

Paula Gerson

RG-50.163*0022

May 10, 1910 - born Pesche Szajd in Zamosc, Poland

1925 - learned dressmaking

1929 - went to Warsaw to work for a dressmaker

1930 - went to a design school run by ORT

August 14, 1937 - married Morton Gerson

July 1939 - baby son Aryeh born

September 2, 1939 - Zamosc bombed

Town was on the western side of the Bug river and so would be under German control. Husband escaped to Vlodzimersh on other side of the river

October 5, 1939 - she and baby went by truck to join him

December 1939 - told to leave as it was a border town, went to Lvov

May 1940 - baby became ill with diphtheria, couldn't get injection and died.

June 10. 1940 - took cattle car to Siberia for 2-3 weeks, stopped at Tescma settlement in Ural forest. Husband cut down trees, she repaired uniforms

June 1941 - Hitler started war with Russia,

November 1941 - went to Uzbekistan, worked illegally to avoid taxes, sold on the black market

1945 - heard war was over from Russian newspapers and that Zamosc was Judenrein

June 1946 - went to Lignice, heard of pogrom in Kielce, son born
wanted to go to Palestine but journey too difficult with new baby

Bricha took them to a DP camp in Austria, heard that their parents did not survive

November 1947 - went to Fernwald, son born

1951- came to US, settled in New York

Has dreams, often thinks of what her parents and sisters went through