

RG-50.378 #003

Trityakova, Asya Moyseyevna

- 1.00 Born in Minsk 17 Sept. 1918. Six children. Both parents worked in tailoring workshops. Two brothers were in the army. Asya later had a son.
- 1.05 Month after war began, Jews are herded into ghetto.
- 1.06 Father taken and killed in Aug. 1941. Mother soon died.
- 1.08 Because of her blonde hair, Asya and son were taken for Russians and managed to leave the ghetto. Stayed with a Russian woman for a week and then began to wander around, staying overnight with different families – for a year.
- 1.10 Taken for a Russian, she begins working in a village near Minsk near a POW camp.
- 1.12 Taken to Germany, near the town of Lauschenburg [phon.]. There she worked in a metal casting factory. Stayed there until area liberated by Americans.
- 1.14 After liberation went to camp in Switzerland, which was just across the border. Stayed there 4 months, along with liberated persons from Germany, Poland, Italians.
- 1.15 Returned to USSR in Sept. 1945. Brought to Gomel and then to Minsk. Learns that sister and sister's children killed. Older brother in Military service. Younger brother had been wounded in Leningrad front.
- 1.17 Asya worked as a typist for 28 years then went on pension. Son alive, born in 1939. Lives with daughter.
- 1.19 Lived for a long time after the war with the false documents she had used to escape ghetto.
- 1.20 Had to prove actual identity in order to receive compensation. After long process, reverted back to real name.
- 1.24 Questioner return to Asya's early life.
- 1.25 Learned Yiddish as a child because older brothers studying it, but went to a Russian school.
- 1.27 Experienced no anti-Semitism whatsoever as a child.

- 1.30 On June 22, 1941 Germans bomb Minsk. Asya along with others try to flee from city, but Germans soon advance toward Minsk and she is forced to return.
- 2.02 Then all Jews forced into ghetto. Her father is killed in August 1941. Mother was taken and presumably killed in March 1942.
- 2.05 Gives details of her life in ghetto. Most of the time tried to hide to avoid 'pogroms' in ghetto. Russian friends brought food and later false documents.
- 2.05 During much of period in ghetto, Asya hides during day with her child to avoid possible 'pogroms' while mother sought work and sources of food. Mother would not permit Asya to leave hiding places.
- 2.11 Ghetto had Jewish police, who were forced to do their jobs. Were later killed along with other inmates. Ukrainian guards outside ghetto.
- 2.15 Typhus broke out. There was a typhus hospital in the ghetto – where the patients were usually shot.
- 2.21 With false documents left ghetto and sought handouts and lodging from Russians. People did not know she was Jewish. This lasted about a year and a half.
- 2.24 Then rounded up with other Russians, Poles in the area and shipped by freight cars to Germany. Begins work in metal casting factory.
- 2.27 When allies bombed factory, many workers fled, crossed nearby bridge into Switzerland.
- 2.28 French woman who had also escaped to Switzerland with Asya tried to persuade her not to return to USSR. But Asya wanted to go home, try to find relatives.

END OF TAPE