

RG-50.120 #037 5 Tapes
Faktor, Ziev

I

- 1.02 Ziev Faktor, born April 1926, in Lodz. Upper middle class family. Describes happy childhood. Non-Jewish upbringing. As a result of anti-Semitism he enters private Jewish school with Zionist orientation.
- 1.21 Describes school life. Central theme was Zionist movement.
- 1.26 Describes his father and their relationship. Lodz, it's population and economy.
- 1.31 Anti-Semitism and economic pressure. Arrival of German Jews of Polish origin after Kristalnacht.
- 1.41 1939, is aware of impending war.
- 1.55 Birth of sister, who later died in Auschwitz with her mother and aunt.
- 2.04 Describes family life. Only 2 out of 128 survived.
- 2.08 1st Sept. 1939, beginning of war. Describes bombardment panic and plundering.
- 2.20 German army enters Lodz, welcomed by 100,000 Volks Deutsche.
- 2.32 Kgerman orders against Jews. The taking over of Jewish businesses.
- 2.40 The escape of many of the Jewish leadership, including Begin, leaving behind 3rd rate leadership.
- 2.46 Lodz is renamed Litzmanstadt. Food rationing and the beginning of hunger.
- 2.50 Life of Jews under the Germans. Life of children.
- 3.03 Orders to go into ghetto. Describes area of ghetto.
- 3.08 SS pogrom to push Jews into the ghetto. The manner in which the VolksDeutsche dealt with the Jews.
- 3.12 Transition to ghetto took 5 weeks. Conditions in ghetto.
- 3.40 Describes functions of Judenrat. Development of factories in ghetto.
- 3.50 His work in the ghetto.

3.58 Worsening of conditions, disease, TB, death in the streets. 48,000 people died in ghetto. Despair.

II

4.01 Hierarchy in ghetto. Head of Judenrat and his lust for power.

4.04 Jewish youth movements. He was in Hashomer Hatzair. Describes group life, solidarity, mutual help.

4.21 1941 - Germans prepare to invade Russia. Ghetto was ordered to assemble all old people and children. Rumkowski, head of Judenrat, ordered Jewish police to go into the homes for Selections. Those selected were never seen again.

4.30 His own loss of faith. Fate of his family during Selection.

4.39 News of Stalingrad and mourning in Lodz.

4.45 Daily survival in the ghetto. No resistance movement. Rumkowski discouraged it. There were 200,000 Jews in Lodz, most of whom were exterminated without resisting.

III

5.00 Signs of resistance to Rumkowski and his reaction.

5.12 1943. He got work in ghetto administration. Was sent by Bibof to metal factory.

5.28 Nazi work regime in Lodz, factories and other work places.

5.45 Spiritual struggle for survival. Denial and refusal of resistance. Lack of leadership. Description of Rumkowski how was hated by the ghetto population.

6.08 The silence of the world.

6.12 Spring 1944, Russians at Visla. Revolt in Warsaw and destruction of city by Germans.

6.17 Aug. 1944. Germans transported all of ghetto.

6.30 Arrival in Auschwitz and separation from his mother, sister and aunt who were selected to die in the gas chambers.

6.45 Adaptation to Auschwitz. Humiliating treatment and its psychological impact.

6.53 He is taken to Birkenau. Description of block.

6.58 Slave market in camp. Factory supervisors for Opel, Siemens, Mercedes, selected prisoners for work.

7.00 Organization of camp.

IV

7.06 Psychological effect of camp life on thinking, feeling and behavior.

7.15 Daily routine in camp.

7.27 Selection of 1200 young men for work. Describes work camp.

7.40 He is assigned to farm camp. Describes.

7.55 Talks about kapos. Punishments in camp.

8.06 Describes SS in camps. News of American occupation and its effect on SS.

8.22 Winter of 1944. Bombardment of Germany and failure to bomb railtracks to Auschwitz.

8.36 Jan. 1945, Auschwitz was evacuated and 5000 people were marched out. Describes death march.

8.50 Arrives in camp Bolkenheim.

8.58 Russian offensive starts and they are marched through the Riesengebirge to waiting trains.

V

4.07 Feb. 1945. 5 day train ride to Buchenwald. Only 14 survived out of 60.

4.16 Reception in Buchenwald. Describes camp and physical condition of prisoners.

4.28 1st April 1945, all Jews were marched out of camp, but he remained and hid out.

4.41 April 11 1945, Liberation by American Army. Describes.

4.57 Aftermath. Filming of camp. Housing, treatment by army.

5.05 Exhibition of lamp shades made of human skin.

5.08 Conditions after liberation. Medical treatment.

- 5.16 Repatriation of prisoners and fate of Eastern European Jews who did not want to be repatriated. He was sent to Switzerland, where he was hospitalized with TB for 1 ½ years.
- 5.30 Traumatic meeting with Jews in Israel in 1947. Lack of understanding and support of the Israeli population.
- 5.47 Psychological impact of his Holocaust experience.