

**RG-50.031.0090**

**Fred Buchsbaum** b. 11/27/1920 Wüstensachsen, Germany (36 Jewish families); at time, good interaction between Jewish & Germans; Fred fondly recalls family/friends - father "Max" (salesman) b.1883 m.1919 "Rosa" b.4/7/1896 (shopkeeper "in our large store"); grandfather "did not like to use railroad, preferred walking"; sister b.1921; father and sister "did not make it through Holocaust"; grandparents lived on 1st floor, Fred's family on 2nd floor, sharing Jewish holidays; small synagogue; favorite foods; bar mitzvah; attending Jewish grade school then in 1934, "only Jew" in high school, admitted believing Fred was not Jewish even though he said he disclosed it; in 3rd yr. decided to leave having experienced anti-Semitism, feeling uncomfortable having read Hitler's "Mein Kampf"; went to Berlin to learn trade (electricity); fled to Prague Sept 1939 then to Palestine; recalls mid-1920s first hearing of Hitler; 1933 Hitler "coming to power"; Fred's belief that anti-Semitism was there before Hitler; Berlin 1937, experiencing first movie house, "travel was easy, everything clean, got ticket sleeping on train, did not experience anti-Semitism because I did not look Jewish"; father arrested for not keeping Germany's financial laws, held in Frankfurt; father reunited with wife/daughter then all deported to Stutthoff Concentration Camp; father placed in eastern Germany where he perished; sister killed, mother survived; Fred's journey to Palestine, met by British, "Some knelt & kissed the ground"; half yr in internment camp, then freed; sheltered by relative, worked in his butcher shop; joined British Army (Royal Army Service Corp; later Pioneer Company) "I saw the world"; getting sick & sent back; met future wife Lotte in Jerusalem; marriage 1945; 2 children/4 grandchildren; drafted into Israeli Army; happy recollections of wedding; happiness receiving telegram from US that mother had survived Stutthoff (died 1975 in Fl.); impressions of US, "glad it was a place where Jews were not persecuted", buying home, became instructor at community college (automotive); hobbies; Fred shares photographs of family, in uniform at wedding (1945); at very end, Fred & wife Lotte (married over 50 yrs.) exchange kisses.