

Ludwig Jacob
RG-50.106*0032

May 5, 1923 - born in Schmalkalden, Germany

November 1938 - on Kristallnacht, Ludwig and parents were imprisoned

women were released, men forced to clean up debris from the destruction

sent to Buchenwald, Ludwig sent home December 10

January 4, 1939 - left on Kindertransport to Holland, brother in Amsterdam arranged for him to leave

went to a children's home in Eindhoven for 6-8 months

attended school

Fall 1939 - went to Wiering-meer on Hachshara training for agricultural work in Israel

1940 - after German invasion, Hachshara training settlement shutdown by Gestapo

went to his brother's home in Amsterdam; his brother was soon deported to Mauthausen

Lived with his sister-in-law and nephew until July 15, 1942; learned that his brother had died in the camp

July 1942 - received an Aufruf notice to report

went underground, got false ID papers with name 'Wilhelm Poppin'

lived on outskirts of town and worked in a toy factory

got a new card saying he was part Jewish, since he looked Jewish

September 1943 - went over the border to Brussels and then to Paris, worked with resistance organization

July 1944 - sent to a German organization that did defense construction

would take handguns and leave bricks in their place

denounced after helping a German who wanted to desert

Gestapo arrested him and sent him to prison in Fresnes, where he was interrogated and

beaten, then taken to Drancy

Put on train to Buchenwald - "The Last Transport"

Forced open metal bars, he and 23 others jumped off near St. Quentin

pretended to be English parachutists, found resistance group near Creil

August 21, 1944 - walked to Paris, became an interpreter, translating prisoner's letters

Worked for the American Army

June 1947 - came to the US

1950 - married, had 2 sons

Worked in a department store, then opened up his own business