Third elementary school, Rakovník

The story of the Holý family

The father of Jiří Holý, Jiří Holý senior, was born into a rural family and became a very successful farmer. During World War Two he actively participated in the resistance, the sports organization of Sokol, his team's name Jindra. In 1943 its activity was exposed, his father was detained, imprisoned and finally executed in September 8, 1943, Berlin-Plotzensee. Jiří was sent to relatives in Klatovy and his sister to Hradec Králové. Their mother, as a wife of a resistance member, was also detained and went through four concentration camps including Auschwitz. Their farm was taken into imposed custody by the German occupational forces.

In 1945 the farm was returned to the family and everybody thought the dreadful times were over. Jiří began to work on his farm at the age of 21. The total farmland his family tilled was a hundred hectares including the tenures. In 1948 the Communists came to power. They experienced the first markers of pressure to enter the Agricultural Cooperative but Jiří was able to run his own farm until 1951. Then the first confiscations came, forced rentals, dissuading people from work for the kulaks, until a farm would finally be confiscated under the pretext of unfulfilled compulsory contributions to the Cooperative. Jiří was given the option to work in the Cooperative, which he refused and so the whole family was evicted immediately from Senomaty. They were allotted a ruined house in Nezabudice where there was neither light nor water. Only a propitious stroke of luck were they saved from having to move there. Their new home became David's Mill close to Senomaty, a farm belonging to his uncle. Even he was later confined at Pankrác, denounced anonymously, where he died.

Although Jiří did have high school education specialized in agriculture he was not allowed to work in the field. He earned his living as an auxiliary construction worker and later as a truck driver. His wife was also barred from work in agriculture. She was employed in a garden shop that used to belong to her farther and was also confiscated by the communists. Their daughter was not allowed to study at a high school when she finished the elementary because she was a daughter of an enemy of the socialistic regime. Later their son Jiří had no problems with studying in the seventies.

In the fifties groceries could only be purchased against a grocery voucher. The evicted village rich, the so called kulaks didn't get those. They were not given even to their mother whose health was damaged from the concentration camps. They asked for their father's pension in her interest, but they would have had to submit a document about his execution that the authorities declined to grant. Only after they contacted the International Red Cross did the Czech authorities concede to the fact that her husband was a political prisoner. Despite the fact that Jiří Holý senior was a recipient of the Cross of war “in memoriam”. They had only food given to them by their relatives and friends. The winters were worst for them. They didn't have enough money and couldn't buy coal. Only sometimes Jiří brought a little in a bag from some good people.

In the beginning of the 60s, Mr. Holý began to work as driver for a wood company. Although he kept receiving all kinds of interesting working offers, they all were blown by the reports from Senomaty. Human anger and envy were at work. In the end he remained behind the wheel until retirement.

After November 1989, the farm and lands were restored to Mr. Holý. He succeeded in finding several tenants and invested the money into reconstruction of the farm. Today the farm is managed by his son and it is found at the square named after his father.

Mr. Holý is has already deceased. His wife lives with her daughter but she does not want to speak about the past. The memories are too intense.