

Laszlo and Endre (Bandi) Kiss



Laszlo and his brother Endre (Bandi), with their father, Mihaly, and his twin brother, Nandor. (courtesy of the Zachor Foundation)

After Soviet soldiers liberated Laszlo Kiss in early February 1945, he left the Polish village where residents had hidden and fed him for a week, and he began his long journey home to Hungary. His twin brother Endre (Bandi) had been shot and killed a week earlier as they ran into a forest to escape machine-gun fire.

Laszlo arrived at his Uncle Jozsef's home in Budapest in May 1945, and his uncle urged him to write down everything he remembered about his ordeal. The result is Laszlo's "Auschwitz Diary," a richly detailed account of the deportation of his family, his townspeople, and other Mengele twins. In his diary Laszlo documented the names of townspeople in his transport, provided detailed descriptions of Auschwitz lagers and drawings of the camp layout, and described how the camp mail system worked.

