

Frame 2 Pg. 8
Pg 25 in ppt

Schutzhaftling

Zensur

Ljeron Talay

NR: 58381. Block 19.

Hinner Buchenwald

(15)

Deutschlerwol

757b 140485

ZNSK

Saljo Torera Solaf

- sld Kuzuniree

L. P. Rasiya

Bobovina

1259 :

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Pisano dne 1/20. godine 1945

Drogi moj Ljilica prije moza pisanja
primi od mene mnogo pozdrava
od ma mozega i javim da smo xivi
a ostali adravi ali ja nisam ti xnaš
da je moza teska bol bila prije jos
godinu dana dok si ti bila jos doma
mijek sam ti se trzila ali mi ti
ni si vjeroval trzila sam si liječnika
na sve strane trzila sam ali mi ni to
toj mozoj boli pomoci ~~ne može~~ a ja
dala sve sto mi je najmilije a sta ce mi
vega kad mi je bol teska milo moze
xato vec dugo se misno vidjeli nos
kada bite sagrlila onda bini moza da
ti moza bolest laska bila samo dao
dobri Boze davnise xivi vratit svojoj
miloj kućici i ostaloj djeci ahako to
dani ti nista pisat milha je dobila
fabijanovi xnaš i ja mislim da si

140485

možda i ti tu pa ne moj te više
tako nego uvijek pisite jedan na
drugoga Droggi moj Stefia pakete
vam nemozemo poslati jer je neću
na pošti primiti danas će kuma
pitati u vovadinu na pošti o da će
tamo nositi jer svaka hoću ja iti
lijecniku i svećeva Milan stankov
si ~~to~~ nogu trgel još u letu a baka
isti bolistan na labrege i da sa
ix zagreba na bolovanje pret boxie
Dro - moj ja znadem dati ekstrav mis
moim te pisim kako ti je sada
i pisi što god zelis ja ću ti poslati
dog budem mogla jer sada imam
na pircenci kuruse 16. metra na doxici
preko 4. I dala sam dragi napraviti
slape oko 50. h. kurusa je dvadeset h.
a ja ću samo toliko prodati da ću
~~da~~ kupiti sto mi zovila.

Drag
spres
je na
rahije
sto p
xabac
bole p
pdati
ali z
ru i
milo
ve jes
varije
na p
jotoc
ve z
psin
mo g
svaki
litre
sobi
vrat

e više
na
kete
neću
uma
oda će
a sti
nhov
baca
a sao
boxie
ar mis
ada
proslati
am
doci
variti
deset
da su

Dragi moj Stefco vino smo si sve
spremile doma dobile smo 35 a za sada
je nasi mrtvice sve puno ho casa a
rahije sve flazi smo napunle ahi su nom
sto namagali na polu om su si sve
xabadava preko sto pedestotli bile bi
bole proste da bi bile svakoga te xahov
platit u novcu jer je vec po cetirih
ahiju mi nedamo nikak samo su sta
u i kovacu koji ~~su nam~~ napra
milo moje posyali smo stabo je itako
ve jeseni to kude gos mi nije nikad bilo
varijek kisa i ostalo mnogo kury i rje
na polu posyali smo samo polce i
jotocho gore i dolina suraxi to nam
sve xabi se bilo trideset i 2 metra da
psence 2 dvadeset i dva pusi mi sto
mo gde posyati xabi xab imamo cicham
xahi dajem adrelicam dva puta tri
deset li litre to nam je na sreca da imamo
xabi jer je krme malo gos mi nije nitho
da su vratil sijeno a ja cu je terjati da vrate

a ja ču svoji poudarki več je odločno bilo
po deset pravi si obarviti sile kupiti nešto
Dragica Dragi stefica dragica sanja sanj
tibe svaku noć piši odmah nemam
vremena više pozdravla tetvoja
nearboravna žena i troja jedina
cerka Dragica i maleni dragec
zbogom dovidenja.

21/1/16

Box 1408
APO NY 09403

Heidelberg

2 May 1988

Ken Lawrence
P.O. Box 3568
Jackson, MS 39207

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Dmytro Bykovetz sent me your material for translation. I'm enclosing a quick and dirty response which I hope meets your needs.

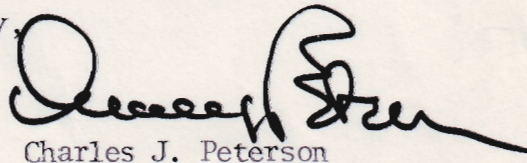
The letter is in Serbo-Croatian, in a rather rough writing style. Grammar and punctuation are grade-school level (and if you go through the original I doubt you'll find any periods or commas), plus there's a fair amount of dialect/localisms when it gets down to describing the local crops, etc.

What you have is a letter from a rural wife, writing her husband who apparently is an inmate in preventative confinement in Buchenwald. Nothing from the name, location or contents of letter indicate Jewish background. The fact that the family still has the farm argues against a Jewish connection. Could have been an anti-Fascist political background which put poor Stefica in Buchenwald, but that's not particularly likely from context--not Serbian, presumably (Latin alphabet, "jekavski" dialect, last name not Slavic), so unlikely to be Monarchist. Could be Partisan/Communist, although rural background and part of country don't particularly support that either. Might well be characterized as a "gypsy," most of whom are from the areas bordering on Hungary. Best guess (and that's all it is) is that the addressee was picked up as an itinerant or a forced laborer.

In any case, the wife is writing to her husband who has been gone for a year--first part of the letter is how she misses him, remainder deals with how the farm is doing. Have given you the best I can for a basic translation, but a lot is unclear due to lack of context and semi-literate writing. I think that's enough to meet your needs--no political/historical information there, no postal history, and not even much from a personal standpoint. Unless you've got a compelling reason, it's not worth trying to get a more detailed translation--and if you do, you're best off getting it from a native Croatian.

If you have any questions, or if you really want to get a 100% (or as close as possible) translation, you certainly should feel free to write directly and I'll do the best I can to satisfy you.

Sincerely,



Charles J. Peterson

Enclosure

5/10/88
cnd thanks

ADDRESS: Preventive confinement prisoner
Stjepan Salaj
Nr. 58381, Block 19
Weimar Buchenwald

15 Germany

postmark illegible. with censor tape, ZENSURIERT (censored).
handstamp, handstamped numerals

RETURN: Sender Tereza Salaj
selo (village) Kurminec (??)
Z.P. Rasinja
Podravina
(Yugoslavia)

Written 1/20, 1945

My dear Stefica, before writing I send you many greetings from my heart and inform you that we are alive and the others are well, but I'm not, you know that I had my severe pain more than a year ago when you were still at home. I continually complained to you but you never believed me. I asked you, my doctor, but no one was able to help my illness, and I gave everything that was dearest to me, but what is anything to me when my pain is so heavy. My dear treasure, we haven't seen each other for a long time, but if I would embrace you then maybe my illness would also ease. But God grant me only that you return alive to your dear house and the [rest of the] children even though you never write me anything. Milka got Fabijan's (???) and I think that you could do the same there but don't act that way anymore but instead write always one for the other. My dear Stefica we can't send you packages because I (??) won't get them by mail. Today godmother will ask about mail in Voraždina (sic--possibly Varazdin). She will take it there because in any case . . . (confused) . . . and priest Milan Stankov with rheumatism in the legs even in summer . . . (illeg) . . . from Zagreb in illness before Christmas. My dear I hope that you're healthy, please write me how you are and write what you want. I will send you when I can. For now I have (illeg.) 16 meters of corn in the shed I gave more than 4 (?) to (make?) the (slape?) about 50 hectares of corn is twenty (illeg??) but I'll only sell as much as [I need] to buy what I want.

My dear Stefica we've made all the wine at home we got 35 and for now our (mrtucje?) is completely full and we've filled all the brandy bottles and they helped us with half they did it for free more than one hundred fifty (kettles/vats) it would be better later for (it would certainly be difficult to sell them for money since they're already around forty ??) but we won't give them away by any means only to the cobbler and the blacksmith who made things for us. My dear the planting was poor since we never had such a fall, always rain and otherwise bad in half the cornfields (?) we seeded the small field and the upper (field?) so we'd have a total of 32 meters of (illeg.) and 22 of wheat. Write me where we should plant the oats, we've got (enough?) oats I gave them to the filly twice (daily?)

(over)

three liters. It's a blessing to have oats since we still haven't taken the small pigs back to the hay rick but I'll make an effort to get them back there and I'll (sell our own?) now it's been about ten (ten o'clock?) but I'll wrap things up for you and (buy something for Dragica??). Dear Stefica dearest, dreams call you every night but all of a sudden I don't have anymore time for you, greetings from your non-forgetting wife and your only daughter Dragica and your dear little one (son) God be with you till we see each other again.

Germany

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NOTE: Have tried to give ~~some~~ content, flavor and style in the above running translation. There are holes due to illegible handwriting, lack of punctuation and lack of context. There are also some words I don't recognize and can't find in the standard dictionaries which appear to be localisms. I've tried to indicate the gaps and guesses with ellipses and parenthetical notations.

RETURN: Sender Teresa Salaj
selo (village) Kominac (??)
Z.P. Rasinja
Podravina
(Yugoslavia)

Written 1/20, 1945

My dear Stefica, before writing I send you many greetings from my heart and inform you that we are alive and the others are well, but I'm not, you know that I had my severe pain more than a year ago when you were still at home. I continually complained to you but you never believed me. I asked you, my doctor, but no one was able to help my illness, and I gave everything that was dearest to me, but what is anything to me when my pain is so heavy. My dear treasure, we haven't seen each other for a long time, but if I would embrace you then maybe my illness would also ease. But God grant the only that you return alive to your dear home and the rest of the children even though you never write me anything. Milka got Rishjan's (???) and I think that you could do the same there but don't act that way anymore but instead write always one for the other. My dear Stefica we can't send you packages because I (??) won't get them by mail. Today godmother will ask about mail in Voravina (sic--possibly Varsadin). She will take it there because in my case . . . (confused) . . . and priest Milan Stanov with rheumatism in the legs even in summer . . . (illeg) . . . from Zagreb in illness before Christmas. My dear I hope that you're healthy, please write me how you are and write what you want. I will send you when I can. For now I have (illeg) 16 meters of corn in the shed I gave more than 4 (?) to (make?) the (slaps?) about 20 hectares of corn is twenty (illeg?) but I'll only sell as much as I need to buy what I want.

My dear Stefica we've made all the wine at home we got 32 and for now our (bottle?) is completely full and we've filled all the brandy bottles and they helped us with half they did it for free more than one hundred fifty (kettles/vats) it would be better later for (it would certainly be difficult to sell them for money since they're already around forty ??) but we won't give them away by any means only to the cobbler and the (smith) who made things for us. My dear the planting was poor since we never had such a fall, always rain and otherwise had in half the cornfields (?) we seeded the small field and the upper (field?) so we'd have a total of 32 meters of (illeg.) and 22 of wheat. Write me where we should plant the oats, we've got (enough?) oats I gave them to the filly twice (daily?)

(over)