

Summary of Oral History: Sarah (née Warm) Rozenberg

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This Summary was written by a USHMM Volunteer on [04/2022]

Sarah (née Warm) Rozenberg, born April 23, 1928 in Warsaw Poland, describes her early life including her younger brother and parents, all of whom perished in the Holocaust; her Orthodox upbringing and local schooling; the limited experience with anti-Semitism in her parents' lottery ticket business; friendship shown by a neighbor, Zeliske Korchak (?); her memory of the war's start in September 1939 and her family's expectations of the German treatment from the example of WWI; the role of work and rations in the ghetto; the fleeing of many Jews to Russia; the deportation of her mother in August 1942 to Treblinka, and later the rest of her family, while she was left behind due to her work until after the 1943 Warsaw uprising when she was sent to Majdanek; her work in an ammunition factory run by Krupp until October 1944 when the Russians approached; her relocation to an ammunition factory closer to the German border until January 16, 1945 when they were liberated by Russian troops; her sense that many Poles collaborated with the Germans in the building of extermination camps; her sense of the origins of Polish anti-Semitism; and the role of and difficulties faced by the Jewish resistance.

Sarah also describes her various efforts in the U.S. and Canada (as a Canadian citizen and Edmonton resident) to document and distribute her testimony and experiences; the decision by her and her husband to first tell their children of their experiences; how she met her husband after the war in Southwestern Poland while working for a Jewish relief organization, and his experience during the war; her experiences in the immediate aftermath of liberation; and some personal instances of anti-Semitism in Canada.