

RG-50.120*121
RUTERMILESD MASHA
7.22.1997.19.1993

01:01:00 My name was Masha Gleiterman. I was born in Warsaw and lived in 47 Nelveky St. I went to a kinder garden until I was six years old. We spoke there Yiddish. I went to school, which belonged to the "BUND", where we studied also in Yiddish.

My mother was active in the "BUND". My father was non-political.

01:05:15 I had a wonderful childhood. The school was great and so were the teachers.

The first of May was a great festival for us. I belonged to the youth movement: "Skif" (?). I marched with the red flag on the parade and was very proud. My mother encouraged me and my sister to go to the demonstration, but my father didn't approve it. He locked our shoes away and didn't let us go. Eventually he did. The first of May was more important for us than Yom Kippur. We didn't fast or go to the synagogue. We even didn't read the "Hagadah" on Pesach. My mom was atheist and could not go against her ideology.

Today I am nostalgic: when I visit Bney-Brak I fell as if I am walking in Nelevky Street.

01:18:00 Only Jews lived on Nelevky St., except the janitors of the buildings. It was a commercial place in which you could buy anything you need.

Warsaw was a colored city with rich and poor, professional and non-professional people, high-educated people and illiterate people. We had libraries, theater in Yiddish. I read a lot and loved to go to the theater. We had a social club in school every Friday, which I liked very much.

01:27:00 When the war started I was 15 years old, most of the time I was busy, looking after food. My father had a workshop for leather where he manufactured purses, wallets and bags. We had nice apartment with three rooms, running water and toilet but without a bathroom.

01:31:45 In the basement of our building lived a shoemaker with his family. One day in the cold winter, the landlord kicked him out, because he didn't pay his rent. My mother with her sensitive and socialist way of

thinking organized the other tenants of the house and forced the landlord to give the basement back to that poor man.

01:35:45 My mother was activist in the “BUND” organization. We had a big family with lots of festivals and parties. I was the only survivor from my family. Now, when I see big families I am very jealous.

(Masha gives a list of names of newspapers that were published in Warsaw).

01:43:30 There was great deal of Anti-Semitism, although most of the time I didn't feel it, because I lived in a Jewish community. I remember one day, I went with some friends to Trguta Park. It was out of the Jewish quarter. Some gentiles threw stones at us and cursed us. We fought back. There were professions that were not allowed for Jews to practice as: drivers in trains or other transportations means. At the university the Jews were allowed to sit only in the left side. They rejected this and stood during the lessons. They were not allowed to study medicine, so they had to go to the West.

01:47:45 I remember myself being very interested in the war in Spain.

01:51:00 I remember in 1934 my mother took me to a lecture at Novzesky Theater that was organized by the “BUND”. A Communist escaped from a camp in Germany and told how the Germans tortured and humiliated him. For example he had to clean toilet with a toothbrush. My mother was a naturalist. Even when I was a small child I had to hear about the bad facts in life. The truth must be told.

01:58:40 We talked about what happened in Germany, but it was far away from us, as it was not related to us.

02:02:20 My sister, who was two year older than me, left our house in 1939. She had a boyfriend and they went to Bialistok. My father was very quiet, kissed her and told her: “ maybe this is the last time I see you”, and so it was. My mother went to visit my sister and brought her a blanket and a pillow, because it was too cold for her where she was. I escorted my sister to the railway station and never saw her again. My mother asked my father to move to Russia too. She had a brother there, but my father refused.

02:13:00 When we came to Palestine, the Jewish Agency took us to a trip around the country. We told our story (in Yiddish); People said that we were fantasizing.

02:15:40 In 1938 we first heard about East Jews who were deported from Germany to Poland. They declared that they were better Jews than us, more educated and cultured.

02:22:20 We knew that Hitler planned to conquer European countries, but we were sure that he would withdraw after a while.
My mother said that the Germans were sadists and they wanted to destroy the Jewish people.

02:26:00 In summer 1938, I was in a Jewish summer camp. Polish soldiers came and sent us back home. My mother and my sister with some friends were in Pludi for their vacation. I went there too, but my father came and took us back home. He said that the war was about to start every day. We arrived home on Friday. We didn't have time to buy some food, so we were left without food and money. But we were lucky to stay in our apartment.

02:33:40 We suffered from heavy artillery. It took a month for the Germans to take over Poland. We didn't have electricity or water.

02:39:20 Then the restrictions started. The Jews were not allowed to have radio. We were expelled from our school. Jews from the small cities came to Warsaw and lived in the schools.

The Jewish community gave an order that from now on, in each room, four people would live. We took a family with a 4 years old child. They had money so they had food. We had only some bread and boiled water.

02:47:00 The "BUND" organized a group of 12 girls to work in "Medem Senatorium" for kids. I went there and worked as a seamstress. I helped my family to have some food. But my father asked me to come back, Because he heard that the Germans wanted to close the ghetto. My father worked as a vendor on the street, sold some cloths from his brother workshop. But he was to weak and scared from the Germans so I replaced him.

02:58:00 We organized a place for the small children to play. We danced and sang with them. We brought some soup from the collective kitchen for the poor. There was a great deal of mutual help. We had a choir, but it was difficult to sing on an empty stomach, so we got another piece of bread and some coffee.

03:07:00 All our cultural life was in the underground. We were divided into groups of five people. We studied and preformed, but we became apathetic because of the starvation.

03:13:20 When I was 16 years old I went to a theater with some friend. We went on the street where I saw food, I thought to myself, if I could only sell the ticket in order to buy some food. My romances were looking for food.

03:15:30 When the ghetto was closed we could not go out. We wore the blue David star ribbon. The commerce had stopped. The Gentiles who got into the ghetto brought some stuff. I remember my father bought Chasidic coats and I made some skirts from them. We sold them in order to buy some bread.

03:25:50 Our family didn't have any contact with the Jewish community. We got an order from the Jewish community to bring over all our furs. My mother preferred to sell it to the gentile who came to pick the garbage from the ghetto.

03:28:10 We had to burn the newspaper from the underground after we read it. I remember in 1941 that the Germans took out some Jews from Nelevky 7 or 9 and shot them dead.

03:35:15 We had contact with my sister by postcards. I wrote to her: "Mr. Kagan, the baker, didn't visit", I meant to tell her that we suffered from lack of bread.

From Bialistok she moved to Ostruk, on the border between Poland and Russia. After the war I found out that the Germans took over the city and caught the Jews. There she died.

03:38:30 The Germans rode on bicycles in the ghetto with a gun and could kill anybody they wanted.

03:41:48 In 1939, we heard one night the steps of the Germans. They came to search for leather. My mother hid it in our dirty laundry. My father hid the money for the rent. We were forced to stand facing to the wall and with our hands up. They didn't find anything, so they kicked us and left. My father was pale to death. He was afraid from any German he saw. My mother was stronger than him.

03:47:35 Once when I was selling on the street a German soldier took me and another Jew. He took us to Zolbush, a suburb near Warsaw. He asked me to bring him a light bulb and told me that if I won't come back he would kill the Jew. I went to some house in the neighborhood and asked for the bulb. I got it and went back to the German who released me.

03:53:40 We knew that some Jews in the ghetto worked as informers.

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04:01:02 I worked with the kids till the deportation. Many of them died from starvation. On the street I saw many people who were dead. They were covered with newspaper and stones. I knew my day would come soon.

04:08:00 I wanted to volunteer to go to the Umschlagplatzs, because the Germans promised three loaf of bread and one jar of jam. I knew I could die but not from starvation.

I went to say goodbye to a friend of mine: Leah Shifman. She asked her sister, Miriam, to convince me not to do so. (They both were active in the underground). I told her that we had a hidden place in our house, but only for two persons. I decided that my parents should hide there and I would go. Miriam told me that if I would do so, I would be helping the Germans, and we were not allowed to help them. She convinced me.

04:13:00 I remember how difficult it was for me to climb the stair-case to our apartment, because I was so weak.

My aunt, Breinne (My mother's sister) died from starvation in my hands.

My uncle, Meir (my father's brother) was full of lice from the dirt in the ghetto.

04:35:35 In Muranoski Platz the Germans put some amplifiers and announced some false news. We didn't know about Auschwitz until the liberation. We did hear about Treblinka.

04:43:00 First, the Germans sent to the east the old and sick people. Then the people who came from the small cities near Warsaw. The Jewish community organized the deportations. Rich Jews paid poor Jews to go to the East instead of them so the rich could stay in the ghetto and not go to the East.

04:48:50 I remember when we had Typhus epidemic we had to take out all everything from the apartment for disinfection. People went to public bath, where they were shaved and had disinfection. We knew many moments of despair and depression.

05:01:30 We could not escape from the ghetto, because we did not have money and we did not have Polish friends where we could hide. I had only one Polish friend who went with me to school. Her name was: Vanda Veronska. Her mother was from Germany and her father from Poland. They were Christians. I lost contact with her when the ghetto was closed. In summer 1941, a man came to us. He told us he is a friend of Vanda, and she sent him to buy fur from us. I could never forgive her.

05:13:15 The winter was very cold. We did not have coal for heating. We burnt one table to get some heat.

05:24:10 The 18th of May, 1942, was a sad day: The Jewish leaders in the ghetto were liquidated. Adam Zurabin worked for the Gestapo; he was not the only one. Many Jews were informers.

05:32:50 In the winter of 1942 the Germans caught ten Jews from 2 Mila St. and shot them. The situation got worst every day.

05:42:20 Masha tells about the life in Warsaw before the war. She describes all kinds of persons on the streets like: vendors, jugglers, and some insane people. She says it was traumatic for her to lose the world she knew and her family.

06:02:15 On 22 of July 1942 we saw a poster on the street about the deportation of all the population from the ghetto, except those who had working permit. I tried to look for working permit, as many others did. I took our sewing machine to a shop for brushes. I was standing in the queue, but when my turn came no more permits were left. The Jewish policemen gathered and collected the Jews from their homes and from the street. They took them on platforms to the Umschlagplatz. The Jews tried to hide in any place they could.

06:09:00 We had a cupboard under the window. We put a table with a tablecloth that covered all the way to the floor, but only two persons could hide there. We argued who would hide there. I wanted my parents to be there, and they wanted me to hide.

06:20:00 One of our neighbors worked for the Jewish policemen. He caught me on the street and told me that it was his job. I struggled and ran away. The first deportation was to Treblinka. Some people managed to come back to the ghetto. They told us it was an extermination camp and not labor camp.

06:28:50 Behind our door we had an axe. My mother said she would fight and not go with the Germans. My father was the first one to be caught from our family. We hid in the basement of our house. They found my father and me. I went back to see where was my mother. The Jewish policemen took all the Jews they had found. I went out to the street with my mother. The street was empty. Suddenly a Jewish policeman came with a cart. He took my mother and told me "I don't need you, my quota is only one more". I hanged onto the cart and ran after them. He beat me on my hand and I fell down. I heard my mother shouting: "My baby, my baby". I have never seen her again. I woke up on the road. I saw two Jewish policemen. I asked them to take me to the Umschlagplatz. They said the transport took off.

06:34:50 I didn't know what to do. I went to my cousin. She told me that my father succeeded to escape. I found him at home and we moved to live and work at "Dal" - a shop for leather. I pretended to be my father's wife. We lived with another family who had a child, 7 years old. He was very sick. His parents went to look for some food for him. I held him in my arms. I was happy he closed his eyes and fell asleep. I held him for one hour. I didn't realize he was dead.

06:45:00 After the "Dud" action I went with my father outside. We saw German soldiers. We found out that there was another action. We ran back home. I told my father to hide in the cupboard under the window. I went into the bed. They found my father and some other 8 Jews. I heard shootings all over. After they left I went down the staircase. It looked like a battlefield. I looked around the dead bodies for my father. I didn't find him. I wanted to go to the Umschlagplatz, but I was told it was too late, the transport left already. I was left all alone. On my way back to my apartment, I met a neighbor who invited me to live with her and her daughter who was my age.

06:56:15 I wanted to be independent. I found a room on the first floor.

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06:02:10 I sew pockets to the coats of the people who worked in the Arian side, so they could smuggle food.

06:09:00 The Jews were angry with the Jewish policemen because they helped the Germans to exterminate us.

06:11:00 Masha goes back in her story and talks about an incident when her mother was caught for the first time and went to the Umschlagplatz. Then, Masha managed to rescue her mother by bringing to her a work permit. She talks how awful it was in the Umschlagplatz.

She also tells that she heard from her husband, after the war, about cannibalism in the ghetto.

06:26:45 Before the action in January, people who worked on the Arian side, told us to hide. I went with a friend to the attic. A woman with a baby

came to hide too. There was a big argument whether to let her in, because if her baby would cry the Germans would find us. She promised she would give him sleeping pills or suffocate him. She had threatened us that if we won't let her in, she would inform on us. We let her in. We were 30 people. On the next day I went with my friend to the sewage tunnel. On the third day we went to a bunker in a house near by. It belonged to the owner of the "Judashko" restaurant. He was a rich man and he had water and toilet in the bunker. The action took three days.

06:37:00 After this action I was recruited to the fighter organization in the ghetto. Miriam Shifman and Marek Edelman asked me to join them. We were a group of 8 people: six men and two women. I agreed immediately. I didn't think of saving my life. The only thing that was important was to save the Jewish honor. Our aim was to resist! To kill German soldiers. Levi Gruzal was our chief. He asked me to recruit friends to our organization. We worked in a great secrecy since we were afraid of informers.

06:50:25 The groups were divided according to their youth movements. We belonged to the "Tzukunft" – the youth movement of the BUND. The names of the friends in our group: Levi Gruzal the chief, Adek Yankelevitz, Israel Mitelman, David Hochberg, Berl Tasekroitz, Melech Perelman, Moniek Lileshtien, Mayorek, Leah Shifman and me. I got a 7-milimeter revolver and 2 grenades. We had many Molotov bottles.

06:54:10 We were very few fighters against the army which conquered all Europe. We lived together as in a commune. We prepared everything for the rebellion. The boys opened doorways through the attics of the building to make us ways to escape. We knew we didn't have a chance to fight against the Germans. We wanted to save the Jewish dignity

07:10:50 Following the big deportation, in July, the number of Jews in the ghetto was reduced radically.

07:22:40 The group looked for another apartment. They moved to 29 Zamenhoff St. near 29 Milla street. Across the street were two groups from "Dror." We were all about 20 years old, without any family but with a lot of hope and passion. We shared the same aim: uprising and revolution.

07:30:00 We had to collect money for weapon and food. We knocked on the door of rich families in the night. We threaten them that if they won't give us money, we would arrest them.

07:40:20 Once a week I had free time. Then I went to 47 Nalveky St. and told them I moved to live with my cousin. No one knew about our activity and plans.

07:46:00 We had fantasy how we would kill the Germans. We wanted to torture them.

07:51:25 Our plan was very clear; "When we see the Germans coming to the street, the group across our apartment will throw the first grenade and then we join them.

07:56:40 I didn't take part in elimination actions against Jews who collaborated with the Germans. But it was obvious that they were traitors and deserved a death penalty.
We didn't have contact with the Judenrat, because we opposed any one who helped the Germans.

08:01:00 When Tshernenkov (?) the leader of the Jews in the Warsaw ghetto committed suicide, we knew that he could not take it any more. It meant that the Jews didn't go to work camps, but to death camps.

08:07:00 The streets in the ghetto were very dirty. There was big chaos everywhere. From 6:00 P.M. we had curfew. The streets were empty and the gates were closed.

People were advised to get into the bunkers and to hide. The war would end soon and they would be saved. At that stage, I don't remember that I saw children in the ghetto.

08:17:00 The deportation had four stages:

July 22

September

January

April

We didn't see more dead people on the street. The starvation problem was less severe.

08:22:30 Many Jews in the ghetto were against our activities. They thought it would catalyzed the extermination of the ghetto. They thought we should hide and not revolt.

08:28:00 The revisionist didn't belong to the fighter's organization. We called them: "Bandits".

08:33:20 We were very anxious before the rebellion. It was April 18-19. 1944. It was just before Pesach. It was my turn to guard and to watch the street. I saw a patrol of German soldiers. I woke up all friends from my group. We stood in our positions, ready for our big day. When the Germans came closer, we heard the first grenade and then we opened fire on them. They were completely surprised.

08:47:00 We blocked the entrance to our apartment with furniture. We planned to set them on fire and to run to our hiding place in the attic. We jumped from one floor of the house to another. We were not afraid to die, but to be caught alive by the Germans.

TAPE 4 OF 6 (11.9.1993)

09:01:30 We arrived to the attic. Each one of us had a bag with some food (Sugar cubes and toasts). We called it: "Iron capital". On the next day we moved to another place. We ran out of ammunition.

09:08:00 I went with Perelman to get new instructions from Mordechai Anilevitz in his bunker in 29 Milla St. All the houses were on fire. We had to wait to Mordechai one day. It was the first time I saw him. The Germans decided to burn all houses in the ghetto. Mordechai told us to fight as Partisans, to get into the houses before the Germans and then to shoot them. We got some ammunition and came back to our group.

09:26:40 We had to move to the bunker in 29 Milla St. Some Jews knew about the bunker and informed the Germans. They attracted us and many of my friends died included our leader. It was very hot in the bunker because there were fires everywhere. I found some water and decided to wash myself. In my bag I had some photos from my family and from Mitelman's family. (He asked me to keep it for him). The German blew up the ceiling of

the bunker with dynamite. Chaim Frimer, said that we should enter the tunnel. We sat there all day long. In the night we moved to the bunker in 18 Milla St.

I did not have time to take my precious photos.

09:40:30 On our way to the bunker, we found Melech Perelman. He was badly wounded in his stomach. We wanted to bring him down to the bunker. The way was very narrow and steep. Mordechai who was the leader didn't allow us to do so. We moved Melech Perelman to the second floor with some other people and brought him a cup of tea. When we went out from the bunker, the house was on fire. We heard him screaming.

09:53:50 It was May 5th. Marek Edelman took us to his bunker in 30 Franschskania St. They had a very organized bunker, with a kitchen and tiles. They were very kind to us.

TAPE 4 OF 6 (11.4.1993)

10:01:30 We arrived to Gefner Bunker in early May. Marek Edelman was the leader of the "Mivrashtanim" (Brushes). He took us, the survivors from the "BUND" group, from 18 Mila St. to the Gefner Bunker. We found some Valerian drops. We poured it on sugar cubes. That helped us to recover from the unbearable heat in the bunker where we were earlier.

01:05:40 We could not stay any more in the bunker in 18 Mila St. After our friend Melech Perelman died. We thought we could have saved him if we moved him into the bunker. We knew that Mordechai Anilevitz was not mean in deciding to let him die outside the bunker. But we felt that we could not bear to stay there any more.

10:10:30 In the Gefner bunker we met some friends from Gutman group, Berlinsky and Edelman group, and Yurek Blones who was the general chief. We stayed there only for few days. One morning we heard noisy knock and a blast. We knew we were discovered. Marek decided that we should split into small groups. I was in a group of 20, Who went to another bunker in 3 Geynta St. In the evening we went back to find out what happened to our friends. We were told that they went to a battle and some of them died.

We went to another bunker in 22 Franschskania St. it was May 9, 1944. We stayed there one or two days.

10:18:30 A group of friends came to our bunker from 18 Mila St. Among them: Meredik, Tamar, Yehuda Venkover and his sister Pnina. They were half dead. They were poisoned from the gas the Germans threw into their bunker. They told us how the bunker was found and how they decided to kill themselves when they felt the gas. They were 30-40 fighters and some tens of people. A small group (those who arrived to our bunker) found a shit hole where they hid. Suddenly they saw a doorway and they went to its direction. Yehuda and Gutman were badly wounded.

10:30:00 We wanted to continue to fight. We decided to go out through the sewage tunnels to the woods. Marek ordered us to get into the tunnel. The dirt and the smell were sickening. Yehuda was behind me. He was very weak. He hanged on to me. He started to drink the dirty water. I told him to stop, because it was poisonous. He hardly breathed and I could not pull him any longer. The tunnel was very narrow and low. I asked the friends to split their legs and we pushed him forward to the doorway.

10:41:00 We were told to scatter. It was very cold. We were exhausted, hungry and tired. Shlomo Alterman was behind me. I told him to go ahead and leave me. I could not take it any more. He gave me his sweater and insisted that I would continue. Tzivia told us to gather everyone, because she got a letter that said that we were about to be rescued from the tunnel. After a while we heard the cover of the entrance to the tunnel open. We went out and saw a truck. We climbed into and it started to move. Not all of our friends succeeded to get on the truck. They told us another truck would come later. I saw light. I felt fresh air. I saw Polish people on the street. We looked like monsters: Dirty and stinky. The light and the sun, gave me strength to continue with my life.

10:48:20 We arrived to Lumyanky, a young forest with short trees. We met there our friends from the shops area in the ghetto. We didn't have cloths to change. They told us to scrub the dirt from our face. We didn't have water or food. I went in to one of the tents, but after a short while, they called me out. I saw Yehuda Venkover. He could not breath; he called my name and died.

10:54:15 Marek Edelman was a wonderful chief. He always went first, never thought about himself. He was honest and loyal. He encouraged us and was fair to every member, no matter to which movement we were belonged.

10:58:30 In Lumyansky we suffered from lack of water and food. It was very cold and we lied on the ground without any blankets. We collected the dew from the trees in the morning and drank it. The death followed us everywhere, but now we were out of the ghetto, so we might have some hope. We were divided into groups by our movement organization. I was in a tent with 20 people from the "BUND".

11:05:00 The boys had revolvers. I had a gun and a grenade. Some friends of us didn't come to the forest. They went to the Arian side, like: Tzivia, Yurek, Marek, Tushya and more.

11:10:07 We moved 50 KM. to Vishkov forest. It was on the bank of the Buk River. We met there Russian partisans. They knew the area very well but they didn't have weapons. So they guided us in the topography and we worked together.

11:15:10 Some of the Russian were Anti-Semitic and we could not trust them. One of them told us that he worked in Treblinka. His job was to throw the gas into the chambers. He did it very slowly, so the Jews would suffer more.

11:21:00 We had enough food, which we took from the farmers by threatening them with ours guns. We sabotaged a nearby hen house and winery in order to prevent this supply from the Germans.

11:22:25 Masha tells a story that she heard from her husband: About a family who hid in a pit. The woman was pregnant. After she delivered the baby, she decided to put him near one of the farmers' house. She hoped someone would have mercy on him. He had frozen to death. The baby was fathered by the farmer who hid them and forced her to have sex with him.

11:29:00 A group of ten persons from us, among them Chagit, my husband's sister, went out for some operation. They didn't come back. Later we found out that the Partisans from the A.K. murdered them.

11:34:20 We found a better place in Kempa. It was like an island in the marsh area. It was a difficult time with a lot of frustration and disappointment. I got sick with Tuberculosis. The war front moved Westwards. We got an instruction from our liaison officer to leave the forest. Sigmund Iygla took Baruch Schpigel and me to the Arian side. Dr. Yorek Kiryat-Sefer dressed my face as if was wounded, in order to cover my Jewish appearance. We took the train. I had a chicken in my hands to look like a farmer. We arrived to Warsaw to a house in Prozna St. In the evening we went to family Wisotzky. We (Baruch and Chayka, Mala and Bronka and me) hid there for two months. We had to pay 2000 Zloty for each one of us.

11:54:30 In Lumyansky forest I met my future husband. He took care of me and helped me to survive.

TAPE 5 OF 6 (11.19.1993)

12:01:05 We had contact with the Fighters Organization all the time. Yitzchak Zuckerman came to visit us from time to time. I corresponded with my boy friend. He was supposed to join me after a week, but could not get out.

We lived in one room and built a hiding place behind the cupboard.

12:15:20 One morning when we hid in Vlladka house, our liaison woman came and told us we must leave because some Polish blackmailed her for a lot of money, otherwise they are going to inform the German about us. We moved to another house in Topya St. Near the Visla River. We got false papers. My new name was: Maria Kryevska.

12:25:00 Yuzak delivered the money to the hiding Jews. One day he was caught with a lot of money and, what is more dangerous, with the list of the addresses where the Jews hid. We had to find a new place. Now we were divided. Mala and I went to a basement. We had to lie down all day long. We were full of lice. In the evening we got some food from our landlord.

12:33:00 From the basement we moved to another place in Ferra which belonged to the A.K. The landlord was Vladek Schentechovitz. We had a wonderful hiding place: a room nears the attic. We covered the entrance with bookshelves.

12:45:30 We heard what happened to the Historian Dr. Ringelblum. He hid in a place names: "Oneg Shabbat". Someone informed about the place and the Germans killed all the Jews there.

12:55:25 Ferra told us that the Polish rebellion would breakout next morning. We had Molotov bottles, which we threw down, from our windows. We wanted to join the A.K.

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14:15:51 We joined the A.K. we built barricades, worked in the kitchen.

14:29:00 My husband went with a group of A.K. Their officer told me not to come. I was afraid that they would hurt my husband, so I followed them. He released my husband.

We lived in 11 Varena St. we were 4 fighters and 7 Jews.

14:36:40 At the end of the rebellion, when the Polish surrendered we entered the bunker in Shlyeska St. with 30 Jews. Only my husband and I had guns. My husband became the leader of the Bunker. We got 1/2 a cup of water each day. We wanted to dig a well for the water, but the ground was poisonous. We hid in the bunker a month till we were found.

14:44:30 We moved to the bunker in 39 Shelna St. Yitzchak Zuckerman knew we were there. We heard some digging noise. In the night we went out and met two Polish people who mocked us. We thought that they discovered our bunker and decided to kill them. We went down to the sewage tunnel. In the evening we went out and I heard someone called me: "Marishka, Marishka". It was Bolek. He told us that they were looking for us. The war is over. The Russians occupied Poland and we are free!

I run back to tell my husband and friends and I shouted: "Antek is here, Bernard is here". They thought I was caught by the Germans and I came to give them in. When they found out the truth, they shot all the bullets spontaneously. This was our liberation.

14:58:10 We didn't know where to go. We were so lonely, broken and exhausted. We didn't know about the death camps.

Only on our way to Palestine, in Bucharest we met prisoners from the camps among them Katzetnik.

15:06:15 We heard about a committee in Praga. On our way we met a Russian officer. He asked us; "AMCHA?" we said: "Yes". He was a Jew from Odessa. He asked what do we need? We told him: "A family that was killed". In Praga we got some food. The next morning a Polish officer came. He recognized me. He was my cousin's husband. He asked how could he help me. I said I wanted to take a shower and to sleep. He arranged it for me and the next day for my husband.

15:12:30 We met Yitzchak Zuckerman. My husband belonged to the Zionist movement and wanted to go to Eretz-Israel. We got a certificate in Lublin that we are returning to our "home" in Yugoslavia. From there we continued to Bucharest. We went on February and arrived in the evening of Passover. We were Pnina and her husband, I and my husband.

15:16:30 When my husband told me that we were going to leave Warsaw I asked why? The war was not over yet, and maybe we could find someone from our families. He said he had to leave, because he killed a Polish man. I was belonging to the "BUND" movement. I was not a Zionist. I didn't know what to do. I loved him and he was the only person in the world I had. I decided to join him but with not without bad feelings.

15:25:10 In Bucharest I had a crisis. How could I leave Poland and not even wait to the end of the war?
We spend there eight months. The fighters and the Partisans got certificates to go to Palestine first, the other went to Italy and France for Aliya Beit (illegal immigration). Some wanted to go to Germany to take revenge. I wanted too, but my husband said he wanted to go to the last station: Israel.

15:32:00 In October 1945 we got our certificates. After a week we arrived to Palestine, to Haifa. It was Friday, so first went the Orthodox; we had to wait in the ship till Sunday. Everything went according to a political movement key. My husband told them I was from Gordonia.
We were taken to kibbutz Yagur, where we met Tabenkin. We told everything about the uprising in the Warsaw ghetto. We were the first ones to give testimony. From there we went to kibbutz Dafna. On the next morning we had to go to work. My husband went to some mechanic workshop and I to the sewing workshop. It was the first time we had a room

for ourselves. We had a small bed, small table, and one chair. It was a palace for us.

15:36:10 On my way to work I heard someone called me and ask: "Masha"? I asked him: "Do you know me"? He didn't. He asked me in Hebrew: MA - HASHA'A (meaning "what is the time?") and I didn't speak Hebrew, I thought he called my name: "MASHA". It was a jock, which accompanied me many years.

15:37:50 Abba Kovner wanted to make a memorial ceremony for the fighters who died in the rebellion in Warsaw ghetto. Kazik talked on behalf of the fighters. He talked in Polish. We talked in Yiddish. People interrupted him and shouted: "Yiddish, Yiddish". Kovner said it is disgrace to interrupted Kazik. In 1946, in Ha-Ohel Theater, the Bund organized a memorial ceremony. I was invited to speak. I spoke in Yiddish. One man threw a flowerpot on me. My husband told him what Abba Kovner said. It was Ben-Gurion policy. He was afraid that the Yiddish would control the Hebrew.

Segelovitz, a writer in Yiddish, told me how people burnt the Yiddish literature in the Kiosks. There was an embargo on the Yiddish language.

15:48:10 During the Eichman trial I couldn't function. I was sitting near the radio all the day, listening and crying.

16:00:40 Six months after we came to Palestine we left the kibbutz. We arrived to Tel-Aviv. The BUND promised to help us to find an apartment. Segelovitz went to Rokach, the mayor of Tel-Aviv, and asked him to find a place for us. On the next day it was published in the newspaper that a couple from the fighters in Warsaw ghetto lived in the street. We got a room from a nice Jew, named Kirshenboum. Afterwards we got an n apartment one and half room big from the municipality.

