

RG-50.091.0101

Summary

Jack (Yehuda) Mintz, born in 1924 in Miechów, Poland, describes being the youngest of four brothers and four sisters; family members belonging to Agudat Yisrael, Betar, Shomer Hatzair, and Shomer Ha'dati; learning to be a tailor from Mr. Plotek; his father and brothers attempting to flee east in September, 1939 but returning as the Germans caught up with them; Germans taking Jews out of services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and forcing them to wash tanks; moving to the ghetto though his father and brothers continued to work as painters, sisters as dressmakers, and mother as shirt maker for the Germans; being required to bring sewing machines into the ghetto's synagogue and produce German uniforms; being transported on cattle cars to Krakow and being taken to Prokocim; Mr. Applebaum, the head of the Judenrat arranging for his brothers to return to the ghetto to finish a painting job; moving to the labor camp at the Kraków airfield where conditions were better and remaining there until December 1943 when he was transferred to Płaszów; being transferred to Zabłocie for three months, where they sometimes received bread from Oskar Schindler and from Polish political prisoners; working under Sgt. Kabot [PH], a master builder and a good man; being sent to help dismantle Wieliczka; being sent back to Płaszów until September 1944 when he was taken to a factory in Brunnlitz, Czechoslovakia run by Schindler; living in the upper level of the factory; being liberated by the Russians and given assistance by the Czechs; returning to Miechów with his brother to find that Jews were still being killed; moving to Reichenbach where he and others set up a tailor cooperative; meeting his wife in 1946 and marrying her in 1947; moving to Israel after receiving a passport in 1956; moving to Cleveland in 1963.