

Interviewee: MARX, Moe
Interviewer: Ruth Erie

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SUMMARY

Moe Marx was born in Gailingen, Germany on December 23, 1916. His family was Orthodox and his father, Isidor Marx, was a teacher who became administrator of *Waisenhaus*, a large Jewish orphanage in Frankfurt. He discusses his father's and Dr. Josef Burg's establishing Youth *Aliyah* and, beginning in 1937, using the orphanage as a conduit to personally take Jewish children from Germany to other countries for future transport, primarily to Palestine. Moe attended *Bet Halutz* in Lubeck in training for mechanical work in Palestine. He describes being rounded up during *Kristallnacht* in November 1938 at age 21 and detained in Dachau until February 1939 when a British General Campbell arranged for his release and emigration to England where he was taken in by an English Jewish family.

He briefly describes his life in England and refers to England's deportation of Jewish German refugees as "enemy aliens" on the *Arandora Star*. He reports that his mother and the remaining children in the *Waisenhaus* [orphanage] were transported to Theresienstadt and that his father established a home for evacuated Jewish children in Northampton.

He describes in great detail his deportation on the *Dunera* to Australia in July 1940, together with other Jews and German and Italian prisoners of war. He describes his life at the internment camp in Hay, New South Wales, Australia: religious organizations, cultural activities, relationship with Australian Army and local Jewish community, and his transfer with 200 rheumatic fever patients to a camp in Tatura, State of Victoria.

He returned to England in 1942 when the German Jewish refugees were allowed to enlist in the Australian Military Labor Corps, return to England, or go to Palestine.