

## **RG-90.133.0015**

### **Summary**

Moises Borowicz was born in Sokoly, a small village near Bialystok, in Poland. His date of birth is not mentioned, but he was 91 at the time of the interview (December 2018). He had two older brothers and his family was wealthy. His father owned a mill that had 12 workers.

When the Nazis were close to his village, warned by a peasant, his family escaped and hid in a near forest, property of a man known by Moises's father. The sons of this man wanted to hand in Moises's family to the village chief, but Moises's father avoided it giving them a watch and a pendant.

After that, the family escaped again and hid in another forest, in a hole made in the ground. A friend of Moises's father helped them, bringing food every night. They were hiding in that hole for around a year, until a Nazi patrol discovered them. After a few days in a local prison, the Nazis put Moises's family in a train with other prisoners and took them to the ghetto of Bialystok. After that, Moises's parents, together with the women, children and old men of the ghetto, were taken by train to Treblinka concentration camp. Moises never saw his parents again. The young men of the ghetto, including Moises and his brothers, were taken to Majdanek concentration camp. Moises and his brothers were later taken to Blyzin concentration camp, where they worked as saddlers. In Blyzin, one of Moises's two brothers died of typhus; Moises also got typhus, but survived. He went to other camps as well: Plaszow, Mauthausen and Melk. In Melk, he worked making tunnels in the mountains. Finally, he was taken to Ebensee concentration camp, and was liberated by American troops towards the end of the war.

Moises did not go back to Poland. He went to a refugee camp in Italy for almost two years, helped by some Jewish men from Palestine who fought with British troops. In the refugee camp, he met an old man from his village, Mutick / Mutic, who put Moises in touch with some of Moises's relatives in the US. Moises could not get into the US because of quota limits. He tried to get a visa to Argentina, where he had some relatives as well, but could not get it either. However, he got travel documents to Paraguay. Helped by the Joint, Moises boarded a ship in Genoa, Italy, and went to Paraguay. From Paraguay, he crossed to the border to Argentina, where he arrived October 3, 1947.

At his arrival in Argentina, Moises lived with an aunt, and started working with her brother, who had a jewelry shop. In the meeting of a Zionist movement, he met a girl, Betty, whom he later married. Their first son was born a year after their marriage, and Betty died giving birth to their second son three years later. Moises remarried four years after the passing of his first wife, and had another son. At the time of the interview, he had nine grandchildren.