



Interviewed: Adele (née Golombek) and Alan Farber

Oral History Clip Title: Maybe Canada?

Theme: Leaving

Interviewer: Lisa Newman

Date: 13 Apr. 2016

Oral History Number: AC 428

(Alan)

I think our dream, certainly my dream, was to go to the U.S. Just to answer a question that you'd asked "what were our choices?" I think to fill that out a little bit, as Adele said, Australia was sort of not on earth for South Africans at that time. Israel was an option, but I really didn't know Hebrew and my parents in-law had come back. My dad in-law, being a very competent guy and saying it's impossible to get off the ground or make a living, and make a go of it. Israel was a very, very tough place then and I chickened out of that. I didn't want that kind of existence and I wasn't that attached to Israel back then as I am now, which I am hugely attached. England at the time was under the Labour government and they were having trade problems and it looked like they were going to have years and years and years of trouble so we counted that out. And yeah, America was the golden opportunity so, I wanted to go there. They wouldn't even give me an application form at the U.S. embassy in Johannesburg, did not want chartered accountants, full stop. I walked out of the embassy saying, I've never been rejected in my life before. Not even give me an application form. They did quite politely. So we said well, maybe Canada, we'll go to Canada and we'll...It has got to be easier to get into the States from Canada, you know. Here we are and we love it. It's an incredible country.

OJASALP.ORG



OJASALP.ORG

