

RG-50.120\*04

**Aviram, Zvi**                      **Tape 1 of 3**

- 1.01    Zvi Aviram (Heinz Tzvi Abrahamson) was born in Berlin in 1927, from a large family living in the center of the city. Describes life of the Jewish community in the pre-Hitler period. His parents were middle class. Father was a World War I veteran, worked as a cobbler and his mother was a seamstress.
- 1.10    In 1933, Nazi's came to rule. Describes this period and how it affected his family.
- 1.14    Describes Jewish community with the large influx from Poland. 1933-38, went to Jewish schools, describes relationships with Jewish and non-Jewish children.
- 1.24    Describes life during time of Berlin Olympics (1936).
- 1.35    In 1938, Jewish children had to leave public schools and go to Jewish schools. Describes Jewish school and teachers.
- 1.45    Describes Kristallnacht and life and mood of Jewish community afterwards.
- 1.53    Escape of wealthy Jews to France, Holland, and Belgium.
- 2.02    Talks about his uncle's mixed marriage that saved many. Describes feeling of threat and entrapment.
- 2.16    Describes outbreak of war and mood; anti-Semitic laws in Berlin (1939).
- 2.27    Describes British bombardment of Berlin (1940).
- 2.32    January 1940, finished elementary school, describes his Bar Mitzvah. Went to Ort school to become a locksmith.
- 2.43    1941-43, all Jewish students had to work, forced labor, in a clock factory.
- 2.48    Fall of 1941, all Jews were told to go east to work. Describes Jewish reaction. All those who went to Lodz were not heard of again.
- 3.00    Jews worked forced labor in the weapons industry (AEG, ZIEMENS), because German men were at the fronts.
- 3.20    Talks about the relationship with German bosses.
- 3.30    Jewish communist group explodes bomb in Nazi exhibition of subhumans (????). All were caught and killed.

- 3.35 Describes German movies and propaganda films. He did not wear a yellow star – he went around freely.
- 3.43 1943, he makes friends with a communist who introduces him to the underground.
- 3.45 People are taken from factories to transports. Describes the mood of the community and the many suicides.
- 3.50 Jews were horded to synagogues and from there to trains. He describes his escape to a friend.

### **Tape 2 of 3**

- 4.01 Describes return to his empty apartment, then his hide out with a mixed marriage family, the Becks.
- 4.19 Describes Zionist organization in Berlin. Discussions whether to go East with the transports or go underground.
- 4.25 1943, he joined the Hechalutz underground. Describes the group.
- 4.49 Germans confiscated all Jewish properties.
- 4.43 Describes various underground groups, their interrelationships and their methods of financial survival.
- 4.55 Arrest of underground members.
- 5.10 His hiding place is raided and he is arrested.
- 5.20 Describes interrogation in prison on Grosser Hamburger Strasse. 5,500 Jews were sent from there to Auschwitz. Stella Kubler identified thousands of Jews and had them arrested.
- 5.36 Describes his breakout from prison.
- 5.40 January 1944, describes the bombardment and burning of Berlin.
- 5.55 Financial help from Switzerland for Hechalutz.
- 6.05 Gad Beck reorganized the underground. Describes underground, supply of food, and life in Berlin in 1944.
- 6.19 Plans to escape to Switzerland. Frees prisoners and arranges hide outs.

6.45 June 1944, describes the revolt of the officers and the German reaction.

6.50 Reads in paper about the uprising of Warsaw ghetto.

**Tape 3 of 3**

7.03 Talks about the fate of mixed marriages. Describes different families.

7.12 Describes the change of attitude of Germans against Nazi's in 1944.

7.15 March 1945, Lustig (a Nazi spy) had most of his group arrested.

7.28 Describes interrogations by Gestapo.

7.34 April 1945, the Russians are approaching Berlin and the Gestapo let them go.

7.37 Describes chaos in Berlin and street fights.

7.45 Talks about Russians in Berlin.

7.49 July 1945, Americans enter Berlin. He and his group started to walk south.

7.45 He got to Blaukenheim where he met Jews from Buchenwald.

8.00 He organized transport to the American sector in the West. Describes wonderful reception.

8.10 Joined the Hechalutz group in Munich and started to organize illegal immigration to Palestine.

8.17 Describes his work, moving people across borders working with the Jewish Agency and the Bridage.

8.33 March 1948, he went from France to Palestine.

8.35 Talks about life in Israel and the adjustment of German Jews.

8.45 Talks about present day Germany.