

Wojewódzki Ośrodek Kultury i Sztuki "Stara Ochronka" w Bydgoszczy

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Bydgoszcz, 4.10.2012

Manuel Biedermann

Darmstädter Straße 10 10707 Berlin

Pear Hamel

I would like to cordially thank you for your visit in Bydgoszcz, and for your wonderful gesture - foundation of the board, dedicated to the memory of your ancestor Julius Berger. Thank you for participation in the unveiling ceremony. With great respect I find your interest in family roots as well as the fact that you've troubled yourself to find traces of your great-grandfather in Bydgoszcz. Using a good vibe carried by the integration of Europe nations, now boldly and openly we can talk about our pasts.

And even though the fate of Polish and Jewish people was tragic during the Nazi occupation and very complexed in the poswat era, today, giving honor to the history and its heroes, we shall remember that there were times when the Germans, Jews and Poles build Bydgoszcz together, and so together they'd shaped the town's fate.

I am convinced that your Initiative of commemorating Julius's Berger philanthropy is going to be one of the elements of the process of reconciliation between Poles, Germans and Jews as well as between other nations, among whom relationships stay so difficult still.

Cordially yours,