

ERICH LICHTBLAU (ELI LESKLY)

CATALOGUE OF ARTWORKS

| LAMOTH<br>Inv. No. | TITLE IN TRANSLATION WITH EXPLANATORY COMMENTS   |
|--------------------|--|
| 84-65              | <p><b>A Cheap Cake for Birthday.</b> On the sign: <b>You take one bowl of coffee, half spoon of sugar, 200 grams of margarine.</b> <i>Despite the miserable conditions in the ghetto, inmates celebrated holidays and improvised cooking and baking. Others fantasized about cooking or collected recipes.</i> Terezin, 1944.</p>  <p>The drawing shows two women in a simple room. On a table with a white tablecloth sits a round cake on a decorative doily. One woman, with dark hair, is looking at the cake with a thoughtful expression. The other woman, with lighter hair, is holding a large sheet of paper that serves as a recipe. The recipe is written in German: 'Man nehme: 2 Buchten, 1 Saale Kaffee, 1/2 Löffel Zucker, 2 dkg Margarine'. In the background, there is graffiti on the wall that reads 'eine Theresienstädter Dalles'.</p> |
| 84-68              | <p><b>A Child Dream.</b> <i>Mischlinger (children of mixed marriages) dream about St. Nikolaus and Easter Bunny (holiday symbols for non Jewish kids).</i> Conversation between St. Nikolaus and Easter Bunny: <b>But Mr. Easter Bunny, to Terezin? – Only with the Star [Do not forget the Jewish Yellow Star].</b> Erich Lichtblau meant to say: <i>Dear Mr. Easter Bunny please do not forget the Yellow Star when you will visit the children in Terezin.</i> Terezin, 1944.</p>   |



84-58

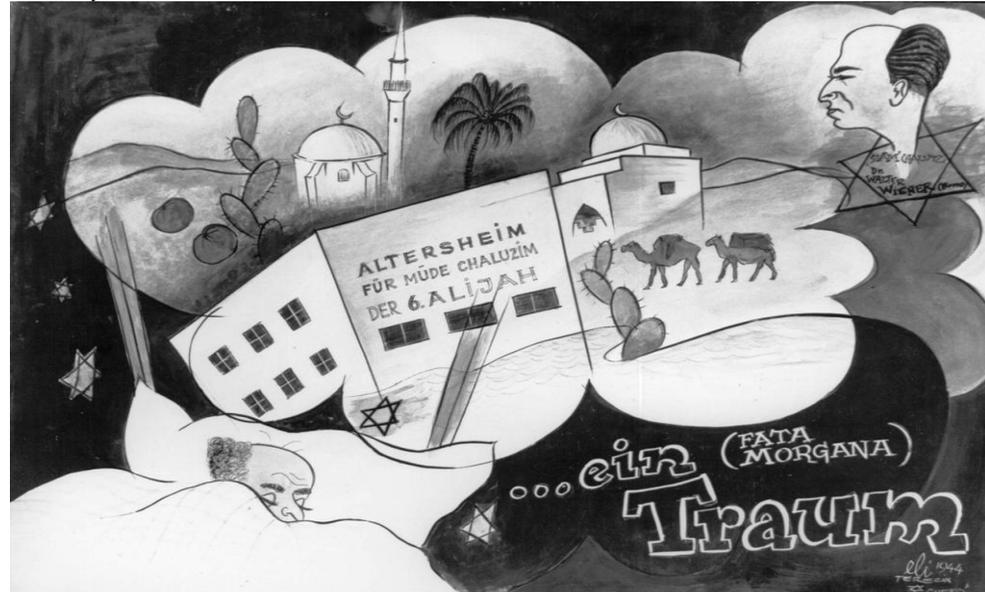
**A Clean Ghetto for the Gentlemen from the Red Cross: all Sidewalks will be Cleaned.** A Poster in the back announces a sports festival that was set up for the Red Cross visitation. Announcement in the right corner: **Big Sports Meeting on the Bastion: 1. Soccer Games; 2. Athletics. 3. Dancing, Games, etc.** Nazis invited a film crew to Theresienstadt. Soon a film came out about nice life for Jews in the ghetto. It was entitled *The Führer Grants a City to the Jews*. It featured coffee houses, library, orchestra, , knitting circles, and well dressed people. Terezin, June 1944.



84-36

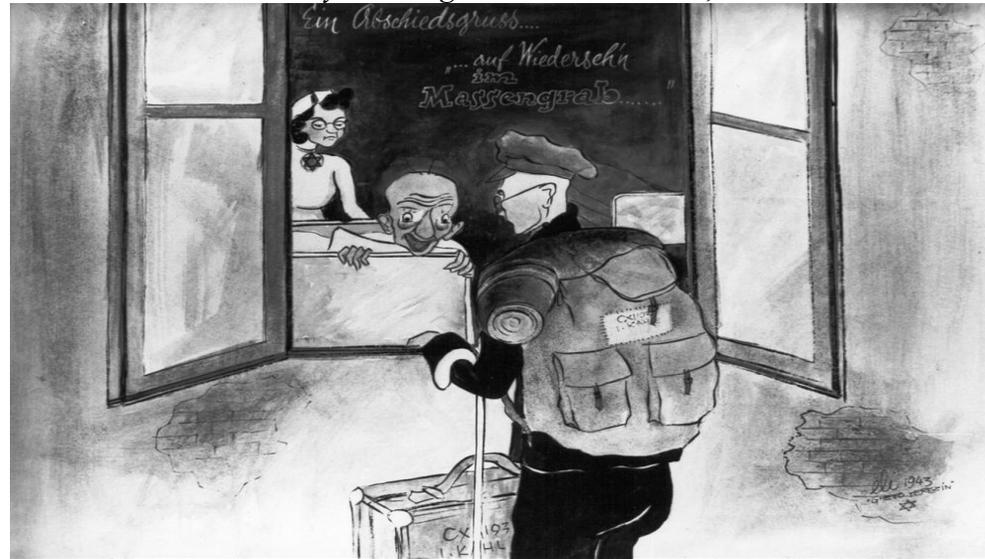
**A Dream: Home for Weary Halutzim.** Above: **Fata Morgana.** Inscription on the house: **Old People Home for Weary Chalutzim of the Six Alijah.** Erich Lichtblau recalls: *Our friend Dr. Walter Wiener from*

Brno once told me, "We are not the youngest people anymore. If one day we arrive in Palestine, they will send us to a home for the Halutzim of the Six Aliyah." Terezin, 1944.



84-13

**A Farewell: See You again in the Mass Grave.** A farewell greeting said by a German Jew being sent to the East. The title in German reads as: *Auf Wiedersehn im Massengrab*. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *Nobody at this time took such words seriously. It was grim humor.* Terezin, 1943.



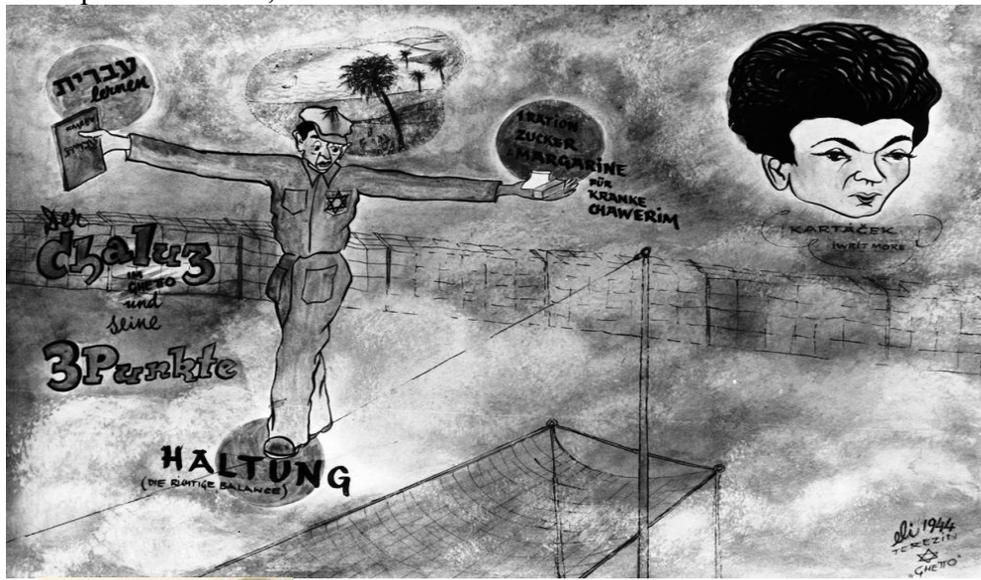
84-18

**A Good Czech Gendarme: Ein braver Četnik.** Often a Czech gendarme (Četnik) threw away large cigarette butts. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *They knew the Jews would pick them up. They were often kind people and behaved well to the Jews.* Terezin, 1943.



84-63

**A Halutz in the Ghetto and his Three Points. These points were to learn Hebrew, to have Oneg Shabbat [celebrate Shabbat], and to help ill and old people with food.** Jews from many European countries lived in Theresienstadt; they spoke different languages. Zionists lived together in the quarters Beit Halutz for men and Beit Halutzot for women. *My wife and myself, we lived in the rooms called Beit Halutz and Beit Halutzot.* This picture-story presents a symbolic interpretation of the model behavior of a Halutz in the ghetto. A Halutz maintains balance according to a Zionist conception. Terezin, 1944.



84-64

**A New Ordnungsdienst Guard, called O.D. (Jewish police in the ghetto)**

**Takes Care About Ration Allocation.** This picture somewhat resembles the one known as **No Pushing Please** (84-34).



84-39

**A Night with her Alone at the Bar Palanda.** *“The top bunk in our room could be closed, and so it was used by couples for the night. It was risky, but people looked forward to some private time with their spouses or friends. Some rooms had to set up visitation schedule,”* recalls Erich Lichtblau. The caption in the top left corner reads: *A Night with Her ‘Alone’ at the Bar Palanda.* Terezin, 1943.



84-2

**A View through the Window.** A view from the third floor of the

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|--------------|--|
|              | <p>“Hannover Barracks” towards the Czech City of Bohušovice. The bastions and casemates are on the foreground. A town church tower is seen in the background. Terezin, 1943. p</p>   |
| <p>84-51</p> | <p><b>A Wool-Vest for a Half of Bread.</b> This picture-story is known under the interchangeable titles: <b>Fair Trade; A Cardigan for a Half of Bread.</b> Leskley called it: <b>A Hungry Old Woman Sells Clothing.</b> It was commonly regarded that young and workable people received better rations in the ghetto than old and sick inmates. Not surprisingly a young girl on the picture is in a better shape than her fellow inmates of old age. Terezin, 1943.</p>  |
| <p>84-69</p> | <p><b>About the Coffin Factory.</b> Mostly young people worked in the former horse riding school and produced simple cases and covers. The elderly people are seen collecting scraps for heating their rooms during the winter 1944. Terezin, 1945.</p>  |



84-19

**Arrival of the Jews from Denmark in [Terezin Spa].** Well-dressed Danish Jews, deceived by Nazis, arrived under impression if they were entering a resort. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *the brave Danish King was not afraid to send gift parcels to his Jews in the Ghetto. In March or April 1945, Swedish buses arrived in the ghetto. The Danish King had sent them to take back his Jews to Denmark and they arrived in Denmark before the ghetto was liberated.* Terezin, 1943.





84-6 **Baptized Jews are Coming.** The Nazi racial laws determined who was a Jew and who was an Aryan. Erich Lichtblau comments: *We could see people coming in various clothes related to their origin and beliefs.* Terezin, 1943.



84-41 **Bonke-Rumors from the Front-Lines.** A short narrative written within the circle serves as an explanatory note: **Chawer [Comrade] Paul Kohn, a Courier with the Czech Gendarmerie Station is a 'War Correspondent.'** He tells us bonkes (rumors) from the front-lines. Terezin, 1943.



84-46

**Building the Railroad to the Ghetto.** A group of laborers on the railroad construction site outside the Ghetto. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *There was a group of workers called Bahnbau (railway building). The SS decided to build a railway between Bohušovice and Theresienstadt to enable the arrivals directly to the ghetto, as well as direct departures of the transport to the East from the ghetto. Terezin, 1943.*



84-20

**Competitors for Potatoes.** Sign on the wall: only ashes. Erich Lichtblau entitles this picture *Konkurrenten* (Competitors), *Old people were looking for potatoes in the rubbish. So were birds and rats as well, Erich Lichtblau recalls. Terezin, 1944.*



84-25

**Cook and a Cleaning Girl is a Good Catch in the Ghetto.** Sign: Yes, the way to a man's or woman's heart is through his/her stomach. Cooks were good catches in the ghetto for obvious reasons. The bride works for the cleaning detail. For some reason she is a good match for the cook. Erich Lichtblau also recalls: *There were also marriage ceremonies inside the ghetto. There were canopies, and the rabbis officiated ceremonies. For the girls it was the best to marry a cook or a baker.* Terezin, 1943.





84-22

**Death Rate: 150 Daily.** About 150 inmates died in the ghetto daily. *Every day the Jews had to load many dead bodies on a cart, which they had to drag to the crematorium,* recalls Erich Lichtblau. Terezin, 1943.



84-9

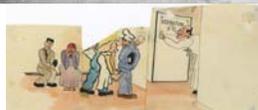
**Do not Build in the Goles (Goluth – Diaspora).** An inmate who about to be sent to the East, tells to a kumbal builder: Do not build in the Diaspora, there is no hope for the future. Kumbal is a small private compartment curved out from the attic areas, closets, and corners. Terezin, 1943.





84-26

**Doctors are Hungry too.** Because doctors are hungry too – a cook is always privileged. *With food everyone could get a privilege*, recalls Erich Lichtblau. Terezin, 1943.



84-57

**Encephalitis in the Ghetto. Medical Vision Test.** Erich Lichtblau recalls: *I heard that this infectious and nervous disease was transferred by an SS-man. He contracted it in the Middle East: he was wounded there and then transferred to Theresienstadt.* On the picture a physician tests the ill person by holding his finger in front of his eyes. Terezin, 1944.



84-24

**Encounter of the Carriages.** The Arian (non-Jewish) carriage meets the Jewish carriage. A horse pulls the Aryan carriage, whilst the Jewish one is pulled by a Jewish man. Terezin, 1943.



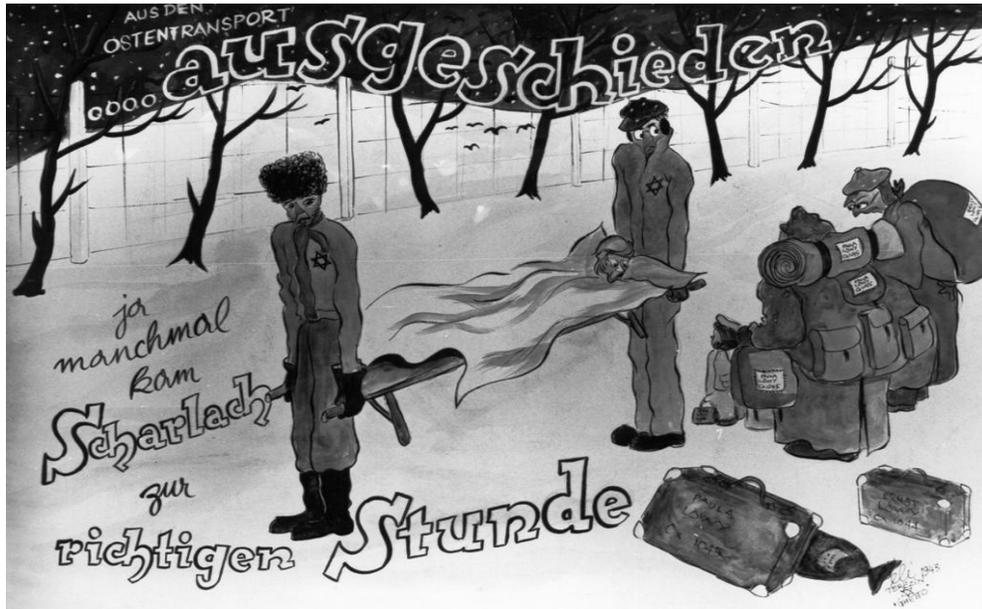
84-44

**Everyone's Dream: Privacy in his/her own Closet/Compartment [Kumbal in Czech].** Sign at the right corner: **Yes, a Kumbalist is Better Off.** Erich Lichtblau recalls: *This was only possible for the owner of a so-called Kumbal. These compartments, carved out of the attic areas, closets, and corners were about eight square feet. Usually there were three wall made of stolen boards, nailed together, and covered with sheets and blankets.* Terezin, 1943.



84-10

**Exclusion from the Transport.** Sometimes scarlet fever came at the right time, instead of being deported one would be put in a hospital. Terezin, 1943.



84-52

**Father is Stealing, Son is Stealing.** Children learned from their fathers to *schleusst* – how to steal from the common property. “*Schleussing*” was a survival tactic. Terezin, undated.



84-1

**Ghettoized: Placards from the Ghetto Theresienstadt.** It opens the picture-story series. Terezin, 1943.



A gate to Theresienstadt and a gate to the Collection: in the background: the wall of the fortress Theresienstadt, the closed gate with the Jewish yellow star behind it, while swastika and the royal coat of arms are outside the gate, on the free side. A Nazi official stamp *Ghettoisiert* (Ghettoized), like a finalizing mark in the personal identification documents, concludes this placard. In a later edition, the author placed his name Eli (adopted after the war) over the royal coat of arms.

An introductory sign: *Plakate aus dem Ghetto Theresienstadt* opens up this Diary in Pictures.

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|       | Unsigned and not dated.  |
| 84-15 | <p><b>Good Morning Herr Doktor.</b> Dr. Karl Löwenstein* from Prussia, allegedly half-Jewish was appointed by the Nazis a commander of the <i>Ghettowache</i>, (Ghetto Guards) the Jewish Ghetto Watch, identified by their black hats with yellow ribbons. In the morning, the watchmen saluted: Good Morning Herr Doktor. Erich Lichtblau recalls: <i>He arrived in the ghetto together with other so-called prominent persons, like officers of the First World War who had earned the Distinguished Service Cross and so on. Dr. Löwenstein was appointed by the Germans as the Commander of the Ghetto Guards, so-called Ghettowache. The guardsmen had only to keep order inside the ghetto. They wore black hats with yellow ribbons with the sign GW. For a short time, they also got blue shirts. Dr. Löwenstein held military training for the guardsmen on the bastions. When he arrived the guardsmen stood in attention</i></p> |



greeting him: *Guten Morgen Herr Doktor*. Terezin, 1943.



\*Karl Löwenstein was a high-ranking German officer in the First World War and aid-de-camp to the German crown prince. Appointed the head of the Ghetto Guards he created a sort of “Praetorian Guards” from this group. Calling himself the chief of police he introduced a Prussian style military drills for the guardsmen: to stand in attention, saluting, marching, to fall out in formation, and to parade in goose step. He was eventually replaced when the Germans discovered what he was doing. (Norbert Troller, *Theresienstadt: Hitler’s Gift to the Jews*, edited by Joel Shatzky (Chapel Hill and London: The University of North Carolina Press, 1991), 66, 168: note 3.

84-14

**Grandma’s Handluggage for the Journey to the East.** A young man is a transport aid (*Transport Hilfe*). Erich Lichtblau recalls: *There was a group of young people, they helped to carry the luggage. Mostly the old took too much luggage to the train, then, after the train departed, a lot of their luggage remained behind.* Terezin, 1944.



84-38

**Hambo, the Singer.** Singer Hambo arrived with the Danish transport. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *He sang falsetto and was able to change his voice into a deep bass. I remember he sang a song, "I am dying, I am dying," but the refrain was cynical: tralala, tralala, tralala.* Terezin, 1943.



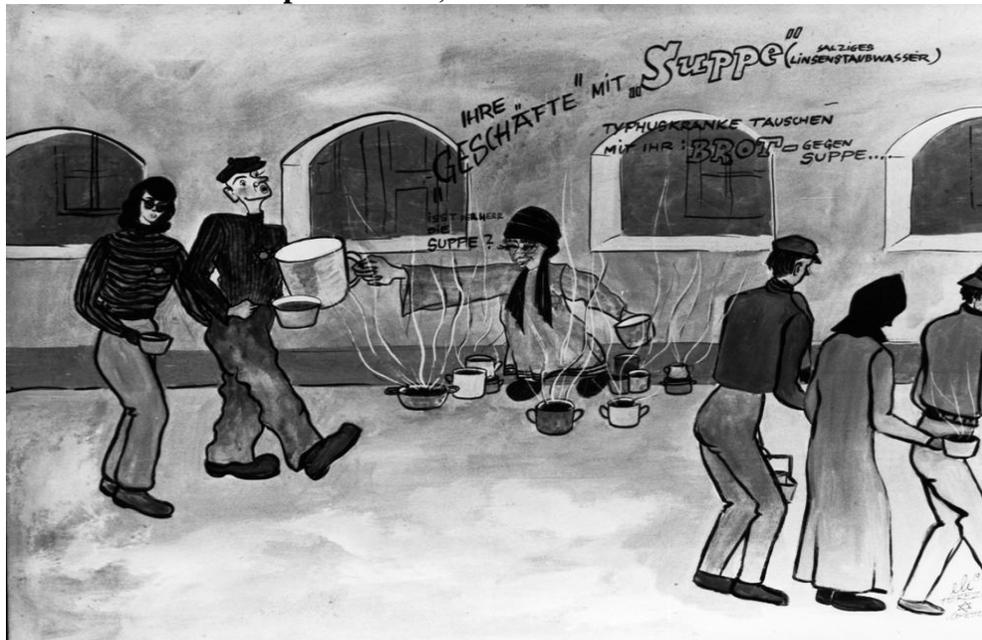
84-35

**Head Count: You Have to be Counted. Children and Old People First.** Terezin, 1943.



84-49

**Her Business with Soup: Salty Lenses with Dusty Water under it. Typhoid Patients Trade with her Bread for Soup. She Asks: “Sir do You Want some Soup?”** Terezin, 1943.



84-40

**Impetigo in the Ghetto.** Many people caught this infectious skin disease because of the bugs, lice, filth, and unsanitary conditions. A caricatural Terezin Coat of Arms is in the background. Terezin, 1943.



84-27

**In Beth Halutzoth – in the Hamburg Barracks, Room No. 305.** Room 305, in the House of Halutzim, officially in the Hamburg Barracks, was home for Else Lichtblau (Elsa Leskly) and 25 other Jewish women. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *Every Friday evening there was Oneg Shabbat. They young people sang Hebrew songs and they learned Hebrew language. They lived with the dream to go after the liberation to Palestine.* Terezin, 1943.



84-48

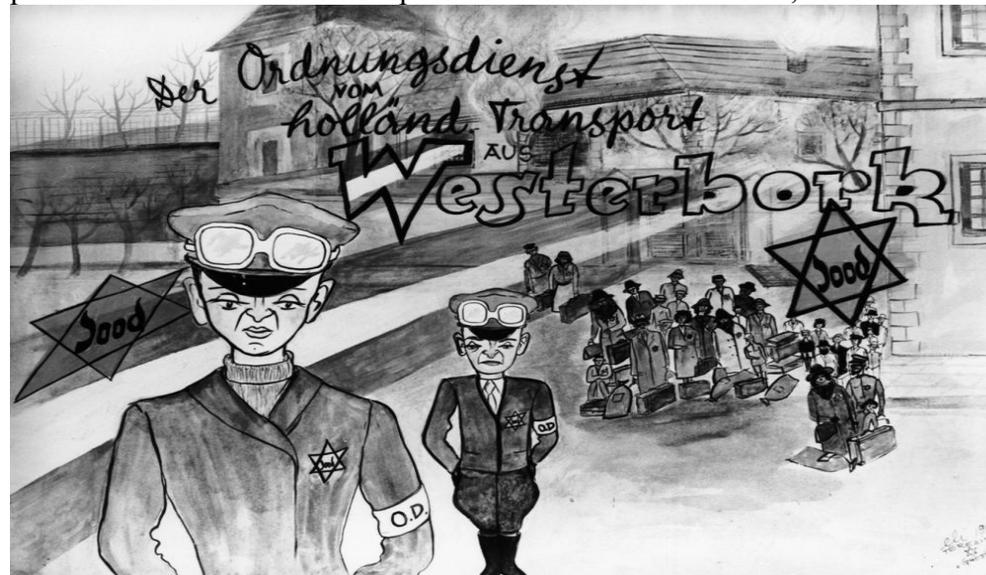
**Jewish Antisemite in the Ghetto. The Dumb Bird (*Gelbstern*) or Yellow Star Befouls his own Nest.** Sign on the cage: **Jewish Settlement Area in Theresienstadt.** Leskly's satire refers to those Jews who thought they could save themselves from the Nazis by departing from Jewry and even

becoming antisemites themselves. In addition, he comments on the fact that Terezin had its own Jewish ghetto police, some members of which were infamous for their brutality. *We had in the Ghetto also police spies, like everywhere to watch their own people,* recalls Erich Lichtblau. Terezin, 1943.



84-23

**Jewish Order Police from the Westerbork Camp Transport.** A group of Jewish deportees is transferred to Theresienstadt from Westerbork Concentration Camp. It is not clear if these Jewish deportees were the Dutch Jews or they were deported from other European countries through Westerbork transit camp. Two Jewish policemen are seen on the foreground. They wear goggles over their military caps. Apparently, these policemen came with the transport from Westerbork. Terezin, 1943.



84-47

**Leisure Activity.** The Nazis called work in the ghetto a free time activity.

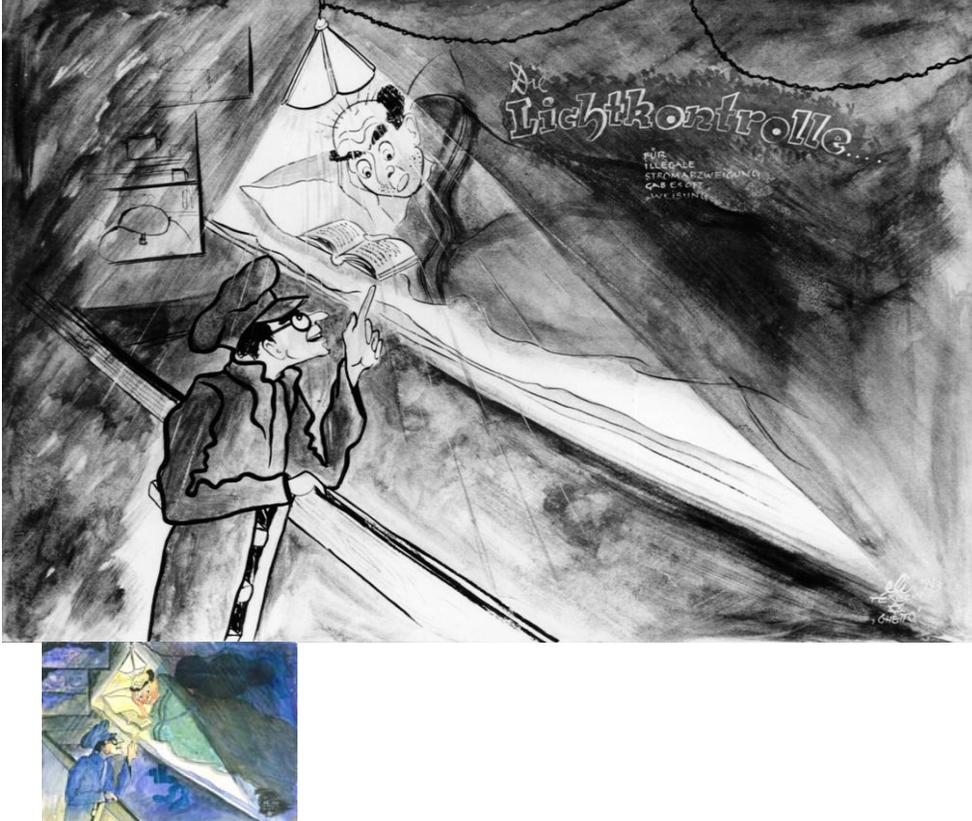
In reality, everything aside of work was a free time activity. The level of arts performance in Terezin was extremely high since many of fines artist, writers, and musicians from all over Europe were deported to this ghetto. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *We also had artists actors who played on improvised stages in attics or in courtyards to amuse the inhabitants of the ghetto in their free time. They called themselves Freizeitgestaltung and they were the real workers of the ghetto.* Terezin, 1945.



84-31

**Let Me Smoke a Bit.** If anyone obtained a cigarette, he was obliged to share it with many others. A single cigarette was being passed from mouth to mouth, puff after puff. *The Czech Jews said: 'Dej Mi Šluka' that means Let Me Smoke a Little Bit,* recalls Erich Lichtblau. Terezin, 1943.

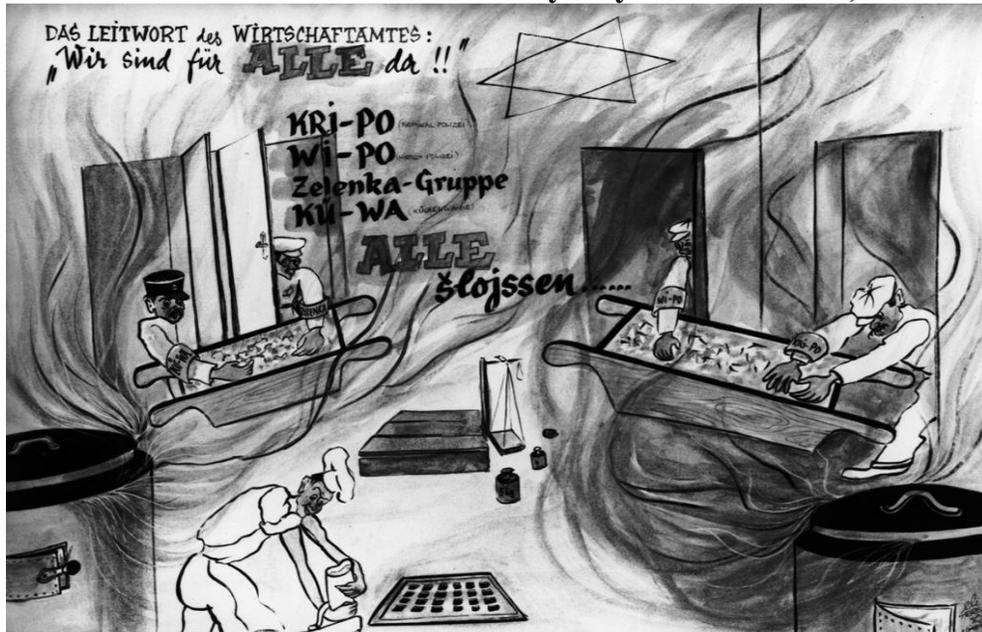


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| 84-43 | <p><b>Light Control.</b> With only one light bulb per room, inmates installed illegal temporary electrical lines. Terezin, 1943.</p>   |
| 84-30 | <p><b>Lunch Time in Beth Halutzoth.</b> Cooking in the Women Zionist Barracks during the lunch break. Erich Lichtblau recalls: <i>There lived also my wife Else together with another 25 women in one room. There was also a stove where one could warm up one's cold soup, if there was a fire.</i> Terezin, 1943.</p> |



84-61

**Mission of the Economic Department: We Are Here to Serve Everyone.** Sign in the center: **KRI-PO** – Criminal Police; **WI-PO** – Economic Police; **Zelenka Group** [people who worked for Frantisek Zelenka, the director and stage designer of the Terezin Theater]; **KU-WA** – Kitchen Guard. Bottom line: **Everybody Steals.** Terezin, 1944.



84-4

**My First Night in the Ghetto: Overcrowded. You Need Vitamin P (Protection).** Erich Lichtblau and his wife Else were deported to Theresienstadt in November 1942. Erich Lichtblau later recalls: *On the picture you can see myself lying on the floor. I was sick with high fever. All the wooden bunks were occupied. I found no place to sleep. In the morning somebody said to me: "To obtain beds you need the vitamin 'P', a privilege. The old man in the white coat was a physician in charge. The German caption Uberbelag translates as overcrowded. Terezin, 1942.*



84-7

**Night Quietness in Beth Halutzoth (Hannover Barracks).** *Nočni Klid.* This caption in Czech translates as silence, it is nighttime. *We Halutzim,* recalls Erich Lichtblau, *lived together in the room. On the picture you can see the room No. 73A in the barracks of Hannoverkassernen. In the center there is a table with a bench where Herr Doktor Grünbaum from Moravia played chess. It is a nighttime and somebody may say: Nočni Klid that means Silence, it is a nighttime. Terezin, 1943.*



8-42

**Not Enough Water –too Many Ghetto Inmates [Sudeten Barracks].** Washing was possible only during the hours set by the ghetto administration. Terezin, 1943.



84-12

**Obligatory Salute and Forbidden Cigarettes.** Obligated to salute to SS-men by tipping his hat a Jewish inmate reveals the contraband cigarettes hidden under it. Erich Lichtblau refers a ghetto-story to this picture: *This ghetto guardsman had some cigarettes given to him by a Jewish prisoner deported to the East. The poor man was too frightened to take these cigarettes on his last journey and he gave them in the last moment to the*

Ghetto guard who kept them under his hat. On his way back from the railway station he met an SS man whom he was obliged to salute by raising his hat, thus the cigarettes fell out off his hat. For this crime he was beaten up and punished by deportation with the next transport to the East.



Terezin, 1943.

84-54

**One Can Look into the Stomach. The Brought in Food Reserves are Running Low.** Erich Lichtblau recalls: *Everyone still had a little food in their luggage. Although no cooking was officially allowed in the room, people smuggled in electric cookers. Inmates found a dark corner where they could use them.* Terezin, 1944.



84-33

**Only for Hard Workers Rations are Added.** Workers assigned to hard physical labor were entitled to additional rations. *The women distributing soup used a mini spoon, recalls Erich Lichtblau. Terezin, 1944.*



84-56

**Permit Stamp for 10 kilo Packages from Friends and Relatives..., but only a few got Packages.** Erich Lichtblau explains, *it was not ordinary for other ghettos to receive packages from the outside world. In Theresienstadt, it was possible to get food parcels from family members and friends who lived in the outside world. Relatives had to get a permit-stamp. Having obtained such stamp, they could dispatch a gift parcel directed to the post office in the ghetto. Despite family and friends could send up to 10-kilo packages, only few inmates receive them. Terezin, 1943.*



84-17

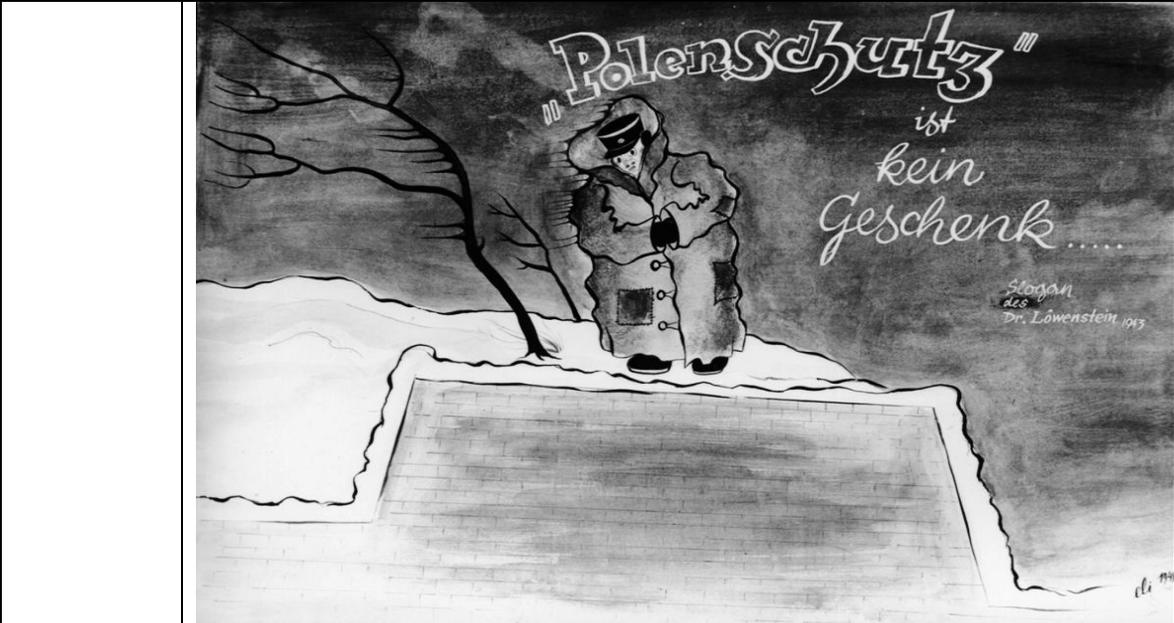
**Planks [Slojs in Czech] for a Kumbal [a private closet or compartment).** Regular ghetto barracks had concrete floors and often

three levels of bunks. In search for privacy everyone tried to get some planks to build a kumbal for one or two persons. Erich Lichtblau describes: *He organizes planks for his Kumbal. A Czech gendarme deliberately turned his back to the scene. A short Jewish guardsman observes but takes no action. Kumbal is a Czech word. It is a small room. Here in the ghetto it means a small private bedroom for one or two persons. There are so-called Kumbalists in the ghetto. They were lucky to live alone behind a board partition.* Terezin, 1943.



84-16

**Polenschutz or Protection from Deportation to Poland is not a Privilege.** Quotation of Dr. Löwenstein who was in charge of the Ghetto Guards. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *Polenschutz ist kein Geschenk, or Not to be sent to Poland is no privilege, used to say Dr. Löwenstein. He demanded the utmost fulfillment of duty, but his guardsmen were also sent like other people for punishment to Poland. The SS also discovered their contacts with the Czech gendarmes. I heard Dr. Löwenstein survived. I do not know what his fate was after liberation.* Terezin, 1942.



84-3

**Prague is Free of Jews.** *Prag ist Judenfrei*—there is no Jews in Prague. Erich Lichtblau (Leskly) comments: *The Czech Jews were good patriots. Many of them had a leitmotif “Our Zion is Prague.” The Czech Jews loved their president Tomáš Masaryk and their Republic. Terezin, 1943.*



84- 55

**Prisoner’s Disease.** The man lost weight because of malnutrition in the ghetto, the woman’s face is bloated because of the ghetto conditions; her glands were not functioning properly. Physicians called it a ghetto disease. Terezin, 1943.

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| 84-29 | <p><b>Return after Disinfection. Only a <i>Cvok</i> [in Czech a ‘nail’] pays with the ghetto money.</b> Ghetto currency with the likeness of Moses and the Ten Commandments was printed and signed by Jacob Edelstein – Elder of the Jews. In the picture-story the newly arrived man tips a younger man with “Moses Crowns” for the clothes received after disinfection. Erich Lichtblau recalls: <i>They issued a ghetto currency with Moses and Ten Commandments on one side. The bill note was signed by Jacob Edelstein, the Judenaltester, the head of the Judenrat. Terezin, 1943.</i></p> |



84-11

**Risky Apple-Stealing or Schleussing [Organizing Apples].** Penalty was deportation to the East. Terezin, 1943.



84-32

**Rumors (Bonke) by Latrine B IV. Sign next to the Door: After Defecation, Before Eating, Don't Forget to Wash Your Hands.** In German: *Nach dem kacken vor dem essen – Hände waschen nicht vergessin.* Erich Lichtblau recalls: *The news originated mostly in the latrine BIV. There, men were sitting side-by-side telling stories. One could see an old man sitting near the basin with chlorinated water. Everyone had to disinfect his hands before leaving the latrine.* Terezin, 1943.



84-45

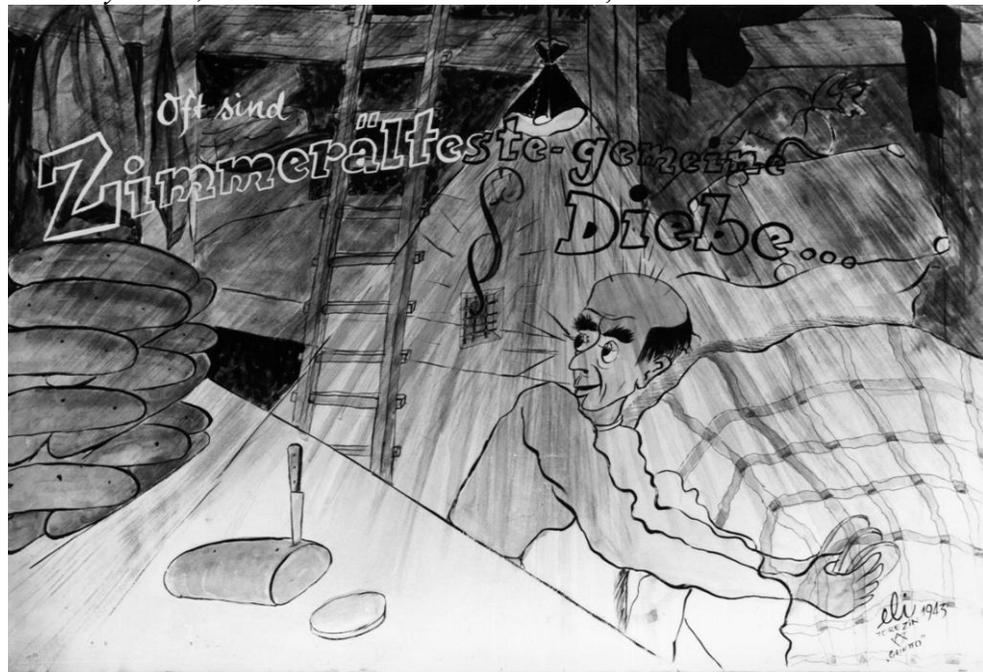
**Schleusst und Stiehlt is not the same.** When two individuals in the ghetto are allegedly doing something of the same nature, it is, in fact, not the same: one is engaged in **Schleusst** [also 'organizing on ghetto jargon] (stealing) from the common property, while another individual steals from a colleague (**Stiehlt**). According to the unofficial ghetto rules 'organizing' was a morally accepted survival tactic, while being a thief to your ghetto-fellow was immoral. Terezin, 1943.



84-53

**Senior Inmates often were disgusting Thieves.** They pitched others' rations. *They were real thieves. Because stealing from somebody's ration*

was very mean, recall Erich Lichtblau. Terezin, 1943.



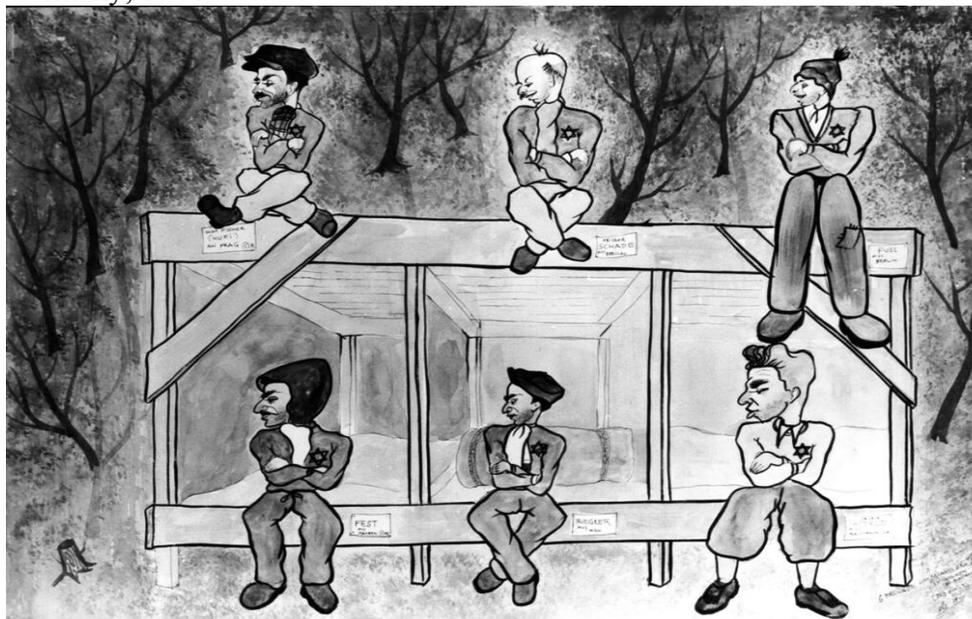
84-67

**Shared Joy is Double Joy [Geteilte Freude – Doppelte Freude]. 10 kilo packages are coming [with the permit-stamp], but not for everyone.** This sign serves as a reminder to those receiving parcels not to forget their less fortunate fellow inmates. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *It was rare that anybody received an unopened parcel without something missing.* Terezin, 1945.



84-71

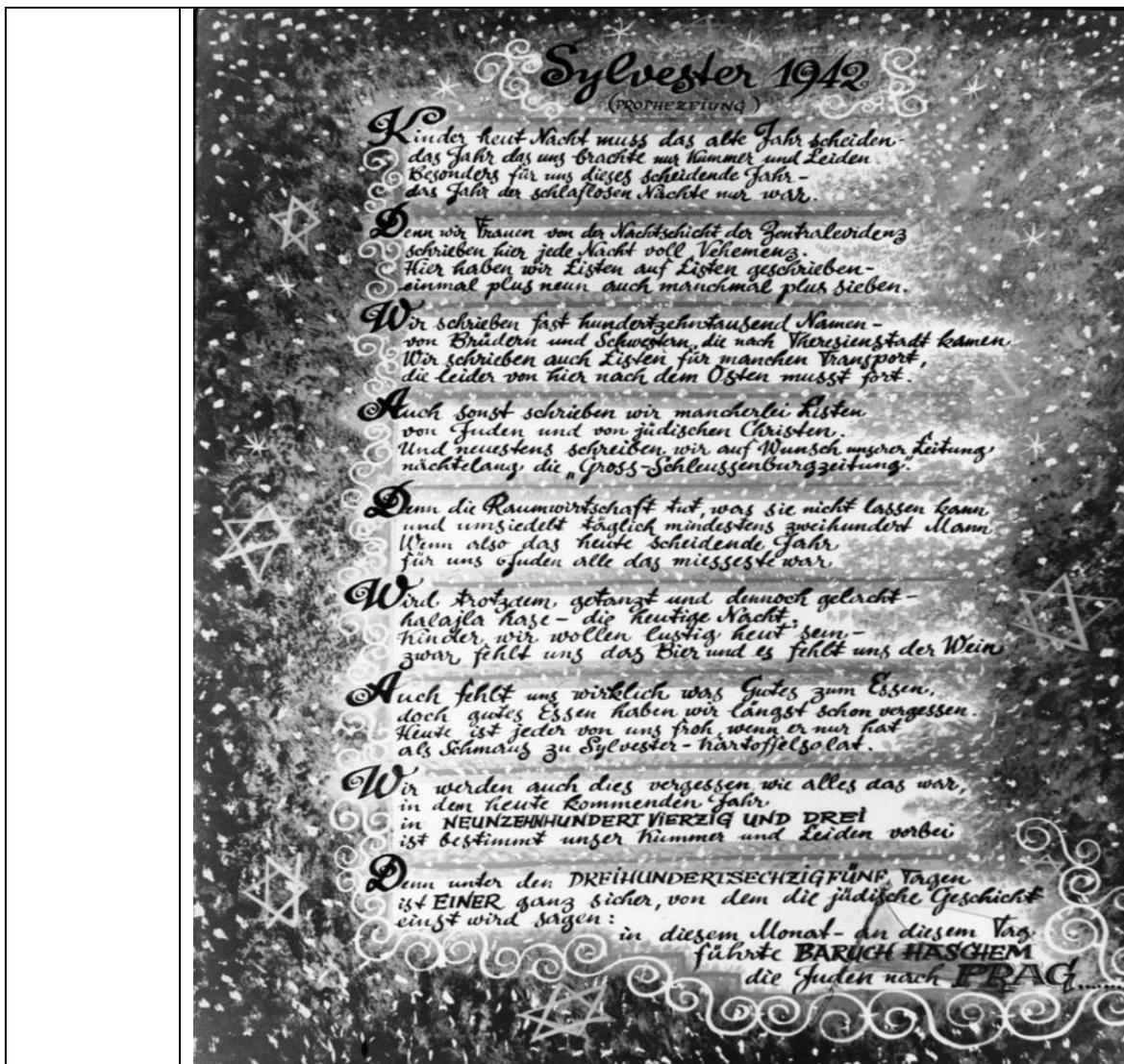
**Six Companions. Barrack builders from the Wulkow transport. They are on a secret construction site at Wulkow, Germany. From August 1944 until February 1945 they built a secret get away quarters for high Nazi officials in case of the Nazi defeat.** Erich Lichtblau recalls: *There were six friends of mine in building-detail: Hugo Fischer from Prague, barber Schade from Breslau, Fuss from Berlin, Fest from Moravia, Reiger from Vienna, and barber Paperle from Moravska Ostrava. After the war, I met only Paperle in Israel. I never saw again the other friends Wulkow, Germany, 1944.*



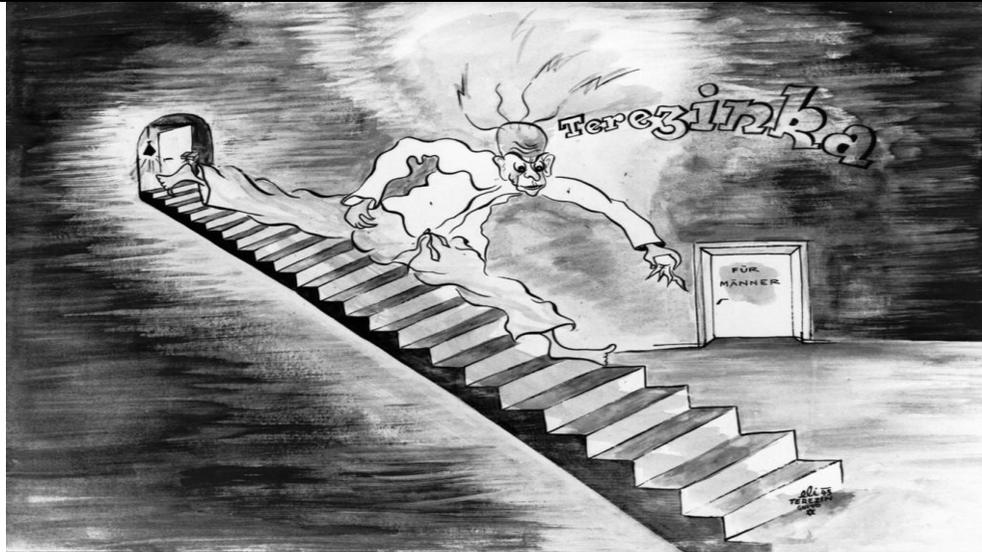
84-F57

**Sketches and small-size artworks created by Eli Leskly (Erich Lichtblau) in the Ghetto Theresienstadt in 1942-1945, as well as after the war. A number of these artworks are duplicates. There are 57 original sketches and immediate postwar artworks in the Museum**

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|       | <b>Collection.</b>  |
| 84-50 | <p><b>Smuggling Flowers into the Ghetto or <i>Verbotenes Grün</i>.</b> This picture-story depicts a female ghetto-laborer carrying field flowers under her coat into the ghetto. Erich Lichtblau recalls: <i>It was forbidden to keep flowers at home or cut them, but people did that. Vegetables were also a valuable commodity to do business with in the ghetto.</i> Terezin, 1943.</p>    |
| 84-37 | <p><b>Sylvester 1942: New Year Eve Prophecy.</b> The last verse makes people believe that one day, next year (1943) the Jews led by G-D will return to Prague. The English-German translation sounds as follows:</p> <p><i>Because one of the coming 365 days<br/>Is surely the one, of which Jewish history will say in the future</i></p> <p><i>In this month, on that day<br/>Baruch Hashem, the Jews will be led to Prague.</i></p> <p>Overall, authorship of the poem is ascribed to Erich Lichtblau. There is a reference to an unknown woman as to a probable author of this poem. This reference comes from Erich Lichtblau's recollections.</p> <p>Terezin, December 1942.</p> |



84-21 Terezinka – a Ghetto Disease. Paratyphoid was a common disease in the ghetto. After staying there for short time only, almost everybody got it, recalls Erich Lichtblau. Terezin, 1943.



84-70

**The Camp Commander Ridicules: Prisoner Breuer in a Parrot Cage. Barrack Construction Site in Wulkow.** This picture-story was created in the early 1980s in Israel. The watercolor does not have its sketch prototype of the Terezin time. Here, Leskly recreates his experience in the Wulkow labor camp, Germany. *The SS commander of the camp liked to humiliate our friend Breuer by forcing him in the big parrot-cage. It was a punishment. Before that the cage was used for the SS-men's parrots.* Wulkow, Germany, 1944. Created in the early 1980s in Israel



84-34

**The New Order Service (Jewish Police): "No Pushing Please." The**

**Jewish Order Policeman: “This is Defamation of a Civil Servant on Duty.”** The person in the line responds: **Idiot.** Erich Lichtblau recalls: *At the time of ration allocation, a special ghetto guard from the Ordnungsdienst (Jewish Police) supervised food distribution. His duty was to avoid excessive pushing. He did this by decisively pushing back the people nearly causing them to fall, and at the same time kindly saying: ‘Do not push, please.’* Terezin, 1944.



84-66

**The Operetta in Three Acts: The Ghetto Girl.** On the sign: **Today (parody) play for the older Ghetto inmates (two casts).** Sign between the dancers: *Lovely Little Ghetto Girl –Please Give Me Some Love.* The left sign over the door: **Hospital Hohenelbe.** Cultural activities in the ghetto helped to sustain hope and humanity. Erich Lichtblau recalls: *After the deportation of the Jewish ghetto guards to Poland, one of the inmates, a composer, wrote a musical **The Ghetto Girl.** The plot was about a young ghetto guard who fell in love with a ghetto girl. The story had a happy end.* In reality, Lichtblau’s picture-story reflects ironically and gloomily on this kind of entertainment. On the stage an elderly couple sings the Ghetto Girl song: *Dear Little Ghetto Girl Please Give Me Some Love.* Terezin, 1944.



84-59

**The Red Cross is Coming: A Happy Ghetto.** Erich Lichtblau created a special picture-series about the preparation to the Red Cross Visitation of Theresienstadt. The slogan on this picture reflects Nazi deception of a “Happy Ghetto.” It reads as follows: *A Happy Ghetto with Young People in the Streets, while Old and Ill Were Placed Under House Arrest.* The sign on the bucket: *Putzkolonnie – cleaning detail.* Terezin, 1944.



84-60

**The Red Cross is Coming: Beautified Decorated and Phony.** Erich Lichtblau recalls: *Everything was decorated for the Red Cross Inspection.*

The town square that before saw only military parades had been transformed into a garden with a musical stage and performances were scheduled. The ghetto was decorated with flowers, cafes opened, and soccer games organized. Because the Nazis forbade children education, they put signs on the school-buildings: **Temporary Closed for Vacation**. A dentist office is seen in the background. The sign above the shop reads: **Repair Shop for Dental Prosthesis**. Sign at the door: **Repair Receipt from 8:00 to 16:00**. Sign on the window: **Keep Your Mouth and Teeth Well**. Terezin, 1944.

8



84-62

**The Red Cross is Coming: Dining Room.** It was shown to the gentlemen of the Red Cross: the dining room in the barrack. The Ghetto was beautified. Eli Leskley recalls: *Especially for the commission of the Red Cross, the SS ordered to provide a dining hall for old people, there were also waiters – all this was a performance. For the outside world the SS made a film. I saw it some years ago at the kibbutz Givat Chaim.* Terezin, 1944.



84-28

**Three Kings in the Ghetto. Cook, Baker, and Pastry Baker.** They never were hungry. *The food was the most valuable commodity, recall Erich Lichtblau. Terezin, 1943.*



84-5

**Transport Leader Mandler Ghettoized and Beaten by the Ghetto Inmates.** Perhaps the Jews from the Transport did not forget his role as the *transportleiter*. Terezin, 1943.



84-8

**Transport Sorrows.** There was rarely enough time for packing in one-hour time before departure to the East... Title variant: **Ordered to the Ostentransport (transport to the East).** Terezin, 1943.



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