



Resources

Holocaust Unit

Perpetrator - Resource B

A Testimony of an Eye Witness to the Holocaust

Mr. X was born on 21 April 1904, into a family of Slovene descent, in the Imperial Free City of Trieste, then the capital of the Austrian Littoral administrative region of the Austro-Hungarian Empire (now in Italy).

He was the second child, his father served as a Hapsburg cavalry lieutenant in the Austro-Hungarian Empire. His father was unable to accumulate the money needed to get an officer's marriage permission and had to leave the service. As was the practice at this time, he was given a job in the Imperial and Royal Mail.

The same year, Mr. X joined the army, via a military school. The war ended his military education prematurely. His family moved to Klagenfurt. He enrolled there at the *Hohere Staatsgewerbeschule* (a higher vocational school for mechanical engineering), where he passed his Matura (the Austrian equivalent of the German Abitur) and graduated with honors. He performed jobs, such as carrying suitcases at the train station, in order to help support the family financially.

Mr. X survived most of the war but died in 1945 aged 41.