

Alfred Schreyer (1922-2015)



violinist, singer, music teacher

1941: Ghetto Drohobycz

1942-44: quartered in the forced labor camp (ZAL) in Drohobycz

1942 Carpenter in municipal workshops,

1943 Work for Karpathen-Öl AG

1944/45: KZ Krakau-Plaszów, KZ Groß-Rosen, KZ Buchenwald, KZ-Außenlager Taucha in Leipzig

1945/46: Interpreter in Saxony

1946: Repatriation to Drohobycz

Alfred Schreyer about his rescue during a death march in April 1945:

"I had the typical symptoms of hunger - completely bloated feet and a emaciated upper body - and fell back completely exhausted to the end of the column. There were German prisoners with whom I shared the barrack in Taucha and whom I had sometimes quietly sung to when the light had been extinguished: "Vienna, Vienna only you, you shall be the city of my dreams...". Sometimes I also sang a Polish love or lullaby. And the men were quiet and fell asleep. One of these prisoners, an intelligent, elderly gentleman from Berlin, now stood up for me: "Let the man go, he can no longer do it," he told our guard from the Volkssturm. But this man contradicted: "Is he better than others?" "That's a famous opera singer", the Berliner explained. Then I was allowed to glide into a deep ditch next to the street - and the column moved on."

Sources: Helga Hirsch, Wie haben Sie den Krieg überlebt, Herr Schreyer?, In: faz.net, 14.05.2010; Schmalz-Jacobsen: Two Trees in Jerusalem; Paul Rosdy, The Last Jew from Drohobych (Film)