Grant Gochin is a Litvak who has been researching his family history for the past 30 years. Professionally, he is a Certified Financial Planner and a Wealth Advisor in Encino. He also serves as the Honorary Consul for the Republic of Togo, and as Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles Consular Corps. He is married with one son.
A Genealogical Journey to Heritage Citizenship  
Reclaiming Historical Rights  
L’Dor V’Dor – the gift of generations  

Presented by: Grant Arthur Gochin  

TIMELINE

1837  Faive born  
11/13/1866  Avram born  
1/20/1874  Chaie born  
2/15/1902  Sam born

1913  FAMILY PHOTOGRAPH (see photo right)

7/28/1914  WW1 begins

02/1915  Sam’s Bar Mitzvah
5/4/1915  Jews deported from Papile
1917  Sam abducted into the Byelorussian military

2/16/1918  Lithuania declared independent

7/12/1920  Soviet-Lithuanian Peace Treaty signed
10/20/1921  Mones returns from deportation
12/21/1921  Papile Jewish Community issues replacement birth records
12/26/1921  Faive Gochin applies for permission for the return of the family.

2/5/1922  Jakob Scala dies of TB
2/9/1922  Avram dies of starvation
2/9/1922  Edel dies of starvation

2/28/1922  Council of Papile gives testimony
3/28/1922  Lithuanian Department of Citizen’s Security issues denial

4/4/1922  Gershon Ioffe and both children die of starvation
4/13/1922  Freyda dies of pneumonia
4/18/1922  Denial issued to Faiva
6/6/1922  Tsipa dies of typhoid

9/27/1922  Chaie crosses into Lithuania
1923  Sam returns to Lithuania
4/10/1923  Internal passport issued to Chaie

1924  Independent Lithuanian Army begins operation
1924  Sam conscripted into Lithuanian Army (see photo right)
6/6/1924         Sam admitted to military hospital
11/5/1924  Sam & Esther issued Lithuanian internal passports
1925           Sam released from Lithuanian military service
1/15/1926    Sam re-issued internal passport
02/1926       Sam departs for South Africa

3/22/1926     Faiva dies

3/25/1926    Sam arrives in Port Elizabeth, South Africa
12/26/1929   Sam is married

04/1930       Chaie and Esther arrive in South Africa
7/28/1931    Sam is naturalized as a South African Citizen.

6/13/1933    Harold Born

6/23/1941 – 8/5/1941 Lithuanian Activist Front Governs Lithuania
07/1941       Jews of Papile moved into ghettos
8/22/1941     Noreika signs orders
10/2/1941     Most Jews of Papile are murdered.
1843          Mones and his family are murdered

5/22/1949     Chaie dies

11/2/1963     Grant born

6/2/1984      Sam dies

3/11/1990     Lithuania re-gains Independence
12/31/2004    Grant applies for Lithuanian citizenship
6/18/2007     Citizenship denied
2/25/2008     First Court decision
9/18/2008     Second Court decision
6/22/2009     Grant applied for “Right of Retention”
1/21/2010     Right of Retention denied
9/23/2010     Third Court decision
6/22/2011     Restitution is settled
7/21/2011     Fourth Case – Lithuania’s Supreme Administrative Court rules
10/26/2011    Right of retention issued
2010          School named in honor of Noreika
05/2012      LAF Prime Minister Brazaitis re-buried with State Honors in Lithuania
Father to son:

Faiva

↓

Avram (married Chaie)

↓

Sam (siblings were: Freyda, Dora, Tsipa, Edel, Jack & Esther)

↓

Harold

↓

Grant

Links to Data:

1. Dual Citizenship in Europe: http://ggochin.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/part-2.pdf
2. Timeline: http://ggochin.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/timeline-handout.pdf
5. Legendary Heroes of Africa stamps: http://www.legendaryheroesofafrica.com/
What happened to the Jews of Papile?

http://www.holocaustatlas.lt/EN/#a_atlas/search/bendri=Papile.vietove=.aukos=.from_year=0.from_month=0.from_day=.to_year=0.to_month=0.to_day=.killers=/page/1/item/106/

Mass Murder of Jews from the Šiauliai region in Žagarė

About massacre

“In late July, 1941, the activists made a list of Jews who stayed in Žagarė and began to transfer them to the ghetto. The Jews who lived in nearby shtetls were also moved to the ghetto of Žagarė. The area chosen for the ghetto adjoined the market place and included Daukanto, Vilniaus, Malūno, Pakalnio and Gedimino streets. Non-Jewish residents of these streets were moved to other neighborhoods. On August 22 chief of the Šiauliai region Jonas Noreika informed local authorities and mayors of smaller towns of the Šiauliai region that according to the order of the Šiauliai Gebietskommissar all the region’s Jews and half-Jews were obliged to move to Žagarė by August 29. The transfer began with Jews from Šiauliai, Joniškis, Kuršėnai, Žeimelis and other localities. On August 25 the mayor of Žagarė informed the regional chief of Šiauliai that the ghetto occupied an area of 12,135 square meters and had a population of 715 Jews.

“By August 29, 949 Jews from other localities in the Šiauliai region had been moved to Žagarė: from Tryškiai women and children; Šiaulėnai 60–70 families; Šaukėnai women and children; Radviliškis women and children; Pašvintynys 70 people; Papilė women and children; Kuršėnai a few hundred (about 50 carriages with women, children and old people); Gruzdžiai women, children and old people; and from Joniškis 150 people. On September 20, 5,566 people (2,402 Jews and 3,164 non-Jews) resided in Žagarė.

“In the last days of September 1941, several local ethnic Lithuanians were marched to the town park (formerly Count Naryshkin’s Park) where they were forced to dig a ditch in the shape of an L (120 meters long, 2 to 3 meters wide and 2 meters deep). On the morning of October 2, Jews from the Žagarė ghetto were ordered to gather in the market square. Commandant Mannteuffel addressed the crowd in German, assuring them that they would all be given work to do. The Jewish men, women, children and elderly people had to form separate lines. When the German whistle, white armbandlers and policemen from Žagarė and other towns began to surround the square. Panic arose among the
Jews and some tried to escape. The armbanders shot into the crowd and beat them. Scores of killed and wounded people were left on the square. The survivors were forced to lie down on the ground where they had to stay until several trucks arrived. Jews were then transported to Naryshkin Park. “Money, jewelry and other valuables were seized from the Jews as they marched to the murder site. At the ditch the victims had to remove everything except their underwear before they were forced to lie down in the pit and were shot. The executioners were self-defense unit from Šiauliai, led by lieutenant R. Kološka, and white armbanders from Linkuva. The Žagarė white armbanders guarded the ghetto and led the victims to their deaths. Several German SS men who had arrived from Šiauliai supervised the killings and also participated in them.

“The mass murder continued until very late at night. On the following day another group of Jews who had been discovered and seized were brought to the park and murdered in the same ditch. “The report issued by German Security Police Chief and the SD in Lithuania SS-Standartenführer Karl Jäger stated that on October 2, 1941, 2,236 Jews (663 men, 1,107 women and 496 children) were killed in Žagarė. During the panic which arose at the market square before the executions, 150 Jews were killed and seven white armbanders who guarded them were wounded. The Soviet special commission, who examined the mass grave in 1944 found 2,402 corpses (530 men, 1,223 women, 625 children and 24 infants).”

Address: Žagarė town, Kęstučio g. street, Joniškis district
Victim number: 2236-2402

Honors given to Noreika
http://atminimas.kvb.lt/asmenvardis.php?asm=GENEROLAS%20V%C4%81TRA,%20tikrasis%20vardas%20%96%20kpt.%20Jonas%20Noreika

In 2010 the primary school in Šukoniai in the Pakruojis region was named for him.
Library of the Academy of Sciences in Vilnius has a plaque installed for him in the front of the building.
A symbolic grave and a statue to him were set up in the Antakalnis Cemetery in Vilnius right next to the memorial to the victims of January 13th 1991.
In Kaunas, there is a street named for him: Generolo Vėtros gatvė