

RG-50.120*038

Finkel, Yitzhak

Tape 1 of 2

- 1.00 He was born in Lodz in April 1917. There were five children in the family. Father owned a hosiery factory. Describes childhood and life in the center of Lodz (which was Jewish). He did not finish high school and worked in his father's factory.
- 1.15 September 1, 1939, describes the bombardment of Lodz and the entry of Germans. This was the beginning of German rule – confiscation of father's business.
- 1.34 April 1949, all Jews had to enter the ghetto. Describes life in the ghetto, the hierarchy, the head of Judenrat (Rumkowski), work orders, and food distribution.
- 1.55 Ghetto government and organization, supervision of work by Jewish Police.
- 2.20 180,000 Jews (1941) from the ghetto were transported to do hard labor in Germany.
- 2.26 Describes preparations for transport in 1942, and the role Rumkowski played.
- 2.43 1942, transport of all hospital patients, women, children, and the elderly. Describes house searches and selections.
- 3.02 Talks about his psychological state of mind.
- 3.11 He is arrested, with 1,500 others, and transported by train to Chestokhova to work in a weapons factory. Describes the organization of the work camp, work, and treatment by Kapos.
- 3.35 1944, he is transported by train to Skarzysko, describes the work camp and his own work in the storage factory.
- 3.44 Relationships between prisoners and trading within the camp, medical treatment and executions.
- 3.58 In July 1944, he is transported by train to Pelzerium to work in a weapons factory. Describes work and conditions there.

Tape 2 of 2

- 3.06 Describes work at the factory and life in the barracks until December 1944.
- 3.27 Advance of Russian front and evacuation by train to Buchenwald. Describes camp and conditions.

- 3.45 Describes Kapo in Buchenwald.
- 3.57 His work in the camp and clearing bomb damage near Weimar.
- 4.20 His psychological survival.
- 4.28 March to trains near Weimar and three-week train ride to Teresienstadt.
- 4.50 May 1945, arrival in Teresien and feelings of hope in the ghetto. He gets sick and is in the hospital in Teresien during and beyond the liberation.
- 5.11 He is released from the hospital and rides by train to Lodz to find his family. He does not find anyone and remains to work in a factory. Describes Polish anti-Semitism.
- 5.20 Decides to go to Palestine and join a kibbutz. Describes organization and life in the kibbutz. Meets his wife and has a child.
- 5.41 Describes being a witness in the trial of Gunter Fuchs in 1962.
- 5.47 Describes what happened to his family, as he found out later. Nobody survived.
- 5.59 Describes adjustment to life in Israel.
- 6.03 Describes his trip to Israel with his wife in child in June 1949. His difficulties in making a life for himself and his family in Israel.