

PAUL GERHARD KUSSEROW  
RG-50.028.0031

(This interview is in German with sporadic English translation, which is hard to hear. It also includes a segment with Annemarie and Waldtraud Kusserow in English)

Paul Kusserow was born in 1931 to the family of Franz and Hida Kusserow who were Jehovah's Witnesses. In the period from 1933-39, he remembers the persecution of his parents and siblings, persecution in school, Gestapo house searches for prohibited J.W. literature and his father's arrest. In 1939 he, his brother Hans Werner and their sister Elizabeth were picked up by the police and sent to a reform school in Dorsten. Several months later they were sent to a reform school in Nettelstadt and separated from each other. There were repeated attempts to make him renounce his faith and convictions, all of which he resisted. From 1942 onwards, he lived and worked on a farm, under the observation of the local Nazi authorities. In the summer of 1944 he had himself secretly baptized, and in 1945 he was liberated by the arrival of American troops. He was brought to Wewelsburg by J.W. and then home to the surviving members of his family.