

Bay Area Holocaust Oral History Project

P.O. Box 25506, San Mateo, CA 94402

Name of interviewee: Field, George

Date of interview: 6/12/1990

Summary: George Field was born on June 21, 1922 in Budapest, Hungary to Alader and Charlotte Feldmaier (nee Katz). Hungary was separated by race and people looked down upon Jews. Life was quite difficult for his family. Much of the money that was earned by his father was used to pay medical bills due to his mother's condition (cancer). George's mother passed away when George was 17, leaving just George and his father. His father was drafted into the war, served as a sergeant and a clerk for the regiment (due to his excellent penmanship). However, George's father was captured by the Nazis and sent to Auschwitz. George never heard from him again.

In 1943, George was also captured and forced into the German labor camp (Esztergom tábor) for 8 months and one year in the Russian labor camps in 1944, from which he escaped to Budapest. He worked for "Organisation Todt" (a German civil and military engineering organization) and was hidden by a Hungarian Nazi in the building of the Gestapo for 2 weeks until liberation.

Eventually, George received a *Schutzpass*, a protectorate under the Swedish government and the famous hero Wallenberg. George married and had two sons. His wife's father was living in America, and she missed him greatly, so they moved to America, where George changed his last name to Field.