Photographs / field materials for Workshop 4

CCP1

In our exhibition this summer’s collaborative work, *Liminal Portraits: Stories from the Margins*, we presented stories from the WWII period: one told by a girl, the daughter of the assistant rabbi/moyl/kosher butcher, about an incident in early 1941 and the other told by members of the Saxon community, recorded many years after the fact. In the course of our work, which included searching for and/or creating visual and acoustic images to accompany the stories, we discovered photographs and texts from the town’s history that have never before been presented publicly. The material also took on a strange resonance and became awkwardly relevant for today after we happened to notice the manifesto of the Iron Guard’s leader advertised, apparently in sympathy, in the windows of the town bookstore. In addition, we have just recently learned that the synagogue’s neighbor, whose offices are in the building of the former Jewish school and mikvah, has hung images (received from us, upon request) of the German army marching through the town in the entryway to his offices, which he named “Jewish Bath Business Center” – choosing the name as a “business strategy”.

Photos:

1. Saxon equivalent of the Hitler Youth marching in the main square, date unknown.
2. Bund Deutscher Mädel group marching in main square, date unknown.
3. 1941 Newspaper article in which the then-mayor, who describes himself in his memoirs as fairly representing all the townspeople, declares all his efforts to be “anchored in the national-socialist ideology (*Weltanschauung*)”.
4. German demonstration troop marching through town, late 1940/early 1941.
5. Legionnaire cantine, 1940 / early 1941 in Medias.
6. Bookstore window in old town advertising Codreanu’s book alongside a sympathetic biography, August 2017
7. Close-up of bookstore window (books top left)
8. Entryway of offices next to the synagogue “Jewish Bath Business Center” with photograph of Nazis marching through Medias.
9. “Jewish Bath Business Center”