

**RG-50.407.0093**

**Summary**

Mendel Blicblau was born in Lodz, Poland in June 1922. He had two brothers and two sisters. His parents moved from (unknown city) to Lodz for economic opportunity. Lived in Baluty District(?) which was impoverished. The city had about 250,000 Jews, 250,000 Poles, and 250,000 Germans. He worked in a factory at the time. The Gestapo occupied his family's home shortly after the war began. His family lived in the Lodz Ghetto for the next four years. The ghetto was closed off completely on 1 May 1940. He describes life inside the ghetto. In 1942 (specific date not mentioned), a curfew was imposed and the SS rounded up people and placed them into trucks. Mendel was placed in a truck with his 10-year-old sister and a school friend who was a policeman guarding the truck. He and his sister jumped from the truck and escaped back to his family's accommodation. He was deported from the Ghetto in August 1944. He was sent to Auschwitz and was sent to work in the coal mines for the next six months. On 27 January 1945, Auschwitz was liberated by the Soviet Red Army.