# Typewritten Copy of Jacob's Letters (without corrections)

# **Journey to America**

## Circa 1960's

My Father left to the USA in 1906. I was 2 years young. My Mother ad (sic) my 2 sisters and me came to the USA 1920 to Philadelphia after my Father came to NY to claim us from Ellis Island. They exmined (sic) us They shaved my head,...But I had 3 fractured skulls, a broken nose when I got a cold I bled profusely. So they operated. I fainted 5 times. Each time he gave me a little whiskey. He told me I love that stuff.

In Europe 1916-17 I had 2 typhoids light-heavy. The Russian was lucket/ph light supnoy (heavy alot fever).

In 1914 they burned our house. We went to my grandmother she had no room for us because she had a daughter with 3 children. We traveled with nothing to carry. After 3 cities we settled in the Ukraine where we got a room 8x8 and a lime oven. My mother was given a bed. My sisters received a frame with a board and a thin straw mattress. I slept on the other end of the bed.until I was 13. Then they gave us 2 chairs which bottoms fell out so we borrowed anothe (sic) chair to put on the other side I shouldn't fall out. My Mother told me not to turn over as the bottom falls out and she wakes up.

How did we reduce the fever with no Doctor and no ice. My Mother and neighbor told my 2 sisters each one you take a sheet to go to the little stream and dip in the stream to wrap me in the sheets, one went and the other came back. Meanwhile I threw everything I could get a hold of on them until my feverr went down. What did I eat after (mamaliga). Corn mush and a little oil and scraped in a little garlic.

We settled in Kamenka Podolski Guberni. We settled here from 1914-1919 until we settled here after we passed through 3 other cities with too many refugees. Hotin Molee Ananeef. 3 armies passed through here took cattle meat and robbed stores raped whatever they left they pour poured (sic) kerosene. Wherever they slept they took all mattresses and sheets outside the city and put kerosene and made a big fire. General Deniken was leading the officers army and General Pettura was leading the regular soldiers. This man raped one girl and her brother pursued him to Paris and shot him in the center of the city. He was tried and acquitted. His name was Schwartzwold.

My mother besides her Mother she also called her Grandmother Mother too. The following will explain why.

Frimi and Jacob the Narinuour well to do a dealer in cattle. They had 2 daughters and one of them was about the get married at 18 passed away all of a sudden. The parents went into shock. They began to worry about their other daughter, Tamli (?) and friends told them to go and see a Rabbi and ask for advice. They went to see the famous Sudagerer Rabbi...

The Rabbi told them to marry of (sic) their daughter RIGHT away even if she is only 14. They found a 21 year old Rabbi from Borchov Poland his name was JOSHUA KROHN RABBINAR he called himself. One year later my Mother was born and they divorced. He wanted to live in Poland and she wanted in Russia. My Mother till she was 13 from about 5 years she spent half time with her Father and Mother. When she reached the age of 13 JACOB her Father passed away Her Grandmother you can't travel no more from Russia to Poland as you a lady so come live with me. Her Grandmother love her and so to that she gets married and then she fulfill to go to Israel and die their (sic) in Jerusalem. She corresponded with us until she passed way. That's the reason my Mother called her Mother. My Mother used to tell us that she had 2 MOTHERS.

In 1914 I was 10 years. The first world war started. The KOZAKS and the Infantry gathered in the wheatfield and cornfields facing the road to our Grandma about 15 0r 20 miles away. Including they burned the village and robbed and raped where they could. Mother was afraid of the 2 girls age 13 15 she begged a neighbor a Jewish soldier to take us thru th road. When we came to our Grnadmother I asked my Mother why she always said that my face is dirty. But look at the girls faces now. My Mother said I purposely put chimney soot on their faces they should look ugly so the KOZAKS wouldn't grab them.

# Genealogy

## (Omitting personal text)

25-11-1988

Dear Harriet - Harvey and Grandchildren

My Mother's Grandmother went to Israel Jerusalem between 1910-12. I am not sure her name was FRIMMI her husbands name was YANKEL DER NARINUAR. I am named after him. I don't know whether it is a last name or a city where he came from. Her husband died in Chotin. Pres Nixon had a lawyer on his staff when he was running for President his name was Chotiner. Which means his father was born in Chotin. I was born in Bukovina. The village name KLISHCOVITZ. In this village one family took KLISH as their last name. SADOVNICK means FIELD OF PRUNES and dried then through smoker special ovens in this village. Several SADOVNICKS. Two of my fathers 5 sisters married SADOVNICKS. No immediate relation. I know there is alot of SADOWNICKS in Texas and alot of SADOFFS in Minneapolis.

Now I will tell you about YANKEL and FRIMMI NARINUER. They had before my mother was born 2 daughters. One was 18 years old. She died a couple of days before her wedding. It was a terrible shock. So they went to a famous Rabbi they called him the SODIGERER REBBI. The

Rabbi asked them if they have any more children, yes they said we have a 14 year old daughter. The Rabbi told them to marry her of. This Yankil which is Jewish for Jacob was very well of in cattle so he looked for a husband for his 14 year old daughter. They found a 21 year old just finished for Rabbi. He came from Poland near the German border. A year later my Mother was born and they divorced because my Grandmother wanted to live in Borshiv. The dowry was 1000 rubles. That was a lot of money that time because my Father received 150 rubles. I thought I would mention. Whatever you want to about the other things it's up to you.

# 1936 Olympics

## (Omitting personal text)

Dear Harriet-Harvey and Girls

Tell Ruthie I was a very good runner the union (ILGWU) wanted to make a little OLYMPIC whent he Olympics was given to Nazi Germany. They picked me as one of the 100 DASH runners, but it didn't work out because the (sic) was not enough support. The one I beat in the trials collapsed ¾ of the way. I thought he was to fat. I also used to run in Europe for a different reason one of them in the following as a refugee alot of kids and me went bathing in the Dniester. We had to past by to the there peasant kids and they throw rocks at us so I used to remain in behind to protect them but the rocks were faster than my running the results was I got three fractured skulls eo in the back on the same shot? and one in FRONT above my forehead. I was laying there unconscious bleeding and the Jewish kids ran away but I was told later the peasants kids got scared. They called a Jewish woman who was vacationing there she took me in the house and she put black bread on my head and let me go but I don't remember the woman or the house she stayed in. The front fracture goes like this a Jewsih took my head and trow (sic) it on a tree so I took rockas and trow (sic) them to get it down and I looked up one rock came down on my. I ran home bleeding over my face and my mother put black bread of the fracture she gave soup and I couldn't have it because the blood was going into my soup.

Love to all, Zaida

## 1991 Letter

(Omitting personal text)

May 28 1991

Dear Harriet:

P.S.

HERSHEL BEN MENDEL
WHEN CALLED TO THE TORAH
JACOB BEN TSVEE

MY MOTHER

FRIEDA BAT CHANA AND JOSHUA
MY GRANDMOTHER
CHANA BAT FRIMI-JACOB

# **Early Years**

## Circa 1990's

Dear Folks

I received your letter and will give you all the information you asked for. I was born in KLISHKOVITZ about 350 families lived in about 20 minutes (miles?) from where my Grandmother lived. The town's name is HOTIN. It on the map its Bessarabia then the Cosacs came to our village in 1914. The (sic) burned our 2 old dilapidated houses and we went to our Grandma but she had another daughter living with her and 3 children so we became refugees and went from town to town, until we were approximately 1000 miles away from where we lived after 6 or 9 months traveling we settled in the UKRAINE where we lived in poverty for 5 years the name of the was KAMINKA. We only ate corn mush no bread for 4 years. While people were being killed every day POGROMS. I had twice TYPHOID FEVER. There was no doctor. MY 2 sisters took sheets to the steam and wrap me in the cold sheets until my fever went down with no ICE no medicine a broken nose and suffering from malnutrition when I came to the U.S.

They had to stretch my stomach to hold some food. I can write a book as large as the tel book.

## **Names**

## (Omitting personal text)

Dear Harriet and family

My Father's name was HERSHEL. My mother's name was FRIEDA. My Grandmother's name was CHANAH. My older sister's name was PAULINE. My Grandmother was very religious. She use to fast Monday and Thursday. She was beautiful.