

**Speech by Henny and Siegfried Insel's grandnephew Reuven Shoer on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September, 2024 at Oldenburg City Hall**

Dear Mr. Krogmann, Mayor of Oldenburg,

I am excited and proud to stand before you today and uncover my family's roots, who once lived here in this city.

I hold in my hands our family tree dating back to 1755.

I was introduced to the story of the Insel family through the dedicated research and discoveries of Sabine, the curator of the museum.

Through this work, I learned the tragic story of my family. Siegfried and his wife Henny, my mother's uncle and aunt, along with their children Grete and Hermann, perished in the Holocaust at the hand of the Nazis. May their memory endure forever.

Other family members were scattered across the globe, creating new generations.

My parents and grandmother, who were aware of the danger, left in 1933 and made their way to Israel. From there, the Shoer (Scheuer) family grew, with three generations now living in Israel.

Today, our country is experiencing a long and difficult war. We hope for the swift release of all hostages and for peace with our neighbors.

I bring here a message for peace from Mateh Asher, which is located on the Lebanese border and is a twin city with Oldenburg.

My family and I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this event possible:

- To Mr. Krogmann, the Mayor,
- To Mr. Joerg Witte, who organized this gathering,
- To Sabine, who tirelessly found our roots,
- To Sylke, the granddaughter who brought the rare items that have been preserved all the years,
- And to our relatives, who travelled here especially from the United States.

Thank you all.

Oldenburg 24/09/2024