

**RG-50.031.0033**

Margot Weisz Kirsch b. Vasarosnameny, Hungary Jan 3, 1923, discusses mother & father (watchmaker-jeweler) who spent time in Cuba; Margot recalls grandfather's enormous generosity; as oldest sibling, Margot becomes second mother figure to 3 younger brothers, story of favorite brother Isser; public school (6 grades), "being religious, not sent to higher grades"; shares memories of Jewish holidays; experiencing anti-Semitism; discussion on extended family, most killed in Holocaust; 1943 (20 yrs. old), recalls German's Anti-Jewish decrees, yellow armbands, uncle reports, "Jews having to leave homes & taken away", father & uncle divide their money; family spends 6 wks. in ghetto then shipped, 2-3 day train "It was primitive."; arrival to Auschwitz & family split up; Margot's lingering trauma in not having looked back to her mother "I didn't want her to see me cry."; heard rumor that her father had been shot over a cigarette; being shaved, given uniform, wooden clogs, "1000 in barracks...people sleeping on top of each other, if one person turned, everyone had to turn."; 6 mos. in Auschwitz, 1000 forced to give blood (some women up to 3 pints), assigned no job, "just standing for roll call and lying in bed."; recalls cries of Czechs in nearby barrack as being taken away; "They were drugging us (bromide) in food - we slept."; woman getting electrocuted on fencing; brother survived, "He came and got me"; recalls woman wishing, "to be taken to crematory, to never be cold again."; Fall 1944, shipped to Torgau ammunition slave labor camp; air raids; "bed bugs - but everyone had their own bunker"; threats of "shooting us all"; liberation "Americans came, then Russians came...Russians raping three women...woman who was a doctor, made herself leader, and walked us into American zone."; returning home, "Nobody was alive."; brother learning Margot was alive - their happy reunification in Budapest; meeting husband (survivor); worst part was "Nobody came back."; believes Holocaust could happen again.