

**Time-coded Notes for Oral history Interview with Rachael Frydman
May 19, 1987**

Tape I

1:00:27

Rachael Frydman was born in Poland in a village called Karine (ph). Her maiden name is Alporovich (ph).

1:01:00

Her town was so small that there was no ghetto. In June 1941 the Germans came in abruptly. Her sister left with a neighbor. The neighbor asked Rachel's mother to look after the house. They did not it would take so many years.

1:01:40

Rachael wanted to go to Russia but her mother said that it was too late to go and they must wait for her brother to return from school. There was no full government established yet, only the army was present. A Gestapo was established in Dilinka (ph) just 7 kilometers away.

1:01:56

Once the Gestapo came, gold and silver was demanded from everyone via the Jewish Committee. Next they checked everybody by age. Age 16 and up were taken away. Rachael was made to work.

1:03:45

Just before the high holidays approximately 50 men and a few women including neighbors across the street and 2 cousins were slaughtered in the streets. One man escaped.

1:04:20

There were some bad men-especially a man named Sharongovich (ph). He slaughtered 2 families.

1:04:43

Vadayca (ph) was a bigger town nearby.

1:05:50

Four days before Passover a lot of people were missing from the town including two more of Rachael's cousins.

1:06:05

Rachael's mother worked as a cleaning lady for a man in charge of a sawmill. The Germans needed some kind of wood. One day when her mother was sick Rachael went to the house. The man requested her continued services, so Rachael kept working there.

1:07:40

Near the railroad were wooded areas where Jews ran away. Workers were ordered to clean it up.

1:10:05

Three days before the high holiday was the day of liquidation. A neighbor tried to run to Pukine (ph) but was shot.

1:11:44

Rachael, her mother, her brother, an orphan boy, a neighbor's wife and daughter all hid in a false attic which her brother had built previously. They could see everything through holes in the walls. Other neighbors were found and taken. Later in the day the air was hot and they could smell that the others had been shot.

Tape 2

2:02:08

A Gentile woman from next door had been good friends with Rachael's family. After looking at the pile of dead she told the Germans that Rachael's mother and children were not there and they must be hiding somewhere. She told the Germans to check the attic.

2:03:48

A family down the street committed suicide by starting a fire. The Germans put it out to prevent spreading. They had not finished collecting goods from the empty houses.

2:06:15

They snuck out of the attic in pairs and met at the outskirts of town to go to the next village. The lady with Rachael's mother got her dress caught on a wire fence. The Germans began shooting. Everyone ran and met in a wooded area. Rachael and her mother did not find Rachael's brother. They thought he had been shot.

2:08:13

They tried to survive in the woods. They met up with the man who had escaped the first laughter of 50 men (described earlier). He led them to a large dark forest.

2:11:00

They tried to move to the Russian front but moved back into the forest. They lived in a hole in the ground with a total of 18 people. There was snow on the ground about 1/2 meter high. One day Rachael's mother went to town with another lady. They were caught by 6 Ukrainians and 1 German.

Tape 3

3:02:12

The forest was divided by numbers. Each village had a part of the forest. Now living in the hole were 16 people. The hole was called a bunker (ph).

3:05:00

Rachael allowed 6 men who had run from a concentration camp to come into the hole. The men prayed in the morning. It was strange to Rachael because they were already like animals in the

forest.

3:05:14

April 29, 1943-The Germans surrounded Rachael's area of the forest.

3:06:13

Rachael had seconds to leave the hole. The Germans threw a grenade into the hole.

3:07:33

Everyone ran. The Germans were feet away in the forest. Rachael could hear and see them but she was not seen. The Germans started to take the cattle away.

3:09:27

Rachael lived in a different hole with a family with 3 children. She did not join partisan groups even though she was asked to join. She cooked fine meals for the partisan group which included homemade noodles. The group would supply the food.

3:10:19

Summer 1943-The summer was very rainy. Rachael had a fungus on her feet. Her feet were raw.

3:11:05

Rachael met 4 men on a road who came from Vilna ghetto. The men wanted to join the partisan group with a man named Metoski (ph).

3:13:26

The men told Rachael that her brother is still alive and is in the Vilna ghetto. They tell her not to go there because he will eventually get out. The people in the ghetto were let out in groups.

3:14:10

Rachael went to Neevare (ph) village to look for a girlfriend. The girl had joined a partisan group. Rachael met a man who took her to Meesoolee (ph) village.

3:15:16

Rachael met up with a friend and they cooked for a partisan group. The village was blockaded and a grenade was thrown.

Tape 4

4:00:34

The partisans had messengers who told them the village would be blockaded. Rachael went with the partisan group.

4:01:04

Russia ordered the partisan group back to Russia. Rachael was left behind with 3 others.

4:01:35

Yom Kippur-The 3 others left and the man in the group said Rachael could not come with them. He gave Rachael a list of villages to go to.

4:02:58

After going through several villages Rachael made it back to the family with 3 children.

4:03:12

A man from the Villna ghetto told Rachael that her brother was taken to Estonia (ph).

4:03:55

Rachael searched for her brother in villages, partisan groups, and the forest. Finally they met in the forest. Rachael believes it was a miracle.

4:05:05

On the way to a village from the forest Rachael was stopped by 2 drunk Germans. She ran and they shot at her. She ran zig-zag to avoid shot. The partisan group came to the area because they heard more than 3 shots. This meant trouble.

4:06:11

Rachael and her group did nothing while they were in the attic to get food.