

S U M M A R Y

Boyhood In Concentration Camps — Avraham Kohavi

This is the story of a Jewish boy in Poland during the wrathful war years. Born in 1928 in Lodz, in 1928, he began his life as an inmate in those death camps when he was only fourteen, and during four years he was through eight camps, in three countries. After the war, the Jewish Brigade soldiers picked him up and shipped him off on one of the "illegal" immigrant ships.

Excerpts From The Diary of Sarah Fishkin

Sarah Fishkin was born in the town of Rubzsewitz, near Minsk (White Russia) She was the daughter of a working family. when the German-Soviet war began, she was in a near town, Volozhin, about 50 kms from her birth-place, where she was employed in the office of the local newspaper. She was only 18 years old, when the town where she lived, was devastated on the very first day of war. She returned to her home town, Rubzsewitz Here, she was put into the ghetto with all other Jewish residents, and shared their fate, until the day she was executed... She kept a diary since the age of 15. The excerpts given here, are of the war-years, reflecting the feelings, moods and meditations of a young heart oscillating between high hopes and fear of death.

Those Who Did Not Live To Get Their Wings — Dov Levin

Yizik Maskop and Gasia Glazer, two Soviet Jews, were parachuted down into Nazi occupied Lithuania and established contact with the underground and the General Partisan Movement in the area of the Rudniki forests.

The Jewish Resistance Movement in Belgium — Yaacov Gutfreund

The Author of this article was among the active leaders of the Jewish Resistance Movement in Belgium. here he tells how the Movement began and how it fought the Nazi extermination teams successfully.

With The Belgian Underground — Gisa Weisblum

This is the testimony of a Jewish woman in the Belgian Underground Movement. She was handed over to the Gestapo by a treacherous Commander.

Danish Jews in Theresienstadt — Leni Yahil

The Fate of the Danish Jews at the time of the Holocaust was as special in the "Musterlager" Theresienstadt as it was in the "Muster-protektorat" Denmark itself. The 475 Deportees from Denmark were not

sent to the East and 417 of them were returned to Sweden before the end of the war. More than 80% of the 52 deceased were over 60 years old. The Danish authorities did everything they could to protect their citizens in their exile. Therefore Eichman was forced not only to return 5 half-Jews from Theresienstadt to Denmark, and to the visit of the mixed commission of Danish and Red cross officials to the Ghetto in June 1944. As described by the eminent scholar H. G. Adler and others the visitors were systematically deceived and did not realise that the Germans put up a show for them in order to disguise the camp's true character. In spite of this fact, the Danish achievement, pursued with outstanding insistence as shown here by new source-evidence, was remarkable and adds another proof to the amount of weight the Danes' defence of the Jews carried with the Nazis.

A Polish Jewish officer in a Nazi P.O.W. Camp — R. Lotz

The author of this memoir was Democratic Poland's first ambassador to Israel. Here, he recalls his experiences as a Nazi prisoner of war, in a camp for Polish officers. He relates how he succeeded in getting in touch with Moshe Sharet informing him of the great danger and asking him to make the Red Cross act on their behalf.

From "Reich Representation to Reichvereinigung". — K.R. Ball Kaduri

The author of this article discusses the change from volunteer representation of the German Jewish Communities to superimposed organization under Nazi rule. It was not a sudden change, but rather a gradual, evolutionary process and constant struggle for independent representation on behalf of German Jewry.

The Bricha (The Illegal Escape) Dr' Yehuda Bauer

This is a chapter from the author's comprehensive study of the illegal immigration movement in the years immediately after the Second World War (Known in Hebrew as "Bricha" — meaning Escape). It concerns most of European Jewry and especially what remained of Eastern European Jewry. These were the remnants of the Holocaust former Partisan fighters, who, upon their return to liberated Poland became aware of the fact that there was no hope for Jews in the countries of their birth. Thus began the search for pathways and roads to Israel.

The author tells here in detail, how these first groups began; their aims and ideals; their successes and failures. In his summary the author stresses the fact that it was the Polish Jews who initiated all the daring plans. They were aided by the delegates from the Jewish Brigade and the special delegates (Shlichim) who came later.

On Jewish Organizations in the Countries of Emancipation.

— Jacob Toury

From the early 18th. century until 1933, Jewish organizations were generally voluntary in character. Their religious attitude was either sectarian or humanitarian and "neutral". Most of them had a denominational outlook and concentrated their attention upon a distinct sphere of charitable, cultural or social activity. Hence, they were markedly different from the former inclusiveness of the "Kehillah". Their formation was accelerated and their apologetic character firmly defined by the various anti-Jewish outbreaks in the 18th. century, until they became reactive rather than active in scope.

But their main feature was their quality as substitute for other formal, social and even intellectual frames of reference for those Jews, who found themselves rejected by their non-Jewish surrounding. Against this reactive quality, the first Zionist organizations with their zeal for Jewish action were a revolutionary movement and waged a prolonged struggle against non-Zionists for leading positions in the organizational framework. Zionism appeared as a popular and democratic force, whereas the leadership of existing organizations was oligarchic and aristocratic. A big part in it fell to intellectuals, who, together with bankers and industrialists, tended to monopolize positions on the board. Thus the general public became indifferent to the existing organizations. The more active elements rallied round Zionists or Socialists, but neither they nor the passive general public recognized the urgent need for a united and strong organization with a generally recognized responsible leadership — until it was too late.

In Memory of Simcha Honwald

Simcha Honwald was an active member of Hashomer Hatzair which was driven underground in Hungary. This memoir is published on the twentieth anniversary of his death.

In Memory of Shlomo Harchas.

Shlomo Harchas was among the founders of the Partisan Movement in the town of Mir. Later, he was one of the bravest guerilla fighters in the woods, and still later he was active in the Movements of "illegal" escape. He was a member of Kibbutz Eilon and was killed in a road accident last year.

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