Bas von Benda-Beckmann

Translated from the Dutch by Plym Peters and Tony Langham

After the Annex

Anne Frank, Auschwitz and Beyond



anne frank house

Contents

Introduction

CHAPTER ONE

"You asked me if I could tell you anything more" A search for the people in hiding in the Annex

where anne's diary came to an end 11
edith, anne, margot and otto frank 13
auguste, hermann and peter van pels 34
fritz peeffer 37
going into hiding and arrest 42
the search 48
an incomplete puzzle 51

CHAPTER TWO

"Mum, did you know that Margot was here?" Prison and Camp Westerbork

PRISON 63

CAMP WESTERBORK 69

ARRIVAL 79

EVERYDAY LIFE IN THE CRIMINAL BARRACKS 84

MEETING PEOPLE IN WESTERBORK 92

"THAT TERRIBLE JOURNEY": THE TRANSPORT OF 3 SEPTEMBER 100

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPECTATIONS OF MASS MURDER 112

CHAPTER THREE

"Being there was like living in hell"

Auschwitz

AUSCHWITZ AND THE GENOCIDE OF THE EUROPEAN JEWS 123

A DEVELOPING CAMP 136

FUNKTIONSHÄFTLINGE (KAPOS) 141

THE ARRIVAL, SELECTION AND REGISTRATION IN AUSCHWITZ OF THE PRISONERS FROM THE ANNEX 149

STAMMLAGER: THE MEN IN AUSCHWITZ I 160

HERMANN VAN PELS MURDERED IN THE GAS CHAMBER 162

PARCELS 168

SURVIVING IN AUSCHWITZ 173

DEPARTURE 183

CHAPTER FOUR

"You couldn't raise her spirits because there weren't any"
Edith, Anne and Margot Frank, and Auguste van Pels in
Auschwitz-Birkenau

LIFE IN THE CAMP: HUNGER, COLD AND SELECTIONS 193
GUARDS AND VIOLENCE IN THE WOMEN'S CAMP 198
IN THE "DUTCH BARRACKS": EDITH, ANNE AND MARGOT FRANK, AND
AUGUSTE VAN PELS 204
ANOTHER DEPARTURE: ANNE, MARGOT AND AUGUSTE LEAVE 207
"EDITH BECAME ILL": THE DEATH OF EDITH FRANK 210

CHAPTER FIVE

"I don't remember seeing her standing on her feet"

Anne and Margot Frank and Auguste van Pels in Bergen-Belsen

FROM AUSCHWITZ TO BERGEN-BELSEN 217
BERGEN-BELSEN: PRISON CAMP, TRANSIT CAMP AND CONCENTRATION
CAMP 219
MARGOT AND ANNE FRANK AND AUGUSTE VAN PELS IN
BERGEN-BELSEN 229
MEETINGS AT THE FENCE 244
THE DEATHS OF MARGOT AND ANNE FRANK 250

CHAPTER SIX

"I remember Gusta van Pels – she was of German origin" Auguste van Pels in Raguhn

"THANK GOD, A SMALL CAMP" 259
WORKING IN THE AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY 260

CHAPTER SEVEN

"They never came back"

Peter van Pels in Mauthausen and Melk

THE DEATH MARCH FROM AUSCHWITZ TO MAUTHAUSEN 268 A CABINETMAKER WITH AN OVAL FACE 276

CHAPTER EIGHT

"The largest proportion of deaths was amongst the Dutch" Fritz Pfeffer in Neuengamme

NEUENGAMME 288 FRITZ PFEFFER IN NEUENGAMME 294

CHAPTER NINE

"I don't know where the children are"

Otto's search

BACK HOME 303 EVERY CRUMB 311

Chart and maps 315

Notes 327

Archives 367

Bibliography and other sources 369

Photographs 377

Index 379