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Summary

Ita Majzner describes living a comfortable life in Sosnowiec, Poland where her father was a meat wholesaler and her mother owned a butcher shop; moving from outside of the city to the city center in 1937 after a pogrom; moving again to rooms organized by the Gemina, headed by Marin, after the Germans entered the country in 1939; her father refusing to heed the advice of her brother-in-law, Henny Kestenberg, to flee to Hungary; being relocated to the ghetto in Srodula; leaving the ghetto each day to work making leather flowers and grenade holsters; being taken to Graben where she and 500 other girls worked for three years at a factory that processed flax; being treated well by Russian POWs from a neighboring camp who would sometimes bring them food; being forced to walk for three days in 1945 before being loaded onto trains for an eleven day journey to Bergen-Belsen; witnessing cannibalism; finding her older sister, who was working as a nurse for Dr. Bimko, whom they knew from Sosnowiec; being cared for by her sister and Dr. Bimko after she contracted typhoid; Hungarian soldiers entering the camp after the Germans left, but leaving after a few days; waiting for seven to ten more days before the allies actually entered the camp, though soldiers had been throwing food into them; going to the men's camp with her sister to see Dr. Lieberman, their pediatrician from Sosnowiec; being moved by British soldiers to a barracks three miles away; asking a visiting rabbi to mail a letter to her uncle, Max Kold in Cleveland; living in DP camps at Diepholz and later at Feldafing where she received a letter from her uncle and transport to the U.S. was arranged by the Jewish Children's Bureau; living with her aunt and uncle until her social worker moved her to a foster home; taking English lessons with Mrs. Mendelson and going to public school, before dropping out to attend the Cleveland School of Business; convincing her sister and brother in law to move from New York to Cleveland; getting married and raising three children while working as a bookkeeper and later as a real estate agent.