

Interview with LEA GRINBERGER
Bay Area Holocaust Oral History Project
Date: March 8, 1996
Place: San Francisco, CA
Interviewer: Sandra Bendayan
Transcriber: Leslie Koons

I'm Sandra Bendayan. I'm here interviewing Lea Grinberger. She's also accompanied by her daughter Mona Rafael who is going to translate. Today is the 8th of March, 1996. We're doing this interview for the Holocaust Oral History Project and John Grant is our producer.

Q COULD YOU PLEASE START BY TELLING WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AT BIRTH IF IT'S DIFFERENT THEN IT IS NOW?

A Illeona Bergida.

Q BERGIDA. B-E-R-G-I-D-A?

A Yes.

Q ILLEONA?

A Yes.

Q AND WHERE AND WHEN WERE YOU BORN?

A I am born in Czechoslovakia in a village in 1926.

Q WHAT MONTH?

A April. April 21.

Q APRIL 21, 1926?

A Yes.

Q WERE YOU AN ONLY CHILD?

A No, I have a brother.

Q AND WHAT WAS HIS NAME?

A Harold. Harold Bergida.

Q AND WAS HE OLDER OR YOUNGER?

A Younger. Three years younger.

Q AND WHAT WERE YOUR PARENT'S NAMES?

sp → A Bergida Jacob my father name, and Bergida (Lainka)
my mother's name.

Q AND WHAT KIND OF WORK DID YOUR FATHER DO?

A He was a tailor.

Q DID HE HAVE HIS OWN BUSINESS?

A Yes.

Q AND WAS THIS A BIG TOWN OR SMALL TOWN?

A Small town.

Q DID IT HAVE A LARGE JEWISH POPULATION?

A Not too much Jewish, no. But it was many friends.

Q AND DID YOU HAVE A HOME OR YOU RENTED AN
APARTMENT?

A No. A home.

Q YOU OWNED YOUR HOME?

A Yes.

Q DID YOU LIVE IN A JEWISH SECTION? WAS IT
A JEWISH SECTION OR YOU JUST LIVED AMONG THE
CHRISTIANS?

A No. Many christian people.

Q DID YOU HAVE GRANDPARENTS?

A Yes. I had from father's side I had the grandmother. And from mother's side I know the grandmother. Before the Holocaust she died and the grandfather on my mother's side.

Q WHAT WERE THE NAMES OF ALL YOUR GRANDPARENTS? WHAT WERE THE NAMES OF YOUR MOTHER'S PARENTS?

A Klein.

Q AND THE FIRST NAME?

Sp - A Klein Sarah and Klein (Myre) the grandpa.

Q AND ON THE OTHER SIDE, YOUR FATHER'S SIDE?

Sp - A The father's side Bergida (Fagga).

Q AND YOUR GRANDFATHER'S NAME, DO YOU REMEMBER THAT?

A I don't know him.

Q YOU DIDN'T KNOW HIM?

A No.

Q DID THOSE GRANDPARENTS LIVE IN YOUR TOWN WITH YOU?

A The mother's, no. They lived separate in another town. And the father's mother, she lived with us.

Q WOULD YOU SAY YOUR FAMILY WAS ORTHODOX?

A Yes. They was orthodox and my father was very religious. I am from a very religious house.

Q AND I GUESS YOU WENT TO SCHOOL IN THAT TOWN?

A Yes. I went to Czechoslovakia school.

Q NOT TO A JEWISH SCHOOL?

A No. Czechoslovakia school.

Q IT SOUNDS LIKE YOUR FAMILY HAD A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR CHRISTIAN NEIGHBORS?

A Yes. We was O.K. I had many friends.

Q WERE YOU AWARE OF ANY ANTISEMITISM BEFORE HITLER CAME TO POWER?

A I don't remember. I was very young. When it was Czechoslovakia it was O.K. After in '39 coming Hungarian occupation of the area and that was beginning of antisemitism, the fascism.

Q IN '39?

A '39 yeah.

Q YOU WERE VERY YOUNG, AS YOU SAID, BUT DID YOU HAVE ANY SENSE OF YOUR FAMILY AT ALL BEING WORRIED ONCE HITLER CAME TO POWER IN GERMANY?

A Yes. Everyone felt that way.

Q EVEN BEFORE '39?

A Yes.

Q DID YOUR PARENTS EVER THINK THAT THEY
MIGHT EMIGRATE FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA?

A No.

Q WERE THEY ZIONIST?

A No. They didn't think of that.

Q WERE YOUR PARENTS ZIONIST AT ALL?

A No. Jewish Orthodox.

Q BUT THEY WEREN'T ZIONIST TO THINK TO GO TO
PALESTINE SOME DAY?

A No. I don't remember that, no.

Q BY THE WAY WHAT WAS YOUR LANGUAGE AT HOME,
CZECH?

A In the home, Hungarian and Yiddish. With the
grandmother I spoke Yiddish. She can't speak Hungarian.
And with the father, Hungarian.

Q HOW WAS IT THAT YOUR FAMILY'S LANGUAGE WAS
HUNGARIAN WHILE YOU WERE LIVING IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA?

A My mother was Hungarian.

Q YOUR MOTHER'S HUNGARIAN?

A Yes.

Q AND DID YOUR FATHER SPEAK HUNGARIAN TOO?

A Yes. My father, many years he worked in Budapest,
but he was young before marriage.

Q I SUPPOSE YOU SPOKE CZECH TO BE ABLE TO GO
TO SCHOOL?

A Yes.

Q SO YOU SPOKE THREE LANGUAGES?

A More.

Q MORE? WHAT ELSE?

A Hebrew.

Q HEBREW? YOU GOT A HEBREW EDUCATION?

A No. I lived in Israel. I came here from Israel.

Q I SEE. SO AS FAR AS YOU PERSONALLY WERE
CONCERNED THE FIRST FEARFUL TIMES FOR YOU WAS 1939?

A '39 yes. The Hungarian was coming.

Q DID YOU HAVE ANY WARNING THAT THE
HUNGARIAN'S WERE GOING TO TAKE OVER?

A No. They occupied the Czechoslovakia territory.
All Czechoslovakia territory they occupied and Romania the
same. One part of Romania, that was the same time. I don't
remember if we had warning.

Q YOU WERE ABOUT 13 THEN?

A In '39 yeah; 13, 14.

Q CAN YOU REMEMBER THE DAY THE HUNGARIANS
CAME?

A I remember the Germans when they came in '44 on
March 18. That I remember.

Q DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING THAT WAS
DIFFERENT UNDER THE HUNGARIAN OCCUPATION?

A Yes.

Q CAN YOU TALK ABOUT THOSE YEARS WHEN YOU
WERE LIVING UNDER THE HUNGARIANS? WHAT WAS THAT
LIKE?

sp → A It was different. For the Jewish it was very
different. In '41 they take every Jewish, he don't have the
Hungarian citizen, the Polish. I have many friends that
sp → were Polish and they take to (Klein) to communist (Podolsk).
One day, one morning, town I don't remember. Four or five
sp → families, and they killed them in communist (Podolsk).

Q AND WHO WAS THAT?

A The Hungarian.

Q THE HUNGARIAN?

A Yes, the Hungarian take them.

Q TAKE THEM AND KILLED THEM?

sp → A Yes, to (Klein). They don't have the Hungarian
citizens. It was in Ukraine, communist Ukraine. It was
something. Very, very -- it was a shock. They came in one
morning. We go and after we heard they -- -- big stones for
one of my friend. They tie a stone around her neck and they
push her in the river.

Q IN THE RIVER?

A Yes.

Q TO DROWN?

A Yes.

Q DID YOU SEE ANY OF THESE THINGS?

A No. We don't see this. Someone came back.

INTERPRETER: There was an eyewitness who
came back.

Q AND TOLD YOU WHAT HAPPENED?

A Yes. In '41 when they beginning to do this.

Q HOW DID THE HUNGARIANS TREAT YOU, SAY
BETWEEN '39 AND '41? HOW DID THEY TREAT YOU?

A As a Jew, you were afraid every time. The
gentleman with the black feathers. It was not easy.

Q WERE THEY BEATING PEOPLE?

A Yes.

Q HOW ABOUT YOUR LIVING SITUATION? DID YOU
HAVE ENOUGH FOOD TO EAT?

A Yes.

Q YOU DID?

A Yes.

Q COULD YOU GO TO SCHOOL?

A Yes. In the beginning.

Q IN THE BEGINNING?

A Yes. After, no. For the Jewish people, no.

Q DID THINGS CHANGE FOR THE JEWISH PEOPLE
RIGHT AWAY IN '39 WHEN THE HUNGARIANS CAME?

A Yes.

Q IN WHAT WAY? DID YOU FEEL ANTISEMITISM?

A Yes, big antisemitism and everyone was afraid.

The life is changed.

Q WHO WERE YOU AFRAID OF?

A Everything. They can take you and kill you and beat you. It was not easy.

Q WHEN DID YOU HAVE TO WEAR THE YELLOW STAR?

A In '44. In '44 when the Germans came in.

Q HOW WERE YOUR CZECH NEIGHBORS BEHAVING TO YOU FROM '39 ON? THE ONES WHO WERE NOT JEWISH, DID THEY STILL ACT FRIENDLY?

A Yes. Not for everyone it was O.K. Once they take us to ghetto, I don't see any friends or anyone. She came and something to do or give you, bring you to eat; no.

Q NOBODY WENT OUT OF THEIR WAY TO HELP YOU?

A No.

Q WHEN DID THEY MAKE EVERYBODY GO TO THE GHETTO?

A '44.

Q '44?

A '44 was the time. After Passover is April 14. Today, finish the Passover and in the morning they take us.

Q SO UNDER THE HUNGARIAN OCCUPATION YOU WERE AFRAID BUT YOU SURVIVED MORE OR LESS?

A Yes. And we heard the concentration in Hungarian was, they take people and the men to work and they have

uniform. And afterward they take the uniform and it was just work. They working not in the soldiers uniform. And they take 14 of Klein and it was terrible that time.

Q YOU MEAN IN SLAVE LABOR?

A Yes.

Q THE MEN WERE TAKEN AS SLAVE LABORERS?

A Yes.

Q HOW ABOUT YOUR FAMILY? WERE YOU AFFECTED AT ALL BY THE HUNGARIAN OCCUPATION? WAS YOUR FATHER TAKEN FOR SLAVE LABOR?

A No. We were happy in this time. He came with us together in the ghetto.

Q DID YOU HAVE TO GO TO THE GHETTO? WAS IT FAR AWAY FROM WHERE YOU WERE?

A No. In town. They take us together in the school, all Jewish, and afterward they sent everyone over there in the school. We go to the ghetto.

Q DID THEY GIVE YOU ANY WARNING THAT YOU WERE GOING TO HAVE TO MOVE TO THE GHETTO?

A No. This was Passover and they said you will be ready tomorrow in the morning. We can take one bag. One night.

Q COULD YOU TAKE ANY OF YOUR POSSESSIONS WITH YOU?

A Yes. They take everything.

Q THEY TOOK IT ALL AWAY?

A Yes. We was in a brick factory, they take us.
Was just the roof and the side, every side was open and on
the floor with the pillows and blankets.

Q THAT IS WHERE YOU STAYED?

A Yes.

Q WHY WOULD THEY HAVE NO WALLS IN THE BRICK
FACTORY?

A In a brick factory every place they don't have
walls. It was just overhang. We was over six weeks;
April 14 to May 24, 25.

Q YOU WERE IN THE BRICK FACTORY?

A Yes. And after that they take us to Auschwitz.

Q DURING THE SIX WEEKS YOU WERE THERE, DID
YOU HAVE TO WORK?

A No. Sometimes they take us out in the city to the
Jewish houses. They put the clothes and books and we had to
sort them out sometimes. Not any real work.

Q DID YOU HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT DURING THAT
TIME?

A Yes. Not too much. Sometimes they bring into
ghetto with the big kettles and sometimes we cook outside on
the fire.

Q DID YOU HAVE YOUR OWN FOOD YOU BROUGHT
WITH YOU?

A Yes.

Q WHAT ABOUT ANY AUNTS AND UNCLES? DID YOU
HAVE ANY OTHER RELATIVES?

A Yes, the close relatives, the uncles. We was 36
people and came back six; six, seven.

Q CAN YOU SAY THE NAMES OF YOUR AUNTS AND
UNCLES ON YOUR MOTHER'S SIDE AND YOUR FATHER'S SIDE?

A On my mother father's side was one. Was (Hyem).
Sp → His name was (Hyem) and the wife Steffy and they was three
children. Three boys, all of them is gone, all of them is.
And on the mother's side there was four and with my mother
was five, five sisters. And everyone has children, and
their husband, and they don't come home. My mother is
coming home and the aunt, but I have other picture, they is
coming home.

Q IF YOU REMEMBER, YOU COULD SAY THE NAMES
OF THOSE AUNTS AND UNCLES ON YOUR MOTHER'S SIDE?

A My mother's side was one (Reggie, Gizza), these
Sp → are Hungarian names. Herman, Thelma, and my mother (Linka).
Sp → I don't remember many of the husbands. And the children,
Sp → (Yollee) was one. The second cousin, I don't remember.
Sp → Helen (Heronca), Herschel. And I don't remember -- there
Sp → was (Aggy). They was twins, two. And one uncle (Misha),
and Olga. And many I don't remember.

Q DURING THAT PERIOD OF HUNGARIAN OCCUPATION
DID YOUR FAMILY THINK AT ALL ABOUT LEAVING, IF THEY
COULD? ABOUT ESCAPING CZECHOSLOVAKIA?

A The aunt Thelma with the grandfather, with her
father, they went to America. They have papers and the
quota.

Q THE IMMIGRATION QUOTA?

A Yes. They have every paper ready to come to Los
Angeles. She has sister to come live with in Los Angeles
and they can't come. They will not.

Q IT WAS TOO LATE?

A Not too late the quota. The Americas from here --

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: The Americans
didn't want them to come here.

Q BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T MEET THE QUOTA?

A Because of that.

Q SO THEY COULD HAVE COME?

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: Americans didn't
want to let them come.

A That is what I know.

Q HOW DID YOU PASS YOUR DAYS WHEN YOU WERE
IN THE GHETTO? WHAT DID YOU DO ALL DAY?

A Nothing, nothing. The young people, they have
friends and nothing, we don't do nothing.

Q I BELIEVE YOU SAID YOU HAD HEARD ALREADY
ABOUT THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS?

A No. We don't know really what and where. We think they take us to work, some place to work. And after they take us, transport, many transport. We was the third transport, and they take us in the train. The train, the box car. And we stay more than 79 or 80 people and it was very hot and children and everybody. And the toilets in the same place.

We don't have much to eat, we don't have water. It was three days in train and we arrived in Auschwitz. It was the second day from (Shavort).

Q WERE YOU ALL TOGETHER WITH YOUR FAMILY?

A Yes. We was all together with our families. It was the 28th of May. This I remember, the date. And then they opened the door and they, "Fast, fast. Out, out, out."

It was the men's in striped pajama's and they tell young mothers, "Give up the children for the old people." Some give, some no. Most mother's, they didn't want to give up the children for the grandmother's. They go with the children to the gas.

Q MAYBE YOU COULD EXPLAIN MORE WHAT YOU MEAN, "GIVE THE CHILDREN UP FOR THE OLD PEOPLE."
WAS THIS WHEN THEY HAD A SELECTION, SOME GO ONE WAY
SOME GO ANOTHER?

A Before the selection they came up and, "First, first, you go out." And then they tell young mother's, "Give up the children for the old people."

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: That's when they came off the train. It was before they started the selection.

A When we was out, there was not time. Time was so fast. It was one man, a German officer with white gloves, just "Here, here, here" with the finger. Very good looking.

Q WAS THIS MENGELE BY ANY CHANCE?

A Yes, Mengele. Many times I stayed before him, many many times.

Q SO THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME?

A Yes, this was the first time. And five people in one room. And some mother's, they give up the children. And some mother's no, they would not give up the children. They go with the children.

Q DO YOU THINK THOSE MOTHER'S KNEW WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN?

A No. They didn't know.

Q THEY DIDN'T KNOW?

A No. They didn't know. They didn't. And they think, maybe we go to work and the children go another place with the old people. Anyone think of them it was their last half hour, the last ten minutes in their lives.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: No one thought it.

A No. They take us to the camp, it was not far. We was not far from the train, our camp, and in the morning when we go out we see the smoke. The black, black-red and very smelly smoke. And we was afraid. Inside we feel something is happened, and we ask the block supervisor, we ask her, "What is this?" And she told us, "Your parents."

It was very, very -- (voice trails off.) And everyday you smell the smoke and you feel the smell. It was, it was not a smoke like regular smoke, it was gray. The smoke was a terrible color.

Q BLACK?

A Not black. Black with red, with brown it was. It was not a regular smoke. And everyday, everyday we see this. I was in C Camp and this was (Nichtung) camp. And the people, every time they take them to kill them.

Q YOU MEAN THE CAMP WHERE YOU WERE JUST WAITING TO --

A Yes. Twice a week came Mengele and twice a week we stay before him and he would select. Many, many times. One time he take me too. And I don't know what is happened. I was six months in the Auschwitz in C Camp with my mother and cousins. And one time everyone take one side, and just me he take another side. And what is happened, I don't know. And when I go to the people and then he take me back.

Q DID YOU THINK YOU WERE GOING TO THE GAS
CHAMBER?

A Yes. And he take me -- first he make me go here,
and after he take me back to the right side.

Q HOW DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT HAPPENED?

A I don't know.

Q YOU NEVER FOUND OUT?

A My mother told me when she see him take me and she
think of My God, just one time now you help me. And that
moment he take me back. I don't see, I don't know. They
stay back in the back from me. I don't see what is
happened. I go before and I just feel another SS. He had a
cane and he take me with the cane on the neck, back.

Q THAT'S HOW YOU WERE SAVED THAT TIME?

A Yeah. I was twice in the death throat. This
time, and second time it was after Auschwitz. We was in
Nuremberg. They take us to Nuremberg to work, and after a
month it was beginning very fast the attacks with the bomb
attacks.

And I was injured. Not anything, you can't see the
scar. And nothing, I don't take any infection. I just
feel -- I don't feel pains this time -- I just feel something
warm and I have with me a blanket. A very, very dirty
blanket and I take the blanket.

Q AND YOU SURVIVED THAT TOO?

A Yes. Long time I don't see out of my eyes. It was black long, long time. I think this was forever.

Q HOW LONG A TIME? A MONTH LONG?

A Yes. I know long time. And after they bombing, when we came to Nuremberg you see houses and after when we evacuate from Nuremberg it have no houses.

And our camp was near to cemetery and they bombing the cemetery. I don't know what was in the cemetery. And then when I was injured, then our camp too. Everything, just big. And then they take us to one school in Nuremberg, and then it was three days when we don't eat anything. I was so hungry.

In Auschwitz many people, they eat raw potatoes. I never can eat. I get hungry and I never can eat. At this place I had a raw potato.

Q YOU WOULD EAT IT THEN?

A Yes.

Q HOW WOULD YOU EVEN GET A RAW POTATO?

A From Auschwitz sometimes in the kitchen they stole them. And before I was from May to November in Auschwitz. November they take us and then Mengele take my mother too. I think my mother there is no more life, but we go to the transport to Nuremberg, and the mother, she stay. He take the mother to the gas chamber. He take.

Q HE TOOK YOUR MOTHER?

A Selected the mother. Not just my mother, many.

Q BUT HE SELECTED HER FOR THE GAS CHAMBER?

A Yes. And I was sure my mother is not alive. And then when we came home in June in '45 in Budapest I heard my mother is home. She's alive.

She told me there was many woman and they make them take all their clothes off in one room. It was dark; no light, no windows, nothing. And they wait and they know that's it. This is it. And they was all night in the room.

In the morning, early in the morning came one German and they don't know. Now they take us to the gas and they give them clothes and back to the camp. They take them back to the camp. They don't know. Is maybe they don't have a place for the gas. Maybe it was full or maybe is broken something. That was their destiny.

Q SO ANOTHER MIRACLE THAT YOUR MOTHER IS SAVED?

A Yes. And she they take back to the camp. And after not a long time; I don't know, week, two weeks, they take her to transport to (See-tau). The German city, (Sietau) was the name. And she worked. She came home, she came back three weeks before then.

Q HOW OLD WAS YOUR MOTHER WHEN SHE GOT TO AUSCHWITZ?

A 42.

Q WAS SHE A STRONG PERSON?

A Yes. She was a strong person, 42. When she came home 42, 41. One year.

Q WHEN YOU GOT TO AUSCHWITZ, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR BROTHER AND YOUR FATHER?

A When we go from the train they take us to bathrooms, big bathrooms. Then they shaved us and they take the clothes we have and they give one long, one short. We look like crazy people, not normal people. After they shave us, after everything, we was ready.

And we stay to the woman, and it was like a fence. And other side stays mens. And my mom tell, "Look the father and the brother". And really, they was in the stripes. They was in the stripes. And my father and my brother were with the mens.

Q THEY WORE THE STRIPED SUITS BUT THE WOMEN, THEY WORE JUST WORE CLOTHES?

A Yes. They don't know us but my mother, she recognized them. And they have two breads. I don't know how they take two breads with them, I don't know. And one bread he tossed over for us. It was the first something we have to eat.

Q AND YOU WERE ABLE TO GET THE BREAD? NOBODY TOOK IT AWAY FROM YOU?

A No. We was very fresh because in the beginning everyone was very hungry, and we was in shock. We didn't know what was happening.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: They weren't very hungry yet because they had just arrived. They were fresh, they didn't know what was going on. And nobody jumped on it really.

A And this was the last time I see my brother and my father. We don't see them more, not me, not my mother. After when we came home came people tell us my father died a week before the Americans freed them, and my brother in February.

They go in the transport. It was winter and they were walking and they stand in one place and he was very hungry. And he see a field with radishes and he go out from the line and want to take a radish. And then they kill him. They shot him. Who was with him came back and told us.

Q AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR FATHER WAS DOING THAT PERIOD? WAS HE IN AUSCHWITZ THAT WHOLE TIME?

A No. He was in Germany in one town. I don't know where. And he died from weakness.

Q STARVATION?

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: Starvation and he was eaten by lice.

A Starvation and lice. When the first time I was in Germany, I want to found where he is buried and I cannot find. I go with one man, he told me in Dusseldorf. We go to Dusseldorf to the Jewish community and they don't have it. He's in a mass grave. I came every year I am in Germany.

Q EVERY YEAR?

A Yes. My son lived in Germany. Is for me very --
What can I do?

Q IT'S DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO GO TO GERMANY?

A Yes. I want to find the grave. I can't.

Q YOU COULDN'T FIND THE MASS GRAVE?

A No. When I have the date of the place, maybe.

Q SO YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO GET THE INFORMATION
YOU NEEDED EVEN FROM THE GERMAN RECORD?

A The German, you don't know who was with him. An old man who was with him is alive now. He's near to a hundred years. His mind, he can't remember.

Q AND THERE IS NO GERMAN RECORDS OF THIS
WORKPARTY YOU COULD FIND?

A No.

Q THEY OFTEN KEPT SUCH GOOD RECORDS.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: As much as we tried we could not. Maybe we were not trying in the right place, but we could not.

A It was very, very hard time. I was young. I was 18. My 18th birthday was in the ghetto. And with my aunt I was every time together. She died in Israel in '78.

Q SHE CAME TO AUSCHWITZ WITH YOU?

A Yes. We came together home.

Q WHICH AUNT IS THAT? WOULD YOU TELL HER NAME AGAIN?

A Selma.

Q SELMA?

A Her daughter, she live in Los Angeles. When the attacks when I was injured, we go to the city to another place. Long, long we walk in snow. It was snow, it was rain. It was February and we don't have shoes. One pair of shoes; we have one pair of shoes.

Q FOR THE THREE OF YOU?

A No, two.

Q NOT YOUR MOTHER?

A Not my mother, no. And a little she's walking in the shoes, she take off; I am going in the shoes. And it was freezing, it was snow, and the shoes was not really comfortable. Not just comfortable, it was full of holes. The sole was full of holes.

Q SO IT WASN'T THOSE WOODEN CLOGS?

A No. Just regular worn-out shoe. And we have cloth and all kind of rags that we would wear.

Q DID YOU GET FROSTBITE?

A No. Just I in Nuremberg when we was. And

Sp → (Augustrom Fruer) he was very -- made many times in the snow
to knee, in the snow.

Q HE MADE YOU KNEEL IN THE SNOW?

Sp → A It was (Say-lapa). You know (Say-lapa)?

Q YES.

A And it was in the snow to kneel many, many times.
And I had very pain in the knee. I have pains sometimes
now.

Q WAS THAT A PARTICULAR PUNISHMENT OR HE
JUST LIKED TO MAKE YOU SUFFER?

(
Sp → A No, no. It cannot be punishment, no. I think
sometimes so. We have a (blocker testa) she was with red
hair and I think so -- not just I, many people think so.
She tell him she want to punish us.

Q SO SHE WANTED TO PUNISH YOU?

A Yes. And she was with him very good relationship.

Q DO YOU THINK THEY WERE LOVERS?

A Yes.

Q WAS SHE JEWISH?

A I think. I think so. Polish.

Q WHEN YOU WENT TO CAMP C, WHAT WAS THAT
CAMP LIKE? DID YOU HAVE BARRACKS? HOW DID YOU
SLEEP?

A In Auschwitz it was the bed thirteen girls. And we was sometimes in the top, sometimes in middle. Thirteen people on one.

Q ONE BUNK?

A Yes, one bunk. We sleep six, six and one in the middle.

Q HOW BIG WAS THE BUNK? HOW WIDE?

A I don't know. I know just when one want to on the other side want to turn, everyone need to. On one side the head for six people was here in the legs and the other people was the same, the opposite. It was very, very hard and just wood.

Q NO STRAW, NOTHING?

A No. And when it was on the top raining it was very -- it was all summer until November.

In August came the Polish from ghetto from
Sp → (Raucha), from (Lode-ch). They don't see just live people, they look like dead people. The walking dead. They don't have any color. And they were so hungry. From the kitchen, the food they bring in the kettle. And they was so hungry.

They have shoes from wood and they take off the shoes in the kettle, and they drink it. They was very, very, very hungry.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: They didn't look like humans anymore.

A Just animals. They can't think, nothing. And I was in C camp. And one side was the Czechish camp, first two months. The Czechish people from Czechoslovakia was with the families the same, many years. They took in '39, '38, the Czechish people.

The hair looked like straw. Very, very interesting was the hair for them. It was like dead hair. They weren't shaved and they had straight hair.

Q YOU THINK FROM MALNUTRITION? NOT EATING ENOUGH?

A I think so. And it was from many years.

Q YOU SAID WHEN YOU CAME YOUR HEAD WAS SHAVED?

A Yes.

Q WAS ALL YOUR BODY HAIR SHAVED?

A Yes. Not just the first time. They do it regularly. They do it two times, three times. They do it and every time they disinfect our clothes and every time you take back something else. It's not the same clothes; different clothes.

And once came a transport; and it was very near to the train, finished near the boarder, near the camp. And after maybe a hundred meter, two hundred meters, was the train, and this was Hungarian transport.

In August, in July, came from the Hungarian people. And they told them when they came in the camp, "You are crazy people. Everyone here is crazy." The clothes, how we are looking. One, two cousins was taken by Mengele from camp -- we was together -- and he take to the gas.

Q THEY WERE MURDERED IN GAS CHAMBER?

A Yes.

Q WHAT WERE THEIR NAMES?

Sp → A Helen and (Yanko).

Q AND WHAT WAS THEIR LAST NAME?

A Helen Schwartz. No, Tannenbaum. Schwartz was the step-father. Tannenbaum and Greenberg.

Q WERE THEY TEENAGERS ALSO?

A No. They were older.

Q DID YOU GET A TATTOO?

Sp → A No. In our camp it was for (nichtungs). The camp where they take every time to kill.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: It was the end of their life. That was the camp where they knew they go to gas chamber to get killed.

A From our camp they don't go to work. From our camp, no.

Q NO NEED FOR A TATTOO?

A No.

Q DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT THE FOOD WAS
EVERYDAY? WHAT KIND OF FOOD WOULD YOU GET?

A I don't know. Soup. Soup was sometimes potato in
the soup and you feel, and you eat the soup -- sand. And I
take every time the sands. My aunt, my mother's sister, she
take out the potatoes. And my mother, she cannot eat the
soup. And we give my mother the potatoes and she eat the
soup. We take the pot, the sand, and one bread cut to five
pieces; sometimes to four sometimes to five pieces. And
everyone take one piece of bread.

And sometimes they give cracker with cheese, like
bleu cheese or wurst, the bratwurst. Sometimes a little jam.
One spoon. We was hungry, we was hungry every time.

Q WHY COULDN'T YOUR MOTHER EAT THE SOUP?

A She can't.

Q DID IT MAKE HER SICK?

A No.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: She cannot swallow
that brown water with sand.

A She can't.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: And they would give
her the potato and drink that liquid.

Q HOW COULD YOU SURVIVE ON THAT LIQUID?

A We was very skinny. And the very fat people, the
very fat woman, they didn't come home.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: People that were overweight and got to camps, they died first because they couldn't handle it.

Q SO THEIR FAT DIDN'T HELP THEM LAST LONGER?

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: No. The skinnier, they last longer.

A And any woman had the menstruation, they give something in the food. Was something so they would not menstruate.

Q THEY WOULD NOT MENSTRUATE?

A No.

Q STARVATION STOPS IT, TOO.

A When Mengele is coming in camp and everyone know it was, it was quiet. Was everyone was afraid. I was in No.29 block. It was 32 blocks. One side was 1,3; and the other side was 2, 4, 6. And it was 32,000 -- sometimes 32,000 people -- in one camp. In one block was 1,000; 1,200.

Q DID YOU HAVE ANY WORK TO DO AT ALL THOSE SIX MONTHS YOU WERE THERE?

A No.

Q WHAT DID YOU DO ALL DAY?

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: Very often they had a block closed. They would not be allowed to walk out.

A We lied on the bunks. What we can do? And in the night, three o'clock in the morning, two o'clock, they take us out for count and we stay all night to ten o'clock.

In the night was very cold. I don't know why in summer very, very cold. And we stayed five people in the line and we was cold. We don't have clothes. I had one dress with long sleeves, another not sleeves. One is short, second is long. And it's cold. We stay, we warm each other.

Sp → And then is coming out the (blocker testa) and she separate, separate, separate. They don't give us nothing. And we stay hours, hours. In the morning to ten o'clock, nine o'clock. I don't know.

And first the blocker, she counted us. After came the German and they counted us and maybe they didn't count okay. If one people is missing and we stay and we stay. And they again counted and again counted.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: Until they had the count right.

A And after we go inside again. And in three o'clock afternoon, the same. Twice a day.

Q TWICE A DAY?

A Yes.

Q AND SO MANY HOURS EACH ONE?

A Yes. Afternoon a little bit less. It's dark.

You cannot tell. And the toilet. The toilet was together with men's. The same block.

Q SAME SIZE?

A Same size, but really big, long. And here was a hole and here on this side.

Q SO ON A DIAGONAL, BACK AND FORTH HOLES?

A Yes. And all along the block. And the people, they don't shame -- men, women.

Q THERE WAS NO EMBARRASSMENT?

A No.

Q DID THAT HAPPEN TO YOU TOO AFTER A WHILE THAT YOU WERE NOT EMBARRASSED EITHER?

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: There was no choice.

Q WHAT ABOUT WHEN YOU WERE LOCKED INTO THE BARRACKS, HOW DID YOU MANAGE THEN?

A I cannot remember how. Maybe inside.

Q YOU HAD A BUCKET OR SOMETHING?

A I don't remember. You cannot go out. When they see you go out, they shoot you. And everyone wanted to leave. Many people, they go to the wire fence. And they took them, they grabbed on the fence.

Q ELECTROCUTED?

A Yes.

Q DID YOU SEE PEOPLE DO THAT?

A Yes. I see them hang on the wire.

Q DID YOU FEEL THAT DISPAIR?

A No, no. It's impossible, it was. I don't know.
I think that in all the time two people escaped. I don't
know how. Two people from Auschwitz. You cannot escape.
It's impossible.

Q AFTER THAT FIRST DAY IN AUSCHWITZ, WHAT
DID YOU THINK HAPPENED TO YOUR FATHER AND YOUR
BROTHER?

A That I know; the same. They take to the camp. We
meet them.

Q RIGHT. SO YOU THOUGHT THEY WERE ALIVE?

A Right, they alive. After I know they alive or
not. This moment, the first day, I know they are alive.

Q DID YOU EVER EXPERIENCE ANY KINDNESS FROM
3p → THE GERMANS OR THE (BLOCK TESTA) OR ANY OF THOSE
PEOPLE IN CHARGE?

Sp → A No. The (blocker testa) -- ours was O.K. She was
O.K. In '45 after we came home I go to Prague with my
cousin and there was one building of the terrace and we look
down -- we was not far from this place -- and I look down
Sp → and I see it look like a woman. My (block testa) she was.
She was from Czechoslovakia. Iris was her name. And I was
yelling her name and she don't hear. She was on the second
or third floor and I run down and I don't see her anymore.

Q SHE WAS GONE?

A Yes.

Q BUT YOU THOUGHT IT WAS HER?

A Yes. And when we evacuated from Nuremberg we came to (Dusseldaden), the Polish camp, and the same. After a short time, beginning they came the bombs again. And in Nuremberg they take us to the bunkers and here we want to go too and the German tell us for the Jewish is not bunker.

And we sit in the camp in the block. Was blocks different. In Auschwitz was from wood and here was from stone. The walls was thick and small, small windows under the roof.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: It looked like a jail-block cell.

A And we look out, the airplanes is coming to the camp. And they go up, and after the camp they go down.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: And they were shooting. Not bombing, but shooting around the camp. From the pressure the windows was broken.

A The windows and the doors. And one day, it was May 5, and we sit and look out and we see a bird. It looked like a valley and people, soldiers coming.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: Running from the mountains to the valley. A lot of soldiers look like ants coming down.

A And this was the Polish partisans and they come to liberate us. We looked so shocked. What is happening? And they open the door, "You come out. You're free, you're free." One woman, they beginning to cry. Second, to sing, to laughing. It was a crazy situation.

And they go to the Germans, they take out from the beds. That was early in morning. And they take out the Germans from the beds and the pajamas, and they tell them, "You are free. You can go wherever you want to go, you're free." And near to our camp was a Russian camp. The Russian, they was Catholics. Not look like us.

Q WERE THEY CIVILIANS OR PRISONERS OF WAR?

A Prisoners of war. There were women too. They have another situation from us. They take the Germans, we stay in the camp. And anyone, any people, any, any people be alone. The Russian people, I don't know where they go. We stayed alone.

Afternoon we see Germans coming back. Three Germans with the guns and we were afraid. And they coming in the block to the camp. And they don't do us anything. They go around; they left. Where we don't know. After we was very afraid. How we will be in the night? And after they left, coming the two partisans, three partisans. And we tell them what, what we settle with us? They said this is happened. What, we cannot do anything.

And nothing. You don't afraid. We are here, not far. We say everything, you will know everything. And they must have came today to liberate.

Around the camp the Germans, they spilled gas around the camp, and they want to kill us, everyone. They want to burn.

Q THEY WANTED NO EVIDENCE AND NO WITNESS?

A Yes. And we know this and we kept coming. And tomorrow you sleep, nothing is happened with you. And they came. And tomorrow afternoon came the American soldiers. So this is coming, it's more. We was not more afraid.

Q YOU BELIEVED IT?

A Yes. We go to the city and it was another life. We stay even there one month more. They don't give us to go. We was in quarantine.

Q WAS THIS BECAUSE OF DISEASES?

A Yes. Many people was because of diseases. And one time, the second day, we go into the city. Five young girls, we going to the city.

And a Czech, he asks us, "You are hungry?"

"Yes, we are hungry."

"O.K. let me."

And he take us to one farmer and he was back there and he tell him, "Give for the people to eat."

And the farmer tell him, "I don't have anything to give to eat."

And he said, "You give them to eat. If not I here in the place I kill you." It was to the German.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: It was the farmer.

A Yes, the farmer. And he take us in and he put on the table a big bread. He cut pieces; and milk, coffee, and pork, lard. We don't eat for one year and he give for the empty stomach. We were hungry. We don't think we cannot eat this, we can't eat the bread, we must not eat the lard. We ate.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: They were lucky to survive. They all got very sick.

A Diarrhea we have. After two days we felt better.

Q DID YOU HAVE DIARRHEA BEFORE YOU ATE THE FOOD?

A No.

Q BUT AFTERWARDS?

A After.

Q WHEN THE LIBERATORS CAME THEY DIDN'T GIVE YOU EXTRA FOOD?

A No. Just when the American soldiers they coming. They opened in the city a canteen and we go there to eat. When the Polish partisans, they coming. And the Germans --

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: They had food in their

stockroom, the Germans.

A And they take the Germans and we go over there. We was much people, many people. Everyone take a piece of bread, what we found. And after a few days came three American soldiers and they told us, you want to see the Germans? Yes, we want to see them.

Q WHY DID YOU WANT TO SEE THEM?

A Where they take them and what. And they take us to one village and there was --

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: They were like in a stable. It was straw and everyone was on the floor.

A And when we came we was six, seven girls and they take them out from there in a line. They stood in a line and they tell us, "Now you will tell for us who was very strong to you."

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: Who was the worst.

A We can't. We was so stupid. We can't.

Q DID YOU NOT RECOGNIZE THEM?

A Yes, we did.

Q YOU DID?

A Yes. We was many months with them. I don't know why. And not just I, not another -- everyone.

Q YOU COULDN'T ACCUSE THEM?

A No. And he told us "O.K, even you cannot with the finger?"

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: You just tell the number which one. If you are afraid to point at them just tell a number.

A One was from Pilsen, from Czechoslovakia. One, she was very O.K. with us. And one woman was from Berlin, she was O.K too, to us. And we tell them, "They and they was O.K. to us. The rest was very bad."

And they take out from the prison and ask, "From where are you?" And she told from Pilsen. The second, she's from Berlin and the soldier said "When you from Berlin you cannot be good." O.K. she go back.

And then they give for us a cane. And he tell "O.K. now you can hit them how they hit you, anyone."

Q AND NOBODY DID?

A And nobody did. We can't. We was young and we don't have any energy. And we don't have hatred. And we can't. I don't remember what we think as why we can't.

Q ARE YOU GLAD THAT YOU DID THAT?

A Yes. Today I will not do this. I can't.

Q SO YOU DON'T REGRET THAT YOU DIDN'T?

A No.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: She is amazed that after all they went through she says why couldn't

I? But the fact is now, they didn't.

Q DO YOU THINK IT WAS YOU WERE AFRAID TO, OR
YOU FELT IT WAS MORALLY INCORRECT?

A I don't know. Morally it was correct, not
incorrect.

Q STILL YOU DIDN'T DO IT.

A No.

Q WHEN YOU FINALLY REALIZED WHAT AUSCHWITZ
WAS ABOUT DID THAT CHANGE YOUR RELIGIOUS POINT OF
VIEW AT ALL OR NOT?

A No. My parents was very religious, orthodox.
After this my mother stayed to be orthodox: Me, no; my
husband, no.

Q YOU WEREN'T ORTHODOX?

A No.

Q DID YOU BELIEVE IN GOD DURING THAT TIME OR
NOT?

A Sometimes yes, sometimes no. Sometimes, your
mind -- Why? Why? Why? Why is this happening? Okay,
maybe the older people, they do something. But the small
children, the young children, many children -- What they do?
What they know?

This time I know. My brother 50 years old. What
is he doing? Why? And today this is 50 years ago and I
cannot forget. And everyday I have this in my mind. And I

am very happy I am not dream with it. It's a very good question why I am not dreaming.

Q DID YOU EVER HAVE NIGHTMARES?

A Maybe twice. Not more.

Q SO YOU WONDER WHY DON'T YOU HAVE NIGHTMARES?

A Yes.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: She thinks of it during the day but not during the night.

A I like to dream to see my father, to see my brother, but no. Sometimes I think of my father, I think of my brother, I don't see. I cannot remember the face. I remember sometime but it will go away, it's not clear.

Q SO YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEM IN YOUR DREAMS SO YOU COULD RECOGNIZE THEM?

A Yes. To talk to him, but no.

Q THEY NEVER COME IN YOUR DREAM?

A The same as my mother. She died in Israel in '80. The same. I don't dream but maybe twice I had a dream.

Q SHE DOESN'T COME IN YOUR DREAMS EITHER?

A No, no.

Q HOW DO YOU THINK YOU COPEDED WITH ALL THIS WHEN YOU WERE IN AUSCHWITZ? HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO KEEP GOING? YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO DIE EVERYDAY YOU WERE IN THAT LAST CAMP.

A We looked like animals. We think now, now.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: They were fighting for life every minute so that's what kept them going. Like animals, they were just fighting to stay alive.

A And sometimes we think we will be liberated. Sometimes we think, never liberated. It's different thing every time.

And once they take us in Auschwitz to disinfection, and every time there was in the same place when we was in the camp. Once they take us far away to Birkenau to the gas --

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: They pass by the gas chamber.

A And every time I see this. It was a place, a big place.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: The size was about the size of the block.

A With ashes.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: Was like a mountain of ashes.

A And water, it was down there, and you see the ash. They put the ash in the water. There was so much.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: It was the height of a building, the mountain of ashes.

A A mountain of ash. And then everyday I see the ash. I don't tell anyone. I don't tell. Everything is inside me. Now I talk, but my God I don't say. Everything is inside and because every time I have my nerve. I am very nervous inside. Not out.

Q SO ARE YOU SAYING YOU LOOK CALM OUTSIDE BUT INSIDE ALL THIS HAS HAPPENED?

A Yes. I cannot give out anything. I think so my blood pressure that I have is everything from this. And I take strong pills and my blood pressure is not good.

Q STAYS HIGH?

A Yes.

Q SO THAT WAS ONE OF THE BIG THINGS LEFT OVER?

A Yes. I cannot.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: She cannot free herself from that picture of the mountain of ashes. Because at that time they already knew what all those ashes were.

A And I want to go back to Auschwitz. I need to go. I have to go. I tell them I want to go back. Maybe after this I will be free, and they don't give me.

Q DO YOU KNOW WHY THAT IS? YOUR CHILDREN DON'T WANT YOU TO GO, IS THAT WHAT YOU MEAN?

A Yes. Yes.

Q DO YOU KNOW WHY THEY DON'T WANT YOU TO GO?

A I don't know. I don't know why. And I tell them last year, I want to go, I need to go. And she tell me "No, no, no. You don't need to go." And I think I am going maybe.

Q WHAT DO YOU THINK IT WOULD DO FOR YOU TO GO?

A I don't think anything. I just think I like to go back. I like to go back, I like to see where I was. Maybe I don't find this place. And I want to go with my grandchildren.

Q SO YOU THINK THAT IT WOULD BE SOMETHING IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO DO?

A Yes. Yes.

Q IN THOSE TIMES YOU COULDN'T TALK ABOUT IT, WHAT YOU WERE FEELING AND WHAT YOU WERE SEEING, YOU COULDN'T TALK ABOUT IT THEN?

A No. I don't talk. Sometimes we talk, yes. But I'm not talking now.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: I asked her about the earlier times, if she understood.

A No. And then years, years later when I heard on the radio the German language, the first time. And it was in Germany in '72. It was very, very hard.

Q DID YOU FEEL FEARFUL?

A Yes, I fear. I cannot look at the people. I cannot see the people. I know it's not the same people. I know the children. It's fearful. When I go and I see the women or men, I think maybe you, maybe you.

I go, I am every year for two weeks, for three weeks in Germany in Cologne with my son. Hard time for me. I go out, I go to work. The people, I cannot talk with. My son, he has friends, very good friends in the same house. And really good people.

Q YOU DON'T FEEL RELAXED WITH THEM?

A No. And then we came back when they disinfect us. We were going for a long walk. And we came back and the blocker see us, and she tell "You came back?" They want to take us too to the gas. What is happened? The old block, we was a thousand people and they don't take us. I don't know what is happened in between, what happened. But she see us, that we came back.

Q SHE WAS SURPRISED?

A Yes.

Q WAS THIS ANOTHER CASE WHERE YOU WERE ALMOST KILLED AND YOU WERE SAVED?

A Yes.

Q I THINK WE SHOULD STOP HERE SO WE HAVE TIME TO DO YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS. IS THAT O.K. WITH YOU?

A Yes, that is O.K.

Q CAN YOU TELL US WHO IS IN THE THIS PICTURE
PLEASE?

A The soldier in the uniform?

Q YES.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: They were in a war
camp.

Q THAT WAS A SLAVE-LABOR CAMP?

A Yes. It was in '41.

Q THIS PICTURE IS TAKEN IN 1941?

A Yes.

Q AND WHO IS HE? WHAT IS HIS NAME, DO YOU
KNOW?

A I don't remember the name.

Q HE WAS A FRIEND FROM YOUR TOWN?

A No. They was in our town.

INTERPRETER MONA RAFAEL: He was in
slave-labor camp just from somewhere else.

Q HE LIVED IN YOUR TOWN?

A Yes. He was from Hungary. And next the man is
sitting down and a girl is brother and sister.

Q THE GIRL WHO IS ABOVE HIM?

A No. Next to him.

Q COULD YOU POINT WITH THE PENCIL?

A She and her and him is brother and sister from our
town.

Q DO YOU REMEMBER THEIR NAMES?

Sp → A Yes. (Blanchard). She lives in Los Angeles now.

And he died in Israel, the brother.

Q AND WHAT'S HIS NAME?

A Herschel.

Q AND WHAT'S THE LAST NAME?

Sp → A (Yutkovitch). And this is my aunt.

Q WHAT'S HER NAME?

A Thelma. And I am here. And this is the girl

Sp → which was in Ukraine that they take to communist (Podolsk) and they push them in the river.

Q DO YOU KNOW HER NAME?

Sp → A (Etchu). I don't remember.

Q IS THAT HER FIRST NAME?

Sp → A (Etchu) the first name and the second name

Sp → (Sigma).

Q NOW IT SEEMS THERE IS ANOTHER MAN IN THE PICTURE THERE?

A The soldier, the two soldiers.

Q TWO SOLDIERS AND A BROTHER? AND THE OTHER IS A SOLDIER IN SLAVE LABOR TOO, YOU SAID?

A Two soldiers from Hungarian. They was in our town.

Q AND WHO'S THIS MAN HERE?

A A brother too, the two brothers. And he live in Los Angeles too. Two brothers and a sister. And they are

here in this picture too.

Q AND WHERE WAS THIS PICTURE TAKEN?

A In our town.

Q IN A FIELD OR OUTSIDE THE TOWN?

A Yes.

Q O.K. SO NOW WE CAN GO TO THE NEXT ONE?

A She was in the first picture.

Q WHICH ONE IS SHE?

A The sister. She and this is a brother too, for them. There is a brother and this a sister too.

Q WHAT'S HER NAME?

Sp → A She's (Gizzla). Two sisters and two brothers is here. They live in Los Angeles. Everyone is coming back from the camp. This is my brother -- I don't see very well -- this is a cousin.

Q WHAT'S HIS NAME?

Sp → A (Allousie). She died here in New York. I am here, and this is my friend. She lives in Israel now.

Q WHAT'S HER NAME?

A Irene.

Q IRENE WHAT?

Sp → A (Sachs). This is after she married (Sacks).

Sp → Before she was (Blopstein). And he is not coming home, he is not coming home, and he and she.

Q SO DO YOU KNOW THOSE PEOPLE'S NAMES, THOSE
ONES WHO DID NOT SURVIVE?

A No.

Q O.K.

A I don't remember.

Q ANYBODY ELSE IN THERE?

A And he is a cousin too. He died in Australia. He
left after the war.

Q DO YOU KNOW HIS NAME?

Sp- A (Schmore).

Sp- Q (SCHMORE) WHAT?

Sp- A (Berkwitz). And that's it.

Q IS THAT EVERYBODY?

A Yes.

End of tape

End of interview