

KUBIK, Erzsebet Vanyi
RG-50.670*0096

Summary

Erzsebet Vanyi Kubik was born on June 6, 1931 in Budapest. She lived at Hold Street #41 until 1956. There was no discrimination in her house. Jews lived in her neighborhood, like her best friend Zsuzsi, who lived at Hold Street #9. They did not go to the same school, but other Jewish girls were in Erzsebet's class. There was no differentiation between Jewish and Christian students, except that they went to different religious classes, Erzsebet says.

A math teacher wore a yellow Jewish star, and when she was asked about the star, Erzsebet realized that the teacher was Jewish.

After wearing the star was introduced in 1944, many incidents occurred against Jews. The Iron Cross guards had been active even before then. They marched and sang songs.

In 1944, Jews from all over were moved into Zsuzsi's house, which was closed to the public. Zsuzsi and she couldn't visit each other or talk to each other. Iron Cross guards would search people who were friends with Jews. Jews were beaten and kicked when they were taken to the ghettos. One night, Zsuzsi and her family were taken away with the other tenants.

Erzsebet lived in a government building. Only a superintendent and assistant lived there. The building was near the American Embassy.

She saw Jews being taken away along Vilmos Czar Street but did not know where to. She saw many rows with about eight people in each row. Iron Cross guards kicked and beat them, and called them all sorts of names and cursed them. The guards did not use guns at the time. While she watched this, she did not hear anyone being glad to see what was happening. Rather, they thought it was sad and bad, she says. She says she does not know where they were taken, but heard that people were taken to the banks of the Danube, lined up and shot. Their shoes remained on the spots where they had stood. This happened near the Academy around the LANC Bridge and the MARGIT Bridge day or night in the autumn.

Her middle brother, who worked for a Jewish company, joined the Iron Cross. Her older brother also joined the Iron Cross but never went to meetings and did not wear uniforms. Her sister also joined but worked in an office. After the war, they were interned for eight months. The Jewish owner of the business, GYURI, worked for ERNO SZABO and vouched for them by saying that they had not done anything to hurt anyone.

There was a song the Iron Cross members sang often and she gave the words to it.