

**RG-50.120\*111**  
**NAOR, ZVI**

**TAPE 1 OF 4**

01:00:50 My name is Zvi Naor. I was born in 9.14.1924. My father died when I was two years old, my sister was four. My mother moved to live with her parents. I got their family name: Finger and not my father family name: Vaisser. My grandfather was Hasidic, but the atmosphere in the house was young and modern, because of my youngest brothers and sisters of my mother. From age three I went to the "Cheder". I was thought to read "Kadish" before the "Aleph Bait". From age seven to fourteen I went to a Polish school that I finished in 1939 when the war started.

01:04:45 We lived in Tishevitz, a beautiful little town in Poland near Zamosh. My grandfather was a citrus grower. The gentiles burned our town. Most of the people in the town were Chasidic Jews. Our family belonged to Rabbi Leib Tversky from Keltz. After the fire we moved to Komorov, where my uncle lived. We had debates if to move to Russia, but we stayed in Poland. The German's restrictions were such as: Forbidden to wear fears. Forbidden to own shops. Every citizen needs a work certificate. Every one from age fourteen have to work. They built a ghetto in Komorov. I worked in a forest between Komorov and Zamosh where the Germans built an airport.

01:20:20 We lived in penury.  
In 1942 we heard about demolishing of Jewish communities. We didn't know what happened to the Jews that were taken to places like Maidanek. One night the Germans entered our town. I went out from the house, depart from my mother and sister. The gentiles caught my sister and two friend of her; they took their cloths and hand over them to the Germans.  
My sister and her friends wanted to go to ghetto Warsaw. I went to Tishevitz to look for my uncle Motel. I wanted to hide in one of the Polish farmer I knew. He gave me some food and told me to run away. He told me that my grandfather was killed for a vodka bottle, and my uncle ran to Tushab forest. I decided to go to the forest. On my way one Polish guy wanted to robe me. I stuck my stick into his eyes and run away.

01:43:10 I learned how to behave in the forest. I walked for several hours and I saw fires. I met there people from Tishevitz. I asked about my uncle.

They told me he went to the village. Suddenly I saw my mother. She didn't see me. I heard her saying: "if I only could see my children for one more time". When Motel came back I went with him to bring my sister and her friends before she is going to Warsaw. We found them and brought them to Tushab. It was October. We had to prepare for the winter. We dug holes in the ground and collected leaves to cover ourselves.

01:50:00 The first to run to the forest were Russian soldiers who were prisoners. Demeter was a Mayor who organized the people as Partisans. Other people as Jews and criminals joined them.

02:00:00 The Germans came to Tushab. They used grenades and machine guns. We were 10 meters from them. My uncle shot and we ran away. My mother was shot in her back. I heard her last words: " Oyi maiener kinder" (my children). My sister and I continue to run. Than we lied between the dead people and spread some blood on our face, pretending that we were dead too. We heard their appell and they drove back.

02:08:10 Those who remain in live gathered together again. We buried the dead. My uncle and his fiancé went to hide in a farmer house. I wanted to bury my mother, but I could not find her body. While was looking for her I heard a sigh. It was Shimon from Komorov who was wounded very badly. I brought him and we took him to the village to get medical assistants. Later he moved to a labor camp in Zamosh. I got a mission to kill a policeman in the head quarter of the Germans. It was a test for me in order to join the group of partisans.

02:24:55 The Germans caught one of the Russian who got drunk, so we hid during the days and met during the nights. I went to visit my uncle Motel. He joined us on one of our mission. We were 8 people who hid in a hole. Germans surrounded the place. We went out and they shot at us. Two Germans chased after me. I had a gun and I shot back. I went without knowing where too. I arrived to a farm. I entered the house demanded food, cloths and a horse. I promised to send the horse back and so I did after I got to the forest. There I heard that two of our people died and the Germans caught my uncle. He was in the ghetto in Rubyeshov. I sent a message to my uncle Aizek Finger telling him about Motel.

02:41:30 The German sent all the Jews from Rubyeshov to Death Camps, except 200 Jews who remained in order to work for them.

I got a note from my uncle in Rubyeshov. He asked me to come with Surale (Motol's fiancé) to live with him in the ghetto.

In the ghetto I got a certificate. Now I was Vaiser (on my father name), because I didn't want to tell the Germans my name Finger in order to avoid any relationship with my uncle Motel who was a prisoner. The Germans tortured my uncle. He didn't tell them anything. I heard they put him on an electric board and he burn to death.

02:51:40 I was 17 years old. I lived with my uncle, but I wanted to live with my young friends. One night the German took all the Jews to a concentration camp: Budzin. It was near a German factory for building airplanes. In one shift of 12 hours we assembled the body of one airplane. We were 20 people who run away and hid in the field for three nights, but then we came back to the ghetto. After several weeks we moved to Budzin too.

Naor add some episodes from previous time:

- His grandfather was a Hasidic very orthodox. He believed that if someone would dare to cut his bird his hand would paralyze. When a German man did it to him he said: "I am afraid I am loosing my faith".
- From all the Jews in Tishevitz we remained only four people.
- The forest guard In Tushab came to me and told me he recognized me from photos he found on my mother body. He told me he buried her.
- In Rubyeshov we lived in Yadkova St. Each morning we left for work and in the evening we came back to our apartments. Dr. Orenstien was the head of the Jews. We worked in sorting cloths and furniture, in building roads, in cleaning stables of the horses. I was there from Mars to June 1943.

03:35:00 In Budzin it was the firs time to see and fell a real camp. It was something between labor camp to concentration camp. We stayed with our cloth but on our cloth we had a red David Star (on the right leg and on the back). Most of the people worked in the airplanes factory. I worked as road paving. The head of the camp was a S.S. officer, but in the administration there were crucial Ukrainians.

03:48:50 I don't remember the exact timetable of the camp, since I was in six different camps. but it was almost the same. In the morning we walk

up by beats from the Capos. Then we got something they called coffee, went to the appell and to work. For lunch we got some bread with jam. For dinner we got something called soup.

04:00:00 We were three friends in Budzin who planed to escape from the camp. We found out that we were not the only one. The plan was to cut the wire when the light of the camp would shut down.

## **TAPE 2 OF 2**

04:06:40 One evening the light turned off. People thought that it was the sign to escape and ran to the wires. The Germans started to shoot in machine guns and killed some tens people. Then the Germans decided to move us to another camp. There we got uniforms with stripes. The wires were electric. Again we plan to escape. We dig in our hands and spoons a tunnel near the wire, but one night we had a collapse from the rain. The next morning a truck came to the camp. The Germans asked for volunteers to go to another camp: Myelitz. I volunteered to go.

04:26:20 Myelitz was a concentration camp. It was ran by Jewish criminals who were very crucial to us. They behaved as “EVED KI IMLOCH” (servant who became a king).

Two Jews succeeded to escape from the camp. As the result we all marked with tattoo on our right hand the letters: KL.

In the beginning of 1944 we were loaded on train cars headed first to Vyelizka near Krakow for several weeks and then to Flossenburg in Germany.

04:39:30 It was a very large transition camp. First we had to go to the showers. It was water and not gas. We were marked on our forehead as cattle. For three weeks we were naked. From there we were moved to Laytmeritz on the border between Germany and Czechoslovakia. I was in this camp for 9-10 months. I worked servitude work six days a week.

04:47:10 I remembered one episode about a father and his son who was my age (19). The son decided not to eat his bread, but to keep it to Sunday and then to eat it all. One night we woke up to screaming and crying voices. We found out that the father stole his son's bread and the son beat his father almost to death. The situation brought people to act so badly.

Each month a new transported arrived to the camp, between 1000-1500 people. The same number of people died in the camp each month.

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05:01:00 I always volunteered to work in hard work such as digging the line for the trail of a gas pipe. I worked ahead of our group, so I could find sometimes a frozen potato or an apple in the field, which I could trade for bread.

05:15:10 The nights were very short. On 3:00 A.M. the kapo entered the block, whistled and we had to get out for the appell. (Until today, when someone wakes me up, I jump immediately).

Once I had a terrible tooth ace. I didn't want to go to the dentist because I heard that he always extracts the wrong tooth. The pain was so bad that I had to go. The dentist put me on a stool and took the tooth out with pliers, and then he kicked me out of the room. I found my self-bleeding on the snow.

05:26:15 We got cloths in the winter and in the summer. In the summer we had jacket of flannel and in the winter it was made of light material. We had wooden shoes. We used some square cloth patches as socks.

Once a month we had Enklauzung (?) – a cleaning day. After the appell we went to a disinfection room, we were shaved all over our body and then we went to a room that had showers with cold water in the winter and boiling water in the summer.

05:33:55 A competition over a potato: Once someone was caught while smuggling a potato. As a punishment, after the appell we were told to stay: The German took two persons, and asked them to run to the fence. The one that would come back first would stay alive.

05:37:10 One of the guards told us that the war is about to end. In April after the appell the Jews were asked to step forward. We were moved to Terezinstadt (?).

05:41:10 We arrived to Hamburg Kasrena(?). The Czech police ran the place. The Germans planed to gather all the Jews from around 200-300 KM, to build a crematorium and to exterminate the Jews, but they didn't have the time for it. So on July 5<sup>th</sup> they opened hell of gunfire on us. In the evening the Russians entered the camp. On the next morning I met my friend Shimon. We went to look for food. We got from Russian soldiers dough with chocolate. Until three years ago I could not eat chocolate.

05:55:40 Shimon and I continue to walk - searching for food. We met Germans soldiers. We stopped them and took all the food they had. I took the boots from one of them.

#### **TAPE 3 OF 4**

06:01:05 We decided to go to Eretz Israel. We met two Romanian women. I remembered that "Aliya Bet" organized Aliya through Romania, so we went with the women on a train to Prague and from there to Romania.

06:12:00 We separated from the women and went to register at the "Joint" office. After a month we took a train to Hungary and from there to Austria. We were a group of 30-35 young people. Our group name was "ICHUD" (unification).

06:19:40 We were in Udenburg(?), thousand of youngsters waiting to go to Palestine. From there we went to Milan in Italy.

06:32:05 From Milan we moved to Tzinitzita(?) (A place like Hollywood in Italy). We lived in a villa of General Keserling in Grotto Ferrate (?). It was 10-15 Km. from Rome. After 6 months we arrived to la-Spetzia (?). We were on our way to the ship "Dov Hoz" for Palestine. British soldiers stopped us. We declared a hunger strike. Harold Lasky (a British Parliament member) came to visit us and asked us to stop the strike. He said that if he won't succeeded to give us a permit to sail he would join our strike. We got the permit, but they said it wouldn't be secure to go so many people (1040) on such a ship, so they gave us a British ship. We refused, but got another ship from the "HAGANA". It was "Eliyahu Golomb".

06:52:08 In Palestine we came to immigrants camp in Chadera. (In Italy I got married). The uncle of my wife lived in Tel Aviv. He took us to live with him.

06:53:00 While I was in Rome I heard that you could look for relatives in USA. I remembered I had an aunt (My father's sister) who went to America in 1930. I knew her address and I wrote to her. She invited me to come. I even got a telegram and a permit from the American embassy. I asked my friend Shimon what to do. He called me a traitor. I threw the telegram and came to Palestine.

06:59:30 In Tel Aviv I went to the “SOCHNUT” looking for a job. They sent me to Rehovot. Afterwards I worked in “TNUVAH” in Tel Aviv. In 1948 I was recruited to the army. My son was born on 1946. I separated from my first wife. My son stayed with me and my second wife accepted him as her son.

07:02:15 I was asked to stay in the Army, and so I did.

07:07:35 We, the survivor of the Holocaust always felt inferior. We were deprived. Once I was on the bus from Rehovot to Tel Aviv. A man told his friend that: “last night a man from the “HAGANAH” died, and for what for people like him (he was pointed at me) who sent their parents to the death camps and rescued themselves”. I got so mad that I started to strangler him. The bus driver had to stop the bus and to calm me down.

Where were you? Where was the world?

I never talked or told anybody anything about what happened to me. I kept it to my self.

#### **TAPE 4 OF 4**

07:13:40 Four years ago I was at my son’s house. I saw a story about Partisans in a book of my grandson. I asked him if he knows what they had done. I told him I was a Partisan. He asked me to tell him, I said: “when you will be older”. My son said: “You are doing the same mistake as you did with me. He asked you to tell him now, so tell him now”. I could not do it.

Zvi thinks that the “**Eichman(?)** Trial” helped the survivors, because people started to understand and to learn more about the Holocaust.

07:26:45 -How the Holocaust influences you?

- I can’t see how people throw away food. I have to finish everything from my plate.
- I taught my kids to be strong, to protect themselves.
- The word “I can’t” is not in my vocabulary and so I educated my children.
- I’ll never be late.

- I always will do today or even yesterday what I have to do tomorrow.

07:30: 20 Our revenge is to be strong in order to ensure that things such as the Holocaust will never happened again.

07:34:20 I taught my children not to be afraid. When I made a bath to my son I wash him with hot water and then with cold water, so he will be strong and brave.

07:41:05 In 1946 (?) I went to Germany to testified in a trial of Schultz, a war criminal. He went for life in prison.

Zvi told some episodes from the trial.