

RG-90.016.0003

Summary of Oral History Interview with Jacques Marsauche—ENGLISH

Jacques MARSAUCHE, born in Strasbourg, the cousin of Frère Roger Schütz- Marsauche of Taizé (Brother Roger); Frère Roger's mother was the sister of Jacques' father Louis, pastor of the reform church in Besançon; speaking of Roger Schütz and his family; Frère Roger was ten years his senior; staying in Besançon during the war; Jacques had one brother Pierre; his father being in Bourg-en-Bresse in the so-called unoccupied zone, in 1939; speaking of his first visit to Taizé; speaking of pre-printed cards; his brother being in the resistance in the south, hiding weapons in the south-west of France; his father helping hidden Jews in Besançon; the Jews were quickly pursued in their area; speaking of the Butte prison in Besançon – for people trying to flee; Jacques helping his father; Jacques being in an informative network during 1943/'44; Taizé under constant watch; in certain villages, people really spied on one another; denunciations; Brother Roger was safer in Switzerland; speaking of the secret networks; the transporters of refugees; no knowledge of who helped refugees cross into the so-called free zone; Roland de Pury – his book *Journal de cellule*; speaking of his father Louis and his aunt Lili (Amélie), Roger's mother; reuniting with his aunt in Geneva – 1946; speaking of the family home in the Doubs department of France – in the Montbéliard countryside (his mother grew up Lutheran); speaking of Pastor Parrot, and his son André Parrot (Marie-Louise Girod was his wife); speaking of his grandmother's small Catholic community in Héricourt; his first memories of the Taizé community were in 1942; Jacques was Protestant and Catholic; speaking of his childhood; his mother's death in 1950; his father staying on as pastor in Besançon until 1949/'50; speaking of the liberation of Montbéliard and of Valéry and Antoine Giscard d'Estaing; speaking of his grandmother; speaking of communication issues during the war; his father leaving for military service in Algeria; supporting his cousin Roger's community; speaking of Protestants; "This was a time wherein discovery and introspection were valued...that has changed somewhat today..."