

February 26, 1913 - born Hildegard Goldberger in Teschen, Silesia

Had Czech passport, town half Czech, half Polish

November 11, 1935 - married Irving Thieberger

February 1937 - baby daughter born in Bilice

Fall 1937 - Jewish stores plundered

went with child to husband's sister in Zabjek

September 1, 1939 - at 6 AM saw German planes, houses burned, ran into forest

September 15, 1939 - Germans took him away for 3 months to Skrohovitz, near Trapow,
in Czechoslovakia, beat husband severely

December 1939 - smuggled themselves into Auschwitz ghetto, wore armbands with star

June 1940 - Jews forced to build camp

Spring 1941 - Irving went to Belice work camp, 12 km from Auschwitz

Hilda went to Ghetto Benjin-Sosnowice

1941 - Hilda went to camp in Bilice, lived with husband in attic.

bribed SS with food and whiskey

watched hangings in the street, wore yellow star

stayed for 1 year as a cook and seamstress in a villa for SS

Irving then in Gleiwitz-Blechhammer

December 1943 - Irving got to Bistra, joined Hilda who went to Bilice after hearing Jews
would be rounded up

Summer 1944 - hid in hole of basement, got false ID papers

January 1945 - heard that Allies were approaching, could hear Auschwitz inmates marching

February 10, 1945 - house bombed, saw Russian soldiers

May 1945 - rented an apartment

December 1945 - 2nd baby born

August 1946- went to Ostrow, Czechoslovakia on false papers

October 1946 - went to Hof, Germany - difficult conditions in camp, stayed 3 months

Went to Landau, near Munich, stayed for 4 years

Came to US - sailed on the "General Hahn", settled in Washington, DC

5 years on a chicken farm in Pennsylvania

Returned to DC - Irving did metal artwork for the Smithsonian Institution

Irving made the Menorah for the White House