

RG-50.120 #0042 5 Tapes

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[The first 2 tapes are missing. Tape 1 is really Tape 3. The style is free association and therefore difficult to 'time', by subject matter. The tapes are therefore summarized by content.]

TAPE I

[Really tape 3, starting at the 8th hour - starts at 8.36]

He worked on the Rampa in Auschwitz unloading people who arrived on transports, dead and alive. He also unloaded and sorted belongings left on the trains.

He tells about things he saw as well as things he heard about, such as incidents of resistance and attempted escapes and ensuing punishments.

He describes the state of apathy of people, motivated only by the will to survive. Also describes the daily life in Auschwitz and the relationships between prisoners.

He mentions a Kapo named Oscar who was decent and helpful and other Kapos who were sadistic. Mentions names of German doctors who were responsible for selections in Auschwitz, including Mengele and Eichmann.

Tells about explosions in Crematorium #I done by Molotov cocktails that were prepared in Block 14.

He mentions the July 1943 transport of women from Majdanek. The transports from: Saloniki, Sosnowiec, North Africa, Carpathia, Munkacz (Mukacheve), Osorody.

He talks about being in a transport arriving in Berlin during a bombardment, being marched to Oranienburg and then to Sayenal.

TAPE II [tape 4 - starts at 11.55]

He talks about the gypsy camp in Auschwitz and their extermination.

Describes Mengele's experiments with children. He was assisted by two Jewish doctors, Dr. Baylin and Dr. Borenstein.

Talked about the resistance group in Auschwitz headed by Voichack.

Tells about transports that arrived in Auschwitz from: Czech Republic in April/May 1943 Aachen, Lomza, Gorawino, Vaygovishki, Severenal, Bialystok, Onyon

Tells about the rebellion in Auschwitz in October 1944 and people involved like Zalman Gradovsky and Moniek.

TAPE III [tape 5 - starts at 15.11]

Talks about leaving Auschwitz on a train which was bombed. Arrival in Berlin during a bombardment and march to Oranienburg. Describes the camp and Dr. Marozek who was the head of Oujin, an organization responsible for executing pogroms.

Describes his experiences in Sachsenhausen. Describes the barracks, the hard labor and the cruelty of the guards. Talks about the bombardments by Americans in February, March 1945.

Describes the death march to Buchenwald and then to Weimar.

TAPE IV [tape 6 - starts from 17.51]

He continues to describe the death march and his arrival in Theresienstadt. Describes Theresienstadt, his life and work there. He was 19 when he was liberated. Tells how he met his wife. After liberation they traveled to Lodz and married. Tells about the reaction of Poles to returning Jews.

Tells about the 'kibbutz' which was the central base for helping Jews to get to Israel. Describes the operations of the 'kibbutz'. Talks about the operation 'Ha-Berihah' [The flight].

Describes their trip to Vallstadt and their experiences there and then their move to Ochland.

Talks about the criteria used to choose people to send to Palestine. Talks about smuggling a group of Jews out of Vilna.

TAPE V [tape 7 - starts at 21.00]

Talks about the training in the 'kibbutz' and mentions meeting Itzhak Tabenkin, Stefan Geryak and Zivia Lubetkin. Describes the children who were taken care of in the kibbutz and their experiences during the war.

Describes his feelings after the war, guilt and thoughts of revenge. Talks again about the gypsy camp and the crematoria.

He was ill and received treatment in Germany and then moved to Italy. Talks about his experiences there. His wife went to Palestine before he did. He arrived in Israel in 1949 on the boat, 'Artza'.

Talks about his relationship with the kibbutz 'Lohamei Hagetaot'. Describes his meeting with his wife and daughter in Israel and his relationship with his children.