

March 21, 1984

Paul R. Greenberg
450 North Roxbury Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Dear Mr. Greenberg:

On April 15, 1984 we are going to open the Leskly exhibition, which you and Ilan Leskly so graciously donated to the Martyrs Memorial and Museum of the Holocaust.

This will indeed be a unique event. As a historian, I cannot comment on the artistic significance of the material. However, from a historical point of view, there is no doubt that we have one of the most important and rare collections of Holocaust documentation. One of the tragic aspects of the Holocaust was that the Jewish people were wiped out and nothing was left behind to show for it. Only on rare occasions did Jews who lived through these terrible times understand the importance of leaving some trace behind, whether in the form of a diary, photographs and sometimes even art. It is thanks to these few and the testimonies given after the Holocaust by survivors that we, the historians can reconstruct the catastrophic events.

Erich Leskly is one of these few people who, at the time, realized the enormity of the events they lived through and documented them in the best way he knew - he sketched them. He later had to hide them and cut them, but whatever was left and reconstructed remains as an authentic documentation of the lives of Jewish people in the Ghetto of Terezin.

On behalf of the Martyrs Memorial and Museum of the Holocaust, we wish to express our deep appreciation for this most important and valuable addition to our collection.

Sincerely,

Shalmi Barmore
Director

SB:lrs