

RG-50.120*0173 2 Tapes
PHILLIP, YITZHAK

I

- 1.01 He was born in 1906 in Recklinghausen, Germany. He had 3 brothers and one sister. Father was soldier in WWI and came back in 1918 sick with Malaria and in 1928. Mother was sick and he took care of her. Worked as a driver for a big firm.
- 1.08 Talks about grandparents.
- 1.13 Describes town 100 km from Cologne. 300 Jews in town of 100,000. Family owned 2 grocery stores. He was a member of the Maccabi organization.
- 1.16 1939. A friend of his father in the Gestapo advised him to leave, but he stayed to take care of his mother. All young Jewish men were sent to camp Parabon for reeducation to do physical work. Describes work and food. Commander Nagoni assigned work.
- 1.25 1941 he was sent to Auschwitz, Buna. Describes train rider, arrival, initiation, bunkers.
- 1.30 Describes work in Buna tire factory. He was leader of group. Kapo liked him and saved him on several occasions.
- 1.37 He ran away to Kommando 10. Describes work and incidents at work.
- 1.47 Talks about his friend Walter Blum.
- 1.50 He returned to town in 1962 to find his parents; grave. Describes people, anti-Semitism.
- 1.58 Describes march from Buna to Gleiwitz and then on 6 day train ride. Describes horrible conditions on train.
- 2.10 Describes camp in Germany. When the British bombarded the brick factory the SS ran away. They biked to a nearby city and met other escapees.
- 2.16 Went to Berlin by train and found refugee organization and got papers. Describes destruction of Berlin. From there to Kissel and nearby kibbutz at Buchenwald. He met soldiers from the Brigade who selected him for aliya to Israel.

- 2.25 He was sent by the Jewish Brigade to bring groups of refugees from Dusseldorf to Antwerp. Somebody alerted the British army and they escaped. He describes other incidents of border crossings. 1945
- 2.37 Describes the camp in Antwerp. Later he went by truck to Marseilles and then with boat Tel Chai to Palestine. The boat was discovered. Describes incidents with British soldiers. He was then taken to Atlit and then to Degania.
- 2.50 Describes life in Degania. Met his wife in Israel.
- 2.54 Left kibbutz and went to Tel Aviv. Worked at Rasko, describes his work.

II

- 3.01 Repeats family history and rise of Nazism.
- 3.10 In 1936 he worked as a driver for big Jewish tobacco company. Later he became a gym teacher. Repeats story of warning by Gestapo friend of father. Describes Jewish reeducation camps at Neundorf and Parabon. In 1939, 250 people paid for permission to go to Palestine.
- 3.20 Describes Kristalnacht in town. Describes his work in Parabon. Organized and sports in camp and later took over organization of work.
- 3.30 They knew about experiments in Dachau, Buchenwald and Sachsenhausen.
- 3.37 Describes arrival in Auschwitz and work in Buna synthetic rubber factory.
- 3.40 '43,'44. British bombardments of Auschwitz. SS made them dig out bombs. Many died.
- 3.43 Describes crematorium.
- 3.44 Describes diverse population of camp.
- 3.45 '45. Russian army advanced, describes aerial fights.
- 3.47 Punitive actions in Buna. Suicides.
- 3.52 He got pneumonia and was at sick by. Describes Jewish and German doctors.
- 3.55 Black market in camp.

- 3.57 Describes selection in camp hospital.
- 4.00 Ethnic groups in Buna.
- 4.04 Talks about friend Salal [?] who gave spiritual guidance to group in camp.
- 4.07 His thoughts about what sustained people and what made them give up.
- 4.15 Their talks and dreams about Israel. 'Noam', a Zionist group in camp.
- 4.17 January '45. Repeats description of march from Buna to Gleiwitz and then train ride back to Germany. 1,000 died on transport.
- 4.30 3rd of May, 1945. After Russians and British attack, SS escaped and they were free.
- 4.35 Describes the German surrender and their liberation.
- 4.42 They went to Ravensburg when the Brigade helped them and then to the American zone. From there the brigade took them by bus to Antwerp.
- 4.53 Retells how he brought refugees from Germany to Antwerp. From there he went to Marseilles and by boat to Palestine. Talks about his work, marriage and children in Israel.
- 5.01 In 1962, he went to visit his birthplace in German. Repeats story about meeting townspeople and anti-Semitism shows photograph of memorial to mother and Jewish townspeople.