

Interviewee:	<u>HOLLANDER</u> , Isadore	Date:	October 25, 1982
Interviewer:	Josey G. Fisher		
Audio tapes:	2 English	Transcript:	1 vol. (unpaged) English
Restrictions:	None	Libr. Catlg. #:	D 810.J4 G7 no. 11

SUMMARY

Isadore Hollander, born 1920 in Paris, returned to Bendin (Będzin), Poland with his Polish parents and older sister in 1923. He describes in detail the pre-war Jewish community. Following his father's death and mother's re-marriage, he lived, from ages 11 to 15, in an orphanage operated according to Janusz Korczak guidelines, which he describes in detail. During this period, he joined a Zionist youth group. He mentions growing antisemitism in Poland.

After September 1939, he ran from town to town, to avoid forced labor, until captured and sent to work in a coal mine in Jaworzno near Krakow. He escaped to Russian-occupied Poland, living in Lvov at the beginning of 1940. To avoid imprisonment for "illegal" business, he registered for work in Russian. Assigned to Stalino coal mine in the Donbas region, he escaped to Rovno and describes religious life there, winter, 1940-June 1941. After the Rovno Ghetto was established, he escaped from slave labor with help from former Polish soldiers. He lived with 10 other Jews in nearby forests until 1943, having minimal contact with Polish partisans, due to mutual suspicion. He later served in the Polish Army. His eye-witness account of German-evacuated Majdanek and detailed description of his life as a Polish soldier includes revenge he and other Jewish soldiers took on *Volkdeutsche* Poles. At the end of the war, he returned to Bendin and met his future wife. He details their escape from Poland and life in Deggendorf DP camp in Bavaria. They emigrated to Philadelphia in 1947.

See also the interview with his wife, Anni Hollander.

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SUBJECT HEADINGS

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Personal narratives.
Bendin (Będzin), Poland
Deggendorf (Displaced persons camp)
Jaworzno (Concentration camp)
Majdanek (Concentration camp)
Aid by non-Jews
Escape to the Polish Army
Antisemitism--Poland.
Coal mines and mining--Poland.
Concentration camp escapes.
Holocaust survivors.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Personal narratives.
Jewish ghettos--Ukraine--Rivne (Rivnens'ka oblast')
Jewish orphanages--Poland.
Jewish youth--Poland--Societies and clubs.
Revenge.
Rovno Ghetto
World War, 1939-1945--Conscript labor.
World War, 1939-1945--Deportations from Poland.
World War, 1939-1945--Participation, Jewish.
Zionists.