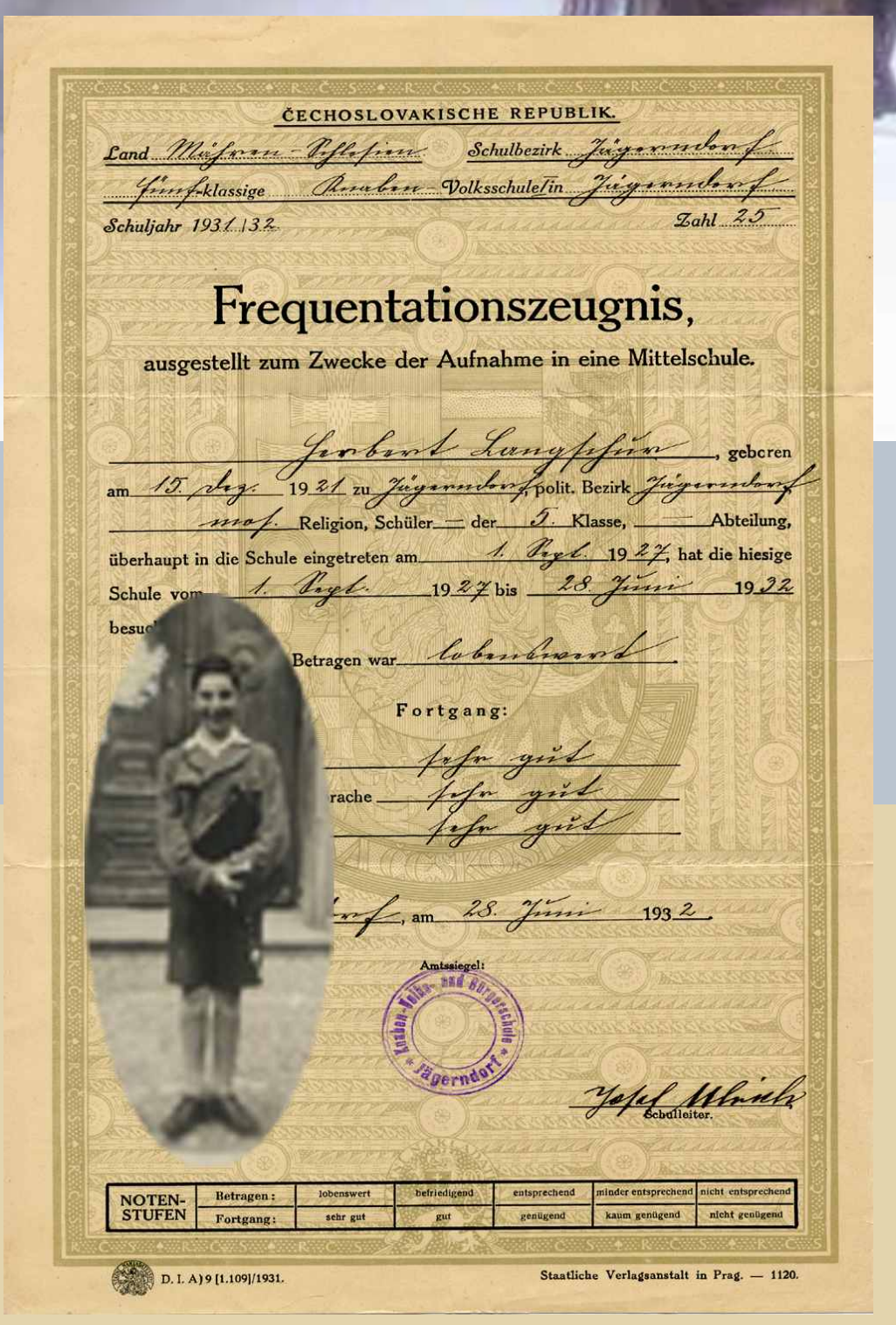


Tribute to the Child Holocaust Victims

One of the 70 life stories associated with Krnov Synagogue



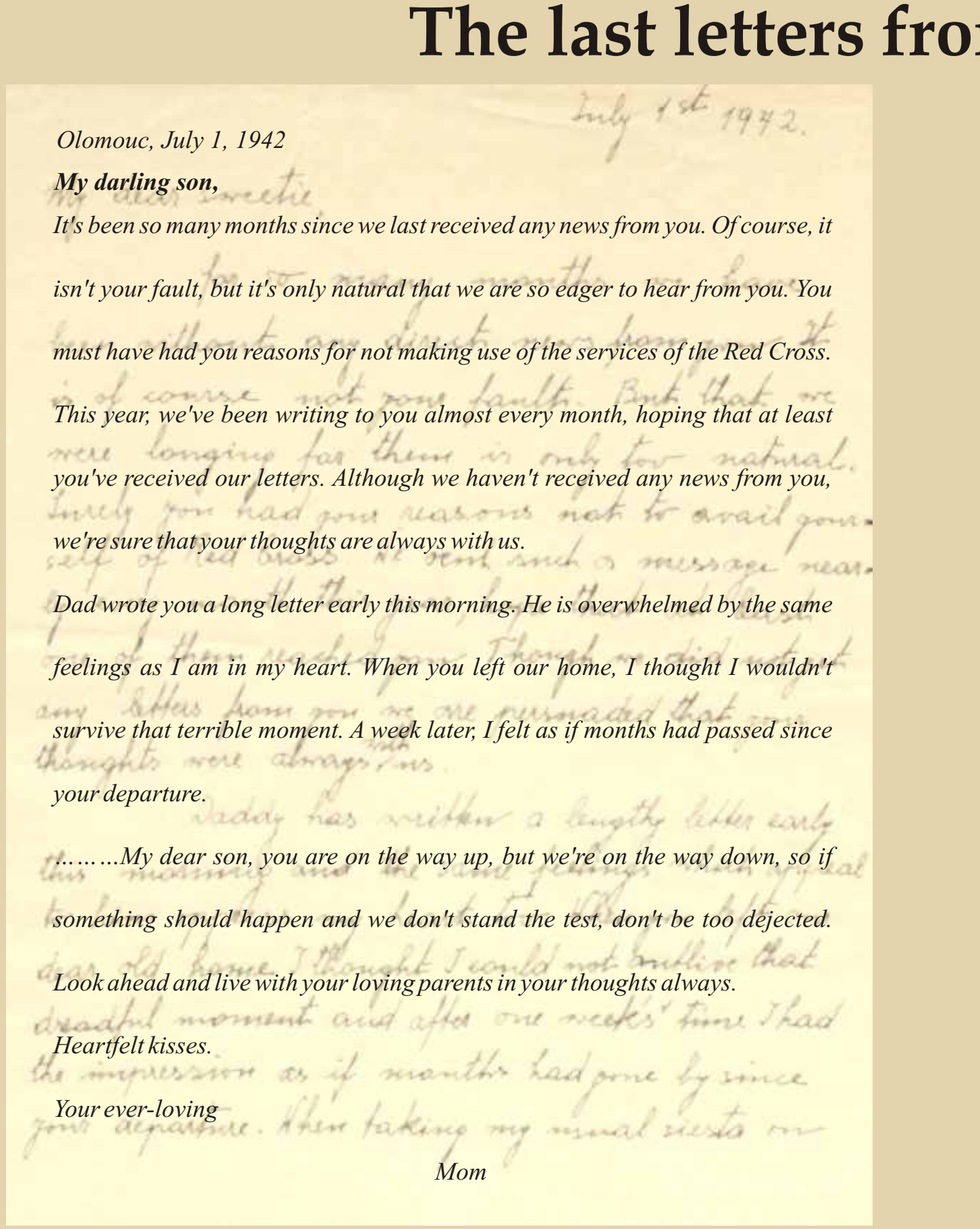
Herbert Hugo Langshur
Herbert Hugo Langshur was born in Krnov (Jägerdorf), close to the Czech-Polish border, on 15 December 1921. As an only child he spent a happy childhood in the Jeseník Mountains (Altvařerberg). In 1927-32 he attended an elementary school for boys at Dvůřákův okruh Street (Hanserring); this building now houses our school. In May 1938 his parents sent him to London, where his mother's sister, Wanda, lived with her family. He then gained a technical diploma and subsequently fought in the British army against Nazism and for the freedom of Europe. After leaving the army in 1948, he worked in an aircraft engine factory. In 1951 he emigrated to Canada, living in Montréal where he found employment in his given field at Pratt and Whitney Canada. He now lives in retirement in the town of Saint-Lambert in Québec province. Twice married, he had three sons from his first marriage, one of whom died. His two surviving sons are Alexander Thomson Langshur (b. 1961), who lives in Boston and also has two sons, and Eric Lawrence Langshur (b. 1963), who lives in Chicago and has three children (two sons and a daughter). Hugo has a stepson, Richard, and a stepdaughter, Dominique, from his second marriage.



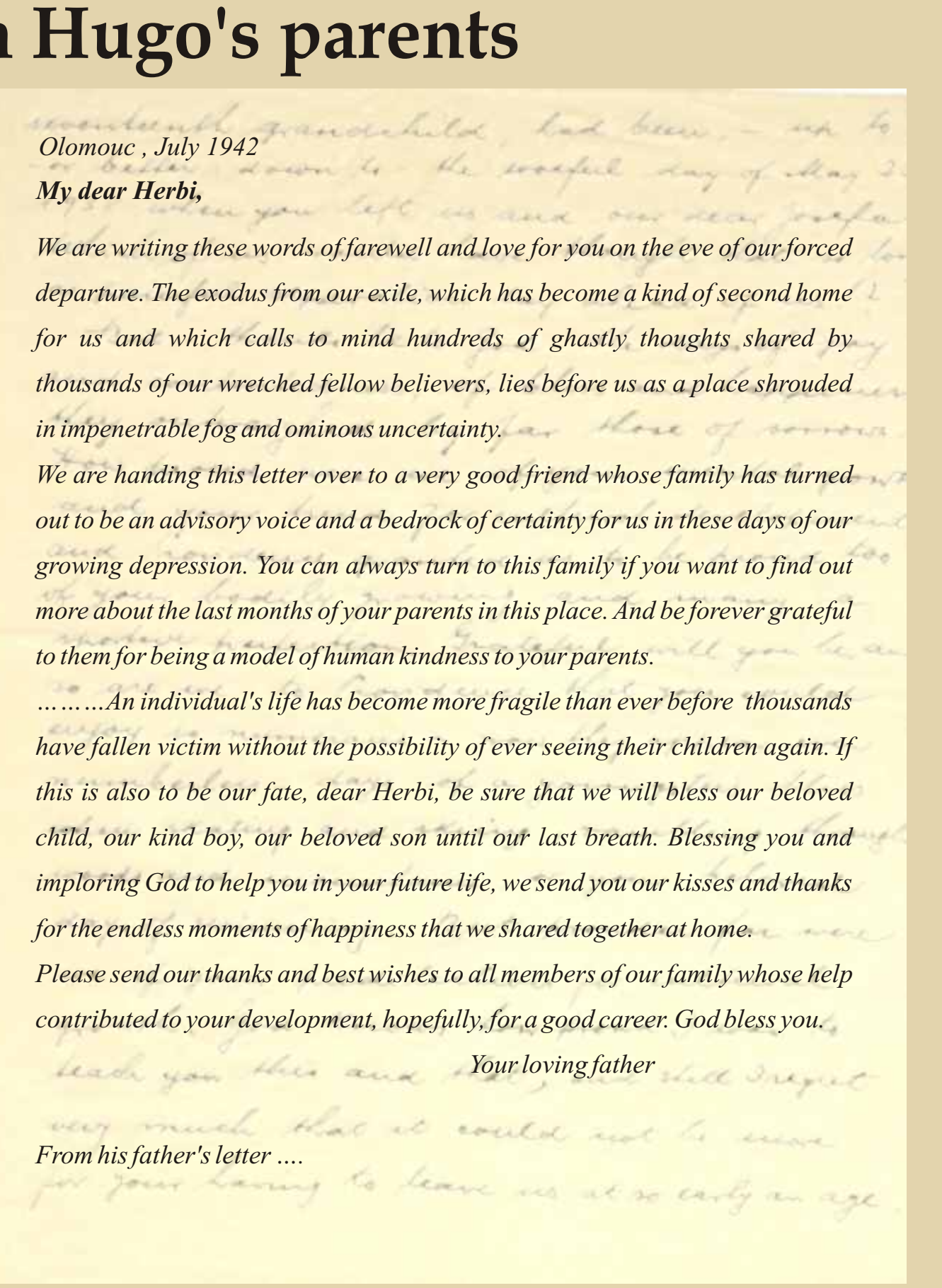
Recollections in a letter from Herbert Hugo Langshur in Canada (b. 1921) to his mother, Edith Langshur, came into the world in 1942. Sigmund Langshur, came into the world in 1884. He moved to Krnov as a young man and became a teacher at the local German high school. He taught German literature, French and English and gave private lessons in Latin. During the 1914-16 war he joined the army but after a brief period of military service he was sent back to his teaching job. We lived at 30 Horní náměstí (Oberring) in Krnov, directly opposite the municipal café. From our windows I could see each card player's hand. My father, a highly respected teacher with a great reputation in the town, could not have imagined anything bad happening to him and his wife. At the same time, he didn't want to leave his pension to "those villains", or to be dependent on his relatives. But by the time my parents had decided to leave, it was already too late. After the Munich Agreement, they found shelter in the house of Theodor and Paula Bries (relatives of my mother). In July 1942, my parents were deported from Olomouc to Terezín (Theresienstadt). Several days later, they were taken away to be shot or gassed at Baranavichy (Baranovitsch), southeast of Minsk, in what is now Belarus. (Paula Bries shared the same fate. Her husband died a year earlier.)



EDITH LANGSCHUR
Date of birth: February 3, 1890
Last address: Olomouc
Designation for the deportation train to Terezín: AAo
Number of the deportation train to Terezín: 199
Point of departure to Terezín: Olomouc
Date of arrival in Terezín: July 8, 1942
Designation for the deportation train to the east: AAy
Number of the deportation train to the east: 499
Date of departure to the east: July 28, 1942
Point of departure to the east: Terezín
Destination of the deportation train to the east: Baranavichy, Belarus
Registration number: 102714
Date of death: July 28, 1942
Place of death: Baranavichy, Belarus



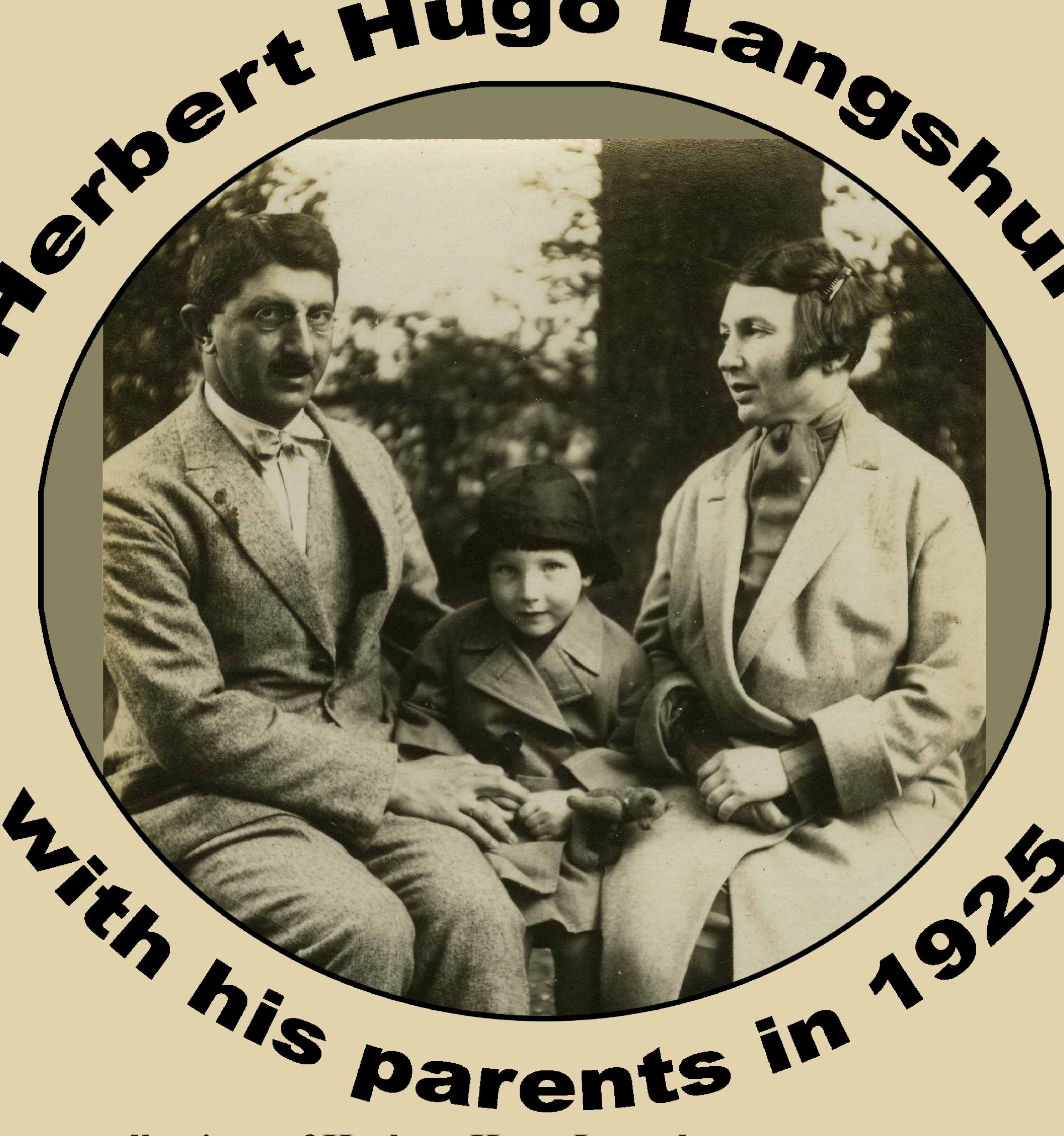
Notes on the letters from Hugo's parents:
These letters were written by Hugo's parents shortly before their deportation to Terezín. They forwarded them to a person whom they trusted. Herbert Hugo Langshur later gave them to his son Eric who established a family archive. Commenting on the letters, Hugo said: "The last letters I received from my parents still break my heart. Let us hope that the horrors of the Holocaust will never be repeated. But human beings are unfortunately very imperfect. Why are these letters written in English? Both my parents spoke English well. They even got to know each other through the English language in private lessons that my dad gave to his future wife. I think that they wrote these letters in English to emphasize that a new life was beginning for me."



From his father's letter ...
Your loving father



SIGMUND LANGSCHUR
Date of birth: June 8, 1894
Last address: Olomouc
Designation for the deportation train to Terezín: AAo
Number of the deportation train to Terezín: 198
Point of departure to Terezín: Olomouc
Date of arrival in Terezín: July 8, 1942
Designation for the deportation train to the east: AAy
Number of the deportation train to the east: 498
Date of departure to the east: July 28, 1942
Point of departure to the east: Terezín
Destination of the deportation train to the east: Baranavichy, Belarus
Registration number: 102715
Date of death: July 28, 1942
Place of death: Baranavichy, Belarus



Herbert Hugo Langshur
With his parents in 1925



Memories of Trude
"...Trude was intelligent, charming and beautiful. She was a year or two older. An adolescent boy like me had to admire her breasts. I wooed her for some time, but Trude kindly discouraged me without hurting my pride too much..."

Krnov Synagogue

The town of Krnov (Jägerdorf) is situated in Silesia, Czech Republic. From the establishment of the town until 1945, Sudeten Germans comprised the vast majority of the population of Krnov. Jews were expelled from the Krnov principality in 1535 and were allowed to return only after the granting of equal rights to Jews in 1848. Jews made a significant contribution to the rapid development of Krnov at the end of the nineteenth century, for example in the textile industry and in liquor production. The synagogue in Krnov, built in 1871, is the best preserved Jewish monument in the region of north-east Moravia and Czech Silesia. It was used for religious services until the end of September 1938, when the Sudetenland was annexed to Germany. The town council, consisting of Sudeten Germans, unanimously decided to bypass secret instructions from Berlin for the synagogue to be burnt down. After the symbols of Judaism had been removed or concealed, the synagogue was used during the war as a market hall for the town. Some of the Torah scrolls were saved just before the war and found their way to a synagogue in Jerusalem. During the Communist period the Krnov synagogue was used as a warehouse, later as a state archive. In 1997, the synagogue was damaged by flooding. Nowadays it is used as a venue for cultural and social events organized by the Krnov Synagogue civic association. Before the Second World War, there were about 350 people with Jewish allegiance living in Krnov. Four out of every five Jews from Krnov were murdered during the war. Most of those who survived decided to stay abroad after the war. Today, there are few Jews living in Krnov; parents of most of these were born in Subcarpathian Ruthenia. To this day, however, they are afraid to publicly acknowledge their Jewish identity.

Other recollections of Herbert Hugo Langshur



"Ronsperg, where my father was born, is known as Poběžovice in Czech. It is not far from Plzeň (Pilsen). Our family lived there for centuries. My granddad on my father's side had been a brewer. Later he ran a tavern and a general store (selling seeds, metal tools, spices, etc.), both in the same house. He also owned some fields where he grew corn and potatoes."

Krnov synagogue benches

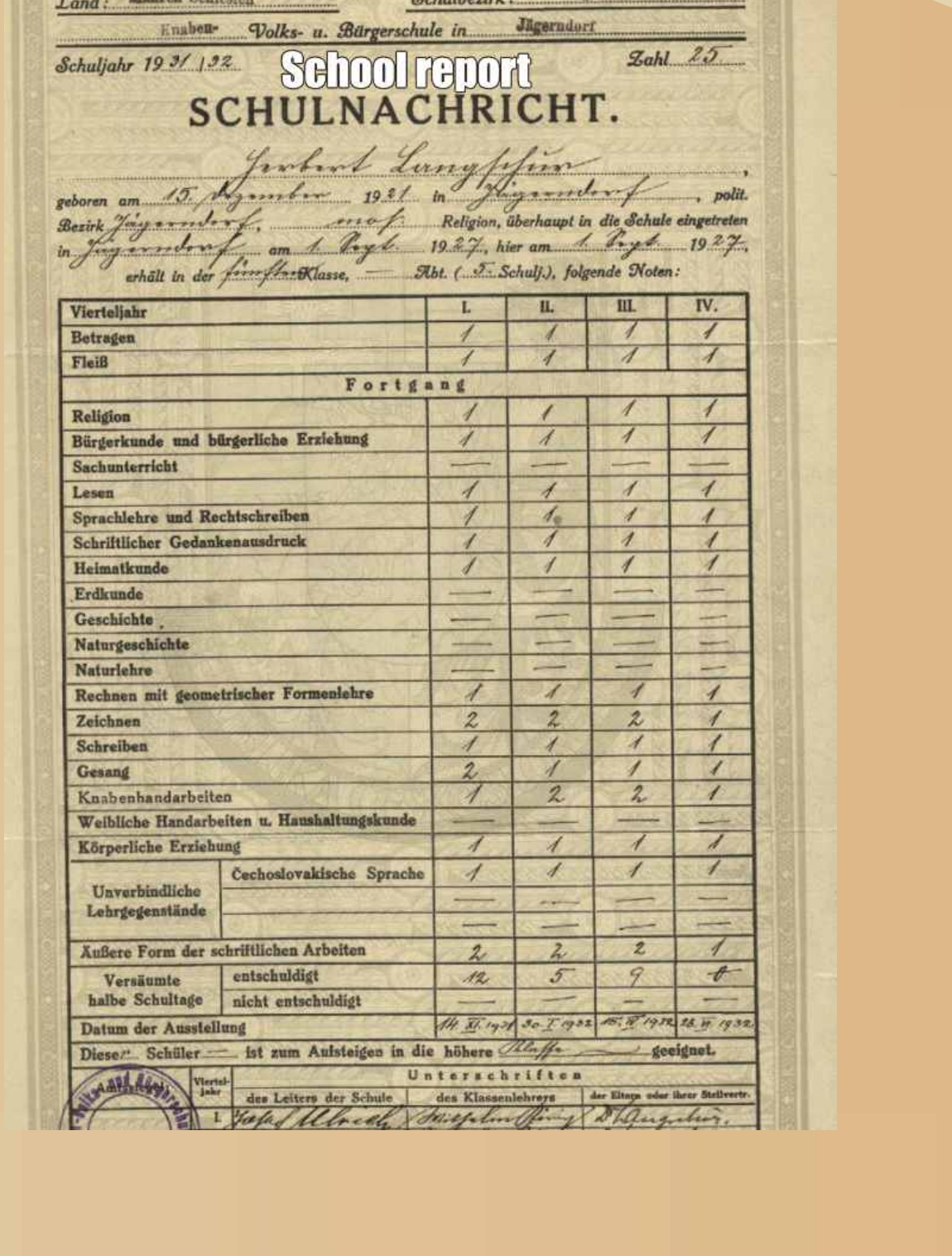
In 2004, the Krnov Synagogue civic association found and purchased historical benches, dating from 1897, which had been used until 1939 in the Olomouc (Olmütze) synagogue. Before destroying the Holy Ark, the local Jewish community had sold the benches to the Catholic parish in Olkany near Prostějov. The Krnov Synagogue civic association installed seven of the ten preserved rows in the main hall of the Krnov synagogue and provided three rows to Lošice (Loschitz) synagogue. It also launched a project entitled "70 Seats – 70 Life Stories". Each of the 49 Krnov seats was symbolically allotted to one of the selected members of the Jewish communities of the Osoblah (Hotzenplotz), Krnov and Bruntál (Freudenthal) region who were murdered during the Shoah. Plaques with the names of victims will be placed on the benches as a permanent reminder of the specific human life stories. However, there were more victims of the Holocaust from the town of Krnov alone. Until now, we have found about 200 names, but the total number is no doubt higher. More information on this topic is available on the website: www.muweb.cz/www/synagoga

Krnov victims

Dr. Samuel Schwartz d. Terezín	Jenny Löwy d. 2.9.1942 Terezín
Moritz Lamberg d. 4.4.1942 Píasek	Dr. David Rudolfer d. 9.10.1942 Terezín
Dr. Karl Eisler d. 6.8.1943 Oświęcim	Dr. Erwin Kunevalder d. 8.10.1944 Oświęcim
Jakob Sella d. 15.10.1942 Teblikina	Mathilde Edwin d. 8.8.1942 Maly Trostinec
Dr. Hilda Hirsch d. 23.10.1942 Oświęcim	Johanna Bachner d. 25.1.1943 Oświęcim
Margaret Baar d. 26.10.1941 Łódź	Sidonie Braun d. 25.4.1942 Warszawa
	Dr. Bernhard Knöpfelmacher d. 18.5.1944 Oświęcim
	Alfred Dawidels d. 20.3.1943 Bergen-Belsen
	Jan Bloch d. 1939 Praha
Johis Blank d. 12.6.1942 Trawniki	Jan Bloch d. 1939 Praha
Irma Marburg d. extermination camp	Otto Lichtwitz d. 1.9.1942 Raasika
Joselina Gruspan d. 7.1.1943 Terezín	Günther Holz d. 28.7.1942 Baranavichy
Erna Langshur d. 28.7.1942 Baranavichy	Olga Mondschein d. 13.6.1942 Oświęcim
Paul Gessler d. 1944 Budapest	Dr. Sigmund Langshur d. 28.7.1942 Baranavichy
	Fritz Gelfinger d. 25.6.1940 Sachsenhausen
	Oskar Goldberger d. extermination camp
	Lydia Isack d. 10.4.1942 Ravensbrück
Rosa Konstandt d. Žilina	Ernie Bert d. 23.10.1944 Oświęcim
Fanny Kunevalder d. 9.10.1944 Oświęcim	Irma Stern d. 15.5.1944 Oświęcim
Hanna Eisler d. 8.9.1943 Oświęcim	Benno Marburg d. 1941
Hugo Braun d. 25.4.1942 Warszawa	Ing. Josef Baar d. 7.3.1942 Łódź
Martina Oppenheim d. Oświęcim	Karl Weinfield d. 16.10.1944 Oświęcim
Dr. Leopold Mondschein d. 12.5.1942 Terezín	Hermine Weinfield d. 16.10.1944 Oświęcim
Ruth Ziemlich d. 8.9.1943 Oświęcim	Erwin Marburg d. 1942



Hugo Langshur with his father in 1928



Krnov Jewish cemetery



Other victims

Other names inscribed on the facade: Sofianne Zochner, Doris Blank, Jan Bloch, Günther Holz, Gertrude Hussler, Edith Sommerer, Ruth Ziemlich.

The following worked on the project:
Markéta Procházková,
Lucie Gráňmanová, Petr Vávra,
Josef Zmlešťal, Radim Šnirch,
David Náboš,
Veronika Bernardová,
Veronika Skopčáková,
Mgr. Hana Jandáková
Graphical design:
Robin Peška, Jiří Meca

Krnov Elementary School
Dvořákův okruh 2

And how many others?