

Familie Pollacek -1914



Baby Friedrich Ludwig Eisenstein

Augusta 28.3.1883 _____ Hugo Eisenstein 11.9.1878
16.1.1910

Rudolf 2.10.1876

Fanni 25.6.1875

Hugo 19.4.1873

Bertha 2.6.1871

Rosa 27.2.1870

Ludwig Polláček 1.7.1838 _____ Julie Melzer 8.7.1840
1868

Joseph Pollatschek 1788 _____ Barbara Hahn 8.3.1799
19.8.1829

Jakob Polaczek 1760 _____ Paula Schickler
24.9.1784

Moises cc 1720 _____ Rachel

Lof _____ 1680 _____ Sara

Familienfoto Erklärung:

Links stehen: Eugen Putzker, Gatte von Fanni Pollacek

Hugo Eisenstein, Gatte von Augusta Pollacek

Heinrich Brill, Gatte von Rosa Pollacek

Tochter aus 1. Ehe von Hugo Pollacek

Rudolf Pollacek, ledig.

Links sitzend: Rosa Pollacek, Fanni Pollacek,

Augusta Eisenstein, geborene Pollacek hält ihr 1-jähriges

Baby Friedl.

Luise Pollacek und ihr Gatte Hugo Pollacek, Gesellschafter der
Chemiefabrik

Armada in Münchengrätzer Böhmen; er starb mit 58 am
9.10.1931

Von links sitzend 2. Reihe:

Kinder: Luda, starb mit 23 am 19.10.1933- neben ihm steht
seine Schwester Anita Seidler.

dann weiter: Die Kinder von Hugo und Augusta Eisenstein:

Baby Friedrich Ludwig und sein Bruder Gerhard Alois

Am Boden sitzen:

Mary Brill (später Ullman) Tochter von Heinrich und Rosa
Brill

Lotte Julie, Tochter von Hugo und Augusta Eisenstein

Zdenek, Bruder von Mary, Sohn von Heinrich und Rosa Brill

**Auf diesem Familienfoto sind folgende Personen in der Deportation
umgekommen:**

Luise Pollatschek

Rosa Brill, geborene Pollatschek

Zdenek Brill (Sohn)

Mary Ullmann (Tochter)

Fanny Putzker, geborene Pollatschek

Augusta Eisenstein, geborene Pollatschek

Charlotte Eisenstein (Tochter)

Zdenek Brill, Sohn von Rosa und Heinrich Brill heiratete

Annika im November 1930.

Mary Brill, Tochter von Rosa und Heinrich Brill heiratete

den Länderbank-Prokurist Raimund Ullmann im Juli 1930. Er wurde auch deportiert

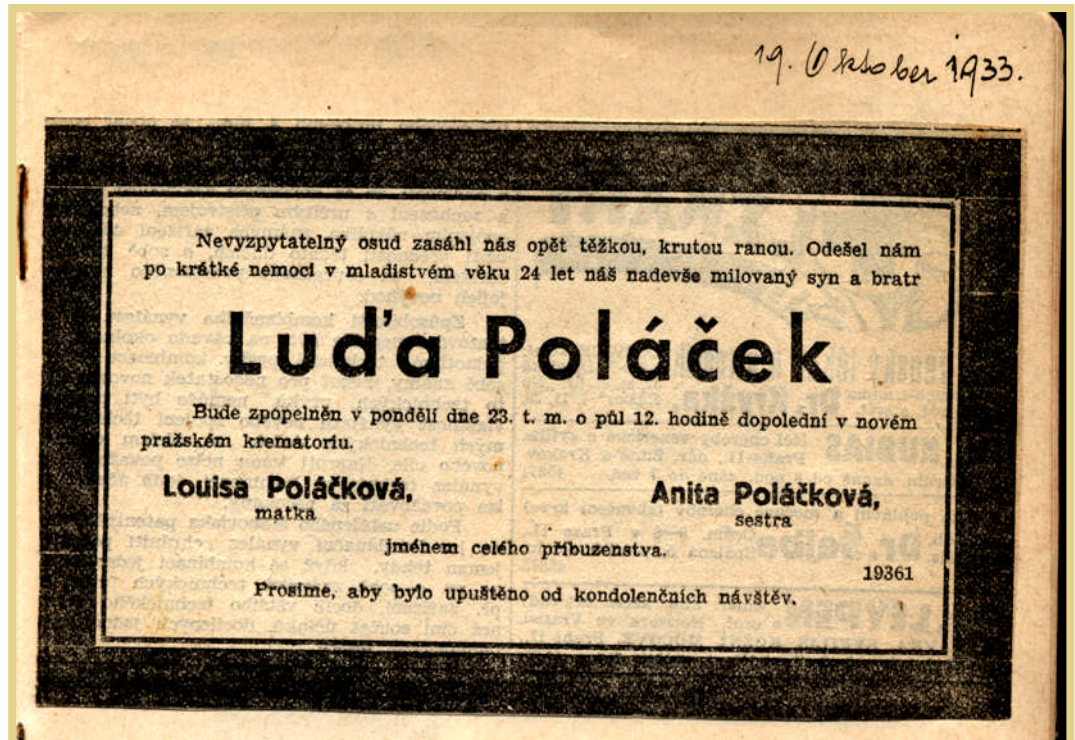
Sterbefälle. Hier starb Herr Hugo Poláček, Gesellschafter der Firma Münchengeräher chemische Fabrik, im 58. Lebensjahre. Die Beerdigung hat in aller Stille stattgefunden.



Hugo Pollacek und Gattin Louise Cohn



Here is the ARMADA automobile race in Prague,
sponsored by Hugo Pollacek in 1926



THE VILLA and THE FAMILY 1926-2007

Our family has always referred to the property at U Vorliku 4, Prague 6 as "The Villa". Situated on Embassy Row, opposite the Embassy of Iraq, near the Dutch, Russian, Chinese and U.S embassies, it is also not far from the Sparta (now known as the Toyota) football stadium. Another villa, two properties away, was originally the residence of Foreign Minister and later President Benes, successor to President Thomas Masaryk.

The Villa was designed and built on the orders of our maternal Grandfather, Hugo Polacek in 1926.

Hugo was a successful industrialist and also a generous philanthropist - although apparently most of his good deeds were anonymous. The Villa itself is similar to many other fine houses in Prague of the 1920s and 30s. It is solid, 5 storey house made of brick and stone with a stucco surface. It has an imposing front entrance up a flight of steps. There are balconies on all sides - in front by the landing, at the back next to the master bedroom, and on one side attached to each of the smaller bedrooms (originally the bedrooms of Anita and her brother Luda, which became those of Marietta and myself). The first floor was built with a reception area, three large rooms with glass pocket doors, a kitchen, pantry and powder room. At ground level there is a single car garage. Hugo was evidently a keen motorist. His company, Armada, sponsored an annual winter motor race around Prague (I still have a print of the announcement, showing a low slung sedan driving through a snow storm).

On the second floor are 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms with an ample hallway and clothes cupboards. There is a side exit to a stone staircase which runs from the ground floor up to the 3rd floor and which used to house the servants' quarters. In the early days there was a cook, a house maid and a chauffeur. Above the 3rd floor is an attic under a red slate roof.

There are two basements under the ground floor. The upper basement may originally been a den/play room. There is also evidence of a good sized wine cellar. The lower basement must have been used for storage, although being totally underground, it is very damp.

Hugo Polacek was born in the small town of Mnichovo Hradiste, today about an hour by car north/east of Prague. The town is dominated by the large castle and grounds of Count Waldstein, a famous mercenary who became owner of over 100 castles and therefore was required to have his own private army (like a war lord). He was also a great patron of the arts; one of his beneficiaries was Beethoven (viz. the Waldstein sonata).

Hugo inherited the management of his father's chemical factory and business. He met his wife Louise through a marriage broker. He was 6 ft tall, she was only 5 ft. They had a son Luda (Ludvik), born in 1909, who died tragically of rat poisoning contracted in a lake at the age of 23. At the time he was engaged to be married to Anita's best friend, Helena. Luda was apparently an exceptional scholar, especially talented in the sciences. One of his hobbies was making perfume from flower petals. He was a champion skier and his parents endowed a national downhill race in his memory. I still have one of the bronze memorial medals showing a downhill racer.

The mother of Marietta and myself, Anita, was born in 1911. Anita studied social sciences and as a young woman worked with the Prague prison system, trying to rehabilitate prostitutes. At one time she was qualified as a ski instructor and she met Pepi in 1933 while they were both skiing in the Krkonose - the Giant Mountains in northern Bohemia; they were married in 1934. Anita lived to the age of 80.

Hugo was drafted into the Kaiser's army at the beginning of World War 1. Louise was expecting their third child. One day on the battle front, Hugo received a telegram from the Austrian Kaiser Franz Joseph, informing him that his wife had just borne quadruplets - two girls and two boys. He was told that he would be relieved of his military duties so that he could go home to take care of his enlarged family. The babies were, of course, tiny and back in 1915 there were no incubators or other modern equipment so they all died within a few weeks. The boys survived the longest and were named Francis and John. During her school years, Anita was often teased and asked if she was one of the famous quads.

The Polacek family were great Czech patriots, who were very happy at the surrender of the Austrians and Germans in 1918, when under the Treaty of Versailles the country of Czechoslovakia was created. The constituent parts had for hundreds of years been the Austro-Hungarian provinces of Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia and Slovakia. The man most responsible for the creation of Czechoslovakia was Thomas Garrigue Mazaryk - he adopted the Garrigue name from his American wife. Mazaryk was the son of a Czech maid and a Slovak coachman (before there were cars). He was able to take advantage of a good education and became a Professor of Philosophy. He was also a member of parliament in Vienna, the seat of power of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Being a Czech and Slovak nationalist, he longed for independence for his country. Mazaryk left for Russia at the onset of WW1 and then travelled the world on a lecture tour, gathering support for the creation of an independent Czechoslovakia. A key ally was U.S. President Wilson (the main Prague railway station was later named after President Wilson). In 1918, Mazaryk was welcomed home as a hero and

acclaimed as President of the new country. He was revered as father of his country and as a great leader. Thomas Mazaryk died in office in 1937.

Grandfather Hugo Polacek knew Mazaryk and was a great admirer of the President. Anita attended school with Mazaryk's nieces and became their lifelong friend, sending them care parcels during the communist years and inviting the younger sister, Anna, to England on several occasions. In 1993 the Mazaryk sisters, along with President Havel's wife Olga, honored me with their presence at the inauguration of the Pfizer offices in Prague.

During 20 years after WW1, Czechoslovakia blossomed. Excellent Social Services were developed. Business prospered and the Arts flourished. Hugo together with his brother-in-law, Heinrich Brill, built up a very successful chemical company, specializing in shoe polish. Their brand, Armada, was marketed throughout Central Europe. When they needed to expand capacity they moved production and their offices to Liben, a suburb of Prague. Print ads of which I have copies indicate that they had good marketing savvy. Anita was responsible for some of the creative concepts. As a line extension, they produced a range of ski wax. I have a letter from the Czech National Ski Federation, giving thanks to Armada for a gift of their excellent ski wax - in those days all skis were wooden and required waxing to create friction when the skis were in contact with snow. However shoe polish was the main product; it was reported that during WW2 when the Nazis took over, the factory supplied the whole German army. When we visited in the summer of 1947 the plant was derelict, but we found some tubes of Armada shoe cream, which fascinated us as shoe cream in tubes was unknown in England at the time.

Hugo decided to build a fine residence for his family. The Villa was constructed in 1926 to his specifications. Evidently there were some severe cost over-runs and the project nearly bankrupted Hugo. The property was over an acre in area. Hugo planted walnut trees and an orchard of apples, pears, plums and apricots, as well as berry bushes. The garden included a magnolia tree near the front entrance, as well as flowering bushes and flower beds. A special feature, which exists to this day is a row of espaliered apple trees along the length of the front fence of the property. A big walnut tree and the magnolia are still thriving.

Marietta and I spent part of our earliest childhood in the Villa, which was occupied by Grandmother Louise Polacek and her servants. The Seidler home was a few hours away in the village of Harrachov in the Giant Mountains to the North, known when we were little as the Sudetenland, because a large portion of the population were German speaking. They were an excuse for Hitler to invade Czechoslovakia in 1939. Harrachov is just a couple of miles from the border of what was Germany but is now Poland. The village has grown into an important resort for skiing and summer holidays. What was our father, Pepi Seidler's textile factory has for the past 50 or so years been the Hotel Sport. Nearby is the highest ski jump in Europe. Up to 1938, the Seidlers lived in a charming wooden chalet next to the factory. Anita was an avid skier and enjoyed nature, however she found the village of Harrachov provincial, so would often take us children to Prague to stay with Grandmother Louise at the Villa.

Father, Pepi Seidler, had all of his schooling in Vienna, where his father Edouard had been transferred as sales manager for a wholesale textile firm. When Pepi graduated from technical high school his first job was with a firm of carpet manufacturers in the East German city of Chemnitz. He must have quickly won the confidence of the owner of the company because at the age of 21 he was sent to London to open a sales office. He liked England and the British and learnt the language which was to stand him in good stead later on. Eventually, his father, Edouard Seidler, who had built up the textile factory in Harrachov asked Pepi to join him in the business. Edouard died in his early 60s. Pepi with his brother, Francis, and his sister, Kate inherited the company, known as

Seiffenbachska Tkalsovna. Pepi bought out his siblings who had remained in Vienna.

Pepi retained many friends in Germany and Austria who warned him of the growth of fascism under the Nazis. His mother had returned to Vienna when she was widowed. In 1938 discrimination against the Jews by the Nazis resulted in Louise having to wear a yellow Star of David and she was required to get down on her hands and knees daily to scrub the pavement outside her apartment building. She soon returned to Czechoslovakia. Pepi foresaw the occupation of Czechoslovakia by several months. He had for some time exported the fine cotton fabrics woven in his factory to England. He now told his clients in England to deposit their payments to his bank account in London instead of remitting them to Czechoslovakia. Once he had enough money in the bank, he moved to London with the intention of bringing the family to join him.

Anita decided to return from Harrachov to Prague with us children and our Nanny. We moved into Grandmother's Villa. Meanwhile, Pepi from the vantage of London could see the advance of the Nazis and the willingness of the British government under Chamberlain to appease Hitler. Czechoslovakia, which had a mutual defense treaty with Britain and France, was sacrificed to Germany in order to avoid war! In March 1939, the German Wehrmacht army marched into Prague and seized Prague Castle as their seat of government to rule Czechoslovakia. They sealed off the country and controlled all communications with the outside world. Pepi was in London, we were stuck in Prague. We were unable to communicate.

Under the Nazi laws it did not matter that the Polacek family had become practicing Christians. They were considered Jews, so were discriminated against and mistreated. Louise was concerned that by living in the big Villa we would be too much of a high profile target, therefore we all moved into a small apartment about a mile away.

My earliest memory was of being awoken one morning by our nanny, Teta Lenka. She opened the shutters of my bedroom window and called me to take a look outside. We saw an endless line of trucks, tanks and armed soldiers marching to a drum beat. In years later I learned that this was the German wehrmacht, marching towards Prague Castle which was to become the Nazi occupiers' seat of power. In the early 1990s I returned to Prague and visited the villa. I stood on the balcony of my bedroom and looked down at the street below. It is a narrow street in a residential area so I could not imagine that the German army had marched along it towards the Castle. One day I visited the villa with the beloved, by now 80 year old Teta Lenka. I told her of my earliest memory and asked her how it would have been possible. She told me that my memory had not deceived me; however we had viewed the frightening march from an apartment building which she then showed me. It was indeed on the main road towards Prague Castle.

Most fortunately Grandmother Louise was able to rent the villa to the Bulgarian Embassy. The Ambassador was sympathetic to the plight of our family so he allowed Anita to use the Bulgarian diplomatic mailbag to communicate with Pepi in London. As a result, our parents were able to save our lives. Pepi sent Anita five tickets for the family to travel to Shanghai via Italy; China was not yet involved in the war and many Jews had moved there. Anita told the Gestapo that Pepi awaited us in Shanghai. After several months of negotiation and waiting, she was granted permission to leave with her children, her mother (who refused to leave) and her mother-in-law. We never went to Shanghai. Upon our arrival in Milano, thanks to help from the Bata shoe company, there were tickets to England awaiting us. We sailed from Naples to Southampton on a Japanese vessel, the last ship to leave before Italy joined the German axis in the war against the Britain.

The date of our departure from Czechoslovakia was April 1 1940, a long year after the start of the German occupation. The brave Anita (29) took along little Marietta (2), myself (4) with my head bandaged because I had a severe ear infection and Grandmother Louise Seidler(73). Anita's mother (also Louise) refused to leave, thinking that she was too old (58) and as a Christian would be safe. The following day she wrote in the front of her New Testament bible "God leads us through many trials. He makes it difficult to believe in various ways, but no matter the difficulty, He urges us not to be afraid, promising us His help. Entrust your cares and put your hopes in Him and He will put everything right". He certainly inspired Pepi Seidler to save us, but He allowed Louise to be butchered along with 6 million other innocents.

The Polacek family was Jewish. President Mazaryk was a friend of the Czech and Slovak Jews who had long been assimilated into Czech society. Under Mazaryk's religious influence, Hugo converted to Christianity as a member of the Moravian Brethren, a branch of the Protestant Hussites. He also converted Louise and many of his immediate family, including his sister and her children. This, tragically, did not help them from the WW2 Holocaust as apart from Hugo, who died in 1933 and Anita, who escaped with us to England; Hugo's brother Rudolf and his daughter Dorli who also found refuge in England; and cousin Lisa who miraculously survived, the rest of the family were murdered in concentration camp - including Louise, her mother, her sisters, her in-laws and their children.

Before we left Prague, Anita buried some family treasures in the garden of the Villa. She was able to recover these after the war. The full story of our "escape" and arrival in England is documented elsewhere. Now, fast forward to the end of WW2, immediately after which it was possible to travel to Europe again. Anita flew to Prague to look for her mother and other relatives. They had all been murdered, except for first cousin Lisa, who survived three concentration camps as a slave laborer and who lives back in Prague to this day. The Germans were so thorough with their intent to eliminate the Jewish race that they left behind records of every Jew who had been transported to concentration camp and the gas chambers, with transport number, destination and date. Grandmother Louise's name is memorialized on the wall of the Old New Synagogue in Prague.

Anita was able to legally prove her claim to the Villa and other family property. She also recovered her few valuables from where she had buried them in the garden of the Villa. Pepi reclaimed his factory and house in Harrachov but did not feel that he needed to go through any legal process - in fact he always avoided lawyers like the plague! In 1948, less than 3 years after the end of the war, the communists installed another dictatorship and all private property was taken over by the government. After the fall of communism in 1989, Anita could prove that her family property had been returned to her at the end of the war, so she was able to reclaim it for a second time. Pepi had no legal proof that his property had been legally returned to him after the war, so his claims were rejected.

At the end of the war, Anita and Pepi decided to continue living in England. In fact Pepi succeeded in becoming one of the first people to gain British citizenship after the war, with a very nice letter of commendation from Jan Masaryk, the Czech Foreign Minister. We still have this historic letter. Pepi had never been as attached to Czechoslovakia as Anita who remained a real Czech patriot. She really missed her beautiful Prague which contrasted with the not so beautiful Bradford, Yorkshire where we had settled.

As a family we returned to Czechoslovakia for the summer of 1947, when we spent time in both Harrachov and Prague. We went back for Christmas and skied in Harrachov. A month after our return to England, the Russian backed Communist party seized power in Czechoslovakia. Once again the family property including

the Villa was stolen by the State. Periodically Anita and Pepi did return to the country to see friends and enjoy the healing powers of the spa waters. However the country was miserable, the buildings and the infrastructure crumbled. The factory in Harrachov was converted into a resort hostel for state workers. The Villa became a healthcare facility for old folk.

Fast forward again to November 17, 1989 and the Velvet Revolution. After 40 years the Communist regime collapsed almost overnight. It seemed like a miracle; the courage and leadership of Vaclav Havel and his fellow members of the Charter 77 movement really served as an example to other revolutionary leaders in Central and Eastern Europe. Another great and courageous leader was Lech Walensa, the trade union leader from Gdansk, Poland.

Pepi Seidler, who was a very determined individual, decided to try to recover our stolen family property as soon as possible. He was almost 90 but he pursued his goals energetically although much of the family property could no longer be recovered. Pepi, Anita and I visited Czechoslovakia several times between 1990 and 1992 in our quest. Finally the Villa was restored to the family. Sadly shortly thereafter Anita died. When I visited her in hospital she expressed her concern about where she would be buried. Pepi had made it clear that he would want to be buried in his family grave in Vienna. Anita, who remained anti-Germanic and above all a Czech, then British, was adamant that she did not want to be buried in Vienna. I asked her if we should bury her in Prague. She said definitely "yes". I suggested that we could bury her ashes in the garden of the Villa. She responded that she could then die happy. A few days later a fatal heart attack saved her from the worst scourges of her cancer. She died on May 4th, 1992.

Six months later, amazingly, I was offered the opportunity of a lifetime, at the age of 58. Pfizer Pharmaceuticals invited me to start a new company in what was still Czechoslovakia. I moved to Prague in January, 1993. Father Pepi, who was lonely and depressed after the loss of his wife of 60 years, was then thrilled at my opportunity to return to our mutual birthplace. During the next 20 months, the last of his life, he visited me in Prague every few weeks. We enjoyed a wonderful relationship and some memorable times together. He shared family history with me and showed me many interesting and lovely places. I took him on some of my business trips around the country.

We decided to have the Villa repaired and renovated mainly in memory of and out of respect for Anita. There was, however, an obstacle. The Villa had been converted into a physical rehabilitation center. Under the new laws of restitution, former property owners, with adequate proof, were able to reclaim what had been nationalized by the state, however healthcare facilities were given a 10 year moratorium before they had to be returned to their rightful owners. We were not prepared to wait that long, certainly not Pepi who was about to turn 92 years old. We had an important ally, the manager of the rehabilitation center. She was very friendly and we discovered that her mother and Anita had played tennis together before the war. She sympathized with our desire to reclaim the villa. She told us that she wanted to start her own rehab center so she put us in touch with a bureaucrat engineer who was in charge of healthcare facilities in Prague 6. He was a reasonable young man and hit it off well with Pepi who made a lunch date with him down town. When I took Pepi to the restaurant I saw that his jacket pocket was bulging with an envelope. I decided to skip the lunch date and told him that I did not want to know what was in the envelope or how he would dispose of it.

I picked Pepi up from his lunch and noted that he still had the bulge in his jacket pocket. I asked him how things went. He said that he had a pleasant time with the engineer, as they had common interests in classical piano music and in trout fishing. The engineer had accepted an invitation from Pepi to visit London for a few days with his wife. He then came to the fortuitous conclusion

that Prague 6 had an overabundance of healthcare facilities and he authorized the release of the Villa to Pepi.

Very soon we put our joint energy and plans to work. The Villa was quickly vacated. We found the original architectural drawings from 1926. An architect/engineer was hired to evaluate the condition of the Villa and prepare plans for its reconstruction. Fortunately the floors were covered in linoleum which had protected the floor and when removed revealed the original parquet in excellent condition. Beautiful glass pocket doors between the three living areas were discovered. A marble fireplace surround appeared behind plywood. Missing was the main staircase and strangely it could not be seen in the architectural drawings. The most expensive part of the renovation was then the construction of a fine, new oak staircase from the first to the bedroom floor. Many, many windows had to be replaced. Paint had to be burnt off the window frames and doors; new hardware had to be added. The house had to be completely rewired; brand new plumbing with a new boiler was installed. The complete outside of the house had to be scrubbed down, re-stuccoed and painted.

Pepi took on the recovery of the Villa as his final mission with great enthusiasm. He visited me in Prague monthly and took great interest in the project. He sent me money for the reconstruction from England and I, in the evenings after my days of starting up a new enterprise and chairing the Czech Association of International Pharmaceutical Companies, oversaw the reconstruction with the help of a good engineer/site manager. Unfortunately the labor was not very competent. Many Czech carpenters, electricians and plumbers had gone to Germany where they earned better wages. We were not the only property owners looking for help, thus we had to use people less skilled than the Czechs from farther east - Slovakia, Ukraine, Belarus, etc. Not only had there to be lots of reworking but the laborers arrived late, left early and on one occasion a couple got drunk on the job and had to be instantly dismissed. In later years further repairs were required due to some of the sloppy work. However the whole renovation, including cleaning up the garden and perimeter, was completed in six months. I also imported about 30 pine saplings from Germany to form a hedge between one side of the property and the suburban railway line. These trees now form a solid hedge, some 30 feet high.

Early on I had a stroke of luck in relation to the Villa. Through friends I was introduced to the diplomatic social circuit. One evening I was having dinner at the Finnish Embassy, seated next to the wife of the Danish ambassador. I told her a little about the Villa and the fact that it had once been an Embassy. She excitedly told me that her friend, the Chilean ambassador's wife, was desperately looking for a new residence and embassy. She kindly introduced me to the Chileans who immediately fell in love with the Villa. They decided that there would be enough room on the top floor for the embassy/consulate and they would live in the rest of the house. The ambassador's wife was an interior decorator with exquisite taste, so we partnered in designing the interior, selecting German bathroom and kitchen fixtures, and accommodating the ambassador's offices. We spent more than we might have done had I ordered the decor myself but the results were much finer than I could have imagined. I even agreed to pay for a second kitchen in the basement so that they could cater for large parties, many of which I later attended.

Rodolfo Stein the ambassador, who became my friend, his wife and their children moved into the Villa at the end of 1993. They were excellent tenants except they had no interest in taking care of the garden or spending on outside help to tend the lawn, flower beds and fruit trees. The only time we had a negative discussion was over their neglect of grandfather's garden. The next ambassador was an unpleasant fellow; hated by his staff; always complaining and asking us to invest in changes for him, but at least he did care for the garden for which we were grateful. Subsequently there were two more changes of ambassador - a total of four different ambassadors in 12 years.

Many distinguished people visited the Chilean Embassy at the Villa, including President Havel and his wife, Olga. One notorious visitor was General Pinochet when he was no longer Chilean president but was in charge of arms acquisition - the Czech Republic had a long tradition of armament development (including the famous Bren gun used by the allies in WW2). When Pinochet came there were demonstrations against him in front of the Villa. I was afraid that people might start throwing things but fortunately there was no violence.

Diplomats in Prague as elsewhere have parties almost every evening, so the ambassadors of practically every country were entertained at the Villa. Prague is a popular destination for business people as well as tourists, including Chileans. During the 90s trade between Chile and the Czech Republic grew - with fruit, vegetables, wine and minerals coming in and beer, glass and manufactured parts going to Chile. Under communism all of Czech farming had been collectivized and after the poor husbandry under communism, farm holdings were again subdivided. Chilean agricultural experts were invited over to help modernize the farming techniques on the rich volcanic soil of the Czech lands.

On December 19, 1995 I borrowed the Villa to give myself a catered 60th birthday party with a group of friends. In the fall of 1996 I was transferred from Prague to Brussels. I left the management of the property to Knight Frank, the Czech branch of a British realtor. Periodically I authorized repairs and upgrades to please each new ambassador. The Villa had actually been inherited by the great grandchildren of Hugo and Louise Polacek - the children of Marietta and myself. I was the administrator and every quarter I would distribute the rent from the Chileans.

This year we made a family decision to sell the Villa, clearly with very mixed feelings. Fortunately the purchaser is James Woolf, an Englishman who has settled in Prague with his Czech wife and two children. They fell in love with the Villa and I am sure will take very good care of it. Our agreement of sale includes a clause which permits our family members - with due notice - to visit and pay our respects at the small garden grave of Anita Seidlerova Polackova. I removed and brought back to the States a fine bronze bust of Hugo Polacek, who sits in my apartment as a reminder of the Villa and its family heritage.

Written by my second cousin John Seidler from Brooklyn, NY son of Pepi Seidler and Anita Pollacek.

Archive Groups in the Czech Republic

Name of the fond (archive group): ARMADA, Mnichovohradištská lučební továrna, J. G. Heuser, Praha

Stored in archives: Státní oblastní archiv v Praze

Place of origin of the fond (archive group) Mnichovo Hradiště; Praha

Time extent: 1922-1951

Footage: 3,30 bm arranged (thereof 0,00 bm inventoried)

Fond is accessible under the Archives Act and other legal regulations

Originator of the fond (archive group) - agency:: Založena 15. 8. 1897 jako veřejná obchodní společnost (Hugo Poláček a Jindřich Brill). Od 3. 6. 1919 název firmy: Mnichovohradištská lučební továrna J. Poláček, hlav. závod Mnichovo Hradiště, pobočný závod Praha VIII. Od 12. 12. 1919 jsou sídla podniku opačná. Znárodněna vyhláškou MP č. 1254, ÚL. I. ze dne 27. 6. 1948. Do n. p. Svit začleněna vyhláškou MP č. 1411, ÚL I. ze dne 29. 6. 1948. Rozsah znárodnění stanoven výměrem MP č. j. 88628/50-V-IV-2 ze dne 22. 7. 1950. přečleněna na OBUS n. p. Praha - Hostivař vyhláškou MP č. 1006, Ú. I. II ze dne 25. 8. 1949.

Thematic description: Písemnosti obsahují balance majetku a výroby z let 1922 - 1929, roční uzávěrka z roku 1948, daňová přiznání k dani z obratu, činžovní a domovní, vývozní hlášení Nár. bance, vymáhání pohledávek, konta odběratelů a dodavatelů. Písemnosti fondu nedávají ucelený přehled o vývoji podniku, proto i jeho využití je nepatrné.



Bild von der Hochzeit von Dorly Simon, Tochter von Onkel Pollatschek.
 3. von links : Onkel Pollatschek, neben ihm seine Nichte Anita Seidler,
 Mutter von Johnny Seidler aus New York und Marietta Cahn aus London
 Dorly Simon, (nicht am Bild) jetzt Witwe, ist 87 und lebt in Wien, 19. Bezirk.



Anita & Ludvik (Luda)
 children of Hugo Pollacek founder
 of Armada factory with partner cousin Brill



My Uncle Gerhard Eisenstein
 in British sergeant uniform
 London after he escaped Prague
 With Marietta and Johnny Seidler who also
 Escaped....



Die Seidlers: Pepi, Großmutter, Anita und die Kinder

11 Deportations Family Pollatschek Brill – Ullmann – Putzker – Eisenstein
Letter sent by Uncle Rudolf Pollatschek of London reporting the deaths of family members

Amtsgericht, Abt. 16

Aachen, den 5. Febr. 1963

16 II 323-334/62

Der Rudolf Polacek, 108 Peters Court, Porchester road, London NW2, hat beantragt, die Verschollenen, die am 27.2.1870 in Münchengrätz, Böhmen geborene, zuletzt in Prag 12, Lucemburska 16 oder 26 wohnhaft gewesene Fabrikantin

Brill (ova) geb. Pollatschek, Ruzena (Rosa)

den am 4. 12.1903 in Münchengrätz Böhmen, geborenen, zuletzt in Prag I, Saazer Gasse 5, wohnhaft gewesenen Fabrikanten Brill, Zdenek

Beide wurden im Jahre 1941 von Prag nach dem Osten deportiert.

Die am ca. 1909/10 in Nachod, Ostböhmen geborene, zuletzt in Prag I, Saazer Gasse 5 wohnhaft gewesene Hausfrau Anna Brill, geb. Lustig

den ungefähr 1933 in Prag geborenen, zuletzt in Prag I, Saazer Gasse 5 wohnhaft gewesenen Schüler Paul Brill

die ungefähr 1933 in Prag geborene, zuletzt in Prag I, Saazer Gasse 5 wohnhaft gewesene Schülerin Helene Brill

die ca. 1905 in Münchengrätz, Böhmen, geborene, zuletzt in Prag wohnhaft gewesene Hausfrau Mary Ullmann, geb. Brill

den ca. 1897 in Prag geborenen, zuletzt in Prag wohnhaft gewesenen Bank Prokurist, Länderbank Raimund Ullmann

die ca. 1930 in Prag geborene, zuletzt in Prag wohnhaft gewesene Schülerin

Eva Ullmann

die im Jahre 1874 in Münchengrätz geborene, zuletzt in Prag Dejwitz wohnhaft gewesene Hausfrau Fanny Putzker, geb. Pollatschek

die am 28.3.1883 in Münchengrätz geborene, zuletzt in Prag wohnhaft gewesene Hausfrau

Augusta Eisenstein, geb. Pollatschek (my grand-mother)

die in Wien geborene, zuletzt in Prag wohnhaft gewesene Kontoristin

Charlotte Eisenstein (sister of my father Friedrich Ludwig Eisenstein)

Alle sind in der Deportation umgekommen, für t o t zu erklären.

Sie werden gebeten, dem hiesigen Amtsgericht zu dem oben angegebenen Aktenzeichen möglichst bald mitzuteilen, was ihnen über das Schicksal und den Verbleib Ihrer vorgenannten Verwandten bekannt ist. Wann traf letztmalig ein Lebenszeichen von ihm, bzw. eine Lebensnachricht über ihn ein?

Auf Anordnung
Unterschrift (Schmidt)