

The Fischer Family Store



This photo was taken in 1926, and shows the family business of the Fischer brothers in Lucenec. The mobile gas pump (in the left of the photo) that belonged to the store was the first of its type in the town. The Fischer brothers were murdered during the Holocaust. The second one from the right is Julius Fischer, whose son Juraj Fischer (1921 - 2007) participated in the invasion of Normandy as a soldier. For his merits, he in 2004 became one of four Slovaks in history to receive the highest French award, the Legion of Honor. Before him, this award was received for example by Milan Rastislav Stefanik as well. Before he accepted this award, he experienced utter hell. The Communists accused him of sabotage and jailed him as a spy and Zionist. They even wanted to execute him. He also survived the fact that after 1989 the courts of a democratic country weren't capable of seeing justice done, and compensate him for the fact that their family's home in the center of Lucenec had been confiscated during the war on the basis of race laws of Szalasi's fascist government. The work of the Nazis was topped off by the Communists with an unbelievably shameless act, when they applied a decree on the confiscation of the property of Nazis and their collaborators against a hero of the anti-Fascist resistance! As if it wasn't enough, in 1996 the District Court in Lucenec refused his request for compensation with the argument that he wasn't the owner of the house: according to the laws of the Fascist Szalasi regime. But the fate of their house had come to an absurd end long before ? when in 1975 they tore it down and on its property built the building of the Regional Committee of the Communist Party of Slovakia.