

RG-50.120 #166
WASSERMAN, YAAKOV 2 Tapes

TAPE I

- 1.00 He was born in Krakow in 1926. Describes his well-to-do family. Father owned flour mills. Family is very religious. He goes to cheder.
- 1.04 Describes Jewish life. Culture. He was 13 when war broke out and refugees started to arrive.
- 1.10 In 1938 his grandfather sold his belongings and went to Palestine but then returned.
- 1.15 Describes Krakow at outbreak of war. Persecution of Jews, kidnappings to work camps.
- 1.22 Family went to village outside Krakow.
- 1.24 Describes incident of cruelty by village butcher.
- 1.30 He worked in the village for one of his grandfather's workers who had taken over the mill.
- 1.35 Goes to another village Prokocice and works in sugar fields.
- 1.40 All the Jews from the villages were transported to Swoszowice. Describes being guarded by Poles. 2,000 were selected for work, he and father among them; the rest were shot.
- 1.55 They were taken in cattle trains to camp Prokocim. He and father escaped and went back to the Krakow ghetto.
- 2.05 Works in road building unit under Grossbar.
- 2.09 He and father work in Plaskow building canals. Describes.
- 2.22 Describes digging pits under supervision of Jewish police into which bus loads of people were shot and buried.
- 2.37 Describes hangings.
- 2.44 They were taken to Plasow and then by truck to Shindler's camp, and then to another camp where he worked in an airplane factory. Difference between Shindler's camp and his.
- 2.52 Daily life and routine in camp.
- 3.10 Describes barracks, kapos and Jewish police.

- 3.15 Talks about Shindler.
- 3.18 He is separated from father during a selection and is taken to Mauthausen, describes train ride and guards.
- 3.27 Describes work at the quarries. Visit by Himmler and Eichmann.
- 3.34 Marched to camp Gusen I. Describes crematoriums. Describes Polish kapos.
- 3.46 Lack of social contacts between people. Relations with Russian POWs.
- 3.49 Jan '45, disinfection of barracks and people. 80% of the people were killed.
- 4.01 Large group from Warsaw uprising arrives in camp Gusen II.

TAPE II

- 4.03 Hostility towards Polish arrivals.
- 4.05 Work in the airplane factory.
- 4.11 Return to Mauthausen. Animosity between his group and group of Hungarians.
- 4.15 More information about camp Gusen.
- 4.22 Beginning of death march under command of sadistic SS women.
- 4.34 Arrival in camp Gosgergen [?] Gunskirchen [?] in forest. Describes life there and fights with Hungarian group.
- 4.40 Describes liberation by Americans, medical treatment.
- 4.51 Talks about cannibalism.
- 5.03 Life in American DP camp. Revenge actions.
- 5.07 Hears about father's death. State of mind and destructive mood and behavior by his group.
- 5.16 Brigade group transports them across borders to Italy.
- 5.24 Boat ride to Palestine.