

RG-50.120*018

Blander, Avraham

- 1.00 He came from a traditionally observant family, but went to a Polish school. He had a brother and a sister. His father sold produce. He was born in Hubyestov, Poland in 1923.
- 1.02 December 1939, he was taken on a march with other Jews by the Nazis. Seeing that those who couldn't go were shot, he ran away near ??? along with his father. They stayed in Chrubieszow in relative safety until June 1942 when the first Action occurred. They often worked for Polish landowners to avoid having to work for the Nazis who were far more brutal.
- 1.27 The first Action took place in June of 1942. The Jews were told that they were being taken to do labor. During the third Action he and his family fled to Tschobusz??, but were caught and taken to the Gestapo in Chrubieszow where they worked as gravediggers. They were then taken to Yethov to clean houses. He and several others ran away a day before they were to be deported. His parents were executed.
- 1.51 Returns to description of childhood, education, and family. His education was ended by the war. His family had a home of their own, but were forced into the ghetto just before the first Action. His brother fled to Russia in 1939. Describes Actions. Discusses relatives and their post-war experiences.
- 2.21 Returns to discussion of experiences as a gravedigger – the executions, cremations, burials, and becoming accustomed to the atrocities. Describes experiences as house cleaners. Upon learning of a planned deportation, he fled with his sister and brother-in-law, and another man. The latter individual was actually an informer who convinced them that it was safe to return to town.
- 2.32 One day, the Gestapo loaded them on trains and took them to Buzin, a labor camp. As he had training as a secretary, he was taken to work along with other Jewish professionals. A concentration camp was established around a nearby airplane factory where the prisoners were transferred, at the end of 1942. He worked at the airplane factory.
- 2.52 They were transferred to Flossenbug, Germany. Describes arrival. From there they were taken to Leipnaitz in Czechoslovakia where there was an underground airplane factory. He was put to work installing pipes. He was supplied with additional food by Czech coworkers. They were transferred to Ansberg, and then to Dachau for several months, and finally to Landor ??? where they worked at an airfield. In April they were marched toward Tirol. Along the way, they saw that the S.S. had fled and tried to run away, but a new group of S.S. recaptured them. The S.S. prepared to shoot them but decided not to. They were then lead to

another concentration camp. They were placed in a hospital and fed, until the Americans entered the camp in early May.

- 3.19 He was taken in by a German family who clothed and fed him. They twenty or thirty Jews remained there and set up communal organizations for themselves. Describes first experiences as a free man. He remained there until July, when he traveled to Prague. He found out that both his siblings were dead. From there he traveled to Chrubieszow where the police imprisoned him. When released, he met a Jewish woman who he then married. They remained in Germany until 1947.
- 3.38 He and his wife were selected for Aliyah, but missed their passage on the Exodus. They stayed near Lyon for almost a year. On June 6, 1948, they arrived in Israel, where he and his wife worked at a kibbutz near Naharea ?????. When the liberation of the Negev began, they ran away from the kibbutz and he enlisted in the army for 1½ years. They lived in Afalo where their daughter was born. He began a career in carpentry. In 1957 they built themselves a house. He fought in the 1956 and 1967 wars and had two more children.