

RG.50-120 *0189 3 Tapes
GLIKSMAN, RACHEL

Born May 1924 to Rosa and Schmuel Halperin in Vilnius. Family very well-to-do in the paint and turpentine business. Had 2 younger sisters and brother who died in childhood. She went to 'Tarbut' school, talked Hebrew, and belonged to youth organization 'Bnai Yehuda'.

Gives very detailed and rich description of his Jewish life in Vilnius.

1939 Germans entered Vilnius but left after 2 weeks of bombardments. After the Russians came in, life was normal for 1 year, then all capitalists were sent to Siberia and Jewish organizations went underground.

Beginning of war, father worked for large company and hid out at night. Father got mother and her work in the Smolarnia work camp to log wood for paint factory.

After 17 months, all Jews who worked outside had to move to ghetto. She became member of the underground and made home-made bombs. Talks about leaders of underground Wittenberg and Zlazman.

Describes liquidation of small and large ghetto.

Talks about Abba Kovner's plan to lead members of the underground through the sewer to the forest.

She was caught escaping and witnessed hangings in the ghetto. Describes selection in Rossa. She and mother were sent in wagons to Kaiserwald and she was then detailed to a work camp.

Describes in detail life and people in camp.

Was detailed to a work unit of 200 women at an AEG factory. Describes in detail life there and special people like Dr. Aleyaudrowitch.

Work at AEG ended. She was transported by boat to Stutthof and describes the horrible conditions there.

The women who had worked for the AEG were transported to a work camp in Torum to work in a factory for communication equipment. 200-300 women in camp. Description of life.

When Russian army advanced, the guards fled and they were liberated in Jan. 1945.

She tried to get back to Vilnius to see who had remained from the family. Describes movement of people on repatriation trains that moved from country to country.

Describes Warsaw and Bucharest where there was an organized Jewish community.

She joined group of Abba Kovner and helped Jews to escape and get to Israel.

Was associated with 'revenge' group of Abba Kovner. Mentions names of people who were group members. Describes their functions. Her role was that of messenger.

Describes her various missions all over Europe and various arrests.

Describes her trip on the boat 'Wedgewood' which was captured and she was interned in Atlit.

She joined her group in Kibbutz Ein Harod and then went back to Europe with a group of people from the 'Revenge' group. Helped people to escape. Then was brought back to Israel to start a normal life.

In 1947 she wanted to go with another group to Europe but was prevented by the Haganah.

Talks about different personalities in the 'Revenge' group and the politics of the group.