

Interview- Felix Goldberg, 8/8/91. Slate# 1349-01

Time on tape:0-5 Born 1/2/17 in village near Kalisch (sp?) in Poland near German border. Youngest of five children- two brothers, three sisters in family. Family was poor, remembers how cold winters were, food was scarce, bread had to be locked up since there wasn't enough to go around. Father eventually opened meat market, where mother worked too. Went to public schools- had to go to services before school as well as Hebrew school till 7:00 P.M. Came home to do homework by candlelight- house had no electricity. Drafted into army with outbreak of war.

6:00 Couldn't hear for three months following Luftwaffe attack. POW in Germany after fall of Warsaw (shipped to Reich with soldiers). Jews separated from other prisoners.

7:30 Transported to camp near Lublin. Terrible treatment by SS. Sent to Warsaw after few weeks in camp.

10:00 Took off yellow star from uniform and risks traveling on train where he is discovered by German who beats him severely.

13:00 Finds family in small town near Turek(sp?)- Oct., '41. Stayed for year, doing public works labor, ditch digging. Loaf of bread per day only food.

15:30 Jews evacuated to Posen. Single men sent to labor camps near city. Quarter lb. bread, potato peels only food.

Boards with straw for beds. Many died from typhus- he had it too.

20:00 End of '42 Posen workers sent to Auschwitz.

24:00 Extreme hunger in camp. "We dreamed of food." Didn't believe chimneys were on crematoriums.

25:00 Mengele makes selection. Sent to work in coal mine.

30:00 Heard of Russian advances by '44, knew of Warsaw uprising. Camp bombed by U.S. A.F. Two week death march to Germany.

33:00 Arrives Gros-Rosen, then to Buchenwald- Jan-Apr. '45.

39:00 Saw first Americans April 11, '45 when camp was liberated. First Sabbath service organized by American chaplain (rabbi).

42:30 In D.P. camp near Landsberg. Talked to Eisenhower on visit to camp.

44:00 Meets future wife, Bluma in camp. Double wedding (her sister marries at same time.)

48:00 To U.S. in '48. Ship arrives in New Orleans- band played. In Columbia, S.C. Oct. '49.

53:30 Works at White Sands installation.

55:00 In ceramic tile business. "This is the land of opportunity."