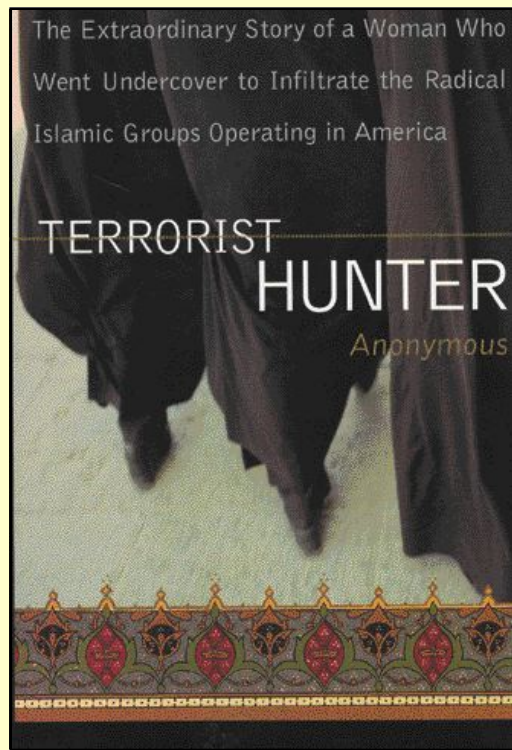


TERRORIST HUNTER

RITA KATZ

Founding Director of the SITE Institute and Author of Terrorist Hunter: The Extraordinary Story of a Woman Who Went Undercover to Infiltrate the Radical Islamic Groups Operating in America (HarperCollins) www.siteinstitute.org



Photos by: Nurit Kahane-Haase



Marla Helene, Michele Herbert, Shula Bahat, Rita Katz, Nurit Kahane-Haase

Evelyn Sommer, Maya Cohen, and Shula Bahat



The Women's International Zionist Organization (WIZO) hosted a cocktail reception at the home of Nurit and Werner Haase to meet guest speaker Rita Katz author of the book "Terrorist Hunter" Email:wizo@wizony.com

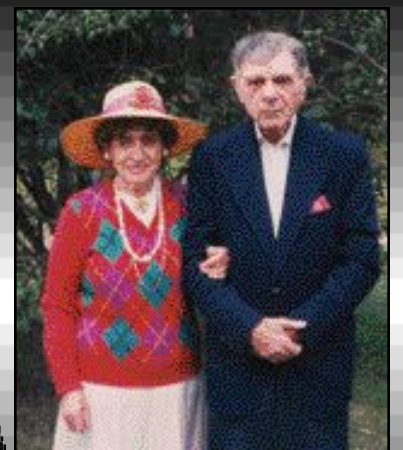


Maya Cohen, Rachel Rodin and Mira Sofer

On Burning Ground



By Michael Skakun



mskakun@msn.com

Rarely, if ever, have I encountered a wartime story of such singular courage, stamina and inspiration as that of my own father. He recounted his incredible tale of survival to me throughout my youth with such dramatic insistence that I felt morally compelled to tell it in *On Burning Ground: A Son's Memoir* (St. Martin's Press).

This is the true life story of a Polish rabbinical student—a yeshiva boy at one of interwar Europe's elite Talmudical academies—who transforms himself during World War II first into a Christian, then into a Muslim and finally into a Nazi-SS recruit in order to survive. Step by harrowing step, I follow the trail of blood and conflagration that leads him to these desperate measures

and thus trace an odyssey that the reader to the outer limits of possibility.

On Burning Ground is a riveting, gut-wrenching, cinematically, compelling tale of survival under the most extreme condition. Over the years it has become by inheritance my own story through its dramatic narration hopefully that of every sensitized individual. I have discovered in the life of Joseph Skakun, my father, not only an infernal journey to the end of night but a story of improbable transcendence, of inspiration for all times and for all peoples. I have learned how he fled a tide of mass murder and how for nearly three years, he masked his Jewishness by devising a series of assumed identities, each increasingly perilous and complex, culminat-

ing in the ultimate horror-entry into the Nazi SS. He taught me what visceral danger and spiraling suspense mean, how one lonely, terrified but relentlessly intelligent man, outwitted his destiny.

The *Washington Post* wrote that *On Burning Ground* is "The Tale of a Holocaust Houdini." Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel said "This is a story that must be told." Arthur Miller, the American playwright, spoke of the driving and compelling nature of this incredible narrative. Others have compared the life of Joseph Skakun to a "drama of biblical breadth and Dostoyeskiian depth, a latter-day hero's battle for life against incalculable odds.

www.onburningground.com

