

## Bay Area Holocaust Oral History Project

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

**Name of interviewee:** Ganor, Solly

**Date of interview:** 4/27 & 5/3/1993

**Summary:** Solly Henkind was born in 1928 in Lithuania. His father, Heim Henkind was a Menshevik and very active in the 1917 Russian Revolution. Eventually his father became an outlaw in the Soviet Union, and their family was supposed to be taken to Siberia. But that night Germany invaded Lithuania. As the Germans bombed Lithuania, Solly's family fled and separated. Solly, his mother Rivka, and sister Sani eventually stopped and hid in a Lithuanian barn, until they were almost discovered by Nazi troops and killed; others were killed, but they hid in bushes. They returned home for a few days before being sent to a fort in the mountains with other Lithuanian Jews. His brother secured the release of Solly and his mother, but his brother never returned. They returned home again, only to be rounded up into a ghetto with 30,000 other Lithuanian Jews.

In July of '44, as the Russians advanced into Lithuania, the Germans took the rest of the Lithuanian Jews to Dachau. As the Americans advanced towards Dachau, Solly was taken on a death march by his German captors. On May 2, 1945 he was rescued by Japanese-American soldiers. After the war, he worked in DP camps, looking for SS men who were hiding in the camps. Solly was also involved in the Jewish underground shipping arms to Palestine. Eventually he moved to Israel in 1948 and joined the merchant marine where he worked for 12 years and traveled around the world.