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Interviewee: ABRAMS, Sally Date: October 13, 1981

Interviewer: Josey G. Fisher

Audio tapes: 3 English Transcript: 1 vol. (unpaged) English Restrictions: None Libr. Catlg. #: D 810.J4 G7 no. 50

## **SUMMARY**

Sally Abrams, nee Kaplan, was born in Lodz, Poland March 26, 1916. She describes the pre-war Jewish community in Lodz and the first antisemitic restrictions. She and her family participated when the local *Kehilla* helped Polish Jews expelled from Germany. In September 1939 the German Army occupied Lodz and the persecutions, killings, and dispossession of property began. She describes life in the ghetto, roundups and selections, especially of children. Rumkowski is mentioned and partially defended. She and her family survived in the Lodz Ghetto until 1944 when they were sent to Bergen-Belsen and later to Auschwitz. She escaped the gas chambers twice but her mother, child, and husband perished. She also describes being in a selection by Dr. Mengele.

After Auschwitz she worked in the woods at Unterlitz, (Winter 1944) then in an ammunition factory, place unknown. She survived a death march to Gross-Rosen from where she was sent to an unnamed camp near Bergen-Belsen towards the end of the war in 1945. Allied forces liberated the camp, but she was stricken by typhus and evacuated to Sweden with the help of Count Folke Bernadotte. She describes a visit by King Gustav of Sweden while she was in a hospital there. After her recovery, she studied nursing in Sweden and married again in 1946. The family, now including two sons born in Sweden, emigrated to the U.S. in 1951.