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| Interviewee: | <u>WISHNEFSKY</u> , Lillian | Date: | Date: December 10, 1986 |
| Interviewer: | Edith Millman | | |
| Audio tapes: | 1 English | Transcript: | 1 vol. (unpaged) English |
| Restrictions: | No restrictions | Libr. Catlg. #: | D 810.J4 G7 no. 105 |

SUMMARY

Lillian Wishnefsky, née Kupferberg, was born in Sosnowiec, Poland in December 1929. Her father was a merchant and her mother a professional pianist. Her family observed the Jewish holidays. She attended public school until fourth grade when Germany invaded Poland in September 1939. She describes the formation of the Sosnowiec Ghetto in 1941, the confiscation of her father's factory, her clandestine education, life in the ghetto, her family's move to the Srodula Ghetto; her mother obtained false papers and was hidden by Christians. She describes the Nazis taking her father in the middle of the night, murdering her grandparents and deporting her to a camp and later Auschwitz.

Even though she was only 12 ½ years old, she was not sent to the children's camp in Auschwitz but was instead assigned to forced labor. Her barracks were across the street from the gas chambers. One and a half years later she was sent on the death march to Ravensbrück. She was part of a prisoner exchange arranged by President Roosevelt and traveled to Sweden via Denmark. She describes her experience on a Swedish farm and her move to Stockholm which was precipitated by a Swedish publishing company's interest in her diary. She moved to the United States in November 1945.

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SUBJECT HEADINGS

Concentration camp inmates--Medical care.
Death march survivors.
Death marches.
Diarists.
Farms--Denmark.
Forced labor.
Gas chambers.
Holocaust survivors.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Poland--Personal narratives.
Identification cards--Forgeries--Poland.
Jewish ghettos--Poland--Sosnowiec (Województwo Śląskie)
Jews--Education--Poland.
Jews--Poland--Sosnowiec (Województwo Śląskie)
Roosevelt Prisoner Exchange
Women concentration camp inmates.
World War, 1939-1945--Conscript labor.
World War, 1939-1945--Deportations from Poland.
Women--Personal narratives.

Auschwitz (Concentration camp)
Birkenau (Concentration camp)
Denmark
Fürstenberg (Germany)
Oświęcim (Poland)
Poland--History--Occupation, 1939-1945.
Ravensbrück (Concentration camp)
Sosnowiec (Województwo Śląskie, Poland)
Srodula (Sosnowiec, Województwo Śląskie, Poland)
Stockholm (Sweden)
United States--Emigration and immigration