

OTTO EIDLITZ DIARIES, 1940-1943
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Below is a translation of Otto Eidlitz's diary:

Thursday, January 1

In God's name, I am starting to write my diary. I hope to finish it. As we are walking, due to some trivial comment, Gyuri spits and walks away. A telegraph arrived from Genn. Supposedly we will receive a suitcase from home tomorrow. Gyuri and I argue about this. Funny child. Very hard to align oneself with him. Still, I spend the day in a good mood.

Friday, January 2

Gyuri and I are working in the same trade. Our application for residence will not be signed (granted?) until Monday. Our suitcase has not arrived. I was helping out at the Grunfeld's. I wish we would receive our residential permit so I can work in my trade. We pray separately at night. Strange how the three of us move around separately.

Saturday, January 3

I was helping the Grunfelds in the morning. I received 5 pesetas in the afternoon which made my income 40 pesetas. I receive 35 pesetas from headquarters. Gyuri and I now speak to each other. He received 30 pesetas from the Grunfelds for working in the afternoon, and he treats us from his salary. Tomi also earns 25 pesetas. With God's help we will be alright. We bought more good snacks in town for ourselves for today and tomorrow.

Sunday, January 4

Today is Tomi's birthday. I will go to the Grunfelds in the morning. Grunfeld is a very shifty guy. True I get a bowl of soup with some bread which are his leftovers. At noon, after a good dinner (lunch) we have our own treats which consist of nuts and coconut. Afterwards we treat ourselves to a chocolate drink with whipped cream. After dinner we continue at Vandorka. (?)

Monday, January 5

I hang around all day secretly hoping the suitcase will arrive, but it doesn't. We leave the lawyer's office with more empty promises. Unfortunately it isn't as important to them as it is for us. Gyuri forgot about the meeting. He is very forgetful and it will cause him a lot of problems if he continues to be so irresponsible. He is starting his sullenness again tonight. I am also starting to be impatient with him.

Tuesday, January 6

Very few children are more conceited. I am conceited as well. This situation has to change. The war of nerves is unbearable. We have to separate temporarily. In the morning and afternoon I help the Grunfelds for payment and cake. My parents' letters are not given to me. That can happen too, I understand. At times we refugees have a sad life.

Wednesday, January 7

One day less of pain in the world. A week ago I was in such a good mood. I am starting to reverse again. All day long we run around trying to change our visas which at this point are not correct. Supposedly, that is what the police want now. I wish we would get the certificate of residence stamped already. I visit the Brazilian Consulate. I am not sick thank God. With friends, we are trying to get work papers, but we are told that it is dangerous. God should help me that I should be able to work.

Thursday, January 8

Seven people arrived at our boarding house from Bucharest. A 22 year old young man is very nice. We plan to go for a walk. Within five minutes Tomi wants to join us. He always pushes himself into every situation. I am coming to the conclusion that I have to assert myself at all times. We will get our package in the afternoon.

Friday, January 9

I hang around all day without accomplishing anything, outside of arguing. Gyuri wanted to beat me up in the morning but changed his mind. By noon he retreats and so do I. Tomi thinks he is perfect. Not so. He has as many faults as we do. Our passports are requested again. Perhaps something good will happen. God should only help.

Saturday, January 10

We prayed together yesterday. I am relapsing again since I am not working. Gyuri did well since he reported the change quickly. He received a raise of 5 pesetas. No one knows what the Joint is planning. I wish we could get to America but I don't think the possibility exists. Today we went to see a movie and ate chestnut puree.

Sunday, January 11

Today is a happy day without arguments. This morning we visited the neighborhood. We also played soccer.(Fani?) After dinner we had a little rice pudding. We will go for a walk in town. First we have some coffee which is very expensive. I think we spend more money on sweets than we did at home.

Monday, January 12

We are hanging around too much. I am wishing for something to happen through the Joint. No one knows what they are planning. Our 93 kilo package would be welcome. Even letters have not arrived in a while. It would be nice to read some dear lines. I decided to learn the language. It would be nice to learn several languages. Again, I would like to accomplish something without working at it.

Tuesday, January 13

We are notified that our package can only be gotten with an import license. The devil should take them. All the good food will rot. The news from the Joint is that by weeks end they will know about us being taken to Cuba. We are here without our passport. I hope there will not be a problem about it. At the end of the month we have to report to police headquarters. With God's help something good will happen.

Wednesday, January 14

In my dreams, I went to retrieve the package. Through our landlord we are trying to get some favors in Port-Bau to get hold of our package. I hang around here all day long and try to learn some Spanish. I don't wake up until 10:30-11. I am becoming very lazy. It would nice to know Spanish, but for that I have to work very hard.

Thursday, January 15

I am working very hard at learning English and Spanish. A Hungarian person we know (we couldn't sell his fur coat) knows someone who may help us get our package through a high-ranking customs officer. My mouth is watering when I think of the fine butter and salami. Finally, two letters arrived from my parents which made me so happy.

Friday, January 16

No news about the Cuba possibility. Not a word is mentioned. This uncertainty is very bad. We wake up at 10:30-11. We spend our time studying and eating and studying. And we worry about the prospect of leaving. And we have a package that is rotting.

Saturday, January 17

No news. We are sending a telegram to England with a 50% chance of it getting there since we are not quite certain of the address. We are celebrating Saturday afternoon with a fine lunch of chestnut puree, cocoa and toasted rolls. We are invited to Vandor after dinner. We go to bed at 1:00 in the morning. I with a dream of 3 oranges.

Sunday, January 18

Unfortunately, still no news about our future. It would be nice to leave. If we could go to Lizabo we could receive our package. We have a big fight at noon about bread and our food. We go for a walk in the afternoon without arguing and behaving fairly well. We sun ourselves and eat our delicious food. For a change, we argue again at night.

Monday, January 19

Nothing new is happening other than we are arguing just for the fun of it. Rumors about Joint sending us away from here are good news. A month ago I did not feel that way but now I would be very happy leaving here. Perhaps tomorrow. With God's help we will reach our goal.

Tuesday, January 20

First thing in the morning I pray. Not too long, but I am certain it will become longer as time goes on. In the afternoon I am working on a pocket book and a suitcase in my boarding house. Both turn out fine and I am happy about it. There is nothing new at the Joint. Or else they are not telling us anything. Within one week our fate should be decided. Either good or bad.

Wednesday, January 21

Today I have a little work. In the morning I helped the Grunfelds. My payment is 5 pesetas and a box of butter. And I am listening to their praise of me. They say my work is much better than that of Gyuri. Poor child. Everyone mistreats him. We do also. Not that I would ever admit to it. In the afternoon I am fixing something for Racz for which I am earning 5 pesetas. My day is good.

Thursday, January 22

I get a request from the Bachmans to repair something for which I am earning 2 pesetas. I charge for the leather. So I work a little and study Spanish. I am progressing nicely. No news from the Joint. We

have a physical fight with Gyuri. He took my lunch. We have guests in the evening. The Bachmans drink champagne and eat toast.

Friday, January 23

Again I am repairing things for Racz. Another 5 pesetas. It's nice to work and study. Maybe we will receive our suitcase. Our friend Szell is trying to help with that. I wrote a letter yesterday. My first one. I wonder how many more I will have to write. I prayed alone at night. The three of us went in three directions. Five months have passed since we left.

Saturday, January 24

This morning as well as the afternoons I am helping the Grunfelds earning 5 pesetas. I am happy because I am invited for dinner. I hope the food is great. We ate lunch at home—hot chocolate, cakes and apples. Went to town and spent 6 1/2 pesetas on nonsense. One doesn't realize how quickly the money is spent.

Sunday, January 25

Again, I help out at the Grunfelds and have dinner there which is delicious. Then I went home. We go for a walk in town and find some hazelnuts. I return to Grunfeld at night and help him with his suitcase. I get 5 pesetas from him and have a conversation which is so secretive that I will not say a word about it here.

Monday, January 26

Franco is in Barcelona and there is a parade which I watch from beginning to end. It is not a real military parade. We go to the movies in the afternoon and see two English films. Yesterday the Joint said that our passports will be here today. It hasn't arrived. We are forced to be impatiently patient.

Tuesday, January 27

Another day without anything happening. Studying and a short walk is all I did yet I feel very tired. I would like to sleep here. The Joint and Szell (?) don't have any information on two matters—my visa and luggage. Tomorrow is another holiday. So many holidays.

Wednesday, January 28

Maybe something will happen. Another holiday. I study in the morning. We go for a hike in the afternoon. After a while Tomi insults Gyuri. Angry because he didn't read his letter. The good mood is gone. We argue about how fast we should walk. That's the end of the hike.

Thursday, January 29

A ship is leaving from Vigo on February 7th. Perhaps we can get on. But only if we get our visas. So far we have not heard from the Joint. There is nothing we can do to rush the matter. Only God knows when all this will come to pass. Sometimes I am sad. Sometimes I am in a good mood. Sometimes I miss my parents.

Friday, January 30

The day is again a bust. I sleep late and study till noon. I help Gyuri with his butter preparation and go to Szell who gives me an address of someone who would help us with getting the suitcase which is finally promised to be here by Tuesday. But I need a note from the Port Bavi base. I don't understand

Saturday, January 31

Again I am thinking of becoming independent. I need to prepare samples. I will check into that on Monday so I can make a plan. We heard that it is very cold in Pest. Coal is hard to get and rumor has it that perhaps there will be mobilization. Have not heard from the Joint. We have not received our 22 pesetas of pocket money from them either.

I.1. 35.-Sz. XII.6, I weigh 67 kilos

I.2 5.-G.

I.21. 5.-G.

I.21. 5.-R.

I.23. 2.-B. I.9, I weigh 66 kilos

I.23. 5.-R.

I.24. 5.-G.

I.25. 5.-G.

Sunday, February 1

Went for an outing with Eugen. The area is very good but since I don't speak Spanish, I am quiet most of the way. I find a letter from my parents when I get home. Sad news. Our uncle Mor Eidlitz was operated on October 21st and died the same day. We are sincerely sad about him and his family. In the afternoon I will write a letter of condolence to Aunt Rozsi. The money from the Joint arrived this evening.

Monday, February 2

Just another day. Studying morning and afternoon without much progress. It would be good to be able to converse with someone who speaks the language well. No news from the Joint. Tomorrow, I shall start to work hard on shopping.

Tuesday, February 3

My morning is wasted. The requested writing from Mareno does not arrive. I am searching for a clip (clasp) for Vandor, but cannot locate one. I get home very tired, but I go over to an address Vandor gave me, to get a book, but that also will be available tomorrow. Everything is always tomorrow. I am waiting for a phone call from Szell who will tell me how to go about getting our precious package.

Wednesday, February 4

I study in the morning then go out to find Miss Swarz to get the books. I get 6-7 books and start reading without stopping. I make butter, but it doesn't turn out to be the best. I read till midnight. Szell says that we will receive our package. I don't believe it.

Thursday, February 5

Eugen's mother who lives in the boarding house wants to make a pocket book. How does she imagine an inexperienced person could make one of her own. We try to buy leather in the afternoon but it is very expensive. We decide to spend 1000 pesetas and have the invoice sent to Uncle Ferris' relative in N. But first I bought a piece of bread on the street.

Friday, February 6

Out of sheer laziness and because I have a cold, I get up and don't say my prayers. That was a mistake. I look out the window and see the snow is falling. I remember last year on seeing the first snow. I said to myself that we will be skiing on Sunday. No one to share my thoughts with here. In the afternoon I buy our good food supplies for tomorrow and the day after. Vandor gets information about the suitcase (package). Lots of fuss. But because of his children he does not have a big problem.

Saturday, February 7

I spoke to Szekely about a job but without documents he cannot employ me, but he would be happy to do so when I get my papers. Szekely does beautiful work which is rare even for Dudepest. But he helps me by letting me make my sample collection at home. Received a letter from a Harkaly meeting. Only three signatures on it but it makes me feel very good.

Sunday, February 8

We attend a free concert in the morning at Eugens. The house as well as the people are very nice. So is the music. We decide to attend every Sunday as long as the weather is bad. It seems that the package is very important to Vandor and he will bring it here with Grunfeld. We watch the film San Francisco in the afternoon. Tomi switched places with Gyuri and will work at Grunfeld's. I am so lazy.

Monday, February 9

I visit Vandor in the morning to discuss the package. Cca. argues with me for an hour about the fact that the package was kept a secret from him. He is right. Tomi already works for Vandor who thinks that Gyuri is dumb. Tomi is not honest. I was being cowardly for letting him say those things. He had no opinion of me since he doesn't know me well. Szell called in the morning saying that we can sign the application in the afternoon but Vandor didn't wish to do it.

Tuesday, February 10

Bank deposits at Uncle F's will not happen. Uncle Feri does not want us to do very well. Trunk and fat?? is not happening. Have not heard from my parents in a while. I will start working on my sample collection in the afternoon. Gyuri is working on his churner the last two days. It would be great ?? a piece and earn a lot. I am waiting patiently.

Wednesday, February 11

Studying a bit in the morning. We prepare and shop for my collection. I am not so hungry anymore. Have an invitation to work at Grunfeld's. Grunfeld, Racz, Vandor and Drumov play cards. Tomi is a very conceited person. Gyuri is getting to be a nice person. I will not pass judgment on myself.

Thursday, February 12

I help out at Grunfeld's in the morning and afternoon. It feels good to work. No news on the trunk. Uncle Feri says that he does not want to send money home. We cannot rely on him. I got to know Grunfeld very well. He is selfish but has a good heart. Gyuri was not successful with his first try to make butter out of cream. Too bad. Perhaps tomorrow will be better.

Friday, February 13

I help out at Grunfeld's in the morning and afternoon. I visit the shipping agent in the afternoon. He prepares the entry papers. Vandor decides that we have plenty of time to take care of that and that Racz will take it back along with his own. Grunfeld is willing to give 500? If we go for 5000 will give it in any currency. I get into an argument with the children in the afternoon. They say I am as stupid as a five year old. Perhaps they are right. Gyuri is quiet.

Saturday, February 14

I run around in the morning. I deliver for the Police in a Mercedes. I get 25 pesetas and a lot of butter. Gyuri is offended by everyone. Grunfeld gives us an address where we can send a draft of 600 pengot. (Hungarian currency) After a good lunch, we go into town to visit a dentist but he does not work today. I am tired from running around.

Sunday, February 15

I go to a concert with Tomi in the morning. Gyuri is making butter at home. We mail the postcard containing the address of the people who will pay the 600 pengot. We visit Eugen in the afternoon. Fruit, small cakes (cookies) and champagne is the fare. At night, I first play bridge where I blunder one time after another. After dinner I work a bit longer.

Monday, February 16

I decide on a lot of work in the morning but time runs out. Perhaps the entry application will be entered (delivered) tomorrow. Went to the dentist in the morning since one of my fillings came out. I need to go back in two days. Had a fight with Gyuri. He says he does not wish to hear my stupid talk. He can't sleep just thinking about it.

Tuesday, February 17

The morning is spent doing nothing. Perhaps the application for entry will be delivered today. Szell, Racz and Vandor are angry with us about the package. If only it would arrive already. I cut out the samples in the afternoon but am not finished with it. Perhaps tomorrow. Everything tomorrow—package, samples, Joint, letter. I promised to help my neighbor Miss Bachman tomorrow. Gyuri is receiving nice size butter orders.

Wednesday, February 18

I decided not to bother anyone with my problems. Gyuri made a comment when I told him that I am constipated after I had diarrhea. I went to the dentist. Have to return in 4-5 days. Vandor worked out well. We received bread and lard from him. His children must have written to him. But I also must have been stupid and mentioned it.

Thursday, February 19

I visit Szekely in the afternoon to ask him to cut (fit?) the samples. He offers instead that I copy the samples and come to work on Saturday and Sunday. I can earn a few pesetas. I agree and talk the boys into applying for permanent residence. I will start working at Szell's tomorrow.

Friday, February 20

Szell doesn't want to do anything. He will not even deliver the three passports to the attorney. We pray together evenings. Friday night we pray alone. I talked to Grunfeld on the phone and it was decided that we will pick up the passports jointly at the Liguireks. They are very kind and considerate again.

Saturday, February 21

Gyuri and I are trying to find a library. We find one in Calle-Ungel in a very nice school. We will try to register there on Monday. Gyuri may sit in on some class there. I tell Tomi that I think that is a ridiculous idea and I get screamed and cursed out in a loud voice. Everyone stops to listen.

Sunday, February 22

Yesterday afternoon and today I worked at Szekely's. I earned 30 pesetas. I felt so sick yesterday evening. I thought that I was seriously ill. Today my stomach cramps are somewhat easier. Yesterday as well as today our lunch was so delicious. It occurred to me that we immigrants have very good food. The fun begins tomorrow.

Monday, February 23

Thank God I am feeling all better. I am looking forward to things to come. We are not able to talk to Figuera but then we are successful. He will not give us the passports under any circumstances fearing that the boys will do something stupid. I am notified that I should be concerned about the children. All this happens six months to departure.

Tuesday, February 24

We pay them. (??) They are young so what more do they want? If they get arrested I cannot get them out. I make no promises. Let them want. I make my own plans and plan to study a lot. Gyuri says that I am never going to grow up and never be satisfied. Perhaps I will buy some leather and start doing something.

Wednesday, February 25

My briefcase is cut out and shaped and samples are prepared. Szekel is so nice and giving that I am ashamed to ask him for anything. I will finalize the preparation tomorrow. The pocketbook I am

preparing for the lady on the floor is very nice. I will sew it tomorrow at Szekely's. It seems to me that I am getting very little for helping. I have good thoughts about future work with pocketbooks.

Thursday, February 26

Finally I started working seriously today. I am not progressing fast enough. I lounge around a lot and get up too late. Perhaps a Torrent captain will travel to Port Boaba to get our package. It sure would be nice to have all that wonderful food—perhaps rotten by now. The lady living on the same floor brought us some fruit pudding and hazelnuts. I was pleased with her thoughtfulness. We are not expecting anything from the Joint.

Friday, February 27

I am working on the handbag, but slowly. The package issue is quiet again. Jose will bring over the papers we have to fill out for the police. Cannot imagine how things will work out. Maybe we will continue on. I gather from my parents' letter that Dad is sorry that he let us go and that they miss us terribly.

Saturday, February 28

I have nice dreams about selling lots of handbags and earning a lot of money. When I have two handbags and a wallet finished I am planning to go to Hochstimmer and see if we can do some business. I hope to succeed. I did not go to Szekely to work today since his workers are working overtime. I am not happy about asking for things from him. We eat a lot here and in town a lot of money is being spent.

11. 14 25.-Sz.

11. 22.30.-Sz.

11.31 ig 55 peseta

11. 15. I weigh 66 kg.

Expenses:

To Feb 28, on handbags	200.-
Feb 29, on workpapers	100.-
Feb 13, on workpapers	<u>100.-</u>

Receipts:

Feb 26, handbags	200
Feb 31?? earned	<u>442.50</u>
	642.50

1942 earnings 734.90

1943 left over from materials 165.10

900.00

Sunday, March 1

I worked at Szekely all day. He is not as pleasant as he used to be. Did not get paid since I got materials worth 17 pesetas. A big bowl of rice awaits me at home but it doesn't taste as good as the cake does. Perhaps I will recalculate the handbags. I hope I will be right.

Monday, March 2

I am moving very slowly with my work. I did not even show what I brought over because without words I felt that Szekely wanted to get rid of me. So many problems because I want to work at home but I need a sewing machine. We don't know what is happening at the Joint. I am finished at the dentist.

Tuesday, March 3

Nothing new is happening. I am not studying Spanish and my pocketbook making is running very slowly. Szekely has sewn up the second bag without saying anything about it. I will ask Mrs. Rothchild if I could borrow her sewing machine. Nothing from the Joint. Again I cannot decide whether to stay or leave.

Wednesday, March 4

Nothing is happening. I would like to be done with the pocketbooks. They did not turn out perfectly. I will see what Hochstimmer says. Had a fight with Tomi. We told him not to buy an electric bulb but he did anyway. However with him we make up quickly.

Thursday, March 5

Hopefully the bags will be finished by tonight. But maybe tomorrow. I am waiting for Ira Huppants' machine. It is very easy to work with. We are getting a head from Vandor as a gift. He must have received a letter asking him to help us but we have not had a call regarding our package. Grunfeld suggested we bring him the receipt.?? But he may just be sounding off.

Friday, March 6

The bags are done but they are not perfect. It is difficult to make things really well at home. I took them to Hochstimmer. His wife and another German woman were at home. They were very interested but did not buy them. They gave me some ideas. I will try to sell them on my own.

Saturday, March 7

I go shopping for leather with the lady from upstairs. She suggests that I try to sell my bags midweek. So I postpone my outing to sell them. I do wish to be successful. My family would be so happy. I am not working at Szekely. I think he would like to be rid of me.

Sunday, March 8

Received a letter from the guys at the Zerge Club of which I am President. That made me happy. Tomi thinks very little of them. He may be right. We went out into the neighborhood to sun ourselves and read. We received notification of a package yesterday. Am wondering what it is.

Monday, March 9

I go to the city to sell my wares. I am keeping my fingers crossed, hoping to succeed. I don't and my heart is broken. The package contained 4 zippers. The Joint is working on visas so we are happy.

Tuesday, March 10

No news. I am shopping with Mrs. Bachman in the morning. She wants to make a few leather cases. My reward is a good cup of coffee and cookies, but hopefully the reward will be greater when they are finished. I am ironing and darning and getting pretty good at it. Got 3 slices of Challah from Grunfeld. Like my mother's. So good.

Wednesday, March 11

I take the pocketbooks to Szenes. Hopefully he will sell them. Grunfeld said that if Szenes doesn't succeed, I should bring them to him. Vandors' birthday is tomorrow. Tomi will congratulate him for all of us. He is a bad person. He spends lavishly while his wife works nights. We received 3 letters today. Laci has not written so I do not consider him my friend any longer. But I will write to him once more.

Thursday, March 12

I will make a living for Mrs. Borchart. It is easier than I thought. She is very happy. Perhaps she will surprise me. I told her that she doesn't owe me anything. Our money is dwindling. We received 1680 pasetas from Grunfeld against our parents' payments.

Friday, March 13

The lady on our floor insisted I take a honey bread from her in the morning. She doesn't know how happy we are about her attention. We decided to buy 3 concert tickets to listen to Strauss. Money is only money. We argue a lot about nonsensical issues. Szenes could not sell the bags.

Saturday, March 14

We brought the bags home. I will try again tomorrow at the place Mrs. Barthardt suggested I go. Gyuri is insulted again about something silly. I spend the afternoon working at Szekely earning 10 pasetas. I feel good these days.

Sunday, March 15

A free concert in the morning. Opera for 4.60 (expensive) in the evening. The building is very nice. According to Tomi it is the second largest in Europe. My contract with Goldstein will be finished today. I always forget about it although I am filled with pride that I am free at my age. Better this way.

Monday, March 16

Rumors from Joint again. Fifty people left on Saturday. They were given 3 hours to get ready. Since then we are constantly discussing the possibility of our leaving here. We are deciding what to purchase to take with us and we spend 150-170 pasetas. Gyuri is again annoying.

Wednesday, March 18

I received 4 zippers again from home but the duty I paid was only 1.50. Odd. Last time the duty was 2.50. I cannot sell the bags despite promises from Hochstimmer. Tomi says they are ugly and not good.

Thursday, March 19

I wake up so angry about Tomi's statement that I have to take a walk to calm myself. It is a holiday so Tomi is at home. Vador calls after a long absence. We have a wonderful dinner and we lick our chops for a while. Tomi is a show off.

Friday, March 20

I don't know what is wrong with me but at times I am melancholy and irritable. Sometimes I think I will go crazy unless I can find someone to talk or complain to. Unfortunately there is no one.

Saturday, March 21

We receive a telegram from Dad. The Spanish consulate in Budapest will forward the notes about the suitcase to our address. But when?

Sunday, March 22

We spent the day at home due to bad weather. I decide to send the 3 pictures to Dad. Since the children, especially Tomi, don't agree on spending money on postage, I use my lunch allowance. Tomi must feel good that I recognize the feeling.

Monday, March 23

I took my bags to the owner of the Navarra Hotel at Hochstimmer's suggestion. They ripped up the paper and offered 50 pasetas for the cheaper one. Of course I didn't sell it. I feel very bitter about this but a few hazelnuts make me feel better.

Tuesday, March 24

In a letter from our parents they indicate the suitcase contains a lot of good stuff. They also mention there is a great shortness of things and that leather is very expensive. I will inquire about exporting leather perhaps. I cannot rely on anyone here.

Wednesday, March 25

Tomi is not working this afternoon. It is some kind of holiday. We go to see a movie in the afternoon. Tomi doesn't join us. He has to study. We spend a lot of money. I suggest to Tomi that we feed ourselves individually. He doesn't care. Szenes phones in the evening that non-citizens have to register within 8 days.

Thursday, March 26

The Joint in Liguier has meetings with the police. Maybe we will leave?? There seems to be a lot of problems. A woman died. Someone is very sick. We have a big fight about feeding ourselves separately. Tomi and Gyuri scream a lot. I am proud of myself. I never scream at home but do other bad things.

Friday, March 27

Something is happening. The police were here. We have been found out. It may be a good thing or not. They will go up to Figuer. Let us hope some good things will come of it. Perhaps the Permit for Residence will come of it. Yesterday's awful fighting came to a calm end. Perhaps they will find jobs in factories here.

Saturday, March 28

Things are changing. From today on we must report to the police every day. Grunfeld is certain that within 2 months we will leave Barcelona. The police are urging Figuera to get us out of here. I wish. There is hope we will get jobs without work papers. W. Laci is getting worried. He is getting spoiled by all the apprentices in the workshop.

Sunday, March 29

It is hot outside. Grunfeld is traveling tomorrow so I am helping him out somewhat. We don't have to report today. According to Szenes we are getting expulsion papers tomorrow but we can stay as long as we have not found another country to go to. Dad wrote to Vandor who will not read the letter to us. It seems that the suitcase broke at home also.

Monday, March 30

Vandor would like us to give him legal permission to deal with the suitcase in case we are no longer here when it gets here. No change with the police. We decided to only speak Spanish to each other but we are waiting for the next one to implement it. I wish I could be working.

Tuesday, March 31

I argue with the children, especially Gyuri. Szekely promises a possibility of some work next Tuesday. Perhaps he can get work papers for me and then I can work for him. It's a nice dream. I hardly earned anything this past month. Did not sell my bags. Tomi thinks that I do not know how to work, but I should continue working and not wait to sell my bags.

I weigh 68 kilos (approx. 145 lbs.)

Wednesday, April 1

No need to report today. Holiday until Saturday. There is a military procession we are watching. We found out from Vandor that today is the first Seder. No matzoh or prayers. We are sitting with Vandor and are thoughts are at home and we are certain their thoughts are with us.

Thursday, April 2

We decided to celebrate the Holiday, we will not eat bread. I am very sad. During our walk I tell Gyuri what kind of people we are and it is very hard for him to listen and hear that. He left us when he heard Tomi say how disappointed he was with his siblings.

Friday, April 3

When Gyuri left, I explained that I consider all this to be nonsense. We pray separately in the evenings. We are all hurt about that. The answer is Tomi says things he doesn't even mean. We could write a book about Gyuri. He keeps smiling but is totally insulted.

Saturday, April 4

Gyuri goes for a walk by himself. We meet up with him. When he trips on the steps on his way down and I ask him if he is hurt, he screams at me, that I should leave him alone and go down quickly.

Sunday, April 5

The morning concert is good. We want to go with Eugen in the afternoon but he invites us to go with him and the Bercharts tomorrow. I don't think I will go. Something happened to Gyuri. Whatever happened, we will find out. We received a note about a package yesterday.

Monday, April 6

After a long while, I started to study in the morning. We talk in Spanish on our walk in the city with Eugen. We bought some food and shared it. He is a nice person. Too bad he is not Jewish. We will find out about the possibility of working tomorrow.

Tuesday, April 7

The post office first. Then the police station. We are still without papers. We try to go to the Ministry of Labor but are too late. Jose fills out a document for me stating that I am real. I will need to have one filled out by the police tomorrow.

Wednesday, April 8

Tomi expects an answer tomorrow but the boss is not in and we can't figure out what Gyuri is doing since he doesn't say anything. I went to obtain my card with Heiner, Szekely's partner. I will not be happy until it is in my possession. Szenes received his visa to the US. Happy person.

Thursday, April 9

I am assured I will receive it. I will find out tomorrow what the charges are. We received mail at noon from the Spanish consulate. I meet D. Kiss who will get me in touch with a firm that may be able to take orders. I met Sra. Kissel in the afternoon.

Friday, April 10

He was very pleasant which made me very happy. Szekely is hopeful and thinks that I should be very patient and hopefully they will be calling me tomorrow or Monday. I wish I would have the papers

already and I could work. We go to the police station daily and are lucky that the person who stamps our paper is pleasant.

Saturday, April 11

We work with a woman. The bag is almost done. They are inviting us to go with them tomorrow but we don't want to go. Gyuri is very quiet. Hardly speaks. Opposite us lives a young woman. I think about her too much but so far have not addressed her. I don't think she would mind if I would. I am just too cowardly to attempt it.

Sunday, April 12

We go on an outing with the Bachmans and the Berchards. The weather is very nice and we are all in a good mood. Also there is good food. We even get sunburned. Tomi didn't join us. He doesn't want to go on the outing but will walk for 1 or 1 ½ hours in the afternoon. Gyuri managed to spoil the great day with his behavior in the evening.

Monday, April 13

I am so angry but thank God I managed to restrain myself. Finally, Gyuri says that we don't interest him and he behaves accordingly. In a letter to my family I suggest we part ways and how would they feel about it. Gyuri says he will beat me to death if I cause our parents grief. I think a good spanking will put him in his place. We have not heard anything about work papers.

Tuesday, April 14

I post the letter wondering about the answer. We are in a bad mood. Even Tomi is aggravated and rightfully so. I assume the right to bother him. Nothing about the suitcase. No reply about our request to bring it in as a gift. Still cannot decide whether it would be better to leave or to stay.

Wednesday, April 15

We report at the police station regularly. Received 3 letters and a slip about a package. We will find out tomorrow what it is about. Mr. Neinner is sick so our request for work papers is also postponed. Gyuri communicates a bit more now. My pictures arrived. That makes me happy. My opinion of Eugen is that he is a very decent person. A family from Romania may come here with 2 young ladies.

Thursday, April 16

These days seem like a bad dream. Gyuri is angry. His responses are either angry or nonexistent. He does not respond to greetings unless someone visits here. I do not wish to become like him but I think I will. Sometimes I whistle but only because I know it upsets him.

Friday, April 17

I received the 3 books yesterday. The duty was 18 pasetas. It is well worth it since I asked for it despite their wishes. I will visit Szekely to find out what is going on with the 200-250 pasetas we were promised weekly. He is a big rascal along with his partner.

Saturday, April 18

I have permission to report to the police station up until 1:30. Gyuri is unapproachable. Tomi also gets upset over nothing. Grunfeld returned from his trip and brought us nice presents. Szenes is leaving for America on Wednesday. Good for him.

Sunday, April 19

Mrs. Bachman's large bag is going to be finished by Friday. It just needs to be sewn. I am expecting a surprise. I will help Grunfeld in the morning. Maybe I can help him all week. He is a strange man. Sometimes I think he is great. Sometimes not. I go to see a movie in the afternoon because I can't stand going home. In the evening I speak to Gyuri. I am trying to find out what is bothering him. He does not want to discuss anything. I don't know how much longer I can take this.

Monday, April 20

I go for a walk with Miss Jellin. She is a Czech immigrant. She had been in jail. She is very pleasant. I also take care of a few things for Grunfeld in the morning and afternoon. Have tea and sweets there. The ladies' pocketbook is finished. I received 50 pesetas and a nice neck tie in payment. I was so happy I couldn't say a word for minutes. Tomi thought I was overpaid. Good.

Tuesday, April 21

I do not speak to Gyuri. I work for Grunfeld all day. Tomi is the same as when I worked there. I receive tea and sweets every day. He is very nice and doesn't scream nowadays. I buy him a clasp and earn 4 pesetas. He has not sold his bags as of now. Szenes is leaving soon. Good for him.

Wednesday, April 22

No news. Szekely did not telephone me. We received 3 letters from Zerge. Szenes is leaving on the 10th. He will take and post letters to our relatives. He hopes that we can leave together. I am helping Grunfeld today. Tomi is pretty bad there at times. It is not possible to talk to Gyuri.

Thursday, April 23

The time passes but unpleasantly. I work at Grunfeld all day. I ask him and he finally settles our account. 224 pesetas against 80 pesetas offsetting my expenses. I have an argument with Tomi in the evening. He says I am stupid and he wants to teach me all the time. I would like to tell him what I think but that time has not arrived yet. I go to bed in a bad mood and wake up the same way.

Friday, April 24

Gyuri is in a better mood. We decide we will go to Montserrat on Sunday. Received a letter from Dad and a wire. The envelope had a note in it saying that the letter was destroyed by the censor. In the wire he says that if possible we should go together. This is the answer to my letter.

Saturday, April 25

I work at Grunfeld's all day. I spent some time shopping for him yesterday. He had some guests at his house. I did not buy the right things because there was not much of a choice. I explained what

happened and he was not angry. My earnings for the week were 40 pesetas. I sent a wire home reporting that we are all healthy. Tomi was very insulting to me as was Gyuri as I was to them.

Sunday, April 26

Went to a concert in the morning. Tomi stayed home to sew. Gyuri went to bathe. The mood is better today but I will not let things go by so easily. I am going to substitute for Tomi at Grunfeld's tomorrow. He (Tomi) wants to go someplace. I wish he would leave.

Monday, April 27

All went well all day. They started fussing in the evening. We had decided to go to the Rosenberg's but Gyuri announced that he is going by himself. I went for a walk. Tomi went after him. I was awakened at night by Tomi and Gyuri's fussing. I was so upset I could barely sleep after that. How will this end?

Tuesday, April 28

Gyuri makes an announcement at noon. His nerves cannot deal with all this. Let's forget what happened. We eat a piece of cake in the evening. The ice is broken and we start working on getting work permits. I get the forms and take them to Szekely for signature. The mood is completely changed for the better. I am very happy. What will happen with work?

Wednesday, April 29

I repay 100 pazettos to SZEKELY. He had advanced it to the middle man. I always have the feeling, that he would rather pay less than originally promised. I went to the labor to the labor board in the morning. They accepted the signed forms and I leave to go back tomorrow. I walk to town with the young lady in the morning, then take care of a few things for GRUNFELD. Gyuri sends a wire, saying that I received my work card.

Thursday, April 20

GRUNFELD and I walk to town in the morning.

We leave a late but he has 2. I also go to the labor board with pictures and my broken (supporter). Mr. MURIA will meet with me in the afternoon. I will never forget the afternoon. I receive my temporary work paper and a copy of my application along with the expenses of 375 pazettos. Gyuri and I celebrate with lots of nuts.

IV 20 50'-B.

IV 21 4"-G.

IV 25-40"-G

IV 30 94 pazettos

Friday, May 1

Finally to work. Tomi would also like to get this work cart. At SZEKELY the answer is: I can start on Thursday at 9:30. As far as the wages go, he will discuss it with Mr. NEIMER. I have a feeling the pay will be very low. Finally we are OK at home, only Tomi is still not OK.

Saturday, May 2

I help GRUNFELD in the morning for which I receive 1 kg rice. We go into town in the afternoon with Gyuri, Tomi doesn't want to come along. Have good conversation and lots of nuts. I buy a cake for 18 pazettos in celebration of my work card. I cut it in half, I eat one half and offer Gyuri and Tomi a quarter each. Tomi doesn't want any. I don't understand.

Sunday, May 3

We go bathing near BADALONA. All goes well. We are in a good mood. We plan cards for nuts in the afternoon. We are informed, that our parents' visas-or letters are here and we can pick them up. It will cost 600 pazettas for the 2. When we get home we realize that Gyuri gave a wrong name as his mother's maiden name, but he doesn't think it matters. I am hoping that they will change it.

Monday, May 4

The day passes well, but I ate so much, that my stomach is hurting. I had diarrhea all night I help out at GRUNFELD. I pick up a german machine for him at ?? We send out request of 500P (peugo) to our parents. How much longer will we be doing that?

Tuesday, May 5

My stomach feels all better. We visit the police station with the JELLINS' by trolley in the morning. Nice young lady, but much older than I am. GYURI and I go out to see his favorite rock. It is so windy. It is beautiful to watch the waves hitting the rocks. We come home carrying so many shells.

Wednesday, May 6

I help SZENES in the morning. He is leaving for New York in the afternoon. Lucky man. I buy him some bon-bons, eat some pastry and charge it to him. Very disrespectful of me. I guess I need my parents to tell me what is right or wrong. I can start working tomorrow, however, I don't know what my wages will be.

Thursday, May 7

I go to work in the morning only to find out that I cannot start until the afternoon. Finally I start making a bag in the afternoon. The idea was that I will teach this person, instead he is teaching me. Not a word is said about wages. Tomi will start working at a hosiery factory on Monday, possibly at night, at CALLBERTO, a rich Catalanian. I am feeling rather ill. I caught a cold at the ocean.

Friday, May 8

My head hurts. I work all day at SZEKELY; at night I eat my dinner in bed, after the evening prayer. This is a new life I am starting. I worry about how much I'll be earning and such. One bag is finished. People are very nice in the workshop. My employer is a little queer. Next to me sits a young woman and two sit across from me.

Saturday, May 9

Gyuri takes my card to be stamped with the excuse that I am sick. We work until 1:45. SZEKELY lets me know that my wages will be 60 pazettos a week. He give me 30. As of next week he will deduct 27.50

for 10 weeks in repayment of the loan he extended to me. TOMI was right when he said that he was jealous of me and that put me in a very bad mood. We receive mail from home. Mother encourages GYURI to run away.

Sunday, May 10

I sew on the terrace in the morning. TOMI woke up on the wrong side. We send a wire to our parents to assure them that we will not go to Palestine. TOMI doesn't even wish to discuss that GYURI and I went to see a movie, SABA. It was expensive, 2.50 p. but it was beautiful and the afternoon passed nicely.

Monday, May 11

I work regularly. TOMI is working in his trade. He works 3 nights 12 hours each. His wages are 100-120 pazettos. I am reluctant to discuss wages with SZEKELY. Maybe tomorrow. Everyone at work is pleasant. They show and explain everything to me.

Thursday, May 14

Today is a holiday and work in the morning. I have an argument with GYURI. On the way home on the trolley a young lady flirts with me. I travel one stop past my own, but I see a policeman and get off. We telephoned SZENES tonight. We will see what happens.

Friday, May 15

I am making a lot of money. I work overtime. I want to ask SZEKELY to increase my salary, but am afraid to. SZELL finally calls about our suitcase. VARIDANT promises to look into matters. MARENO promises, perhaps next week. We celebrate the news with a honey cake, which I hid for such an event.

Saturday, May 16

A wire from our parents informs us that the 500 p. (peugo) was paid through EDITH. GRUNFELD doesn't really wish to gear about it. Finally, I tell SZEKELY about it and he will increase my wages in three weeks. However he will deduct 50 pazettos this week to get finished paying off my debt sooner. I wish I was finished paying back my lan already. It means a lot of nuts and raisins?? I go see a movie in the afternoon. By myself because that's how we do it again.

Sunday, May 17

We go bathing on a beautiful sunny morning, in the morning, feeling great. Dinner is great. We lick our chops, it was so fatty and delicious. In pajama pants I sun myself on the roof top in the afternoon.

Monday, May 18

No news. We just go with the flow. TOMI works nights from 8 pm to 8 am getting paid fairly well. I work. GYURI is trying to get work. So far only promises happen. He doesn't share anything with us, about what is going on.

Tuesday, May 19

I can have conversations with him in the evenings only, since he works nights. GYURI and I eat downstairs. Reporting to the police daily at 1:30 and they don't give me a hard time about it. I run there every day worrying, but that is how I have to do it.

Wednesday, May 20

The days pass. The workshop, bosses and coworkers are great. We became good friends. Sometimes I am so sad. I changed my walking time of a ½ hour. It is so pleasant, even though it is so warm outside.

Thursday, May 21

Big news. FLEISCHER and GRUNEFELD recommended me for a great job at CALLE VALENCIA. He wants to hire a sample maker, who can also repair things etc. Someone from out of the country. His two female helpers are not very smart. I am carrying on big conversations with myself. I could be earning a lot more, or stay here and learn more.

Friday, May 22

Difficult decision. I miss my parents to help me decide. The lining on a bag got dirty and SZEKELY got angry for the first time. TOMI received his first paycheck of 90 pazettos today. We splurged on hazelnuts. Great.

Saturday, May 23

VANER at the workshop is wondering why I don't say hello when I see him. I don't go to reports at the casa "WIEN" for many reasons. GYURI got sick and was throwing up a lot. In the evening TOMI and I were invited to the BACHMAN's along with all the other people of the peuzis. A family from Bukarest with their two lovely daughters as well, a month since our arrival

Sunday, May 24

At first I danced with the young ones and JELLINEK. I ask her to meet me the next day but she promises TOMI, like the Hungarian girl. She must have been bored dancing with me. I stay at home in the morning, go to a movie in the afternoon. It bothers me, not to be able to walk with that young lady, because I behaved in a very sill manner that night before. I lowered my loan by 50 pazettos yesterday.

Monday, May 25

I felt awful yesterday. I miss someone who really loves me. No one kissed me in the last nine months. I didn't feel happy for more than a few hours. Let's hope G-D will help. Received a letter from LACI from England. Fiesta time today, TOMI will go for a walk with the young lady. GYURI and I are going out to have fun. We end up in a movie. We spend a lot of money. We used to spend less on the three of us.

Tuesday, May 26

At work, no one understands why I am always sad. I do. We celebrate mother's birthday yesterday with hazelnuts, whipped cream and raisins. We use every occasion to celebrate. We sent a lot of money.

Wednesday, May 27 Mother's birthday

We sent a telegram to congratulate mother. I decide not to change jobs, so as not to create problems with work papers. I take a walk in the evening and again try to find a way to meet with MANYI LENGYEL. I am so stupid in these matters.

Thursday, May 28

Finally I call FLEISCHERT, thanking him for his help, but at this point I will not change. However, I might have to change, because there is not so much work at SZEKELYS'. I am so introverted. Our dear parents write that is it hard without us. It will be a long time before we meet, with G-D's help.

Friday, May 29

Finally, EUGENIA returned from PORT-BAV. He saw our suitcase. Everything in is dirty and stinky. Things are also missing, probably stolen. Most things are spoiled. He brought us two pictures and two notebooks. All is dirty and fatty(?).

Saturday, May 30

There is no work at SZEKELY. I might apply for the other job. At the workshop no one understands my sadness; it is no wonder. My siblings don't understand it. Why should they?

Sunday, May 31

SZEKELY us trying to avoid giving us an increase in our salary. My loan was reduced by 50 pazettos. We tried to go bathing in the morning but the weather changed. We are going to watch a rugby match in the afternoon. Silly sport. We saw EUGEN at noon, had snacks. Sometimes we argue over nonsense.

V.2. 21.-G

V. 9. 30. SZ.

V. 16 10. SZ.

V. 23 10-SZ.

V. 30 10. SZ.-

V. 31-ig 81 pazettos

I weigh 66.5 kilo

Monday, June 1

SZEKELY criticizes my work and without reason mostly. In the evening he informs me, that there is no work and I should call him on Wednesday. A holiday on Thursday doesn't allow working. I will rest for a week. I wish I had my permanent work papers. I would leave him. He is as rotten as the rest of the Hungarians.

Tuesday, June 2

I am not working. I want to go bathing but wake up too late and just waste the morning. I go bathing with NAGY and his mother. Also GYURI. We end up in MONTGAT. Have a very pleasant time. We get home late. It is a good thing I didn't go bathing in the morning. They are really nice people.

Wednesday, June 3

I only work a few hours. Am wondering how he will pay me. Someone else recommends me to CASA "WIEN". So will I end up there? Friday night is set for a discussion. They seem very decent people. I received the news from the labor board that I have to wait until I receive my permanent work papers. I cannot change jobs.

Thursday, June 14

We hear that America declared war on Hungary. If it's true, our visas are in danger. We go bathing with the LENGYELS and EUGEN all day. We come home nicely tanned. We end the day by going down for some miles, the shower.

Friday, June 5

It is hard to wake up, but I do have to get up. There is not much work at SZEKELY, so I can be lazy. I am very rude with Mr. LENGYEL this morning. Yesterday I also behaved like a silly kid. That ruined my mood. I visit CASA "WIEN" in the evening. They will let me come in whenever I wish to test me. I have to deal with SZEKELY in a smart way.

Saturday, June 6

I am very happy. I receive 20 pazettos from SZEKELY and we will straighten out the balance of my loan of 100 pazettos next week. I thanked everyone and left feeling good. It all went very smoothly. I will start work on Monday. I am hoping that I shall be good enough for them. The brats are behaving well. It hasn't been this good in a long time.

Sunday, June 7

Nothing new in the morning. I have to spend the afternoon in bed because of a bad headache, from the sun. The BARTCHARDS and BILDERS are mostly nice people. GRUNFELD wants to settle money matters regarding the pocket books. He probably wants to bargain, the pig.

Monday, June 8

Mr. LENGYEL is going to PORT-BAU. We ask him to try to bring our suitcase back. We could pay him up to 100 pazettos, if he succeeds. I start my new job today. Before I leave at noon I feel very sick. They are very kind, they help me and get me some medicated water. I hope I will be good enough for them. That would make me happy.

Tuesday, June 9

Tomi is acting really badly the last few days. He is so self-absorbed. I skipped a few days in my diary so I am writing about passed days. I was sick. I worked until night time at the company. The first bag did not succeed. I am working on another one, which looks better and I am making two nice samples.

Wednesday, June 10

I am curious to hear their opinion. My head hurts continuously. By night time it is terrible all the time. Wednesday night I took my temperature and it was 39.5

Thursday, June 11

I don't work the next day, or go to the police station. Instead I stay in bed. My temperature is high all day. The BACHMANS are really helpful. The doctor was here today but could not figure out what is wrong.

Friday, June 12

I am out of bed this morning, but spend it reading. GYURI brought me two books from SCHWARTZ OLGA. I didn't go to the police station either, but went to the doctor with GYURI. I have a very painful ear infection. The doctor puts some oily cotton in my ear.

Saturday, June 13

I go to the doctor again today. He put an oily cotton in my right ear only. I am to see him if I feel pain. I don't have fever today. I do visit the police station. Finally we see our suitcase but cannot bring it home because we are short 15-20 pazettos. I am finished with SZEKELY. They let me go at the new place, since I did not work out well enough for them. However they pay me ninety pazettos for the missed three days.

Sunday, June 14

GYURI went to MONT-SERRAT by himself. I took a small boat costing 2 pazettos. A movie, in the afternoon, to see ROSE-MARET, which I have seen in Budapest, but it is so good I went to see it again. I am very worried about new employment possibilities. These are my concerns.

Monday, June 15

Finally the suitcase arrived. 20 kg of books are missing as well as linens and food. They were thrown out because everything was so dirty. We didn't receive any of the pictures either. Two boxes of pastry tasting like shoe polish, but we eat it anyway. Our parents send a telegram for GYURI's birthday. I am afraid to volunteer for at KATONA???

Tuesday, June 16

First thing in the morning I wish GYURI all the best. We even kiss after 10 months. I eat a lot of the homemade package. I have 39.5 again at night. Mrs. BACHMAN comes in, washed me to get me to cool off. Comes in the middle of the night too. I cannot even believe it.

Wednesday, June 17

I did go to KATONA-they changed their mind about making pocket books. I call SZEKELY, who promises, for Monday, but I must call him again on Saturday. Don't have fever today, but I stay in bed. The doctor comes over, finds nothing wrong, but I do have diarrhea and have to take RICINUS (medication) which is awful.

Thursday, June 18

I am so weak today, but get out of bed. I do not report this to my parents, they don't need to worry about this too. Maybe I can arrange the business with esrogs(???) for FISCH. GYURI doesn't even want to help. I decide to go back to SZEKELY and not worry about their behavior just be there to learn.

Friday, June 19

VANDOR was very decent about his debt and even contributed to the expense of the suitcase. I am beginning to feel better but still don't feel like eating. We are thinking about purchasing a radio. The weather has changed for the better. We are finished with Miss Schwartz. We will not get books from her. We do no more business.

Saturday, June 20

Vandor sent books of magazines. Very heavy (the package) I earned 116 pazettos this week. Not bad. The LENGYEL GIRLS are not interested in us. They found better company. We are celebrating GYURIS' birthday today. We finished the pastry from home already and are almost finished with the ham. We will get fish downstairs.

Sunday, June 21

We are poor emigrants. I am spending the day at home, reading and letter writing. We will cook pasta from home, in water, mixed in butter, sprinkle nuts and powdered sugar on it. We have not eaten that since we left home, but we did have many other good things to eat.

Monday, June 22

I went to SZEKELY, but I wasn't needed. I will have to call on Wednesday. Perhaps he got angry about something. I hate to be without work. I will move on the possibility of export for FISH. Hopefully, I will succeed. Perhaps there could be some income for me too. I am noticing that I am really interested in the female species.

Tuesday, June 23

The export business is promising. We might earn 1000p. Would be great. We could have a radio, perhaps. GYURI and I go out to MONT-JUICH to see some dancing. We have a good time, we get home at 2:00 AM. Lots of pyrotechnics and repeated banging go on all night. 10 months since we left.

Wednesday, June 24

My parents are congratulating me on my 17th birthday by telegram. We go swimming to MONTGAT in the morning, taking our lunch o liver pate with us. We take a nap. After dinner we go to see a movie. Around 12:30 am we end up eating a fruit ice cream at the America house.

Thursday, June 25

I inquire about work at SZEKELY. He doesn't have leather so I should call him next week. This is how he keeps delaying things. He is a pig. GYURI and TOMI had a big fight this afternoon. They fight about forwarding mail to America. I solve the problem by sending a letter home and pay the postage myself. I do this perhaps to be able to throw this in their ??(faces) later.

Friday, June 26

Nothing is going on. Thank G-D Dr. Rosenberg inoculated us against typhus. It hurt a little. My parents are worried about my ear problems. Against the children's objections, I send a wire, telling them all is well and we send kisses. I pay for it. The old lady at the pension is very nice to me.

Saturday, June 27

Time passes. GYURI and I went to get a permit for citrus. No luck. We have to go back on Tuesday. I help VANDOR in the afternoon and earn 81/2 pazettos. GYURI doesn't want to go with me. He doesn't think it is worth it. GRUNFELD calls to tell us that he would like to send us home, but that we make him happy now. He sends over 200 pazettos for the pocketbooks, finally.

Sunday, June 28

Today is a big day at MONSERRAT. We are to leave at 7:00 but I don't wake up until after 7:00. I catch the train with 5 minutes to go. Beautiful mountains, an unforgettable experience. I worry about getting home. It's a 9 hour ride and another 11/2 hours to get home by train, but there is no train around at this point.

Monday, June 29

I get home at 11:00 pm. I watch the pyrotechnics in the back until 2:00 am and wonder about our landlord's friends. They seem to be shifty worthless people. But one can't really be sure about that. These catalons have a good side also. I have breakfast at 12:30 pm. After dinner we eat cakes with whipped cream. We order GENFI??? from here at a cost of 145 forint. We transfer 160 forint.

Tuesday, June 30

I spend my time waiting for the mail, but nothing arrives for me. I help VANDOR in the afternoon. The LENGYELS are leaving on Monday. Lucky people, but who knows where it is better. KALLAY, the information minister suggests that the war will be over by summer. With G-Ds help that should be so, but not the way KALLAY wishes it.

I correspond with grandparents, relatives, friends and in the first half year with LACI.

Wednesday, July 1

This is the second part of the year in my diary. Mrs. BERNHART and I buy leather for a pocketbook, which I am going to make. The mailman brought a letter from mother and I feel the sadness in it, which weighs on me all day. I help VANDOR in the afternoon. We send a wire to the CILIS and we pay the return charge.

Thursday, July 2

I help VANDOR all day. I am a little tired tonight. No reply to my requests: mail from the ZERGE club indicates the situation at home is very sad. Their condition is worse than the Jews! We are fine here. We cannot complain.

Friday, July 3

We are looking for a frame for the lady's pocketbook. SZEKELY is promising work beginning in the second half of August. In the meantime he wants me to draw frames. I assume that he will want to pay very little for them. My good mood is not real. We will get the second injection against typhus today.

Saturday, July 4

GYURI is in a mood again. Hardly talk, really growls like a dog. Our relatives have not answered us. I run around for GRUNFELD all afternoon to many places. He is a weird person. He has lots of good and bad traits. If I ever have a lot of time, I shall write about my feelings which are also weird.

Sunday, July 5

GYURI's mood changed today. He is now very considerate. We are going to MONTGAT in the morning. Pleasant. We have cocoa with whipped cream and goose liver sandwiches. I write home, draw frames and just waste time in the afternoon. Who knows how many more like this will happen in the future. Being sad, missing my parents; wondering how all this will end. Cannot even imagine how.

Monday, July 6

I receive a great offer. If I know or find a firm that sells frames, GRUNBERG will buy them and pay me commission. That would be great work. I made a drawing of two frames yesterday. Actually, I copied them from the one I made in Budapest and received 20 pazettos. That too is very good. I have not received answers to my letters of inquiry,

Tuesday, July 7

I managed to take care of some things in the city for GRUNFELD. We are trying to find the frames for the engineer lady. She always complains about something. She had an argument with Mrs. GUARCH, who called her a Jew. I promised VANDOR 11/2 hours. I will ship the packages to the supplier. I am very tired by the evening. I am amazed at the Catalonians. You have to work like an animal for your daily bread.

Wednesday, July 8

I help VANDOR morning and afternoon. He pays me one 1 pazetta an hour. Very little. It is sad to live so far away from one's parents. Sometimes I get so tired that I have to take a short nap. Waiting for the mail each day is exhausting. One needs a strong nervous system to cope with all this.

Thursday, July 9

I help VANDOR in the morning, then help GRUNFELD. He is very nice to me. (I replaced EUGENE) he feeds me at times. He sends the women home in the evening and we spend about an hour talking. He would like to rehire me. That makes me happy. The Polish people are leaving on Saturday. They don't even bother with us.

Friday, July 10

I help VANDOR and GRUNFELD again. They complain about each other to me, but are nice to each other. Mr. GRUNBAUM calls me at noon to give me an address of a factory where I might be hired. I wish. I did

the right thing when I sent the telegram to my parents and paid for it from my pocket. GYURI agrees with me. Tomi does not.

Saturday, July 11

I help GRUNFELD in the morning. I earned a nice amount this week. I straightened out our money's with the boy also. ROBI has a little party on the terrace in the evening, with drinks and dancing. We play Romeo and Juliet as we saw it in camp, with Eugene. It was received well.

Sunday, July 12

We stayed us so late, so we were lazy all morning. TOMI makes an announcement in the afternoon. He will be walking on his own from now on. He does not wish to be walked. He is being disrespectful, but it look like he is trying to be a grown up. I go to the movies in It seems he is growing up, gets very angry at times. I don't wish to start up with anyone.

Monday, July 13

Today I am starting my new job. By the afternoon I cut out a pocketbook. I have a feeling that they want to cheat me. Or that after I made a few bags, they will throw me out. The owners are both Jews and we don't work on Saturdays. We received a notice from the police. We are to report on Thursday. I wonder what they want.

Tuesday, July 14

My work goes very well at the new place. I made a prototype. The sample was perfect and could be used for a smaller bag as well. I could even sell it. There is a young woman there, who interests me but I don't know how to go about getting together with her. There is another woman there who must be interested in meeting, because she keeps looking and smiling at me.

Wednesday, July 15

Work is going well today also. Tomorrow is the end of my trial period, since we don't work on Friday. I am curious to see what will happen. Will I be hired? Something is happening to me. I did not say my prayers today and I didn't feel guilty at all, not having prayed. I am not a wonder child and I have no one to correct my wrong doings.