WORLD WAR, 1939-1945, GERMAN CONCENTRATION CAMPS AND PRISONS COLLECTION

GESTAPO PRISONS CORRESPONDENCE - 1942-1943 - 6 items.

The Gestapo Prisons Correspondence is arranged alphabetically by name of prison. The prisons include Radom, Straubing, Waldheim, Welzheim and one or two unidentified prisons.

All descriptions were compiled by Michel Brisebois, the collector of the letters.

Box Number and Item Numbers

Box 9 – 1097 to 1102

RADOM

1097

Postcard from Felicja Kaliska to Adela Kaliska in Kielce. April 14, 1942. 1 p. 12mo. Written in Polish. Censor marking.

STRAUBING

1098

Letter from Karl Skocek, prisoner no. 199/43 to his sister in Blumenbach. August 29 [1943 ?]. 2 pp. 8vo oblong on prison letterhead. A few words crossed out by the censor. Written in German.

WALDHEIM

1099

Letter from V. Hrdina prisoner no. 1587/20. June 21, 1942. On prison letterhead which includes rules for correspondence. 2 pp. 8vo. Written in Czech to Prague. Envelope included.

WELZHEIM

1100

Letter from Stanish Burzkowitsh. Block III. September 8, 1943. 1 p. 8vo. Written on prison letterhead with printed rules very similar to concentration camp letterheads. Written in German. Very rare.

UNIDENTIFIED PRISONS

These two items were purchased from an American dealer who buys his material directly from Jewish contacts Poland. I have no reason to doubt their authenticity but have no way of proving it either.

Note from translator: "My Polish friend who helped me thinks the first was written by a Jewish man as there were expressions typical of the manner in which small-town Jewish people would speak. The second letter is harder to place. He uses the term "Nameday" which is common to Polish Catholics, not Jews, but perhaps the family was assimilated. However, if the date is correct and if it was Auschwitz, he would have been Jewish as Poles were not being deported to Auschwitz then."

1101

Letter no.1- 4-page letter from Nowy Sacz in Polish and in pencil. It concerns packages, food and friends. It has been translated into English. There are no censor markings.

Translation:

Address: Kuapczyk [?], Michal Nowy Sacz ul. Tatrzanska

With my first words, I thank you very much for the generous and unexpected package. I know the difficulties you had in undertaking to prepare it. Maybe you are surprised by my insistent and sudden request for it. I wish to write to you a little bit about my whereabouts. After being arrested in [Nowy] Sacz on May 6, I was interrogated and locked up. Sleeping in prison was very uncomfortable -- on a straw mattress, 19 of us. I met acquaintances there -- Gagalek, Korczak, Damasiewicz and others. The food was like this. For breakfast we got bitter black coffee, 1/6 [?] loaf of bread, for lunch, soup made of beets used for fodder---awful. For dinner---this same soup. I was in Sacz until Wednesday noon. At noon time they took 6 of us who had been arrested in Sacz and 20 from Krynica to Tarnow. There we got straw mattresses, blankets, mess tins, spoons and straw-filled pillows. The food is like this: breakfast --- 5 dkg [about 1.7 oz.] of bread and the kind of coffee I wrote about before and lunch, soup made with [?] with grysik [finely ground wheat grains] or zurek [a kind of sour soup] with dumplings. Sometimes there¹s some meat in the soup. For dinner just coffee. They treated us from the beginning very delicately and gently. Don't worry about me in that matter. Thank God I am healthy. I pray for your health and my freedom as soon as possible. Doing nothing depresses me. I lie down all day. The worst thing is the stench because the toilet is inside the cell and there are 18 of us here in the cell. For the next packages I would like to ask you to send me some soap, a towel, thread, saccharin and whatever else you think of. I don't need socks; I don't use them. Only some shirt and long underwear would be useful in a week. I am going to give back my dirty clothes on Saturday so maybe Mr. Klimek would be so kind and collect it. Send me eggs in a pot so they won¹t get crushed. Put the saccharin into a small bottle. You can get bread for me at the city hall -they give 2 kg per week there for prisoners. I would prefer home-made bread because it keeps longer. Placki [pancakes] are also very tasty. If you can send me bryndza [sheep cheese] for the bread, it would be the easiest to get, and also it keeps fresh for a longer time. If Mommy is going to make it, I would ask that the cheese be in small and thin portions. I would eat some meat as well, but I am asking for too much; I am not

expecting to get all of it, and I apologize. Send the parcel in some kind of sack or pillowcase --- that will be the best. On the parcel write down my first name, last name and the contents. Be healthy now. Maybe someday we will meet each other? Send my greetings to the cousins and acquaintances and my friends if they are at home.

Ending this I kiss you. Loving you forever, Kazek

1102

Letter no.2- letter folded many times written in Polish in pencil dated January (1943). The person mentions leaving for Tarnow tomorrow. It has been translated into English.

Translation:

[written in different handwriting] thrown out of the train 28/01/43 during deportation in unknown direction, probably Auschwitz

Sowa, Jan Tegoborze on the left [?] post office Tegoborze

The kind finder is asked to send this to the above address.

Dear Parents,

I am leaving from Tarnow, they say the 27th of January or the 28th of January --- where I don¹t know. Maybe God will prevent anything from happening. If it will be possible to write from there, I will write. I was in jail with Staszek, but in the morning they called him out. I don¹t know if he is going with me ---pray for me and do make efforts [to help me] --- if it is necessary to give money, give it to the gmina [local government]. I have enough money here with me. On Daddy¹s Nameday I wish him health and that he will be alive when I return and that I will be healthy and come back --- and Mommy will take care of herself anf feel fine. Genia Wasida [?] prays for me. That¹s all for now -- let God have you in His care.

Yours, Edek