



## Table of Contents

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION . . . . .                                  | 1   |
| AFTER THOSE FIFTY YEARS . . . . .                                | 5   |
| REMEMBER THEM WITH WORDS . . . . .                               | 9   |
| INTRODUCTION TO THE SECOND EDITION<br>OF BIRKENAU BOYS . . . . . | 11  |
| COMPOSITION OF AUSCHWITZ CAMPS 1943 – 1945 . . . . .             | 15  |
| SINAI ADLER (Wolf) . . . . .                                     | 19  |
| SPECULATION . . . . .  | 25  |
| ELI BACHNER formerly Bedrich Bachner . . . . .                   | 27  |
| YEHUDA BACON . . . . .   | 29  |
| A RECOLLECTION – Vzpomínka . . . . .                             | 33  |
| PAVEL BERGMANN . . . . .   | 39  |
| JIRI STEINER BOREK . . . . .                                     | 45  |
| JIRI J. DIAMANT . . . . .  | 47  |
| MEETING IN ISRAEL . . . . .                                      | 51  |
| GERHARD L. DURLACHER . . . . .                                   | 55  |
| THOMAS FANTL (Tomy) . . . . .                                    | 59  |
| YOM KIPPUR IN AUSCHWITZ . . . . .                                | 63  |
| JOHN FREUND (Johnny) . . . . .                                   | 67  |
| THE HUNGARIAN JEWISH SWINE . . . . .                             | 71  |
| OTA FURTH (Kocka) . . . . .                                      | 75  |
| HURRAHI HERE WE ARE AGAIN . . . . .                              | 79  |
| HARRY GOLDBERGER . . . . .                                       | 87  |
| FRANK GRUNWALD (Misa) . . . . .                                  | 91  |
| ERNST HACKER . . . . .   | 95  |
| WALTER HACKER . . . . .  | 105 |
| MARTIN HERZ (Macek) . . . . .                                    | 109 |
| ROBERT HERZ (Robin) . . . . .                                    | 113 |
| THE LAST WITNESSES . . . . .                                     | 115 |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| FREDY HIRSCH . . . . .                                  | 117 |
| MICHAEL HONEY (Misa) formerly M. Honigwachs . . . . .   | 121 |
| HARRY KARNI formerly H. Kraus . . . . .                 | 125 |
| LUDEK KLACER (Lou) . . . . .                            | 127 |
| COMMENTARY . . . . .                                    | 130 |
| HISTORICAL RESERVOIRS . . . . .                         | 131 |
| PAVEL KRASKY (Krajsky) . . . . .                        | 133 |
| MICHAEL J. KRAUS . . . . .                              | 135 |
| THE TENT CAMP . . . . .                                 | 141 |
| DOV KULKA (Otto Schon) . . . . .                        | 149 |
| PAVEL KUMMERMANN . . . . .                              | 153 |
| ELIMELECH LIESER (Max) . . . . .                        | 155 |
| PAULI NEUMANN . . . . .                                 | 157 |
| HARRY OSERS . . . . .                                   | 159 |
| JAN POLLAK (Hatiti) . . . . .                           | 167 |
| ALEX SCHACHTER . . . . .                                | 171 |
| HENRY N. SILBERSTERN (Jindra) . . . . .                 | 173 |
| ON YOUR BAR MITZVAH . . . . .                           | 177 |
| BEDRICH STEINER (Skoba) . . . . .                       | 179 |
| EXCERPTS FROM THE DIARY<br>OF BEDRICH STEINER . . . . . | 181 |
| THE TWINS: JIRI AND ZDENEK STEINER . . . . .            | 183 |
| KAREL STERN . . . . .                                   | 187 |
| JAN STREBINGER . . . . .                                | 191 |
| HELMUTH SZPRYCKER . . . . .                             | 195 |
| KAREL WINTER (Honza) . . . . .                          | 209 |
| OTHERS . . . . .  | 211 |
| THOSE WHO DID NOT SURVIVE . . . . .                     | 213 |
| HUMOUR . . . . .  | 215 |
| LISTING . . . . .                                       | 217 |
| AFTERWORD: COURAGE . . . . .                            | 219 |
| POSTSCRIPT . . . . .                                    | 223 |

# LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| 1. Location of Concentration camps (map) . . . . .         | vi       |
| 2. Remembrance. Drawing by Yehuda Bacon . . . . .          | 8        |
| 3. Abstract by Yehuda Bacon . . . . .                      | 10       |
| 4. Auschwitz. Graphic by Yehuda Bacon . . . . .            | 14       |
| 5. Tefillin. Graphic by Yehuda Bacon . . . . .             | 18       |
| 6. Wreath. Photograph . . . . .                            | 24       |
| 7. Birkenau, 1990. Photograph . . . . .                    | 26       |
| 8. Self-portrait by Yehuda Bacon . . . . .                 | 28       |
| 9. In Memory of Transport by Yehuda Bacon . . . . .        | 32       |
| 10. P. Bergman at reunion. Photograph . . . . .            | 38       |
| 11. Dutch television crew at reunion. Photograph . . . . . | 44       |
| 12., 13., 14., 15. Reunion photographs . . . . .           | after 54 |
| 16. Reunion photograph . . . . .                           | 58       |
| 17. Prague Panorama. Photograph . . . . .                  | 62       |
| 18. Janek. Sketch by F. Jazwecki . . . . .                 | 66       |
| 19. Skola L417. Photograph . . . . .                       | 74       |
| 20. Dresdener Barrack. Photograph . . . . .                | 74       |
| 21. Graphic by Yehuda Bacon . . . . .                      | 78       |
| 22. Jewish Star. Graphic by Yehuda Bacon . . . . .         | 86       |
| 23. Goldberger telegram . . . . .                          | 90       |
| 24. Group Photograph . . . . .                             | 94       |
| 25. Group Photograph . . . . .                             | 108      |
| 26. L. Klacer postcard . . . . .                           | 120      |
| 27. M. Kraus diary (final page) . . . . .                  | 148      |
| 28. Mini-reunion, 1991. Photograph . . . . .               | 152      |
| 29. Gate of Terezin. Drawing by M. Kraus . . . . .         | 170      |
| 30. M. Kraus poem . . . . .                                | 172      |
| 31. Silberstern letter . . . . .                           | 176      |
| 32. Orchestra by F. Reisz . . . . .                        | 194      |
| 33. Szprycer document . . . . .                            | 206      |
| 34. Commemorative postage stamps . . . . .                 | 208      |