



Drawing courtesy of Zdzislaw Nitka

Russians Escape

ikh bin avek in zonder-komande un es gebetn bay Shloyme'n. Shloyme hot mir glaykh gegebn tsvey shabes koydesh-meser mit tsvey batareykes. er hot mir tsugezogt tsu brengen mesers vi fl ikh vel nor farlangen. kh'hob di mesers gebrakht dem rus velkher hot dos tsugenumen un mir gedankt. zogndik az dos vet zeyer gut tsu nuts kumen un kh'zol keynem derfun nisht dertseyln. der rus, a gevezener mayor fun der royter army, iz gevorn mayn bester khaver .

mir flegn zikh teyln mitn esn. ven ikh fleg brengen fun a bakantn fun „kanade“ oder fun der zonder-komande a shtikl broyt, fleg ikh zikh teyln mit im. ven er flegt bay zayne khaveyrim bakumen a por kartofl, flegt er mir brengen fun komande shoy n opgekokht. azoy hobn mir zikh ayngelobt, vi mir voltn zikh shoy n nor lang gekont.

mir flegn oft oplign sho'en lang oyfn bet un er flegt mir dertseyln fun zayne kamfn, vi men hot im in a bavustlozn tsushtand genumen in gefangenschaft, fun velkher er iz tsvey mol antlofn. als shtrof hot men im gebrakht in kontsentratsye-lager Birkenau un do- zogt er mir gants oyfn oyer- darf men oykh arbetn baym zelbn plan.

dos iz der eyntsiker oysveg oyf tsu bafrayen zikh. dem rus hot men gerufn *Fedyor Tikhy* (shtiler), vayl Fedyors zaynen geven asakh in blok. nor keyn „tikhi“ zaynen nisht geven, bloyz mayn khaver.

Fedyor hot mikh geratn kh'zol zen tsurik arayngeyn arbetn in „kanade“ un fun dortn zol ikh brengen dos vos men vet mir heysn. kh'hob im gefolgt un bin avek tsurik arbetn in kanade. Rokhele hot dortn gearbet un zi hot gevust, az ikh bin krank gevorn oyf tifus. mir flegn shteyn in briv-kontakt durkh maynem a khaver, *Zeydl Epshteyn*, velkher flegt oft kumen tsu mir ven ikh

I left for the "Sonderkommando" (**special squad**) and asked Shloime for the things (see beginning of page 212). He, immediately, gave me two "Holy Sabbath Knives" and two batteries. Shloime promised to bring me as many knives as I wanted. I brought the knives to the Russian, who took them and thanked me, saying that the things would be very useful, but I should not tell anyone about them. The Russian, a former major in the Red Army, became my best friend.

We used to share our food. When I brought a piece of bread from an acquaintance from "Canada" or from the "Sonderkommando", I shared it with him. When he got a few potatoes from his comrades, he brought them to me already boiled from the squad. This is how we settled in, hoping we could keep it that way as long as possible.

Often, we lay on the beds for hours, and he (**the Russian**) used to tell me about his battles **and** how he, being in an unconscious state, had been taken in captivity from which, however, he had escaped twice. As a punishment, he had been taken to Birkenau concentration camp, where - he whispered in my ear - the same plan had to be worked on.

That was the only way out, he said. The Russian was called Fedyor Tichi (the quiet one) because although there were so many "Fedyors" in the block, there were no "Tichis" (quiet ones) except my friend.

Fedyor advised me to try to get back to work in "Canada" so that I could bring what I was told to get from there. I followed him and went back to work in "Canada". Rochele was also working there. She knew that I had been ill with typhoid fever. We were in letter contact through my comrade *Zeidl Epstein*, who often visited me when I ...



An example for a "Holy Sabbath Knife", photo courtesy of Alisa Harth, who inherited this beautiful knife with the inscription "G-d's blessing is enriching" from her aunt Gertrud.

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bin gelign krank un mir brengen a brivl fun Rochelen. ven kh'bin tsurik gekumen arbetn, hob ich keynem nisht dertseylt mayne plener, tsu vos far a tsvek ich arbet itst. yedn tog fleg ich zikh trefn mit Fedyorn. er flegt mir zogn vos ich zol brengen.

di hoypt-zakh vos er hot gebetn, zenen geven mesers. mapes. kompasn, batareykes un zeygerlekh. dos alts fleg ich brengen dan, ven kh'fleg aroysmarshirn baynakht oyf der ban-statsye. kh'hob gevust az ven ich vel adurkhfaln mit eyner fun di zakhn drot mikh di tlie. ich bin deriber geven zeyer forzikhtik. fil mol flegt forkumen baym toyer a shtrenge revizye un bay mir oyf der hant arumgevikt mit a bandazh iz geven a mape un in shukh- a kompas oder zeyger.

ikh hob ober gevust dem tsvek far velkhn dos geyt un es iz mikh keyn zakh nisht shver geven. kh'hob gevust, az mit mayn meser vet men

was sick in bed, bringing along a letter from Rochele. When I came back to work (in Canada), I did not tell anyone about my plans and for what purpose I was now working. Every day, I met with Fedyor, who told me what I should bring.

He mainly asked for knives, maps, passports, batteries and watches. I usually brought all this when I marched to the train station at night. I knew that I was threatened with the gallows if I was caught with any of these things. Therefore, I was very careful. Often, there were strict searches at the gate - while a map was under a bandage wrapped around my arm, or a compass or a watch was hidden in my shoe.

But knowing what purpose it was for, nothing has been too difficult for me. I knew that my knife would be used to fight the murderous Nazis,

<p>kemfn kegn di merderishe natsis, un mit mayn mape vet men zukhn dem veg vi aroystsugeyn fun lager un nisht arayntsufaln in a tsveytn.</p> <p>ikh fleg oykh brengen shikh un tsivile kleyder. vegn dem hobn mer nisht gevust vi ikh un mayn khaver Fedyor. ven es flegt forkumen a shtreng kontrol un ikh hob gemuzt haynt brengen mayne foroysgezeene zakhn, fleg ikh es bazorgn mit a meydI fun „kanade“. zi flegt dos ibergebn maynem a khaver, velkher flegt arbetn in froyen-lager. mit dem meydI fleg ikh bloyz bazorgn a hant-zeygerl. zi flegt oykh nisht visn tsu vos far a tsvek dos geyst.</p> <p>es flegn antloyfn drey perzon a vokh un zeyer zeltn az men flegt eynem khapn. di lager-komendatur hot ongevendet ale kreftn tsum khapn un dergeyn vu iz di „maline“fun velkher men antloyft.</p> <p>ven zey hobn eyn mol gekhapt drey antlofene, hobn zey fun zey nisht gekont aroyskrign vu zey hobn zikh farbahaltn. ale drey hot men gehaltn in bunker (1) un gepeynikt. men hot fun eynem geshnitn shtiklekh fleysh un geshotn fefer. alts iz geven on derfolg. tsumorgns hot men oyf zey aroysgetrogn a toyt-urteyl durkh hengen.</p> <p>eynem hot men aroyfgeshtelt oyf der tlie a toyt. di andere tsvey hobn geshtelt a heldishn vidershtand, kemfndik mit di fis. tsum hengen zey hot men</p>	<p>and that with the help of the map they would try to find their way out of the camp without getting into another one.</p> <p>I also brought shoes and civilian clothes. Only my friend Fedyor and I knew about it. In case there was a strict control, but I had to deliver the requested things on the same day, I usually got them with the help of a girl from "Canada". She used to hand over the things to my comrade who worked in the women's camp. Otherwise, I only used to get wristwatches through the girl. However, she did not know for what purpose.</p> <p>Usually three people escaped in a week, and only very rarely one got caught. The camp command put all its efforts into catching the fugitives and finding out where the "maline" (hiding place) was from which they used to escape.</p> <p>Once, when they caught three fugitives, they could not get out of them where they had been hiding. All three were kept in the bunker (1) and tortured. They cut pieces of flesh from the body of one of them and poured pepper into his wounds. But everything was to no avail. The next morning they were sentenced to death by hanging.</p> <p>One of them was put on the gallows as a dead man. The other two made a heroic resistance, fighting with their feet. Before they were hanged,</p>
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(1) The camp prison was called "bunker" by the prisoners.

<p>gerufn dem gantsn lager. arum hot men oysgeshtelt SS. mit mashin-gever in fal fun a tuml.</p>	<p>the whole camp was summoned. SS men were placed around it in case of a riot.</p>
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<p>ven men hot geleyent dem toyt-urteyl hot eyner fun di farmishpete oysgeshrien: khaveyrim, ikh shtarb farn foterland, zolt ir nekome nehmen far mayn blut, kh'shtarb far Stalinen."</p> <p>ven er hot dermont dos vort „Stalin“ iz tsugegangen der komendant fun lager, Kramer, mit a meser in hant un aroysgeshnitn im di tsung. a kval fun blut hot zikh a gos getun oyf der erd. s'hobn zikh nokh gehert farshtikte geshrayen. der lager-eltster hot afirgetsoygn di shtuln fun unter di farmishpete. s'hot zikh derhert a khorkhl un ale drey zenen geblibn hengen in der luften.</p> <p>dan hobn mir ale gemuzt farbaymarshirn, yeder mitn kop gevendet tsu di toyte. azoy zenen di toyte gehangen tsvey teg.</p> <p>trots dem alemen hot zikh dos antloyfn nisht opgeshtelt. yedn drith tsi fertn tog flegt shoyfn di sirene yomern onzogn dik az m'iz vider antloyfn. un vider flegn loyfn di SS. mit di hint vi farsamte meyz shpet in der nakht un kumen on derfolg. dan hot di lager-komandatur farshtanen az dos iz an organizirt antloyfn. zey hobn glaykh arayngezetst eynem a rusishn polkovnik in S.K. mitn oyfshrift i.I. (in lager). (1)</p> <p>der polkovnik hot nisht getort aroysmarshirn tsu keyn shum arbet. er flegt nor arbetn in lager baym kern di gas. azoy hobn zey geton mit ale vos zenen geven antloyf-fardekhtik.</p> <p>der doziker polkovnik iz geven der hoypt-organizator funem antloyfn. er flegt zogn ver un ven men zol antloyfn.</p> <p>mir hot Fedyor tsugezegt, az es vet kumen der tog un men vet mir oykh heysn antloyfn. dervayl darf ikh arbetn aktiv baym helfn andere tsu antloyfn. in der zelber tsayt zaynen antlofn oyf zeyer eygener hant finf perzon:</p> <p>der shrayber fun blok 26, tsvey Kapos, a holender mit a daytshishn yid. zey hobn untergekoyft an SS-man, velkher hot zey avekgefirt oyser der</p>	<p>When the death sentence was read, one of the condemned cried out, "Comrades, I die for the Fatherland, take revenge for my blood, I die for Stalin!"</p> <p>As soon as he had mentioned the word "Stalin," the camp commander, Kramer, ran to him with a knife and cut out his tongue. A torrent of blood poured out onto the ground. Choking screams could still be heard. The camp elder pulled the chairs away from under the condemned. A gasp was heard, and then all three hung in the air.</p> <p>After that, we all had to march past, each with his head pointed at the dead. The deceased remained hanging like this for two days.</p> <p>But despite all this, the escapes did not stop. Every third to fourth day, the siren wailed that another one had escaped. And again, as usual late at night, the SS men ran out with their dogs like poisoned mice but came back without success. Finally, the camp command understood that it was an organized escape movement. They immediately transferred a Russian colonel into the S.K. ("Strafkompanie"), with the inscription "i.I." (inside the camp) (1). The colonel was not allowed to march out to work. He only worked in the camp as a street sweeper. That's what they did with everyone who was suspected of escaping.</p> <p>This colonel was the main organizer of the escape movement. He determined who and when to flee.</p> <p>Fedyor promised me that the day would come for me, too, to be destined to escape. In the meantime, however, I should continue to work actively to enable others to escape. At the same time, 5 people escaped on their own:</p> <p>The clerk of Block 26, two Kapos, a Dutchman and a German Jew. They bribed an SS man who led them out of the</p>
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postn-keyt. dan hot der zelber SS-man zey alemen geshosn un avek in lager meldn az finf perzon zenen antlofn un er hot	chain of guard posts. But then, this SS man shot them all and, back in the camp, reported that five people had escaped and that he had shot
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(1) = My understanding is that he was transferred to the punishment wing and was isolated within the camp.

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<p>alemen geshosn. er hot derfar bakumen an oystsaykhnung. ale finf hot men gebrakht in lager. men hot zey oysgeleygt baym toyer, az itlekher zol zey zen. an enlekher fal iz fargekumen mitn „blokovn“ fun blok numer 3. oykh im hot der SS-man, velkhn er hot gehat untergekoyft gebrakht a toyt in lager. fun froyen-leger zenen oykh antlofn etlekhe rusishe froyen, velkhe men hot gekhapt.</p> <p>shpeter iz antlofn di shrayberke fun froyen-lager, a tshekhish meyd, <i>Malye</i>, tsuzamen mit a polyak. nokh fir teg zukhn hot men zey bayde gekhapt in Katowits. Malye iz gezesn in bunker. bay der oysforshung hot zi mit a flash, vos iz geshtanen oyfn tish, geshpoltn dem kop dem obersharfirer Boger (1). derfar hot men zi farmishpet farbrent tsu vern lebedikerhayt. dem polyak hot men oyfgehangen bay undz in lager in der onvezenhayt fun ale arestirte.</p> <p>kh'hob shoyn frier dermont vegn dem heldishn yidishn meyd, velkhe hot mit ir hant geshosn dem groysn sadistishn merder Shillinger. s'iz keday dem fakt breyter tsu bashraybn. dos iz geven sof 1943. men hot gebrakht a transport amerikaner birger, velkhe zenen geven internirt in Berlin. dos iz geven tsvey azeyger baynakht.</p> <p>di SS zenen geven zikher, az di mentshn veln nisht shteln keyn vidershtand. derfar hot men zey gefirt in bazundere krematoryums. es iz nisht fargekumen keyn shum selektsye: men hot alemen gefirt tsum toyt. ven m'hot gebrakht dem fertn oyto mentshn in krematoryum 1, iz dort oyfn oyto geven a yung meyd, an artistke. (2)</p> <p>di mentshn velkhe men hot gebrakht mitn forikn oyto zenen shoyn geven in bunker. di kleyder zeyere hobn gehangen in oyskleydungs-tsimer. der</p>	<p>them all. He received an award for it. All five were taken to the camp. They were laid down by the camp gate so that everyone would see them. A similar case occurred with the person in charge of block number 3. The SS man, whom he had bribed, also brought him back dead. Several Russian women also escaped from the women's camp, but they were caught.</p> <p>Later, the clerk of the women's camp, a Czech girl, Malye, escaped together with a Pole. After four days of searching, they were both caught in Katowice. Malye was stuck in the bunker. During her interrogation, she took a bottle that had been on the table and split the head of "Oberscharführer" Boger (1). For this she was sentenced to be burned alive. The Pole was hanged in our camp, in the presence of all the detainees.</p> <p>I have mentioned before the heroic Jewish girl who shot with her own hand the notorious sadistic murderer Schillinger. However, this circumstance is worth describing in more detail. It was the end of 1943, and at two o'clock in the night a transport was brought with American citizens who had been interned in Berlin. The SS were sure that these people would not resist, so they were led to special crematoria. There was no selection at all, but all were led to death right away. The fourth truck with people drove up to Crematorium 1; on it was a young girl, an artist. (2)</p> <p>The people brought by the truck before were already in the bunker; their clothes were hanging in the "undressing room". At that time, the</p>
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merder Shilinger hot dan gehat in dinst, iz er arumgegangen mit a shtekn un getribn di mentshn m'zol zikh gikher oyston un tsuzamenbindn di shikh. dos yunge meydl iz arumgegangen in krematoryum in mantl mit a redikul in hant un hot geleyent di oyfshrift fun di vent.

murderer Schillinger was on duty and walking around, prodding people with his cane to undress faster and tie their shoes together. The young girl, wearing her coat and holding her reticule, walked around the crematorium, reading the inscriptions on the walls.

- (1) He seems to have survived, see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilhelm_Boger



Narodowe Archiwum Cyfrowe, s.van. 1-K-11881-5

- (2) *Performing artist Franceska Mann (Franciszka Mannówna), Warsaw, Poland., Public Domain, This work is also in the **public domain** in the United States, no changes made / see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Franceska_Mann, source *Digital copy from NAC (Narodowe Muzeum Cyfrowe) - watermarks removed per Commons policy guidelines.*, author: Zakład fotograficzny: "Van - Dyck", • File:Franceska Mann.jpg, Created: Interwar period, 1936-1939*

der merder Shilinger iz tsu ir tsu mit di verter: „froyleyn varum tsien zi zikh nisht oys tsum baden?“
-ikh vil nisht, az aza bandit vi du zol zen mayn naketn kerper- iz geven der entfer fun meyd. (1)

dan hot dos blut fun merder zikh ongetsundn un er hot ir gegeben a zets mitn shtekn iber der pleytse.
dos meyd iz tsugesprungen tsu im, im ongekhapt bay di hent, gebndik mit ir kop a festn zets in ponim fun merder. er hot aroysgelozt dem shtekn fun hant un zikh gekhapt tsum revolver.

ven er hot shoyn opgespilyet dos sheydl un gehaltn dem revolver, hot dos heldishe meyd mit ire letste koykhes arayngekhapt tsvishn di tseyne a shtik fleysh fun zayn hant un fest zikh ayngeshosn. fun shtarker veytik hot der merder aroysgelozt dem revolver fun hant. dos meyd hot a khap geton dem revolver un glaykh arayngeshosn dem merder in brust arayn.

er iz glaykh gefaln in a kaluzhe blut oyfn tsement a toyter. dan iz tsugelofn a tsveyter SS, velndik aroysraysn dem revolver. nor dos meyd hot oykh in im arayngeshosn a koyl. dan hot zi oysgeshosn in di elektrishe lompn. in gantsn krematoryum iz gevorn fintster. di iberike SS, derherndik di shiseray, zaynen aroysgelofn fun krematoryum. zey hobn arayngeshtelt mashin-gever in di fentster un geshosn oyf dem meyd velkhe hot zikh farteydikt biz der letster koyl un gefaln mit a heldishn martirer-toyt.

der krematoryum iz gevorn tseshtert fun di koyln. di iberike mentshn velkhe zenen geven in bunker hobn derhert di shiseray un naketerhayt

The murderer Schillinger ran to her with the words, "Miss, why don't you undress to take a shower?"

"I don't want a bandit like you to see my naked body," the girl replied.
(1)

This made the killer's blood boil, and he struck her on the shoulder with his cane.

The girl jumped up to the killer, grabbed his hands and gave him with her head a sharp blow into his face. He dropped the cane and reached for his revolver.

When he had already stripped off the holster and was holding the revolver, the heroic girl dug her teeth into the flesh of his hand with the last of her strength and bit down hard. The pain was so intense that the killer dropped the revolver from his hand. The girl grabbed the revolver and immediately shot the killer in his chest.

He, immediately, fell dead in a pool of blood on the cement. A second SS man then rushed in to seize the revolver. But the girl shot a bullet at him, too. After that she shot into the electric lamps, so that it became dark in the whole crematorium. When the other SS men heard the shooting, they ran out of the crematorium. They set up machine guns in the windows and shot at the girl, who defended herself to the last bullet and died a heroic martyr.

The crematorium had been destroyed by the bullets. The remaining people who were in the bunker had heard the shooting and had run out

<p>aroysgelofn. oyf tsu morgns zenen ale gelign tshosene oyfn hoyf fun krematoryum. fil hobn gefunen dem toyt oyfn elektrishn drot.</p> <p>vi kh'hob shoyn geshribn bin ikh eyner aley n fun gantsn transport geblibn in Birkenau. der tsveyter tsu mir, <i>Otniel</i>, velkher hot gearbet in krematoryum, iz in Mai 1944 avek tsuzamen mit nokh tsvey hundert zonder-komande-arbeten oyf transport. men hot zey gefirt biz Lublin mitn oysreyd, az zey veln</p>	<p>naked. The next day, they were all lying shot in the yard of the crematorium. Many found death on the electric wire.</p> <p>As I have already written, I was the only one of our transport who remained in Birkenau, after the second remaining one, <i>Otniel</i>, who had worked in the crematorium, was sent away on a transport together with another 200 workers of the "Sonderkommando" in May 1944. They were taken to Lublin, under the pretext that there they would...</p>
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(1) Schillinger uses the formal form to address the young woman, but she addresses him informally with "du"!

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<p>dortn arbetn. ober glaykh vi zey zenen aroys fun der ban hot men zey gefirt in bod. do hot men tsu 5 perzon arayngefirt in a tsveytn tsimer un dershosn.</p> <p>der luner (<i>lager?</i>) kapo <i>Leyzer Harontshik</i> (itst in erets Yisroel) hot farshikt Otniel Leybovitch in Lubliner lager oyf a zikhern toyt, beys a selektsye far nisht veln im razirn tsuglaykh vi a SS-man.</p> <p>in zonder-komande iz nokh geblibn Shloyme der geler, velkher hot itst ongehoybn fest oystsuarbetn a plan vi oyf tsurayns dem krematoryum un makhn a sof tsum brenen mentshn.</p> <p>in zonder-komande hot men gebrakht 20 rusn fun Majdanek. zey hobn do gearbet bay der zelber arbet vi in Majdanek. tsvishn di rusn hot zikh gefunen eyner a gevezener mayor, velkher hot tsuzamen mit Shloymen oysgearbet a plan vi azoy a sof tsu makhn tsu dem alemen. ven kh'fleg</p>	<p>work there. But right after they left the train, they were taken to the bathroom. From there, they were led to another room, 5 at a time, and shot.</p> <p>The "Luner" (?) Kapo <i>Leyzer Harontchik</i> (now staying in the state of Israel) had, during a selection, sent Otniel Leibovitch to the Lublin camp, <i>i.e.</i>, to his certain death, because the latter had refused to shave him at the same time as an SS man.</p> <p>Still remaining in the "Sonderkommando" was Shloime the Blond, who now began to work out a plan to blow up the crematorium, to put an end to the burning of people.</p> <p>In the "Sonderkommando" were brought 20 Russians from (<i>the KZ</i>) Majdanek, who did the same work there as <i>before</i> in Majdanek. Among the Russians, there was a former major who, together with Shloime, worked out a plan to put an end to it all. When I came in to Shloime to</p>
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<p>araynkumen tsu Shloymen oyf tsu krign bay im a por mesers, oder a por tsivile hoyzn, fleg ikh trefn Shloymen lign tsuzamen mitn mayor in vinkl bet un zey flegn shtil sheptshen tsvishn zikh.</p> <p>-Avroheml, mir veln ingikhn a sof makhn fun undzer farbrekherisher arbet. mir veln faln, ober vi heldn.-dos zenen geven Shloymes verter tsu mir.</p> <p>di arbet hot gemuzt getun vern zeyer konspirativ. in lager hobn zikh gefunen a sakh fareter, velkhe flegn aroysgebn dem eygenem khaver far a shtikl broyt, oder far a bisl vaserdiker zup. ven mir flegn zikh dervishn vegn aza fareter, flegn mir im aribervarfn a koldre ibern kop un im gut unterhahn di zaytn.</p> <p>Shloyme hot mir fartroyt, az zey arbetn arum shafn a bombe. dem pulver flegn brengen di froyen, velkhe hobn gearbet in der pulver-fabrik. dos alts iz ongekumen mit groys shverikeyt vayl di froyen zenen shtreng kontrolirt gevorn. trots di ale shverikeytn flegn eyntselne froyen brengen yedn tog a bisele</p>	<p>get some knives or a pair of civilian pants from him, I usually found him lying with the major in a corner of the bed, quietly whispering to each other.</p> <p>"Avroheml, we will shortly put an end to our criminal work! We will fall, but as heroes!" These were the words that Shloime spoke to me.</p> <p>The work had to be done extremely secretly, because there were many traitors in the camp who would send their own comrades to their doom just for a piece of bread, or even for some watery soup. When we found such a traitor, we used to throw a blanket over his head and punch him properly in his sides.</p> <p>Shloime confided in me that they were working on building a bomb. The (gun) powder for this was brought by the women who worked in the (gun) powder factory. Since the women were very strictly controlled, all this happened only with the greatest difficulties. But despite all these troubles, individual women used to bring a ...</p>
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<p>pulver in di shikh un dos ibergebn an ongevizenem man, velkher flegt dos ibergebn Shloymen. der plan hot forgezen, az fir krematoryums zoln oyfgerisn vern in der zelber minut. dan zol men oyfraysn di drotn fun froyen-lager un ale zoln tseloyfn.</p> <p>Fun mener-lager oyfmakhn di drotn iz geven tsu shver, vayl der mener-lager</p>	<p>bit of powder every day in their shoes, handing it over to the designated man, who would deliver it to Shloime. The plan called for four crematoria to be blown up at the same time. Then, the barbed wires of the women's camp were to be torn open so that everyone could escape.</p> <p>Opening the barbed wires of the men's camp was too difficult because the men' camp was far away from the crematorium, whereas the</p>
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iz geven vayt fun krematoryum un der froyen-lager hot zikh opgeteylt fun krematoryum bloyz mit eyn drot.

di arbet fun antloyfn iz vayter fortgezestt gevorn. yede vokh flegn antloyfn drey-fir perzon. farfaln flegn zey vern vi in vaser arayn. di tsugreytung tsum oyfshtand hot zikh gefirt mit a shneln tempo. mir hobn in lager gevust vu der front gefint zikh un az di rusn dernentern zikh tsum lager. oykh hobn mir gevust, az mir veln ale umgebrakht vern in der letster minut far der natsisher mapole. azoy forgekumen in Lublin. men hot in etlekhe sho dershoshn zibetsik toyznt gefangene. in der ershter ray zenen geven di yidishe gefangene.

etlekhe teg farn oyfshtand hot zikh vegn dem dervust der merder Mol. er hot glaykh farnakht gerufn dem *yidishn Kapo Kaminski* un im gemoldn, az er veyst az men greyt epes. er hot farlangt fun Kapo, az er zol im aroysgebn di mentshn, velkhe shteyen in der shpits fun der organizatsye. nokh tsvey sho peynikn im, hot er dem Kapo geshoshn un aleyh arayngevorfn in oyvn.

in tsvey teg arum iz vider epes durkhgefaln in krematoryum numer 1. dos iz geshen farmitog, azeyger 10. eyner iz antlofn fun krematoryum numer 1 in krematoryum numer 3, vu es hot gearbet Shloyme un gemoldn az es iz adurkhgefaln di aktsye. dan hobn di fun krematoryum drey oyfgerisn zeyer bombe un dem daytshishn Kapo un dem Opsharfirer arayngevorfn in fayer lebedikerhayt. der krematoryum iz tseshtert gevorn.

dan zenen ale aroysgelofn oyfn hoyf un zikh gelozt loyfn tsu di postn-turems. mit nakete hent hobn zey heldish bazigt etelkhe „postns“. tsunemendik zeyer gevev zenen zey gelofn tsu di krematoryums

women's camp was only separated from the crematorium by a barbed wire.

The work to enable escapes also continued. Every week, three to four people escaped. They disappeared off the face of the earth. The preparation of the uprising developed at a rapid pace. We in the camp knew, where the front was and that the Russians were approaching our place. We also knew that we would all be killed at the last minute before the Nazis were defeated. This is what happened in Lublin: 70,000 people were shot there in several hours. In the first row, there had been the Jewish prisoners.

A few days before the uprising, the murderer Moll learned of the plans. That very evening, he summoned *the Jewish Kapo Kaminski* and demanded to hand over to him the people who were at the head of the organization. After torturing the Kapo for two hours, he shot him and threw him alone into the oven.

After two days, something went wrong again in crematorium number 1. It happened in the morning at 10 o'clock. One escaped from crematorium number 1 to crematorium number 3, where Shloime was working, and reported that the operation had failed. Thereupon, those from crematorium number 3 detonated their bomb and threw the German Kapo and the "Oberscharführer" alive into the fire. The crematorium was destroyed!

Everyone then rushed out to the courtyard and ran to the guard towers. With bare hands, they heroically defeated quite a few guards posts. They took their rifles and ran to the crematoria...

1 un 2. dort hobn zey oyfgerisn dos drot fun froyen-lager un di merhayt iz antloyfn.

di SS hobn zikh glaykh gekhapt vos do kumt for. dos ershte hobn zey oyf ale komande gegeben a farordnung az ale gefangene zoln lign ponim tsu der erd, nisht oyfhoybndik dem kop.

di sirene hot ongehoybn fayfn un SS zenen gelofn tsu di krematoryums. di heldishe kemfers hobn zikh farteydikt oyfn hoyf fun krematoryum. di merhayt zenen antlofn mitnemendik andere gefangene, velkhe hobn gearbet nont leben krematoryum.

dos gantse hoyf iz geven farleygt mit royte kerpers, tsvishn velkhe s'hot zikh gefunen oykh Shloyme, mit a tsheshosenem boykh. di SS hobn aroysgerufn hilf un zey hobn arumgeringt a shetekh fun fuftsik kilometer. dan iz zey gelungen tsuriksubrengen di antlofene. di merste hobn zikh farteydikt mit di hoyle hent un gefaln vi heldn in kamf.

der krematoryum „drey“ iz tseshtert gevorn un dort hot men shoyn mer nisht gegazevet. Shloyme iz gefaln vi a martirer in kamf farn kovod fun yidishn folk. ere zayn andenk.

1 and 2. There, they tore the barbed wire from the women's camp and the majority fled.

The SS immediately understood what was going on. First, they ordered all the squads to lie face down on the floor and not to raise their heads. The siren began to whistle and the SS ran to the crematoria. The heroic fighters defended themselves in the yard of the crematorium. The majority fled, taking with them other prisoners who were working near the crematorium.

The whole courtyard was laid out with red bodies, among which was Shloime, with his belly shot through. The SS issued a call for help and then circled an area of 50 kilometers. So they then managed to bring back those who had escaped. Most of them defended themselves with their bare hands and fell as heroes in battle.

Crematorium "three" had been completely destroyed and no longer could anyone be gassed there. Shloime fell like a martyr in the fight for the honor of the Jewish people. Glory be to his memory!



Drawing courtesy of Zdzislaw Nitka