

Ethel Kaplan
RG -50.163*0034

June 15, 1920 - born Etie Bronsztien in Kolki, Poland

father died in 1925, mother ran oil factory

went to Polish public schools, then to school in Rovna studying clothes designing

1939-1941 - Russians occupied Kolki, confiscated Jewish stores, worked in office

June 25, 1941 - scared because she had worked for Russians, joined others and left Kolki

slept in barns and train stations, had swollen legs, Christians gave them food
in Gitomar, saw Germans, so headed towards Asia

Russians sent her to a collective farm in Xilla, making parts for guns

not enough food, had sores from malnutrition

1943 - went to Gzelarda, near Tashkent, many Moslem and Japanese people there

1944 - Russians were in Kolki, got permit to leave Uzbekistan and go back to Kolki

heard grandfather had been burned in synagogue, sister killed in street,
grandmother shot with older sister and her 2 children

Germans had cut stomachs open of pregnant women and put salt in

April 1944 - left Kolki and went to Ludsk

Late 1944 - went to Lodz

May 1945 - married, had a business

1946 - daughter born

Went to Berlin in army wagon covered with canvas

Stayed in Jaega-Casserna DP camp for 1 year, then to Cassel

1949 - with help of HIAS sailed from Bremerhaven to New York
settled in Washington with relatives, had a son