

C--Federal Archives and Record Centers: a tabulation of naturalization records holdings by regional center, does not list other record groups

D--Hamburg Passenger Lists: a listing of Family History Center microfilm numbers

E--Aerial Photos in the National Archives

F--Listing of Town Plans, USSR at Library of Congress

G--Listing of Town Plans, Poland, at LOC

H--Reprint of the table of contents to Estelle Guzik's *Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area* (New York, JGS, Inc.: 1989)

I--French Jewish Records at the Family History Center Library: a listing of microfilm call numbers

J--German Jewish Records at the FHCL: microfilm call numbers

K--Hungarian Jewish Records at the FHCL: microfilm call numbers

L--Polish Jewish Records at the FHCL: microfilm call numbers

M--NARS Regional Branches and Federal Records Centers: addresses

N--Biographical Sketches of Contributors: Zachary Baker, YIVO Institute; Michael Brenner; Marsha S. Dennis; Arlene Eakle, ed. *Source*; Eli Grad; Arthur Kurzweil; Rolf Lederer; Scott Meyer; Sybil Milton; John Henry Richter, former librarian LOC and U Mich; Daniel Schlyter, European reference consultant, FHCSL; Jürgen Sielemann; Alan Spencer; Lawrence Tapper; Miriam Weiner and Suzan Wynne.

In conclusion, *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy* is a most welcome addition to the current body of Jewish

genealogical reference works. It is required reading for all--hobbyists through scholarly historians--and has found its place in this genealogist's library.

FOOTNOTES

1. Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities* (New York, Penguin Books USA Inc.: 1980), p.1.

2. *The Complete Works of Lewis Carroll* (New York, Modern Library: n.d.) p.181.

3. The sources are arranged by state, then municipality.

4. The chapter is arranged by province, then by city.

5. The JewishGen computer bulletin board echo can be reached via modem at (713) 630-0553, net node 260/170, Sysop Susan E. King. As there are several local boards that carry this echo, consult a local Sysop for availability.

6. The catalog can be reached via modem at (512) 471-9400 (set modem to even parity, 7 data bits, 1 stop bit). Books desired can then be obtained by interlibrary loan.

7. The following states have been omitted: Alabama, Alaska, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming. (Italics indicate established Jewish communities with archives, libraries and/or Jewish historical societies).

8. Subscriptions and back issues are available at 130 Sessions Street, Providence, RI 02906. Resources include interments at all RI cemeteries, abstracts from old city directories, chevrot, synagogue records, local histories of southern New England towns and biographies.

9. Zachary Baker, AVOTAYNU, Vol. III, No. 2, 1987.

10. Rolf Lederer, AVOTAYNU, Vol. IV, No. 2, 1988.

11. "Records of Immigration Across the Canadian Border," NGS Newsletter, 13 (2) 1987.

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Ask the Experts

Randy Daitch & Eileen Polakoff

Do you have a tough, thorny research problem whose solution has eluded you? Send it to us and our panel of experts will assist you if at all possible. Our experts will not do the research for you. They will only direct you to sources of information. Answers are supplied by Randy Daitch (RD) and Eileen Polakoff (EP). Send your query to: Ask the Experts, AVOTAYNU, P.O. Box 1134, Teaneck, New Jersey 07666, USA.

I am confused! My family name is Sagenkahn, but on my paternal grandfather's tombstone in Salantai, Lithuania, the inscription (translated) reads, "Here lies our beloved Reb Shmuel ben Reb Avraham Ha-Kohen." Further complicating matters, on a synagogue document the family name is listed as Sgan Cohen. If I were to look for my surname in a yizkor book, should I be looking for Sagenkahn, Ha-Kohen or Sgan Cohen?

Irwin Sagenkahn
Forty Fort, Pennsylvania

In the traditional Jewish communities of Eastern Europe, a person's family name was of lesser importance than his Jewish name and therefore likely to be omitted from his gravestone. On your grandfather's stone, "Ha-Kohen" is not a family name but an indication of priestly descent. The phrase "Sgan Cohen" on the synagogue document means "assistant Cohen." A survey of 60,000 names of Holocaust survivors in the book *Sharit HaPlata* reveals no one by the name of "Ha-Kohen" or "Sgan Cohen," but does list a Jakob Sagenkahn from Memel, now called Klaipeda, which is a coastal

city southwest of Salantai. He was born in 1893 and was residing in the Displaced Persons camp at Feldafing. (RD)

The name Ha-Kohen on your grandfather's tombstone indicates that he was descended from the priestly caste of *kohanim*. Some of the surnames used by *kohanim* are: Cohen, Kahn, Katz, Kogen, Kagan, etc. For additional information on Jewish surnames you should read *A Dictionary of Jewish Names and their History*, by Benzion C. Kaganoff. You might consider reviewing some of the reference works cited in *Where Once We Walked* for the town of Salantai such as *Hebrew Subscription Lists 1 + 2*, *Latter Day Leaders, Sages and Scholars* and *Yahadut Lita (Lithuanian Jewry)* to determine if your family name is mentioned. Other references mentioned in WWW, such as the Chamber of the Holocaust at Mt. Zion in Jerusalem, the Salantai landsmanshaftn in Israel and the researchers listed in the Jewish Genealogical Family Finder, could lead you to valuable information about your family and their life in Salantai, Israel and America. The Consolidated Surname Index published by AVOTAYNU contains one

reference to the name Sagenkahn which is found in the "Index to Name Changes Published in the *Palestine Gazette*". (EP)

In a recent issue of AVOTAYNU it was suggested that one should review the JGS Family Finder for ancestral surnames and towns. Since I am a recent new subscriber and have only this year's copies, how can I review prior issues of the Family Finder that may be relevant? Additionally, how can I get a copy of "Russian Business Directories as Aids to Genealogical Research" published in a previous issue of AVOTAYNU?

I seek information of the Zogut family from Varklan(?), Latvia. Also, the Godovic, Godvicius and Achber families of Radviliskis, Birzu, and Salok in Lithuania.

Jules Rosenthal
East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania

The reference to the Jewish Genealogical Family Finder (JGFF) should not be confused with the Family Finder ads found in AVOTAYNU. The Jewish Genealogical Family Finder is a project of the New York-based Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc. It is made available to all Jewish Genealogical Societies that belong to the Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies. The Family Finder ads in AVOTAYNU are submitted by individuals who may or may not be listed in the JGFF. The best way to review copies of the JGFF is to attend a meeting of a Jewish Genealogical Society. All societies regularly receive copies of the JGFF printout. You do not need to look at prior issues of the JGFF because the information is cumulative since the beginning of the project in 1982.

To get copies of articles published in AVOTAYNU, write to PO Box 1134, Teaneck, NJ 07666 requesting the specific issues you need and enclosing \$6 for each back issue. To determine which issues you need, see the "Index to the First Six Volumes of AVOTAYNU" which is included in this issue. (The issues you need are Vol. IV, No. 2 and Vol. VI, No. 4).

Regarding your ancestral towns of Varklan (Varaklani), Radviliskis, Birzu (Birzai) and Salok (Salakas), *Where Once We Walked* will lead you to many, many reference works to learn more about these towns. Six to 12 sources are listed for these towns. The JGFF lists at least one researcher for each town and 10 for the town of Birzai! Unfortunately, none of your surnames were listed for these towns in the JGFF; but two possible variations for Zogut appear in the Consolidated Surname Index. [Zgut in Russian Consular Records and Soget in State Dept.-Moscow] (EP)

Three yizkor books for Latvia can be found in the library of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, under call numbers DS135-R93-L3-E4, DS135-R93-L25-B62, and DS135-R93-L25-J4. Two individuals named Achbar are mentioned in the book *Yehadut Lita* on pages 1859 and 1896. The latter article was written by Berl Kagan, who has just authored a new book on Jewish communities in Lithuania. (An English version of *Yehadut Lita*, entitled *Lithuanian Jewish Communities*, will be published later this year by Garland Publishing Co., NY).

Vital records for the town of Birzai can be found in the Central State Historical Archives in Vilnius for the years 1865-

1880. (See Alex Friedlander's article on Jewish vital records in Lithuania, AVOTAYNU Vol. VI, No. 4). (RD)

We have been trying to research my father's genealogy and have come to a standstill. Maybe you can help us. The only dates I have are his birth and death dates. He had changed his name. No birth certificate. I wouldn't know where to write because he said he was born in Detroit which is not true. His father changed his name when he landed at Ellis Island from Lipka to Lipkowitz. At one time, they landed in New York and then in Chicago. We have a death certificate from my grandfather, but the information was different than I was told as a child. As there is no family left, do I just stop there?

M. J. Klein
West Palm Beach, Florida

No, you do not just stop there! There are many places for you to look for additional information about your family. Among the many records in the United States that you could use to confirm information about your family are: Social Security applications, voting records, draft records, naturalizations, passenger arrival lists, legal name changes from local courts, cemetery and/or burial society (landsmanshaftn) records and vital records. You said that your father changed his name. When did he do this, and did he file a legal name change with a local court? Find your father's marriage license. Did either your father or grandfather have any siblings in the U.S.? If yes, look at their records to confirm surname spelling variations and find leads to information on the ancestral town. When did the family live in New York? The New York State census records may lead to additional information about the family. The JGFF lists one person doing research on the surname Lopka from Grodzisk, Poland. Contact this researcher (with a SASE) to see if you are related in some way.

The Consolidated Surname Index has numerous references to the surnames Lipka, Lipkowitz, Lipkowicz, Lipkovich and Lipcowitz. Note that most are variants of the same surname. Referenced are: Lipka (Russian Consular Records, JGFF, Deportations from France), Lipkowitz (Russian Consular Records, Deportations from France, Gedenbuch), Lipkowicz (Deportations from France), Lipkovich (Refuseniks) and Lipcowitz (Gedenbuch). (EP)

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Family Finder

The Family Finder section gives readers the opportunity to place notices about areas of their research. AVOTAYNU accepts these entries at \$10 for the first 25 words and 25 cents for each additional word. Name, address and telephone number are free.

Carol Metzger Aden, 7400 SW 115 Street, Miami, Florida 33156, (305) 233-6993. Seeking members of **Metzger** family, originally of Holland where name was *not* **Metzger**. Zalman Wulf **Metzger** born in Olesnica/Stopnica, Poland (Warsaw guberniya), about 1840. Later chief rabbi/shocket of aforementioned towns. Married Sura **Honigsberg*** (of same area?) about 1860. Oldest child was Joseph, born about 1861. Siblings of Joseph were Naphtali [son Melech whose son, Naphtali (Anatole) is now living in Brussels, Belgium], Rivka, Esther and Avraham.* Joseph married Kayla Mindel **Miller** (daughter of Shraga) and had three children born in Poland: Feivel Avraham, Sima and Yisroel Yaakov (b. 1889). The family left Bremen, Germany, for Argentina, but ultimately settled in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1891, where Joseph, at different times, had a hardware store on South Street, a farm on Eastwick Avenue (Philadelphia) and a glass business. Joseph died in 1944; Kayla Mindel died in 1921. Related names in the **Metzger** family: **Weber**, **Goldblit** (**Goldblatt**), **Goldberg**, **Isaiah Greenberg** (m. Chaya Leah **Metzger**).**

* There was an Itiel **Honigsberg**

** Chaya Leah (youngest sibling of Joseph's)

Cara Alson, 7626 Teesdale Avenue, North Hollywood, California 91605, (818) 764-0807. Michael **Miller**, New York: waited for second call about **Begun**. Please call or send information by mail. I will reply.

Cara Alson, 7626 Teesdale Avenue, North Hollywood, California 91605, (818) 764-0807. Seeking information about Ponivezh/Panevezys (Pan-e-vezh) north of Kovno, and Rabbi Aaron Elijah **Pumpianski**, government rabbi there 1861-73.

Cara Alson, 7626 Teesdale Avenue, North Hollywood, California 91605, (818) 764-0807. Seeking information about Pumpian/Pumpenai, north of Kovno, and former or current residents named **Pumpian/sky** or **Pompian/sky**.

Steve Axelrad, 3186 E. Fremont Drive, Littleton, Colorado 80122, (303) 741-3860. Researching my great-grandparents, Oscar **Axelrad/rod** (**Akselrad/rod**) and Esther (**Elner?**) from Skole near Drogobych in Galicia, now the Soviet Union. Their son Sam, my grandfather, born circa 1870. Shortly thereafter, Esther died. Leaving three? older sisters and father behind, Sam emigrated to New York City circa 1892. Two other older sisters emigrated New York City: Tobe (married **Hoffman**) and Chaya (married **Allen?** **Hecht**, "the department store **Hechts**."). Sam married Rose **Wasserberg** in Manhattan 1894 and died 1902. Their children were Charles "Harry," Ruth, Dora, and, posthumously, Sam--my father. Any information greatly appreciated.

Ralph N. Baer, 1250 Fourth Street, SW, Apartment 707, Washington, DC 20024, (202) 554-2483. Looking for information about the **Arnold** family in the Jewish settlement of Friedrichstrasse near Hechingen and the **Strauss** family of Doerzbach, Wuertemberg. Any lists of Jewish inhabitants in Friedrichstrasse, Hechingen, Doerzbach, or Hohebach before 1850 appreciated.

Ilse Cohen, Hashikma 2, Nahariya 22423 Israel. Seeking information about families from West Prussia and Pomerania (18th/19th century): **Neumann--Mossin**, **Schlochau**, **Barkenfelde**, **Vandsburg**, **Konitz**; **Konin--Fordon**, **Laboschin** or **Rathenau**; **Rau** or **Rhaue--Preussisch Friedland**, **Danzig**; **Rosenthal** and **Schuster--Zempelburg**; **Simon--Jastrow**; **Bieber--Schneidemuehl**; **Abraham--Schoensee**; **Meyer--Thorn**, **Deutschkrone**; **Berliner--Flatow**; **Landshut--Graudenz**; **Klopstock--Driesen**; **Levy--Mrotschen**; **Jacoby--Koerlin**, **Danzig**; **Nagel--Rummelsburg**, **Danzig**; **Moses--Belgard**; **Walter--Neustettin**, **Dramburg**; **Bud--Koeslin**. Also, seeking information about families from Lithuania: **Lipschitz--Novomjesto-Shaki** (**Neustadt**), **Vladyslavof**, **Kudirkos Naumiensis** or **Kollezischken**; **Goldberg--Telsch**.

Keith B. Darrell, 22095-103 Las Brisas Circle, Boca Raton, Florida 33433. **Patitiw** anywhere; **Effros** anywhere; New Jersey: **Danzis**, **Friedman**, **Gelbond**, **Halpern**, **Sternick**; Ohio: **Feldman**, **Gage**, **Katz**, **Newman**, **Seidman**, **Waechter**, **Zipser**; New York: **Berkowitz**, **Brody**, **Feder**, **Fuerstman**; Maryland: **Kellman**, **Lansburgh**, **Nachlas**.

Keith B. Darrell, 22095-103 Las Brisas Circle, Boca Raton, Florida 33433. Any information (maps, photos, resident lists) on the towns of and family in **Berditchev** (**Brody** family), **Volochisk** (**Danzas & Sternick** families).

Sam Elpern, 1 Perry Place, Riverside, Connecticut 06878, (203) 637-7956. **Elpern** anywhere; **Corman** (**Korman**, **Kormanas**), **Buchman**, **Fleisher**, **Hanna**, **Perlman** from Lithuania; **Abramovitz** (**Brahms**, **Braham**), **Brandes**, **Feier**, **Hanick**, **Lustgarten**, **Paltiel** from Rumania or Austria. Call collect.

Sam Elpern, 1 Perry Place, Riverside, Connecticut 06878, (203) 637-7956. Information/families in Lithuanian towns of **Stakliskes** (**Stok-li-shok**), **Jieznas** (**Yez-na**, located between Kovno and Vilna); **Wysoki Dvor** (**Veh-shu-ka-dvor**, located near Vilna); **Bucecea** (**Botosani** Province, Rumania). Call collect.

Jose Gutstein, 11430 SW 103 Street, Miami, Florida 33176, (305) 595-9618. Searching for anyone who studied at

Grodno Yeshiva around 1939, possibly knowing then 13-year old Ephraim **Gutsztejn**, fate unknown. His immediate family lived in Lomza and Radzilow.

Jose Gutstein, 11430 SW 103 Street, Miami, Florida 33176, (305) 595-9618. I wish to contact anyone from or having knowledge of Radzilow, Poland, just northeast of Lomza. Anyone having researched or located vital records from there, wherever situated.

C. L. Jacobs, 33 Ham Farm Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 5NA, England. Isaac **Levi** of Berdichev (c. 1740-1810) Genealogical link sought between him and Moses **Grusmark** (1839-1909) or his wife nee Esther **Kooper** (b. 1841-d. ?) both of Zwanetz.

Bruce E. Kahn, 85 Willowick Drive, Fairport, New York 14450, (716) 425-3430. Seeking information on progenitors and descendants of Joseph (from Mulhouse) and Amelia (nee **Salomon** from Koblenz?) **Ullmann** who were in the international fur business.

Bruce E. Kahn, 85 Willowick Drive, Fairport, New York 14450, (716) 425-3430. Seeking information on progenitors and descendants of Rabbi Joseph **Schlupper** (sp?) Av Bet Din of Slonim. Joseph's daughter Rosalia married Zalman **Kahn** from Riga.

D. A. Kirschner, 41 Cloverdale Road, Newton, Massachusetts 02161, (617) 969-1948. Seeking descendants of/information on great-uncles Abram **Segal** (last known address 63 Plein Street, Johannesburg, R.S.A) and Yisroel **Segal**, sons of Eliezar (d. 1918) and Frayde (d. 1885) **Siegel** of Vaskai (?), Lithuania.

D. A. Kirschner, 41 Cloverdale Road, Newton, Massachusetts 02161, (617) 969-1948. Seeking descendants of/information on great-great-uncle Leib? or Gershon? **Levy** who changed name from **Kirschner** at time of emigrating to Glasgow, Scotland, ca. 1890-1900, from Luknik, Lithuania.

Marilyn Newman, 1186 Windermere Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15218, (412) 242-2303. Information/families in Lithuanian towns of Krok, Vilkii (located in Kovno guberniya) and Rumanian towns of Fogorosh, Turgo Ocna, Moinsht. Call collect.

Anna Olswanger, 177 North Highland #909, Memphis, Tennessee 38111, (901) 327-4341. Seeking information on **Olschwanger** family of Kovno, Lithuania, later of St. Louis, and ancestors of Boris **Schatz** (founder of Bezalel Art Academy, Jerusalem) of Varniai, Lithuania.

Gloria Powers, 951 Sixth Avenue, Sacramento, California 95818, (916) 446-4240. Seeking information on: From Bessarabia, **Stifelmacher** and **Snyderman**; from Kovno or Vilna, **Auchekansky** and **Boiarsky**; from Chernigov or Svenapol, **Gurvich** or **Hurwitz**; from Konela or Dashev, **Poberesky** and **Dashewski**.

Hillary Radovich, 25942 Hitching Rail Road, Laguna Hills, California 92653, (714) 831-9714. Seeking information on any **Yaguda/Yagoda**. Also; **Moses, Roth, Klein** from Halmi/Cidreag Romania, **Musicant** from Chodikoff, Russia.

Morris Roitman, 122 Clifton Avenue, Downsview, Ontario, Canada M3H 4L3, (416) 633-2830. Call collect. Researching genealogy of my mother's family **Morgenstern (stein)** of Novograd & Chorzele, **Tykolsker** of Chorzele, **Shrensker** of Przansnysz, **Rasheka** of Rozhan, **Yeshinowsky** of Augustow and Ostraw Mazowiecka, & **Cohen-Katz** of Tiktin-Tykocin, all of Poland. Last known **Morgenstern** was Yakov Pesach (1798-1842). Youngest son - Abraham Abba, raised (1839-1915) by the Vorker Rebbe. Also researching father's family: **Volovanski (Wolowansky)** and variants thereof from Dashev, Ukraine (originally possibly from White Russia), **Proshaky (Prusak)** of Dashev, Sacherna (Levite) of Dashev area, and **Wernmaker**, Dashev. Seeking information on any Northern Poland/Lithuanian **Morgenstern** (non-Levite) and possible connection to Galicianer **Morgenstern** (esp. Kotsker Rebbe).

Norman Rosenzweig, 1846 North 184th Street, Seattle, Washington 98133. Seeking information on **Rouse, Livingston, Rosenzweig**, Pittsburgh, Pottsville, Pennsylvania, and Newark, New Jersey, area. Originally from Suwalki area, Polish/Russia.

Harold Ross, 71 Bittersweet Lane, Randolph, Massachusetts 02368, (617) 963-7401. Seeking information about **Ross** or **Rose** family of Zhezmer (Ziermariai) Lithuania. Also any information about the town itself.

Naomi Rothschild, 1 Browness Terrace, Englewood, New Jersey 07631, (201) 569-5312. Regina Rothschild arrived Baltimore S.S. Berlin July 16, 1870, with brother Coleman, from Schluchtern, Germany. Any information contact above.

Seymour H. Saltzman, 4 Kirkwood Road, West Hartford, Connecticut 06117, (203) 233-5702. Seeking descendants and collateral lines of the Kobriner rabbi, Moshe **Palyer**, 1784-1858; surname changed by grandson to **Palevsky**, subsequently to **Rabinovitch**. Possible relationships to Jacob, Gershon, Simcha, Moishe, Eliyahu and Yetta **Palevsky** of Kobrin.

Alan Steinfeld, 82 Carthage Road, Scarsdale, New York 10583, (914) 472-3276. Seeking **Pasenger** (and alternate spellings) from area around Smolensk, Russia. Have complete information on descendants of Tonchyn, born circa 1832. Also **Appel** from Zarnow, Poland.

Roderick Young, 75 Perry Street, Apt. 3A, New York, New York 10014, (212) 645-9134. Seeking any information about families from anywhere called **Bebro** or **Bibro** (my branch arrived London 1833, origin unknown); **Siegenberg** (my branch arrived London before 1817, origin unknown); **Metzenberg** (my branch arrived Dublin 1840 from Lissa, Prussia).

Index to the First Six Volumes of AVOTAYNU

Below is an index to articles that have appeared in the first six volumes (1985-1990) of AVOTAYNU. Only major articles are shown. Not shown is the U.S. Update column, which is a digest of articles that appeared in publications of the Jewish Genealogical Societies. The articles in Volume III, Number 4 and many in Volumes IV, V and VI Number 4 were human interest features and therefore are not part of the index. Each entry shows a description of the article followed by the Volume/Number/Page. Back issues can be purchased for \$6 (\$7 overseas) from Avotaynu, Inc., PO Box 1134, 1485 Teaneck Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666. The complete set of 21 issues is \$90. Note: Many earlier back issues are available in photocopy version only.

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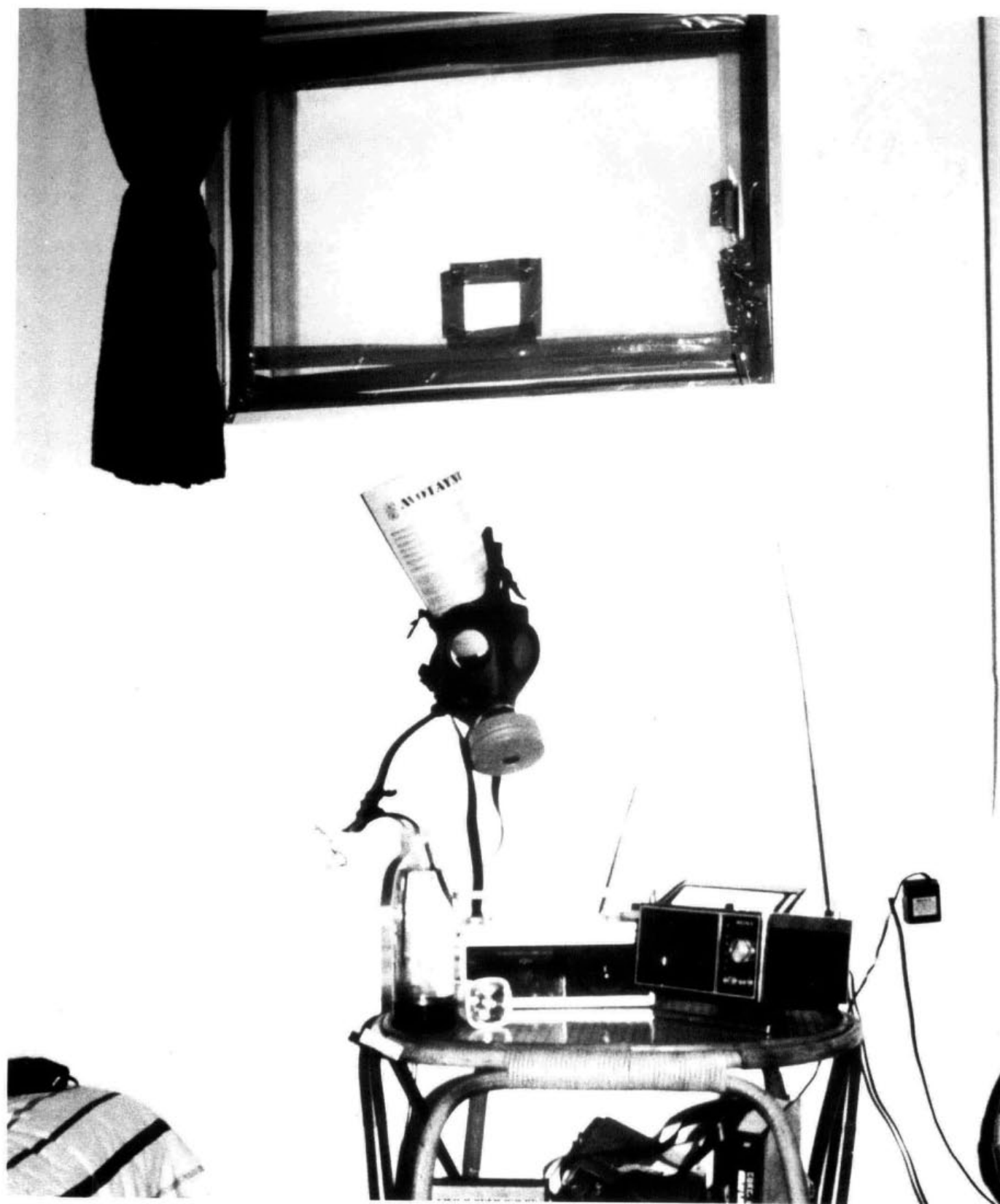
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The picture above, sent to us by Chava Agmon of Tel Aviv, shows how one Israeli genealogist coped with SCUD missile attacks during the recent Gulf war. Essential items for survival included, from top to bottom, taped window, copy of AVOTAYNU, gas mask, bottled water and two portable radios. Agmon noted a passage from the Passover Haggadah which states "In every generation, some have arisen against us to annihilate us, but the Most Holy, blessed be He, always delivered us out of their hands."