



worse. Every

second day the (selections) started. They were done by the squads of Ukranian and Lithuanians and supervised by the SS, the Nazis. Russian prisoners who were converted to Nazis rounded up with the help of the Jewish police. In the summer of 1942, every Jew tried to get a permit to save himself by working for the Germans. His father bought one for himself and for him to work for a German factory. By summer of 1942, half of his family had been rounded up and were all gone. By September of 1942, there were only himself, his father, his mother and his sister left. His sister was 2. In September 1942, there was an announcement that all the Jews in one part of the ghetto had to report in another section by 10:00 am. Anyone caught still in that one part would be shot on the spot. They knew there was a hiding place in the basement in the bunker. But the people refused to let his little sister - 2 years old - in the bunker. They were afraid that she would cry out. So they decided that he and his father would go down into the bunker and his mother and little sister would stay in the apartment locked in. This had to be done in an hour - before 10:00 a. m. The Nazis came through.. At 10:00 p. m. his father sneaked out to go to see his mother and sister. He remained in the bunker. His father came back crying and broken. The door of the apartment was open and his mother and his sister were both gone. To the best of their knowledge, his mother had sacrificed herself and his sister. In the winter when the workers came back to that section of town and they got out of the bunker, they found out that everybody did not go to the East. They went a mere 50 miles from Warsaw to a place called Treblinka. (There was a song in the ghetto about Treblinka - they all heard of it). In the winter of 1942-43, there were about 30,000 Jews left in the Warsaw ghetto. At that time there was an underground movement formed. The feeling was that if they were going to take them, they might as well fight. There were meetings and everybody had a revolver. In the winter of 1942, they lived in constant fear of something happening. But for some reason, there was nothing going on other than normal Nazi atrocities. There was no resettlement action in November, December of '42 and January, February of 1943. By March, 1943, they heard rumbles that Himmler had given the order to liquidate the Warsaw ghetto. There was a bunker about a block away from where they used to live. On April 19, 1943, the liquidation started. When the first Nazis came through the gates of the ghetto they were met with a fusillade of molotov cocktails and gunfire from the Jewish fighters. Sam was in the bunker with his father and recalls the bombardment and shelling outside the ghetto. They used flamethrowers. There were people who went out and fought. He helped them with the bottles of gasoline. He went to the roof and threw them down. This went on for three weeks. They could not subdue them easily. The ghetto was burned. He wound up in another bunker with his father on the Lefke (ph). One day the Nazis discovered the bunker. Someone informed and they were rounded up. He was 12 years old. It was a sunny May day. They were made to squat down on the sidewalk. He looked at the sky and said to his father "I don't want to die yet" A Nazi came in a motor car and called them "bandits". Previously they had been called "scum." So his father remarked that "bandits" was a little better. Those who fought in the Ghetto were the Zionists, Bundists - people proud of being Jews - people with guts. After they were rounded up they went to platz and were loaded into cattle cars 100 to a car. They pulled out from the Ghetto - he didn't think they were going to Treblinka - they were in the car 2 - 3 days - there were 15-20 people who had died. On the third day, they arrived at Meidonik (ph).

The next day, there was a selection process. He and his father were completely naked. They went through the line. His father was tall and healthy. But he was only 12 - so he stood on his toes and said he was 16, and so he and his father went with the men to work. They were beaten up sometimes. They were there three weeks.

One day, they took them out into the field where they had straw and human excrement for fertilizer and they made him stamp on it in his bare feet. The camp was worse than Auschwitz. The only difference was that there were no numbers tattooed on you. Noone survived this camp. You were either shot or cremated. There were apples every day. Their only food was black muddy coffee and bread in the morning and a little soup at night. He doesn't think he had 500 calories for the entire day.

One day, about noon, there was another selection. They rounded them up and put them in a different barrack. They had no idea what they were going to do with them.

NOTE: THIS INTERVIEW STOPS HERE ON THIS TAPE FOR A WHILE AND ANOTHER INTERVIEW APPEARS...ALREADY IN PROGRESS WHICH IS CONDUCTED BY LINDA KUSMAK (SEE SEPARATE SHEET)

LATER SAM HILTON APPEARS AGAIN: (SOMETHING APPEARS TO BE MISSING HERE).

They were 22 in the Judenblock (ph). He was in Buchenwald from June, 1944 to November 1944. In November a group of them were shipped to a work camp Gerra (ph). He worked in "provisions." He got extra food. He was there from November, 1944 until March, 1945. In March, 1945, the Russian Army was closing in from the West and that camp was again liquidated. They went out on a march. About 1,000 in that camp, of which 200 were Jews. The rest were French and so on. They were marching day and night. He was 14 or 15 and very weak. But he still had his will to live. They came to a place not far from the Czech border. The Nazis came and said all Jews were to be separated from the rest. They put them in a railroad car and they went south. The ones who were left were shot. They wound up in Teresenstadt (sp). They arrived May 1 or 2. They went to a big building and were given bread. It was very quiet - about 5 a. m., they noticed there were no guards. A few hours later, they went out and saw Russian tanks. The first tank came up with a Polish crew..the commander was a Jew. It was indescribable.

AGAIN THE TAPE IS INTERRUPTED BY WITH INTERVIEW WITH MR. VOGEL.

SAM HILTON APPEARS AGAIN:

He went to Prague and flew from Prague to England and stopped at Rotterdam. The British crew took out white bread and he exclaimed "chalah" = They wrapped it up for him. He went to England - Windermere for rest and rehabilitation and was there about a week. Had an aunt and uncle -

INTERRUPTED HERE BY VOGEL.

SAM HILTON APPEARS AGAIN: He wanted to go to America.

VOGEL APPEARS AGAIN.

SAM HILTON: Got his BS in Accounting - when he came to Los Angeles, he was

14 or 15. He was told to go to

the Jewish Federation in Los Angeles for counseling. They advised him to forget college and get a job. He insisted he wanted to go to University and was very angry. He went to UCLA and took another test in which he scored high in numbers.

TAPE 2 - BEGINS WITH SAM HILTON:

CONTINUES WITH how he was excellent in accounting in the first semester and graduated college with a degree BS in accounting.

THE REST OF TAPE 2 IS THE INTERVIEW WITH VOGEL.