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Interviewee: HORN, Saul Date: August 29, 1993

Interviewer: Ian A. Spetgang

Audio tapes: 1 English Transcript: 1 vol. (unpaged) English

Restrictions: None

SUMMARY

Saul Horn was born in Lódz, Poland in 1913. Saul briefly describes the thriving pre-war Lodz Jewish community. Saul recounts the effects of the German occupation on his family, losing the family business and fleeing to the Glowno Ghetto in December 1939, which was outside the German Reich at the time. He describes the difficult conditions in the ghetto, working outside the ghetto and trying to buy extra food. He describes their deportation to the Warsaw Ghetto when Germany took over that area in 1941. Saul describes working as a slave laborer in the Warsaw Ghetto, at Okecie airfield, and the gruesome effect of starvation, especially on children, as well as on people in general. He explains how he escaped from the Warsaw Ghetto to Opatów and later rescued 10 women, using bribery. After six months in Opatów they were captured by the SS and sent to Skarzysko labor camp. He details the horrible living conditions and brutal treatment by Ukrainian guards. His wife died of typhoid in 1942.

Saul details his deportation to Buchenwald by cattle train in 1944. Of the 2000 Jews on this transport only 200 survived. He describes the brutal conditions, especially the hunger, and how he became the head of the small hospital - staffed by Jewish doctors - that had no supplies. Saul witnessed several atrocities committed by Germans.

Buchenwald was liberated by the Russians in May, 1945. He mentions what occurred after liberation and his search for relatives in Lódz. He was reunited with three of his wife's sisters and later married one of them. In 1945 he established a manufacturing business in Poland.

He explains how they were smuggled out of Poland to the Schlupfing Displaced Persons camp in Germany, helped by the *Haganah*, in 1946. He went to Landsberg Displaced Persons camp in 1948. Saul, his wife and two year old daughter, arrived in the United States in June 1949. He lived in Patterson N.J. and briefly talks about his life there and how he taught himself to speak English.

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SUBJECT HEADINGS

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)-Personal narratives-male
Jewish ghettos - Glowno - Poland
Jewish ghettos - Warsaw - Poland
World War, (1939 - 1945) - Concentration camps - Buchenwald - Germany
Labor camp - Skarzysko
Slave labor
World War, (1939 - 1945) - Concentration camps - Liberation
Escape from Poland
Refugee camps - Schlupfing - Germany
Refugee camps - Landsberg - Germany

Life after World War II