

Interviewee:	<u>ROJER</u> , Charles L.	Date:	May 11, 1998
Interviewer:	Helen Schneeberg		
Audio Tapes:	2 English	Transcript:	1 vol. (unpaged) English
Restrictions:	None		

## SUMMARY

Charles Louis Rojer was born December 6, 1934 in Brussels, Belgium. His father, an observant Jew, was a successful businessman and Charles enjoyed a privileged childhood. After the German occupation of Belgium, he was sheltered in the Sanatorium Prince Charles in Brussels as a non-Jewish child. His parents visited weekly until he was moved to a villa near Francorchamps in Bupen-Malmedy. He never saw them again and learned later that they died in Auschwitz in 1943. From 1941 to 1943, Charles lived with Catholics and assumed their identity. After liberation, he lived in several non-sectarian orphanages and was reoriented to Judaism.

Charles was united with his two sisters, who had been hidden in a convent, and together they emigrated to the United States in June 1948 to join an uncle in Philadelphia. With financial help from his family and a scholarship, he graduated from Central High School, Temple University and Hahnemann Medical School. He married Goldie Burtoff in 1967; after her death he married Marsha Levin. He was active with the Jewish Federation of Philadelphia and spoke to schools and churches about his wartime experience, in order to honor those who risked their lives to protect him.

This 1998 interview follows a 1983 interview with Dr. Rojer, which is also in the Gratz Holocaust Oral History Archive (GC00426a).

The testimonies of Dr. Rojer's uncle, Bernard Mednicki, and his cousin, Armand Mednicki, are also in the Gratz collection.