

From Jack Malinowski

I am thrilled to have a chance to say a few words personally to Henry and Lydia Lilienheim. Your book touched me deeply. Both of you shared such powerful memories with such honesty and humility. More than anything, your humanism and great dignity comes through to the reader.

As I told Irene and our mutual friend, Mark P., my own memories of the postwar period are of my parents in eastern Pa. fairly poor but having enough to help some of the Polish DPs who made from the "old country" as we called it, with just the clothes on their backs (There were also 9 of us kids and a retarded uncle living in our small row house). We were Roman Catholic, with some Jewish heritage, and we had a synagogue in our small town. It took me a long time to appreciate pluralism and diversity but my parents gave me a decent start in their overall acceptance of people of different ethnic backgrounds.

I regret to say that I don't have information to share about possible survivors who may have come to the town in that period. My sense is that relations between Jews and Christians was generally peaceful while I was growing up but I can't pretend to know for sure.

I am thankful for what I learned from your book and am determined to share it with others. Perhaps Irene and Mark P. might put our heads together in thinking of ways we can expand the audience. I also look forward to seeing the film that is based on your book. My work with the American Friends Service Committee offers access to some networks and groups who might be interested. (Next time I will share some information about the Quaker work in Europe to help Jews and others before and during the war. Your references to the Joint Distribution Committee and UNRAA reminded me of AFSC's connections with both organizations in those years).

I wish you a wonderful holiday with your family.
Sincerely,

Jack Malinowski