.

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The legacy of the talented composer and pianist Gideon Klein, who died in 1945 aged 26 in the concentration camp Fuerstengrube, was donated by his sister Lisa Klein to the Prague Jewish Museum. The newsletter of the museum for 1997 writes, that there are documents from before his deportation to ghetto Terezin and also family pictures - but the bulk consists of the scores of all of Klein's compositions since his childhood. (The original scores of his works from the ghetto are in "Pamatnik Terezin"). Lisa Klein, herself a musicologist and pianist, who also went through Terezin and Auschwitz, dedicated all of her energy since her return from the camps to the musical legacy of her brother. Her main accomplishment was to add Gideon Klein's compositions to the repertoire of the world's leading concert halls.

JUSTICE ?

Michaela Vidlakova (nee Lauscher), Jirka Steiner and Artur Radvansky - all from Prague - were interviewed by Konstanze v. Bullion for "Die Tageszeitung". The interview (printed on Dec. 20, 1996) expresses the opinion, that it is a shame, that up till now holocaust victims in the Czech Republic have not received any personal restitution from the German government. The reason: the German - Czech declaration, according to which the German government committed itself only to the payment of 140 millions DM for the erection of social institutions. This was done to side-step the problem of returning property to former Sudeten Germans. What hurts most, say the three (M. Vidlakova was a child in ghetto Terezin, J. Steiner was - coming from Terezin - one of "Mengele's twins" and A. Radvansky survived a 6-year long odyssey through many concentration camps) is the basic injustice of it all. There is also the asking for forgiveness by the Czech government - as if the Jewish holocaust could be compared to the deportation of the Germans from Czechoslovakia after WWII.

#### OPERA FOR THERESIENSTADT

The Paris publication "L' Avant Scene" printed on April 15, 1997 the full text of "Un opera pour Terezin" by Liliane Atlan. The subject of a previous work by Atlan "Monsieur Fugue ou le mal de terre" is also the holocaust, it was published in various languages. The author and poet worked on the opera since 1981. It was performed in its full length at the French radio festival at Montpellier on July 22, 1989 from 10 p.m. to the following morning. The opera includes many quotes by our friends Lisa Gidron, Otto Kraus, Yehuda Bakon, Arie Karny, Dov Kulka and others - from the recordings of their oral testimonies in Jerusalem.

#### CABARET IN THE GHETTO

In its issue of November 1996 the "New Theater Quarterly" published by Cambridge university brought an article by the playwright Roy Kift, who lives since in Germany. The contribution, titled "Comedy in the Holocaust: the Theresienstadt Cabaret", analyzes some of the chansons by Leo Strauss, Walter Lindenbaum and Manfred Greifenhagen - since the arrows of irony could not be aimed at the Nazis, the Jews criticized mainly themselves.

Roy Kift sent us also a copy of his "Camp Comedy" written in 1991, which includes many of the satires and chansons by Leo Strauss, from the ghetto. One of the central figures is Kurt Geron, who acted in 60 German silent movies - his fame was based mainly on the fact, that he was Marlene Dietrich's impresario in the film "Blue Angel". K. Geron staged the Nazi propaganda film "The Fuehrer gives the Jews a Town" in the ghetto.

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In volume 11 (1996) of the publication "Forum - Modernes Theater", printed in Tuebingen, Germany, is a contribution by Eva Kun from Munich "...als ob's ein Leben waer' (...as if it were life) - Thoughts about the Relations between Performers and Audience in the Theresienstadt Concentration Camp". It is dedicated to the memory of Max Herrmann, founder of the first institute for theater research in Berlin, who died in ghetto Terezin aged 72. The author sees the immediate relationship between the audience and the actors as an important factor. The article deals mainly with the performers. Instead of criticizing directly Adolf Schicklgruber (=Hitler) or the fat Goering the cabaret made fun of the Jews.

### THERESIENSTADT MUSIC

#### TEREZIN MUSIC MEMORIAL PROJECT

In April 1997 the TMMP recorded the Prague Philharmonic Choir and Bambini di Praga, together with Naftali Herstik, chief cantor of the Great Synagogue in Jerusalem. The recordings were made at the Domovina studio in Prague. The repertoire included all the surviving Jewish choral pieces composed and arranged in the ghetto, among them Viktor Ullmann's settings of Yiddish and Hebrew songs from the "Makkabi-Liederbuch", published by the Juedischer Verlag, Berlin, in 1930. Ullmann arranged these songs for female, male, mixed and boys choir. Also for childrens choir are settings by Gideon Klein ("Bachuri L'an Tisa") and Zikmund Schul ("Ki Tavo El Ha'aretz"). Original works included Pavel Haas's "Al S'fod" for male choir (text by David Shimoni), Schul's "Mogen Owaus" for soprano, baritone, mixed choir and organ, the finale to his Cantata Judaica for male choir and David Gruenfeld's "U'vtzel Knofeicho", as notated by Zikmund Schul and arranged for cantor and organ by Raymond Goldstein was also recorded. Two additional choral works, to be included in the final CD of the Terezin Music Anthology, were Gideon Klein's "Spruch", for mixed choir, written in 1944 in honour of Moritz Henschel. Frantisek Domazlicky's "Pisne Maje", for male choir. This recording was supported by the Theresienstadt Martyrs Remembrance Association, as well as by Yad Vashem, the Pierre Gildesgame Sport Museum at Kfar Maccabiah, the Leo Baeck Institute (Jerusalem), the German embassy (Tel Aviv), GEMA-Stiftung (Munich) and several individual patrons in the USA.

On May 26, 1997, Yad Vashem in cooperation with the TMMP honoured Edith Kraus's 84th birthday by recreating one of her most ambitious and popular solo recitals in Terezin, which she played 8 times in 1943. Guest pianist from Stuttgart, Prof. Konrad Richter, was brought specially to Israel by Yad Vashem. Edith Kraus introduced the evening and then Richter performed Schumann's *Kreisleriana*, Viktor Ullmann's *6. Sonate* and Brahms' Sonata No. 3.

Announcement: At this year's annual meeting of the Theresienstadt Martyr's Remembrance Association, held at Kibbutz Givat Hayim-Ihud in May 1997, Miriam Cohen proposed, that a project be initiated, in which Terezin survivors could record songs they sang in the pre-war Zionist Youth Groups and songs remembered from the ghetto itself. The TMMP is ready to assist in this project, which will include meetings where songs will be sung and recorded. The material will then be studied, transcribed and recorded in order to preserve these songs. Anyone interested in participating in this project, which will begin after the holidays in the autumn, is requested to register with Beit Terezin.

(Reported by Prof. David Bloch)

"MUSIC WAS HOPE FOR LIFE" is the name of a series of 3 concerts by composers from ghetto Terezin, who perished in Auschwitz. The concerts were given on April 26, and 27, 1997, in Hamburg, in cooperation of "Initiative Hans Krasa" and the "Hamburger Kammermusik" under the baton of Volker Ahmels. There were works by Ullmann, Krasa and Klein - presented in the context of their time and the present (excerpts of works by Zemlinsky and Schoenberg). Dr. Thomas H. Mandel, who knew the music in the ghetto very well, concluded the series with a lecture "Thoughts on the Holocaust".

#### ADDITIONS TO OUR ARCHIVES

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TAMAR HERMANN (Snupka), Rishon L'Zion, gave our archives original documents from ghetto Terezin, among them a savings book of the "ghetto bank", tickets for performances, ghetto postcards, a workbook, a members card of "Hehalutz", a laundry voucher, two parcel receipts, orders to take part in filming and town cleaning. She also gave us copies of other documents including a transport order.

SHLOMO DAVID, Ganei Zahala, gave us (from the legacy of his mother Caecilie, nee Wachsmann) a birthday wish from March 1945, drawn by Emmo Groag, a certificate about her work in the medicine stores and at the production of crates for the German army "K-Produktion" and a badge worn after the liberation by medical personnel.

THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN PROSTEJOV (Prossnitz) was towards the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the second largest in Moravia and constituted 30% of the local population. The Jews disappeared in the Holocaust and so did the houses of the old Jewish ghetto, they were demolished in the early nineties. Only a folder of drawings by Zdenek Horak, a former citizen of the town, remained. It is called "The Vanished Prostejov". And there are also the memoirs written by Michal Bar (Maud, nee Stecklmacher) - who gave us a copy.

IRMGARD AND BENGT VON ZUR MUEHLEN from Berlin gave us on occasion of their visit in February 1997 a series of video cassettes on holocaust subjects, made by their company "Cronos". These include one about ghetto Terezin with excerpts from a Nazi propaganda film about the invasion of the German army to the Sudeten and Hitler's entry to Prague on March 15, 1939. The documentaries of the von zur Muehlen's include some about the Nuremberg trials, concentration camps, Kurt Waldheim's war years and about the victims of the attempted assassination of Hitler on July 20, 1944.

#### THE AUTHOR OF THE POEM

Prof. Michael Flack, Washington, sent us a video cassette of an interview, made with him in July 1996 by the Steven Spielberg testimony project. Michael Flack (formerly Flach), born 1921 in Tesin (Tetschen), managed to study pedagogics at the university and afterwards taught groups of Jewish children, expelled from schools. In the ghetto he headed - together with Berta Freund - the children's home L-318. There were about 60 children aged 4-9, many of them orphans or who had arrived in the ghetto without parents. The poet and pianist Flach wrote poetry in the ghetto, too. One of his poems "Concert in the Attic of the Old School" about Gideon Klein's music was included in the collection "I Have Not Seen a Butterfly Around Here" as written by an unknown author and since then was often set to music. M. Flack's father was an officer in the Austro-Hungarian army and lost an arm in WWI. For this reason the parents and two sisters were protected in the ghetto and stayed there until liberation. He himself was sent in autumn 1944 to Birkenau and from there to a "work camp" belonging to Buchenwald. Because he knew 6 languages he became after the liberation liaison officer to the US army. Later he studied in Harvard, USA, international relations, law and other subjects. For many years he taught at various universities.

## “HEHALUTZ” IN THERESIENSTADT

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In a further chapter of “Berl’s Diary” Dov Herschkovic tells the story of the “Hehalutz” monies in the ghetto. In the wake of the assassination of Heydrich in May 1942 because the farmers were afraid to continue to employ Jewish workers, the three last “hakhsharot” (agricultural training groups) in the “Protektorat” were closed. This happened just as the transports to ghetto Terezin were at their peak. The “Hehalutz” leadership decided to send the 228 halutzim in one group, to keep them together. Before the group left, Berl Herschkovic decided - risking the death penalty - to smuggle money into the ghetto, to be able to help the members there. He sewed 2500 Swiss Francs, 2000 German Marks and a similar sum in Protektorat money into the lining of an old coat. He got the money from Leiser Moldavan (who later perished together with the “Bialystok children”). During a pneumonia epidemic, when many “Hehalutz” members fell ill, Kamilo Klein - one of the “Hehalutz” leaders - succeeded thanks to his good relations with a Czech policeman to smuggle medicines into the ghetto. Nobody knew, where they came from. In autumn 1944 all “Hehalutz” members were sent to Birkenau. Berl and Kamilo hid the remaining money in their boots. After arrival in the camp these were taken away and that was the end of the “Hehalutz” treasure.

\*

ON MAY 3, 1945, immediately after his liberation, Honza Schimmerling wrote a report (in Budapest) about the activity of the Jewish Youth Movements in the “Protektorat” and ghetto Terezin. Contrary to Yaakov Edelstein’s viewpoint, who tried to deal with the “Zentralstelle fuer juedische Auswanderung” of the SS - in the beginning successfully - H. Schimmerling approves of the standpoint of “Hashomer Hatzair”, which did not accept the establishment’s position and was accused of non-cooperation with the other Jewish organizations. According to Schimmerling “the Terezin settlement very soon grew out of the comradeship and egalitarianism of the first “pioneer” transports. It became a typical example of a class oriented society with all its inherent characteristics, from corruption to prostitution. The Zionist Movement was not able to keep up with the requirements of those times. An extensive and strong “Hehalutz” movement developed in the ghetto, which became more and more leftist as the Red Army progressed. The “Association of Jewish Revolutionary Socialists” was formed, including in addition to “Hashomer Hatzair” many members of “Maccabi Hatzair”, too. But all plans of this group for a nearing revolution came to nothing because of the transports to Birkenau in autumn 1944. Beit Terezin received a copy of this report from the center for holocaust studies “Moreshet” at Givat Haviva.

## DIARY OF A GIRL

Charlotta Veresova, nee Weinstein, the daughter of a Jewish father and a Gentile mother, was sent in March 1943 to Theresienstadt - all by herself. Lonely and longing for home the 14-year-old started to keep a diary, three weeks after her arrival in the ghetto. We received a copy from her brother Karci Weinstein (Hahotrim), who came to the ghetto later and was deported in autumn 1944 to Birkenau. Charlotta - "Lotka" - lived most of the time in the girl's home L-410 and worked in agriculture - that saved her from the mass transports. The diary (27 pages as typewritten later) contains much detail about day-to-day life, friendships, the atmosphere in the home, her first opera ("Kiss" by Smetana), her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday and more. Written in the authentic style of a girl, it is a very important document. Lotka describes an episode, when - after the clothes she had brought with her to the ghetto were worn out - she and her good friend Tonicka saved up 8 kilograms of bread to pay for the sewing of two blue overalls, cut from dyed bed sheets. The diary ends with the liberation: "Good bye Terezin, good bye horrible place, see you again, girls!"

## AIMS OF EDUCATION IN THE GHETTO

One year after the children's home L-414 for children from Germany was established, a brochure was written. The home principal Sigi Kwasniewski listed in the introduction the 7 main aims of education. These include education towards a collective and Jewish life, to turn the pressure of reality into a positive experience, education towards values - as substitute for the influence of parents, education to spiritual maturity, to a striving to learn, to cleanliness and order - mainly to maintain health - for a better future. Further aims are physical education through games and sport and education toward a natural and normal comradeship of boys and girls in the home. Hava Kohavi (Kibbutz Dorot) translated the brochure from German into Hebrew. Hava - then Eva Hirsch, one of the girls in the home - wrote one of the contributions in the brochure. There is also a diagram of all the instructors working in the home. Sigi Kwasniewski and the house mother Fritzi Zucker were - like most of their wards - deported to Birkenau in autumn 1944 and did not survive.

GAL FRANK, studying in the upper class of the "Maayan"- high school at Ein Hahores, who lives at Givat Hayim-Ihud, chose as subject for her graduation paper the girl's home L-410 in ghetto Terezin. The paper (80 pages, Hebrew) is titled "A House Which is Also Home" and brought her a "100", the highest mark. Gal was one of the 35 students invited to the prize awarding ceremony at Yad Vashem. In her paper she describes life in the home and analyzes the development of the relationships between the girls and also the role of the home as a substitute family. She stresses the continuing effort to live with the threat of transports and death. In addition to written sources she also interviewed Dita Kraus, Edna Amit and Willy Groag.

## “JOURNEYS INTO LIFE”

(in the German original “Reisen ins Leben”) is the title of a full-length film by Thomas Mitscherlich. There are four central characters: the US army photographer sergeant Mayflower and 3, who were children in the ghetto. Gerhard Dorlacher arrived in Terezin from Holland, Yehuda Bakon from Prague and Ruth Klueger from Vienna - all three were afterwards in the Birkenau family camp. The film deals mainly with return to life, with longing for the non-existent home and with the silence forced on them by society - nobody wanted to hear what they went through - they should forget. Only many years later Dorlacher, a physician in Holland and Klueger, teaching at a Californian university, wrote down their memories. Yehuda Bakon, teaching at “Bezalel” art academy in Jerusalem, expressed his past in paintings. (In February 1990 paintings by Y. Bakon were exhibited at the State Historical Museum in St. Petersburg).

## HURTFUL REMINISCENCES

“I SURVIVED” CALLED VERA MRAZOVA , nee Liebstein her memoirs, 15 closely typed pages (in Czech). Vera graduated in 1937, after the German occupation in March 1939 she learned at a teachers course of the Jewish Community and taught Jewish children, expelled from their schools. One day before being sent to Terezin in the beginning of 1942 she married. Her husband was her senior by 20 years. In March 1942 Vera’s parents and sister were included in a transport from Terezin to the East - her husband contracted pneumonia. (After the war it became known that the parents and sister were sent to the annihilation camp Izbica). Even though the husband wanted to volunteer to go with her parents and would have been willing, to let only Vera go - she decided at the last moment to stay with her sick husband in the ghetto and that saved her life. Very weakened after jaundice and scarlet fever, she was allowed by her doctor to work in the small hospital for contagious diseases, where she was hospitalized. The memoirs describe the hardships in the ghetto, the mental depressions of orphans from Germany, the horrible sight of the insane. In autumn 1944 she was deported through Auschwitz to a factory for aircraft parts in Freiberg near Dresden and finally to Mauthausen. Sick with typhoid fever she was liberated - weighing 30 kilograms. Out of the whole family only she survived.

JUDITH JAEGERMANN ( Lala Pincovska) from Tel Aviv remembers in her memoirs her childhood in Karlovy Vary (Karlsbad), where her parents managed a kosher restaurant. She was 11 ½, when she arrived with her mother and sister Ruth in ghetto Theresienstadt. Longing for her moth, she fled from the childrens home and lived afterwards with her mother in a women’s dormitory. Because of his occupation the father worked both in Terezin and later in the Birkenau family camp - where all four of them were deported - as a cook and so he could supply his family with

additional food. At the selection in July the mother said to the SS - physician Mengele: "I am strong, I am able to work!" and was sent together with both daughters to work in Hamburg. Judith describes her physical and mental suffering and concludes: "I'll never be able to get rid of the horrible memories. It all still lives in me". We received a copy of her memoirs.

ONLY IN 1994, almost 50 years after the liberation, Chava Kiesler nee Glaser started to write her memoirs - it took her 2 years. She had a happy childhood, but this ended when the Germans occupied Prague. Chava, then aged 14, had to quit school in 1940. She worked as helper for a kindergarten teacher. In July 1942 her mother and sister were sent to ghetto Terezin, she went soon after, in November. There she found "deep and pure love, as happens only once in a lifetime". Jindra, aged 18, was a ghetto veteran and gave Chava the feeling of being protected. He found work for her in the central ghetto laundry. In May 1944 Jindra's parents were deported from the ghetto and he volunteered to accompany them - nothing is known of him from then. "We did not know a thing about the 'Final Solution' and how it was carried out". In October 1944 all of Chava's family was sent to Birkenau. The mother said to Mengele at the selection, that she was strong and able to work, her sister said: "I am 16 years old" though she was only 14. The three of them passed the selection, but the mother died in Bergen Belsen from exhaustion. After the liberation and her recuperation Chava married the brother of a friend from the camp and a son was born to them. In 1948 they arrived in Israel and their second son was born. Arriving in Tel Aviv port, each of the immigrants received a tin plate with bread, 3 olives, margarine and something strange (later it turned out it was halva). "Sometimes I think that these 3 things characterize our life in this country: often bitter like olives, often disgusting like margarine, but often sweet like halva - above all, because I succeeded to fulfill my dream to have a family".

## LAST TESTIMONY

Prof. Dr. Rudolf Klen from Hradec Kralove in the Czech Republic requested through Beit Terezin information about his sister Hanka Kleinova, who was in the camp Sackisch-Kudowa. Some of the women, sent in autumn 1944 to Birkenau, got to this camp. In a letter dated December 12, 1996 addressed to R. Klen, Lisa Gidron from Sde Nehemia describes the death and burial of Hanka: She died 3 days after opening a small infected wound - she was the only one of the Czech girls, who died there. 2 volunteers were asked for and Lisa together with her friend Dita Ramon (then Bondy) answered. It turned out, that they had to take away Hanka's body in a coffin on a cart, accompanied by an SS woman and a Wehrmacht soldier. To their surprise they were led to a Christian cemetery in Sackisch or in the nearby Kudowa. They had to dig a grave in the frozen earth, the coffin was buried and a Christian minister said a prayer. And the Jewish women prisoners answered "amen".

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Our last issue mentioned an article from Sept.1996 in "Haaretz" about Martin Gerson, an agricultural instructor in the ghetto. It said there, that Gerson volunteered for a transport in September 1944 so as to stay with his wards. Lisa Gidron now testified about the last minutes of Gerson and also of Fritzi Zucker. She was the wife of the previous Theresienstadt "Elder of the Jews" Leo Zucker, who was deported to Birkenau under the pretense, to manage a new camp in the East - and killed immediately. During the selection at the Birkenau railway "ramp", where the old and mothers with children had to go to the right and the young and able-bodied to the left, Lisa suddenly saw Fritzi Zucker in her distinct camelhair coat walking to the right, though she was young and healthy. "Near her I saw Martin Gerson, whose white hair was visible from afar. For many seconds I looked at the two, until they vanished".

### INFORMATION REQUESTED

**Jiri Beer - Weiss**, born July 31, 1939, who was in the Jewish childrens home in Prague, Sazavska 15, was deported on October 24, 1942 to Terezin and stayed there until the liberation. His mother Taube Donner - Weiss was sent with transport AAH at the time of Heydrich's assassination, to the East and perished. The fathers name was Isaak Weiss. Anybody who knows about Jiri Weiss's fate after WWII or his address, is requested to contact:

**Meir Beer, 2575 Palisade Ave #2F, Bronx, New York 10463, USA**

**E-mail: [MEIR.BEER@SMB.COM](mailto:MEIR.BEER@SMB.COM) fax: 212-816-6163**

\*

**Lida Baker, 1157 Point View Str., Los Angeles, CA 90035, USA**

is looking for somebody, who knew her mother **Branca Schonenberg, nee Blits**, who came on Sept. 4, 1944 from Westerbork in Holland to ghetto Theresienstadt, where she was liberated. Contact possible by phone: **213-934-3663** or **E-mail: [lbaker@ucla.edu](mailto:lbaker@ucla.edu)**.

\*

**Susanne Pearson, 7 Chelsea Court, Sheffield S11 9BL, England**

looks for information about **Else Ehrmann**, born 1904, who was sent by transport C on Oct. 26, 1941 from Prague to ghetto Lodz. She was then sent on February 9, 1943 to an unknown destination.

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**Carl-Heinz Kipper, Huelsenbuschweg 2, 58638 Iserlohn - Gerlingen, Germany**

looks for people, who knew his mother **Helene Kipper nee Wolf**, b. 1893, who came on July 30, 1942 to ghetto Terezin and lived there at Langestrasse 21, until the liberation.

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**Max** (born 1903) and **Trude** (1918) **Zweingenthal** and their son **Otto** (1938) came on January 28, 1942 from Brno (Bruenn) to the ghetto and were sent from there on Sept. 23, 1944 to Birkenau. Trude's parents **Gustav** and **Else Loew** also arrived in the ghetto in January 1942 and went on May 15, 1944 to Birkenau. Whoever knew them or has any information is requested to contact:

**Carol Acker Zsolnay, 853 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, IL 60091, USA**

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In the beginning of April 1945 prisoners of Terezin ghetto and/or of the "Small Fortress" were forced by units of the German army to work at digging an anti-tank ditch. At this work (probably on April 5, or 6,) a German officer (maybe Waffen SS or communications unit) shot and killed 6 of the prisoners. If anybody knows something about this incident, please contact immediately:

**Steven Rambam, P.O.Box 155 - Midwood Station, Brooklyn, New York 11230  
USA**

**Phone: 00-1-212-969-0286, fax: 00-1-718-436-3815**

Collect calls accepted!

\*

The Culture Museum of Lund, Sweden, looks for people who knew **Hanus Hachenburg**, born 1929. Hanus Hachenburg's poems were published in the children's newspaper "Vedem" of the children's home L-417 in Terezin ghetto. Please contact:

**Museum Kulturen, for Sarah, Box 1095, 22104 Lund, Sweden**

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**Eda Krasa** from Massachussetts, USA, is asking all former prisoners of Gleiwitz camp, if they would be interested to meet in spring or summer of 1998 in Prague and from there tour together Auschwitz, Gleiwitz and Blechhammer (where they were liberated). Please mention 2 preferred dates for the excursion. Former Gleiwitz prisoners, who for whatever reason are not able to participate, are nevertheless requested to forward their addresses to enable us to inform them about the meeting and to stay in touch in the future. Contact please:

**Edgar Krasa, 124 Hartman Rd., Newton, MA 02159, USA**

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TO ALL OUR READERS !

The many-faceted activities of Beit Terezin on which we reported, are possible only through members fees and contributions. If you did not yet transmit your membership fee for 1997, please do it now!

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