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Ernie Marx

RG-50.106*0019

November 8,1925 - born Ernst Ludwig Marx in Gelnhausen, Germany

1932 - 33 - father, a cantor, arrested, accused of spying for US because an American

rabbi visited him. Released, family moved to Speyer am Rhein

1935 - not allowed to go to public school

November 9, 1939 - saw synagogue burning, Gestapo took him and father to HQ

they and 80 others put on train to Dachau, separated from father, head shaved, slept on wooden planks, cleaned latrines. Released in early December.

Parents organized Kindertransports to France, Belgium and Holland

Went to Paris with 80-100 children on a Kindertransport

Studied at a Jewish seminary, Ecole Maimonides

OSE placed him in a hidden children's home outside of Limoges

Fall 1942 - Germans came, French took the children to Gurs

Escaped into the Alps to Gieres, near Grenoble, got in touch with the resistance.

Became a member of the Maquis in the Mountain unit (Chasseur Alpin) of the 6th Regiment.

Blew up trains and bridges near Modane, used false name LouLou Berger.

After southern invasion joined the 1st French Army in Fort Vincent outside of Paris

June 1944 - became an interpreter

Went back to Gieres, found his mother on a streetcar

Father had been taken to Drancy and Auschwitz, where he was a spiritual leader

June 6, 1947 - sailed to US

Worked as a cantor and religious director of a synagogue