

RG-50.120 #125 4 Tapes
Reichmann, Walter

I

- 1.01 He was born in Vienna in 1918. Family moved to Britcheva in Moldavia. He went to public school and then trade school. Belonged to Shomer Hatzair and Maccabi.
- 1.04 1938. Jews had to leave. They went to Slovakia and were in a no man's zone for 5 months under horrible conditions. Then were allowed into Czechoslovakia. He worked in Balia shoe factory. Later moved to Pechov and worked as picture framer.
- 1.12 March '39 anti Jewish laws, many suicided. Describes camp Patrouka [?].
- 1.20 He was caught in '39 and jailed. Enlisted in Slovakian army and was sent to work camp. Mother was taken to Teresien in '41. Brother was in Prague underground.
- 1.27 Describes different work camps under military control.
- 1.31 1942 women were taken on transport by Slovakian Nazis. He went to camp Zohor to build canal. End of June '42 he was taken to Zilina [?]. Nazi commander Bruner told them they would be taken to Poland to build a Jewish city.
- 1.45 Describes train ride to Auschwitz, arrival initiation.
- 2.07 Describes train ride to Buno and work in cement commando.
- 2.19 Describes his despair, until he was given job as drawing specialist and treated fairly.
- 2.25 He was taken to build underground building.
- 2.29 Describes major disinfestation in Birkenau and Auschwitz and the killing chamber in Brezinka.
- 2.33 Describes Appel.
- 2.35 Suicides in the camp.
- 2.44 He was sent to night shift cleaning commando.
- 2.53 He was sent to Birkenau, describes work on Rampa. Describes arrival of train with families from Belgium.
- 3.07 His brother's fate in brick commando.

- 3.10 He worked for SS in Auschwitz, with horses and pig farm.
- 3.13 Describes laundry in Auschwitz.
- 3.19 Describes 300 priests killed in camp.
- 3.23 Food in the camp.
- 3.31 He was sick with typhoid in Block 7, later returned to Canada.
- 3.38 Describes buildings in camp.

II

Up to 3.44 repeats previous tape.

- 3.44 1942. Selection in the camp by Mengele.
- 3.50 Describes incidents in cement commando.
- 3.53 Describes work in Canada.
- 3.59 Describes arrival of transport from Hungary.

III

- 4.05 Describes revolt and burning of Crematorium III
- 4.07 Describes kapo Kominsky in Sonderkommando
- 4.09 Relationship with Polish prisoners.
- 4.10 Relationship with young boy he saved.
- 4.26 40 German prisoners in camp, Describes incidents with kapos.
- 4.37 '44 he was transferred to Block 20 under Czech kapo. Describes how Cyclon was put into bunkers.
- 4.45 Meets his mother in the camp.
- 4.51 Describes the family camp.
- 5.02 Describes selections with Mengele and how he escaped death.

- 5.08 Medical help.
- 5.10 Work in the sewer commando.
- 5.15 Arrival of transport of last Jews from Holland with Eichmann.
- 5.21 Describes various crematoria.
- 5.25 Describes various crematoria.
- 5.40 Russian POWs.
- 5.45 Escape plans and attempts.
- 5.54 The end of the Sonderkommando.
- 5.57 Emptying of camp Birkenau.
- 6.09 '43 visit from Red Cross group.
- 6.11 Clinic in Auschwitz.
- 6.12 Death march from the camp.
- 6.22 Describes his escape from the march back to Slovakia.
- IV
- 7.11 He joins a Russian partisan group in the mountains and is sent on a mission to Bratislava. He gets false ID and stayed on.
- 7.32 Worked digging anti-tank ditches until liberation by Russian army.
- 7.34 Describes feelings and actions after liberation.
- 7.47 Describes his deteriorating physical condition.
- 7.51 He went to Israel in 1949 with wife and son. Describes his difficult adjustment.
- 7.54 Describes revisiting camps.