

## A. Kornecki <sup>1911</sup> - In Memoriam



Professor Alexander Kornecki - member of the Editorial Board of Archives of Solid Mechanics - passed away on September 12, 1985 while on a visit to the University of California at Berkeley.

Born in Poland (1920), Alexander Kornecki (Weissblum) had to flee that country owing to the war and German occupation of 1939-45. He spent those years in Russia, studying mechanics and mathematics at Leningrad University and graduated in 1946 with an M.A. degree in Mechanics of Fluids and the Theory of Elasticity. Back in Poland the same year, he took up the field of aircraft structures, and at the same time extended his engineering education (majoring in aircraft design) at the Warsaw Polytechnic Institute, where he graduated with a B.Sc. degree in 1951. The theme of his work for the Ph.D., which he completed in 1955, was the theory of thin elastic shells. In this context he was particularly attracted by toroidal shells, because of their peculiar behavior and the attendant analytical difficulties. Other interests at that time were cylinders with boundaries not coincident with the principal curvature (such as oblique cross-sections), cylinders with circular holes, etc.

In 1957 he immigrated to Israel with his wife Victoria and son Alexander, and joined the staff of the Faculty of Aeronautical Engineering at the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, in Haifa. Here he was assigned the field of aeroelasticity - an interdisciplinary science concerned with the mechanics of solids and fluids plus dynamic stability of non-conservative systems. Under these circumstances his interests became more versatile, and besides dynamic stability and vibration of elastic shells and plates - including thermal effects - he also studied systematically