

Summary of Kenneth Rosenbaum Goldsmith (Kurt Simon Rosenbaum) visit to Nancy Riles Elementary School, 1994. Jason Rosenbaum Goldsmith's 5th Grade Class.

According to the videotaped presentation (items in parenthesis filled in from other sources):

- Left family on March 13, 1939
 - He was almost 13 years of age
 - Departed from Train Station in Wurzburg, Germany
 - Only possessions was one suitcase of clothes
- Arrived in Antwerp, Belgium with a family there
 - War started, and Nazi's were pressing into Belgium
- Fled to France with family
 - Stayed first in a detention camp, somewhere south of Paris
- Was somehow chosen to go to Children's home
 - Bourges?, France
 - Stayed approx. 3 months
 - Got Mumps while there – quite a problem due to the contagiousness
- Train to Spain, then Lisbon, Portugal
- Boarded the ship Mouzinho from Lisbon (he was child number 34)
 - Condition of ship - they were “stacked like sardines”
 - Not a lot of food
- Landed in New York, New York on 21-June-1941 ~ 7 day trip
 - Was “processed”, papers, medical, etc.
 - Not sure if it was Ellis Island or not, but does remember an island.
 - Was given a US Dollar Bill
 - First thing he bought was a comb for his hair for 5 cents – he though he was rich!
 - Children's home in NYC (from other records this was “The Academy” 137th St. and Amsterdam Ave.)
- Approx. 100 Children were distributed to Cities in the USA
 - Train to Chicago – some children got off and stayed
 - Train on to Los Angeles, more children got off and stayed
 - Train to San Francisco, presumed more children stayed
 - Stayed in San Francisco approx. 2 weeks
 - July 4th, 1941 fireworks celebration was first thought to be War (again) by Kenneth and the other children with him
- Train to Portland - arrived July 8, 1941
 - Taken in by Goldsmith Family as companion for Peter Lipschitz and houseboy
 - Was eventually liked by the Goldsmiths and treated as one of their own
 - Went to Benson High School
 - Became Drafted into the Army, and received his US Citizenship
 - (Not from the video: Shipped out to Okinawa Sept. 22, 1945; possible return Oct. 17, 1946)

- Other Children that came with him to Pacific Northwest
 - Karla Bayer (“bare”).
 - Norbert Family Children
 - Daughter – Inga, maybe in Seattle
 - Two brothers
 - One killed as a Marine on Iwo Jima
 - Other possibly lived in Los Angeles

- Items from Germany
 - He was born and raised in Schonungen – 10 miles East of Schweinfurt
 - Went to a Religious School (not public) until the Nazi’s shut it down
 - Barthalema’s (Gunda’s Parents) lived in the upper story apartment of family’s house. Barthalema’s told Storm Troopers they would have to kill them to come into the house – thus protecting the Rosenbaum family.
 - Father (Siegfried Rosenbaum) killed in Treblinka Concentration Camp in Poland. (Siegfried was born in Poland).
 - No photograph
 - Barthalema’s had to destroy/burn all evidence of association with Jews otherwise they would be persecuted against as well by Nazis.
 - Mother Frieda was Jewish and therefore denied medicine by the Nazi government. This brought on her death and she was spared the horrors of the Concentration Camps. Kenneth thinks this was a blessing in disguise.