

Tape # 4.3

DONOR: ZE'EV and EVA WEISZNER  
INTERVIEWER: EDITH KIMMELMAN  
DATE: APRIL 4, 1988

Tape Footage: 2 and 1/2 hours

Tape Footage: Background

1-642 Ze'ev was born in March, 1924. He began Jewish school at age four, and then switched to public school at age seven. He completed grade four, which was compulsory.

Then Ze'ev had to learn a trade. He tried many things, finally deciding to become a tailor. He apprenticed for three years, and finished at age 15 and began working. He lived a home, and everything was good.

Ze'ev's father made his living from his horse and carriage. All seven of his children learned a trade. Ze'ev was the sixth child. They all earned a bearable living.

Ze'ev's town of Sigit was under Rumanian rule until the Hungarians came in 1940. This was in northern Transylvania.

Sigit means island in Hungarian. It was in the valley, surrounded by rivers.

Half the population, or about 15,000 people, were Jewish. Most people were very poor. A few were rich. About 30% of the poor earned a manageable living, but most needed help. There was no organized help from the government. People were happy. They did not know better.

Only the boys in Ze'ev's family attended Jewish school. The girls attended public school.

643-1820 Before the war there were no major problems with the Gentiles. They got along well at work, in sports and at school. In 1938 there was trouble, but then the government instigating it fell, and things returned to normal.

At the end of Rumanian rule there was trouble again. There were beatings, but not organized anti-semitism. Under the Hungarians the economic situation was better, but there was more hatred.

Ze'ev worked for a Christian, making priests' clothing. Once, he was coming from work at three in the morning and was stopped by the police. They claimed his papers were false, then accompanied him home with beatings. No one complained to the authorities after a beating.

The social life was very lively. There were many organizations, and no boredom. There were movements from the left, right and center. People met on Oneg Shabbats, and cheders met to discuss Pirkai Avot.

There was some conflict amongst the organizations. Because of the high poverty there were many strong-minded communists. There was an extreme right too.

There were a few yeshivas in Sigit, and a few Rabbis. There were all kinds of people. The Rabbis were not involved in politics or Zionism.

Ze'ev was aware of Hitler's rise. Everyone knew what was going on in the world. Because people started working at such an early age, they were exposed to other people and their discussions. Still, Sigit's Jews thought these things only happened elsewhere. They didn't think it would happen to them.

German Jewish refugees came to Sigit and told them what was going on. Still, no one thought there would be organized anti-semitism.

When the Hungarians came, many young people thought life would be better in Budapest. They left for economic reasons, not because of fear. In Sigit there was not work for everyone. Most Jewish men had the same trades. There were many tailors and shoemakers.

There were about 300 Jewish businessmen in town, and many unemployed. If one person in a family worked, he supported everyone. Families were very close. A few Jews had a higher education, but there were no Jews in high positions in the city. Children of the wealthy received higher educations, and then went into the family business. There were four Jewish doctors, two dentists, a few denturists and four lawyers in Sigit.

#### German Occupation

On March 1, 1944 the Germany army came into Sigit. On April 8 all Jews had to start wearing the yellow star. No one dared not to. On the last day of Pesach it was announced on the street that all Jews were to go home and not come out until ordered to.

The next morning, families were ordered into one of two unconnected ghettos. Those already living in the ghetto had to take in families from outside.

Ze'ev was living with his three sisters and parents in a two bedroom/ kitchen apartment. His oldest brother had died working for the Russian army in 1941. His brother Moshe lived in another city and was in jail. He had a family already. The third brother was working in the army as a civilian.

#### The Ghetto

Ze'ev's family took in his mother's brother's widow and her five children, and an elderly woman with her three daughters. Sixteen of them lived together. You could not choose who lived with you, unless they came in right at the beginning.

1821-2657 The ghetto was surrounded by boards. There was one gate. Businesses continued to supply food. The ghetto lasted five weeks, from mid-April until May 14. The only connection with the other ghetto was by those who snuck out at night to go to there. Ze'ev did this once.

Ze'ev's livelihood was taken away. Businesses had to close because they were outside the ghetto. His father's horse and carriage were confiscated. Everyone

talked about what would happen, but no one knew about deportations or about Auschwitz.

The Judenreit organized young men to work at the railroad stations for eight hour shifts. Workers brought food from home. Sometimes they were caught for work again as soon as they returned from a shift.

On May 14 at seven in the morning 3,000 people from designated streets were lined up outside a synagogue. These streets were completely emptied. Typewriters were set up and everyone was registered. No one knew what was happening. They were then taken to a bigger synagogue in the other ghetto where everyone had to undress outside.

Ze'ev and his family were on the second transport, which occurred two days later, so they had some time to prepare. Those on the first transport were given two hours notice.

Ze'ev's transport was on May 16. They packed clothing, shoes and dry food. His father packed tobacco. It was discovered and he was beat. Everyone was packed into the synagogue overnight. The next day 3,000 of them were taken to the railway station where 90 people were loaded onto each train car. There were no seats. A pail of water and a pail for refuse were put in each car. The door was closed. There was a Hungarian guard on each car. They were given water at each station.

The Germans took over at the Slovakian border. There was no more water after that. They were taken to Auschwitz. They had no idea where they were going. They had been told they were being evacuated to old Romania because the Russian front was approaching. But the elderly could tell that was not where they were headed. No one tried to escape.

### Auschwitz

At Auschwitz the trains were unloaded. They were told to leave their luggage and it would be brought to them later. Everyone lined up at the gate. Ze'ev looked around and then lost sight of his family. As they advanced, everyone was pointed to one of two directions. No one had a choice, and no one knew which line was better. Ze'ev never saw his parents again. They were killed that night.

Ze'ev was taken to a big barracks where everyone was told to undress and leave their clothes but keep their shoes. They were shaved all over by Jewish prisoners then sprayed with burning disinfectant. They had a shower and were each given a shirt, jacket and pair of pants.

2658-3520 The next morning Ze'ev passed by his three sisters but did not recognize them until they called his name. They were taken to the women's camp.

There were 800 people in every barrack, and electric wires between each camp.

The first week in Auschwitz Ze'ev did nothing. The first day they had been told to give up their gold. A barrel of food was brought in and the prisoners who had been

there before attacked it. Ze'ev didn't get to the barrel. He had a terrible headache from hunger. He was told by another prisoner to be aggressive, otherwise he wouldn't get anything. When a second barrel was brought in, Ze'ev attacked it too. For one week they ate like that.

After a week, 500 men, most of them from Sigit, were put on a train and given a piece of bread and salami. The trains were closed and there was no water. They travelled for three days and nights and arrived in Mauthausen in Austria. They walked a few kilos from the train to the camp. The soldiers there were terrible. Again they were undressed and showered and then walked to the camp of Gusen which was seven kilometers away. They walked through a village and when the children saw them and realized they were Jews, they asked where their horns were.

### Gusen

These prisoners were the first Jews at Gusen. The other prisoners were French, Italian, Ukrainian and Polish.

A stripe was shaved into the men's heads. It was a hot day and they were dying from thirst. After everyone was shaved they were told they could drink the water from the shaving barrel, and they did.

They were put in nice, clean barracks. with bunk beds. Fifty slept in one room. The doors were closed and iron bars were over the windows. One night a man had to go to the bathroom but the door was locked. He tried climbing out the window, couldn't, and so finally relieved himself on the window ledge. Later, when a kapo opened the door this man snuck out. When the mess was discovered on the window ledge the kapos beat everyone, trying to find out who did it.

They took the prisoners outside where ten kapos began beating them. Each prisoner was hit 50 times with a rubber stick. After three strikes, Ze'ev didn't feel anymore. Then they were lined up and hit with wooden sticks over the back. They were ordered to undress and roll in the gravel. Their skin was damaged.

This went on from five in the morning until nine. At nine a man confessed, telling the others in Yiddish that he just confessed to spare the rest of them further torture.

This was a quarantine or holding camp, not a work camp.

The man who confessed was beat by the kapos until they tired. He was then told to get up and joint the others, and did. He survived the war. There was no treatment for illness or wounds.

### Gusen 11

From Gusen the prisoners went to Gusen II (Gunskirchen?), which was a working camp. In three months here, Ze'ev and one other man survived from the group of 500 who had come together. The others died from beatings, work or hunger.

Ze'ev managed to get away. He had been badly beaten, and had no shoes. His feet and knees were swollen. One day the prisoners were asked who was sick and

Ze'ev raised his hand. In August, 1944 he was taken by train three days to Auschwitz with other ill prisoners. Seventy percent died enroute. Sacks of cement were put on the floor of the wagons to suffocate people.

### Auschwitz

Eighty-four young men were taken from the car, shaved and showered and given wooden shoes. Ze'ev was here until Yom Kippur, and survived three selections. Each time the prisoners were lined up outside the barracks and Mengele made his choice. The barrack leaders pointed out who could go.

3521-4057 A woman Ze'ev knew from Sigit was in the woman's camp. She told him that if volunteers were requested for work it could be a trick and mean they were going to the gas chambers. But if they were asked to work at the coal mine, this might be true, and Ze'ev would be wise to volunteer.

On Yom Kippur 300 men were requested for the coal mines. Ze'ev volunteered. He was at the coal mine until the beginning of 1945. Then he was taken to Mauthausen again, and was liberated at Ebensee by the Americans.

When there was the first selection at Auschwitz no one knew which direction was better. Some thought the elderly, women and children were just going to a camp where they would not have to work, and the young and healthy would provide for them.

Ze'ev did not hear until he was out of Auschwitz that all of them had been killed. People volunteered for work. They had to take a chance.

In Gusen the prisoners carried out the beatings.

### Gusen II

At Gusen II the prisoners were woken at 3 a.m. by beatings. They were chased outside and given a bowl of coffee for every three people. They stood in the rain and the chill in their shirts and light jackets until they went to work at 6 a.m. Men stood together for warmth.

At six, 2,000 prisoners of all nationalities travelled 10 kilometers in an open train. They were crowded in and ordered to sit down. Legs and hands were broken. Prisoners were hit in the head. There were a few dead in each wagon by the time they arrived at work.

The work was not productive. The prisoners carried piles of sand back and forth. Many were killed. They were hit on the head with sticks, and if they fell they were beat to death. There were 200 dead at the end of each work day. If there were fewer than 200, prisoners were shot at the gate to make up the difference.

They worked for 12 hours, then returned to the camp and were given a supper of soup and maybe bread or salami. A plate was attached to each prisoner. Everyday bodies were taken to Mauthausen for cremation. Some saved their food for the next day.

At 9 p.m. a German officer came in and until 11 instructed the prisoners in a cap on, cap off exercise. The men were dizzy from being hit on the head. Then there was lice patrol. Men received five beatings for every louse found on them. Everyone had lice. Then they were shaved. Heads were always bloody. At 2 or 2:30 they were permitted to go to bed. Then they were woken at three, and the whole routine began again.

4058-4671 In three months the most Ze'ev slept in one night was one hour. The prisoners got weaker and weaker, were beaten and died like flies.

The guards were Polish, Ukrainian and Lithuanians. Except for the Italians, all the other prisoners, including the French, beat the Jews. The Germans didn't interfere with the camp and didn't do the beating. Inside the camp, men acted like animals. There was no feeling. The Rumanian prisoners were spoken to in Polish, which they did not understand.

The first two weeks in quarantine there were beatings all day long. Nobody talks about Gusen now, because nobody survived it. It was terrible.

In the camp prisoners were beat for talking to one another, so they didn't. Once Ze'ev sat too close to the wire at supper time. Ze'ev was hit on the head and got dizzy, but knew if he fell he would be beat to death. He mustered all his strength not to fall down.

There were no leaders among the prisoners. Ze'ev was always glad to see someone he knew going by, knowing he was still alive.

One Jewish prisoner took the clothes from a dead, non-Jewish prisoner and snuck into the barracks for non-Jews.

Everyone always wanted to live. Ze'ev does not know why. The Polish Jews in the camps had told Ze'ev no one would survive, but he threw the sand well so he would not be hit over the head.

Back at Auschwitz after Gusen, the men were not given work. They spent everyday in the barracks, coming out just for roll call. There were selections, but nothing else, no washing and no change of clothes until Yom Kippur.

Some Jewish leaders behaved badly. They didn't kill others, but participated in the beatings.

### Coal Mines

At the coal mine camp in Ridnik there was a lot of food and prisoners could help themselves. As a result they had to run to the bathroom at night, but it was too cold. Everyone had an empty meat can that they used and then emptied.

Prisoners were given half a kilo of bread everyday and soup and sometimes meat. Sometimes the soldiers shot those who went out to the bathroom at night.

The first three weeks here Ze'ev worked in building, helping with bricks. The camp was not bad. The guards were older and behaved pretty good. Once he was lying down to fill a container with water from a pit and an officer pushed him in the pit. There was ice on the water and Ze'ev could not swim. He was drowning and then the officer pulled him out, took him to the doctor and ordered he be kept warm by the stove all day.

This officer was terrible and everyone was afraid of him.

After three weeks Ze'ev began work in the coal mines. The ceiling was 80 cms. high. Ze'ev shoveled the coal lying on his belly. There were no knee or elbow pads for Jewish prisoners.

4672-5061 Ze'ev worked with civilians in the coal mine. Some were nice and gave the prisoners food. Others beat the prisoners. Nobody died from beatings in the mines.

Once Mengele came to the mine camp to make a selection. Everyone had to stand before him naked, and was asked if he was healthy and if he could work.

A few days after the new year, all the Jews were ordered out. They were scared, but they had heard the civilians talk about the Russian offensive in Poland. They thought maybe they would be evacuated.

The Jewish prisoners were taken back to the camp and told to go to bed. They were woken, given two kilos of bread each and began marching to Breslau. The bread was to last 10 days. There was snow on the ground and it clung to the wooden shoes. Soldiers shot those who fell. At night they rested. They were exhausted. After two hours they were woken and told they had to return to the camp because the Russians had cut off the road.

Everyone ate the bread on the way back. They returned to the camp, but did not work there anymore. The next day they marched ten kilos to a train station. They were not given bread. At the station there were prisoners gathered from different camps. There were four locomotives with open wagons.

They travelled for two weeks. Many died. There was no food. If there had not been snow to eat off the walls, everyone would have died. At the end, out of 90 people in each wagon, about 30 survived.

They were back in Mauthausen. It was the end of January. It took three days to shower and process everyone. There were no beds and no clothing, just shoes. There was nothing to do, only roll call, where the men stood outside naked for three hours. This went on for two weeks.

### Ebensee

Then Ze'ev was taken to Ebensee, an underground city in the mountains. He was here until he was liberated. Many died from beatings here too.

There was little food here. Ze'ev thought he would not survive, but he thought if he was ill and had to go to hospital he might pull through.

Ze'ev worked from the afternoon until 11 at night, carrying away and dumping exploded stones. Four worked at each wagon.

5062-5618

He planned to put his foot under the wagon so he could get to the hospital. He would do it after dark, when no one would see him. He did this, and fell unconscious. Ze'ev woke up on the ground. He had been carried back to the camp. He could not move his leg, but there were no marks on it. He could not stand, but he had to be at roll call in the morning or else he'd be killed. He hopped the half kilo there, but then did not go to work. Then he was sent to the hospital.

At the hospital he was told to go to work, because there was not even a scratch on the leg. The doctor thought Ze'ev was pretending. Ze'ev went back to the barracks, where he stayed for three days, only going out for roll call. Then his leg began hurting more, and turned black. He went back to the hospital.

In the hospital, patients slept four to a bed. There was a German doctor and a Jewish doctor in charge. The Jewish doctor cut open the leg and drained the blood. Ze'ev was told to close his eyes. He fainted from the pain. He remained in hospital until two weeks before the liberation.

Vienna was captured. Ze'ev didn't think he would survive outside, and tried to think how he could stay in the hospital. The night before he was to be released, he scratched at his leg, and so was sent to hospital where he was given a smear and a shower. In a week his leg was healed.

When he was told to leave, he just went back to the other hospital, where he was allowed to stay. He just walked around the hospital. No one was given food anymore. Five days later he was liberated by the Americans. The two doctors ran away.

There were two toilets in the hospital. The bread was mixed with wood shavings and this gave many diarrhea. There were always long lines for the toilets and many had accidents. Whoever was standing where the mess was, was killed. Many were strangled or killed by being stood on the neck.

### Liberation

When the Americans saw four in a bed, with their running sores, they wept. They set up a field hospital, and burned everything. Ze'ev had been there for six weeks.

After liberation many died from the food. After six weeks everyone was told they could return home. Groups were formed, and Ze'ev headed home with about 50 people from his city. They travelled by truck to the Russian zone, but then the Russians would not help them. It was slow going.

The Russians were in Sigit. Ze'ev's second oldest brother had returned to his city Oredya and reopened his business. Two of their sisters went to live with him. His

wife and child had been killed. Ze'ev first came to him, and then returned to Sigit for a year.

5619-5834 There were many places to stay in Sigit, and a lot of furniture. It was a lively time. Only youngsters had returned. The elderly and the children did not come back. There was entertainment and dancing every night.

But life was sad. The Russians made trouble and Ze'ev could not feel free in the evenings. Sigit wasn't the city it had been. Slowly everyone left.

Ze'ev went to Italy.

About 3,500 Jews returned to Sigit after the war.

Ze'ev travelled to Italy with the JOINT. He stayed on a kibbutz near Rome, preparing to go to Israel. He was there close to a year. The ship travelling to Israel was caught by the British and Ze'ev was sent to Cyprus. He was there from early 1948 to early 1949.

In Israel, Ze'ev joined the army, and then married. He lived in Israel ten years, and his two oldest children were born there. He had a brother in Winnipeg and a sister in New York. Two other sisters were in Israel, and his brother Herman remained in Romania, later moving to Israel.

Ze'ev returned home with a sick cousin. They came to the city where Ze'ev's brother lived, hoping to find him. They took the tram downtown and found the store. Ze'ev saw his brother, but his brother did not recognize him.

Tape #2

1 - 1316 Ze'ev hadn't seen his brother for years. He had been 13 when his brother left home, and he was now 21. Ze'ev took his cousin to the Jewish hospital, where he died.

### Escape from Romania

Ze'ev travelled to Italy via Budapest, and Vienna, and then stayed for a time in a DP camp in Austria near Innsbruck. They walked across the mountains to Italy, where the JOINT met them with trucks and took them to Milan, then Rome and then to the kibbutz. They had some problems crossing borders.

Ze'ev was in a group of six people crossing from Romania to Hungary. He had been on another kibbutz, but from there there was no hope of aliya. The group bribed a Rumanian soldier who then pointed them in the direction of the border guard. They were jailed. Ze'ev's brother arranged to get them out.

In Budapest they met others from all over. From there a group of 300 set out for the Austrian border, but the Hungarian border guard caught them. Ze'ev was the only one who could speak Hungarian. The others were all from old Romania. They were jailed for three days and then had a trial and were charged with illegal crossing. Ze'ev acted as translator. They were sentenced to eight days in jail, but

had already served three. While they were in jail, the JOINT provided them with food.

From jail they went to the former Jewish quarter. Ze'ev met with the head of the Jewish community who told them they should all run to the Yeshiva and hide. They had to organize the escape before Friday, when they were to be turned over to the Russians who would deport them back to Romania. Fifteen people chose not to escape.

From the Yeshiva they crossed successfully into Vienna. They then had to cross through the Russian zone to the American zone on their own. They bought passes, with photos of others, and took the chance they would not be caught on the train crossing from Vienna to Linz. They kept their heads down.

Every night a few arrived at the DP camp. Life here was well organized. Food was supplied. They then went to Italy.

Ze'ev worked as a tailor in Italy, giving his earnings to the kibbutz. Life was lively.

### Israel

At the beginning of 1948 they set out for Israel in an illegal transport boat, which was attached to the shore by ropes. There was no port. The boat picked up others on the way. They travelled for two weeks across the Straits of Messina. The boat was in poor shape. Three days before reaching Haifa the British caught them. The Italian captain surrendered. The British searched for weapons and found a box of rifles. The boat was pulled into Haifa and the passengers sent to Cyprus.

Ze'ev met his wife at a cinema a year after arriving Israel.

### Eva's Background

1317-1708 Eva was born in Bessarabia (Romania). She was the eldest of three children. Her brother lives in the United States now.

Eva's parents had a little restaurant. Eva had many uncles and aunts. She attended Jewish school for a short time.

### Eva-War Years

The Russians came into Romania in 1940 when Eva was about six-years -old. Her family began walking from one city to another. They never saw the Germans.

Many townspeople went with the Russians when they retreated. At first Eva's family chose to stay. No one knew what was best.

Eventually they came to Ukrainia. There was not a large Jewish population there.

Eva's father was shot on the second day of Passover.

At one point they came to a camp where they stayed, but did not work.

Eva's sister died enroute.

In Ukrainia the families worked.

(Yiddish)

During the months of walking, they spent the nights in the fields. Different groups of Romanian guards would take over as they continued walking. They would look away when the Jews went out to beg for food. The shepherds could tell they were Jewish and did not treat them well. Eva's brother Naftali would get them food.

In Balki they stayed in soldiers' barracks. People would sneak out for food. Many died from hunger and cold.

Eva was with her mother and brother, who was a year younger than her.

Eva and her family spent the rest of the war in Balki near the Nestor River, near Tchernovich. It was not a well known place. They lived in a big barracks.

Eva stayed near her mother all the time.

There were not many Bessarabians in Balki.

There were Jewish guards too. Some were good and some were not.

Half a year before they were liberated, the children were told to register at Tchernovitch. Eva could not go. She had diarrhea, and been sick the last six months.

Eva was in Balki four years. It took a year to get there. She was liberated there.

The children who registered cried. They did not want to leave their mothers.

The Jewish community of Bucharest had given the Russians instructions to bring these children to their community as Romanians. The Aguda then took these children to Israel, after staying in Holland for a year. The Dutch were very good to them.

The boys were taken first. Eva's brother went to a kibbutz in Israel.

### Israel

Eva went to Holland in 1947. In 1948 she went to Israel as part of the quota.

Eva went to a kibbutz in Israel, then lived with a cousin in Ramat Yitzhak. She worked in a factory. There were no buses, and she walked everywhere.

Naftali went into the army.

Eva met her husband Ze'ev. He had finished his military duty and was sharing a room with six boys. One of them was dating Eva. He introduced Ze'ev to her at a

cinema the end of February, and they were married three months later in May, 1950. Eva was 20.

Their two oldest children Noah and Rena were born in Israel. The family lived there until 1959.

Life in Canada was very hard at the beginning. But because Eva and Ze'ev were not used to a high standard of living, they managed.

In Israel, Eva and Ze'ev were given a suite in a Maabarah because he had served in the army. They made a poor livelihood in Israel. Eventually they bought their own place. Ze'ev worked in building trades.

Ze'ev's brother was living here. Eva's brother had moved to Toledo in 1957. He had been living with them in Israel. An uncle from Toledo visited them in Israel and offered to take Naftali back with him. He was a junk dealer and had no children. Naftali was 19 at the time.

The uncle first left Naftali in Windsor with a friend, and visited him regularly until he could bring him into the United States.

In 1959 Eva and Ze'ev went to Naftali's wedding in Toledo. Eventually he left the junk business and established a business of his own.

### Winnipeg

In Winnipeg Eva worked at a candy factory. The people there were good to her. They allowed her to begin work at nine, instead of eight, so she could see her children off to school. Noah attended Machray school and Rena went to a day care-nursery on Stella. Eva used to take her there by sleigh.

It was difficult to rent an apartment with small children. Mr. Gershfield rented them a place, and Eva did housework for him.

Life was not so easy in Winnipeg. Ze'ev's sister in New York wanted them to come live there, so in 1964 Eva and Ze'ev sold everything and went. They worked at the sister's drapery business, but did not like living in New York. They had to lock their doors and the children could not play outdoors. They stayed two months.

Eva and Ze'ev were not Canadian citizens yet, so when they wanted to return they had to start the process all over again. Ze'ev's brother had to sponsor them again and find Ze'ev work.

The Jewish community did not help them at all. Ze'ev managed because of his brother.

Ze'ev got a job as an upholsterer at Regal Bedding. The job was just for the three week Christmas rush. He made 80 cents an hour. Eva did not work the first six months back.

When Ze'ev was laid off after Christmas, Mr. Linhart the owner, told him to come and sweep all day long. Then Ze'ev became a 'shtopper', filling in wherever he was needed. He worked there 18 and a half years. The last ten years he has worked at Big N' Tall.

Eva and Ze'ev's three children attended the Talmud-Torah on Inkster and then graduated from Peretz. They all know Yiddish. Rena writes a beautiful Yiddish.

The children are not orthodox.

Ze'ev sometimes goes to shul. He says kaddish for everyone, even those, like his brother's first wife and child who were killed in the Holocaust. His children are less religious than he is.

The children are successful, but it wasn't easy for Eva and Ze'ev. Noah and Rena are dentists and Freda is in university.

Noah married at age 20 and has two children. His parents helped him through school.

Ze'ev has not had a day of unemployment or welfare. No one ever went hungry.

Ze'ev's experiences are still in his mind. He doesn't remember the last 40 years as well as he remembers those earlier years.

It was difficult for their children not to have grandparents.

In order to tell everything that happened to him, Ze'ev would have to write a book.