

Remarks by Mr. Zoni Weisz

It was a privilege and an honor to be able speak at the Holocaust Memorial Ceremony and share my personal experiences during the Nazi period.

I had the opportunity to speak about the Holocaust, about the victims of the vicious Nazi ideology; Jews, Sinti and Roma.

It was a senseless industrial killing of defenseless, innocent people conceived and carefully carried out by fanatical Nazis.

Unfortunately, my family did not survive the Second World War. My father, mother, sisters and brother were murdered in Nazi extermination camps such as Auschwitz and Mittelbau-Dora. Simply because they were who they were, Sinti.

Miraculously I survived because I escaped from the so-called "Gipsy transport" from concentration Camp Westerbork to Auschwitz. The rest of the war I went into hiding. Every day there was the fear of being arrested by the Nazis, and being deported to Auschwitz; we were always on the run until the Allies liberated us in spring 1945

Even after more than 70 years, these horrible experiences are still very much alive. We survivors have the task to speak about it as a warning against upcoming racism and discrimination.

Rising anti-Semitism and -Gypsyism is the order of the day in many European countries. Jews, Roma and Sinti are harassed and assaulted. A civilized society respects human rights.

We have the task to keep the memory of our loved ones alive.

Auschwitz Never Again.

Zoni Weisz.