

RG-50.462.0390

Summary

The recording is silent from 00:33:15 to 00:49:14.

Jack W. Loeb was born in 1923 in Bad Kreuznach, Germany but grew up in a nearby village called Merxheim. His ancestors had lived in the small town for hundreds of years. His father was a well known and respected cattle dealer. His paternal grandfather had been a butcher. Besides his mother and father, he had two? sisters and a younger brother. Before 1933 he and his family experienced little antisemitism.

After 1935, however, his father lost his license as a cattle dealer. Jack left Germany for Holland, where he had cousins, in 1936 after having been briefly arrested for having taken illegal pictures. His parents and siblings joined him in Holland in 1938. They all got false papers, and life remained relatively normal until August 1941, even after the Nazi invasion of Holland in May 1940. Life for the family changed for the worse in August 1941. Jack's cousins were deported to Mauthausen, and he and his parents registered with the Dutch Jewish Council. Jack holds the Jewish council responsible for his parents and siblings being deported to Poland. He, too, was deported but jumped from the train taking him to Poland. Jack never learned what happened to his parents and siblings. In 1942 Jack joined the underground, mostly non-Jews. They captured and killed German soldiers after getting information from them. They got food and other necessities from local farmers, sometimes by force. Apparently, they also provided food to Jews in hiding. He began to tell the story of how they brought food to the Frank family.

After liberation Jack continued to have contact with friends that he made in the resistance and tried to find German war criminals and bring them back to Holland to be prosecuted. He only returned to his hometown in Germany for a few hours. He left Holland in 1948. Jack was adamant in his hatred for the Jewish Council and said that Jews went like sheep to their slaughter because they believed the Jewish Council.