

Grosman, Haika

SHOAH Resource Center

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(1919--1993), Partisan and underground activist in Bialystok.

Born in Bialystok, Grosman became an active member of the Zionist *Ha-Shomer ha-Tsa'ir* youth movement. When World War II broke out in September 1939, Grosman moved to Vilna, Lithuania, an area that had not yet been overrun by the Nazis. In Vilna, Grosman helped recruit and unite members of the city's pioneering Zionist youth movements.

In June 1941 Germany invaded the Soviet Union and Grosman returned to Bialystok, where she helped organize an underground movement. Along with five other young women who posed as Poles—Liza Czapnik, Marila Ruziecka, Hasya Belicka (Borenstein), Bronka Winicki (Klibanski), and Ana Rud—she carried messages to various ghettos and helped the Jewish underground and the partisans who were then setting up bases around Bialystok. Grosman then became a member of a Jewish partisan unit, and in August 1943 she took part in the Bialystok Ghetto uprising.

After the region's liberation, Grosman worked as the representative of *Ha-Shomer ha-Tsa'ir.* In 1948 she immigrated to Israel, where she joined Kibbutz Evron. She served in Israel's parliament (*Knesset*) from 1969 to 1981 and from 1984 to 1993. Her book, *The Underground Army,* was published in 1988.