JEWISH NATION PERSECUTION IN THE PROTECTORATE OF BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA AND TEREZÍN GHETTO IN MAIL DOCUMENTS

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Dear philatelists and visitors of Japhila.cz and Exponet.info web pages. An innovated exhibit named "Jewish Nation Persecution in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia and Terezín Ghetto in Mail Documents" has been introduced today on the world virtual philatelic exhibition web.

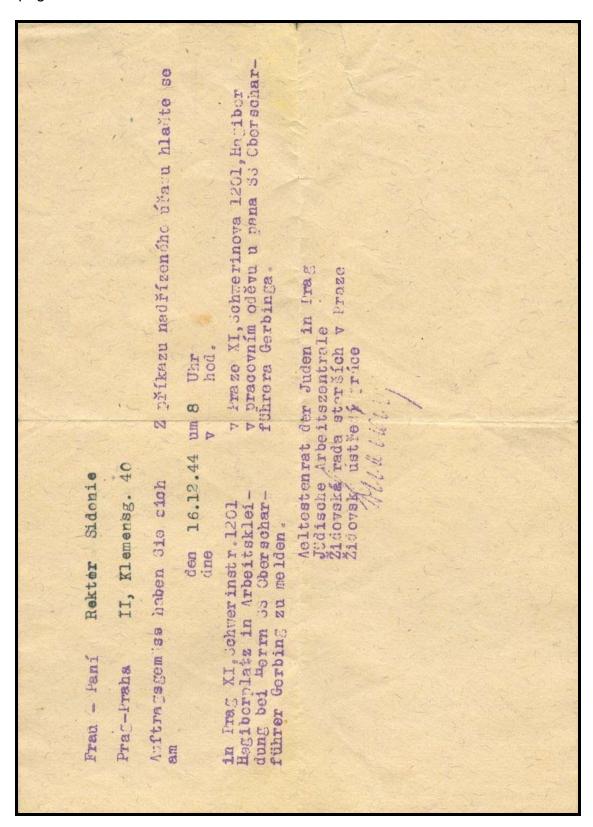
As its name suggests, it introduces in the first place mail documents from the period of occupation of Czech lands by German army during the World War II related directly or indirectly to unprecedented violation of elementary principles of humanity among members of two different ethnics with massive support of various poltroons, freeloaders, gold miners, opportunists and revengeful people, and even with unintentional collaboration of ordinary citizens.



Picture 1 - The consignment paid as printed matter (20 hellers post tariff) to the office for emigrant succor (Emigrationshilfe) with an invitation to the tax payment verification trial. Evaluated by the post as partial printed matter (with 30 hellers tariff) and burden with a postage-due stamp of double value of missing amount.

This process named in wider context as "holocaust" becomes one of the saddest chapters in the human history. We will never find out the exact number of victims. Historians estimations are between 5 and 8 millions of direct victims, while people

denying these events proclaim, that nothing like this has never happened, that nothing like this has never taken place, that all this are only fabrications, fictions and propaganda.

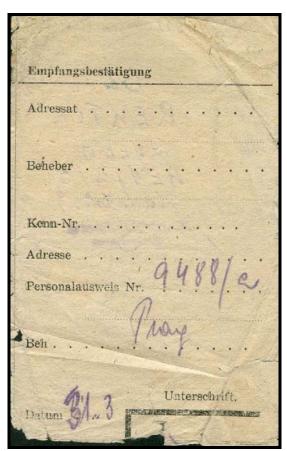


Picture 2 - The mail of Jewish Senior Council in Prague with an order to arrive to Hagibor labor concentration camp in Prague in work-clothing and with direction to report to SS-Oberscharführera Gerbing. The camp address was Prague XI., Schwerinova street 1201. The

protectorate citizens of Jewish origin as well as non-Jewish ones from mixed marriages were called into camps in this period of time. The Jews were mainly transported into ghetto in Terezín, non Jews were sent to forced labor consequence of great manpower decrease in Reich.

When I obtained the first exhibit of a card sent to Terezín concentration camp into my starting collection of post operation in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia (almost 30 years ago), I couldn't imagine how wide and complex area of collecting not only of stamps or mail history, but primarily of human destinies, I started. During the time, when the content of partial items grown, much deeper context of that epoch events started to appear in front of my eyes. It has resulted in reading and studying many books and documents describing partial chapters of the whole and many time written truths, that the more I know, the more I am sure, that I know almost nothing.



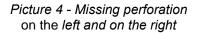


Picture 3 - Internal receiving receipt of a parcel from Jewish self-government (foreside and verso), feeble rubber imprint in red color Bezahlt (= Paid) at the bottom, date-stamp of parcel receiving in ghetto on March 30, 1945, parcel delivery confirmed on March 31.

In the end of last millennium there were introduced all aspects of given problems in collective writings of authors Mgr. Patricie Tošnerová and JUDr. Ing. František Beneš – Mail in Terezín ghetto. I am mentioning this book purposely, because it has brought especially complete view on this history, preserved in documents so common but now so precious to us. The majority of these documents are often the only still kept reminding of our ancestors, marriage partners and relatives, who have never returned to their dearest ones. This unique publication has described processes connected to mail contact between ghetto and outer surroundings and has represented the wide range of not-known-before forms connected to mail traffic and

its administration in ghetto and outside of it. I am convinced that it will remain the basic textbook for people interested in these items for long years.





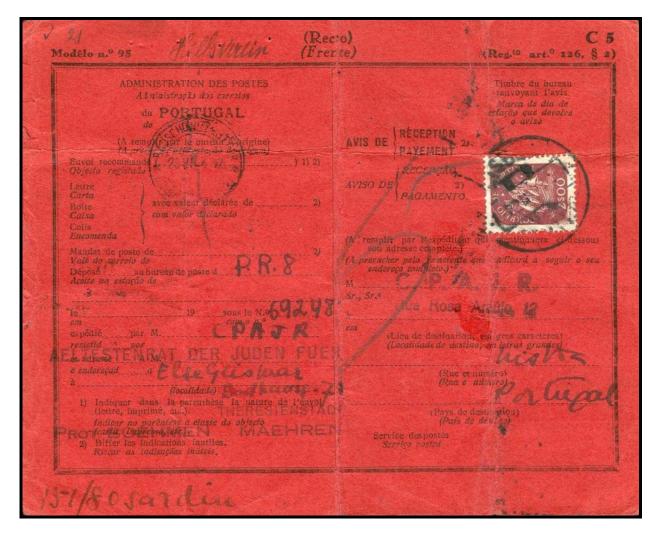


Picture 5 - Trial print in black color



Picture 6 - Trial print – "feeble clouds"

Today an innovated version of exhibit in extent of eight frames (128 individual sheets) is presented to you. The basic outline used during its creating was an effort to tell the story in time line, as the whole process of persecution had ran. From the basic effort of move out the annoying ethnic and displace those "different" people to the society edge (Is there a parallel to today?) to property confiscation and elite imprisoning to brutal exterminatory processes. It would be nice to finish with a happy-end, but it didn't come. A horror with bad ending instead of a fairytale is told – there survived only very few.



Picture 7 - Return ticket of Portuguese post administration to a consignment of sardines to ghetto submitted by C.P.A.J.R. company at post office in Lisbon on March 22, 1944. An arrival stamp Bohušovice nad Ohří, April 29, 1944. Framed four line stamp of Jewish self-government in blue color - JÜDISCHE SELBSTVERWALTUNG / THERESIENSTADT / POST UND VERKEHR / POSTÜBERNAHME. Confirming arrival stamp LISBOA CENTRAL, -7.JUL.44. The stamp in the address part with text AELTESTENRAT DER JUDEN FUER / THERESIENSTADT / PROT BOEHMEN MAEHREN. The name and address added by hand.

I would like to ask you for lenience with some brief descriptions or wordiness and boredom connected to partial forms introduction. Many things could be written, but then it wouldn't be a philatelist exhibit, but historical exposition of mail documents. And honestly — I am philatelist (I hope), not historian (in any case). Mentioned wordiness is caused by the effort to introduce all owned (not known) types of documents (copied forms), which were used. For non-philatelists — it is one of our weaknesses. Than I have to apologize for sometimes not exactly faithful color image of displayed material, which is caused by incompatibleness of used method and software, without which it wouldn't be possible to use this type of presentation. Unlike the last exhibition this time there is introduced not virtual exhibit (only for purpose of internet exhibition processed using electronic tools), but scanned physical material. Please, excuse therefore imperfection in quality of displaying partial items and sometimes illegibility of written text on individual documents or accompanying copies.



Picture 8 - A card written in gathering center of Red Cross for released repatriates in Krakow on April 8, 1945. The post traffic between Poland and Czechoslovakia was stopped in April 1945. The transfer to Slovakia was ensured by a messenger, Polish stamps were devalued by crossing out, completed Czechoslovak stamp was added, marked by a rubber stamp Poštový úrad Kežmarok (Post office Kežmarok) and date-stamp April 17, 1945 and the invalid stamps were subsequently ripped off. The sender is Ota Fleischmann, deported to Terezín by transport Ca on October 24, 1942, relocated to Osvětim by transport Ek on September 28, 1944, released in Blechhammer. This camp was established on the area of today Poland about 30 km west

from Gleiwitz in the third quarter of 1942 as a camp of forced labor for Jews. More than 1.500 prisoners died there. The camp was emptied on January 1, 1945 and the prisoners were forced to start death-march, on which over 800 people died. Part of the prisoners managed to hide in the camp, many of them were found and shot, only few of them were rescued.

If anyone from the readers is interested in further information about individual items or parts of the exhibit, I will be delighted to give additional information. Please, send your questions on my private e-mail address – mh123@seznam.cz. If anyone would like to share his/her own knowledge and information, I would be glad to discuss it – the same address can be used.