

-TITLE- Dina Angress
-I__DATE- May 26,1990
-SOURCE- SFHOHP
-SOUND_QUALITY- Excellent
-IMAGE_QUALITY- Excellent
-DURATION- 2 hours and 40 minutes
-LANGUAGE- English
-CONTENTS- WENT TO SCHOOL WITH ANNE FRANK. PROVIDES GOOD DESCRIPTION OF WHAT ANNE FRANK WAS LIKE IN SCHOOL.

Tape 1--German occupation of Holland

- 1:05:00 Dina was born on October 12, 1928 in Holland. Her father Isaac was a physician. She was the oldest of three children. Her family was very progressive but orthodox Jews. She didn't have non-Jewish friends growing up and went to an all Jewish school.
- 1:07:00 Father was very respected in her Jewish neighborhood before the war.
- 1:10:00 As a child Dina was protected from the circumstances affecting the world leading up to World War II.
- 1:14:00 First time she sensed political trouble was in 1939. In August, her family was vacationing in Switzerland because her middle sister suffered from rheumatoid arthritis and was to receive treatment in Switzerland. September 1939 the Dutch militia was mobilized and her father was a medic in the reserves so Dina's family had to cut their vacation short. Middle sister stayed in Switzerland. Dina was 10 years old.
- 1:20:00 May 1940 war started in Holland. Her Father was stationed on the war front in ph. Haig. Dina had to stay indoors, as sirens went off all the time. Within 5 days, ships were chartered to take Jewish mothers and their children to America where a Jewish Agency would take care of them. But Dina's mother didn't want to leave her husband. Dina was given the opportunity to go without her mother but refused.
- 1:23:00 Germany takes over Holland and Dina's father comes home. Things seemed normal, and Dina continued to go to school.
- 1:25:00 Family receives papers to fill out which asked them to name their relatives, their religion, and their relative's religion. Some families didn't fill it out escaped later persecutions. If one

had two or more grandparents who were Jewish then that person was Jewish. Most Jews were proud of their religion and filled the papers out properly, but unknowingly of the consequences.

- 1:27:00 Restrictions slowly placed on the Jews. They had to go to an all Jewish school, hand in all jewelry, and wear a yellow star.
- 1:29:00 Dutch-Jews hadn't heard how the Nazis treated the Jews. Dina's family listened to the BBC when they had a radio and later had friend give them the BBC news when they didn't have a radio.
- 1:33:30 School classes started October 13, 1941, and Dina was to be in the 7th grade which in Holland was high school. The school had an excellent faculty because the school could choose from a large pool of unemployed Jewish professors. Dina played volleyball.
- 1:35:00 Dina's family lived in a big home in East Amsterdam. The Jews were ordered to move into Eastern and Central parts of Amsterdam.
- 1:37:00 Young Jews were sent letters and told they had to be sent to work camps. They were picked up and placed in concentration camps or gassed. Dina first heard of killings when neighbor's son was exterminated. Neighbor received letter saying son died of natural causes.
- 1:39:00 Dina didn't feel tense at the time. Remembers playing monopoly, card games, etc. She couldn't go to movies or recreational spots.
- 1:49:00 Dina could always get food. She was never hungry. Middle sister who stayed in Switzerland was taken care of by Red Cross and didn't return to Holland until 1945 after the war. Parents had no contact with sister.
- 1:58:00 Jewish population shrinking. Dina's class size was shrinking. Started with 30 kids and by the time Dina entered the 9th grade only 3 class members remained. Started out going to school but when down to 3, Dina went to teachers house. Students were urged to do their homework no matter what was happening around them. Even if their family members were being picked up they had to do their homework. On September 29th came the biggest raid in Amsterdam, to retrieve all Jews not yet sent to concentration camps. Dina's father only one who could circumcise babies, so he

had received an extension to stay up to this point. But on September 29th, police entered Dina's house. Dina and her sister were recovering from chicken pox. Dina's mom told the captain of the police that her children had small pox. Captain let them stay.

1:60:00 Dina's family cooked food for those sent off to concentration camps. On October 13th at 7 a.m. her family was warned that they needed to get out of their house because the Gestapo was coming for them.

Tape 2--In hiding

2:04:00 Important to separate family when going into hiding. Anna (ph.) Fundamm helped separate Dina's family and move them into hiding. They couldn't take much with them to prevent the arousal of suspicion onto them. Five minutes after they left the Gestapo was at the door. They moved to non-Jewish address inside ghetto.

2:08:00 Dina went to (ph.) Hilvston, a small town outside Amsterdam. Parents only knew address of go-between, but not where rest of family was located. Sister stayed with Christian family, who were willing to take in Jews without pay. Told the neighbors that the child was an orphan who was bombed out in Rotterdam raid. Each family member received falsified papers and a fake history, like Dina's sister. Dina received a new name, Dina (ph.) Peters. Her sister had to stay inside at first but later could play outside. Her grandma went through 17 homes because she was very difficult to live with according to Dina. One home almost turned her in because she was such trouble.

2:10:00 Mother and father had to move once. They had to stay in the house, but could roam the house at will.

2:13:00 Dina moved into a temporary home for 6 weeks, while a doctor decided whether or not to keep her.

2:15:00 Dina's family was kept away from names in case they were picked up.

2:20:00 The Ghetto wasn't fenced in but the Jews weren't allowed to leave.

2:22:00 Dina finally placed with a friend of the doctor who couldn't make up his mind whether or not to

take in Dina. The friend was also a doctor. Doctor Walle and Ellie Nauta had a 7 month old child when they took in Dina. They were only about 10 years older than Dina. Dina was to be the household help. Her room was in the attic.

- 2:24:00 Dina learned the facts of life from Ellie. Doctor Walle was in a laboratory all day.
- 2:26:00 Dina didn't have to stay in house all the time. The house was small. Would walk the dog around the neighborhood.
- 2:28:00 Eventually Dina would go shopping at the market. Remembers recycling vegetable peels, etc. to make animal feed.
- 2:30:00 Dina had a hiding place in case of an emergency. Only had to use it once, and the emergency was a false alarm.
- 2:33:00 Dina would go with Doctor Walle to farmers and trade mittens for potato, butter, cheese, apples, etc. Rode bikes with wooden tires about 10 kilometers to get to farmers.
- 2:36:00 Dina always tried to see the good out of the bad.
- 2:38:00 Dina heard Jews had killed Jesus. This upset her. She wrote to her father and asked him if the Jews killed Jesus. Near the end of the war she was able to write and visit the rest of her family. She was not satisfied with her father's answer and started to become less religious.
- 2:44:00 Dina was able to do some school work while still in hiding. Wasn't in contact with many young people.
- 2:46:00 Dina was in same Jewish school as Anne Franke. Remembers Anne being a good volleyball player and shy in school. Thinks that plays that portray Anne show a different side of Anne that Dina didn't know. Few of Dina's classmates survived the war.
- 2:52:00 June 1944, Dina thought the war was over with the invasion of Normandy, but her hopes turned out wrong. Thus when war was actually over she didn't believe it until the troops came marching by.
- 2:58:00 When war was over Dina wanted to find parents. Her family had to start from scratch. Old house

was ransacked and used for fuel during the war.
Father lost most of his patients.

2:60:00 When word of transports carrying survivors of the concentration camps came, Dina's father would go down to the station to see if his relatives survived.

Tape 3--Afterwards

3:02:00 Dina's mother and father lost many relatives, but grandmother who went to camps at age of 70 survived. Most relatives were sent to Bergen-Belsin.

3:04:00 Dina's new house became center for relatives to come and try to get established. Sometimes had 20 people in the house. Dina went back to school.

3:06:00 Could take catch up classes and then enter regular school. Dina entered the 9th grade at 17 years old and then dropped out.

3:16:30 Girls who went out with German soldiers where caught after the war and publicly tarred and feathered.

3:18:00 After war suspicion of Germans was widespread.

3:22:00 Many Catholics helped Jews go into hiding.

3:25:00 Dina didn't know of any families that were caught trying to hide Jews.

3:50:00 Dina felt as though she didn't have it rough personally.

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