

# TEREZÍN MEMORIAL

Annual Report for 2003

PAMÁTNÍK TEREZÍN



Terezín, March 2004

# TEREZÍN MEMORIAL

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Annual Report for 2003

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## 1.

### INTRODUCTION

Whereas 2002 was the year that had brought a devastating flood, the following year was marked primarily by wholehearted efforts of the Terezín Memorial's personnel to repair the damage caused by the flood. Since the beginning of 2003 the Terezín Memorial has been working under very difficult conditions indeed. The individual sightseeing routes for visitors had to be tentatively adjusted not only according to the prevailing technical conditions but mainly with a view to the safety situation in the individual objects and localities. Floodwater in August 2002 totally destroyed the permanent exhibitions in the Small Fortress which traced the history of Terezín from its foundation until the outbreak of World War II, the Gestapo Police Prison, the Litoměřice concentration camp and the Internment camp for Germans set up after the war. As for the objects situated in the town, i.e. in the former Ghetto, relatively little damage was caused to the exhibition in the Ghetto Museum whose floor had been flooded and where water damaged its electric wiring, while the exhibits and equipment in the premises suffered only partial damage. Much more seriously hit were the installations in the Columbarium and the Central Mortuary of the former Ghetto that had been opened to the public less than a year earlier. The exhibition in the premises of the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery was also totally destroyed.

But the actual damage and destruction of the exhibitions accounted only for a portion of the overall losses incurred in the flood. All the former prison cells in the Small Fortress had been inundated and their original wooden furnishings seriously damaged. Also devastated was the original equipment of the former Prison's offices, storerooms, and workshops, plus the Memorial's service facilities, offices, archive premises, library, photo laboratory, art workshop and other objects. A similar picture of destruction was to be seen in various workplaces and depositories on the first floor of the former Magdeburg Barracks in Terezín, the first-floor premises of the Department of Education, the new building of the Meeting Center in Fučíkova Street as well as the Jewish Cemetery with the Crematorium whose overall damage proved to be worst of all.

Nevertheless, thanks to the Czech government's generous financial support and the permanent attention given to the Terezín Memorial by the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic we have managed to launch a large-scale reconstruction and restoration project throughout the Memorial. Gradually restored were most of the flood-damaged exhibitions, destroyed or damaged equipment in various workplaces, educational aids etc. were replaced. Even though we had succeeded in saving an absolute majority of the

Memorial's collections before the flood, part of the written documents in the archive and also books the library were damaged. As soon as floodwater subsided, the damaged documents were sent to freezing plants for deep-freeze treatment. As compared with other Czech institutions whose premises had been flooded in 2002, the Terezin Memorial had not only a relatively small amount of materials to be thus treated but also had at its disposal financial means for their restoration from foreign donors. Consequently, it was in a position to conclude comparatively soon agreements with the relevant agencies involved in restoration and start gradual drying and restoration of its documents and books. This particular task was finished by the end of 2003, and all the documents have by now been returned to our funds.

Faced with this complex situation and the exceptional tasks it had posed the Terezin Memorial and its staff still managed to organize major remembrance events. An act of remembrance marking the International Day Honoring Victims of the Holocaust, Yom Ha-Shoa, attended by Karol Sidon, the chief Rabbi of Prague and Bohemia, former inmates and others guests, was held in the attic theater of the Magdeburg Barracks on April 29, 2003. Another 100 names of the victims of the Terezin Ghetto were read out at that gathering.

The Czech Republic's main remembrance event in honor of the victims of Nazi occupation in World War II – the traditional Terezin Commemoration – took place on May 18, 2003. The main speech was delivered by Mr. Václav Klaus, the newly elected President of the Czech Republic. The gathering was also attended by officials representing the Senate and the House of Deputies of the Czech Parliament, Premier Vladimír Špidla, Deputy Premiers and government ministers, local and regional government officials, diplomats from 28 countries and many other guests.

The traditional commemoration *Keven Avot* for the victims of the persecution of Jews from the Czech lands was held on September 21, 2003, in the Jewish Cemetery in Terezin, which had been reconstructed after the floods just shortly before the event. The 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first performance of Hans Krása's children's opera "Brundibár" in the Terezin Ghetto was marked in the premises of the attic theater in the former Magdeburg Barracks on September 23, 2003.

The Memorial also succeeded in resuming its educational activities relatively promptly even though the staff of the Department of Education had to work for a long time in truly "makeshift" conditions. In actual fact, only one room was available for seminars and lectures, as the other premises of the Department of Education could not be used, including the first-floor premises of the new building of the Meeting Center. For a time, the capacity of the Terezin Memorial's accommodation facilities for participants in educational courses was limited as these premises had to serve as temporary accommodation for those Memorial personnel who had lost their shel-

ter in the flood. But during the year we managed to restore the original capacity and thanks to the dedicated work of all the staff of the Department of Education and the Technical-Organizational Department the actual scope of their activities did not have to be restricted. Many seminars were held for students and teachers from the Czech Republic and abroad in 2003.

The words written above describe what might be called an exceptionally difficult situation in the Terežín Memorial in 2003 but also speak of extraordinary working discipline and dedication of the staff of the Memorial. At the time of the greatest threat to the Memorial all of them did their very best to remove the aftermath of the flood.

In a similar vein, it was very positive and encouraging to note that many sponsors rushed in with their assistance and supported our efforts. Some of them helped us in salvaging what makes the underlying message of the Terežín Memorial with millions of crowns, others by donating smaller sums. Nonetheless, our thanks go to all and sundry, and we would like to endorse our earlier pledge to finish everything that has been started since the flood. Special thanks are due to all our colleagues in other museums and memorials at home and abroad who also gave us their prompt assistance. This genuine fellowship helped us immediately after the flood and throughout the past year. I would also like to thank the organizations of former Terežín inmates who systematically supported and still support us – The Terežín Initiative in particular.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic for constant care and support which has proved to be the main factor thanks to which we have survived that difficult period in the history of the Terežín Memorial.

Although there are still many visible scars in the Memorial left by the flood, and many years of dedicated work will still be needed before the last traces of the August 2002 catastrophe disappear, I am positive that the difficult period we have passed through will be an impetus as well as a challenge for all our employees for their wholehearted work and efforts to promote the Memorial's activities in the future.

PhDr. Jan Munk, CSc.  
*Director of the Terežín Memorial*

## 2.

### THE TEREZÍN MEMORIAL AND ITS SERVICES TO VISITORS

The key mission of the Terezín Memorial, the only institution of its kind in the Czech Republic, is to commemorate the victims of the Nazi political and racial persecution during the occupation of the Czech lands in World War II, to promote museum, research and educational activities, and look after the memorial sites connected with the suffering and death of dozens of thousands of victims of violence. The Terezín Memorial, whose founding institution is the Czech Ministry of Culture, is financed from the state budget. In accomplishing its tasks, the Memorial cooperates with many domestic and foreign institutions, organizations and individuals in the Czech Republic and abroad. Over the past decade the Terezín Memorial has markedly changed its exhibitions and the methods of presenting the results of its research activities. It has come to be known as an educational center engaged in mediating the lessons from the past, a meeting place primarily for young people who come to study and meet their contemporaries while searching for answers to burning issues of the world today. The Terezín Memorial's Meeting Center, established in the early 1990s, is known as a key venue for such encounters.

In actual fact, all the objects and memorial sites administered by the Terezín Memorial make up a unique museum complex, which is annually visited by hundreds of thousands of people from all over the world. Although some of them come to admire its fortress structures, the genuine highlights of Europe's 18<sup>th</sup> century fortification engineering, each visitor wants to learn about the history of the repressive facilities built in Terezín and the nearby town of Litoměřice during the Nazi occupation of the Czech lands in the Second World War.

The history of the former Terezín Ghetto is today traced and highlighted in the exhibitions housed in the Ghetto Museum near Terezín's Town Hall, and in the exhibitions on display in the former Magdeburg Barracks, in the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery and in the Ghetto's Central Mortuary as well as in other objects and memorial sites.

Less than a kilometer from the town lies the Small Fortress, the site of the Prague Gestapo Police Prison during the wartime Nazi occupation. In addition to well-preserved objects in this prison visitors may view in the Small Fortress many permanent and short-term exhibitions. Spreading in the foreground of the Small Fortress is the National Cemetery, the scene of the annual Terezín Commemoration, this country's central act of remembrance to honor the memory of the victims of Nazi occupation during the war.

The Terezín Memorial also administers the Crematorium of the former concentration camp in Litoměřice with the adjoining area, plus the entrance premises to the underground factory built, under truly inhumane conditions, by the prisoners of the camp, a branch of the core camp at Flossenbürg. These underground premises are, however, closed to visitors because their disturbed rock ceilings might cave in.

The Terezín Memorial offers its visitors guided sightseeing tours of the former Ghetto and the Gestapo Police Prison in the Small Fortress, complete with expert explanation. Following prior booking, visitors may also view the crematorium of the former Litoměřice concentration camp.

Due to the damage caused by the flood in August 2002, many permanent exhibitions were closed to visitors in 2003, and will be gradually reopened. The remaining exhibitions will be reopened to the public in 2004:

Overview of the permanent exhibitions:

- The Terezín Small Fortress 1940–1945 – an exhibition in the Small Fortress Museum, reopened after reinstallation in December 2003;
- Art exhibition of the Terezín Memorial – in the Small Fortress Museum, opened without interruption;
- Litoměřice Concentration Camp 1944–1945 – an exhibition in the Third Courtyard of the Small Fortress, reinstallation will be finished in March 2004;
- Terezín 1780–1939 – an exhibition in the entrance to the Small Fortress, reinstallation completed in November 2003;
- The Internment Camp for Germans. The Small Fortress 1945–1948 – an exhibition in the Fourth Courtyard of the Small Fortress, reinstallation completed in October 2003;
- Terezín in the ‘Final Solution of the Jewish Question’ 1941–1945 – an exhibition in the Ghetto Museum, partly reinstalled while in operation, reinstallation completed in December 2003;
- Mortality and Burials in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the Crematorium at the Jewish Cemetery, reinstallation will be finished in June 2004;
- Central Mortuary and Funeral Services in the Ghetto – an exhibition in the Ghetto’s former Central Mortuary, reinstallation completed in October 2003;
- A reconstruction of prisoners’ dormitory at the time of the Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks, opened without interruption;
- Music in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks, opened without interruption;
- Fine Arts in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks, opened without interruption;



- Literary Work in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks, opened without interruption;
- Theater in the Terezín Ghetto – an exhibition in the former Magdeburg Barracks, opened without interruption.

### 3. STATISTICS ON VISITORS

#### Visitors to the Small Fortress in 2003

Month	Visitors Total	Foreigners	Youth Foreign	Youth CZ
January	2,336	2,107	1,388	167
February	5,078	4,294	3,125	419
March	13,739	11,522	9,258	1,200
April	24,488	21,108	16,268	2,823
May	27,398	21,074	15,934	3,411
July	18,841	14,238	9,010	3,688
June	25,162	21,184	11,061	1,782
August	20,340	15,546	6,584	1,881
September	23,473	20,059	13,851	1,605
October	20,862	17,923	11,738	1,984
November	9,005	7,258	4,292	1,204
December	3,866	3,105	1,543	523
<b>Year 2003</b>	<b>194,588</b>	<b>159,418</b>	<b>104,052</b>	<b>20,687</b>
<b>Year 2002</b>	<b>194,336</b>	<b>155,323</b>	<b>106,062</b>	<b>23,445</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>+ 252</b>	<b>+ 4,095</b>	<b>- 2,010</b>	<b>- 2,758</b>

#### Visitors to the Ghetto Museum in 2003

Month	Visitors Total	Foreigners	Youth cizina	Youth CZ
January	1,737	1,553	893	153
February	3,797	3,235	2,221	377
March	7,832	6,119	4,476	917
April	12,205	10,120	7,081	1,847
May	12,355	9,861	6,658	1,947
July	12,092	9,097	5,156	2,404
June	17,645	15,486	7,749	726
August	13,183	11,249	4,001	729
September	12,475	10,465	6,322	875
October	12,317	10,131	5,762	1,513
November	6,533	5,231	2,734	953
December	2,851	2,377	1,008	376
<b>Year 2003</b>	<b>115,022</b>	<b>94,924</b>	<b>54,061</b>	<b>12,817</b>
<b>Year 2002</b>	<b>99,343</b>	<b>83,471</b>	<b>50,677</b>	<b>11,005</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>+ 15,679</b>	<b>+ 11,453</b>	<b>+ 3,384</b>	<b>+ 1,812</b>

### Visitors to the former Magdeburg Barracks in 2003

<b>Month</b>	<b>Visitors Total</b>	<b>Foreigners</b>	<b>Youth Foreign</b>	<b>Youth CZ</b>
<b>January</b>	1,052	953	567	95
<b>February</b>	1,267	996	627	211
<b>March</b>	3,246	2,394	1,596	541
<b>April</b>	4,267	3,124	1,891	1,036
<b>May</b>	3,249	2,136	1,259	794
<b>July</b>	5,163	2,467	1,318	645
<b>June</b>	8,604	6,308	3,138	160
<b>August</b>	5,047	4,414	1,643	216
<b>September</b>	4,298	3,274	1,716	311
<b>October</b>	4,541	3,494	1,680	546
<b>November</b>	2,339	1,705	741	415
<b>December</b>	1,177	924	360	241
<b>Year 2003</b>	<b>44,250</b>	<b>32,189</b>	<b>16,536</b>	<b>5,211</b>
<b>Year 2002</b>	<b>33,770</b>	<b>27,251</b>	<b>14,351</b>	<b>5,160</b>
<b>Difference</b>	<b>+ 10,480</b>	<b>+ 4,938</b>	<b>+ 2,185</b>	<b>+ 51</b>

#### 4.

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

#### **List of Principal Events Organized by the Terezín Memorial in 2003:**

- An act of remembrance marking the International Day Honoring Victims of the Holocaust, Yom Ha-Shoa, was held in the former Magdeburg Barracks on April 29, 2003, attended by Karol Sidon, the Chief Rabbi of Prague and Bohemia, and other guests;
- The Terezín Commemoration was held in the National Cemetery on May 18, 2003, attended by Czech President Václav Klaus, officials of the Senate and the House of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, the Czech Government and the regional and local government authorities, diplomats from many foreign countries, and other guests. The main speech was delivered by Czech President Václav Klaus;
- Traditional commemoration Kever Avot for the victims of the genocide of the Jews from the Czech lands was held in the Jewish Cemetery on September 21, 2003;
- Performance of the children's opera "Brundibár" by the Dismal Children's Radio Ensemble was given in the attic theater in the former Magdeburg Barracks on September 23, 2003, to mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first staging of the opera in the Terezín Ghetto;
- Performed by the undergraduates of the Brno Conservatoire of Music, the play "Esther" was staged in the attic theater in the former Magdeburg Barracks on October 15, 2003;
- An international seminar "Holocaust in Education" was held between November 20 and 23, 2003;
- Mrs. Margot Wallström and Mr. Günter Verheugen, the European Union Commissioners, visited Terezín on December 15, 2003;
- A meeting to commemorate Milada Horáková was held in the Memorial Hall of the Small Fortress on December 22, 2003.

#### **Overview of Exhibitions Staged by the Terezín Memorial in 2003:**

- Book of Testimonies – an exhibition of graphic works by the Mexican artist Bela Gold;
- Luděk Tichý – an author's exhibition;

- David and Felix Tuszyński – an exhibition by two Polish graphic artists;
- Rosie Potter, Patricia Ayre – photographs, sculptures, engraved glass;
- Wojtek Polcyn – graphic art.

### **Publishing and promotional activities:**

- media articles prepared;
- Annual Report of the Terezín Memorial for 2002 published in Czech and English;
- foreign-language guidebooks (in 13 language versions) continually updated;
- Terezínské listy (Terezín Yearbook) No. 31 published;
- Zpravodaj (Bulletin), prepared by the Department of Education, was published;
- publication “Terezín in the ‘Final Solution of the Jewish Question’ 1941–1945” issued in Czech, English and German;
- publication “Places of Suffering and Heroism” published in Czech, English, German and French.

### **Guides:**

- a special seminar was prepared for the Memorial’s guides in conjunction with its Departments of History and Education before the start of the 2003 season;
- the pool of available guides was updated and processed on an ongoing basis.

## 5. FOREIGN CONTACTS AND COOPERATION

The Terezín Memorial's activities could hardly be imagined without contacts with the former Ghetto inmates and their organizations on the one hand, and with research institutions, museums and universities at home and abroad on the other. It is only natural that a special place among those partners is held by foreign memorials to the victims of Nazi racial and political persecution in World War II. The Terezín Memorial promoted its contacts with those organizations and individuals in different countries that share common efforts to carry out research into the Nazi wartime crimes and to commemorate the victims of the rule of terror.

The most numerous and active among the organizations associating the former Terezín Ghetto inmates is the Terezín Initiative, established soon after the democratic changes in the country in November 1989. Just as in the past years the Terezín Initiative supported the activities of the Terezín Memorial in many different areas. Research cooperation was promoted primarily with the Terezín Initiative Institute, the Memorial's main partner in studying domestic and foreign archives, preparing publications and especially in updating the database listing the former prisoners of the Terezín Ghetto, a project whose guarantor is the Terezín Initiative Institute. The Terezín Initiative also took a major part in the Memorial's educational activities by preparing many debates with the participants of the educational programs sponsored by the Memorial.

Also the former inmates of the Gestapo Police Prison in the Small Fortress lent a helping hand in organizing some of the educational programs, supporting the Memorial's research activities and attending some its acts of remembrance.

Contacts with the former inmates of other Nazi concentration camps, prisons and penitentiaries were arranged through the Czech Union of Freedom Fighters. In recent years, it was mainly cooperation with the Auschwitz History Group, an association of the former prisoners of the largest Nazi concentration camp, that has seen greatest intensification. Mutual consultations resulted in the completion of the Czech Republic's permanent exhibition in Auschwitz and the preparation of a printed guide in several languages for visitors to that exhibition.

Traditionally, the Czech Republic's Union of Freedom Fighters has been the Terezín Memorial's main partner in organizing acts of remembrance, especially the Terezín Commemoration as this country's central event to honor the victims of racial and political persecution during the Nazi occupation.

The Terezín Memorial's key partners in research and museum activities last year

included the Jewish Museum in Prague, the Roma Culture Museum in Brno, the Institute for Contemporary History of the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Institute of History of the Czech Academy of Sciences, the National Museum in Prague, and the Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem. The Memorial also maintained contacts with partner institutions abroad – in Poland, the United States, Israel, Germany, Austria, and Slovakia. However, liveliest contacts, consultations and exchanges of documents were maintained with Poland's Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, Beit Theresienstadt, Givat Chaim Ichud; Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, New York's Museum of Jewish Heritage, Gedenkstätte Buchenwald, Gedenkstätte Dachau, Gedenkstätte Mauthausen, Topographie des Terrors, Berlin, Gedenkstätte Haus der Wannsee-Konferenz, Berlin, the State Memorial Majdanek, and the Museum of the Slovak National Uprising in Banská Bystrica.

At an international level, of special importance for establishing contacts and exchanging information is the Terezín Memorial's membership of the international association ITF (International Task Force for Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research) and its work in the commission for the memorials to the crimes against humanity within the framework of the International Museum Association ICOM (IC MEMO).

Also in 2003 the Terezín Memorial welcomed many young people from abroad who came for voluntary work in the upkeep and reconstruction of its objects and areas. These young people – just as the participants in the ongoing educational courses in the Terezín Memorial's Meeting Center – worked hand in hand with the German and Austrian volunteers sent to Terezín by the German organization Sühnezeichen/Friedensdienste e.V. and the Austrian Projekt Gedenkdienst. Two volunteers from each of the above-mentioned countries stayed in the Memorial last year.

The activities of the Terezín Memorial in 2003 continued to be backed by many of its friends and supporters both at home and beyond the borders of the Czech Republic. This is particularly true of the organizations of friends and supporters of Terezín in the German federal lands of Saxony, Brandenburg and Lower Saxony. Their material and especially moral support played a particularly vital role in coping with the damages caused by the catastrophic flood in 2002.

As for business trips abroad, undertaken by the staff of the Terezín Memorial in 2003, these were mostly connected with educational activities (Dachau, Ravensbrück), participation in scholarly conferences and seminars (Berlin, Vienna, Görlitz, Paris, Banská Bystrica), research in domestic and foreign archives and other institutions (Berlin, Ludwigsburg), the Terezín Memorial's membership and duties ensuing thereof in the international museum, educational and research organizations (Washington, Budapest), presentation of research results and other activities in foreign countries (Munich, Berlin,

Vienna) and care of the permanent exhibitions abroad for whose establishment and maintenance the Terezín Memorial is responsible (Auschwitz, Ravensbrück).



**6.**  
**HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**OF THE GHETTO MUSEUM IN TEREZÍN**

Since its establishment in 1991, as part of the Terezín Memorial, the Ghetto Museum has been working under the aegis of its Honorary Board of Directors, associating leading politicians, cultural figures, businessmen and scholars from different parts of the world. Its current members are as follows:

Yehuda Bauer  
Ernst L. Ehrlich  
Helen Epstein  
Anna M. B. de Feigel  
Sir Martin Gilbert  
Hana Greenfield  
Václav Havel  
Thomas O. Hecht  
Zuzana Justman  
Tomáš Kraus  
Ronald R. Lauder  
Arnošt Lustig  
Charles I. Petschek  
Artur Schneier  
Mark E. Talisman  
James E. Young  
Hans Westra

## 7.

### RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Just as all the other specialized sections of the Terezín Memorial, the Department of History focused its main efforts in 2003 on the task of eliminating the damage caused by the flood in the previous year. In case of this particular department that involved primarily work on drafting the scripts and collecting documents as well as providing specialized supervision in the reinstallation of the Memorial's exhibitions destroyed by the flood. This was a very responsible work as the reinstallation and reopening of those exhibitions to the public were so urgently needed. Within these activities the individual exhibitions were supplemented and expanded to incorporate the latest research results. The first to be prepared for reinstallation was the core exhibition in the first-floor premises of the Ghetto Museum. Fortunately this exhibition had been damaged in the flood only partly. On the other hand, the permanent exhibitions in the Small Fortress – “The Small Fortress Terezín 1940–1945”, “Terezín 1780–1939” and “The Interment Camp for Germans. Small Fortress 1945–1948” – had to be completely reconstructed. The exhibitions in the Columbarium and the Ghetto's Central Mortuary were reinstalled in the former Ghetto. Up to the end of 2003, preparatory work also got under way on the reconstruction of the exhibition “The Litoměřice Concentration Camp 1944–1945”.

Despite this extraordinary situation and the need to work on the tasks mentioned above – although to a smaller extent than in the previous years – the Department of History carried on its basic research into the history of the Nazi repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice, including its background research in both domestic and foreign archives. The staff of that department also attended scholarly conferences and seminars in the Czech Republic and abroad, preparing and delivering papers and lectures at those gatherings.

Work continued unabated on publications prepared by the staff of the Department of History. Guidebook to the new permanent exhibition of the Ghetto Museum called “Terezín in the ‘Final Solution of the Jewish Question’ 1941–1945” was published before the end of the year and so was the book called “Places of Suffering and Heroism. The Nazi Repressive Facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice”. Also prepared were articles to a miscellany on the deportation of Jews to the Baltic region in the years of Nazi occupation, to “Terezín Yearbook”, “Terezín Memorial Bulletin” and “Terezín Studies and Documents”, published by the Terezín Initiative Institute.

Yet another ongoing project involves the task of creating, extending and supple-

menting a database of the former prisoners of the repressive facilities in Terezín and Litoměřice. As for the former project, the main task is to feed newly acquired data into the database. The same applies to the database of the inmates imprisoned in the branches of the Flossenbürg concentration camp in the Czech lands. Wholehearted efforts were devoted to data-processing for the database of former inmates of the Gestapo Police Prison in the Small Fortress. In the past year, it was particularly the Terezín Memorial's archive and the State Central Archives in Prague that were most intensely and frequently utilized for the purpose of this particular database.

Also prepared were specialized texts for a commemorative book of the Jews from Austria and for the internet pages on the Holocaust in the Czech lands. In conjunction with the Terezín Initiative Institute the Memorial also made preparations for an international scholarly conference on the history of the Terezín Ghetto.

As part of the Terezín Memorial's educational activities, its Department of History was engaged in organizing lectures and debates for teachers and students not only from the Czech Republic but also from Germany and the United States. The Department of History also promoted its scholarly contacts with the Faculty of Social Sciences of the Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem.

Consultations were arranged for Czech and foreign scholars, researchers, and university students, while information was provided to the mass media and other interested parties on an ongoing basis. During the past year the Department of History also issued certificates on the imprisonment to former inmates, their family members, courts and state authorities.

## 8. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Physical Training of the Czech Republic and conducted within a project of further education of teachers, training seminars were organized in association with the Educational and Cultural Center of the Jewish Museum in Prague and the Museum of Romany Culture in Brno. Two basic three-day seminars entitled “How to Teach about Holocaust” were held for as many as 100 teachers and students from teacher-training institutes throughout the Czech Republic. A four-day follow-up seminar “Holocaust in Education” was also held to expand the teachers’ knowledge of different forms of the Holocaust in various occupied countries in the Second World War and share their experience and methods used in teaching this particular subject abroad. In addition to 10 Czech lecturers, the seminar was attended by 5 lecturers from abroad. This course could be organized thanks to the financial support granted by The International Task Force for Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research (ITF). ITF also gave its support in organizing a follow-up seminar for participants in elementary courses for teachers in Terezín, which was this time held in the Dachau Gedankstätte in Germany. The seminar brought together 37 teachers who heard lectures by 8 Czech and German experts.

The Department of Education organized for pupils and students of Czech elementary and secondary schools as many as 73 one-day and 31 longer educational programs complete with visits to the Memorial’s exhibitions, debates with the former inmates, plus independent creative work for the participants. The program for Czech pupils and students in search of “lost neighbors” continued in the individual regions in the Czech Republic. Two mixed groups, made up of Czech schoolchildren and pupils from their twinned schools abroad (Germany), came to Terezín within the framework of this program that was conducted in both languages.

A total of 40 long-term and 31 one-day educational courses and workshops were organized for foreign visitors. The traditional Festival of Tolerance, prepared and staged by the International School in Prague, was also held last year. Volunteers from Austria and Germany who usually stay in the Memorial for a year took a lion’s share in organizing these events. A four-day seminar was also prepared for the employees of the Auschwitz State Museum in Poland.

For its part, the Ravensbrück Memorial in Germany staged a Czech-German seminar for teachers. In fact this was the 11<sup>th</sup> in a series of meetings attended by North Bohe-

mian teachers. The program was focused on intercultural education and upbringing in regions with large ethnic minorities.

For elementary and secondary schools the Department of Education prepared a literary competition entitled “When We Hear an SOS Call” and a fine-art contest “The Shapes of Evil”. As many as 433 entries have been sent to the contest, the best of which were later awarded. The award-giving ceremony was attended by Mrs. Hana Greenfield of Israel, a former Terezín Ghetto inmate, who also stood at the birth of those competitions.

The best competition entries then went on display in four exhibitions – two of them held in Terezín and two in the North Bohemian city of Teplice.

Throughout the year the Department of Education gave its consultations and services to researchers, providing methodological guidance to students from Prague’s Charles University, the Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem, the Technical University in Liberec, and several secondary schools.

For pupils and teachers from different Czech schools the Department also arranged four cultural events, including a performance by the Prague Miriam Theater presenting a series on Psalm for 77,297 Victims, a staging of the play “Esther” by the undergraduates of the Brno Conservatoire of Music, and two performances of the children’s opera “Brundibár” by the Dismas Radio Children’s Ensemble.

The Department of Education also prepared three issues of Zpravodaj Památníku Terezín (Terezín Memorial Bulletin) primarily for teachers. This publication is financially supported by Anna Frank House in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. A catalog entitled “Brundibár in Terezín Sixty Years On” was prepared and published on the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first performance of that children’s opera in Terezín. Articles on the activities of the Department of Education were prepared for “Terezínské listy” (Terezín Yearbook).

## 9.

### DEPARTMENTS OF DOCUMENTATION AND COLLECTIONS

#### **Department of Documentation**

In the first half of 2003 the work of the Department of Documentation was concentrated mostly on the task of moving all the materials and equipment back into its reconstructed archive, research room, library, photo laboratory and studies.

The most important acquisitions made by the Department of Documentation were mainly documents on inmates' imprisonment in the Terezín Ghetto, e.g. various personal documents of M. Ruben and the correspondence of R. Lagusová, H. Klingerová and R. Vanáčová. An exceptional acquisition is the letter from R. Eisenstein sent to his wife from Sobibor. The author of the letter had been imprisoned in the Terezín Ghetto from which he was deported to the Sobibor extermination camp on May 9, 1942. According to the donor of the letter (R. Eisenstein's nephew) the prisoner was shot dead during an attempt to escape from the camp.

Twenty items were added to the archive's chronological documentary system, and a total of 188 inventory numbers (in electronic form) were newly processed, of which 32 items were photographs and 156 written documents. A total of 477 inventory items from the previous years were computerized. 102 items were registered in a supplementary documentation system.

The Memorial's special library acquired and registered 292 new books. As many as 330 records were transferred into the database retroactively.

The photo laboratory produced a total of 3,714 color photographs (classical and digital), including 1,026 photographs for the documentation of the Memorial's exhibitions and other major events, 210 for new exhibitions, 158 for publishing purposes and presentation of the Memorial, 397 for the needs of individual researchers and other institutions, 34 for the documentation of museum collections, while as many as 1,889 photographs were taken to document the aftermath of the flood.

The Department of Documentation also made almost 12,500 Xerox copies of archival documents for internal needs. These were primarily copies for the archive's study where some 20,000 pages of copies had been destroyed in the flood in 2002. A large number of copies were made for the reconstruction of the Memorial's damaged exhibitions. External users of our services received 127 photographs and 24 pages of archive documents in digital form (on CD or by e-mail), 103 color photographs, 55 black-and-white photographs, 10 Xerox copies of photographs, 529 pages of black-and-white and 13 pages of color Xerox copies of archive documents.

The Department of Documentation provided its research services to 25 scholars and students, supplying information on former prisoners to 8 people. Lower number of visitors as compared with the past years was caused by the closure of the archive due to flood damages until September 2003. Requests for information or certificates on wartime internment of Terezín Ghetto inmates were also handled by mail.

The research project, known as the “Gestapo Police Prison in the Small Fortress in Terezín”, was further developed with the processing of individual documentary sources to create a database listing former inmates.

Following the reconstruction of the premises damaged in the flood, the Department’s major task was to prepare documents for the gradually rebuilt permanent exhibitions.

The VANKOL agency conserved the collections from the Terezín Ghetto funds damaged by the flood in 2002 (as many as 12,425 pages). Considering the circumstances, most of the documents are in good shape. A more detailed check of the documentation will be made during a special stock-taking to be held later in 2004. The Memorial’s own restorer conserved 58 pages of archival documents and the book of new arrivals of the archive collections (also damaged in the flood).

Documents not belonging to the Terezín Memorial’s collections were also dried and disinfected. The auxiliary documentation on the Terezín Ghetto (14 boxes) was checked as well. Most of the documents are in good condition, only four items have been excluded due to damage incurred in the flood. As many as 25 boxes of the Memorial’s archive documents were also inspected. Those materials too proved to be in good condition. Several considerably damaged documents (7 items) selected for permanent archive-keeping will have to be replaced by new copies, time and circumstances permitting. Out of the 389 items in the collection of microfilms registered in the inventory book, 217 items had to be removed due to damage.

### **Department of Collections**

Also the Department of Collections had to exert considerable efforts to move its documents and equipment back to the research room and premises reconstructed and repaired after the flood. Three drawings and a sketchbook containing more sketches made in the Ghetto were acquired by the Terezín Memorial’s collections, three paintings by Ilja Sainer from his cycle “Islands” were donated to our collections. Other new arrivals are two prewar prints by Karel Fleischman, one painting by Arnošt Paderlík, 10 graphic sheets from the cycle “Stone” by Jiří Sozanský, and a violin made in Terezín by the Žalud company.

Forty-two items were added to the Department’s chronological documentation network, 15 inventory items were systematically processed. Work continued on computerizing the department’s records.

A total of 2,385 inventory numbers of collection items were entered during stock-taking of the collections of the Terezín Memorial. Because of the damages caused by the flood one depository in the former Magdeburg Barracks was moved to a higher floor. The planned reconstruction of 3 depositories in the Small Fortress was finished, and by the end of the year work got under way on the repair of the depositories in what is called Kammer.

The staff of the Department of Collections rendered their services to 63 Czech and foreign researchers. Written replies were sent to queries by 34 researchers. The local employees were also involved in the reinstallation of the existing exhibitions of the Terezín Memorial, safeguarding loans to institutions in the Czech Republic as well as long-term loans of exhibits abroad.

Throughout the year, 656 copies of drawings and documents were made for exhibition, study and publicity purposes. A total of 729 color copies of drawings by Terezín Ghetto artists, and 361 copies of documents from the Hefman Collection were made for the purpose of restoring the research background of the reading room of the Department of Collections.

The Department's own art restorer and the external specialized company continued their work in restoring the Memorial's collections. Restored were 35 drawings by Zdeněk Seydl, objects prepared for a long-term loan to Mauthausen, and most of the exhibits for the newly reconstructed exhibitions. Restoration of flood-damaged exhibits (133 items in all) got off the ground as well.

The Terezín Memorial's own art restorer was engaged in disinfecting documents and publications previously dried, conserved and treated in specialized facilities.



## 10.

### ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES, GIFTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

#### A. Income and Expenses in 2003

##### Income:

a) entrance fees.....	27 933 620,23 Kč
b) funds from the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic.....	57 668 327,02 Kč
c) other income.....	17 233 891,71 Kč

##### Expenses:

a) material expenses and energy.....	19 652 395,39 Kč
b) total personal expenses.....	20 159 954,00 Kč
c) other expenses (services, repairs, rent, etc.).....	61 291 148,34 Kč

#### B. Donations from sponsors

In 2003 donations totaled the sum of ..... 15 358 067,13 Kč

The following donors made the largest contributions:

George G. Gutman, USA

Susan Goldman Rubin, USA

Barbara Wilhelm, Germany

Jürgen Winkel, Germany

Michiko Jomura, Japan

Franke Vrba, Germany

Anne Frank Stichting, The Netherlands

MUDr. Limburská, Czech Republic

Concordia, Dublin, Ireland

Carlo-Schmidt-Gymnasium, Germany

Bianca S. Brown, USA

PhDr. Anna Hájková, Czech Republic

The American Friends of the Czech Republic (AFoCR) Washington, USA

Südschelswiger Wählerverband, Germany

Verein der Förder und Freunde von Theresienstadt Sachsen, Germany

Diaconate of the Bohemian Brethern Evangelical Church, Czech Republic  
Radoslav Vodička, Czech Republic  
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Dr. Wilhelm and Barbara Gauner, Germany  
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The Jewish Community in Prague, Czech Republic  
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Conference for Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, USA  
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 Lenka Bartošová, Czech Republic  
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 PDS Landesverband Sachsen, Germany  
 Dr. Elmar Schwinger, Germany  
 Kozdon Edith May, USA  
 Anita Ekstein, Canada  
 Terezín Initiative, Czech Republic  
 Moriah Films, USA  
 Mr. and Mrs. Wollerton, Great Britain  
 Elementary School, Class 9 A, Děčín, Czech Republic  
 World Monuments Fund, USA  
 Anne Frank House, The Netherlands  
 International Task Force for Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research  
 Vladimíra Ráftlová M.A., Czech Republic

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

The funds obtained through gifts in 2003 were used as follows:

Terezín Commemoration.....	10 000,00 Kč
Work with young people.....	138 961,60 Kč
Covering losses caused by the flood.....	8 608 935,26 Kč
Bulletin of the Department of Education .....	251 297,01 Kč
Wages .....	262 500,00 Kč
Purchase of tables for representative room.....	157 380,00 Kč

## 11. TECHNICAL AND CONSTRUCTION WORK

- coping with the aftermath of the August 2002 flood – drying, repairs and resumption of operations in different objects throughout the Terezín Memorial;
- preparing premises for reopening the permanent exhibitions in the Small Fortress – repairs of floor, plaster, electrical wiring, electronic fire-signaling equipment, electronic safety systems etc.;
- repairing the objects on the sightseeing routes taken by visitors in the Small Fortress – floors in all the cells, plaster, restoration of the original equipment etc.;
- repairing the service premises in the Small Fortress (offices, depositories, workshops), complete with repairs of floors, plaster, electric wiring and installation of new equipment;
- reconstruction of the Ghetto Museum objects, the Magdeburg Barracks and dormitory in Fučíkova Street, including repairs of floors, plaster, wiring and installation of new equipment;
- repairing the former Columbarium, funeral rooms and the Ghetto's Central Mortuary, building adaptations needed for the reopening of these objects to visitors;
- restoring the original equipment and walls in the Crematorium in the Jewish Cemetery;
- reconstruction of green spaces in the bulwarks of the Small Fortress and in the Jewish Cemetery;
- construction of a sewer pump in the Small Fortress leading to the waste water purification plant at České Kopisty (completion);
- construction of a security system to protect exhibits on display;
- construction of WAN data and telephone network interconnecting the Terezín Memorial's objects;
- routine repair and maintenance of the Terezín Memorial's objects;
- upkeep of the grass areas throughout the Terezín Memorial;
- cleaning up and opening the feeding canal of the ditches in the Small Fortress;
- construction of a water main link to the Small Fortress.

## **12. OUTLOOK FOR 2004**

- completing the re-installation of the permanent exhibitions “The Litoměřice Concentration Camp 1944–1945” and “Mortality and Burials in the Terezín Ghetto” destroyed by the flood in August 2002;
- organizing the Terezín Commemoration and other remembrance acts;
- installing 5 short-term exhibitions;
- carrying on research into the history of Terezín’s repressive facilities during Nazi occupation in Terezín and Litoměřice;
- holding educational seminars for teachers, students and pupils;
- holding fine-art and literary contests for young people;
- further development of the Memorial’s collecting activities.

**TEREZÍN MEMORIAL**  
Annual Report for 2003

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