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Interviewee: ADLER, Sara Date: April 22 1985<sup>1</sup>

Interviewer: Davida Glick

Audio tapes: 1 English Transcript: 1 vol. (unpaged) English Audio Record #: GC20601 Libr. Catlg. #: D 810.J4 G7 no. 39

Restrictions: None

## **SUMMARY**

Sara Adler, nee Apel, was born in Radom, Poland in 1927. Her family was close-knit, religious, well-to-do and involved in community welfare. They had non-Jewish contacts through their lumber business, but Sara attended Jewish school and had primarily Jewish friends. The family fled Radom in 1939 under German bombardment but returned and were put into the Radom Ghetto soon after. Through bribing Polish contacts, her father, her uncle and she were able to live and work in Szydlowiec (Kielce area), a munitions factory outside the ghetto. In late summer 1942, the ghetto was liquidated and the rest of her family was sent to Treblinka. Her father, her uncle and she continued working in the munitions factory until 1944.

With the Russian approach in July 1944 the Germans marched the prisoners 100 miles to Tomaszow under horrible conditions and from there shipped them to Auschwitz. She describes the cattle cars, arrival, selection, unsanitary conditions and *Appells*. She recounts how she was helped by a fellow inmate. She was sent to work in a string factory in Lichtewerden, Czechoslovakia in the Sudetenland. She describes some of the brutality and also kindnesses of some Germans and others. After the liberation by the Russians, Sara managed to return totally destitute to Radom. Though helped by some Polish locals upon her return, other former Polish friends refused to return the family's belongings to her. She left with some friends for Stuttgart, Germany, and got married. She emigrated to the United States in January 1949.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Recorded at the 1985 American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors in Philadelphia, PA.