

# MY BELOVED BOYS!

86 DAYS OF CORRESPONDENCE  
BETWEEN PARENTS AND THEIR TWO BOYS  
SEPARATED BY THE  
IMPENDING SECOND WORLD WAR

(MAY 7, 1939 – AUGUST 3, 1939)

COMPILED & ARRANGED BY  
ELIYAHU YAAKOV (LAWRENCE) PINCZOWER



Dr. Erich & Herta Pinczower  
(Vati - Father & Mutti - Mother)  
and their two children  
Joachim (Achim - Mirmele [Yisrael Chaim] - standing) and  
Henry (Putzi - Heinz [Yakov] - sitting)

[Note: This photograph was taken just prior to the children leaving  
Germany by ship, on April 27, 1939, to England.]

**Circa: April 1939 - Breslau, Germany**

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# Table of Contents

Introduction	9
Acknowledgments	11
Historical Foreword	15
Wedding Ketubah of Vati & Mutti	19
<b>Letters Translated into English</b>	<b>20</b>
Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 7, 1939	21
Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 11, 1939	24
Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 12, 1939	27
Letter from Magda Lüddecke, Breslau, May 15, 1939	29
Letter from Peter Salinger, Shanghai, May 15, 1939	30
Letter from Mutti, Breslau, May 19, 1939	34

Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 23, 1939	40
Letter from Grossmutter, Breslau, May 26, 1939	44
Letter from Mutti and Vati, Breslau, May 30, 1939	46
Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 31, 1939	53
Letter from Mutti, Breslau, May 31, 1939	54
Letter from Mutti, Breslau, June 5, 1939	55
Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 12, 1939	58
Letter from Emil Wreschner, New York, June 12, 1939	61
Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 16, 1939	63

Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 20, 1939	67
Letter from Mutti, Breslau, June 20, 1939	70
Letter from Mutti, Breslau, June 22, 1939	72
Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 22, 1939	76
Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 24, 1939	78
Letter from Grossmutter, Breslau, June 24, 1939	83
Letter from Emil Wreschner, New York, June 27, 1939	84
Letter from Vati, Dresden, July 6, 1939	88
Letter from Vati, Breslau, July 17, 1939	91
Letter from Peter Salinger, Shanghai, July 17, 1939	94

Letter from Vati, Breslau, July 24, 1939	96
Letter from Emil Wreschner, New York, July 26, 1939	99
Letter from Vati, Breslau, July 28, 1939	101
Letter from Mutti, Breslau, August 3, 1939	103
Letter from Vati, Breslau, August 3, 1939	107
Letter from Emil Wreschner, New York, April 21, 1940	109
<b>Scans of Select Original Letters</b>	<b>113</b>

ARYEH HOUSE SCHOOL

TELEPHONE: PRESTON 4046



THE UPPER DRIVE,  
HOVE, 4,  
BRIGHTON.

אוריאל ויוסף

Frohen New Rosh Hashana Meini

liebe Mutti

Hast Du schon meinen Brief bekommen mit den Bildern? Wie geht es Vati? Ist er noch so traurig? Wirst er in America wieder arbeiten können?

viele Grüsse und Küsse

Joachim + Patsy

Undated Rosh Hashana letter written by Joachim Pinczower from Brighton Hove, England sent to Mutti - in Breslau, Germany.

Letter signed by both sons.

## Introduction

This is a compilation of letters my brother and I received while we were in England at Aryeh House School in Brighton Hove. Our parents had made arrangements to send us there as they realized the situation in Germany was untenable for Jews. My brother and I were sent to England, alone, by Ship from Hamburg to Southampton, where we were met and went to the school. I was 11 and my brother was 6 1/2 years old.

The letters were sent to us by our parents who were still in Germany and our Grandmother (our Mother's Mother), our Uncle Emil, who was already in New York, and several friends who were in other parts of the world.



These letters were written in German and translated recently by a professional translator in Israel, where our son Lawrence lives. The timeframe of the letters runs from May 1939 to August 1939. Our parents arrived in England approximately at the very end of August or early September. They lived in London while my brother and I lived at the school. When the Germans bombed the area we were living in, our parents took us out of school and we all lived together in London until passage via ship to America could be arranged. We all came to New York about the beginning of September 1940.

Joachim Pinczower

(Riverdale, New York, 31 May 2015)

## Acknowledgments

Undertaking the translation and compilation of the letters my dear Father amus”h, received from his parents ob”m, before the outbreak of the Second World War on September 1, 1939, was spawned during the shiva for my late Uncle Henry a”h, who was niftar this year. I travelled from Israel to New York to visit my parents to provide a measure of comfort to my Father amus”h, who was sitting shiva in New York at the time for his brother Henry a”h.

A book report written several years ago about my Uncle Henry by Lulu Pinczower, a daughter of my cousin Eric Pinczower and granddaughter to my Uncle Henry, was circulated and became a topic of discussion with my Father at the shiva. Lulu’s grade-school book report on her grandfather lead me to engage in a fact gathering expedition of my own by my reviewing a fragile collection of old letters and

other documents my Father and grandparents had retained since even before World War II.

A collection of typed and handwritten letters written over 75 years ago emerged from a delicate folder that fastened together the letters you are about to read. These letters, now translated from German to English, were composed primarily by my grandparents to my Father and his younger brother Henry during the period of May 7 to August 3, 1939.

The typewritten letters were meticulously and expertly translated by Vere Barzilai of Kibbutz Revivim thanks to the referral of Devorah Beasley, herself a professional translator, who resides in Alon Shvut.

The letters that were handwritten in Sutterlin were largely not translated at this time, (a possible future project), but for two handwritten letters written by Grossmutter, my dear Father's grandmother. A third letter

from Grossmutter, recently identified, was not yet translated and appears in original form below.

The letters of Grossmutter provide an important window going back another generation. For that reason it was deemed of added importance to translate these particular handwritten letters despite the technical challenge to find a translator who could competently read and translate Sütterlin. The letters of Grossmutter were professionally transcribed from Sütterlin to German typed letters and then translated into English by Marjorie Kaufman of Haifa thanks to the referral of Vere Barzilai. My thanks for a job superbly done.

Eliyahu Pinczower

(Ramat Beit Shemesh, Israel, 25 June 2015)

*(Editor's Note: Sütterlinschrift - Sütterlin script) is the last widely used historical form of German script handwriting. This handwriting script was created in 1911 by graphic artist Ludwig Sütterlin and was taught in German schools from 1935 to 1941.)*

Tschönlanké d. 12. 5. 39.

Geliebter Stiehm nicht gel. Peter  
 Ich habt mich mit einem l. Jaileden sehr  
 besant, ganz besant, das ich sehr stark sein  
 sein singelakt hab. Kurze Lohden nicht ich  
 yadentem misstaus nen für mich Lohden  
 zu fusan, mir fukan uben für mich so mein  
 yad zu wlatigen. Ich sprach sehr stann, wenn  
 ich misst in Lohden bin. Ich wofen stann  
 Gutenbergstr. 6 " bei Kolodninski ganz  
 in der Kasse für ein l. fukan.  
 Ich wünsch sehr misst alles gut sein.  
 wenn ich mir misst besant wofen, wenn  
 da ich mich sehr fasan. Gut ist immer  
 ganz für  
 immer  
 Großmutter.  
 Kurze Lohden grüß besant.

Original handwritten letter from Grossmutter

# Historical Foreword

The run-up to the Second World War, which most historians pinpoint to 1 September 1939 when Nazi Germany invaded Poland, was no doubt a unique tension-filled period that gripped Europe in general and its Jewish population centers in particular.

In presenting these letters written during this 86 day period; from May 7, 1939 to August 3, 1939, the last letter penned a mere few weeks before the break-out of WWII, a unique window has been preserved for us to contemplate. Many insights can be gleaned by a careful

reading, and rereading, of the following letters; insights to the thoughts, feelings, values and ideals conveyed by loving and concerned parents to their two young boys, who were forced to flee Germany to England by ship, at the tender ages of 11 and 6 1/2.

In reading the following letters, and to put these personal expressions of parental love, instruction, encouragement and advice, within a larger historical context, a brief timeline of significant geopolitical events that transpired before the outbreak of the Second World War, is provided.

Juxtaposing the letters and dates of significant geopolitical events unfolding in Germany and England hopefully sets a context within which to better appreciate the urgency, and at times, hints of frustration expressed in some of the latter letters, concerning, among other things, delays in obtaining exit visas from Germany for Vati and Mutti to rejoin with their children in England.

**7th May 1939** - Germany & Italy announced an alliance known as the Rome-Berlin Axis.

**19th May 1939** - Churchill signs British-Russian anti-Nazi pact.



**23rd May 1939** - British parliament plans to make Palestine independent by 1949.

**23rd May 1939** - Hitler proclaims he wants to move into Poland.

**20th June 1939** - Test flight of 1st rocket plane using liquid propellants.

**22nd June 1939** - Princess Elizabeth meets future husband Prince Philip of Greece.

**6th July 1939** - German Nazis close last Jewish enterprises.

**28th July 1939** - 5th Dutch government of Colijn falls.

**1<sup>st</sup> September 1939** - Nazi Germany invades Poland - WWII begins.

# בע"ה

ב ארבע עשרה יום לחדש אייר שנת  
המשת אלפים ושיש מאות ואלמנה ואלעזר לבריאת עולם למנין שאנו  
מנין כאן עיר מעלותיך איד ר' אברהם בן יצחק אייזיק  
אמר לה הרהר מעלתא פיעלמא בך יעקב הוי לי לאנתו  
כדת משה וישראל ואנא אפלה ואוקיר ואיוון ואפרנס יתיכי בחלבות גוברין  
יהודאין דפלהין ומוקרין וזנין ומפרנסין לנשהון בקושטא ויהיבנא ליכי  
אריה מעליכי כס 400 דגרי אמרן דהוי ליביא מעלותא ומזונכי וכסותיכי  
וסיפוקיכי ומיעל לותיכי כאורח כל ארעא וצביאת מרת פיעלמא מעלתא  
דא והות ליה לאנתו ודין גדוניה דהנעלת ליה מבי אורי בין בכסף בין  
בדחב בין בתכשיטין במאני דלבושא ובשימושא דערסא מעלין לטרין  
וצבי ר' אברהם חתן דגן והוסיף לה מן דיליה מעלין לטרין סך הכל  
מאה לטרין דכסף וכך אמר ר' אברהם חתן דגן אחריות שמר  
כתובתא דא ותוספתא דין קבלית עלי ועל ירתי בתראי להתפרע מכל  
שפר ארג נכסין וקנינין דאית לי תחות כל שמיא דקנאי ודעתיד אנא  
למקנא נכסין דאית להון אחריות ודלית להון אחריות כלהון יהון אחראין  
וערבאין לפרוע מנהון שמר כתובתא דא ותוספתא דין ואפילו מן גלימא  
דעל כתפאי בחיים ובמות מן יומא דגן ולעלם ואחריות שמר כתובתא  
דא ותוספתא דין קבל עליו ר' אברהם חתן דגן כחומר כל שמרי  
כתובות ותוספתות דנהגין בבנות ישראל העשוין כתיקון חול דלא כאסמכתא  
ודלא כטופסי דשמרי וקנינא מן ר' אברהם בן יצחק אייזיק  
חתן דגן למרת פיעלמא בך יעקב מעלתא דא  
בכל מה דכתוב ומפורש לעיל במנא דכשר למקניא ביה

הכל שריר וקים.

נאום אברהם בן יצחק אייזיק דגן  
ונאום אברהם בן יצחק אייזיק דגן

Wedding Ketubah of Vati and Mutti - Rosh Chodesh Iyar 5687

LETTERS TRANSLATED INTO ENGLISH

Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 7, 1939

C o p y

Breslau, May 7, 1939

My beloved boys!

Your news pleased us very much.

Your letter of May 3rd arrived only today, whereas the letter of May 4th arrived already yesterday. A strange coincidence, the letter which was posted later came first.

Regarding the eiderdowns, Mutti immediately fulfilled your wish and sent them off on Sunday.

What about the “leinen”? Did you dare to do it last Shabbos, and how did it go? One only must have courage, then everything goes well.

It doesn't surprise me that Putzili is upset about going to bed so early. Maybe he should ask to stay up until 19:00. If the house regulations permit it, he might be allowed to stay up longer. Yes, yes, you see now how lenient your parents have been, to let Putzi stay up till half past seven.

The second grade probably corresponds to the second year of grammar school here. We are very glad to hear that you get

along so well at school. Headmaster Abt called us today and said that he received a report about you from Mr. Perle, which was full of praise for your knowledge in English.

Eat well, the way you did at home. Has Putzi already ordered his schnitzel he was looking so forward to?

I must close now, because Mrs. Lüddecke wants to bring the letter to the post box; she's already standing behind me.

Many kind regards and thousand kisses,

With love,      Your Vati

**Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 11, 1939**

Breslau, May 11, 1939

My beloved boys!

We have received your letters of 4th and 8th.

I prefer not to bother you with my poor handwriting, but instead to dictate the letter to Mrs. Lüddecke, so that you can easily read everything.

We have sent off the reply coupon yesterday. You will get the knife during the next days, however, not the light blue fountain pen ink, because this would come in shards and everything would become

messy. Ask Mr. Eliassoff for some money and buy yourself the ink.

Next week you will get the things; let me know whether the fountain pen was there.

Regarding the bicycle, Mutti must still submit a certificate; she indicated that the bicycle cost 61 RM and the lamp 6 RM, and that you have been given the bike for your birthday in February, 1938, and the lamp in February, 1939.

We are pleased that you like the food, just don't take too much salt and pepper; it's unhealthy.



Your beloved Mutti has sent you a photo, another one will follow occasionally.

It pleases us to learn that you have such nice weather there. Here it is still very cold. But nevertheless, use the eiderdown for sleeping.

As you know, Jews may not send parcels, it is therefore exceptionally difficult to send you something. It's different if a friend does it. So if you get something, thanks to your Mutti.

Many warm greetings and kisses,

Your Vati

Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 12, 1939

Breslau, May 12, 1939

My beloved boys!

Today we received your letter dated 10th of May, postmarked 12th of May. It is a rather good postal connection.

According to your wish, I'll send you back the letter from May 7th which you have sent to me, see the copy overleaf.

You will receive your things, with the exception of the bicycle, on Monday or Tuesday. Check immediately whether the fountain pen is there. The things which do not belong to you, or which you cannot

wear yet because they are too big, let again  
be carefully packed. You will receive the  
bicycle maybe one or two days later.

Many greetings and kisses,

Your Vati

My dear boys!

I am sending you my warmest greetings. I miss my two “noise makers” very much. But the main thing is that you are well. Also, thank you warmly for your dear lines. Many kind regards from Rosi, and I should tell you that Liesel is fine. Today she has even laid an egg.

Stay well and diligent and be warmly greeted from your

Frau Magda Lüddecke

[Editor’s note: This letter was connected to the letter from Vati of May 15, 1939, and accordingly is undated. Frau Magda was the legal secretary to Dr. Eric Pinczower (ie. Vati)].

Letter from Peter Salinger, Shanghai,

May 15, 1939

Shanghai, May 15, 1939

Dear Achim.

Thank you very much for your letter, I was very happy to receive it. I cannot write very well, because I'm lying in bed. Now I want to tell you about my trip. First I went by train to Weissenfels to say goodbye to my grandparents. I stayed there for a week and then took the train to Rome, via Augsburg, Nuremberg and Munich. I drove over the Brenner Pass. We remained a couple of hours in Rome

and then continued to Naples. We arrived there at night and went into a hotel for sleeping. The next morning we took a horse drawn carriage and drove along the harbour. There stood our 'Ship'. At three o'clock it drove off the bank, and slowly the European mainland disappeared behind us. Then we went down to the Dining room and ate lunch. There were, of course, all kind of emigrants on board. Apart from them were various Japanese. It was a Japanese ship, thus we had a mostly slit-eyed ship crew. After a 4-day voyage we arrived in Port Said. Then we went on through the Suez Canal. It is as wide as

Taumentzenstrasse in Breslau. Then we stopped at Suez. From Suez we entered the Red Sea where we experienced a not so lovely weather. Our boat swung so hard, we didn't know what hit us. The second and third class preferred to lean over the railing to throw up. We and the luxury cabin were first class, and we did our business in the toilet. In Colombo and in Singapore it was very warm, and we had to use our pith helmets. Between Hong Kong and Formosa we experienced the same, but I didn't take a part in it. I have often steered, but of course, the helmsman

stood next to me. Next time I write about  
Shanghai.

I am waiting for a response to my letter.  
My address is:

Peter Salinger  
Avenue de Roi Albert House 3  
Shanghai

Many greetings from your friend,

Peter Salinger

*Peter is in bed and cannot write very well;  
it's tiring him out, especially since he sprained  
his arm last week, and now ...*

*Editor's note: (The last two lines in the letter were probably written by  
his father/mother. Page damaged at the bottom.)*



**Letter from Mutti, Breslau, May 19, 1939**

Breslau, May 19, 1939

My beloved, good children!

How very happy we've been this morning to see your beloved letters, I cannot even begin to describe; we were so anxious because we didn't hear from you in such a long time. That's why we called you yesterday. I could understand you very well, beloved Mimerle, you probably, less. You have been in Mr. Eliassoff's office, right? I am so sorry that I haven't spoken with my beloved Putzi. What is he doing in the kindergarten? Does he learn

the English language? Regarding the little mishap, which has happened to him, soiling his pants, it's sad. But, this is the first time and hopefully also the last, right? Putzilein, one must go before the smell spreads around, and not as it sometimes happened back home in Breslau!!!

I just called Franz Goldberg, unfortunately, his telephone line is disconnected. He wants us to enclose his letter to you. He is still in Breslau; I just talked to him yesterday. Perhaps I will go up to his place. Regarding the ink, we will buy a Montblanc container and send it to

you, also the mirror. Next week you will get some more sweets for the holidays. Mrs. Schiller will do that now. You can also write to her sometimes. Her address is: Frau Anna Schiller, Schweidnitzer-Stadtgraben 16a.

Bruckstein's address is: Paris 8 me, Family Hotel, 11 Rue de Constantinople.

Beloved Mimerle, you must write only good things to Brucksteins; don't tell them that it's not very "ritual" there, as we thought it will be. Tell them that you like it there etc.

When we come, with God's help, everything will be sorted out. Do you learn

a lot of Hebrew? What about your 'leinen' (Ed. Torah parasha reading)? Who gives you Hebrew lessons? Probably you know best of all the others because here great value was placed on the teaching. What language do you speak there? You forgot to answer this in your otherwise so detailed letter. Nevertheless, we are very happy that you write so nicely, at least we get an approximate picture.

Hopefully now your things are unpacked. Well, you must change the shoes sometimes; the heels are most probably worn down, Putzi's as well. In the meantime, it has also become warmer.

You have to wear lighter clothing. Of course, the bicycle belongs to you. It was addressed to Mr. Eliassoff for the sake of simplicity. My beloved Mimerle, special congratulations on your achievement at school. You passed your class; this is marvelous. Is it easy for you at school? I suppose that you must say everything in English. This is the case with Wolfi who visits a school in Paris. Do you actually wear a school uniform i.e. everyone is dressed the same? Wolfi wants to know, particularly about the uniforms. He is making fun of it, you know. If there is something you wish, inform me

immediately. I hope I will be able to fulfil it. At the moment they don't have the kind of soldiers you want. As soon as they arrive, I send you some. Are you warm enough at night?

My beloved children, I want to close now. I will send you post stamps, as soon as I have some. It is not so easy, as you can surely imagine.

I send you many kisses, and please write regularly. I just wish that you stay healthy,

Your very loving Mutti

**Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 23, 1939**

Breslau, May 23, 1939

My beloved boys!

We received your letters and were very happy, especially that you wrote them in English. The reading of the letter is done in such manner: me, interpreting the letter with the help of a new purchased English dictionary. After some time it's done. A very welcome stimulation for me to learn English.

Last night your dear grandmother and Aunt Lorchen have come here. They are staying together in the Gutenstrasse 6.

Also your post card came, but without a stamp.

Today Miss Furchner<sup>r</sup> asked for your address, and of course we gave it to her, so if she writes to you, send her a nice reply. Don't let her know that I told you about it.

Dear Achim, you say in your letter, that you have to write 'nonsense'. Not at all. There are so many things we want to know and from those there is nothing in your letters, e.g. what is Putzi doing the whole day, he seems to be quite good in English. Did he go with you to the cinema recently or did you go only with your school-friends? How does Putzi feel



without Mutti's caresses? Is he fearful?  
Etc., etc.

Explain to me sometimes also the  
distribution of the classes; how are they  
numbered? Are you studying hard in  
Hebrew, learn Ivrit as well as Hebrew  
prayers? Do you 'leinen'<sup>2</sup> do you prepare  
yourself, in what way? etc., etc.

You see, there are many serious matters  
that we want to know about them, and  
they are absolutely not 'nonsense'.

So, my dear children, take my words  
seriously and write frequently, because  
Mutti is always running towards the  
postman asking if he's got a letter for us.

Don't worry too much that you didn't understand Mutti on the phone recently, it doesn't matter. The main thing is that Mutti understood you, in fact, she did this very well. The purpose of this phone call was to make sure that you are well.

Many kind regards and thousand  
kisses,

Your Vati

1 (Ed. Note: Fraulein Furchner was the house nanny for the children in Breslau)

2 (Ed. Note: leinen = Torah cantillation in preparation for Bar Mitzvah)

Editor's note: (What follows is a handwritten letter by Mutti in Sutterlin.)

**Letter from Grossmutter, Breslau, May  
26, 1939**

(Original German text to Grossmutter  
letter)

Breslau, May 26, 1939

Meine gel. teuren Kinder.

Jetzt bin ich mit Tante Lorchen hier in  
Breslau. ich freue mich so sehr mit Euern  
l. Zeilen, ganz besonders, daß es Euch  
Gott Lob gut geht. Wie schön schreibst  
Du schon englisch, gel. Putzili, und  
Achimchen ist so schön ausführlich. Innig  
grüßt Euch und küßt Euch in Gedanken,  
Eure Euch innigliebende Großmutter



**Letter from Mutti and Vati, Breslau, May  
30, 1939**

Breslau, May 30, 1939  
Tuesday

My beloved and good children!

Today we received with great joy your detailed letter, beloved Mimerle, as well as your dear postcard, beloved Putzili. We were very pleased to hear all the good news, praise G-d. We will also write to Mr. Eliassoff today, so that the suitcases will be finally unpacked. Otherwise, if this doesn't happen soon, mildew will begin to grow on the things inside. Through a card

which we received today from Aunt Lea, we understand that you are wearing uniforms. This is the first time we hear about it. We didn't know that! How do they look like?

You haven't confirmed the receipt of the parcel yet with the soldiers and the cake in it, as well as some sweets. Please, let us know as soon as you receive the parcel. We need to know that you got all the parcels before we send a new one.

Pentecost we had terrible weather, cold and rainy. Today is the first nice day. Everywhere people were still heating their homes. We heard on the radio that it has

— | —

been absolutely marvelous weather in London, and I assume in your place as well. I am happy about that, thus you surely won't catch a cold.

How's school going so far? What about your Hebrew lessons? Do you also study every Shabbos afternoon? Has Putzi got a friend already? Dear Putzi, I am amazed at how nicely you write in English. Did you write under supervision of a teacher? I guess, you did.

I will deliver the letter to Franz by today. Dear Mimerle, I'm glad that you don't have to deal with politics. This is nothing for children, and also we adults

would be happier if we needn't talk about it. Yesterday, our beloved Oma and Aunt Lorchen came over for coffee. Aunt Lorchen is also a very dear person. Rose has taken budgerigars into care, because the owner had to go away. Some of them speak very sweetly. You would be overjoyed but Mutti was not very delighted.

Do you get compote every day? Do you get enough to eat? Have you gained some weight? What kind of sport do you do?

I will send you some writing paper and an envelope today. Please, let me know if you receive them. Now, my beloved, stay



healthy and make us happy by sending us good news.

Your loving Mutti

P.S. We must always go especially to the post office in order to get the reply coupons. Beloved child, use the stamps only for us, because with each letter we get only one reply coupon, and this only twice a month.

-----

My beloved boys!

Dear Achim, we received your dear letter, as well as the postcard from our dear Putzi. We have been very happy about it. Nevertheless, your food during the holidays was splendid. After all,

pineapple as a compote is a fine thing. I can imagine how you indulged in it. It's impossible to send you pears, we will bring some when time comes. Unfortunately, that is not the case yet.

Do write a letter to your Hebrew teacher, Leo Wolf, Wroclaw, Augustastrasse 9.

He will be very happy. He was recently visiting us; but check your letter before sending, make sure there are no mistakes.

Stay fit and healthy and write again in detail,

1000 kisses,

— | | —

## Your Vati

*Beloved Mimerle, you must write with darker ink, otherwise your dear Vati cannot read anything. Tomorrow I'll send a reply coupon, we didn't get one today.*

(Ed. Note: The above lines after signature of Vati were written by Mutti as further instruction for using darker ink for future letters to be written to Vati.)

Letter from Vati, Breslau, May 31, 1939

Breslau, May 31, 1939

My beloved Putzili,

Today you'll receive an extra letter like a grown-up because you are always making us so happy with the self-written cards in English. How are you in calculation? Are you busy learning? Did you get grades yet? Do you have a friend?

Now my beloved child, I want to close.

1000 kisses to you and stay well

With love, Vati

**Letter from Mutti, Breslau, May 31, 1939**

Breslau, May 31, 1939

My beloved Mimerle,

Yesterday, unfortunately, I didn't get a reply coupon. I will try again this morning and hope to get one. I have delivered the letter to Franz. He has also found a picture of himself; I will send it to you.

Write to us again extensively.

Yesterday, we have send a letter to Mr. Eliassoff, especially also because of the suitcases. 1000 kisses and stay well,

With love, Mutti

**Letter from Mutti, Breslau, June 5, 1939**

Breslau, June 5, 1939

My beloved boys!

i) Your letter which was written on Friday and departed at about 12:45 same day from Brighton, was delivered to us at five o'clock afternoon on Saturday. It took just one day for the letter to arrive. An extraordinary favourable transportation. This tells you how you should send off the letters; they must be brought to the post office in the morning in order to depart from there at 12:45.

2) We were extremely happy to receive your letter and Putzi's; please keep writing like this. You say that you received the parcel with the cake, but not whether you got the parcel which Mrs. Schiller has already sent to you one day before we did. The one with many soldiers in it. Inform us as soon as it arrives

3) We asked you recently, whether you are wearing a uniform. Aunt Lea mentioned it, but we don't really know. Let us know if you wear a uniform and what kind of and also, if Putzili wears one as well.

4) Did you do something on Pentecost?  
Are you sometimes going on excursions,  
and where to? Besides the town, do you get  
to know the surrounding area? How big is  
Brighton and how many inhabitants does  
it have? Is it nicely located? How big is the  
synagogue? How many Jews live there?  
These are all questions we are interested  
in.

5) Mutti is very worried, that our things,  
hers and mine, are going to rot there. You  
can tell this sometimes to Mr. Eliassoff,  
the things should be aired and beaten.

Editor's note: (Continuation of letter in  
handwriting by Mutti in Sutterlin.)



**Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 12, 1939**

Breslau, June 12, 1939

My beloved boys!

We have received your letters of June 8 on Saturday. Thank you very much, I will answer it immediately.

We understand from Putzi's letter that he is learning to swim. This is very good. How about you, dear Achim? Do you also take swimming lessons or are you on strike? Regarding your letter, our address is very well written, but the letter leaves a lot to be desired. Reading your letter, we cannot tell whether you have received a

second parcel with soldiers in it, besides the one sent by Mrs. Schiller, or you didn't. Nevertheless, one should know such a thing, having 20 soldiers more or less is a difference. That you dismiss my question about the size of Brighton, with the answer 'I do not know', is not right, because one must make an effort. If you had asked your teacher Perle, he would have given you an answer. Well, the world doesn't change; when we were young as you, we also did not like to go to school, however, I realized that one must always readily fulfill one's duties and that in this way one gets far.

Where do you keep your suitcases? I don't believe you can get to them, even if you got a key. They are probably stored up in the attic. It seems that you have grown quite big because you fear that the things will be too small on you.

Today grandmother has written to you and enclosed a reply coupon. Write to us soon and tell whether you have received the earlier parcel with the soldiers in it and the new one with the sweets, writing paper etc. Many warm greetings and kisses to you and Putzili,

Your Vati

Editor's note: (Continuation of letter by Mutti in Sutterlin.)

Letter from Emil Wreschner, New York,  
June 12, 1939

EMIL WRESCHNER

New York                      Bratislava<sup>1</sup>, June 12, 1939

My dear nephews!

I have just received your first card of June 1st, which made me very happy. In the meantime, I suppose that you have received my second letter. At your request I enclose one dollar and a few postage stamps. How is your English study? Do you also have lessons?

It is very hot here and even at nights it doesn't cool down.

Otherwise I am quite well and hope it is the same for you too.

With best wishes and many greetings,

Your Uncle Emil

(1 Ed. Note: it is unclear why the letter from New York also makes reference in the original to Bratislava.)

**Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 16, 1939**

Breslau, June 16, 1939

My beloved boys!

We have received your letter and were very pleased, particularly about the fact that sometimes the soup isn't exactly to your taste.

Well, my dear child, being in a foreign place is not like being home with the parents: there, one also has to eat things that are not tasty, as one also has to do things that are not to one's liking. A foreign country teaches man to be modest. Also your parents must be modest when

they come to England, they are not going to live there as they used to at home. The good times are over for us, but one must not give up and hold one's head high. Even if the soup hadn't tasted good sometimes, I would have eaten it anyway and looked forward to the next time when it would have been better again.

The parcel with the soldiers got probably lost. However, you must be more attentive and confirm every parcel you receive, so that we know which one arrived and which not. It seems strange that this parcel has got lost, because it is the first of all parcels. Maybe it has been

received by some boy at school who opened it, liked what he saw and took it for himself. I don't want to arouse suspicion, but it is at least a possibility.

Otherwise, regarding your things, please note the following: your dear Mutti has provided you and Putzi with name labels. If you get new clothes, please ask Nurse Davies to sew on your names which our dear Mutti has given for this purpose. Tell her, the dear Mutti will return the favour, as soon as we come to England. This way we will solve this problem calmly and quietly.



Read the letter to Nurse Davies, only the parts which concern her. Call her and tell her this: “I want to read to you something.”

Today Mrs. Schiller posted you a parcel with sweets which you will probably receive on Monday.

Many warm greetings and kisses to you and our dear Putzi,

Yours,

Editor’s note: (Without signature but definitely from father, letter by Mutti, written in Sutterlin.)

**Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 20, 1939**

Breslau, June 20, 1939

My beloved boys!

You probably were waiting already for our letter. It's coming later than usual because this time we are writing on Tuesday and not as always on Monday.

Your news, dear Achim, has pleased us very much, in particular the story with the grass soup, such a soup should be very tasty, also very savoury. I can well imagine how it must have tasted to our dear Putzili. He must have been delighted. Anyway, it can't have been that bad,

meanwhile you have other wonderful soups again, probably meat broth etc., something we only have exceptionally.

We haven't had any meat for three weeks... and yet, we are content.

Your dear Mutti and I want to go away on Sunday, a 14 days trip to Berlin and Dresden. However, you continue writing to our old address, the letters will be sent to us immediately.

You don't need to send us the Daily Telegraph, one can get it here as well. Maybe I will buy me a copy once my knowledge of English improves.

By the way, no parcel has got lost, because there weren't exactly 20 soldiers that your dear Mutti has sent, could have been only 10.

Recently we have sent another parcel, let us know that you have received it.

Your aunt is in Spindlermühle, together with the children she is taking care of. She has sent a post card to Mrs. Lüddecke. You know when you get her letter, you should send it first to us. We are going to compose the reply and send it back to you soon.

Lots of greetings to Putzili and I kiss you both tenderly,      Your Vati

**Letter from Mutti, Breslau, June 20, 1939**

My beloved and good children!

Today I sent you, beloved Mimerle, the desired Nivea cream as a sample without value. Please, let me know as soon as you have received it, so that I can send you a second tin. You are very efficient Mimerle, I am amazed. Thus you will have some money and Putzili will certainly get some as well. Now I would like to ask you something: Do you still need your football shoes which I have given you at that time? I still have a pair for each of you in a bigger size. However, if you don't need them, I would like to exchange them and buy

something else instead, if it's still possible.  
In any case, I'll do this only if you tell me  
that that you don't need them.

How often do you bathe? Should I send,  
perhaps, for each of you two new  
combinations because the Nurse hasn't  
given you the ones you already have?  
Please, give me an answer. How about  
your shoe inlays, do they still fit you or do  
you need new ones?

Mutti

(Editor's note: Some sentences in Sutterlin all around  
the printed text on the very same page.)

**Letter from Mutti, Breslau, June 22, 1939**

Breslau, Thursday, June 22, 1939

My beloved and good children!

I'm writing you this letter today so that you will receive it in time for Shabbos. Yesterday I have sent you toilet paper that is already torn and ready for use on Saturday. Well, you know, beloved child that Mutti has always torn the paper on Friday afternoon for the next day. One cannot expect this of a school, for 1. There are too many children and 2. Children who received a less pious education than you. Nevertheless, you must keep our way as

you have seen it in your parental home,  
and you can always prepare the paper by  
yourself a day before.

My beloved child, you, as well as  
Putzili, have your embroidered names.  
Please, tell the Nurse Davies, to sew your  
name labels into the clothes you are  
wearing. This way, nothing can get lost.  
Write to me clearly and simply, do you  
still have the names and are at least some  
of your clothes labelled?

Peter S.'s letter was really nice. Imagine  
what he has already gone through, the  
terrible journey and the heat, and then he  
sprained his arm. In our present situation



one should be glad to have found accommodation. So you see my dear children, there is no place in the world like home. A Vati and a Mutti are only once in a lifetime. How often have you grumbled at Mutti wanting you to put on a coat? In a foreign country nobody really makes a big fuss over you. You must become more independent and do all by yourself, but not for long, and we will be with you, then you can unburden your hearts to us.

Franz G. is also coming to England. I believe he is going to a priest, but I don't know exactly. He is very glad about it. One really has to be happy if one gets the

opportunity to get out. It is not so simple anymore. But from all the bad in life one must always take the best out of it.

Please tell us if you want more sweets. How are we to understand the sentence which you wrote in your last letter: “The school is a paradise”? What do you mean by that? How do you and Putzili get along at school?

Now my beloved children, I greet and kiss you a thousand times,

Your loving Mutti

**Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 22, 1939**

My beloved boys!

Our dear Mutti has already reported at length, so that I don't have anything more to add. Dear Achim, how is school? How do you manage your arithmetic tasks, essays etc.? Are you able to follow the English lessons?

Unfortunately, we don't have the permit yet, so that we cannot leave. I don't think that we will come before the end of September.

How is Putzili? We hear from him only what he is able to write, and this is

naturally very little. Is he funny and cheerful?

Do write sometimes about him a little bit more detailed, especially because the boy cannot write yet, and we have no immediate contact with him, we are very eager to know how he gets along.

That's all for today,

Many warm greetings and  
kisses, your Vati

**Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 24, 1939**

Breslau, June 24, 1939

My beloved boys!

Today we received your dear letters, for which we are very thankful. Dear Mimerle, our letters must have crossed in the mail because I wrote you that we still don't know when we will come, in any case, not before the end of September. We do not have the English permit yet, however, we hope to receive it in 14 days. Then, however, we have to obtain the clearance certificates, the customs

clearance of our household goods etc. quite a lot of things which take up a lot of time.

I assume, you have written the letter with a fountain pen, tell us if you have received it.

Dear Putzeli, we were particularly very pleased to read your detailed letter. You already write very nicely in English.

Next time you build a ship again, put it in the water, maybe also in the canal, perhaps it will come down to Breslau (ed. Wroclaw), along the Oder River.

Keep studying hard, so that you can be our interpreter when we come to England.

Dear Mimerle, regarding your wish, I have here enough bags and I will occasionally send you one.

I am very eager to hear about your progress in English and in class. Did you get a good grade in mathematics? (a 10) Your last letter was very short, you could write a little bit more in detail.

I would recommend that you submit a request to the Minister of Internal Affairs in London, in order to speed up our matter. I will put up a request for you in German, but of course it must be submitted in English.

Try your luck once, you will certainly  
succeed.

Many warm greetings and kisses,

Your Vati



Letter from Grossmutter, Breslau,  
June 24, 1939

(Original German text to Grossmutter  
letter)

Geliebte Kinder.

Wenn ich Eure Schulgenossen, die  
noch hier sind, auf dem Platze spielen  
sehe, da denke ich immer an Euch, wie Ihr  
hier wart.

Ich weiß wirklich nichts Euch  
interessierendes mitzuteilen, ich grüße  
Euch herzlichst und bin Eure Euch  
innigliebende

Großmutter

(English translation to Grosmutter letter)

My dearest children,

Seeing your friends from school, who are still here, playing outside, I am always thinking of you, when you still were here. I really don't have anything interesting to tell you.

Sending you my deepest regards, your grandmother, who loves you deeply.

Grandmother

Letter from Emil Wreschner, New York,  
June 27, 1939

New York, June 27, 1939  
512 West, 19 Street, Apt. 3 A

My dear nephews!

I have just received your dear letter dated June 15, and I am very happy about it, because I have been waiting for it for a long time.

Indeed, being away in a strange country is not the same as being at home, however, you shouldn't take things so tragically. I myself was for many years in a boarding house, and have likewise visited the

school. The meals weren't the best, we had soups which were prepared differently than what we were accustomed to in Germany. But I and, as well as all the others in the boarding house, have got used to it. You write that once there was a fly in your tea, you mustn't take it so tragically. I can still remember that I had a soup which wasn't to my taste and in addition to it, it also had a fly in it. I immediately reported it to the boarding house director, and he said rather calmly to take out the fly and to keep on eating. You see, it has always been so. I had to eat the soup, although I didn't like it. Now,

regarding the grass soup, I didn't know there is such a thing, but I would like to tell you about another case. Once we were served burnt soup and we had to try to swallow it. Isn't this even worse? If you really don't like the food, in the worst case scenario, you don't eat it. But you must not take things so tragically.

If your suitcase is still unpacked, it certainly has a reason, it maybe because the wardrobes are taken. However, something needs to be done about that. Therefore, talk to the nurse, she will do something.

I would be interested to know how you are doing at school. Does our dear Putzi like the school?

From what I gather, you are doing well. I can say the same for myself.

By now you have probably received my last letter with the dollar in it.

I enclose a reply coupon and post stamps and remain with many warm greetings,

Your Uncle Emil

Letter from Vati, Dresden, July 6, 1939

C o p y

Dresden, July 6, 1939

My beloved children!

Today, your Vati is writing to you especially because our beloved Mutti is not here; I sent her to Karlsbad where she is going to stay till Sunday.

Dear Achim, we received your dear letter on July 3rd, thank you so much for your precious news. Why can't you write essays? This is so simple. At first you think in German and then you translate

the whole “Chose” and if you don’t manage the translation, make it simpler. The fact that you are good in Hebrew, I already thought so, but did you learn something new over there? What about the Mishnayos, Rashi, the lines? My dear child, you have to study your Seder lines until October 30, 1939, because after that we are going to be on a trip and there it will be hard to study. Or do you intend to stay over there for the next two years? I would welcome this!

Friday noon I’ll return to Breslau where work is already waiting for me.



How is Putzilein? Is he still so cute?  
How does he get along with his friends? Is  
he popular? Or is he naughty? I won't and  
cannot really believe that. Otherwise, I  
don't have anything special to report for  
now.

I'm looking forward to your Shabbos  
letter and till then warmest greetings and  
kisses from your

Vati

*I hope you can read the letter; with a little  
bit of hard work and effort you'll manage.*

**Letter from Vati, Breslau, June 17, 1939**

Breslau, July 17, 1939

My beloved boys!

We received your letter. Your beloved Mutti is going to send today or tomorrow morning the things you asked for (wallet, notebook, riddle book etc.).

I'm not sending you back the letter from Aunt Rosa, we have torn it by mistake. Her address is:

Jerusalem, Arlosoroff Street 19

You should write to her soon lest the correspondence will peter out. I enclose

the pictures of Aunt Rose which you have sent to us.

I am not going to send you the letter which I had drafted for the Minister of Internal Affairs. This matter has been delayed by you for too long and I believe, it is not worthwhile sending it anymore. You must pay more attention to everything I write to you, so that you will be able to accomplish matters immediately, and not as you do, asking a hundred times and still not correctly doing it.

About yesterday's sports games, we'll probably get some news soon.

Now, you have a lot of time during your vacation which, as I believe lasts 2-3 months, to improve your English, further to devote yourself to Hebrew studies, and if there's still time left you could practice playing chess. You will probably also make some excursions in the surrounding area. Please provide us with detailed description from everything.

Does Putzi also learn a little bit of Hebrew? It would be a pity if he forgot the language. Warmest greetings to you and Putzi,

Yours,

Editor's note: (Continuation of letter by Mutti in Sutterlin.)

Letter from Peter Salinger, Shanghai, July

17, 1939

Letter no. 2

Shanghai, July 17, 1939

Dear Achim,

Now I am already 5 months in Shanghai and I can tell you some things about here. Shanghai is divided into three quarters. In one quarter live the Chinese, in another one the English and then the French. We live in the French quarter, however, soon we are going to move into a small house which we have rented in the English quarter. Here I go to an English school.

A few weeks ago we had a heat of 49 degrees. Usually it is 34-36 degrees Celsius. In winter, however, it goes below 6 degrees, and then one would like to take a dozen of blankets for sleeping. Recently we had a typhoon here and one couldn't go out because the wind would have knocked one down.

Please, next time you write to me, use my new address:

Peter Salinger  
Shangaiz02 Westend – Gardens

For now best regards from your old  
friend            Peter Salinger

*P.S. I've joined the Scouts, I'll tell you about it next time.*

Letter from Vati, Breslau, July 24, 1939

Breslau, July 24, 1939

My beloved boys!

Thank you for your dear letter from Saturday<sup>1</sup>. However, dear Achim, what I miss in your letter is a respond to my inquiries. You are not writing anything about your activities in Hebrew, whether you are studying your Sidre, what about your piano playing, are you making good progress... How long do you practice every day?

I didn't sign my last letter and it was mailed accidentally without my noticing it.

You don't have to worry about my eyesight.

The sports games passed without you winning a prize. Well, this we can overcome as long as you are diligent and efficient.

Putzili with his four awards is the hero of the day. The beloved Mutti was delighted.

We still didn't get the permit.

Enclosed I'm sending you a copy of the card I sent to you from Dresden on July 6th, containing a number of questions which you hopefully will answer.



Warm regards and kisses,

Your Vati

P.S. You didn't tell me if you  
congratulated Miss Furchner on her  
birthday.

1 Editor's note: Saturday letter is reference to the weekly "Shabbat Letter" the boys would write during the week and then mail from England to Germany that would arrive, most likely, Shabbat afternoon in Breslau, so that it could be read on Shabbat by Vati and Mutti and thus is referred to as the Shabbat Letter.

(Editor's note: Side and bottom of the same page with sentences written in Suetterlin script. Text is cut off, maybe not copied correctly, no signature visible.)

Letter from Emil Wreschner, New York,  
July 26, 1939

New York, July 26, 1939

My dear nephews!

Although I haven't heard from you for a long time, I would like to write to you today. I have received 4 reply coupons for which you are the recipients.

Today I had post from Breslau, and I presume that the parents will be in England by autumn. You must also be very happy about that. Why do you write so little? What is the reason? You are

probably on school vacation now; please  
write in detail how you spend your time.

I hope these lines will find you well and  
in good spirit.

Many greetings from your

Uncle Emil

**Letter from Vati, Breslau, July 28, 1939**

Breslau, July 28, 1939

My dearest boys!

I was very happy to receive your birthday letter which already arrived on Wednesday although it was due Saturday, July 29, Shabbos afternoon.

I thank you from my heart for all the good wishes and for all the kisses you sent from far away. I hope that soon we will be able to exchange them in person.

Now I am most interested and curious to know what you are going to do during your school holidays. I hope you are not

going to have too much free time because then you are only going to be bored. What are your teachers doing during this time? Are they also on vacation or are they staying in school?

Did Mr. Eliasoff go away on a trip? Mutti wrote to him twice without receiving a reply.

(Editor's note: Sentence in Suetterlin, most probably regards and kisses from father (Vater). Additional short writing in Sutterlin, most probably by Mutti.)

**Letter from Mutti, Breslau, August 3, 1939**

Breslau, August 3, 1939

My dear good children!

We were very happy to read your dear letter. Putzili, your writing in English is so good that your Mammi and Vati had to use a dictionary in order to translate everything into German. Just continue studying your English diligently because one day you have to be our translators. Mr. Eliassoff said as well that you are making great progress. Of course that made us very happy. Has Peter H. or Franz G.

already written? They are both in England now.

Now my dearest Putzili, you have your birthday on August 22, G-d willing, "Gebortstag" as you always said. What do you wish for your birthday, beloved child? Maybe it's possible that Uncle Emil sends some money from America to Mr. Eliassoff, and he could buy something for you, something you want. You can write yourself what you want or let us know through Mimerle.

How were the Liegnitzer Bombs? You didn't say anything. Do you still have some "Calcipot"? It's very important, you

absolutely must take it. I'll send something again. Don't forget to inform me of this.

This Sunday, G-d willing, we will go to Berlin. We will stay there approximately 8 days. However, you send your letters as always to Breslau. Mrs. L. will have them forwarded to us. So tell me, what are you doing on your vacation? Are your friends also staying there? Do you already know how to swim a little bit? Please, you have to answer all my questions. I keep asking and you never answer, this can't be right, you little rascals.



Now, my beloved children, I embrace  
and kiss you as I used to do at home.

Your most loving

Mutti

**Letter from Vati, Breslau, August 3, 1939**

My beloved boys!

Now that you are on school vacation you write even less than before. That's unjust because we are waiting here with bated breath for your letters.

Dear Mimerle, you don't write what you have learned so far in Hebrew. How is it going? What about your Sidre, how often do you play the piano, are you making progress in your piano playing?

The point is that all these are things a father takes interest in. We also didn't receive a response to our inquiry whether

you have congratulated Miss Furchner on her birthday. Has she answered to you, and what did she say? If you get this letter, then use it for your reply, thus you won't forget to refer to our questions.

At first I wanted to write by hand but after some consideration I thought that you can barely read my handwriting. So I dictated this letter to our dearest Mutti.

Many kisses to you and Putzili,

With love,

Your Vati

Letter from Emil Wreschner, New York,  
April 21, 1940

New York, April 21, 1940

My dear nephews!

I have received your first letter of March 20, and I don't want to miss the opportunity to reply to you before Passover. I hear that this time you won't be celebrating together with your dear parents because they are not there. But I'm convinced that you will have very nice Seder evenings.

As for me, I stay here with my people where we will have a bigger Seder evening, the same as last year.

Dear Achim, I am glad that you write so nicely in English. Of course I make mistakes, I didn't learn a foreign language in school and I have had to teach myself everything. However, I am perfect in dealing with clients and that's what really matters. What's interesting me is your studies in Hebrew. Hope you learn a lot. Here, in this respect, they have high requirements, most of it being acquired during one's youth. I have learned a lot of Hebrew (Jewish) and also understand

Yiddish, which as everyone knows, is very important, at least here. Earlier we used to laugh about it, and now I see how important this language is. You know that your dear mother sings in Yiddish; here it is almost the second official language. I wish you a very good Yom Tov and hope to hear from you soon. I want to hear how you spend Pesach.

Please, send me a photograph of you. You two must have grown into fine young men by now.

The enclosed postage stamps will please you. I expect another letter from you, in English please.

Until then, I remain with many  
greetings,

Your Uncle Emil

SCANS OF SELECT ORIGINAL LETTERS



Mami gel. Fräulein! ~~Anschrift~~ jetzt in den Ferien, wo Ihr Zeit habt, weniger als früher. Das ist Unrecht von mir, denn wir erwarten mit Spannung immer Eure Briefe.

Du schreibst mir, gel. Mimerle, überhaupt nicht was Du im Hebräischen lernst. Wie steht es damit? Wie steht es mit der Sidre? Ob Du häufig Klavier spielst? Welche Fortschritte machst Du im Klavierspiel?

Das sind doch alles Sachen, die einen Vater interessieren. Du hast uns sodann auch noch nicht geantwortet auf unsere Anfrage, ob Du Frl. Furchner zum Geburtstag gratuliert hast. Hat sie Euch geantwortet und was? Wenn Du diesen Brief erhält, dann antworte an Hand dieses Briefes. Dann kannst Du nichts vergessen zu beantworten..

Ich wollte zuerst mit der Hand schreiben, aber dann überlegte ich mir, dass Ihr meine Schrift schlecht lesen könnt. Da diktierte ich der gel. Mutti den Brief.

Viele herzliche Küsse an Dich und Putzili,  
in Liebe,  
*L. Vati*

Original letter from Vati, Breslau, 3 August, 1939

Breslau, den 3. August 1939

Geliebte, gute Kinder!

Wir freuen uns sehr Eurer lb. Zeilen. Putzili, Du schreibst ja schon so schön Englisch, dass Mammi und Vati sich ein Leikon nehmen mussten, um das Alles ins Deutsche zu übertragen. Lernt nur weiter fleißig Englisch, denn Ihr müsst dann unsere Uebersetzer sein. Herr Eliassoss schrieb uns auch, dass Ihr so schöne Fortschritte macht, das hat uns natürlich sehr erfreut. Hat Peter H. oder Franz G. schon geschrieben? Sie sind Beide jetzt auch in England.

Nun, gel. Putzili, Du hast doch m. G. H. am 22. August Deinen "Gebortstag", wie Du immer selber sagtest. Was wünschst Du Dir gel. Kind? Vielleicht ist es möglich, dass Onkel Emil etwas von Amerika aus schickt und Herr Eliassoss besorgt Dir dann dort, was Du Dir wünschst. Schreibe also selber oder lasse dich Mimerle uns wissen, was Du haben willst.

Wie hat die Liegn. Bombe geschmeckt? Ihr habt noch nicht darüber berichtet. Habt Ihr noch Calcipot? Das ist so wichtig, Ihr müsst das unbedingt essen, sonst schicke ich wieder mal was Euch ein. Vergesst nicht, mir das mitzuteilen.

Diesen Sonntag s. G. w. fahren wir wieder nach Berlin. Wir bleiben wohl ca 8 Tage dort. Schreibt ~~widax~~ aber, wie immer, nach Breslau. Frau L. schickt uns die Post nach. Was macht Ihr in den Ferien? Sind Eure Freunde auch dort geblieben? Können Ihr schon etwas schwimmen? Bitte gebt bestimmt darauf Antwort. Ich frage immer, und Ihr antwortet nicht, das geht doch nicht Ihr kleinen Lumpesücker.

Nun, gel. Kinder, ich umearme und küsse Euch so wie zu Hause früher  
als Eure Euch sehr liebende  
Mutter

canned by CamScanner

Original letter from Mutti, Breslau, 3 August 1939.

New York, den 21. 4. 40.

Meine lieben Neffen!

Eueren 1. Brief vom 20. 3. habe ich inzwischen erhalten und möchte nicht versäumen, Euch noch kurz vor Pessach zu schreiben.

Wie ich höre, werdet Ihr dieses Mal den nicht gemeinsam feiern, da die 1. Eltern ausserhalb sein werden. Ich bin aber überzeugt, dass Ihr sehr schöne Zederabende haben werdet.

Ich selbst bin hier bei meinen Leuten, wo wir ebenfalls, wie im vorigen Jahr, einen grösseren Zederabend haben werden.

Ich freute mich, dass Du, 1. Achim, so schön englisch schreibst, natürlich mache ich Fehler, dies ist darauf zurückzuführen, dass ich nicht in der Schule die Fremdsprache gelernt habe und mir alles nur so aneignen muss. Ich bin aber im Verkehr mit der Kundschaft perfekt und kann mich gut verständigen, was ja die Hauptsache ist.

Mich interessiert zu erfahren, was Du im Jüdischen lernst, hoffentlich recht viel. Hier wird in dieser Hinsicht viel verlangt und man kann dies nur in der Jugend lernen. Ich habe viel Jüdisch gelernt und verstehe auch Jiddisch, was bekanntlich, hier wenigstens, sehr wichtig ist. Früher haben wir darüber gelacht und heute sehe ich immer mehr, wie wichtig es ist, die auch zu können. Du weisst, dass Deine 1. Mutter nunmehr auch jiddisch singt, hier ist dies fast die zweite Landessprache.

Ich wünsche Euch einen recht guten  $\frac{1}{4}$  und würde mich freuen, bald wieder einmal von Euch zu hören, wie Ihr Pessach verlebt.

Bitte sende mir einmal eine Fotografie von Euch, Ihr werdet beide sicher schon recht grosse Herren geworden sein.

Die beiliegenden Marken werden Euch erfreuen.

Ich erwarte von Euch wieder einen engl. Brief und bin mit vielen Grüssen Euer

Onkel Emil

Original letter from Uncle Emil, New York, 21 April 1940.

# ARYEH HOUSE SCHOOL

TELEPHONE: PRESTON 4046



THE UPPER DRIVE,  
HOVE, 4,  
BRIGHTON.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

This is to certify that Master Joachim Pinowver, son  
of Dr. Erich Pinowver of Breslau, Hindenburgstr. 11,  
Germany, has this day been enrolled as a pupil at Aryeh  
House School. He is to take up his studies immediately  
upon arrival in England and is to be prepared for his  
London University Matriculation Examination.

Signed *J. Chassoff*

Principal.

Dated the thirty-first day of January, 1939.

Acceptance letter of JP to Aryeh House, Brighton Hove.



# ARYEH HOUSE SCHOOL

TELEPHONE: PRESTON 4046



THE UPPER DRIVE,  
HOVE, 4,  
BRIGHTON.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

This is to certify that Master Heinz-Benno Pinczower, son of Dr. Erich Pinczower of Breslau, Hindenbergplatz 11, Germany, has this day been enrolled as a pupil at Aryeh House School. He is to take up his studies immediately upon arrival in England and is to be prepared for his London University Matriculation Examination.

Signed .....

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to be "S. Chassoff".

Principal.

Dated the thirty-first day of January, 1939.

Acceptance letter of HP to Aryeh House, Brighton Hove.

# ARYEH HOUSE SCHOOL

Telephone: PRESTON 4046.



THE UPPER DRIVE,  
HOVE, 4,  
BRIGHTON.

June 20<sup>th</sup>, 1940.

Dear parents,

I received your letter and was pleased to hear that you like it there.

Yesterday at 11½ the air-raid siren was sounded. We sat in the dining-hall for 5 hours. We had gramophone and dancing. I was half asleep. After 5 hours we could go to bed. We slept till 8 o'clock instead of 7 o'clock. I had about 7 hours sleep.

We packed our cases yesterday because we might go tomorrow or the day after, to Wales. (Ich werde Dir meine Adresse) I will tell you my address as soon as I know it.

Many kisses your son

Joachim

P.S. Write to the old address until I tell you the new one.

Letter from Joachim to Vati and Mutti dated 20 June 1940, presumably sent from Brighton Hove to London.