

New Exhibition Highlights Untold Stories of Jewish Soldiers in the Red Army

January 27, 2025 – December 31, 2025

Great Hall / Center for Jewish History

15 W 16th St, New York, NY 10011

New York, NY — On January 27th, the Blavatnik Archive's exhibition, [*Jewish Fighters in the Red Army: 1941-1945*](#), will open to the public in the Center for Jewish History. Situated in the Center's Great Hall, the exhibition will run until December 31, 2025.

The exhibit is comprised of striking war-time portraits of Jewish veterans who fought in the Soviet army in World War II, and a rare selection from soldiers' personal diaries.

Recognizing that the stories of Jewish soldiers were mostly left out of the more familiar narratives about the Jewish experience of the war and the Holocaust, the Blavatnik Archive began to record and share their testimonies. Between 2006 and 2014, the Archive visited nearly 1,200 veterans in 78 cities across 11 countries, recorded over 1,500 hours of video interviews, and digitized more than 11,700 artifacts, including photographs, letters, and diaries. In community centers and in private homes, the veterans shared their wartime memories, childhood stories, and postwar life experiences.

Speaking to the Archive's staff decades after the war, these remarkable men and women recalled their service with a mix of sorrow for the family members, friends, and comrades lost in the war and pride for their contribution to the fight against Nazi Germany.

The exhibition underscores the Blavatnik Archive's commitment to ensuring these stories are remembered as an integral part of modern Jewish history and to honoring the vital role these individuals played in resisting fascism.

Director of the Blavatnik Archive, Julie Chervinsky, comments on the exhibition:

"This exhibit offers a window into the testimonies and artifacts collected by the Archive from veterans. When they spoke to us, they were transported to a time long ago, to the days of their youth, recalling some moments that were devastating, some miraculous, and others full of joy. Without exception, each veteran was deeply grateful that someone cared and came to listen."

About the Blavatnik Archive

The Blavatnik Archive is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to preserving and disseminating materials that contribute to the study of 20th-century world history, with a special focus on Jewish culture, World Wars I and II, and Soviet history. The Archive was founded in 2005 by the businessman and philanthropist [Len Blavatnik](#) to reflect his commitment to cultural heritage and expand his support for primary source-based scholarship and education.

<https://www.blavatnikarchive.org/>

About the Center for Jewish History

The Center for Jewish History in New York City illuminates history, culture, and heritage. The Center provides a collaborative home for five partner organizations: American Jewish Historical Society, American Sephardi Federation, Leo Baeck Institute, Yeshiva University Museum, and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research.

<https://www.cjh.org/>

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