

RG-50.493.0016 Rubin Minsky, 13 September 1992

Interviewer: Howard A. Rosenberg

Summary

Rubin Minsky was born in Warsaw, Poland on 18 February 1919; had sisters Tova, Leah, Hanna, and Luba, he was the second oldest; father made caps, pens, and other products which his mother helped to sell; family was able to stay together until 1942; In 1941, the Germans came and established a large ghetto and in 1942 made smaller ghettos; conditions were very bad and many people were starving; In beginning of 1942, his youngest sister was arrested and sent on transport to Treblinka, she did not survive; Germans came in to ghettos with tanks and every day at 6AM they would fire at every building; Rubin and about 3 thousand Jews created bunkers in basements; 8 May 1943 was the last day and the Germans made them come out of the bunkers; Rubin was sent to Majdanek for about a month; no one from his family was with him by this time; sent to Auschwitz and helped build a factory which produced synthetic rubber and synthetic gasoline for 3 years; around 1945 sent to Buchenwald, when his train arrived, about 10 wagons were filled with people who did not survive the journey; 8 March U.S. Panther Division freed; went to Halberstat, Germany where he met and married his wife; they snuck into Belgium after being denied a visa; lived in Belgium for 4 years, first son was born in 1946; In 1953 he and his family moved to the United States; had 3 children, one born in Alabama; tattoo from Auschwitz: 178151 (blurry, may be 128151).