

# TEREZÍN MEMORIAL

Annual Report

# 2008

PAMÁTNÍK TEREZÍN



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Annual Report for 2008



Terežín, March 2009



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## INTRODUCTION

When looking back at the year 2008, we may claim that – despite a concurrence of risk factors that had appeared during the year as a result of global economic developments – the staff of the Terezín Memorial managed to meet all their key stipulated goals, both in the care for the entrusted monuments and in organizing acts of remembrance, research and educational programs on the Nazi repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice during the country's German occupation in World War II. The results of the Memorial's economic management in the past year proved to be good as well.

Just as in the past, in 2008 too, we devoted our attention to commemorating the suffering of all the victims of the cruel Nazi regime. Held on May 18, 2008, the chief act of remembrance of the year in this country – the Terezín Commemoration was attended by the Czech Republic's high-ranking officials, led by Dr. Přemysl Sobotka, Speaker of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, who also delivered a keynote speech at the event. Speaking on behalf of the former inmates, the gathering was addressed by Anděla Dvořáková, Chairwoman of the Central Committee of the Czech Union of Freedom Fighters, by Mons. Karel Havelka, the General Vicar of the Litoměřice diocese, who gave an ecumenical address finished with a Christian prayer. This was followed by the Jewish prayers *El male rachamim* and *Kadish*, delivered – with his face turned to Jerusalem – by the Chief Rabbi of Prague and Bohemia Karol E. Sidon. Despite inclement weather, this gathering was attended by many officials of the foreign diplomatic corps, former inmates and many other people from all over the country. However, last year's commemorative acts attended by the Terezín Memorial personnel began several months earlier at the annual meeting on the occasion of the International Day Honoring Holocaust Victims held in the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic on January 27, 2008. This event brought together a number of personalities of the Czech public life, the main speech being delivered by Czech Prime Minister Mirek Topolánek.

Also last year saw a commemorative rally marking the Yom ha-Shoah memorial day. This gathering, held on April 30, 2008, included the reading of another one hundred names of the Jews deported to Terezín, as a reminder of the individual human destinies hiding behind the statistics on the victims of the Nazi atrocities against the Jews. The Chief Rabbi of Prague and Bohemia Karol E. Sidon then addressed the meeting, and read – at its end – a *Kadish* prayer.

Held on May 2, 2008, a rally marking the last execution carried out in the Gestapo Police Prison in the Small Fortress in WWII was attended by officials of the Czech Union of Freedom Fighters, representatives of the City of Terezín, the Ústí Region and the general public. Another major event, staged on Friday, June 27, 2008, was a rally commemorating the execution of Dr. Milada Horáková by the former communist regime in Czechoslovakia. This was participated in by a delegation of the Confederation of Political Prisoners, officials of the City of Terezín and other citizens. Later in the year, the memory of Dr. Milada Horáková was also honored at her commemorative plaque

in the Memorial Hall in the Small Fortress in Terezín (formerly “Krankenrevier”) on December 22, on the eve of the anniversary of her birthday.

Of long-standing tradition is the Kever Avot commemoration, an event honoring the memory of the start of the deportation of Jews from the Czech lands and their victims during the Holocaust. This event, co-organized by the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic and the Prague Jewish Community, has been held at the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery annually since 1946, always on Sunday, one week before the most significant Jewish holiday: the New Year or Rosh Hashanah. This time, the former Terezín Ghetto inmates, members of the Jewish communities, and other guests met on September 21, 2008. The overall numbers of regular participants have been declining in recent years, and that is why the event is also turning into an act of remembrance for those who could no longer come. But the number of last year’s visitors was higher than usual. We may assume this rise was partly due to the fact that the results of two Terezín Memorial projects were presented during the event. The first one involved some of the measures aimed at eliminating the aftermath of the catastrophic flooding in 2002. This includes the dying away of the Tree of the Terezín Ghetto Children, which became world famous in the past as a symbol of the fate of the youngest Ghetto inmates during the war. The dead trunk of the tree has been impregnated and a new rootstock, grown in the Memorial’s garden, was planted next to it. The outcome of another project was the installation of a new sculpture by the Israeli artist Kirill Postovit, which supplemented and highlighted the memorial site at the river Ohře, where the ashes of the 22,000 Ghetto victims had been thrown into the river at the end of the war.

The last act of remembrance in 2008 occurred on October 16. This date is associated with two major events. Back in 1941, that day saw the start of the deportations of the Czech Jews, with transports heading first to the ghettos in Lodž and Minsk, followed by deportations to Terezín. On October 16, 1944, a transport was dispatched from the Terezín Ghetto, taking to Auschwitz many personalities of Terezín’s cultural life, musicians in particular. These two sad anniversaries were marked at a preview of an exhibition of the works by Mrs. Eva Melnik-Kellermann called “Greetings from Israel”.

Throughout the year, the individual Departments of the Terezín Memorial were busy discharging their routine tasks. For their part, the Department of Collections and the Department of Documentation paid priority attention to digitizing their collections, a process which is expected to be completed by the end of 2010. The Memorial’s lively research program was duly reflected in its output – in publications. It was successful in organizing educational programs and acts of remembrance, in promotional and publishing work, while providing well for its technical and logistic operations.

Unfortunately, the Terezín Memorial also came into the public eye in connection with a rather unpleasant event. The brass plates bearing the names of the buried victims had been stolen from the graves in the National Cemetery. True to say, the culprits were eventually apprehended but the repair of the damage has proved to be quite complex. This shocking theft has also made it imperative to introduce costly safety precautions to prevent repetition of such acts of vandalism in the future. Lighting fixtures and a security camera system facilitating non-stop monitoring of both areas

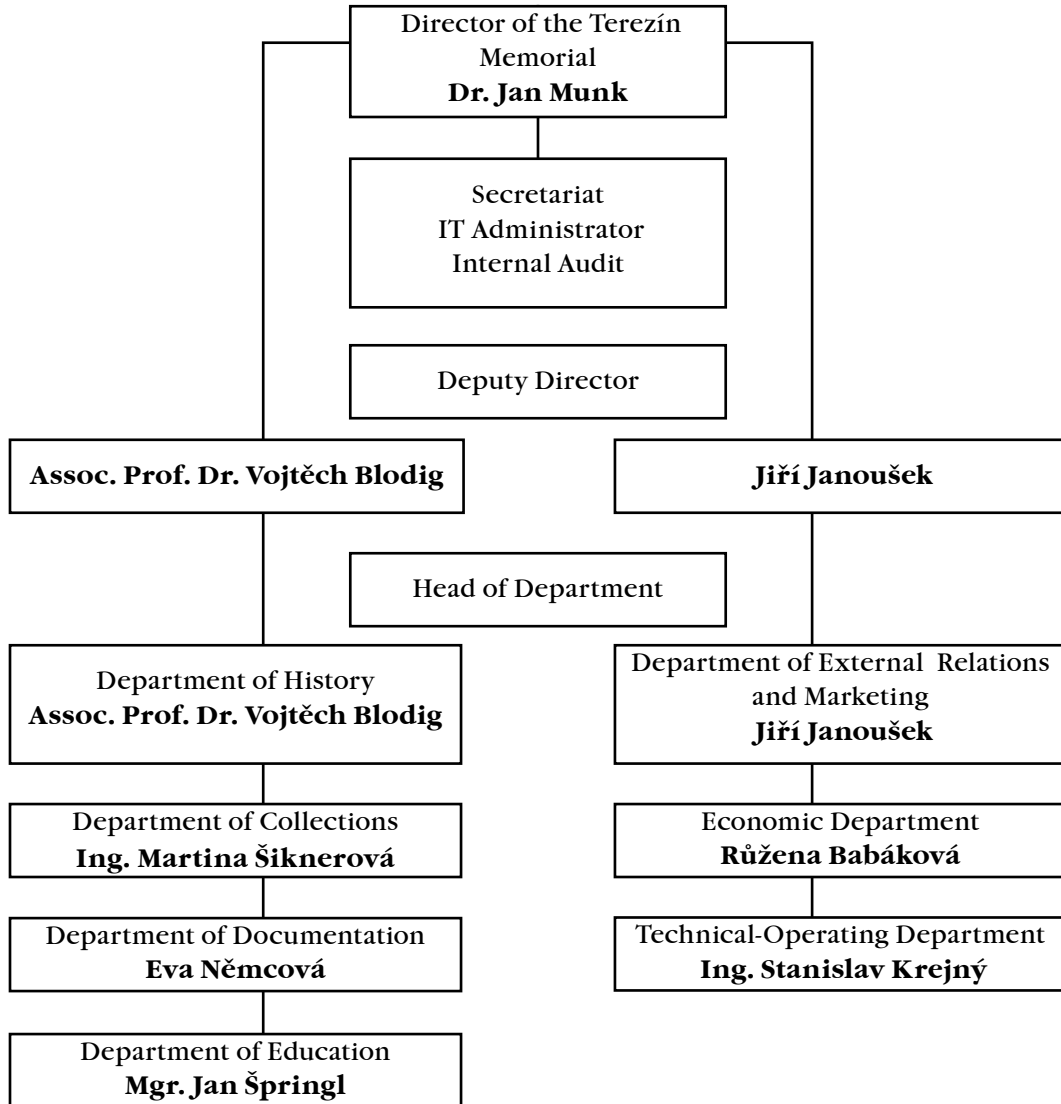
have been installed in the premises of the National and Jewish Cemeteries. As a result, this despicable theft, which caused public outrage in the Czech Republic and abroad, has eventually led to the installation of a better security system in both areas, mostly thanks to the assistance of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic. Viewed in this context, it is appropriate to mention primarily the wave of popular support and solidarity with the Memorial caused by the theft. Just like after the flood in 2002, the Terezín Memorial received, in addition to generous gifts from companies and institutions, also many minor donations from individuals who had wanted to respond to this act of disrespect for the memory of the victims of Nazi persecution. Public support that we feel at such moments is a great boost and motivation for our work, pursued together with our colleagues in meeting the tasks of the Terezín Memorial.

Due to reasons mentioned above, the number of visitors to the Terezín Memorial fell in 2008 roughly by six percent, and a marked drop is expected to occur this year as well. This naturally highly aggravates the current economic situation since developments in the number of visitors constitute an economic factor affecting the Memorial's possibilities to cope with its current tasks both in terms of reconstruction and restoration as well as publishing and exhibition projects.

In spite of that, we are prepared to do our utmost in discharging the tasks facing the Terezín Memorial in the coming year as well. Our collateral lies in the quality and dedicated work of all our employees. I highly appreciate that work, and would like to convey my heartfelt thanks for it to all, just as for the support provided by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic as well as by our friends and colleagues at home and abroad.

Dr. Jan Munk  
Director of the Terezín Memorial

## STRUCTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION



## THE TEREZÍN MEMORIAL AND ITS SERVICES TO VISITORS

The Terezín Memorial represents a unique institution of its kind in the Czech Republic. Its primary mission is to preserve the memory of the victims of racial and political persecution during wartime Nazi occupation, while promoting their heritage and message among the general public through its own museological and educational activities. Its other tasks include the upkeep of the memorial sites that had witnessed the suffering of dozens of thousands of people in the years of World War II.

[1] The objects and memorial sites administered by the Terezín Memorial constitute a unique museum complex, which is annually visited by hundreds of thousands of people. It also features some genuine highlights of Europe's fortification engineering in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century attracting the visitors. But an absolute majority of them come to see the sites associated with the suffering and death of more than 200,000 people deported from many countries during Nazi occupation.

The history of the repressive facilities in Terezín and in nearby Litoměřice is presented at a number of permanent and short-term exhibitions. Visitors are also free to see other objects and memorial sites connected with this tragic era of Czech history.

[2] For its part, the history of the Terezín Ghetto is traced primarily at the permanent exhibition, installed in the Ghetto Museum in the building of the former municipal school, and in many other follow-up displays housed in the former Magdeburg Barracks, in the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery, and in the Ghetto's former Central Mortuary. Among Terezín's other memorial sites, mention should definitely be made of the prayer room from the time of the Ghetto [3] in Dlouhá Street, the Ghetto's Columbarium, the memorial site on the bank of the Ohře where the ashes of the victims had been thrown into the river before the end of Nazi occupation, and a section of the local railroad siding. Still other memorial objects and sites are situated in many parts of the town as well.

[4] When visiting the Small Fortress, situated less than a kilometer from the town, tourists can view – in addition to the individual objects that served the Gestapo Police Prison during the war – many permanent and short-term exhibitions. Spreading in the foreground of the Small Fortress is the National Cemetery, this country's largest burial ground of the victims of Nazi occupation. That is why this is also the scene of the country's annual central acts of remembrance to honor the memory of the victims of Nazi repression.

[5] The Terezín Memorial administers the Crematorium of the former concentration camp in Litoměřice with its adjoining area, plus the entrance premises to two underground factories built by slave laborers from that camp for the war production of Nazi Germany. These underground premises themselves are closed to the public because of the danger of cave-in of their disturbed rock ceilings. Visitors interested in the history of the camp and the construction of the underground factories (codenamed Richard I and Richard II) may view a permanent exhibition on the history of this concentration camp, which is on display in the former Third Courtyard of the Small Fortress.







The Terezín Memorial offers its visitors guided sightseeing tours of the former Ghetto and the Gestapo Police Prison in the Small Fortress. Following prior booking, visitors can also go on a guided tour of the Crematorium of the Litoměřice concentration camp.

To give you an overall idea of the focus and number of the permanent exhibitions staged by the Terezín Memorial, here is their overview:

- 6 Terezín in the 'Final Solution of the Jewish Question' 1941-1945 - an exhibition in the Ghetto Museum;
- 7 Mortality and Burials in the Terezín Ghetto - an exhibition in the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery;
- 8 Central Mortuary and Funeral Services in the Ghetto - an exhibition in the Ghetto's former Central Mortuary;
- 9 A reconstruction of prisoners' dormitory at the time of the Ghetto - an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- 10 Music in the Terezín Ghetto - an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- 11 Art in the Terezín Ghetto - an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- 12 Literary Work in the Terezín Ghetto - an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks;
- 13 Theater in the Terezín Ghetto - an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks.
- 16 The Terezín Small Fortress 1940-1945 - an exhibition in the Small Fortress Museum;
- 15 Art exhibition of the Terezín Memorial - in the Small Fortress Museum;



- <sup>17</sup> Litoměřice Concentration Camp 1944–1945 – an exhibition in the Third Courtyard of the Small Fortress;
- <sup>14</sup> Terezín 1780–1939 – an exhibition in the entrance to the Small Fortress;
- <sup>18</sup> The Internment Camp for Germans. The Terezín Small Fortress 1945–1948 – an exhibition in the Fourth Courtyard of the Small Fortress;
- <sup>19</sup> Milada Horáková – an exhibition in the Memorial Hall of the Small Fortress.

Visitors may also like to see many short-term exhibitions, while researchers can avail themselves of the services of the Departments of Documentation and Collections as well as specialized libraries. The Terezín Memorial staff provide specialist consultations on issues of racial and political persecution during Nazi occupation as well as information on the fate of the inmates of the repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice.

## STATISTICS ON VISITORS

### VISITORS TO THE SMALL FORTRESS IN 2008 <sup>20</sup>

Month	Visitors Total	Foreigners	Youth Foreign	Youth CZ
January	4,828	3,621	2,008	1,050
February	8,864	6,854	4,844	1,843
March	19,054	16,106	12,173	2,704
April	27,844	22,047	17,466	5,551
May	30,528	19,384	12,213	8,861
June	20,865	14,165	8,459	6,387
July	26,781	21,044	10,158	5,517
August	22,733	16,091	6,081	6,405
September	27,740	24,288	17,186	3,161
October	20,098	15,753	10,146	4,271
November	7,939	5,587	3,304	2,233
December	4,893	4,063	1,968	702
<b>Year 2008</b>	<b>222,167</b>	<b>169,003</b>	<b>106,006</b>	<b>52,956</b>
<b>Year 2007</b>	<b>235,906</b>	<b>179,839</b>	<b>112,443</b>	<b>51,173</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>- 13,739</b>	<b>- 10,836</b>	<b>- 6,437</b>	<b>+ 1,783</b>



**VISITORS TO THE GHETTO MUSEUM IN 2008** <sup>21</sup>

Month	Visitors Total	Foreigners	Youth Foreign	Youth CZ
January	3,730	2,703	1,431	869
February	6,949	5,330	3,467	1,444
March	11,801	9,602	6,410	1,960
April	17,122	12,553	8,866	4,545
May	20,888	11,146	5,974	7,455
June	15,129	9,439	4,918	5,356
July	21,649	17,097	8,031	4,333
August	17,727	12,634	4,424	4,863
September	18,288	15,743	10,458	2,149
October	14,513	10,760	6,549	3,680
November	5,834	3,797	1,900	1,860
December	3,561	2,831	1,045	602
<b>Year 2008</b>	<b>157,191</b>	<b>113,635</b>	<b>63,473</b>	<b>39,116</b>
<b>Year 2007</b>	<b>169,107</b>	<b>124,418</b>	<b>71,755</b>	<b>40,973</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>- 11,916</b>	<b>- 10,783</b>	<b>- 8,282</b>	<b>- 1,857</b>

**VISITORS TO THE FORMER MAGDEBURG BARRACKS IN 2008** <sup>22</sup>

Month	Visitors Total	Foreigners	Youth Foreign	Youth CZ
January	1,660	1,041	546	464
February	3,396	2,507	1,699	742
March	4,696	3,622	2,443	852
April	7,250	4,871	3,440	2,266
May	7,348	3,989	2,159	2,929
June	6,009	3,757	1,984	2,188
July	8,000	6,947	3,302	984
August	7,251	5,986	2,317	1,124
September	6,778	5,772	3,425	889
October	6,273	4,523	2,879	1,745
November	3,270	2,065	1,239	1,072
December	2,049	1,470	703	453
<b>Year 2008</b>	<b>63,980</b>	<b>46,550</b>	<b>26,136</b>	<b>17,453</b>
<b>Year 2007</b>	<b>65,378</b>	<b>46,952</b>	<b>26,597</b>	<b>18,972</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>- 1,398</b>	<b>- 402</b>	<b>- 461</b>	<b>- 1,519</b>

## **OVEREVIEW OF ORGANIZED EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS. PROMOTIONAL, ORGANIZATIONAL AND PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES**

### **LIST OF PRINCIPAL EVENT ORGANIZED BY THE TEREZÍN MEMORIAL IN 2008:**

- 23 An act of remembrance marking the Yom ha-Shoah memorial day was held in the former Magdeburg Barracks on April 30, 2008, attended by Karol Sidon, the Chief Rabbi of Prague and Bohemia, and other guests;
- 24 Staged in co-operation with the Central Committee of the Czech Union of Freedom Fighters in Prague, an act of remembrance was held on May 2, 2008 to commemorate the last execution in Terezín in World War II. Wreaths were laid in the execution ground in the Small Fortress and at the monument to the executed inmates in the National Cemetery;
- 25 The Terezín Commemoration was held in the National Cemetery on May 18, 2008, attended by officials representing the Senate and the House of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, the Czech Government, and diplomats from many foreign countries as well as other guests. Keynote speech was delivered by Dr. Přemysl Sobotka, Speaker of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic;
- Commemorative plaques recalling the wartime fate of the Dutch inmates of the Terezín Ghetto were unveiled in the former Hamburg Barracks and in the Ghetto Columbarium on June 20, 2008. The ceremony was attended by a delegation of the former Dutch prisoners, officials of the Netherlands Foreign Ministry, and the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Czech Republic;
- 26 June 23, 2008 saw the ceremonial ending of the journey through the Czech Republic of a touring exhibition called “The Wagon”, prepared by the Terezín Memorial’s partner – Museum of the Slovak National Uprising in Banská Bystrica;
- 27 An act of remembrance was held on June 27, 2008 to mark the anniversary of the execution of Milada Horáková by the former Czechoslovak communist regime;
- 28 The traditional commemoration Kever Avot honoring the victims of the genocide of the Jews from the Czech lands took place in the Jewish Cemetery on September 21, 2008. The rally was followed by a ceremony unveiling a sculpture by Kirill Postovit at the memorial site near the Ohře river;
- A preview of an exhibition called “The Girls in Room No. 28”, accompanied by a meeting of the former inmates and a program selected from the German cabaret works performed in the Terezín Ghetto, was held on September 23, 2008;
- 29 An international seminar for teachers entitled “Holocaust in Education” was staged in Terezín between November 20 and 23, 2008;
- 30 A gathering to honor the memory of Milada Horáková was held in the Memorial Hall in the Small Fortress on December 22, 2008. This event was prepared in co-operation with the Czech Confederation of Political Prisoners.





## **AN OVERVIEW OF EXHIBITIONS STAGED BY THE TEREZÍN MEMORIAL IN 2008:**

- Since Then I Believe in Destiny. Transports of the Protectorate Jews in the Territory of Poland 1941–1942: a documentary exhibition prepared in conjunction with the Jewish Museum in Prague;
- Ema Blažková – paintings
- David Friedmann – portraits
- Joint exhibition of the group of surrealists
- Orit Bader – paintings
- Lubomír Pešek – paintings
- Jan F. Kovář – paintings and objects
- Eva Melnik-Kellermann – drawings

### **PUBLISHING AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

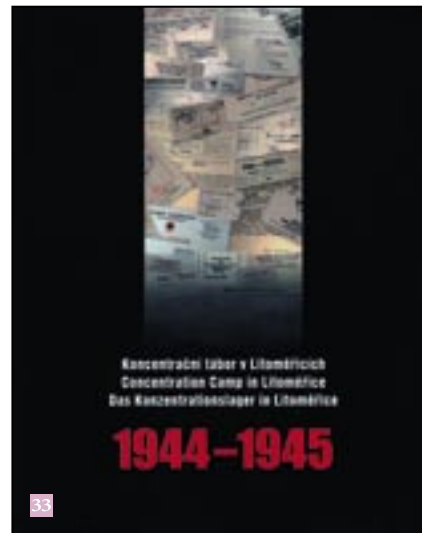
- Booklet entitled “Litoměřice Concentration Camp 1944–1945” published;
- Annual Report of the Terezín Memorial for 2007 published in Czech and English;
- Terezínské listy* (Terezín Yearbook) No. 36 published;
- Zpravodaj, vzdělávací a informační bulletin* (Newsletter. Educational and Information Bulletin), prepared by the Department of Education, published quarterly;
- Brief information material “Litoměřice Concentration Camp 1944–1945” published;
- Foreign-language guidebooks in 14 language versions continually updated;
- Catalogs published for the exhibitions of Orit Bader, Eva Melnik-Kellermann, Ema Blažková and the group of surrealists, plus prospectuses for the exhibitions by David Friedmann and Lubomír Pešek;
- Articles written for the mass media on an ongoing basis.

### **GUIDES:**

- A special seminar was prepared for the Memorial’s guides in conjunction with its Department of Education before the start of the 2008 season;
- The pool of available guides was updated and processed on an ongoing basis.

### **MEETING THE MEMORIAL’S TASKS AS THE PROVIDER OF STANDARDIZED PUBLIC SERVICES:**

- Back in 2005 the Terezín Memorial issued “Guidelines on the Provision of Standardized Public Services”:
- For each year, entrance fees to the individual objects of the Memorial are fixed



in a directive issued by the Director of the Terezín Memorial. This lays down all types of entrance fees as well as discounts. The price list for 2008 was published in the Memorial's Rules for Visitors posted up in all its objects and premises, and also placed on the web pages of the Memorial.

- Removing barriers that prevent people with limited mobility and orientation from using the Memorial's services: in 2006, easy-access entrance was provided to the permanent exhibition on the first floor of the Ghetto Museum and the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery. 2007 saw the construction of an easy-access entrance to the first floor of the Museum of the Small Fortress. Construction of easy-access facilities for wheelchair users and other handicapped visitors in other objects of the Memorial will continue, depending on the availability of funds.
- The objects and premises of the Terezín Memorial are open to visitors all year round in the accompaniment of guides during the following visiting hours:

**The Small Fortress:**

November 1 – March 31:           daily 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
April 1 – October 31:           daily 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**The Ghetto Museum, Magdeburg Barracks and prayer room:**

November 1 – March 31:       daily 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
April 1 – October 31:         daily 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**The Columbarium and funeral rooms:**

daily: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**The Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery:**

closed on Saturdays

November 1 – March 31:       10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
April 1 – October 31:         10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- The visiting hours are on display to the public in all the objects of the Memorial and on the Memorial's web pages.
- Information on the Terezín Memorial and its activities over the past year is published in the Annual Report, which is distributed and also published on the web pages of the Terezín Memorial. These web pages also contain the program of exhibitions and events held by the Terezín Memorial during the year as well as its publishing plan.
- In keeping with applicable guidelines, the archives and depositories are open to researchers (see chapters on the Department of Documentation and the Department of Collections).

## EXTERNAL CONTACTS AND CO-OPERATION

External relations and international co-operation are of fundamental importance for the Terezín Memorial, an institution honoring and commemorating the victims of wartime Nazi occupation. Last but not least, this emphasis on international relations stems from the fact that inmates not only from the Czech lands but also from many other European countries had been incarcerated in the repressive facilities in Terezín and the nearby Litoměřice during WW II.

Needless to add, of paramount significance for the Memorial are its contacts and co-operation with organizations associating former prisoners both at home and abroad. The biggest and most important of these is the Terezín Initiative, established shortly after the democratic changes in the country in 1989. Since then, the Initiative has been giving systematic support to the Memorial in its research, museological and educational activities. In the past few years, this particular support and co-operation has been focused primarily on the educational sector, even though contacts have also been fostered in the field of research and in building a database of former inmates. A direct partner in these activities is the Prague-based Terezín Initiative Institute, the project's guarantor and chief organizer.

Contacts with the former inmates of the Gestapo Police Prison in Terezín's Small Fortress and the Litoměřice concentration camp have been less intense due to the high average age of the former prisoners. But the Terezín Memorial has been maintaining contacts with these groups of former inmates as well as with organizations associating prisoners of other concentration camps (Auschwitz, Ravensbrück) through the Central Committee of the Czech Union of Freedom Fighters. For the needs of adult education of this association the Terezín Memorial prepared a touring exhibition on the Czech inmates in the Nazi concentration camps, which has been on display now for the third year running, primarily in Czech schools. The employees of the Terezín Memorial were also involved in preparing accompanying programs for the exhibition. The Czech Union of Freedom Fighters also joined ranks with the Terezín Memorial in organizing the Terezín Commemoration and a ceremonial gathering to mark the last wartime execution in Terezín.

In addition to the afore-mentioned Terezín Initiative Institute, the Memorial's chief domestic partners in the research and museology field are primarily the Jewish Museum in Prague, the Museum of Romany Culture in Brno, the Institute of Contemporary History of the Academy of Sciences of Czech Republic, the National Museum in Prague, and the National Archive.

The Terezín Memorial prides itself on a long and famous tradition of maintaining relations with foreign organizations in charge of the monuments commemorating the victims of Nazi repression, and specializes in educating young people towards democracy. Since the 1990s, particularly Austria's Gedenkdienst and the German organization Aktion Sühnezeichen/Friedensdienste (ASF) have been sending their volunteers to the Terezín Memorial. In the past few years, they have been helping primarily the Department of

Education in organizing educational programs for groups of German-speaking youth. ASF has also been sending its volunteers to work in the Terezín Memorial.

Direct bilateral contacts are maintained with many foreign partner institutions, namely memorials established on the sites of former repressive facilities but also with other research and educational institutions dealing with different aspects of national, political and racial persecution in the Nazi-occupied territories in the Second World War. Among the Terezín Memorial's long-standing partners, mention should be made of Poland's Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum in Oświęcim, the State Museum in Majdanek and the Museum in Gross-Rossen, in Israel the memorials Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and Beit Theresienstadt in Givat Chaim Ichud, in the United States the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington and New York's Museum of Jewish Heritage; in the Netherlands the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, in Germany Flossenbürg Memorial, Buchenwald Memorial, Dachau Memorial, Sachsenhausen Memorial, Ravensbrück Memorial, Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz Memorial in Berlin, in Austria Mauthausen Memorial and the Documentation Archives of the Austrian Resistance in Vienna, and in Slovakia the Museum of the Slovak National Uprising in Banská Bystrica and the Holocaust Documentary Center in Bratislava.

Also in the past year, the Terezín Memorial personnel applied themselves to promoting all-round activities pursued by the unions of friends and supporters of Terezín in the German federal lands of Saxony, Brandenburg and Lower Saxony.

An important portion of the Terezín Memorial's external relations lay in the participation of its representatives in the activities of the international organizations engaged in research, museological and educational programs relating to the memorial sites commemorating the victims of racial and political persecution. The most important of those is the intergovernmental organization "The Task Force for International Co-operation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research" (ITF), which now associates as many as 26 member countries. The Terezín Memorial employees are members of the Czech delegation to ITF, working in its standing specialized commissions.

Another major actor in this field is the International Organization of Museums ICOM, which brings together 127 member countries. The Terezín Memorial is represented in the section IC MEMO, which incorporates memorials and museums on crimes against humanity committed by states. At present, a Terezín Memorial representative is chairman of this section.

The Terezín Memorial is also a member of an international association called the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, being represented there as a site associated with the Nazi genocide of the Jews. The Terezín Memorial is also represented in the Consultative Board of Bavarian Memorials and in the Mauthausen International Forum. Both organizations serve as forums for officials of the Memorials to Nazi persecution and organizations of former inmates from different countries to meet, exchange information and review concepts relating to the current and future activities evolved by the Memorials.

A specific field of the Terezín Memorial's international contacts consists in educational projects, carried out – especially in case of special seminars for teachers – in conjunction with its partner institutions in Israel, Germany and Poland.

Another sector of the external relations pursued by Terezín Memorial is its care for the upkeep of the Czech Republic's permanent exhibitions in the former concentration camps Auschwitz and Ravensbrück, a task that has been entrusted to the Memorial.

Another permanent component of the Memorial's international relations in the past year was its involvement in joint events with foreign partner institutions, especially our experts attending conferences and seminars staged by those organizations.

There is yet another specific sphere of foreign contacts: a mandatory courier service to accompany loans of exhibits from the collections of the Terezín Memorial on their way to exhibitions abroad and during their return.

The overall character of those contacts and the actual forms of co-operation were also reflected in the structure of business trips abroad undertaken by our employees last year. These were either study stays (Auschwitz, Berlin, Bergen-Belsen, Hartford), lectures and attendance at international seminars (Auschwitz, Jerusalem, Bologna, Fürstenberg, Sachsenhausen, Ravensbrück, Bucharest, Laxton, Banská Bystrica, Banská Štiavnica), courier journeys accompanying exhibits from the collections of the Terezín Memorial sent to exhibitions abroad (Avignon, Sydney, Solingen, Munich), inspection journeys to foreign exhibitions administered by the Terezín Memorial (Oświęcim, Ravensbrück), participation at meetings stemming from the Terezín Memorial's membership of the international institutions (Vienna, Munich, Linz, Bologna, Paris) and visits to exhibitions abroad (Moscow).

## **HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GHETTO MUSEUM IN TEREZÍN**

Since the establishment of the Ghetto Museum in Terezín, this part of the Memorial has been working under the aegis of its Honorary Board of Directors, associating leading politicians, cultural figures, businessmen and scholars from different countries. Its members in 2008 were as follows:

- Yehuda Bauer
- Helen Epstein
- Sir Martin Gilbert
- Hana Greenfield
- Václav Havel
- Thomas O. Hecht
- Zuzana Justman
- Tomáš Kraus
- Ronald S. Lauder
- Mark D. Ludwig
- Arnošt Lustig
- Charles I. Petschek
- Artur Schneier
- Mark E. Talisman
- James E. Young
- Hans Westra

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

The bulk of research was carried out by the staff of the Department of History in close partnership with the other Departments – of Documentation, Collections and Education, whose employees took part in solving some partial projects. In keeping with the long-term concept of its activities the Terezín Memorial has focused its attention primarily on research into the history of the Nazi repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice, but also on the overall picture of national, racial and political persecution in the former Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia as well as in other countries occupied by Hitler's criminal regime. Standing in the forefront of its research activities, just as in the past, were primarily the histories of different groups of prisoners not only in the above facilities, but also in other places of suffering to which they were later deported. The task of tracing these further life stories has been made easier by fostering co-operation with a number of partner institutions and individual scholars, by exchanges of documents and information, notably while attending international seminars, conferences and symposia devoted to the topics under scrutiny. The past year also saw much livelier contacts with employees of foreign institutions involved in building databases of their former inmates. The Terezín Memorial has been making a major contribution to this international exchange of experience and information, primarily by sharing its own expertise in building several of its databases in the past. This involved primarily preparing and supplementing a database of the Ghetto prisoners, a project whose chief guarantor is the Terezín Initiative Institute, as well as elaborating a database listing the former inmates of the Gestapo Police Prison in the Small Fortress. Other databases contain data on the prisoners of the concentration camp at Litoměřice, databases of the inmates of the branches of the Flossenbürg concentration camp in the territory of the Czech lands, and finally a database of prisoners who came to Terezín in the so-called evacuation transports and death marches at the very end of the war.

Preparations also got under way for a touring exhibition on the Nazi euthanasia program in co-operation with German and Austrian partners. A book tracing the fate of the prisoners deported from the Terezín Ghetto to Auschwitz was jointly prepared by the Warsaw University, the State Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum in Oswięcim and the Terezín Memorial.

Research into the history of the Terezín Ghetto last year focused primarily on the main stages of the deportation of the Terezín Ghetto inmates to places of extermination and slave labor, issues tracing the development of the Ghetto's Self-Administration, and cultural pursuits as part of the prisoners' efforts to retain the cohesion of the captive community in the Ghetto. Many other issues involving the entire period under scrutiny were tackled within preparations of a major exhibition to mark a birthday jubilee of František Petr Kien, an outstanding personality of the cultural life in the Ghetto, as well as a book accompanying the exhibition. Research of the Jewish registration cards from the time of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, as well as research into the



methods of financing the Terezín Ghetto by the occupation authorities, and a research project tracing the destiny of Jewish mentally ill patients in the Terezín Ghetto and elsewhere in the Protectorate were all completed last year.

A key task in the research of the history of the Gestapo Police Prison in the Small Fortress was preparation of a manuscript which is, on the one hand, a guide to the permanent exhibition in the Small Fortress Museum, on the other hand giving a detailed description of the main aspects and circumstances of the establishment, functioning and liberation of the Police Prison. Work also continued on a database listing the former Ghetto inmates, a project whose anticipated outcome is the publication of a Memorial Book. Research into the individual groups of prisoners focused on the subject of firemen among the imprisoned resistance fighters. Other research tasks were centered on the issues of the activities of the German Regulation Police and the Waffen SS units operating in the territory of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia.

Research into the history of the concentration camp at Litoměřice has been focused on the camp's construction and development, circumstances of its liquidation in 1945, operations of the Red Army after its liberation and the transport of its war booty from the underground factories. A booklet on this particular topic accompanying the permanent exhibition was published together with an information flier available to visitors to the exhibition but also to clients of the Municipal Information Center in Litoměřice. Information boards and two commemorative plaques were prepared to be installed on the memorial sites associated with the history of that camp.

A specific task resolved jointly with the Department of Documentation was an overall review of the data on the tombstones in the National Cemetery in Terezín, a project that made it possible to specify these inscriptions in some cases.

Working in co-operation with the National Museum in Prague, the Memorial continued the processing of part of the estate Zdeněk Jelínek.

The Terezín Memorial's web pages were updated on an ongoing basis, while preparing materials and documents for discussions of the individual international organizations in which the Terezín Memorial is represented.

The employees of the Department of History also attended scholarly conferences and seminars in the Czech Republic and abroad dedicated to the history of racial and political persecution in the years of Nazi occupation. The staff of the Department prepared specialized lectures for the Terezín Memorial's education programs for domestic and foreign teachers and university students, and lectured at the J.E. Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem. They also published articles in specialized magazines *Terezínské listy* (Terezín Yearbook), *Terezínské studie a dokumenty* (Terezín Studies and Documents) and *Historie a vojenství* (History and Warfare). They also provided consultations to researchers, journalists and other interested parties, drafting replies to requests by former inmates, their family members, courts and state authorities concerning certificates on wartime imprisonment.

## EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In addition to its research, collecting and museological activities, since 1993 the Terezín Memorial, its Department of Education in particular, has been devoting itself to educational programs for elementary school pupils, secondary school students and university undergraduates and teachers. In 2008, the Department organized as many as 72 one-day and 35 longer seminars for Czech schools, complete with visits to exhibitions, lectures, debates with Holocaust survivors, workshops, and free creative activities. However, the offer of the Department of Education's programs is not aimed only at groups of Czech pupils but also at students from abroad. Last year, foreign students came to Terezín to attend a total of 24 one-day and 30 longer seminars. For their part, volunteers from Austria and Germany, who invariably come to the Terezín Memorial for a one-year spell of duty, take a major share in its educational programs. Furthermore, 5 seminars for mixed language groups were also held last year.

In 2008, just as in the previous years, the Department of Education did not focus its activities solely on school youth but also set its sights on the further education of teachers, doing so in close association with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Physical Training of the Czech Republic. Two elementary 3-day seminars in the series "How to Teach about the Holocaust", provided by lecturers from the Terezín Memorial, the Educational and Cultural Center of the Jewish Museum in Prague and the Museum of Romany Culture in Brno, were held in the spring of 2008. A follow-up meeting to the above-mentioned seminar entitled "Holocaust in Education" took place in the fall of 2008. Its underlying purpose was to broaden teachers' knowledge of the varying methods of the Holocaust practiced in the different conditions of the countries in Nazi-occupied Europe, and introduce them to teaching techniques about this particular subject used in other countries. In addition to 8 Czech lecturers, as many foreign pedagogues were also involved in the project. Follow-up seminars held at the Ravensbrück Memorial and in the Yad Vashem Memorial in Jerusalem and prepared in co-operation with their educational departments then followed suit.

On the whole, the above educational seminars brought together as many as 199 teachers. In addition, a two-day training program was staged for the personnel of the Czech School Inspection, attended by 30 school inspectors from all over the Czech Republic.

A sizable contribution to the technical background and overall premises for the Department's educational activities was the opening of two new classrooms in the newly restored house in Dlouhá Street in Terezín, one of which is equipped with 20 computers.

In the first half of 2008, the Terezín Memorial prepared for elementary and secondary school pupils and students in the Czech Republic an art competition relating to issues of racial and political persecution during the country's Nazi occupation in WW II, and on the problems facing the world today. This was the 14<sup>th</sup> literary contest and the 12<sup>th</sup> fine-art competition on the subject "How Did and Do They See the World?" Six

hundred and thirty-eight entries came to the competitions, which could once again materialize thanks to a financial gift from Mrs. Hana Greenfield, a former inmate of the Terezín Ghetto. Just as in the past years, the Terezín Initiative was also involved in financing the contests, while subsidizing the Erik Polák Special Award given to particularly successful entries.

A selection of the artworks sent in to the contest in 2007 was used in a traveling exhibition, which went on display in the premises of the Jewish Community in Teplice in September 2008.

During the past year, the staff of the Department of Education were also involved in methodological guidance of students of the Masaryk University in Brno, the Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem, the Palacký University in Olomouc, the University of Economics in Prague, and the Ostrava University.

Four issues of the Terezín Memorial's "Newsletter. Educational and Information Bulletin" were prepared in 2008. The employees of the Department of Education also wrote articles and reports for the *Terezínské listy* (Terezín Yearbook) and some other external periodicals.

## DOCUMENTATION AND COLLECTIONS

### DEPARTMENT OF DOCUMENTATION

Thirty-two new items were added to the collections of the Department of Documentation, 9 of them photographs. The new arrivals were mostly acquired by gift or purchase at auctions, including mainly letters from different Nazi repressive facilities, the Terezín Ghetto in particular. The new photographs depict the inmates of the Gestapo Police Prison in Terezín's Small Fortress and those of the Terezín Ghetto.

A total of 87 new items were entered into the Department's collection of auxiliary documents in the archive and the photo archive.

Seventy-seven inventory numbers of written documents were processed in the second-level registration process, and 744 inventory cards on collection items in the archive were digitized.

As many as 1,100 inventory items were checked during a regular stocktaking. A considerable amount of damaged written documents was selected for conservation during the process. Another three inventory items were removed from the collections as they proved to be excessive (these were photocopies).

In the past year, the Terezín Memorial's archive and photo archive were visited by and rendered their services to 71 researchers, while 40 applicants were given information on wartime imprisonment. Other requests for information were answered by mail. Since some of the researchers came several times, the overall number of visits by scholars last year totaled 129 (as compared with 64 visits in 2007).

The Memorial's documentation specialist made 6,240 digital pictures, primarily photographs taken at different events staged by the Memorial, and photocopies of documents from the National Archive in Prague for research needs of the Terezín Memorial personnel.

The Department of Documentation also made for external applicants some 3,400 sheets of black-and-white copies, 180 sheets of color Xerox copies, and approximately 300 scans.

Approximately 5,700 black-and-white Xerox copies were made for the Memorial's internal use (copies of collection items to be studied in the research room, copies of study documents for employees of the Memorial).

External conservators conserved written documents selected for treatment during a regular stocktaking in 2007 (620 sheets in all). The Terezín Memorial's own conservator treated the remaining portion of written documents selected during stocktaking plus the blueprints of the Bayreuth penitentiary, documents damaged during the flood in 2002 (all in all 251 sheets).

The specialized library of the Terezín Memorial acquired, ordered and purchased specialized books from Czech and foreign publishing houses. A total of 330 new books were registered in 2008. As many as 2,750 books were retrospectively processed into the library's database. Domestic and foreign periodicals were regularly monitored, and

press cuttings were made, while the book loan service was also provided (600 loans) throughout the year. A bibliography of new publications on the repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice was prepared for Terezín Yearbook No. 36/2008.

## DEPARTMENT OF COLLECTIONS

Last year, the Terezín Memorial's Department of Collections acquired for its collection - mostly by gift and purchase - primarily items of postwar art. Gifts comprised 3 drawings by painter Sander Bergmann, 12 works by paintress Jana Zimmer, 4 works by Karel Štěch, and 1 drawing by Milada Kazdová. The Department also acquired 4 anonymous drawings donated by Mr. Siegfried Lautsch. Other gifts included four 3D objects, while three sculptures by Jiří Korec and 1 painting by Jiří Valdštýn-Karlínský were purchased. The Department's collection of works by Jiří Sozanský was enriched by the purchase of a set of 9 of his prints.

Seventy-two inventory items were added and processed in the Department's chronological documentation network in 2008. A total of 820 records of individual works of art, 3D objects and archival documents were computerized as well.

1,174 inventory numbers of collection items were checked during a stocktaking. Inventory was taken in the three depositories storing large-format artworks and 3D objects. Part of the large-format works of art was transferred to a newly built depository during the stocktaking.

Last year, the staff of the Department of Collections rendered their services to a total of 34 Czech and foreign researchers. Written replies were sent to 53 people who had requested information. The Department's personnel were also involved in arranging loans of exhibits to institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad, complete with their transport. The Department also took part in preparations for a catalog and script for an exhibition on Petr Kien to be held in the Terezín Memorial in 2009.

Throughout the year, the Department made 265 copies (35 color and 230 black-and-white ones), 498 digital photos and scans of collection items for various exhibition, study and publishing purposes. Some 84 color copies of artworks and sheet music were also made for the restoration of the Terezín Memorial's research center damaged by the flood in 2002.

The Department's own art restorer carried out conservation of the original equipment of the First Courtyard (delousing station), treated 41 collection items and took the names of prisoners discovered in the premises of the underground factory in Litoměřice. He also restored 11 paintings and 5 sculptures. Furthermore, 195 works of art and 36 3D objects were restored externally.

## ■ ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES, GIFTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

In 2008, the Terežín Memorial succeeded in meeting all the binding economic indicators, and the accounting year 2008 ended with a positive economic result amounting to 1,027,610.00 CZK.

The overall non-investment expenses as of December 31, 2008 accounted for 77,114,980.00 CZK, i.e. 6,536,980.00 CZK more as compared with the planned budget. This excess of the planned expenses was made possible by a reserve fund and higher contributions from the Memorial's founding institution – the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic.

The Terežín Memorial's revenues from sales and services in 2008 were exceeded by a mere 1 % against the plan, due to exceptional short-term rental of premises for the purpose of film shooting. In other income items, the Terežín Memorial failed to attain the planned targets. However, thanks to its very stringent austerity measures, use of own reserve funds in its economic management, and the above-mentioned contribution from the Czech Ministry of Culture the Terežín Memorial managed to end the year 2008 successfully.

During 2008, the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic made as many as 12 budgetary adjustments, of which one budgetary measure involved an internal budget adjustment. The other budgetary measures concerned protection of the non-movable cultural heritage, elimination of the aftermath of floods, support for education in the languages of national minorities and multicultural education, measures aimed at salvaging architectural heritage, securing of objects, partial coverage of expenses for removing the consequences of a sewerage breakdown in the Small Fortress, and settlement of an uncovered volume of labor costs.

### A. Income and Expenses in 2008

#### Income:

a) entrance fees.....	32,815,000.00 CZK
b) funds from the Czech Ministry of Culture.....	33,887,000.00 CZK
c) means from reserve funds .....	3,100,000.00 CZK
d) other income .....	8,504,000.00 CZK

#### Expenses:

a) material expenses and energy .....	11,838,000.00 CZK
d) total personal expenses .....	28,240,000.00 CZK
e) other expenses (services, repairs) .....	37,200,000.00 CZK

**B. Funds obtained from gifts and donations in 2008**  
**totaled ..... 1,227,290.46 CZK**

The following donors sent the largest contributions:

- Patrick Mehr and Helen Epstein, USA
- Miroslav Tuháček, Czech Republic
- Robert H. and Joan W. Arnow, USA
- Federation of Jewish Communities, Czech Republic
- Terezín Initiative, Czech Republic
- Monica and George Borosh, Canada
- Hanne-Lore Cars, Germany
- Jiří Jabulka, publishing house TYP, Czech Republic
- Tomáš Hanzelka, Czech Republic
- Luboš Barek, Czech Republic
- Vlastimil and Vlasta Fiala, Czech Republic
- Elementary school and kindergarten, Ukrajinská Street, Kladno, Czech Republic
- Štěpánka Bartošová, Czech Republic
- Ing. Milan Palák, Czech Republic
- Jan Horský, Czech Republic
- KSČM, Ústí nad Labem Regional Council, Czech Republic
- Martin Saturka, Czech Republic
- Museum of the Slovak National Uprising, Slovakia
- Marieta Šmolková, Czech Republic
- Ivana Beranová-Fantlová, Czech Republic
- Stanley Faull, USA
- Doc. Ing. Fredor Roubalová, Czech Republic
- Anna Bruthansová, Czech Republic
- DORA GROUP, Czech Republic
- Vlastimila Potocky, USA
- Viliam Bartoš, Czech Republic
- Milan Flosman, Czech Republic
- Růžena Velecká, Czech Republic
- Dáša Matušíková, Czech Republic
- Marek Šteigl, Czech Republic
- Lenka Bartošová, Czech Republic
- Zdeněk Horák, Czech Republic
- Czech Union of Freedom Fighters, Czech Republic
- Václav Bradáč, Czech Republic
- Alexandr Babic, Czech Republic
- Věra Tydlitátová, Czech Republic
- Lenka Hoffmannová, Czech Republic
- Mirka Nulíčková, Czech Republic

- Daniel Soukup, Czech Republic
- Leopoldina Šimonová, Czech Republic
- Alena Medová, Czech Republic
- Zuzana Justmanová, USA
- BOKS s.r.o., Czech Republic
- Miloš Dobrý, Czech Republic
- Pavel Toepfer, Czech Republic
- The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, USA

Smaller contributions were made by many other donors, most of whom have remained anonymous. Nonetheless, our sincere thanks are due to them, just as to all those mentioned above.

The funds obtained from gifts were used as follows:

Terezín Commemoration.....	20,000.00 CZK
Literary and fine-art competition for youth .....	7,726.30 CZK
Salaries .....	57,001.00 CZK
Educational seminars .....	337,137.37 CZK
Work with young people and activities of the Department of Education .....	61,820.25 CZK
Restoration of the prayer room.....	28,919.33 CZK
Repair of cemeteries (National and Jewish) .....	11,484.00 CZK



## ■ TECHNICAL AND CONSTRUCTION WORK

**The process of removing the aftermath of the floods in 2002 and 2006 continued:**

- Maintenance of the underground fortification system in the Small Fortress;
- Completion of the repairs of the dilapidated shooting gallery;
- Renovation of the grassy areas on the fortifications of the Small Fortress;
- Repair of the facade of the former stables in the Small Fortress, complete with stone elements and reconstruction of the stone pavement around the building  
- last year's work continued.

**Additional maintenance and technical work:**

- Furnishing the multimedia study of the Education Center in the new objects in Dlouhá Street 17 in Terezín;
- <sup>35</sup> Installing security camera systems for monitoring and recording movement of persons in the Jewish Cemetery complete with lighting;
- <sup>36</sup> Reconstruction of the monument at the memorial site by the Ohře river and installation of a new sandstone sculpture by Kirill Postovit;
- Adjusting the air-conditioning system in the attic theater in the Magdeburg Barracks to increase its output;
- Overall repair of the sanitary facilities in the Small Fortress;
- Finishing repairs of the broken sewerage system in the Small Fortress;
- Designing flood-control measures in the Small Fortress;
- Upkeep of the grassy areas throughout the Terezín Memorial and in the cemeteries (National and Jewish);
- Weeding out self-sowing woody plants on the dikes in the Small Fortress;
- Routine maintenance of the Terezín Memorial's objects;
- Technical measures providing for acts of remembrance, educational events, exhibitions etc.



**OUTLOOK FOR 2009**

- Holding the Terezín Commemoration and other acts of remembrance;
- Carrying out research into the history of the Nazi repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice;
- Holding an international conference “History and Presentation: Places of Nazi Crimes II” in association with the IC MEMO Committee of the International Organization of Museums ICOM;
- Holding an international workshop for the staff of memorials to the victims of Nazi repression on experience in building databases of former inmates;
- Supplementing databases of former inmates;
- Developing the Memorial’s collecting activities;
- Installing information texts on the sites associated with the history of the Litoměřice concentration camp;
- Publishing *Terezínské listy* (Terezín Yearbook) No. 37;
- Installing 5 short-term fine-art and documentary exhibitions;
- Participating in preparations for a touring exhibition on the Nazi practice of euthanasia jointly with partners in Germany and Austria;
- Holding seminars for teachers, students and pupils;
- Staging a fine-art and literary competition for youth on the subject “Me and War”.



**TEREZÍN MEMORIAL**  
Annual Report for 2008



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