



*„Kad mi pišete pišite samo familijarne stvari, jer da i nadu nebi bilo strašno. Nemojte žaliti za paketima koje ja neću primiti. Meni bude istina teško, ali potrošit će ih naši ljudi koji se od toga uzdržavaju. Ne žalite za stvarima, nego samo za ljudima koji bi svi htjeli živjeti a nedaju im.“*

Iz pisma koje je zatočenica Katarina Dorčić poslala roditeljima iz logora Stara Gradiška

*„When you write to me write only about personal things, then if they were to find the letter it wouldn't be so terrible. Don't regret the packages I shan't be receiving. Things can be really tough for me here, but our people are going to use them and in this way they'll manage to survive. Waste no regrets on things, grieve all these people who all desire life but aren't granted to stay alive.“*

From the letter sent to her parents by prisoner Katarina Dorčić in Stara Gradiška Concentration Camp

Od proljeća 1942. godine, dio zatočenika ustaških logora Jasenovac i Stara Gradiška dobio je pravo na primanje i slanje pošte. Zatočenici su smjeli pisati isključivo na logorskim dopisno-povratnim kartama, posebnim dopisnicama tiskanim za ustaške logore. Njihovi korespondenti, koji su najčešće bili članovi obitelji, odgovarali su im na istim takvim kartama. Smjeli su im slati i pakete s hranom, odjećom i lijekovima. Pošta je bila cenzurirana, a paketi pretraživani. Iako je pravo na primanje i slanje pošte službeno predstavljeno kao nagrada za dobro ponašanje, prema svjedočenju preživjelih prednost u tome imali su zatočenici Hrvati.

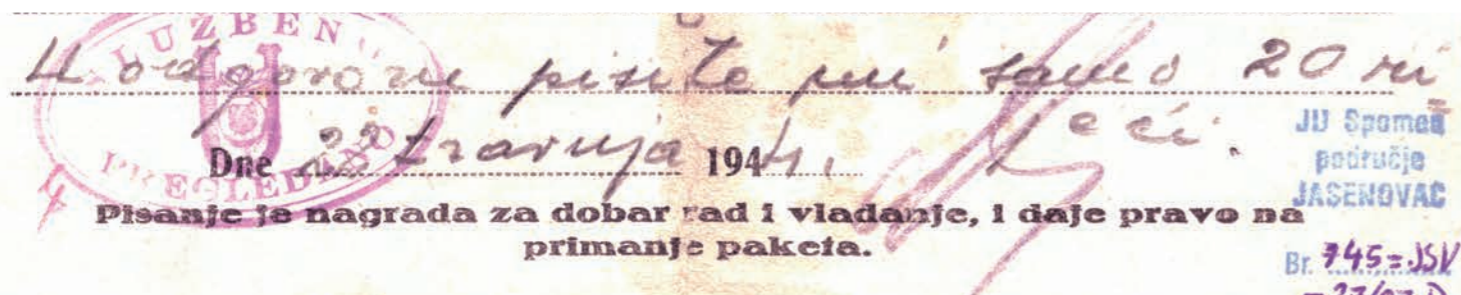
From the spring of 1942, some prisoners at Jasenovac and Stara Gradiška Concentration Camps were given the right to send and receive mail. The prisoners in question were allowed to write only on camp correspondence cards that were special postcards printed for Ustasha concentration camps. Their correspondents who were usually family members, were replying using these cards as well. They were also allowed to send packages containing food, clothes and medicine. The post was censored, whereas the packages were checked. Although the right to send and receive post was ostensibly an award for good behaviour, according to testimonies of survivors, prisoners who were ethnic Croats were privileged in this right.

# Logorske dopisno-povratne karte

## Camp Correspondence Cards

Na prvom međunarodnom seminaru muzejskih pedagoga i muzealaca koje je 2001. godine organizirala Javna Logorske dopisno-povratne karte bile su izrađene od papira presavijenog po sredini, čime bi se dobile dvije pravokutne karte po dimenzijama slične običnim dopisnicama, povezane gornjim ili, rjeđe, desnim rubom. Prva karta bila je namijenjena zatočeniku. Na aversu se nalazio prostor za pisanje adrese primatelja, a na reversu tiskane crte za upisivanje teksta. Ispod njih je na većini karata sitnim slovima tiskan tekst *Pisanje je nagrada za dobar rad i vladanje*, ili *Pisanje je nagrada za dobar rad i vladanje, i daje pravo na primanje paketa*. Drugu, povratnu kartu primatelj je trebao ili odrezati ili otrgnuti, te na njoj napisati svoj odgovor. Na njenom aversu zatočenik bi, uz tiskano ime logora, upisivao svoje ime, a na reversu su bile tiskane prazne crte koje su označavale mjesto predviđeno za primateljev odgovor, ispod kojih je bila tiskana napomena: *Saobćenja na hrvatskom jeziku, obiteljske naravi do 20 riječi*.

Camp correspondence cards were made out of a sheet of paper folded in the middle. Therefore they looked like two rectangular cards, similar in size to regular postal cards, joined together at the upper edge, or sometimes at the right one. The top card was supposed to be used by a prisoner. On the front prisoners had to put the recipient's address and on the back there were printed lines for writing their messages. Underneath the lines, on most cards, the following text was written in small print: *"The prisoner is allowed to write this card because of hard work and good behaviour"*, or *"The prisoner is allowed to write this card because of hard work and good behaviour, and has been granted the right to receive packages"*. The other half, the return card, was intended to be cut or torn off by recipients, and then used for writing their reply. On the front prisoners would, next to the printed name of the camp, fill in their name, and on the back there were printed lines where recipients were supposed to write their reply. Underneath there were the following instructions: *Notices in Croatian, personal messages up to 20 words only*.

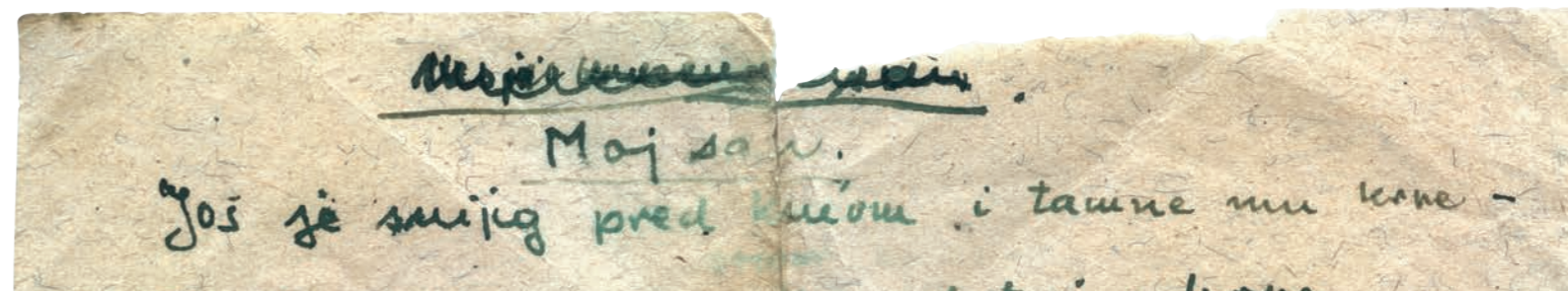


# Pisma iz logora

## Letters from the Concentration Camps

Pisma nisu bila službeni dio logorske pošte. U zbirci Spomen-područja Jasenovac nalazi se četrdeset i četiri pisma pisana u logorima Jasenovac, Stara Gradiška i Danica (u Koprivnici). Ni na jednom od njih ne nalazi se otisak pečata s natpisom „SLUŽBENO PREGLEDANO“. Često je iz samog teksta pisma vidljivo da nisu poslana poštom, već po nekoj osobi koja ih je prenijela. Odgovore bi ponekad dobivali skrivene u paketima s hranom. Budući da je u logorima bilo teško doći do papira za pisanje, pisma su često pisana na malim komadićima papira nepravilnog oblika, gusto ispisanim da bi se iskoristio svaki komadić raspoloživog prostora. Iako ova pisma nisu prolazila logorsku cenzuru, iz njihovog sadržaja očito je da su zatočenici bili na oprezu dok su ih pisali. Sačuvana pisma ne razlikuju se bitno po temama od službenih logorskih dopisno-povratnih karata – i u njima se zatočenici obično raspituju za svoje obitelji i mole da im se šalju pisma i paketi, ne otkrivajući previše o životu u logoru – ali su opsežnija i neposrednija, često vrlo dirljiva zbog izraženih emocija i ljudskih detalja.

Letters were not a part of the official camp mail. In the Memorial Site Jasenovac's collection there are forty four letters written in the Jasenovac, Stara Gradiška and Danica (in Koprivnica) Camps. None of them bear the stamp "OFFICIALLY REVIEWED". Often it is transparent from the letters' contents that they were not sent by mail, but brought to the camp by someone. The reply would sometimes be hidden inside a food package. Since the writing paper was hard to come by in the camps, the letters were often written on small irregular pieces of paper, in close handwriting in order to use all available space. Even though these letters did not have to be reviewed by the camp censor, their contents clearly reveal that the prisoners were guarded whilst writing them. The preserved letters do not vary significantly from the official camp correspondence cards in their subject matter – here too the prisoners enquire about their families and request letters and packages to be sent to them, without revealing too much about the life in the camp. The letters are longer and more direct, often very touching because of the emotions expressed and their sheer humanity.



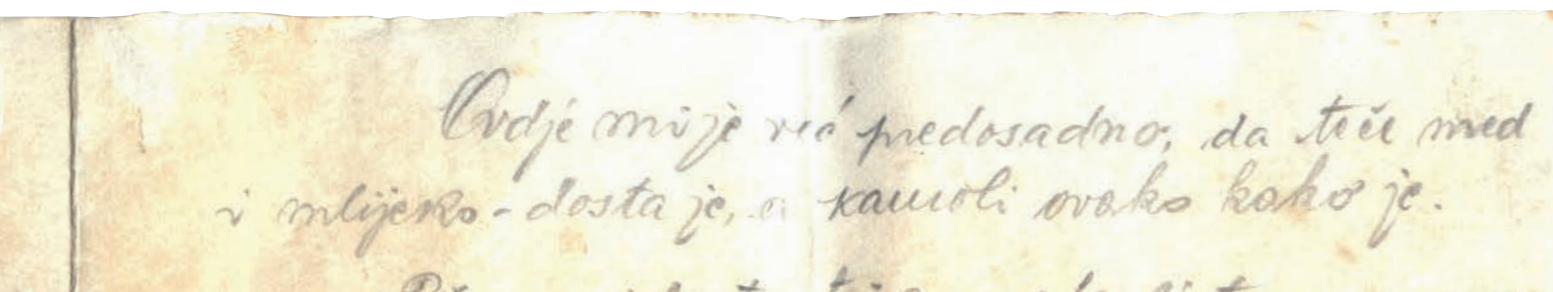
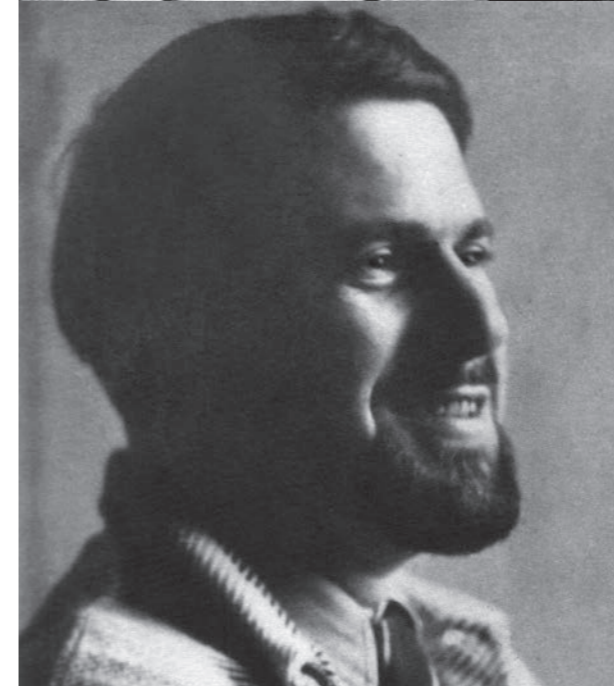
# Pisma Ivice Sabljaka

## Ivica Sabljak's Letters

Pisma koja je Ivica Sabljak, član Komunističke partije Hrvatske i politički zatočenik u logoru Stara Gradiška, tijekom 1944. godine razmjenjivao s Odborom za pomoć logorima u Zagrebu, ističu se među ostalom sačuvanom logorskom poštom po svojoj opsežnosti i po bogatstvu informacija o zbivanjima u logoru. Pisma Ivice Sabljaka bila su adresirana na Katicu Bukovac, udovicu Mirka Bukovca, zatočenika ubijenog u logoru Stara Gradiška. Vidljivi dio pisma bio je pisan običnom olovkom, a tajni dio bio je pisan kemikalijom koja je služila kao nevidljiva tinta. Po primitku pisama Anđela Žnidarčić, članica Odbora za pomoć logorima, premazala bi pismo drugom kemikalijom da bi tajni dio pisma postao čitljiv. U rjedim slučajevima nevidljivi dio teksta bio je napisan mlijekom, a tekst se otkrivao zagrijavanjem na vatri. Ivica Sabljak je obavještavao Odbor o događajima u logoru, a i o drugim događajima o kojima je čuo od ustaša. Odbor za pomoć logorima slao je zatočenicima pakete s hranom, a u paketima upućenim Ivici Sabljaku i Dragi Pocemu skrivali su pisma i ilegalnu štampu u dvostruko dno posude s pekmezom.

The letters which Ivica Sabljak, a member of the Croatian Communist Party and political prisoner in the Stara Gradiška Camp, exchanged with the Zagreb Committee for Helping Camp Inmates during 1944, stand out amongst all the other preserved camp mail in their extensiveness and the amount of information on daily camp occurrences. Ivica Sabljak's letters were addressed to Katica Bukovac, the widow of Mirko Bukovac – an inmate who was killed in Stara Gradiška Camp. The visible part of the letter was written in pencil, and the secret part with a chemical which served as invisible ink. Upon the receipt of letters, Anđela Žnidarčić, a member of the Committee for Helping Camp Inmates, would smear the letter with a different chemical so that the secret part of the letter would become visible. In some cases the invisible part of the message was written using milk and the message would be revealed by heating up the letter against the fire. Ivica Sabljak informed the Committee about incidents in the camp, and about other events that he had heard about from Ustashas.

Committee for Helping Camp Inmates would send food packages to inmates. In the packages addressed to Ivica Sabljak and Drago Pocem they also hid letters and prohibited press' articles in jam jars that had false bottoms.





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Izdavač/Publisher:

**Javna ustanova Spomen-područje Jasenovac**

Za izdavača/For the publisher:

**Nataša Jovičić**

Autor izložbe i kataloga/Author of the exhibition and catalogue:

**Maja Kućan**

Prijevod na engleski/English translation:

**Ana Lena Stipančić, Maja Kućan**

Lektura/Proofreading:

**Irina Krlić**

Grafičko rješenje izložbe i kataloga/Graphic design of the exhibition and catalogue:

**Maja Halapija**

Tisak/Print:

**REM**

Naklada/Amount:

**500 primjeraka**

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