

Interview with Rene Slotkin
September 18, 1997
Summary

Rene Slotkin, born December 21, 1937 in Templeseshanof, Czechoslovakia (north of Prague), discusses his entire family's 1942-1943 deportation to Theresienstadt and then to Auschwitz, where the family was separated; being liberated by the Russians in January 1944 when he was seven years old; living with Frank and Edith Maun and their children, where he is introduced to traditional religious practices and is given his first real family structure; his arrival in the United States on March 29, 1950, where he was reunited with his sister Irene at the Meyer Slotkin home in Orange, Long Island, NY; his first marriage and birth of his three children; joining the National Guard; his second marriage and birth of his fourth child in 1982; how all four children have remained closely united and have spent time in Israel; his time with Eva Kor's organization for twin survivors, at which a mock trial was held in 1985 for Dr. Mengele in Yad Vashem; how he and Irene are finally able to talk about their shared wartime experiences; Irene's effectiveness as a lecturer; and his lingering feeling of uncertainty as to whether he has lived a truly fruitful life.