



The Optimists

Rachamim Comforty and his "two wives." His first wife was Rosa (left). Her sister, Rachelle (right), became his second wife when Rosa died.

Dupnitza, Bulgaria; 1920



The Optimists

The Comfortys, minus one.

Jacky Comforty's paternal grandfather and his family just before they were to be deported to concentration camps: Rachelle, Mimi, Aaron, and Rachamim Comforty. At home in Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

Not in picture: Bitush, Jacky's father, who was interned in a forced labor camp.

Note Jewish star on Rachamim.
March, 1943.



The Optimists

Mother and child: Thracian Jews deported through Bulgaria in March, 1943.

They and all those deported with them were murdered shortly after this picture was taken.

Copyright © 2003 by Jacky and Lisa Comforty.
All rights reserved.



The Optimists

Sisters: Jacky Comforty's mother, Ika, and her sister, Vicki.

The sun is reflecting off Ika's Jewish star.

Photo taken after they and other Sofia Jews were exiled to the provinces.

Pleven, Bulgaria; 1943.



The Optimists

Jewish wedding party, circa early 1920's.

Jacky Comforty's grandfather, Rachamim Comforty, is the third on the right.

Rachelle Beracha Comforty is seated at the far end.

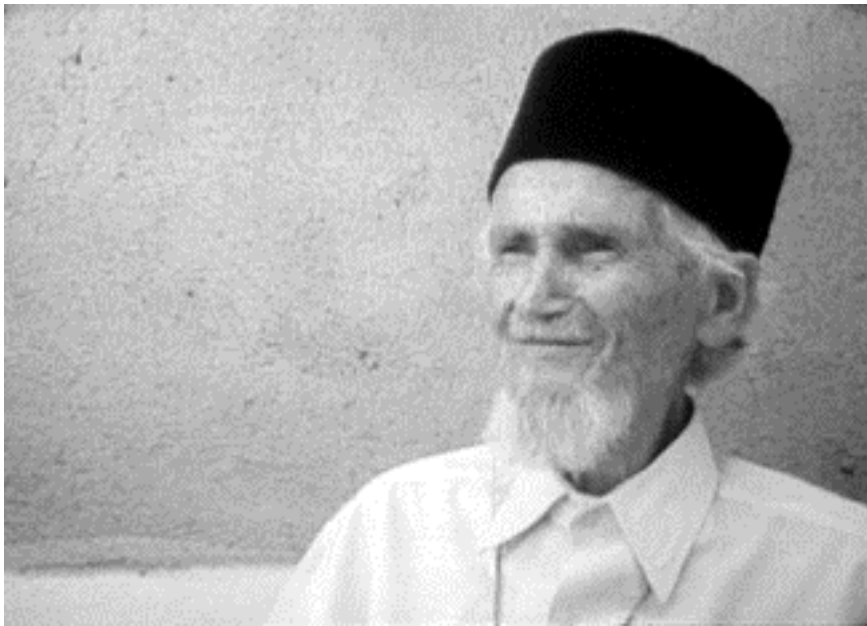


The Optimists

Jewish laborers in a Bulgarian forced labor camp near Greek border. 1942.

Jacky Comforty's father is first on the right.

Copyright © 2003 by Jacky and Lisa Comforty.
All rights reserved.



The Optimists

Bishop Boris Kharalampiev,

Bishop of Pazardjik, Bulgaria, who helped stop the deportations of Jews from his city in 1943.



The Optimists

The Optimists in concert, Sofia, 1940.

Niko Nissimov, first from Right.



The Optimists

Rubin Dimitrov, Baker, Bulgaria

Mr. Dimitrov hid Jews in the ovens of his bakery during a police raid in Sofia, in May 24 1943,

Mr. Dimitrov is one of 15 Bulgarians recognized by Yad Vashem as "Righteous Among the Nations."