

ANITA WEINBERG  
RG-50.154.0031 (rec. 1987 Florida)

Anita Weinberg was born in 1935 to an assimilated family in Warsaw. Her father was a chemical engineer and the family was well-to-do. Anita was 5 years old when the family, including her maternal grandparents, were moved into the ghetto. She remembers bad things happening and selections, one of which took her grandparents away. She also remembers seeing the bodies of dead children thrown away like garbage. After almost being selected for transport, Anita's mother decided to move her out of the ghetto to live with her nanny. She was taught to pretend to be Catholic and she learned Catholic prayers, but when neighbors threatened to report her to the Gestapo, her nanny moved her into a convent where she remained for 21/2 years. Anita said it was difficult as a child to lie about her name and background.

One day Anita's father didn't come home from work detail, and he was never seen again. Her mother escaped the ghetto and lived for a time with the nanny, but then left there and worked in a German restaurant. She wasn't able to dare see Anita in the convent, even when Anita was sick with the measles, but just before the war ended she took Anita out of the convent.

After the war ended Anita and her mother moved to Lodz where they stayed until they emigrated to Israel in 1950. Anita remembers that she went to church with her friends during this time because she wanted to be like them. Anita was very happy in Israel. First, she lived on a kibbutz, Sha'ar, near Hadera for two years, and then moved to Tel Aviv for high school. She was in the army from 1954-1956. She said it was easy for kibbutz children in the army since they know how to work with other people.

Anita met her husband who had come to Israel from Poland in 1948 to be in the Palmach. Her husband's job as an engineer took them to Nigeria for 4 years and then Nepal. They had 2 children and emigrated to the US in 1965. She said it was hard at first but they built a successful life.