

*Branko Malesevic*

*Janko Maystorovich*

*Worker & Warrior*

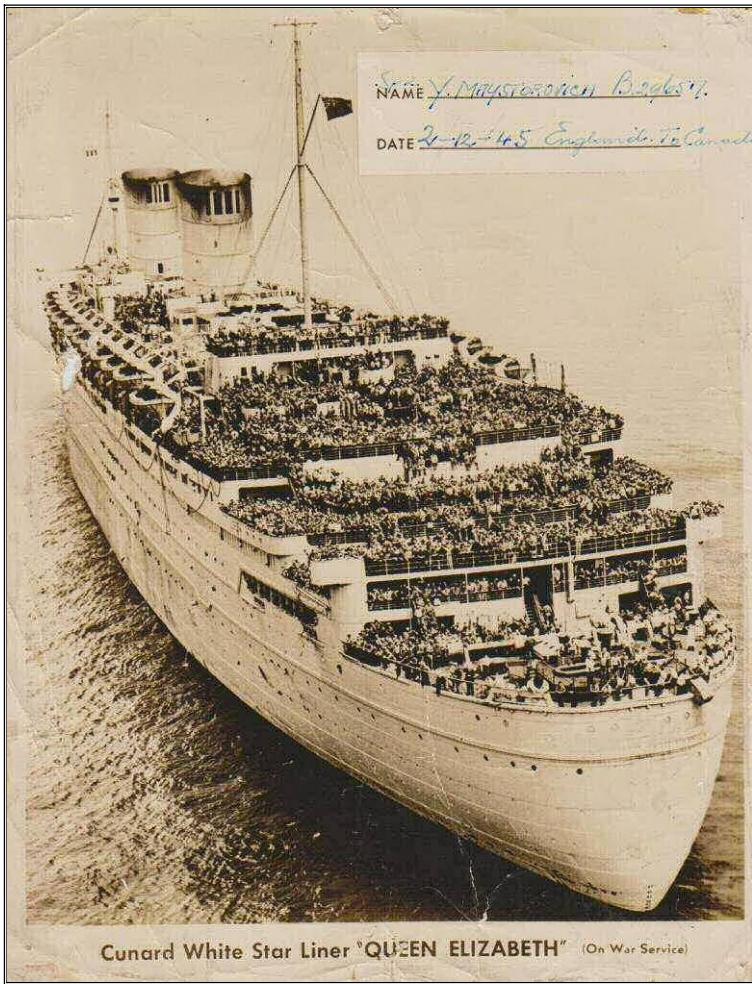
*Windsor 2019*





*Janko Maystorovich*





*On a cold December morning in 1945, the large ocean liner "Queen Elizabeth" arrived in New York Harbor. Janko Majstorović, one of the 12,000 returning warriors, re-entered the North American continent after more than four years of fighting on the battlefields of Africa, the Middle East, Malta and Europe.*



*The beginning of the Second World War disturbed many of our emigrants. The danger that loomed over Europe threatened all the horrors and great suffering of many peoples.*

*Janko Maystorovich thought about his family, relatives and friends with anxiety in his heart. He knew very well that the wave of war devastation and suffering would soon engulf our regions as well.*

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*He remembers, he was a ten-year-old boy, when one day the Austro-Hungarian gendarmes came to Gornja Čemernica, arresting all those who showed solidarity with the just struggle of Serbia and the Serbian people, all those who were in some way suspicious and distrustful of black and yellow empire.*

*And for that it was enough to be a Serb.*

*That's how they came to the home of the Maystorovich family, looking for father Miloš. However, he had taken refuge from the pursuit in a nearby forest. Mother Ružica refused to reveal the husband's whereabouts. The threats were not convincing. Then the slaps did not make her speak. The gendarmes set their sights on the woman. The cries and screams of the children did not soften the hearts of the bullies. Blows fall on the weak body of the mother, but brave Ružica does not betray her husband.*

*The gendarmes were so merciless that the unfortunate woman remained unable to do any work in the house for life.*

*Little John took on the role of cook, laundress, housewife...*

*Under the watchful eye of his mother, the boy learned how to do things in the house. Taking care of his mother, brothers and sisters became his daily duty.*

*Janko Majstorović was born on August 14, 1905, as the second of six children of Father Miloš and Mother Ružica, in Gornja Čemernica, near Vrgin Most. He finished elementary school, as well as agricultural (farming and fruit growing) in his hometown.*

*After completing his education, he got his first job as a measurer and appraiser of the value of construction wood, in a company that built construction facilities (schools, commercial and residential buildings) in the vicinity of Gornja Čemernica. He spent about four years on those jobs, when at the end of 1927 he got in touch with Canadian officials who were looking for settlers for Canada. He signed a contract to work on a farm for a year upon arrival in Canada for a wage of 17-25 cents an hour. It was a requirement to come to Canada at the time.*

*"So I decided to go to Canada, and I left my wife Draginja and daughter Mila at home," says Janko. "I started my journey on February 1, 1928, by train from Zagreb to Cherbourg, France, and then by boat for 19 days to St. John, New Brunswick. From there we continued by train to Edmonton where we arrived on March 21 and found heavy snow.*

*Because of this, the farmers did not accept us because there was no work, so we took the train to Winnipeg. I remember paying \$4 for a trip from Edmonton to Winnipeg."*

*Three other compatriots from around Čemernica traveled together with Janko: Pavle Ajdinović, Dušan Arlov and Mile Španović.*

*There were many passengers on the ship from all parts of Yugoslavia (then the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes), and mostly people from Kordun, Lika and Banat.*

*The first impressions of the new country were the enormity of the space: "We traveled hundreds of kilometers without seeing any settlement. We did not understand the language, so it was difficult for us to find our way. That's why we were always together, in groups, helping each other and making arrangements," Janko remembers.*

*He stayed in Winnipeg for a year working to clear the forest for the new railway. He then moved to Schumacher, Ontario, where he also worked clearing the woods one winter.*

*The next job was on the construction of the Colborne - Welland Canal, but it did not last long, as the recession began to affect North America.*

*The economic crisis in the early 1930s had a particularly hard impact on the homeless, who had to travel across Canada in search of any kind of work.*

*"We mostly moved around and did some work along the way, just for food, to survive," says Janko.*

*The first real opportunity for a permanent job appeared only in 1934. The Kirkland Lake mines employed a large number of our settlers.*

*"Just as the sun shines after a storm, so after the difficult times of the crisis, better days came, it was easier to find and even choose a job," Janko remembers.*

*A salary of 4-6 dollars a day, in addition to an allowance for meeting the norm and other benefits, promised security and good prospects for earning. It is the dream of every settler, to provide himself and his family with a roof over their heads and a decent life. Our highlanders, accustomed to hard work and satisfied with little, quickly acquired property, brought their families from the Old Region or married local girls.*

*Janko visited the Stari kraj in 1937, with the intention of bringing his family, his wife Draginja and daughter Mila. In the meantime, the family grew, daughter Ruža was born in 1938. However, he returned to Canada on his own, intending to bring his family some time later.*

*At Kirkland Lake there was a large colony of our settlers whose social activity was very organized. Among many capable organizers of social life, Janko Majstorović stood out with his work*

*He was an accountant of the Serbian Charity Society, branch no. 103 of the Serbian National Association in Kirkland Lake, as well as a member of branch no. 3 of the Yugoslav-Canadian Association in the same place. He enrolled new members, collected membership fees, and collected donations for the Yugoslav People's Home in Windsor.*



06.04.1941



07.07.1941

*As a representative of branch number 103 of the Serbian National Federation, he was a delegate at the Jubilee Convention of the Serbian National Federation, held in Pittsburgh on June 15, 1941.*

*Immediately after returning from Pittsburgh, he volunteered for the Canadian army. On the 7th of July, he puts on his uniform and after a short military training, he goes to England to improve his military skills. The trip across the Atlantic was uneventful, although all overseas routes were controlled by German submarines.*

*Soon after his arrival in England, he experienced a bombing and a baptism of fire, and thus encountered the reality of war, which he would be an actor of for the next four and a half years. The stay in England had its ups and downs, joyful meetings with friends from Canada, as well as very dangerous situations when, by some miracle, one managed to save one's life.*

*Janko says that he had many interesting moments, but he most fondly remembers the numerous meetings with acquaintances from Canada, otherwise our compatriots, who were led by the fate of war on paths that they had never dreamed of.*

*"I earned my first and only military rank of sergeant in England. One day I notice my old acquaintance from Canada, Ljuban Bubnić, coming to meet me.*

*I decided to make a little joke, and also to brag about the act, so when we got closer, I ordered in a sharp voice:*

*"You, come here"!*

*He approached, and greeted somewhat fearfully.*

*Then I commanded in a stern voice:*

*"Give me your pass"!*

*Confused, he started putting his hands in his pockets looking for a document, and I couldn't stand it:*

*"So don't you know me?"*

*Oh, is that you, Janko? Ljuban responded with relief.*

*"Soon after, I lost my rank." And that happened because I was very lenient with my soldiers when they asked to go out to the city, to meet girls."*

*"However, the moment when we were surprised and buried in the ruins during a heavy bombardment was also unforgettable. Those who found me thought I had died, because only my shoes were sticking out of the rubble. They dug me out and were not a little surprised that I got through with only minor scratches and bruises".*

*However, the most fateful moment happened on August 19, 1942, which confirms that ordinary, small military fortunes decide life. On that day, that is, the night before August 19, Janko was on guard duty. When he returned to the barracks, he did not find his comrades. They went suddenly to the "Canal". About 4,000 Canadian soldiers moved to the French side of the English Channel that night.*

*After several hours of terrible fighting, only a few hundred warriors returned to the barracks.*

*"The guard duty on that fateful night was a fortunate circumstance that prevented me from participating in the battle." What were my chances of survival, there is no need to guess".*

*But, says Janko: "Luck really served me this time, but in many more cases I avoided danger with resourcefulness, determination and courage." Determination is a soldier's virtue, and fear and indecision are often fatal."*

*Next year, Janko Majstorović is going to the Middle East, and his journey will take him around the African continent because of the danger of German submarines, and even more so because of the secrecy of the task.*

*He traveled through many African countries, traveled through jungles (wild rainforests), sailed the Nile, crossed the Nubian desert by truck, train and on foot.*

*On the way, he experienced real discoveries, met natives, semi-wild tribes, saw primitive African villages and poverty.*

*All that remained in Janko Majstorović's memories, which he talks about so authentically and with observations, that the listener experiences the story as if he had been there himself.*

*In addition to his many military duties, he also found time to write down the most important events in his war diary, which he managed to save until the end of the war.*

*In Palestine, he successfully completed the parachuting course as well as commando training, whose specialty was*

*"Destruction expert", i.e. detonation of bridges and other buildings, as well as clearing minefields and mined buildings by the enemy. That ability and skill of his will come to full expression and benefit in the battles in Italy, Germany and the Netherlands. On one occasion, he was tasked with destroying an enemy facility. Just as he was about to plant the explosives, a German patrol came by. He hid and lay low in the hope that he would soon move away.*

*However, they stayed in that place for two whole days.*

*"I successfully completed the task, and when I returned to the unit, I was quite surprised to learn that I was declared "missing in action" and that I was removed from the list and deprived*

*follow-up. It was not difficult to prove that I was alive, and they already knew that the task was completed."*

*During his stay in the Middle East, he used every free time to visit many historical places. He visited Christ's tomb, the place on the Jordan River where he was baptized, all Christian places of worship in the area as well as nearby historical places.*

*During his visit and stay in Cairo, he met with King Peter the Second. This is what Janko talks about:*

*"Having found out where he was, I set out, without any preparation of what to say and how to act. When I got close, the guard stopped me with the words:*

*"Where are you going"?*

*"I want to see our King," I said.*

*The guard didn't manage to ask me anything else when I heard a voice:*

*"Let him go"!*

*I turned around and noticed a young man in overalls working on a car. Not knowing who that young man was, I told him my intention, to which he said: "I am King Peter the Second".*

*There is no end to my surprise, so I regained my composure and quickly introduced myself to who I am and where I'm from, a Serb in the service of the Canadian Army, on assignment in the Middle East. I also told my personal information, where I'm from, etc.*

*The king said: "I'm glad" and gave me his hand.*

*I was very pleased with the meeting, although I did not expect to see the King under the mentioned circumstances."*

*"The king left the impression on me of a nice, young man, accommodating, attentive and ready to listen," says Janko, apparently still under the impression of the long-ago meeting.*

*He also used his stay in Cairo to visit famous places, and the huge pyramids left a special impression on him.*

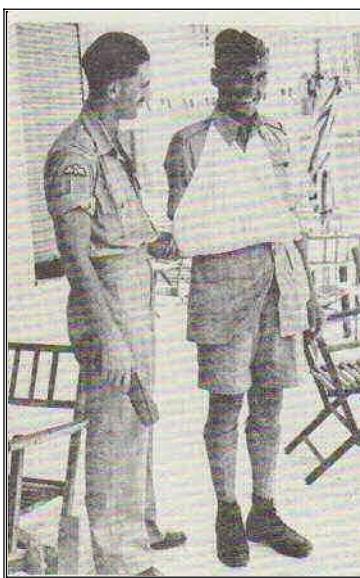
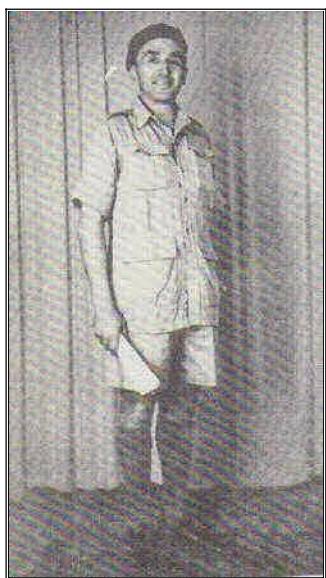
*The "Blue Mosque" attracted his attention with its size and architecture. He decided to enter.*

*"As usual, I took off my shoes and entered. I was enchanted by the beauty of the interior of the mosque, the blueness of the mosaics, which is why it is called the Blue Mosque.*

*When I came out, my shoes were nowhere to be found.*

*It was very inconvenient for me to walk the streets wearing socks in my (military) uniform."*

*Some visitor couldn't resist the temptation when he saw the comfortable military boots.*



*Janko in Tel Aviv 1943 and with Dragan Yarich, a Canadian war-fellow*

*Big battles in Sicily are the next stage of Janko's campaign. With constant fighting and day and night advances, he reached Bari, on the Adriatic coast.*

*He stayed there for a while as a translator for his command, because many Yugoslav military and civilian personnel were present in Bari. There was a possibility for the Allies to land on the Adriatic (Yugoslav) coast, and many partisan wounded as well as refugees and other persons were recovering and being treated in the city.*

*"There I met with many compatriots from around Čemernica and learned the hard truth about the great suffering of the Serbian people.*

*During the war, I passed through many places and saw the horrors that war brings, but nothing disturbed me as much as learning about the suffering of innocent people in my native region," says Janko.*

*"The wounded and suffering left an unforgettable impression on me with their perseverance and high morale. I will never forget the image that keeps floating before my eyes:*

*Blinded and crippled girls and women sang with such élan full of life that it must have troubled even the most stubborn hearts."*

*"Then the memories of the abuse of my mother by the Austro-Hungarian gendarmes in the First World War came alive in me, and I felt proud that as a volunteer of the Canadian army I contributed to bringing the same enemy to its knees again,"* says Janko, obviously excited and deeply impressed by the events of 75 years ago.

*A witness to many events from his encounters with our refugees and wounded, Janko fondly remembers the brighter moments from that era.*

*One of them is certainly the presence of a soccer match between the Yugoslav army team (Hajduk) and the English military forces team in Bari, which he is reminded of by two photos he received as a gift from a "partisan officer from Perna", whose name he does not remember.*

*On one of the pictures on the back it is written:*

*Bari, 19.8.44 Hajduk NOVJ – 178 Squadron RAF 5:1*

*and a dedication:*

*To comrade Janko as a keepsake from (signature illegible).*

*One interesting event from the time he stayed in Italy, in Bari, reminds him of the relationship between allies of opposing social ideologies, when the end of the war was already in sight. Walking down the street in the immediate vicinity of a group of female partisans, I heard them talking about the British and American armies.*

*One of them said:*

*"These American and English soldiers should all be killed".*

*I noticed that:*

*"So, so aunt"!*

*Second throws:*

*"Did I tell you that they speak all the languages of the world"!*

*An event that Janko is reluctant to remember is related to being wounded during a major battle in Germany. The severe wound on the right leg and the delayed medical intervention led the doctors to think about the imminent amputation of the leg.*

*"During the night", says Janko, "I got out of bed and headed towards the nearby stream." I washed the wound and cleaned it, washed the bandage and bandaged the wound again.*

*The swelling subsided by morning and the doctors changed their opinion: the leg was saved."*

*The warrior virtue and resourcefulness of our Highlanders undoubtedly came to the fore on this occasion as well.*

*One of the biggest and bloodiest battles in which Janko took part was on the Dutch-German border.*

*Deadly enemy fire defended the approaches to the bridge, which had to be demolished to prevent the supply and withdrawal of German forces.*

*The eardrums burst from the deafening roar of airplanes, the noise of tanks, the explosions of bombs and shells.*

*Memories of his childhood float in his mind: before him he sees images of guests arriving, greeting his father and family members, congratulating the baptismal glory of St. Stevan.*

*A candle is burning on the table, the rite of cutting the celebratory cake ... The celebration in the house lasts for days, the other day he was with his father in the grove to bring a Christmas tree ... roast pork on a spit. Father and mother solemn and joyful. Always in motion, so that everything is as it should be.*

*His thoughts raced with the crack of rifles and bursts of machine guns merging into a strange echo that reminded him of the howling of wolves on a mountain in a cold winter's night. And then, the order to go into action and blow up the bridge! Janko went slowly but decisively with his friends to complete the task. After some time, the roar of an explosion breaks through the valley, indicating that the task has been completed. "There were many such and similar actions during the more than four years I spent in the uniform of the Canadian and*

*English armies. As an expert in demining buildings, laying minefields and clearing them, I was also a commando performing such tasks as diversions, destroying enemy guards, military warehouses...*

*I was lucky to always successfully complete the assigned tasks. I rarely failed in that, because of the situation on the field," says Janko. "In that job, determination and coolness are important above all. The soldier must be reconciled to the fact that the task must be accomplished. Then he must use all his mental and physical abilities to complete the task and stay alive.*

*A good soldier does not ask questions, everything has its reasons, every movement, every task."*

*As a meritorious warrior, Janko Majstorović led the Canadian echelon at the coronation ceremonies of Queen Elizabeth II.*

*The end of the war Janko welcomed in Germany.*

*After a short stay in the Netherlands and Belgium, he returned to England, from where on December 2, 1945, he returned via New York to Canada on the ship "Queen Elizabeth".*

*He was demobilized on January 23, 1946 in Toronto, after which he returned to civilian life.*

*After a short stay in Windsor, he decided to settle in the United States of America. He left Canada on September 12, 1946.*

*In America, he finds employment on the construction of a huge project, from where spaceships will later be launched, today the famous "Space Center - Cape Kennedy" in Florida.*

*He stayed at that job for 17 years, after which he retired.*

*Soon after, he meets his lifelong companion, Maria Terzin, a native of Becej, who found refuge in warm Florida from the cold and long Detroit winter.*

*A short acquaintance was enough for them to discover mutual similarities and preferences, so they got married on November 5, 1982, in the picturesque Florida town of Melbourne.*

*The following year they moved to Lincoln Park, Michigan, where they spent the rest of their lives.*

*In a modest family house hidden in a multitude of flowers and greenery, many friends and relatives enjoyed the hospitality where there was always time to refresh memories of past times. From the very first meeting, one could notice that the personality of this man with gentle and fatherly views hides a huge life experience gained in peace and war, which can serve as a guide to younger generations on how to persevere in difficult times in peace and how to sacrifice for the dignity of man and people at war.*



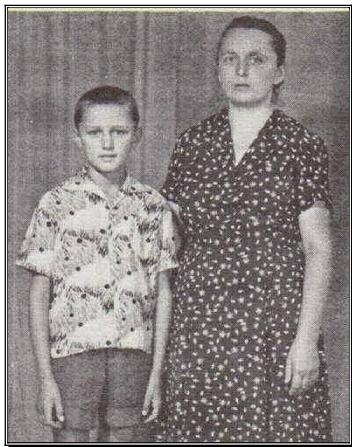
*Janko and Maria in front of their home in Lincoln Park*

*Janko Majstorović spent the last years of his life with his wife Maria in Lincoln Park, a small town that is part of greater Detroit. In their home, many were joyfully welcomed and entertained as they themselves were valued and cherished guests of many friends and relatives at Windsor.*

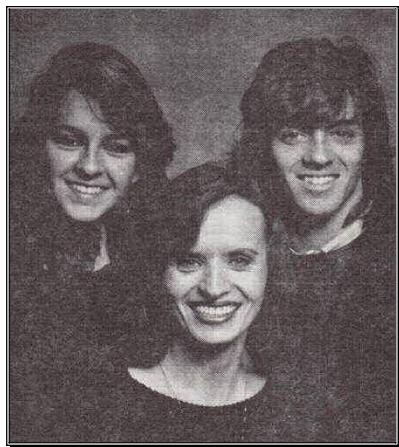
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*Janko died on December 19, 1996 and was buried in Woodmere Cemetery, 9400 Fort Street, Detroit. Since January 25, 2001, his wife Maria rests next to him, in the common grave with her daughter Ljubica, who died before her mother, from cancer*

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*Milorad & Mila*



*Milica, Ruza & Mihailo*

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*Janko and his first wife Draginja had two daughters and three grandchildren. The older daughter with her son Milorad in Bačka Palanka, and the younger Ruža with her daughter Milica and son Mihail in the USA.*

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*Wife Draginja died during the war*

**DOBROVOLJNI  
PRILOZI ZA  
"JUGOSLAVENSKI NAROD-  
NI DOM" u WINDSOR, ONT.**

Dobrovoljnih priloga za gore navedenu ustanovu sakupljio član Ogranka br. 3. "NJE-GOS" J. K. Udrženja, Kirkland Lake, Ont. br. Janko Majstorović, svotu od \$56.00 (pedeset i šest dolarâ). Darovali sledeci: Po 10 dolarâ: Ogranak br. 3 JKU i br. Rade Peleš; Po \$5 dolarâ, br. Mile Janjanin. Po \$2.00, Braća Rade Ivković, Ilija Lemač, Lazar Škaljac i Ilija Brunčić. Po \$1. br. Jovo Grmuša, Petar Vučinić, Dušan Arlov, Janko Majstorović, Jovan Ignjatić, Stojan Novaković, Vaje Lukić, Milo Djonović, Soka Lemač, Lazo Bosanac, Ilijan Grubac, Milan Bogdanović, Kata Miljuš, Pavao Baltić, Marko Vaščić, Matko Lalić, N. Brkić, Djuro Kolar, Petar Šaban, Djuro Šarčević, Janko Golub, Ilija Japranin.

Po 50c, braća: Petar Keglević i Janko Radić.

Do sada javljena svota dobrovoljnih priloga iznosi \$1369.15.

Sakupljena svota pod inicijativom br. J. Majstorovića \$56.00.

Ukupno do danas \$1425.15. (jednu hiljadu i četiri stotine i petnaest centi) samo dobrovoljnih priloga, bez ostalih raznih dohodaka.

**ОПОМОНА — Д. Бр. 10**

С.Д.Д. "Радничка Дужност број 103 СИС у Киркленд Лек, Онтарио, Канада. Овиме се опомињу сви они чланови који дугују чланарину, а нису исту до данас наплатили или могуће заборавили или им је немогуће платити.

Иста браћа се моле да дуговину наплате до 13 априла, тако да друштвена управа види да смо сви вљавани и да водимо о себи и својима рачуна.

Браћо и сестре, ја вих вас молио да сви мало боље порадимо за наше друштво пошто исто не стоји најбоље финансијски. Башимо мржљу на страну, ми сви треба да радијмо за добро и корист нашег друштва. Треба да и ми некога новога члана упимо и да небудемо најзадњи, него дасмо у реду правих. До данас смо добри.

За друштво број 103  
Јанко Мајсторовић, раг.

Ovoga puta Uprava Jugoslavenskog Narodnog Doma, sa svojim članstvom u Windsoru. Najtoplje se zahvaljuje braći štovanim prilagačima iz Kirkland Lake, Ont. sa željom vratiti jubav za dobro kad god to braća ustrebaju.

Draga braćo! Odani članovi Jugoslavenskog Kanadskog Udrženja, i ostali prijatelji Jugoslaveni, diljem prostrane Kanade i Amerike: Ovaj pod imenom Prvi "JUGOSLAVENSKI NARODNI DOM" u desetoj BANOVINI se podiže s namjerom, da gaj, sačuva i upozna mladju naraštaj sa ljetopatama Narodne tekovine i Jugoslavenske ideologije.

Svi će prilози за zahvalnosti biti putem javnosti objavljeni; Imena darovatelja biti će u VEĆITOJ DOMSKOJ KNIŽI UPISANA.

Ilija Vitorac  
Tajnik.

**LAKE SHORE MINES LIMITED**

**1941**

THE BEARER *J. Majstorovich* No. 350  
IS QUALIFIED TO OPERATE A BATTERY LOCO-  
MOTIVE UNDERGROUND AT LAKE SHORE MINES.

*Belgrade* SAFETY DIRECTOR

*N. J.* ASS'T UNO. SUPT.

THIS CARD MUST BE RENEWED EVERY YEAR. IF CARD IS DEFACED  
BEFORE RENEWAL DATE GET A REPLACEMENT AT THE SAFETY OFFICE

*Working for his community*

# ИЗВОД

из протокола крштених православне источне српске цркве, храма  
Манастир Јарак у Лесковац на 15. јуна 1927.

Књига 1



Лист 1

Текући број	68
Год. рође- сек и дан	рођена
Крштено име	приштена и миропомазана
Име	<u>1905. године становица Јавујеце</u>
Синак, мунис или женски	<u>1/14</u>
брачност или небрачност	<u>1/28</u>
Име, пренак, званије или званичнице	<u>Јанко</u>
Вјероисповјест	<u>и чини</u>
Мјесто преоданаца и кућни број	<u>Благоје</u>
Име, пренак, званије и звани- чнице	<u>и брачни</u>
Име, пренак и мјесто преоди- вача бабице	<u>Лесковац к. бр. 136 (од 22.)</u>
Својеручни потпис свјештеника, који је крстио и миропомазао, и његово званије	<u>Милановић Јоаким из Јарака</u>
Правитељ	<u>Марко Јајадин б. ј. јарца</u>

Да се овај извод из протокола крштених православне источне српске цркве  
 храма Манастир Јарак у Лесковац са својим  
 поданичником у свему саглашава, потписом свога имена и прилагачем званичног печата  
 потврђујем.

Лесковац дана 15/28. јуна год. 1927.



Милановић Јоаким  
 год. јарца

Штампарија В. Јакшића, Године

*Birth certificate*

THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BOARD  
ONTARIO



THE MINING ACT-ONTARIO

MINER'S CERTIFICATE

This Certifies that I have examined  
John Majstorovich  
whose photograph is attached hereto, and have found  
him free from tuberculosis of the respiratory organs.

W. M. J.  
Signature of Medical Officer.

To be re-examined	Renewed from	Signature of Medical Officer
May 2, 1940	May 25, 1939	W. M. J. Signature

Serial No. K 4882

Date Jan. 2, 1934

Name Majstorovich, John

Address Kirkland Lake, Ont.

Nationality Russo-Slav.

Married Yes Single Age 28 yrs.

Signature of Holder J. Majstorovich



The Medical Officer will indicate in col. 1 (above) date before which holder should appear for re-examination.

Miners certificate

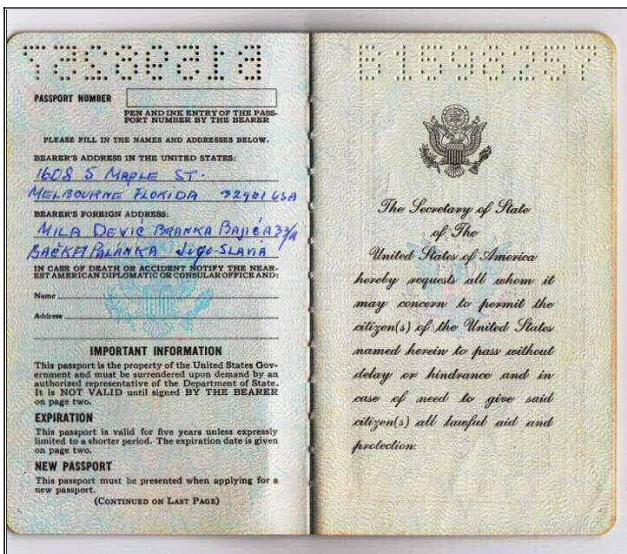
ovo je prelaeno mesto za Srednji istok  
i južnu Afriku Belgijski Konga Kinijski  
Apesinjci i Talijanski i Britansku Somaliju.  
Onde se sastaju Beli i Crni Nil naj  
veća reka Africe ja mislim.

Onde nas uputi u Transut lampa tako da  
barak za odmaranje i čekanje za dađi put  
te potrebno je da se čeket opre sebe i  
da svoju robu. Nakon nekoliko dana  
odmora i posete gradu te Reki Alazan  
i Belom Nilu, pozvane nas jedan putan  
Sardžin i dade nam hranu za pet dana  
putovanja i Apote. Tijek se namestimo u  
voz te putujemo kroz Etiopiju zvanu  
Nubiju leđit te bivog dana ostavimo  
voz i preduzimo na ladju po Alazanu ili  
dva dana i dve noći smo putovali  
Nilom te tijek sam proi put vidi  
Krokodile kako plivaju po vodi jake  
su opasni tako da je Sudanaka Vlad  
čula nagradu ko upije Krokodila

A page from his war notebook

iji na padobrantski rukov  
ja kao svaki čovek nisam mogao ponistiti  
jamu rečim da ja nisam za  
taj kurs postao sam prešao daleko  
u godine oni mi reči ti stide  
kod Vuktora ja ako on reči da  
dobar očes onda ići ja kao  
neuk ili neškolo van svak rečim  
du oču te drugog dana jušu  
bio reč na putu za Sadobrantski  
Kors, ito je Palestina blizu granice  
Sirije mesto Ramad Sivri blizu grada  
Haife gde je saleva Crno Zlato i  
Sirije i Troka Bendin. taj sam  
bio dvadeset i dva dana te na  
četvrti dan Verbe išao sam da  
skracim i dovođenja dosta časova  
i zamisli da stociti još gore  
ali smao sam toliko snage da  
i miris i rasim daču to učiniti  
bez ikog straha te sam i  
Sisir moj Kors sa odlicnjem  
uspehom makar mnogi i misle  
a cine se neki pleso

A page from his war notebook



Visiting his daughter Mila and grandson Milorad  
in Backa Palanka 1971



*Proud of his war contribution*

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*One life worth telling is handed down in this booklet  
For safekeeping by future generations*

Prof. Dr. Vladislav Bata Tomovic,  
Brock University, St. Catherines, Ontario

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