

Interviewee:	<u>AYZEENSHTAT</u> , Rita	Date:	October 27, 1987
Interviewer:	Leon Friedman		
Audio tapes:	1 English	Transcript:	1 vol. (unpaged) English
Audio Record #:	GC00034	Libr. Catlg. #:	Not assigned yet
Restrictions:	None		

SUMMARY

Rita Ayzeenshtat was born on November 12, 1912 in Kiev. She describes a rise in antisemitism in 1941 and evacuation of many Leningrad residents to Siberia, which led her and her husband to attempt a move to Moscow. When they were not granted permission to stay there, they traveled to the Ural Mountains to live with relatives. Rita had to separate from her three year old son because no one would rent to a couple with a child. She was forced to put him in a child's home. Her husband joined the Soviet Army and was killed in action a few months later. She describes the harsh conditions, long working hours, freezing cold, starvation rations and inadequate clothing. She was eventually allowed to move with her son to Moscow in 1943 and lived with her mother. Post-war she returned to Leningrad. Her son emigrated to the United States in 1972 and Rita along with her mother followed him in 1980.