

RG-50.120*029

Cana, Bety **Tape 1 of 2**

- 1.01 Bety Cana was born on November 11, 1919 in Amsterdam. Father worked in the diamond industry. She had four older sisters. The family was religious. She went to public school and then to Jewish high school until age 14 when she had to start working as an accountant.
- 1.05 Joined religious Zionist youth group, "Zichron Jacob," as did her sisters. One sister when to Palestine in 1936. She went to Hachshara (work preparation program). She and her boyfriend went to the same place and got married. On May 10, 1942, the Germans entered Holland.
- 1.12 October 1942, Germans arrested "work group" and transported them to Westerburg.
- 1.14 Talks about Schlomo Samson, who wrote a book about the period.
- 1.17 Describes life in Westerburg. Her "group" continued to function as such and was recognized by Germans as a special group.
- 1.23 British cooperated with Jewish groups and sent 500 certificates for youth 14-18 years old to immigrate to Palestine. She did not qualify as she was overage.
- ????? She, her sister, and her mother were sent to Auschwitz. Describes arrival and initiation.
- 1.29 She was selected (had to agree) to be in a group of young married women who were to participate in medical experiments.
- 1.38 Greek prisoners from Saloniki told them about the experiments. She was in Auschwitz I, which was a model camp for propaganda purposes.
- 1.42 Describes her work at camp, which included collecting plants for the pharmacy.
- 1.44 Professor Klauberg was the head of the experiment. Purpose was to discover methods of sterilization without operations. Describes experiment.
- 1.46 Describes life in the group of 10 women from Westerburg; population of camp and communist underground. Describes life in the group.
- 1.50 Talks about German women guards who were pregnant for Germany.
- 2.00 She had to decide whether to go to the experiment group or to go to Birkenau and death.

- 2.09 Describes experiments and her own experience.
- 2.14 Talks about whore houses in camp.
- 2.20 Summer 1944, she was transferred to a new camp near Birkenau. Germans were afraid of the end of the war and the treatment was better.
- 2.27 Describes how life in her “group” helped her survival in the camp.
- 2.37 Talks about Bunker - Block 11, the execution block.
- 2.40 Women from the underground who were hanged in public.
- 2.51 January 1945, they were marched out of camp.
- 2.58 February 1945, arrival in Bergen-Belsen. Describes camp.
- 3.03 Meeting with sister and friends in Austauschlaager where people with certificates were held.
- 3.05 Conditions in camp. Work in camp kitchen.
- 3.12 Illness – typhoid fever.
- 3.16 April 1945, liberation by British army and vengeance of prisoners.
- 3.22 Treatment in hospital in Belzen.
- 3.39 Fate of her husband.
- 3.40 Organization for illegal Aliya by the Jewish Brigade. Went to Marseille and from there by boat (“Tel Chai”) to Israel. Describes being caught by the British and brought to camp in Atlit and from there to her sister in Tel Aviv.

Tape 2 of 2

- 4.00 Describes youth organizations (Jewish) in Holland.
- 4.21 Recount the experience of “Hachshara” (work group) until May 10, 1942, when Germans entered Holland.
- 4.25 Special German orders for Jews.
- 4.28 “Aliyat Noar” (youth immigration) in Holland.
- 4.35 Deliberations whether to go into hiding or not.

- 4.44 Recounts transfer to Westerburg and life in camp.
- 5.15 Preparations for transport and the transport to Auschwitz.
- 5.28 Detailed description of medical experiments.
- 6.00 Talks about Dr. Klauberg and Goebel who did the experiments.
- 6.07 Psychological effect of being an experimental subject.
- 6.11 Fate of pregnant women and abortions in Block 10.
- 6.13 Her life in Israel and her second marriage.
- 6.20 Her medical treatment in Israel.