

Konzentrationslager Sachsenhausen

Oranienburg bei Berlin

Der Tag der Entlassung kann jetzt noch nicht angegeben werden. Besuche im Lager sind verboten. Anfragen sind zwecklos.

Auszug aus der Lagerordnung:

Jeder Häftling darf im Monat 2 Briefe oder Postkarten empfangen und absenden. Eingehende Briefe dürfen nicht mehr als 4 Seiten à 15 Zeilen enthalten und müssen übersichtlich und gut lesbar sein. Pakete jeglichen Inhalts sind verboten. Geldsendungen sind nur durch Postanweisung zulässig, deren Abschnitt nur Vor-, Zuname, Geburtstag, Häftlingsnummer trägt, jedoch keinerlei Mitteilungen. Geld, Fotos und Bildereinschlüsse in Briefen sind verboten. Die Annahme von Postsendungen, die den gestellten Anforderungen nicht entsprechen, wird verweigert. Unübersichtliche, schlecht lesbare Briefe werden vernichtet. Im Lager kann alles gekauft werden. Nationalsozialistische Zeitungen sind zugelassen, müssen aber vom Häftling selbst im Konzentrationslager bestellt werden.

Der Lagerkommandant.

16.8.42. Deine lieben Zeilen vom 8.8. erreichten mich am 8.8. außerordentlich, besonders Eure Gesundheit, auch ich bin gesund. Alle guten Wünsche, die man für ein geliebtes Herz kennt, flattern heute zu Euerem Geburtstag zu Dir. Du kennst sie ja alle. Mögen die Wünsche sich immer be-



Zachor

Remember

VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE NEWSLETTER | NUMBER 4 | NOVEMBER 2006

Frau



Lora Sara Katzenstein



UPCOMING EVENTS

SCHINDLER SUNDAYS

The VHEC will be open on Sundays from 12 – 4pm, October 22 to December 9, with guided public tours at 1pm. Closed Sunday November 22. Admission by donation.

OCTOBER 22 - 2PM

REFLECTIONS ON SCHINDLER

Barry Dunner, son of a Schindler survivor & Kit Krieger, Holocaust educator

NOVEMBER 26 - 2PM

GENOCIDE PREVENTION

Dr. Reva Adler | Other panelists TBA

DECEMBER 3 - 2PM

LOCAL SURVIVORS & THEIR RESCUERS

Dr. Robert Krell, Ruth Sigal, Alex Buckman

OCTOBER 29 & NOVEMBER 19 - 2PM

SCHINDLER DOCUMENTARY (1981)

A documentary about Oskar Schindler featuring interviews with survivors he saved, his wife and his mistress, as well as archival footage and rare photos. This film was one of the sources used by Steven Spielberg in making Schindler's List 10 years later.

NOVEMBER 5 & DECEMBER 10 - 2PM

SHAKE HANDS WITH THE DEVIL: THE JOURNEY OF ROMÉO DALLAIRE (2004)

This Sundance Award-winning film tells the story of Canadian Lieutenant General Roméo Dallaire and his controversial command of the United Nations mission to Rwanda during the 1994 genocide.



LECTURES AND READINGS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 - 7:30PM

STAR OF REDEMPTION: A CLOSER LOOK AT SPIELBERG'S SCHINDLER

Professor Sara Horowitz, York University

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 - 8 PM

CHERIE SMITH JCC JEWISH BOOK FESTIVAL

AND LIFE HAS CHANGED FOREVER: HOLOCAUST CHILDHOODS REMEMBERED

A reading by co-editor, Dr. Robert Krell, emeritus professor of Psychiatry, UBC.

Presented by the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver in association with the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre.



Zachor | Remember

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Cover: Letter written by Leo Katzenstein to his wife Dora, from Sachsenhausen camp, August 16, 1942; he died the next day
This page from top to bottom: Else (Zimmerspitz) Dunner, Leon Kaufman, Esther (Zuckman) Kaufman and Bernard Goldberg

ANNUAL KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE

BY RICHARD MENKIS, DEPARTMENTS OF CLASSICAL, NEAR EASTERN & RELIGIOUS STUDIES/HISTORY, UBC

How can we make sure to remember the individual people who were affected by the Holocaust, and not be overwhelmed by the millions? Sensitive Holocaust historians and committed educators must struggle with this question, which raises historical and moral issues.

We have in Vancouver one such sensitive historian and committed educator, and the Kristallnacht Program Committee is honoured to announce that this year's lecture, "Last Letters from a Lost Fatherland: Micro-Histories of Mass Murder," will be delivered by Dr. Chris Friedrichs, Professor of History at the University of British Columbia.



Dr. Chris Friedrichs

In the lecture, Prof. Friedrichs will show how micro-histories make it possible to grasp the fate of the six million Jews. Their stories come to light in collections of personal letters and family documents. Prof. Friedrichs will use these documents, discovered in Vancouver by local Jewish families, which were sent by Jews trapped in Germany and Czechoslovakia to family and friends elsewhere. The voices of the authors of these texts are at once valuable, poignant and tragic. Most of the letter-writers eventually perished. In many cases, the recipients could not touch these letters for decades—to painful to read, too precious to throw away—and it was left to a later generation to discover the letters and piece together the fate of those who wrote them.

Prof. Friedrichs is a distinguished historian of German history, who has taught at the University of British Columbia since 1973. His areas of expertise include the history of cities in early modern Europe and German Jewish history. He has won international recognition for his research, and university awards for excellence in teaching and service to the community.

Himself a son of refugees from Nazi Germany, Prof. Friedrichs is deeply involved in Holocaust awareness activities in Vancouver. He lectures each year to participants in the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre's Annual Holocaust Symposium for High School Students and has been extensively involved in other educational programs of the VHEC. Over the past ten years, he has served as chair of the Centre's Kristallnacht Program Committee, and chair of the Waldman Holocaust Education Committee of the Faculty of Arts at the University of British Columbia.

The annual Kristallnacht lecture in Vancouver commemorates the "Night of Broken Glass" of November 9, 1938, when synagogues and Jewish places of business all over Germany and Austria were destroyed by Nazi hoodlums – an event which is generally regarded as a major escalation of the Nazis' anti-Jewish program, which eventually culminated in the Holocaust.

The keynote lecture will be preceded by the traditional candle-lighting ceremony in memory of the six million Jews killed by the Nazis. Also featured in the program are Cantor Yaacov Orzech and the Vancouver Jewish Men's Choir under the direction of Stan Shear. Following the lecture, members of the audience are invited to gather in Beth Israel's Maccabee Room for an informal discussion with the speaker and with the owners of some of the letters described in the lecture.

KRISTALLNACHT LECTURE
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2006, 7:30 PM
CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL
4350 Oak Street (parking in rear)

The event is open to all members of the public and is wheelchair accessible. For more information, call the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre at 604.264.0499.

The Kristallnacht Commemorative Lecture is presented by the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre in partnership with Congregation Beth Israel, and is sponsored by the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society, the Gottfried Family Kristallnacht Endowment Fund of the VHEC, Congregation Beth Israel and the Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver Endowment Fund.

MY GRANDPARENTS' LETTERS

BY DODIE KATZENSTEIN

I never met my grandparents. My grandfather Leopold Katzenstein died in Sachsenhausen in 1942. His wife Dorothea –for whom I am named– died in Auschwitz in 1943. Until last year, when I discovered a box of their letters, Leo and Dora were little more than names to me. These letters, written after my father's escape to the United States, have given me a key to the past, opening a door to a deeper understanding of the Holocaust, my family and myself.

My father Friedrich (Fritz) left Germany in 1936. He was 28, the only child of a secular, middle-class family. Leo had a successful medical practice in the spa town of Wiesbaden. Fritz, too, became a doctor but found his professional opportunities thwarted by the Nazi regime. Dora urged her son to leave for America, but Leo had served proudly in the German army in World War I and could not imagine his country turning against him. He and Dora stayed behind.

In 1938, Fritz opened a family practice in Salem, Illinois, population 6000. Serving in the US Army Medical Corps, he met my mother, the daughter of Russian-Jewish immigrants. Soon after their wedding in 1944, the Army sent Fritz to the European front. He already knew that Leo had died, but he still hoped to find his mother. One of the first American soldiers to enter the camps after their liberation, he learned that Dora had not survived.

DORA AND LEO

My brother Larry (named for Leo) was born in Salem in 1947. I followed in 1949. Growing up in small-town America during the Cold War, I was not openly curious about my Russian-German roots. I felt uneasy about my hard-to-pronounce name and about being one of a handful of Jews in a community of devout churchgoers.

I knew a few facts about my grandparents. I had seen photos of Leo and Dora and understood that they had died before I was born. I knew about the cold-remedy factory, confiscated from Leo by the Nazis, that my father had later recovered and sold. (He maintained some connection with this company for years; all of my childhood colds were treated with Risinetten cough drops and a pungent decongestant ointment mailed from the factory.) I knew that several somber paintings in our home had been part of Leo's art collection, which had also been confiscated; a few pieces were reclaimed with the help of non-Jewish German friends after the war. I met several of these friends in 1965 when my father took our family to Wiesbaden. Overly absorbed in my 16-year-old self and in the Russian novel I was reading that summer, I was unimpressed by my father's hometown.

More than 40 years later, I realize that my response to that trip reflected not only teenage detachment but also emotional immaturity: I was not yet able to deal with the dark legacy of the Nazi era. Only recently –motivated by Leo and Dora's letters– have I begun to read extensively about the Holocaust and its impact on second-generation survivors, to talk with others who share this inheritance and to feel ready to explore its influence on my life.



Leo and Dora, c.1930

My father was a reserved man who did not discuss his feelings. While he spoke occasionally about youthful hobbies and travels, he never expressed anger, bitterness or grief. He had managed to put the past behind him, at least on the surface. I regret now that I did not ask more questions before my father's death in 1993, but I sensed his reluctance to recall painful memories and so hesitated to probe further.

THE LETTERS

Visiting my mother in St. Louis last year, I found a carefully-tied box of letters written in a flowing, old-fashioned script. Though I cannot read German, I could see that most of the fragile, yellowed pages began "Mein lieber Fritz!" and were signed "Mama" and "Papa." The box also held newspaper clippings, photos that I had never seen before, and documents in my father's distinctive handwriting. I brought them home with me to Vancouver.

At about the same time, I learned of a distant relative, Angelika Ellmann-Krueger, in Berlin. (Angelika's Jewish mother and non-Jewish father survived the war. Her grandmother – Fritz's Aunt Selma– died in Auschwitz.) Born in 1933, then living behind the Iron Curtain, Angelika had little access to

information about her family until the fall of the Berlin Wall. She began to research German-Jewish genealogy and has since become a recognized expert on the subject. She located my brother in the US and contacted him. Last October, on what would have been Fritz's 97th birthday, my husband and I traveled to Wiesbaden. Next we went to Berlin to meet Angelika, who agreed to translate my grandparents' letters.



Leo, German Army Medical Corps, 1900

Angelika annotates her careful translations with explanations of the letters' historical context and the unwritten implications that must be read between the lines. She notes that Dora and Leo, likely fearing interception of their correspondence, at first refer only obliquely to their problems. But the letters reveal a mounting despair. After Kristallnacht, even the patriotic Leo loses hope: "One becomes more and more desperate," he writes in June 1939, "and probably it will be unavoidable that one must leave one's homeland - or maybe even that will no longer work, because the political skies are

becoming darker and darker... Still, we do hope the sun will shine again." Dora, in the same letter, complains of a forced move from their apartment: "We really don't know what to do... The only thing we still had was our home, and now that is also gone. But perhaps something we consider as a catastrophe today can still bring us luck, who knows?"

On August 27, 1939, three days before the Nazi invasion of Poland, my grandparents write: "The situation has gotten so much worse that one does not know if one can write later on... Don't worry about us; there is no use." By November 1940, they obviously are not receiving Fritz's letters. "We hope to get some message from you again; it is really awful for us that we no longer hear from you," Dora complains. My grandparents must have known that the Gestapo was blocking mail, but I wonder if they feared that their son, happy in America, had forgotten them. I am certain that my father was writing to his parents as well as making frenzied efforts to arrange their immigration to the US; earlier letters thank Fritz for sending affidavits and other papers required for their visas. I can only imagine my father's anguish reading his parents' pleas, knowing that they were in grave danger but unable to communicate with them.

Dora and Leo write about food shortages and more forced moves, eventually to a boarding house. They describe their frantic attempts -and failures- to obtain exit visas via Portugal, Siberia, Ecuador, Puerto Rico, the Philippines, Cuba... anywhere that might provide safe passage to the US. But it was too late. A letter from September 1941 bears only Dora's signature; Leo had been arrested. Now alone, Dora writes to Fritz: "I am nervous and I sleep badly... I wish that you could treat me, and that I could be with you... You have been away from us for almost five years, and never have I longed so much for you as now. I don't want to sadden your heart, and therefore I just send you my most ardent greetings and kisses."

On August 16, 1942, Leo writes a last letter to Dora on Sachsenhausen camp stationery bearing his prisoner identity number and a Hitler postage stamp: "...All good wishes known to a beloved heart flutter today for your birthday... I hope that the angels will always protect you. Please send me a few long stockings.... I hope that this [heat] is not too hard on you at your work [probably forced labour]. This is not easy at your age... As much as possible have happy hours. As always, your Leo." Leo's affectionate words suggest no premonition of his impending murder the next day, a date verified by German archives. I don't know how Fritz learned this sad news. There are no more letters from Dora.

MY GRANDPARENTS' LETTERS CONT'D

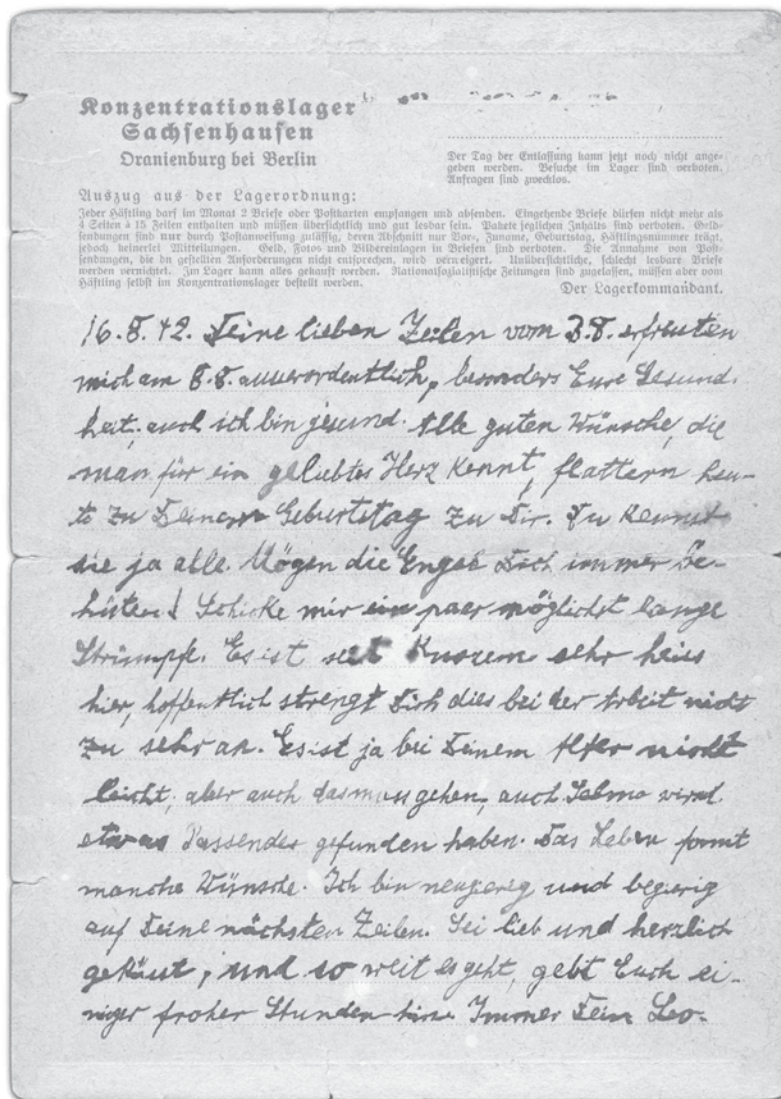
FRITZ

I remember my father as a kind, witty gentleman with polite European manners. Devoted to his patients, he retired only two years before his death at 84. He refused to buy a German car but never lost his taste for Wagner, sauerbraten or a well-chilled Riesling. Outwardly, he did not appear haunted by the past. But I now have greater insight into the unexpressed emotional toll of his experiences. When I learned recently of a Nazi regulation prohibiting Jews from buying "Aryan" vegetables, I suddenly grasped why my father drove long distances every spring to a farm that sold his beloved white asparagus. Reading about a decree that banned pet ownership -and finding a photo of Leo, Dora and Fritz with a small spaniel- I knew why our family dogs were always of that breed. Learning that after 1938 Jewish doctors lost the right to practice medicine, I understood my father's inexhaustible dedication to his profession.

I also understand more about the mood of our American household, a vague sense of foreboding that I recall from my earliest years. I realize that my father's near-obsession with news broadcasts reflected his deep fear of another international conflict, perhaps an atomic disaster even worse than World War II. (During the Cuban missile crisis, convinced that it meant the start of World War III, Fritz considered building a bomb shelter. My mother's protests persuaded him to settle for stockpiling cans of food in the basement.) I recognize myself in the work of Dr. Robert Krell and others on the transmission of psychological trauma from Holocaust survivors to the second generation. But I also believe that my father passed on some of his hard-earned resilience, a quality that has helped me to cope with a serious illness.

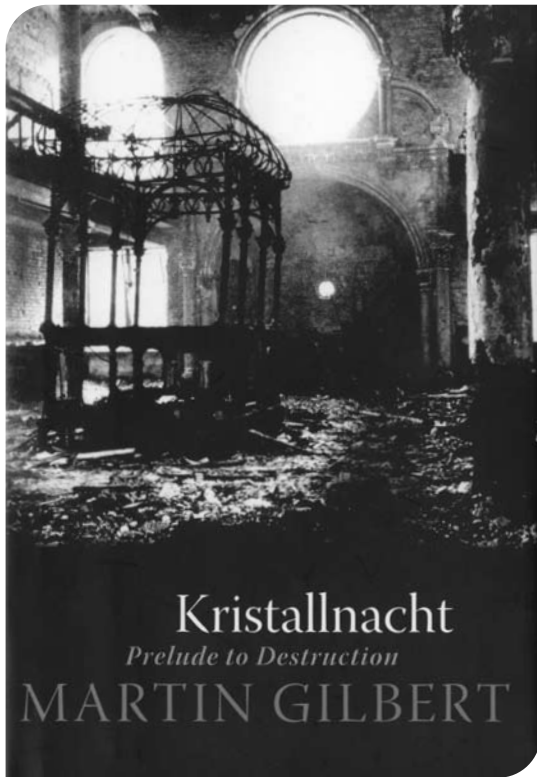
As I approach 60, Dora's age when she perished in Auschwitz, I often find myself thinking about my grandmother. Did she enjoy cooking, music, reading? Did she speak other languages? Where, and how, did she spend those terrible final months? Did she find a sense of peace in the deepening darkness, knowing that Fritz was safe? While I can never learn everything about my grandparents' lives and deaths, their letters are helping me to assemble pieces of the puzzle. I feel that I have begun to know Leo and Dora themselves, not just as names and photographs but also as real people with unique personalities and a profound love for their son.

Getting to know my grandparents has been both exciting and heartbreaking for me. It is a work in progress. This article is only a beginning. I plan to write more about Leo and Dora and to add their stories to the Yad Vashem Pages of Testimony. I will preserve my grandparents letters, and I will pass them on to my own children. L'dor v'dor: from generation to generation. I think that Dora, Leo and Fritz would be pleased.



Letter written by Leo Katzenstein to his wife Dora, from Sachsenhausen camp, August 16, 1942; he died the next day

KRISTALLNACHT: PRELUDE TO DESTRUCTION, BY MARTIN GILBERT
BOOK REVIEW BY BRIAN CAMPBELL, INSTRUCTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, SFU



Martin Gilbert, better known as the biographer of Winston Churchill, is also renowned for his considerable devotion to the Holocaust and its history. His book, *The Holocaust: A History of the Jews of Europe During the Second World War*, remains an important text in university classrooms. His newest contribution, *Kristallnacht: Prelude to Destruction* combines Gilbert's deft command of the English language with new eyewitness accounts for a fresh look at how widespread and terrifying the night was, particularly for its youngest victims.

The book begins with the murder of Ernst von Rath, Third Secretary at the German embassy in Paris, by Herschel Grynszpan, whose Polish parents had been deported and forced to languish in a squalid no-man's-land at the border. Coming among a series of anti-Semitic laws, the Nazis used von Rath's assassination as an opportunity to eliminate the public face of German-Jewish life. The pogrom, known as Kristallnacht, or the Night of Broken Glass, ended with the destruction of over 1500 synagogues and thousands of Jewish businesses, and several hundred deaths. In a supreme act of cynicism, Jews were arrested "for their own protection" and forced to pay "reparations" to the German government for the damage the riots had produced. The event remains a historical watershed,

both as a fatal blow to German-Jewish life and as an ominous foreshadowing of the terrors to come.

The first half of the book concentrates on the events of this day, drawing on over fifty new interviews and narratives. Collected over the last five years, the testimonies come primarily from victims who were children at the time. The stories highlight how the normalcy of their daily lives came to an abrupt end, suddenly replaced by Nazi brutality and humiliation. It reveals how parents must have tried to shield their children from the increasing anti-Semitism; many of the witnesses state that they had no idea what was happening. Gilbert's account also illustrates how arbitrary violence and strange twists of fate saved some and condemned others. What emerges is a vivid picture of fear and terror, even among those fortunate enough to eventually escape.

The second half of the book deals with the desperate attempts of German Jews to flee and the actions of those abroad who tried to help or hinder them. Gilbert offers compelling proof that not only German Jews, but the world community as a whole, realized that the noose was being tightened and that something particularly dreadful was unfolding in Germany. German Jews were caught in a web of confusing legal traps, as nations would allow a couple hundred refugees to enter one month, then rescind offers the next. Gilbert focuses on the breakneck pace of emigration, noting that as many Jews fled Germany in the year following Kristallnacht as had left in the previous five years. Once war began there was no escape; pursuit of the remaining Jews was relentless and in the end only 10,000 German Jews remained from more than a half million.

As a historian, Gilbert has confessed that he is a "slave to the facts" and does not delve too deeply into analysis. Experienced readers may find that the book does not explore insights into the event's origins and outcomes. Nevertheless, understanding what happened is powerful enough in its own right and the book is valuable for revealing new voices and witnesses. Gilbert's true achievement is his ability to make the intense suffering and desperation endured by thousands of German Jews accessible for a wide audience.

The Holocaust: A History of the Jews of Europe During the Second World War by Martin Gilbert (2006) is now available in the VHEC library and may be borrowed by members and teachers.

AND LIFE IS CHANGED FOREVER: HOLOCAUST CHILDHOODS REMEMBERED, EDITED BY MARTIN IRA GLASSNER & ROBERT KRELL REVIEWED BY JENNIFER BANCROFT, STUDENT, DEPARTMENT HISTORY, SFU

The innocence of childhood was irrevocably stolen from Jewish children during the Nazi era of persecution and terror. As Judith Traub, one of the contributors to *And Life is Changed Forever: Holocaust Childhoods Remembered* (2006) recalls, "Although I could not know it then, my short childhood of three and a half years had come to an abrupt end." Only six to seven percent of Jewish children in Europe survived the Holocaust. The twenty men and women who shared their stories of loss and renewal in this book compiled by Martin Glassner, are among those surviving children. The commentary provided by child psychiatrist and child survivor Dr. Robert Krell adds a unique dimension to the literature of Holocaust testimony and trauma.

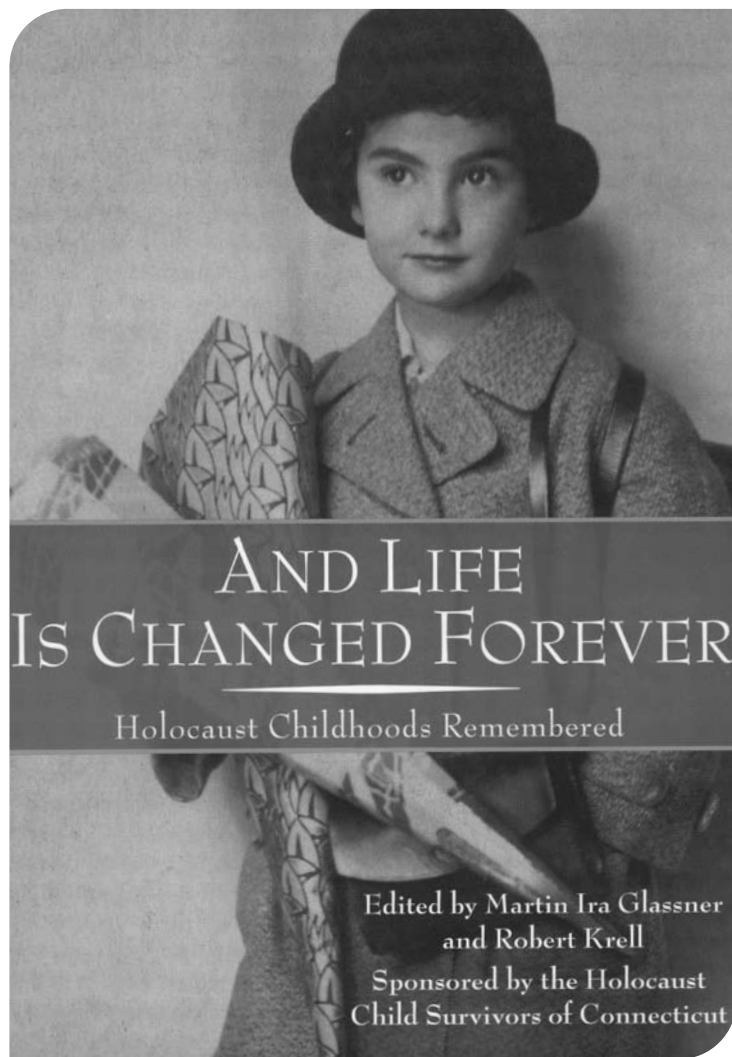
These survivors never experienced normal childhoods. Their earliest memories were traumatic and their rehabilitation after the war was made especially difficult because they often could not remember a time before their years in hiding. Many child survivors forgot their birth families, felt abandoned or believed they were to blame for the events. The Holocaust not only disrupted the material lives of the children but also their emotional and psychological development.

The contributors tell stories of being hidden by non-Jewish families, of being raised as Christians and of the double loss of leaving first their birth families and then after the war, the families who had hidden them. Madeleine Swidler Scott tells of living with a Catholic family and for the first time feeling completely accepted by the larger society in a way she had never experienced as a Jew. This resulted in her lifelong search for religious identity.

Many of the survivors had difficulty re-establishing close relationships with their parents after the war. Renée Fritz, who spent five years alone in a Catholic convent, was reunited with her mother when she was eight years old and with her father in America when she was thirteen. Renée wrote of her subsequent relationship with her parents: "We lived in our own worlds, incapable of surmounting the terrible past that had been thrust upon us."

The book also presents stories of both betrayal and compassion among the families and communities who hid the children. While in hiding with a Polish family, Renée Glassner, overheard them talking about taking her out to a field and shooting her. By contrast, Giorgina Vitale lived openly in an Italian village, where the entire community was aware that she was Jewish without ever betraying her. And remarkably, while hiding in a cave in Greece, Asher Matathias and his mother were discovered by a German soldier, who chose not to shoot them, saying that he too had a baby at home.

Despite their traumatic memories and lost childhoods, most survivors were determined to put their pasts behind them and continue with their lives. Most became successful professionals, married and found joy in their families. These successes, however, were not always enough to help them come to terms with their pasts. It is through the sharing of these memories that many of the survivors were able to address some of the trauma of their lost childhoods.



FURTHER THOUGHTS ON RESCUERS

BY CLAUDE ROMNEY

A few months ago, my friend Lillian Nemetz went to Poland to visit the house where she was hidden as a child during the war and which now, coincidentally, belongs to my cousin, a child survivor, Wiktoria Śliwowska. Since then, the fate of my Polish relatives who survived the war has very much been on my mind. Of more than 50 close relatives on my maternal grandmother's side, only one managed to survive. Yet my father and his four siblings all survived either in Poland, the Soviet Union or Canada. My father returned to France, his adoptive country, in May 1945, after spending almost three years in Auschwitz.

How then did my Polish relatives survive? Who were the people who smuggled them out of the Warsaw ghetto and hid them on the "Aryan side"? I started making a mental list of the men and women, who my mother and I, who was three years old at the time, had to thank for not meeting my father's fate. After his arrest, my father was forced into a cattle car bound for Auschwitz.

Wiktoria, or Wisia for short, edited a book about child survivors, *The Last Eyewitnesses*, in which she included her own story. After Wisia's mother was killed by Ukrainian soldiers in the Warsaw ghetto, our aunt, Tetka, managed to send a letter to a Polish friend, Zosia Korczak, begging her to take eleven-year old Wisia out of the ghetto. Not only did that friend save Wisia, but she also saved Wisia's father, whom Tetka married after the war.

Our aunt Tetka was saved thanks to a Polish woman who was acknowledged posthumously as one of the *Righteous Among the Nations*. On the Aryan side, Tetka was a member of the Home Army (Armia Krajowa) alongside her rescuer. She had the rank of lieutenant and participated in the Warsaw ghetto uprising in August 1944. Tetka was taken prisoner and spent the rest of the war in a camp in Germany. Her six-year-old son was smuggled out of the ghetto and was hidden with a succession of Polish families. The father of one of those families was sent to Dachau for having helped a Jewish child, and perished there.

My mother who had left Poland before the war always wondered about the fate of her mother and sister in Warsaw. They had no non-Jewish friends who could have helped them leave and they had no money to buy their way out.

There were no ghettos in France where my mother and I lived, therefore it was easier to hide. At first, the Germans did not arrest women and children and when they did, I remember spending a few days with my mother at some friend's home and even at a stranger's apartment. Then, we left Paris in July 1942, just before

or after the big Vél d'Hiv roundup when 13,000 Jews, mostly women and children were arrested and, a few days later, sent to their death. We succeeded in reaching Grenoble in the French Alps, where we stayed in an apartment that belonged to a friend of my mother's. After a few weeks there, we left for a small town in the Pyrénées where we spent the rest of the war.



Letter written by Leo Katzenstein to his wife Dora, from Sachsenhausen camp, August 16, 1942; he died the next day

In that little town, I recall the nights we spent hiding in a neighbour's carpentry workshop, surrounded by sawdust and wood chips. My mother asked my best friend's father, a notorious collaborator, to look after me if she were arrested. He then offered to harbour us in his attic, making it quite clear, however, that if the Germans came for us, he would not be able to intervene.

In addition, there were the people who helped my mother financially. After my father was arrested, my mother was left without resources. From time to time, a few colleagues of my father's and a friend would send money to my mother. My father's boss, the Dean of the Paris Faculty of Medicine, arranged for my mother to receive a small portion of my father's prisoner of war salary. After the war, my parents returned the money to him. At first he would not accept it, but he eventually was persuaded to take it and said he would give it to a poor medical student.

I believe that my family's story is typical of the way many Jews were rescued in European countries occupied by the Nazis. Non-Jewish friends, acquaintances, or even strangers put their own lives on the line because they felt that human life was worth the risk they were taking. No Jews would have been able to survive without the kindness and the courage of friends and strangers.

The *No Longer Alone* page welcomes submissions from Child Survivors. Send submissions to the NLA editor: Lillian Boraks-Nemetz c/o VHEC, 50-950 W 41st Ave, Vancouver, BC V5Z 2N7 or at info@vhec.org

DONATIONS CARDS

AUGUST 3RD –OCTOBER 3RD, 2006

GET WELL

Rita Akselrod, Best wishes for a speedy recovery!
The VHEC Board & Staff,
Alex & the Child Survivor Group, Irene Watts,
Sherie & Odie Kaplan

Agi Bergida, Thinking of you. The VHEC Board
& Staff

Alex Buckman, Get well soon! Ben & Rita
Akselrod, The VHEC Board & Staff, Frieda Miller
& Danny Shapiro, Manuel & Merle Rootman,
Lillian Boraks Nemetz, Gloria & Robbie
Waisman, Shoshana & Moshe Fidelman

Lili Folk, Wishing you a speedy recovery! Sherie
& Odie Kaplan, the VHEC Board & Staff

Edgar Gaerber & Family, Thinking of you. Jody &
Harvey Dales

Gerry Growe, Wishing you a speedy recovery.
Neri & Aron Tischler

Gustav Grunberg, Wishing you a speedy recovery.
Frieda Miller & Danny Shapiro, the VHEC Board
& Staff, Rita & Ben Akselrod

Zvi Mammon, Wishing you a speedy recovery.
Shoshana & Moshe Fidelman

Henia Perel, Wishing you a speedy recovery.
Aron, Sam & Al Szajman, the VHEC Staff &
Board, Rachel Wosk & Family, Sam & Sarah
Mandelbaum, Harold & Bella Silverman, Regina
Wertman

Rosa Sevy, Wishing you a speedy recovery. The
VHEC Board & Staff

Dr. Howard Stein, Best wishes for your improved
health. The VHEC Kristallnacht Committee,
Richard, Aviva & Lavi Menkis & Cathy Best, Rita
& Ben Akselrod

MAZEL TOV

Rita Akselrod, On your special birthday! Betty
Mintzberg & Family

Rita Akselrod, On your forthcoming honour! Irene
Watts, the VHEC Board & Staff

Lola Apfelbaum, Wishing you health and happiness
in your new home. The VHEC Board & Staff

Vera Bakonyi, Happy Birthday! The Wollner Family

Ginny Bloom, Happy Birthday! Jocy Lowy

Eleanor Braude, On your award. The VHEC Staff
& Board

Rebecca Dales, On your Bat-Mitzvah! Frieda
Miller & Danny Shapiro, Shoshana & Moshe
Fidelman

David Ehrlich, On your special birthday! Art
Szajman & Sons

David Feldman, Happy Birthday! Mary Knopp,
Jocy Lowy, Susie & Chaim Micner, the VHEC
Board & Staff, Sally Zimmerman, Kira Landsberger,
Gloria & Robbie Waisman, Rose & Ben Folk, Rose
Lewin, Lili & Izak Folk, Harold & Bella Silverman,
Rachel Wosk & Family, Sam & Sarah Mandelbaum,
Grace & David Ehrlich, Art, Sam & Al Szajman

Alan Farber & Felicia Folk, On the birth of your
grandson. Susie & Mark Kierszenblat

Izak & Lili Folk, On the birth of your great
grandson. Susie & Mark Kierszenblat, The VHEC
Board & Staff, Odie & Sherie Kaplan

Al Hersh, Happy Birthday! Jocy Lowy

Barry Katzen, On your birthday! Neri & Aron
Tischler

Robert & Marilyn Krell, On your new grandson!
Frieda Miller & Danny Shapiro, Ben & Rita
Akselrod, Alex & the Child Survivor Group, Elayne
& Howard Shapray

Lucy Laufer, On your first grandchild. Neri & Aron
Tischler

Ed & Debbie Lewin, On your anniversary! Stacey
Kettleman & the Boys

Mark Rozenberg, Birthday Wishes. Neri & Aron
Tischler

Ruth Sigal, On your special birthday! Jeanette &
Harry Greenhut

Louis Wolfin, Happy Birthday! Jocy Lowy

Shevi Wosk, on your Bat Mitzvah! Mark Gurvis &
Leah Pomerantz, Frieda Miller & Danny Shapiro,
Peter & Cornelia Oberlander

SYMPATHY

Paula Brook & Shaw Saltzberg & Family, On your
loss. Frieda Miller & Danny Shapiro

Pamela Chapman & Family, On the loss of your
mother and grandmother. Mark, Jacob, Talya &
Nirit Rozenberg

Tessie & Norton Finkelstein, On your great loss.
Lilian Boraks Nemetz

Rome Fox & Family, On the loss of your father.
Daniella Givon & Bernard Pinsky, Debbie Freiman
& David Schwartz, Richard Menkis & Cathie Best

Norman & Marlene Franks & Family, On the
passing of your mother & grandmother. Mark
Rozenberg

Debby Freiman, On Your Great Loss. Odie Kaplan,
Ida Kaplan, Frieda Miller and Danny, Jesse, &
Rebecca Shapiro, The VHEC Board & Staff, Rome
& Hymie Fox & Family

Marla & Peter Gropper & Family, In memory
of your mother. Barbara & Herb Silber, Gloria
& Robbie Waisman, Odie Kaplan, Robert &
Marilyn Krell & Family, Brian & Sheryl Ross,
Marni & Daniel Bar-Dayana, Debbie Freiman &
David Schwartz, The VHEC Board & Staff, Lili
& Izak Folk, Isabelle & Charles Diamond, Phyllis,
Michael, Abbie, Rachel & Solly Moscovich, Arlene
Gladstone & Hamish Cameron

Alan & Robyn Hanson & Family, In memory of your mother, Mark & Susie Kierszenblat, Jocy, Gary, Tammy, Seth, Nathan & Richard Lowy

Howard Harowitz, On the loss of your mother. Odie Kaplan

Barry Katzen, On the loss of your brother-in law. Neri & Aron Tischler

Ethel Kofsky & Family, On the loss of your father. Cathy & David Golden & Family, Jody & Harvey Dales, Irving & Evelyn Goldenberg, Norman Gladstone & Birgit Westergaard, Frieda Miller & Danny Shapiro, Lucien & Carole Lieberman, Art Hister & Phyllis Simon, Bernie & Lisa Conn & Ida Weiner, Rob & Marilyn Krell, Chaim & Susie Micner, Hildy & Jeffrey Barnett

Esther Kornfeld & Family, On the loss of your husband and father. Chaim & Susie Micner

Ed & Susan Kroft & Family, On the passing of your mother & grandmother. Mark, Jacob, Talya & Nirit Rozenberg

Rachel Levine & Family, On your great loss. George & Frieda Wertman

Judith Mandel & Family, In memory of Raymond Mandel. Lamie Zbarsky

Frieda Miller & Family, In memory of your father. Frances & Gustav Grunberg

Kathy Moser, On the loss of your mother, Neri & Aron Tischler

Ruth Moses & Family, On the loss of your husband, father and grandfather. Susan & Joe Stein & Irv Wolak

Neal & Anna Nep, In memory of Anna's mother. Ed & Debbie Rozenberg

Mr. & Mrs. David Novikoff, On the loss of your mother. Valerie & Sheldon Stier

Mark Rozenberg & Family, On the loss of your father. Robert & Alicia Matas, Mollie Korsch, Richard Menkis & Cathie Best

Eddie Rozenberg & Family, On the loss of your father. Daniella Givon & Bernard Pinsky

Mr. & Mrs. H. Silberstroom, On the loss of your father & grandfather. Rachel Wosk & Family

Sunni Stein & Family, In Memory of Howard. The VHEC Board & Staff, Frances & Gustav Grunberg, Rob, & Marilyn Krell & Family

Serge Vanry, In memory of Edouard. Victor Neuman & Family

Les Vertesi, In Memory of Anna Vertesi. Alisa, Steven & Paula Meurrens

Robin Vrba & Family, On the loss of your husband. Mark & Sylvie Epstein

Lu Winters, On the loss of your mother. Mark, Jacob, Talya & Nirit Rozenberg

Cathi Zbarsky, On the loss of your mother. Gloria, Gerri & the Survivor Drop-In Group

Avi Zohar & Family, In honour of your mother and grandmother. Mark & Susie Kierszenblat

THANK YOU

Debby Fenson, For preparing Raphy for his Bar Mitzvah. Neri & Aron Tischler

Ephraim & Stephanie Kaye, In appreciation. Kit Krieger

Phil Switzer, In appreciation. Beatrice & Lew Lewis

Gerry Zipursky & Board & Staff, Thank you. The VHEC Board & Staff

SAVE THE DATE

ANNUAL COMMUNITY KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATIVE LECTURE



LAST LETTERS FROM A LOST FATHERLAND:
MICRO-HISTORIES OF MASS MURDER

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Professor of History, UBC

With Cantor Yaacov Orzech and the Vancouver Jewish Men's Choir
under the direction of Stan Shear

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