

Echoing Voices: Henry Fenichel

Key Highlights of Henry's Story

- Provides the perspective of a very young boy in the Netherlands.
- Henry's story includes the experiences of hiding, being in a transit camp, and concentration camp.
- Henry's story is unique because of "Transport 222" which was a group of German Templars residing in Palestine that were exchanged for Jews in Germany.
- Because of the help of their neighbors, Henry and his mother were able to get the paperwork necessary in order for them to be placed on the list for "Transport 222."
- Henry and his mother experienced Palestine becoming the official State of the Israel in 1948.
- Describes the heartbreaking realization that Henry's father had been murdered when Henry was four years old. He mourns for the time they didn't have together.
- Process of immigrating to the United States and rebuilding one's life.

Suitcase Contents

- Photograph; pre-war, Henry and his father, Moritz.
- Photograph; pre-war, Henry with his mother, Pessel and father, Moritz. This is the only photograph of the three of them that survived the war.
- Dutch Propaganda Pamphlet; cover illustration from "De Joden in Nederland," a pamphlet that fueled anti-Jewish sentiments in the Netherlands.
- Dutch Star Badge; beginning in early 1942, a decree was established that required Dutch Jews to wear a star badge on the outermost layer of clothing to identify them as Jewish.
- Train Sign; deportations of Jews from the Netherlands began in 1942. This sign was on a train that was only transported between Westerbork and Auschwitz. Leaving every Tuesday between 1942-1944, this train transported 54,930 people to Auschwitz on 68 different transports.
- Red Cross Immigration Document; the International Red Cross verified Henry and his mother's connection to Palestine so that they could immigrate in the exchange of German Templars for Jews in Germany.
- Palestine Identification Document; Henry and his mother's ID paper allowed them to remain in Palestine.
- Transport List; Henry and his mother are number 51 and 52.
- Map; train route of "Transport 222" from Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany to Haifa.
- Palestine Post; article from July 11, 1944 about "Transport 222."
- Photograph; post-war, Henry, his mother, and stepfather, Abraham Sporn.