

# Franciszek Tagori



This is a page of an Israeli newspaper, 'Ha-Mefaked' which means 'a commander?'. This is an issue published in 1954. On the photo you can see my cousin, his name was Franciszek Bortner, but after World War II he changed his last name to Tagori. These are interesting things how people's fates become twisted. Franciszek took part in the battle for Haifa. He sent the article to me, it is in Hebrew, of course, so I can't read it. It's a story about his heroic deeds. This is my father's side of the family. My grandmother was called Sara Perelmut. Her maiden name was Bortner. One part of the Bortner family lived in Warsaw and the second part in Lodz. One of these Bortner cousins from Warsaw was in the Red Army, he fought in the Stalingrad battle; he later returned home to Poland as an officer. He changed his last name to Tagori. He was a lieutenant colonel and got married in Lublin to a Polish woman, Zosia, a very pretty girl. In 1948 he left for Israel with his wife, as part of

Haganah, 'the fight for Israel.' They later left Israel and broke up. He went to Paris. Although he was a musician, a saxophonist, a composer, in the military, there he switched to construction work, renovations, because that was very profitable. And he made it. He bought a castle near Nice and the title of baron. He married a French woman, Denise. They had two children. But he's dead by now.