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Yadwiga Dziekonski

RG-50.106*0088

Born February 1, 1919 in Human near Kiev, moved to Warsaw

Family - Roman Catholic, observant

High school in Hrabka, near Zakopane, because she had weak lungs

Journalism school - only instance of anti-Semitism she saw was by a professor in 1938

June 1941 - married, husband worked in resistance, teaching and writing newsletter

She worked in factory wrapping bouillon cubes

Jadwiga's mother moved to Chyliczki, near Warsaw where she sheltered 2 Jewish women. The mother, Sylvia Kassel, age 60 was picked up during an outside walk. The daughter Eugenie Kassel remained inside for 5 months

March 1943 - gave birth to a daughter, did not witness ghetto uprising

1944 - Husband took part in city uprising, member of Szare Szeregi, Grey Army, taken to Bergen-Belsen and Gross-Rosen

Liberated, but she did not feel joyful

Went to Stockholm with daughter on bottom of a cargo boat for 36 hours in August 1947 and then to London

Came to Detroit in 1951

Came to Washington DC - husband was director of the Polish desk of Voice of America