

EDITOR'S NOTE

Since this book was dictated by its author, and since the published Hebrew text has no vowels, it was necessary to track down the precise spelling of various places and names. Place names and Polish names are spelled in their Polish orthography; Yiddish and Hebrew names are transcribed phonetically or as they are most commonly written; German names are spelled in German. Often, people spelled their names differently in the different languages, but I tried to keep one consistent spelling for each name.

About one-fifth of the footnotes come from the Hebrew edition. I have added the rest to provide the American reader with necessary information and occasionally with variant accounts of events found in other sources (listed in the References).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Such an enormous project necessarily involves the cooperation of several people. From the beginning, Yudke Helman of Kibbutz Gvat has shown steadfast devotion to this English edition, often from a hospital bed or a wheelchair. Yehiel Yanai of Kibbutz Ma'agan Michael took a great deal of time and effort going over the text and making excellent editorial recommendations. Stanley Holwitz, my indomitable editor at the University of California Press was, as always, more than helpful and patient. Paula Cizmar did an intelligent and sensitive job of editing. Yitzhak Mais of Yad Vashem and Nava Schreiber helped with pictures.

Funding for this project was provided by the indefatigable and loving efforts of Bernard and Shelly Tenzer. Many thanks to Congregation Anshe Chesed of Manhattan which administered the fund-raising endeavor.

Most of all, thanks to my husband, Benjamin Harshav, who makes everything possible.

Barbara Harshav