

April 30, 1976

Esther Przeworski Pratt  
115 North Doheny  
Los Angeles Calif. 90048

Ms. Diane Spevack  
c/o Herzl School,  
1039 So La Cienega Blvd.,  
Los Angeles, Calif. 90035

Dear Ms. Spevack:

With reference to our yesterday's telephone conversation I am submitting to you the following:

I was born in Czestochowa, Poland. I graduated law from the Universty in Warsaw, capital of Poland, and was a practicing attorney in Czestochowa, Poland.

After the German invasion of Poland I , together with my entire family was confined in the ghetto of Czestochowa, and after the liquidation of the ghetto, when fifty thousand Jews perished, I was taken as a slave labourer to an ammunition factory in the city where I worked for 2½ years.

From there I was taken to concentration camps Ravensbruck and Dachau ( Kaufering V - Burgau-Turkheim - a branch of Dachau for women).

I am one of the very few Jewish women-lawyers from Poland who survived the horrors of concentration camps.

On April 29, 1945 I was liberated in Turkheim, West Germany by t the American Army.

For 5 years after the liberation I acted in various capacities, such as attorney, public prosecutor or judge in Displaced Persons camps Landsberg am Lech and Munich, West Germany.

In March of 1946 I I attended the Nurnberger trials and in summer of 1949 I was a key witness and expert in the Hasag Pelcery case (this was the munition factory where I worked as a slave laborer) in Leipzig, East Germany. Because of my depositions five of the defendants received <sup>life</sup> ~~life~~ sentences.

In 1946 I organised an Yiskor for the fifty thousand Jewish victims from Czestochowa. The Yiskor took place in the DP Camp Landsberg am Lech, Bavaria and was attended by 1200 survivors from US and British zones.

I arrived in New York in December 1949 and in 1955 I became an American citizen.

I lost during the Holocaust the following closest relatives: father Icek Mendel Epstein, mother , Frajjdla Hinda, both perished

in gas chambers of Treblinka, Poland; my oldest brother Jakub Epstein, his wife Gutka together with their children, a son  $4\frac{1}{2}$  years old and daughter  $2\frac{1}{2}$  were executed together with others on the Jewish cemetery in Czestochowa where they were buried in a mass grave.

Another brother, Natan Epstein, was gurn alive together with six hundred inmates in a barn during the transportation from concentration camp Dora, a branch of Buchenwald.

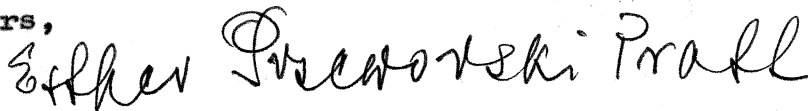
My youngest brother, Mayer David Epstein was shot by a German soldier in Czestochowa.

Surviving is only my sister Tamara, presently in Los Angeles, who went through the same concentration camps with me.

For the last 24 years I am active in the 1939 Club, a charitable organization consisting of more than 600 Holocaust survivors from Poland, of which I am past president, member of the advisory board and editor of the 1939 Club Newsletter.

Looking forward to meet you and the children,

Sincerely yours,



Esther Przeworski Pratt