

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Interview with Blanche Porway
May 20, 2016
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PREFACE

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Gail Schwartz: This is the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum interview with Blanche Porway. It is being conducted by Gail Schwartz on May 20, 2016 in Chevy Chase, Maryland. This is track number one. What is your full name?

Blanche Porway: My full name from before the war is **Bluma Fajnbuch**.

Q: And what is it today?

A: Bluma. My Polish name is Blanca Fajnbuch. And now, when I got married my name became in the United States, Blanche Porway.

Q: Tell me where you were born.

A: I was born in **Łódź** Poland.

Q: And when were you born?

A: I was, 1923.

Q: What day and what month?

A: May 3.

Q: And let's talk a little bit about your family. Who made up your family then? Your parents' names?

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A: My father's name was **Leib** Fajnbuch. My mother's name was **Gitla Leshvahom** [ph], but then also Fajnbuch later. My father, I spent my childhood years in Łódź where my father was a respected and successful businessman who provided his family of six with comfortable and a happy life.

Q: What kind of business did he have?

A: He was a business and, the business was a businessman with a big factories which are very – what a funny thing it happened that this big factory who he was involved with was a very big German man, Julius Kinderman. This was from, I forgot, did all kinds of things. All kinds. I don't know exactly what it was.

Q: You don't know what the factory made? Do you know what it made? It produced. Do you know what kind of factory? What did it make?

A: They made, when people from small factories had to get their stuff from them, like the leathers or they had to make this big covers for beds. Textiles. How do you like that? How could I not remember?

Q: It was a textile factory?

A: A textile.

Q: Was your father born in Łódź? Did he come from –

A: No, my father was born in a smaller town, **Byala Forlask** [ph]. But when he was a young man very smart, very intelligent he decided to live in a big town, in a very big town next to the ghetto, to Warsaw. And we were very happy, comfortable, happy. These privileges and comfort ended abruptly in 1939.

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Q: We'll get to 1939. We're not there yet. I want to talk more about your childhood before the war. Tell me about your mother. Did she work or did she stay home?

A: My mother, she used to work but then when we, we have a family of six, two boys, two girls. And we were a very happy family.

Q: Where were you, what number were you?

A: I was, I would say the third. My sister was the oldest, then I have a brother and I am the third one. And I have another brother, younger than I.

Q: What were their names?

A: My sister's name was **Sonja**. My brother's name was **Sholem**. My name was Bluma. And my brother's name was Israel, Eric.

Q: Did you live right in the middle of town? Did you live in a house or an apartment?

A: We lived in a very beautiful apartment.

Q: Was it in town?

A: Very elegant and beautiful apartment that was located in the center of the city were first moved to a one bedroom ghetto located in –

Q: We'll get to that. Then you went to school. What kind of school? This was before the war. We're talking –

A: Before the war we were at a very beautiful school, at a public school first.

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Q: Were there Jewish children and non-Jewish children in the school?

A: No, actually that was actually mostly Jewish children.

Q: But it was a public school?

A: It was a public school.

Q: Were people nice to you? Were the other children nice to you because you were Jewish? Was there any anti-Semitism?

A: No, only Jewish kids, only Jewish school. It was a Jewish school.

Q: It was a Jewish school.

A: A Jewish public school, located in a very nice area, yes. Then when we start to go, and I didn't finish going. I went to the high school but it wasn't –

Q: We'll get to that. What else did you do? Did you like sports? This was before the war.

A: Yeah, I loved sports.

Q: What kind of sports?

A: We belonged to organization.

Q: Like what, what were the names of the organ –

A: **Betar**. You have Betar.

Q: Anything else. Did you have any hobbies?

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A: Oh yes.

Q: Like what?

A: I used to play with the kids, very nice. I used to like to read a lot. I used to go – I had ice skating. I used to go to a special, they call it **Makaba** [ph]. You know do the exercises. I was very good in sports. Ice skate sports, talking. Used to go, meetings with the organizations that educated us. Was very nice. It was really enjoyable. I had a good life. And my family. And what I like about my family was my parents always used to tell me you have to be a giver. Don't take. Always parties. On weekends, Fridays night when we had the Jewish Shabbat candles.

Q: The Sabbath, the Shabbat.

A: The Shabbat. They do, there was like even next door a widow. She came in and fed them. And the daughter. And I liked the way they lived their lives for themselves and for the children. And I'm still now, you might not like what I say. But here, being here in this place, being to so much and if I could help somebody, I feel good. Makes me feel very good.

Q: Was your family very religious?

A: My father comes from a very religious home, very. In the shul, they always respect him very much because he always was the biggest donator, giving people a lot of **machas**, having, helping a lot of people.

Q: So your family was religious?

A: My family, we have been not very orthodox but we observe very much, very well our holidays.

Q: Do you have any memories of special holidays, growing up when you were in Poland?

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A: Oh yes.

Q: What are one or two memories of that?

A: One of the memories, new year's. Was a Passover new year's eve and especially what we changed our self. For the changing mask, you know which one.

Q: Purim.

A: Purim, Purim and many, many others activities. We kept really busy. Where I lived on my street was the bank, was a very one of the nicest streets. In the corner it was a beautiful synagogue.

Q: Do you remember the name of the street you lived on?

A: **Alafar**. Of course I remember. How can forget? **Alieja Kashuski Atonashta** [ph]. Alieja Kashuski. This was our avenue. I used to go ice skating sometimes because there was a one of the nicest, next to the most popular **Stripyet Koska** [ph]. That was the nicest street, very well known. Dignitaries come to it and they are, believe it or not, my daughter put it on her – I told her my street. It's still there the same house. Yeah. But you see it was a pretty poor town. I used to live with my parents and we had water and toilets. A lot. Don't forget, over 70 years ago. Over 70 years ago forget it. Not too many houses had water and showers in the house. My father really wanted to provide us with it.

Q: What language did you speak at home?

A: Speak Polish, Jewish, Polish, German and English.

Q: What language did you speak at home when you were growing up? In the house, in the apartment?

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A: Partially with my parents, Jewish. Polish too, but with my sister Polish most of the time.

Q: Did you have any non-Jewish friends?

A: Oh yes. We used to live with, which it was right – it was very good to be like this living with people. Jewish, not Jewish.

Q: So you had non-Jewish friends?

A: Oh yes.

Q: Were there any problems with any non-Jew –

A: No, I had no problems.

Q: So in the beginning everything was going well. Was your father and mother, were they Zionists at that time? Do you remember?

A: My father really was more Jewish and he was not involved. My father was –

Q: This is in the 1930s before the war started.

A: Yeah, I cannot recall. I was a kid and I don't know. I don't know about his views but they allowed me to go to that organization, **Jabotinsky**. I saw him. How about you want to see **Menachem** Begin. I was in Israel. I showed you the picture. I went to a wedding for my friend. Menachem Begin was invited. I spoke with him. In 1938 I remember I was a kid. I was – he came. Menachem Begin and Jabotinsky. I never forget and that was already the beginning of the war.

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Q: Before we get to that, you said you liked to read? You said you liked to read when you were a child. Do you remember any favorite books you liked to read when you were a young girl?

A: That I don't like so much discuss. We have, we used to discuss. I liked to go to movies. The movies was on the second block because I lived between **Vereskoska** [ph] and another which is, were very many, many movies next block.

Q: Now let's start to talk about the beginning of the war. Is there anything else you want to say that we haven't talked about before the war? We talked about your parents. Did you have grandparents and cousins and aunts and uncles?

A: What happened really. I never saw my grandparents because they lived in a different, far away from us. We were about to see my grandparents. I did not have a chance. I don't know why it came out. Right away the war, when we planned to go and see, I never saw. My sister did. I didn't see.

Q: But before that, before the war.

A: I never had a chance to see my grandparents, never. I show you a picture. My father went to see his mother. I'll show you a picture. And I got the only picture from my aunt in England.

Q: Did you have any cousins or aunts or uncles living near?

A: I have so – no, no, no. Just my cousin. She's still alive. She lives in Jerusalem.

Q: No, I meant in the 1930s, when you were a child.

A: Yeah, my cousin, yeah, yeah, yeah I was very close with her. Not really, not too many. I have a lot of family in Warsaw.

Q: Did you go to Warsaw?

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A: No.

Q: You never went to Warsaw before the war?

A: No.

Q: Ok, now the war is starting in 1939. What is your first memory?

A: Oh my gosh. The first memory was scaring, getting scared. Getting scared –

Q: You're 14 years old now.

A: Yeah, 14, 15. 15. Yeah. In 39 and 40 actually. We went the start of the war, we stayed in my apartment. We were in the town. In the nicest part of the town.

Q: You're still in Łódź?

A: Yes, but when we had to go to the ghetto, they picked the poorest part of the ghetto, of the town, made that ghetto. It was terrible over there. The poorest and they put the Jews into the ghetto in Łódź. And we still lived in the town. My father didn't look Jewish.

Q: You did not go in the beginning to the ghetto?

A: Not yet. Not yet. Did not. We still stayed in the apartment til 19 almost 40. But then my father used to even go, he's a German, the big man, the factory told him, a German. He said I could save you but I wish I could save your family but again, the wonderful -- I wish he would have more good people like this. Six million wouldn't die. So what happened then I was – my father came a time that we cannot stay no more in the ghetto, in my apartment because the German said if I find you here, we're going to kill you. Get in. We had to go.

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Q: There was no school, right? There was no school that you were going –

A: No. Oh my gosh. Not only this, but you know it was even in the town already anti-Semitism was that big. Plenty Germans lived there.

Q: Did anybody say anything to you?

A: Say anything. My brother had the – from the same house what we lived, he had a very good close friend. And Polish. And when he was young. Then when he became a priest, so my younger brother said to me, you know what. He's very anti-Semitic since became a priest. It's unfortunately but before.

Q: You're still in your apartment. Other people are in the ghetto. Did you get enough food at that time? Did you have enough food?

A: No, no.

Q: In the apartment?

A: I tell you one thing about the apartment where I used to live. There was a mechanic who worked cars. One time a jeep arrives with the German soldiers. One young, about 19 year old, maybe 20 walks into our apartment and said – looks around and said he began to cry, brought me a bread, a soldier bread. I said why are you crying? He looks, what do they want from me? I am so young. I want to go home. You see, that's what has happened. That's what I experienced if you know to know details.

Q: So you stay in the apartment until when?

A: We stayed in the apartment til I believe end of –

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Q: 1940?

A: Beginning yeah, yeah.

Q: Beginning of 1940? And you went into the ghetto.

A: We have no choice. It was terrible.

Q: What did you take with you? Did you take anything special?

A: Whatever we were able to take.

Q: Did you take anything special that you had?

A: What special? At that time we are happy that we are alive. I got, we all got so frightened because they hated us already in the city. When I walked –

Q: Did you have to wear a yellow star?

A: Oh yes. One day maybe it's so long I'm going to talk about it, too many hours but I want to make one point to you. I was not looking Jewish. I looked like a young non-Jewish girl. I didn't tell my parents. I must tell you it's a sin to them. I was, didn't tell my parents, I went – there was a special just for Polish people dairy. Bread, milk, cheese and other things. And I didn't tell my parents but I realize, I get it. I took the money and I went. I went there to the store, staying on line. All of a sudden I see a German soldier looking up. That's a interesting incident. Looking, saying what, ok. Ok. With a Polish guy pulling out people from the line because they had the long nose. Stopping by everyone and look. Then came a line toward me. I was a young kid then. At that time I was, that was before I went to the – before. At that time I was maybe 15 and not 16 not yet. So this, so he said identify yourself. Look at me. Look. I pretend that I am (mic bump)

Q: Don't touch the microphone.

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A: I pretend that I have a cross. Then the woman behind me, she says to the Polish guy, you know what she said to the Polish guy. Don't you see that she's one of us? And I got my bread and my milk. And I came home. My mom and father was like, they almost wanted – I saw people pulling out and beating up. They had a long nose. I bet they weren't even Jewish and I looked down and I said oh my gosh, why am I here. I was a young kid. I don't understand already what war, what war is, what it is. Yeah, it was terrible yeah, to live like this.

Q: So you're in the ghetto and what did you do in the ghetto? Was there a school in the ghetto?

A: Dead, you could die in the ghetto.

Q: What did you do during the day? Did you go –

A: Let me say. In the ghetto we were forced to move to one bedroom ghetto located in the poorest section of the city. Living condition was, were terrible. No water, no toilets, not ration. But you stay in a line for your rations to get. Some people fell, some never got up. One maybe died because they couldn't take it no more. And they, but they could not _____ and I look up til a tree. After two years living in this terrible condition.

Q: You were living with your parents and your --?

A: Still with my parents.

Q: And your sisters and your brothers?

A: After two years of living in this terrible condition, my brother Sholem the older brother died from starvation. At the age of 19. And then we go on. We have to go on with life. And we hope maybe, maybe soon somebody will liberate. But no, nobody came. We stayed in the ghetto. I work in a factory.

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Q: What did you make in the factory?

A: We worked in a factory for the Germans. Soldiers. Have work in a factory, made uniforms for German soldiers and ladies. Still the condition in our lives wasn't, it was my sister worked in a kitchen with there was not bread. And I worked there. I was actually for a time I worked physically and then they took me to work in the office and to write all. Once in a while a German called. We want it now. I used to go to work, sometimes in the afternoon because we'd have to prepare the finished ordered uniforms. And I helped to pack and count how many. One day I came. It was in the evening and all of a sudden, the demand to let us out. I go down and I see oh my gosh it's a fire. Get out of here. We're lucky that the fire how it came to us. It wasn't bad but was winter cold. I don't wear nothing. I run now from the steps not realizing what's going on. We had no light. And the Germans went this is nothing. Went over like nothing. That's what I did. Worked lately til the last minute in the office. **Glowza**, they called glowza, **worska** 14 was in the ghetto. My sister worked also very nice.

Q: Did your mother work?

A: My mother did not work.

Q: And your father?

A: My father, wait. My father then and in 1943 my father died also from starvation at the age of 46, 46, 47. We have to go on with our lives. We have no choice.

Q: Were there a lot of other young people like you? Did you see other young people your age?

A: Oh yes.

Q: Other young girls?

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A: My friends.

Q: You had friends in the ghetto?

A: I had friends, I had friends in the ghetto.

Q: What did you talk about with them in the ghetto?

A: What did I talk? I want to emphasize something. Since I work lately in the office, my mother said always, she likes very much education. She said listen my child, you have somebody who works with you. She knows English. I used to give her once a week my soup and one I had at lunch time. She taught me the English way a little bit. That's why I understood. But he said –

Q: All you did was work and then come back to your place. Did you share an apartment with other families or was it just your family?

A: No, no. There was no place for other families. It's hardly –

Q: How many rooms did you have in the ghetto?

A: How many rooms? One room. And maybe a little kitchen. I don't recall it. Oh my gosh because we went from one place to another.

Q: Did you stay in the same place in the ghetto all those two years or three years?

A: Yeah, no. Four years in the ghetto.

Q: Four years.

A: I don't know how. If not on my age would I make it. No, my brother died. My younger brother in 1940, the end of 1944, about a few months later, he was working with food. You know

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they call it the **balatable** [ph]. They had like food, kinds of food. He was working pretty hard over there. And he was pretty happy. Pretty happy, why? Because he had a little bit more to eat. But he shared. He brought home always for me, for my mother. Ok. I forgot to tell you. I got sick one day and I had typhoid fever. It was terrible when I was much younger yet in the ghetto. I see laying with people in the hospital. They died and I'm still alive. I'm still alive. And then I couldn't walk for quite a while when I came home. But my mother taught me how to walk again. And I'm here and I'm fine.

Q: You're working every day. Did you have a day off?

A: Oh yeah, yeah. Weekends we didn't work.

Q: What did you do during the weekend?

A: What did we do? So many problems and so many to do. My sister and brother and we had some, nothing much to be excited. Sometimes we went to see a program and I still have seen my friends from the organization. And I have –

Q: So you got together with friends inside the ghetto.

A: Yes, sometimes, yes, yes. But we mostly were with problems. Everybody had problems.

Q: And what about clothes. Did you have enough clothes?

A: Clothes. My brother used to sell bread because she was very conscious about her looks. She sell her bread because she wants to have beautiful shoes or clothes. Was elegant. She was old, about four years older than I. It was terrible in the ghetto. We were day by day waiting for a how they say, for a miracle. Never come. At the end of 44, the end of 44.

Q: Up to that time did you know what was happening to the Jews in other countries?

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A: How should I know?

Q: You didn't know.

A: Ok, I tell you what.

Q: Did you have a radio?

A: I didn't have a radio. What are you talking about? I spoke, I was working when a Herr doctor, also German Jew, very intelligent doctor. He had always the news from a friend a young boy. He gave me the news every time, because the Russians said you know what the latest news was the Russians will liberate us. The Russians will liberate and encourage us to go on. The Russians will liberate and one day that man of my partner to work, he said to me, very sad, they found the boy with the radio and they killed him. Yeah. But we still hope that the Russians going to come. As a matter of fact, when my brother was liberated in January first and it took me five months later from Austria, **Mauthausen**.

Q: So you're still in the ghetto at this point and then what happens?

A: Still in the ghetto working very hard. Many times I was busy with my work. In the afternoon I was called to come back and work. And my sister and my brother, they – my mother and then social life not, not much of a social life. I have friends. I still have some from the ghetto, from school. I talk to my friends from school already. She used to come here. I liked always when she talked about my parents. Still How proudly and I proudly talk about them.

Q: Did you know the head of the ghetto?

A: Of course, **Rumkoski**.

Q: Had you ever seen him?

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A: I've seen him. I've seen him a few times.

Q: Did he talk to you or –

A: Talk, not. You know what happened to him? You don't know what happened to him?

Q: I do but why don't you give me your version.

A: He got from **Biboff** a written, beautiful written, yeah they took him right away to the gas chamber. I knew his wife from before the war. I was a kid. I know his wife. She was a lawyer and that's why I saw him sometimes. Because of her, I saw him.

Q: But you saw him in the ghetto itself?

A: I saw him a few times, a few times I saw him, talking, speaking, crying.

Q: Did they ever talk privately to you?

A: Never.

Q: Never, ok.

A: I still have, I think I have a picture of his now.

Q: Did people talk about him in the ghetto?

A: They didn't like him too much. He kept saying all the time, yes we have to deliver. We have to deliver. We have to deliver the people. They didn't have a good memory about it.

Q: What was the next change in the ghetto, the next change?

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A: The next change was in the ghetto, back in _____. The next change was my brother. Because he worked in that place, they took people from there evacuate. We didn't know where to. We were hiding. We tried to hide from one place or another that my brother shouldn't go but it couldn't work out. He had to go. He had to go because I don't know I say to gas. So my brother said now I go. He had to be in a, not in a bad camp. You know why because over there they didn't have what they have all over like in Mauthausen.

Q: So you stayed in the ghetto until when?

A: Until the end of – the ghetto, maybe I would say the end of 44.

Q: The end of 44. And where did you go?

A: The end of 44. Then we were evacuate. There came a time, no more ghetto, Biboff was the big man in Łódź in Poland, in our town. He was the biggest SS. They hung him later on. I don't know if you heard about him. They hung him yeah.

Q: So here did you go? You left the ghetto and where did you go?

A: Why did I go?

Q: Where did you go?

A: Do I know? Where I'm going. I told you. They took us and in the cattle wagons.

Q: Where did –

A: We went to Auschwitz.

Q: You went to Auschwitz?

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A: Liquidation. There was the liquidation of the ghetto.

Q: How did you know? Were there signs around? How did you know that you'd have to leave?

A: Now signs and they came through each house to look for the people. And if you didn't go, they took you with right away. You want to go. Kill you. We hide, we tried still to hide and we still hope that the Russians going to liberate.

Q: Liberate you.

A: Well we hiding because of my mother too. She wasn't old but she looked not good. Ok so we decided to try as much, as long we can. Matter of fact, one day we were hiding in an attic. And all of a sudden I see a man. So he said don't be afraid of me. I'm just here working, the electricity, but don't be scared. I will not call nothing to you. My mother had like you said it. But you are young. You'll make it but your mother has nothing to try to save her.

Q: You go to Auschwitz on a cattle car?

A: Yeah.

Q: How long did it take you? Do you remember?

A: How long going to take them. How long. Do I know? Maybe I know, maybe a day, maybe two days, never tell you but we arrived one o'clock in the morning.

Q: What did you see when you arrived?

A: When I saw, arrived. Oh my gosh, I saw a man. What did you do here? Why did you come? What do you think? If you would know where you're coming, you never came here. I said with what could we learn for him. Somebody from my people working, helping to get the people down from there. As we come in, five, five, five in line. Myself, my sister and my mother.

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Mengele. He was terrible. Terrible. He was, I cannot find the right word, a terrible monster he was.

Q: How did you know it was Mengele?

A: I know cause I know after the war. I know. I heard Mengele. I tell you right away Heil. So and he made to, left, left and right. Left people go to work. Right to the crematorium. They needed people to burn. So what happens? I was holding my mother's hand while she was going and never want to let go. She turns away (emotional). She said, listen children. I lived my life. At the age of 47, I lived my life. You're young. I'm sure you're going to work. Save yourself. Killed her and I wouldn't let go still. I was holding on. Like he didn't care. He thought let her go with her mother. She will. All of a sudden out of nowhere I see another that says putting me back to my sister, another guy and I said, he said no, no, no you're going to see your mother later. After work he said to me. (emotional) Yeah.

Q: Now you're in Auschwitz. Where are you –

A: And then I see ok, my mother's gone and see her like the boy is, who's hanging? My friend from school. I said no, no, oh no. That's her. Why? She was a beautiful girl from a very rich home. She couldn't take it. My sister says to me, you know come, come. I think I going to do the same. I said oh no. you'll never do the same. You're going to live here to be able to tell the world what people with a high standard like this could do another human being. The world should know. This should never happen again. To know about it. That's what I said to her. And then we stayed four weeks.

Q: Did you get a number?

A: No. People who worked they were in a different section. They got the numbers. I didn't get the number. I got the number not on my, I got the number on the paper, but who remembers. I don't remember I got the number but not, only on the papers.

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Q: What did you do every day? You just sat around?

A: Nothing. They pushed us around. Go here, go there. What else could you do? We didn't know what to do. They wouldn't let us go someplace. We're laying over there and just on the floor, a few hundred girls and they want – I don't even recall. Oh my gosh what did I do? Nothing. Going to when they soup, home. Soup. They brought the soup once a day or whatever. We got, we got to go to the toilet on the outside. I cannot even describe the conditions, how terrible, how horrible and I survived. How did I? I cannot even now comprehend what I went through. The terrible things. I can't imagine. Nobody can understand, no one who lived there. I don't like the people. They could not even imagine. Because of myself, pigs all these things. I said how could I survive this? I must have been very strong mentally. People still claim that I'm strong mentally. Yeah.

Q: So you stayed there four weeks.

A: For four weeks.

Q: And then what happened.

A: Four weeks. Again, in Auschwitz. Work. Selection. Again, selection. In Auschwitz again selection. I says doctor, five people in line and hungry. Everybody's hungry. Everybody's hungry. My luck. They put a big – with food, with soup. Everybody had it and a back of, you know to drink. One girl said come on to him, come on dip in, get it. I was, me, yet I didn't realize. Give it, give it to them. Then at the end I said why didn't I take myself and I took myself and I took in my mouth and bite my ____ I said I don't want to go no more. Give me water. No, I'm going to run away. Are you crazy? I'm not going to let you. No, no, no. No, no. It was terrible. I said I don't, I'm not going to make it. But I said, well, ok. Lie down. We are next already to the doctor. And I stay with my sister, five in the row. He said look, four and the left, right, right. Looks at me. I wasn't even developed at the age of nine, because I was skinny. I didn't eat much but I was, I said in German, Herr Doctor, **Evn do krakte from Arbeiten** [ph]

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He asked me **Wie alt wis du** [ph] How old are you? I said, I'm 23. He looks, one thing what it was good. I was told that I was even then pretty so he let me go with my sister. That's why I'm here today. I don't know. There is still more. If I going to tell a few hours. How many, ten hours. I had to cut a little bit short, ok.

Q: So where did you go after Auschwitz?

A: After Auschwitz, we went to **Freiburg**, Germany. I worked in a factory, a factory with –

Q: For what?

A: Parts of airplanes, small parts of airplanes that we connect them on a bore machine. Bore. I got a very good souvenir, a cut, a piece of my finger here and here, from the machines, yeah. But I still survived.

Q: You were with your sister?

A: Yes. With my sister, yes, with my sister.

Q: And you stayed in Freiburg for how long?

A: Yeah, we stayed probably I tell you what, til the May.

Q: Til May?

A: No, no, no, no. We went in 44 and in May was in Mauthausen. But the end of 44. I don't exactly pinpoint what month. The end of 44.

Q: You left Freiburg?

A: No, the end of 44, left Auschwitz.

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Q: Left Auschwitz, went to Freiburg?

A: Yes. To work

Q: To work in the airplane factory? And then from there?

A: As terrible that they come, because we also slept one, about three bleachers in a –

Q: In a barrack, yeah.

A: One, two, or three lying but it was hectic. It wasn't good but when you worked they have to treat you a little bit better. Otherwise you drop dead.

Q: Then you stayed in Freiburg until when?

A: Til the end I would say –

Q: March or April or –

A: Probably the end of, beginning of, I would say January or the end of, I believe so January, yeah. No, later. In February, I think we went already. They put us again because they realized they were losing the war. ___ again. Go under cover. While we were in Freiburg they called us. My sister got sick. She got typhoid fever. Typhoid fever. What should I do? I have to save my sister. I cannot let her die. I'm not going to allow her to dead. And then here's to come and look for people to go down. You know when the sirens came, you have to go down –

Q: To the shelter, yeah.

A: The shelter. And I didn't want to go. I said I'm not going. I'm not going to leave you here in bed like that. But what I did, I was hiding in a closet and he came in and he looked. **Was de loos**

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[ph]? So she said I said, so he let her stay. I said god help me , **shemi sewies** [ph]. Help me. I sit in the closet. Thank god he didn't open the closet. He didn't see me. Ok it was good. So ok, another day. And what happened then. She was lucky in a way. The doctor was originally Russian. She loved my sister very much. She saved her too. She gave her medication. She said in Russian she said, **Devushka** [ph], the others will not survive. That's why I save the pills for your sister that she has got, she could survive. I saved the pills for her and she survived. So that's it. Again.

Q: Then you left Freiburg and went to Mauthausen?

A: Then I heard rumors that a big man, the **untershafira**, they called him, Untershafira, went and he said to the people, take them, get rid of them. **Matalose, macha lose, machfer lose**. [ph] And that was get rid of them, get rid of them. Kill them or whatever, you see. In **Flossenberg**. I think Flossenberg was taken already by the Americans so I couldn't get. So they took us for about 12 days traveling. Maybe not that much. I could – they never told us where you are going, what you're going to do. They took us. On the way, 40 girls maybe in one cattle wagon. Hungry. Sad I were among them and my sister. **Wasser** [ph], water. At least they gave us water enough to by on the way. Water. Our, comparing to others I was still able to have volunteer, I brought some water. I brought the water for the people to drink. And I see the girls now eating grass and I said and the soldier, just the soldier, not an SS, watching us, just watching. I went over to him. I speak German to him. I said to him (**long German phrase**). So he said to me nothing. Didn't answer. The following day he came with a sandwich and a cup of coffee. Come little girl. Come, **kleine**. Nobody trust, only myself. He gave me this to my hand. I couldn't swallow it by myself. I couldn't. it was impossible to, you see the girls were looking. (crying) I said girl is dying, they're dying. And they were, yes and then I go on every day of seeing at the last minute. I said why you doing this for me? He said don't be afraid little girl. Don't be afraid. You're going to be liberated soon. And I thanked him. I said god bless you and that's all. Then I never see him again. We arrived at Mauthausen, terrible.

Q: What was it like? What did you do Mauthausen?

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A: What I do. I was happy not to get killed. In Mauthausen was a horror.

Q: How long were you there?

A: Not long. We came to Mauthausen. There was a man, only a man's camp. We were the first women. How do you know?

Q: I read about it.

A: So you see, my mind's still good. They say, my daughter said Ma, ma, you got your marbles. (laughs) I got to laugh, look at it. After being –

Q: So you stayed in Mauthausen for how long?

A: This way, in Mauthausen we stayed about I see when I look men separate. And I looked through the wires. The men laying so sick and I had a piece of bread. I took it to them. I couldn't swallow it. Through the wall. Then sometimes they brought food for the people. One boy, a Polish guy he saw me. He came over when he brought the food and kissed me and then I said you have the wrong girl. I'm not the one you're talking about. And then every time he used to throw clothes for me through the wires, through the – I didn't want to take it. I said I don't want, we need food and clothes. I still have a -- and I said I cannot take it from you. I cannot really because you risk your life and I don't want you to. I cannot, nothing. I can give you nothing in return. That was still going on. Ok. Later on, another day, another day, another week. And then after about two months (claps) I see a soldier not again. Oh my gosh, oh my gosh I say. They seem savior. I want to tell you another story. I saw the American soldier and a Jewish soldier with a Jewish star. A Yiddish **madel** he said to me. And then the Polish guys killed a few SS. They killed them right away. They ran away, the SS. They ran away, freedom. They began to give food, delicious wonderful food to eat. When I came. We wait overnight and there's a big hole and a German soldier. I was lucky in a way. The Polish guys start to hang around and I don't want them to come close to me. I didn't want them, to be touched by them. Shall I tell that. And I stayed away and I have to say about the Germans. There were a few Germans. I was lucky

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with. He said little girl why are you so frightened? I'm frightened. I don't want nobody to go over to me. Just I want to be left alone. I'm going to watch you. I'll stay by you til you go into the Mauthausen. This was like a big hole. And first they put us, later on to the hole. And he stood. He brought me food. He brought me bread. He brought me chocolate. Today is my birthday he said and I want you to be well. What do you think who are here? Who are the big men? I am here treating you, only people who were not good people, who are in jail. Here, today they take over the world. If they want to take over. I thanked him. He said take care you're going to be soon, very soon, saved. The boys knew already, the Polish boys. They told us the same thing. But they weren't nice. Ok that's what happened and then finally we went to the, also laying on the floor and just what more could we do, staying outside, saying thank god there's my sister. American, when the Americans came oh my gosh they give so much good food. After two months I think we got liberated. But the men weren't much longer here. I saw so many bodies.

Q: So you were two months in Mauthausen?

A: More. I stayed another maybe two months before I went back to Poland. Yeah, two months, four months, about five months in Mauthausen. At that time I was sick. You know you saw when I got sick. I got sick here and they took me to the hospital a few days. I wasn't alone. Then I met, we had friends. We were invited to a CIC man two men's for the dinners invite us, a few people.

Q: You left Mauthausen?

A: I didn't leave Mauthausen, no. We just came. He picked us up. We went to Linz.

Q: Linz, Austria? Yeah, right.

A: Us. Was night after the war.

Q: This is after you're liberated you went to Linz?

A: I still lived in Mauthausen.

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Q: You stayed there after liberation?

A: Yes, I still was in Mauthausen. Why do I want to go right after the war? I have no place where to go. To my mother, to my father, to my family. So we stay with – we have to make plans what to do with our lives. What to do.

Q: So then you went to Linz?

A: I went, we went, we stayed in Mauthausen. Just went to dinner in Linz. To see with and say hello and meet the people, yes. We had a nice after and then.

Q: After you left Mauthausen, where did you go?

A: I still didn't leave Mauthausen. I still lived there and debating what to do with our lives with my sister. Because my sister insist there was enough on the Hagenah. They came. They said you should better go to Israel. I said if we go, these are _____ I cannot take it no more. 48 was already another war. No. I decided, from Mauthausen, where to go back. There were a few Polish boys want to go back to Poland. Maybe. Some of them want to go with me to Israel. I said no, I have to go with my sister only. What happened really. Mauthausen. On the way Mauthausen people died and people died later on too. But I was lucky. My sister got again diarrhea. They gave us so much food. I didn't eat the food and she ate some of it. They, at first American the best. They got good food, heavy food but they didn't realize right after this when people got sick to the stomach. Right away they changed the diet. They fed us more bland food to eat. And I was, I wasn't a long time. That was a short time and then Mauthausen and then in the hospital a short time.

Q: Where did you go after Mauthausen?

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A: After Mauthausen. My sister said look. We have to go back to Poland because we, I'm sure that our brother is alive. I didn't feel like going back really. I felt to go from here to Germany and my dream to go to the United States. (phone ringing)

Q: That's where we are. You were saying about how your sister said she wanted to go back to Poland.

A: Because of my brother. Because my youngest brother, we are, both felt that he was not in a bad place. It was also a factory when they made ammunition for Germans. But he was liberated a half a year before we did. Yeah in January. And we got liberated in May. So that's why we still have to give and I want to see my apartment, who lives there. I still was born there. I want to see Łódź again.

Q: Did you go back?

A: After about like four months, being in Mauthausen. And they said the Russians might take it over. So we decided to go back to Poland. With the trains, we went back to Poland. On the way the Polish guys, some of them quite anti-Semitic. And why going back, because they don't like you there. I didn't answer nothing. And then when we came to Łódź, was nice. A nice young man from also was in Mauthausen, who also Polish, maybe my age. He was so nice that he offered us to go to his parents, the first night to sleep. We didn't know where to go, what to do. And we went, **Leshak**. Even remember the last name. He liked me very much but I said I cannot go out with you because you're Polish and I am Jewish. What do you need it for? Jews suffer a lot. I don't want you to suffer so much anymore. Ok, that's not important but it shows that a good heart. He said the Poles put me here and I don't like it here. I would go with you to Palestine. I said I make no arrangements yet. Thank you for everything. Finally we met a cousin of mine so we slept there.

Q: Is this in Łódź?

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A: Yeah. Then I came and I said what am I doing here? And where do I go to? My homeland, what is this for me left? No mother, no father, no family, no nothing. What am I staying here for? We stayed. We had no choice and after about two months, the opportunity occurred to leave. To leave with a few people, Łódź. We went, trying to get out of there. First our dream was to go to the United States. I felt that's the best thing if we go possibly. I met a young man who was born in Berlin and lived in Poland, in Łódź and he fell in love with me. I've never did. I said at my age, I'm not ready to get married or get involved. But I go with you. I go with you. You want to go to Germany. Ok. It wasn't official. You cannot go official. You have to go hiding. In other words not official. But we made it. We made it to Germany. We came to Munich and then we got –

Q: Were you with your sister then?

A: Yes. No, my sister didn't go. Only my friend.

Q: Just you?

A: My sister stayed here. My sister stayed still in Łódź. And I – she said go, go, go. If you go I have a chance to go too. Go. So I went with him. I said I don't want to go without you. Said no, go. I promise you I see you. So what happened then? I went. It was terrible. I don't like over there. The friend, I think, **Lüneburg**. I was in Lüneburg a while. He was different. He wanted a different place I didn't want to go to with him, with this man. This man was I later married. I didn't want to go because I didn't feel like it, to get involved. I was too young. I didn't have nothing from my life much. I was only worried about family to be alive and to help as much as I can. At so young age. So what happened then? I certainly will try to get out of here. And the opportunity occurred with this young man. I went. We got, we got to the German line. Actually the Russian was then in Poland. Took over. Oh yeah before I finished I went to see my apartment where I used to live. A soldier, a Russian soldier answers. She says to me oh yeah, hello, how are you? What are you doing? I said yeah I came here to see my apartment. He was so nice. He welcomed us. He said you could stay here with us. Of course we refused, but it was nice. Til the beginning the Russians lived there. The Russians liberated Poland in beginning. Then left after a

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while, quite a while, they left Poland yes. And they were the Russian soldiers. So then I said what am I going to – what are we doing here now? With no family, no nothing. It's frightening. I don't care no more. And then I was happy that I left. At least I hope that my sister is going to find my brother. And she found him, after a few months, he came to Łódź and they were there. After a while staying in Germany, and when I met my husband I was in a hospital too in Germany. I stayed in a hospital. Had my foot in cast and my stomach very bad. And I have a picture of my foot in cast. But I made it. I said good. My stomach was very bad. After the war I had my gall bladder taken out. It's complication, infection. Only four operations, that's all. Ok that was ok. Ok I was happy that we got to Germany. Better than in Poland but I had nothing to look forward. I had nothing. No more. Not even apartment, nothing, no money, no nothing. And then I got, after a year or two maybe a year and a half, I got married in 46, in January.

Q: To the man you were traveling with?

A: Yeah. And he died three months, three years ago. Otherwise I wouldn't be here. I wouldn't be –

Q: And his name?

A: Heller Porway. **Pokshiva**, Polish. Pokshiva. You know what it is? Ok.

Q: So then you got married and then what happened?

A: I got married in Germany.

Q: In Germany and then you stayed there how long?

A: It was about five years. But it was good. Later.

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Q: Where in Germany were you living?

A: It was in suburban, **Pasing ober Menzing** next to Munich. It was a nice suburban area.

Q: What did your husband do?

A: He was working someplace. All kinds of work. Not too much though but you know we are not, only temporary here. We registered for the United States. Of course when he was a German, he could go in 1947 already. In 1947 I still didn't go. I was married in 46. I said because he was born in – I didn't register. Why didn't you register? They told me I come after – he said oh no, I'm not going to go without you. And then my daughter still was born in Germany. I had a daughter. she died.

Q: Sorry.

A: Ok.

Q: You stayed in Germany for five years?

A: Yes.

Q: And then you and your husband –

A: We got a beautiful apartment. I didn't know if people usually live in those camps, I didn't –

Q: Not a DP camp?

A: Not a DP camp. I don't want that. We had a choice to live private because I had friends who were there already a long time. And they got for me a very beautiful apartment from an SS, with furniture. How would I know to take beautiful furniture here. My son in law gave me the beautiful piece, what is here. From his mother died and would schlep this from Germany?

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Q: You stayed there for five years? And then you came where? Where did you go? To the United States?

A: With a child, with a one year child we came here.

Q: Where did you settle?

A: We settled in New Jersey because my husband, his brother came here before in the same area. Patterson. Patterson New Jersey.

Q: What did the United States mean to you at that –

A: At that time I had a pretty good life in Germany then. Quiet. I have – it took me a while, quite a while to get used to. No work. My husband. I went to live for quite a while with his brother and his wife. And you know how conditions were. With 500 dollars in my pocket. No more. It was hectic. But thank god, he was very smart, very bright. He went to find a few jobs I didn't like. Finally he begin to work in a factory where I'll show you what he made. I'll show you –

Q: You'll show me later, yeah.

A: Furniture. He became right away a foreman.

Q: This is in New Jersey?

A: New Jersey, yes, yes. It was in New Jersey. No more. And life goes on.

Q: You had another child? Did you have a second child?

A: The first child, the first, my first child lived til 40 years. She got married. At 16 years she went to college already. To college. And at the age of 20 she became a professor at New York

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University. But that's life. She got married and she was pregnant with her child. She was then 35 years, about 30 year, about that age, she became pregnant and then she didn't realize that she had a lump on her breast. She had cancer. After eight years, the boy was eight years she died.

Q: Then you had another child?

A: Yes, my daughter Janet, Janet

Q: You stayed in New Jersey until three years ago you said?

A: Yes.

Q: Can we now just talk about some of your thoughts. I wanted to ask you some questions about some of your thoughts. Do you think about what happened to you during the war a lot now? Do you think about it?

A: How can, how can I forget. Day and night. But I go on. I smile, I dress nice. I don't want nobody to feel sad about me. As long as I am able to be independent. My daughter is wonderful to me. My daughter got in touch, a beautiful apartment. I am happy to be here. But here, I'm very happy to be here. I am happy. I am happy to be here and be able to speak out. I just want to ____ . I am speaking in memory too, of the six million Jews who perished, could not never be able to speak for themselves. This should never happen again. No one in the world, never, never again. (emotional) Thank you very much for listening.

Q: Did you tell your children about what you went through when they were growing up?

A: My older daughter was very active, my Janet. My younger daughter is –

Q: I meant when they were growing up, when they were little, did you tell them about what your experiences were or did you not talk about it?

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A: Well I was open to them. I was, I was. My older daughter even pushed me to come for the meetings in New York because she lived in Manhattan, to meeting.

Q: When they were in high school or elementary school, did you tell them about what you –

A: Well, my dear, in those years, Nader became very popular but when my daughter was 16 years old, went to college it wasn't so popular because people did not tell too much. I was right away open with my kids. As a matter of fact, my older daughter felt guilty. I feel guilty that you have such a good young life and you suffered so much. That's what she always used to say. And my younger daughter, at school, where she taught in Fairfax, Fairfax. She was a special ed. Special ed. I have pictures how she described. You know how many kids thank her for them, they did now. Every year for a year, every age classes. She taught every week, every year. But one time I was invited to speak. The kids came over and kissed me and thanked me. Or six and seven.

Q: What are your thoughts about Germany today? What are your thoughts about Germany?

A: Germany. This is not my, I cannot blame all of Germans but I don't trust them today. Just a few who would help the Jews like what's his name, the one the movie.

Q: Schindler?

A: Schindler. He was also against, nothing for them. At first business and then when he saw what's going on, he realized. He realized and tried to help. If the many, more, more like Schindler was, would be like that. If they would destroy only the road to Auschwitz. A million kids would not be, a million Jews would not be killed in Auschwitz.

Q: Do you think you'd be a different person today if you hadn't gone through all the terrible things that you went through? Would you be different?

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A: You know I cannot be like you people. How can I? I try to be but it's very hard for me. I cannot think the same way. They cannot, they don't understand my life. But people are nice to me, wonderful. I play cards here with men. One was, guess what? A diplomat to England and two friends. I played poker with them. I played the other one, was a military man. A general. The third one was a professor and the fourth one was a judge. I get along all very good, but not close. I'm not close to them.

Q: Are you more comfortable around other survivors?

A: We have more in common, more in common. Comfortable? I love, I have friends, American who call me, called me, before called me every day, every other day/. Blanche I love you. You should see how she says. I respect my friends very much. In New Jersey I have more friends. You know I don't know. I tell you what. I go downstairs yes. If I go downstairs, people sit by the table. People are from around here. I am from New Jersey. So they say oh yeah I live in _____. I smile.

Q: What I was asking. Are you more comfortable around people who are Holocaust survivors?

A: Well obviously I have more in common. How comfortable depends. Depends after the person. Sometimes I feel more comfortable with my girl what you always, every Friday, Shabbat Shalom. From New Jersey. We went to the same shul and she still loved my husband too and everything. We have more in common.

Q: Have you been to Israel?

A: Only ten times, only ten times. Or twelve. I was, I went to Israel. I'll show you pictures. I was invited to my friend. To my friend for a wedding in Jerusalem. In the Hilton Hotel, over from Paris, very well to do. My husband's old friend. He was wonderful to my husband and to me. Everything paid for. He wouldn't even let me pay for my beauty parlor.

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Q: Have you been back to Poland?

A: Since then. No. I wanted to come back because my brother and my father is buried over there. I've been there.

Q: You did go back?

A: I did go back, not from here. I was back right after the war but I didn't go back because most of the time I really feeling good. I had five times surgery on my gall bladder with infections for many years. Now I feel better.

Q: Do you think about your experiences more as you've gotten older?

A: The what?

Q: The older you get, do you think more about the war time experience? The older you get?

A: I couldn't say I think more. I would not, I really would not say the way I feel about it. It depends. It depends what kind of a day I have. If I have a good day, sometimes come to me, just an incident that brought this, how I was feeling in the closet and how I, many things that I tell you, I could tell the ____, when I see the people looking at me and sharing with them. Always something comes to my mind, especially when I don't sleep at night and then I think maybe I should have saved my mother if I would put something, more rouge on your face, a lot. I could. I should take a ____, and put on her. I don't know but everything is **bashert**.

Q: Are there any sounds or smells or sights that you experienced that remind you of the war?

A: Sounds. This I don't think of. I'm not trying to think about it, no. The sounds. There are a lot of sounds

Q: Or smells or –

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A: I don't smell lately. I have no smell at all. I don't know what, in Auschwitz they gave us something. A lot of people lost the smell. I have no smell. You could smell and god forbid who knows what I would be. I cannot smell.

Q: Do you remember the Eichmann trial when Adolf Eichmann was put on trial in Israel?

A: I remember well, very well.

Q: What were your thoughts during the Eichmann? Do you remember what you thought about during the Eichmann trial, what your –

A: I don't tell. I told him, he shouldn't even have bothered with him. They should have killed him right away. What the heck. I still say Germany I don't trust, why. Just some of them. But this, already I like born with this. I went with my friend.

Q: None of that was on. How would you describe yourself? Are you Polish? American? Jewish? How would you describe yourself?

A: You see I am in this country over 60 years. I became an American, 63 years. What am I Come on, I'm here already 65 years that's how I describe myself.

Q: What was it like to become an American citizen? Do you remember?

A: Oh my gosh. When I became an American citizen, he said to me, Blanca is a nice name, why are you changing for Blanche? I felt go on before, I felt good. My husband had a good job. It was hard. It wasn't easy. I had a sick child. She had in a cast, my daughter was right -- she had a dislocated hip. It was really hard. We struggled. I had to go to work. Had to have a baby sitter because –

Q: What kind of work did you do?

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A: I worked in a factory in clothes, clothing. By a machine. Later on. Look I had to do what I had to do. But later on when I was, had another child here with my husband already was a foreman and I could then four people, four friends of his decided they can do on their own. They got together and they made a nice living. I could live wonderful, always going for vacation like the times go to vacation. Vacation to Florida, have a cottage in Vermont, Catskills mountains. And we felt we were very comfortable, nice except when my daughter died. I tell you most of them, mostly I think about my daughter. Ok.

Q: Have you been to the Holocaust museum in Washington?

A: Only 12 times. By then I could, watching my _____

Q: What are your thoughts when you go in there? What are your feelings?

A: My feelings. I feel like I'm there among those places. Yeah. But I tell you what. Have you seen Eisenhower staying and telling the people. Did you see the work I went, my father got sick in the ghetto and I walked with him. A soldier on this side, and on the other side a German soldier. You remember the steps yeah. This guy said stop, stop them. Let the girl go down with her father, straight. I show you that. Among, have to tell the good things too. Not all Germans. Some. Like young men, looks at me and my father walking. I went, came back with him from the doctor and that I never forget. And when I go there, when I see this scene and what I like what Eisenhower said, General Eisenhower. Don't believe what they tell you. I was there, I seen. That's that I think.

Q: Do you think the world has learned anything from the Holocaust?

A: The what?

Q: The world, do you think the world has learned any lessons from the Holocaust?

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A: Not quite. I tell you when they learn. Til now, til last year not as much. Last year in my opinion, they began to learn real. I knew when the American came and liberate me, you know what I said to them. You're so naïve, you're so very naïve. You don't know what life is about. Then last year in France, when touched not only Jews but anybody, anybody, temples, churches, people, young and old. Then, then it began. When I saw 40, 40 countries walking hand by hand one together maybe even more. United. Where were they? Where at least one country. Where were they? When I was in Auschwitz. And I get a, (emotional) go to my mother's grave because I took her to the crematorium. Where were they? Where was somebody to help? It was very easy. That's what I have in mind. That's what I think about when I saw the _____ then I realized that it got touched already. You agree with me.

Q: Yes.

A: Thank you.

Q: Is there any message you wanted to leave to –

A: Message?

Q: Any thoughts before we close? Are there any messages?

A: My thoughts is –

Q: Do you have any grandchildren?

A: I have two grandchildren.

Q: You do.

A: Two boys.

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Q: Two boys. Wonderful. Do you have any message to them or to anybody?

A: To them. The message to them, my grandchildren, my boys so wonderful that he always goes and do for people. He, last time, believe it or not at the age of 17, Ilan **Arnowitz**, he lives in Potomac with his mother and father. Janet my daughter and his father. Mitch Arnowitz, they are I'm very happy to be here. They brought me here and arranged for me a beautiful life.

Q: Any message to your grandchildren?

A: Yeah that keep up your wonderful work my grandson, this one is in TJ and he made a fund raising for Israel about two years ago and he made guess how much money. Six thousand dollars and that makes him feel good. And here the next one what he made for is for the people who are the kids kill themselves also. He did participate in that. And he made a lot of donations and I'm very proud of him. Ilani keep up your wonderful work, I love you. He's 17 now. I'll show you the pictures. And I'm so happy.

Q: You said you have two grandchildren?

A: Yes but they live far.

Q: Do you feel like you're two different people, somebody on the outside to the world and a different person inside?

A: I could, sometimes maybe. Sometimes yes. Sometimes because I cannot be always outgoing and smiling. In fact I'll do it and what am I – I'm out of stone or something. Some people just like to forget. I am trying to forget. I don't sleep good at night. I sleep three, three and a half hours. That's enough for me. I got used to it. If I see something, even here I see someone, I saw them before. I said oh my gosh his daughter left him. He's all by himself now. American. You know what and had that terrible apartment. I told him if you need something please let me know. Please, he doesn't drive. He's ok not too bad. He's only 80 years old but I told him I'd gladly help you. Let me know. Make me feel good. I love to do it. That's how I am. My parents who

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brought me up. Always give, don't receive. When somebody open up hand and ask for, don't ask why, why. When you open the hand you give. No matter what the person wants for.

Q: That's a lovely note to end on that's a beautiful.

A: I'm very happy to be heard by you and do it. Keep it up Gail. Gail Schwartz, you are a wonderful lady and I appreciate you coming here, taking your time with me. And god bless you. And thanks again for listening to me, whoever is going to listen, keep well everybody, I love you all. If you want to listen to my saying please I hope you like it, I hope so. I don't want you to get too upset because you have to go on and I am fine now. I am trying to be fine. I'm in a nice place and go on with my life. And I'm not a youngster no more. I never believed that I'd be able at my age still to try to be normal. I'm not a youngster no more. I never believed that I'll be able at my age still to try to be normal. I'm trying, I'm trying as much as, as long as I can. Thank you.

Q: This concludes the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum interview with Blanche Porway.

(end)