

Gyorgy's Father-In-Law In Huszt



The photo is from the heritage of my wife. It was taken at the front in Huszt [in Ukraine]. It shows the visit of some high-ranking Hungarian officer, to whom my father-in-law is reporting. My father-in-law was called Zoltan Raab, and was about 20-25 in this photo. He was a second-lieutenant in the reserves, who was mobilised for World War I. 'On the 15th of October, 1917, news is given that Agnes has been born' [the wife of Gyorgy]- [this is on the back of the photo] [by accident] the news about his daughter being born was given him at the moment of the visit. Shortly after he got the news, he received the photo and so he wrote on the back of it, how he had received word just when the photo was taken. He was a soldier only during the war, before World War I he was a post office chief clerk. He was talented in writing poems. There was a competition announced in Amsterdam, requiring 100 lines in Latin, which he won. He spoke fluent Latin and German. Heine and the Bible were his favourite books; he knew pages by heart. He learned them all by himself, and did not even attend a confessional school. Between the wars, he was invited to be secretary-general at the religious community in Arad. That was a large and rich community. He worked there till they moved to Kolozsvar. He was a talented man, but divided his life between too many things. [He remained a simple average man.]