

Interviewee:	<u>ARIEL</u> , Harry A.	Date:	April 21, 1985 <sup>1</sup>
Interviewer:	Lynn Hoffman		
Audio tapes:	1 English	Transcript:	1 vol. (unpaged) English
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Restrictions:	None		

## SUMMARY

Harry A. Ariel (previously Simanenok) was born on July 14, 1925 in Chemnitz, Germany to a religious, middle class family. His father was an engineer and both his parents were Zionists.<sup>2</sup> Harry shares his childhood memories of the Nazi takeover, humiliating and abusing Jews in the streets, his father having to hide and fleeing to France. In 1933, the family escaped through Strasbourg illegally, and went to Paris, lived in hotels and in the summer the children were sent to hostels and stayed with Christian families in their homes '33-'34. His father met Jabotinsky in Paris who was instrumental in securing visas for their travel to Palestine. They left via Marseilles on the *Sphinx*. He describes arriving in Jaffa. He and his brothers attended school and later Harry joined the *Haganah* in 1942 to defend against Nazis infiltrating Middle East. He discusses his and his brothers' studies and his father's employment with the British. Harry settled in the United States in 1952. He describes the destruction of his mother's family in Europe. He married a survivor and talks of the importance of sharing the history with the next generation.

<sup>1</sup>Recorded at the 1985 American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors in Philadelphia.

<sup>2</sup>Harry's father had lived in Palestine in the 1920s for two years on a kibbutz and then had returned to Germany and married.