

HOLOCAUST TESTIMONY

OF

FREDA CWANGER

Transcript of Audiotaped Interview

Interviewer: Ellen Rofman
Date: October 9, 1985

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Gratz College
Melrose Park, PA 19027

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FC - Freda Cwanger¹ [interviewee]

ER - Ellen Rofman [interviewer]

Date: October 9, 1985

Tape one, side one:

ER: Can you please tell me where and when you were born?

FC: Yes, I was born the 27 of September 1912.

ER: Where were you born?

FC: I was born in Romania.

ER: Where in Romania?

FC: In a small town near [unclear]. I don't remember [unclear], I think it was this little town. You give me questions?

ER: I'm going to give you questions, yes. I want you to tell me a little bit about your family, what your father did for a living, a little bit about your home life.

FC: We were four children in the family and this life was very hard, but my father tried to make a living the hard way.

ER: What did he do?

FC: He was like in a small town buying and selling products.

ER: And did your mother stay at home with the children?

FC: Yes, my mother raised the children, but after the First World War, my father was captured to Russia. When he came back I was already nine years old and the second child was born. Her name was Yente Blime, my sister, and then was the third sister born, Fannie, Faige Peshe [unclear] and then my brother was born and my father was very happy to have a son in the family. We were living very poor. I want to go to college, there was no money, then I have to teach the *shkutzem*, you know *shgoyim*.

ER: We're going to get back to that because I want some information about your life before you were older. Did you live in a Jewish neighborhood?

FC: No.

ER: No, you were in a small town, you said.

FC: In a small town...

ER: Were there many Jews in the town?

FC: There were a few, about 20 Jews in town.

ER: How large...

FC: There was two *minyans*².

ER: Two million?

FC: Two *minyan*.

ER: Two *minyan*.

¹née Stern.

²*minyan* - quorum of ten Jewish men needed for ritual obligations. Here means a count of 10.

FC: Twenty Jews.

ER: And how would you describe your family's relationship with the non-Jews? Did you get along with them?

FC: Very good. My father used to help the poor farmers. He used to give them food before they used to take the food the corn from the fields. He used to support them and help them and they were good to us, but when the time start to change, they listened to the other one, the neighbors, they start to kill the Jew and when Hitler came, every Jew was almost killed in that little town.

ER: We'll get to that. Can you tell me about your schooling, did you go to a religious school or did you go to public school?

FC: Oh, yeah, no, I was going to a public school, and I was going to a private religious school.

ER: Like Hebrew school?

FC: Like Hebrew school, yeah.

ER: Did you notice any signs, any anti-Jewish signs, antisemitic signs during your school years?

FC: No, no, I never saw, they just were beating up the Jews.

ER: When did they start beating up the Jews?

FC: Around 1935, 6, I remember once two Ukrainian boys, they beat up my father, and he was very sick and we were living, you know, like scared all the time.

ER: Did you live, when you were in Romania, which area were you in, were you in Bukovina?

FC: Bukovina, yes.

ER: And the Russians took over that territory?

FC: Yes.

ER: Okay. Can you describe what your life was like before the Russians came and what it was like after the Russians came?

FC: Before the Russians came, the life was a little bit easier. After they came, they start to make very hard for the Jews.

ER: In what way?

FC: In what years, I can't remember.

ER: Did they make life harder for everyone or was it just the Jews?

FC: No, just the Jews. They were good for the Ukrainians and the Polish were good, but for the Jews, they start to keep an eye on them. They don't allow them to be businessmen, they don't allow them to keep things for sale what belongs to the government.

ER: Do you recall the feelings of the Jews after King Carol was forced to resign?

FC: I don't remember King Carol.

ER: Okay. Do you remember Antinesko?

FC: No.

ER: Did you have relatives elsewhere in Romania?
FC: No.
ER: Where were your relatives living?
FC: In Israel, after the war.
ER: No, before the war.
FC: They were living in Romania, in different parts of the country.
ER: Can you tell me what their situation was like, was it similar to yours or--
after the Russians came?
FC: Yeah, it was similar to mine, yeah sure.
ER: So before the Russians came, there really wasn't that much antisemitism in Romania?
FC: No.
ER: No, it was a normal life.
FC: Yes, almost a normal life, yes.
ER: After the Germans invaded Poland in 1939, were you aware of the Nazi persecution that was going on elsewhere in Europe?
FC: No, I was not aware, no.
ER: Was your family at all affected by the *pogroms* perpetrated by the Iron Guard in Romania?
FC: I don't remember this, see I was a small child when I came to Poland.
ER: Did your family have any contact with the German occupation forces?
FC: No.
ER: How did the Romanian anti-Jewish legislation of 1940 affect you and your family?
FC: 1940?
ER: Yes.
FC: They affect me very much.
ER: In what way, can you please tell me about it?
FC: Well, they start to take away from the Jews, the work, the business, and they don't allow them to go in places where the government was involved.
ER: And how about your father, could he continue working?
FC: No, my father died in 1939, he never know Hitler. My mother knows for a short time because she died in 1941. They came in 1941.
ER: Did she die a natural death? Your mother?
FC: No, from hunger.
ER: From hunger.
FC: She died from hunger.
ER: After you father died, how did your family support itself?
FC: Well, I was working for the Germans. I used to make money and food, and I used to help my sisters and brother.

ER: Were you the only one that was working of the children?

FC: Just the only one, because my sisters were younger and they were still going to school. In 1940, my younger sister was in Sambur in school, she was in college, *stipendio*, she was a very good student. And she was finishing college degree, but Hitler came and disrupt everything and they captured her, they sent her. She was studying in Sambur, they captured her and sent her to prison. She was hiding a little while in forests together with me, but later on, they captured her and they killed her.

ER: What year was that?

FC: This was 1941. The end of 1941.

ER: So she remained in school?

FC: She was in school, but when Hitler came, they run away, they closed all the colleges and the students went home or they went in the forest. Matter of fact, on the way home, they were passing the forest, they were killed. A lot of them they were killed on the highways.

ER: And where was your other sister at this time?

FC: Together.

ER: You were all together?

FC: Both children, both sisters were together.

ER: Now, if you didn't live in the territories lost by Romania, were you aware of the deportations from those areas?

FC: No, I was not aware, nothing, we were not aware nothing. They told us they were taking them to work, but not to kill them. We find out when they were captured and killed.

ER: Now, was Tarnopol considered, that's Poland, when you were in Romania, when you were in old Romania, no you were in Bukovina, that's not old Romania, okay, did you or your family have any contact with the Federation of Jewish communities or with a Mr. Felderman?

FC: No, we don't have any--we don't know about no one.

ER: What I would like you to do is to describe to me how you were captured and when and then what happened to you after that.

FC: Well, they captured us in the forest and they...

ER: What made you run away to the forest? What precipitated that?

FC: I was hiding that they should not kill me. I was hiding, you know, from my death, but anyway, they captured everybody in the forests and in the fields. Where they captured them, they were killed.

ER: And you survived?

FC: Yes, I was in ghetto when they start to take out all the Jews for killings, the old, young ones, the middle age, some of them they picked up for work and they captured them for a short time and after that they were killed anyway.

ER: Which ghetto are you talking about?

FC: Tarnopol.
ER: So when did you go to Poland?
FC: Tarnopol was in Poland.
ER: It was in Poland, wasn't it?
FC: Yeah.
ER: But we were talking about your life in Romania, were you in a forest in Romania?
FC: No, no, I was a small baby.
ER: When did you go to Poland, when did your family go to Poland?
FC: After the first World War when my husband, father came back from the Army.
ER: So when Hitler came into Poland, you were in Poland?
FC: In Poland.
ER: But the Russians came into Tarnopol?
FC: The Russians they divided with Poland, half Russian take and half German.
ER: The questions I was asking you were questions for Romania because I wasn't aware that your family had gone to Poland at that time.
FC: I went to Poland after my mother married my father. He moved to Poland because his parents were living in Poland and he wants to settle near his parents.
ER: Now, where was your schooling, in Romania or Poland?
FC: In Poland.
ER: Oh, in Poland, and did you experience any antisemitism in schooling in Poland?
FC: No, we didn't know about antisemitism.
ER: Did your father have to serve in the Army in Poland?
FC: He served in Austria.
ER: In Austria.
FC: Yes.
ER: For the Polish Army?
FC: Sure.
ER: So by this time, you were in Tarnopol, and there were a lot of Jews in Tarnopol?
FC: Oh, yes.
ER: Was there a highly organized Jewish community in Poland, in Tarnopol?
FC: Yes, there was organized a Jewish community, but we were not knowing that.
ER: Was there a *Kehilla*, do you know if there was a *Kehilla* in town?
FC: A *Kehilla*, yes, sure there was a *Kehilla*.
ER: And you were not a part of it, your family, or you were a part of it?
FC: No.

ER: How did your family look upon it, why did they choose not to be a part of it?

FC: They were busy.

ER: Too busy?

FC: Yeah, and they were working very hard to make a living for the children.

ER: Did you feel that the *Kehilla* represented the best interests of the community?

FC: Yes, I know this.

ER: What sort of things did they do for the community?

FC: Well, they helped. When my father died, my mother died, then some they take care of my youngest brother. He was a "Yusim" and he needs to say *Kaddish*, they taught him, and they trained him. Yeah.

ER: Can you tell me what happened to you and your family during the weeks that followed the German invasion?

FC: They took away everything from us.

ER: And did they force you into the ghetto?

FC: They forced us into the ghetto, they forced us, sure, they drive us out from the homes. The Ukrainian people took over.

ER: And your mother was still alive at this time, when you were forced into the ghetto, your father was not alive any longer?

FC: No, my mother was alive, three, four months, that's all.

ER: Did you receive any help at all from non-Jews during this time?

FC: Some. They gave me a piece of bread, you know in forest I was running out night time for food they helped me.

ER: They did help you. When you were ordered to go to the ghetto or to go to work, which ghetto was it?

FC: Tarnopol.

ER: Tarnopol, okay. Did most of your community go to the same place? You have to say yes.

FC: Yes.

ER: Were you able at first to leave the ghetto to go to work? Or was it closed? It wasn't closed immediately.

FC: No, it was not closed immediately. We were going out to work and when we bought some food, they took away from us.

ER: So you were able to come and go from the ghetto every day?

FC: No, just to work.

ER: Well, that's what I mean, to go to work. When was the ghetto closed?

FC: When they killed the Jews.

ER: They closed it before? Do you remember what year that was?

FC: 1942, I think, 1941.

ER: Did you meet refugees from other cities or countries in your ghetto?

FC: No. No one can look for anybody, they all were scared, they were scared to talk to one to the second.

ER: Now, when the ghetto was closed, were you able to have any contact with the outside?

FC: Well, no.

ER: And how did you and your family support yourselves? Where did you get your food?

FC: I was not having the family when I was in ghetto.

ER: The family was already gone?

FC: Yes.

ER: Okay, let's just go back a little bit because I thought you said that you escaped from the ghetto and ran into the forest?

FC: Yes.

ER: But then you said that your sisters were killed in the forest?

FC: My sisters were captured by the *Gestapo* and they kept them five weeks in prison and then they shot them, on a Friday night.

ER: And this was before 1941 or 42?

FC: 1942.

ER: Okay, so by the time you were in the ghetto now, was your brother still alive?

FC: Yes.

ER: Were you with your brother?

FC: I was with my brother.

ER: And taking care, he was younger?

FC: Yeah. He was working for the *goyim*, labor work, and then they captured him and took him to the *Gestapo* and killed him.

ER: When was that? Do you remember when that was?

FC: Yeah. This was 1942.

ER: Okay. Did you have a Jewish Council in your town? *Die Judenrat*?

FC: Yeah.

ER: Can you describe what they did?

FC: Well, some they were good, some they were thinking they would they will take out other Jews, they would be alive, but they were killed together with the other ones.

ER: Do you think they were helpful to the ...?

FC: To the *Gestapo*.

ER: They were helpful to the *Gestapo*.

FC: Yes.

ER: When you were in the ghetto, were there any children going to school at all, any secret schools going on that you know of?

FC: No, maybe they were going to Hebrew school, the Orthodox Jews used to you know learn no one should know. My brother was learning Jewish, you know but no one has to know.

ER: Right. It was in secret, and at this time, did you have any communication with the outside world at all?

FC: No, I was not having.

ER: No, there was no newspapers, radios, did anybody have a radio so that you found...

FC: Maybe somebody had a radio, but I was not able to have.

ER: But you didn't. Were you aware of any underground activities in the ghetto of people in resistance?

FC: I was aware, but they were not in touch with me, see, I was separated from them, at first.

ER: But I'm talking about when you were still in the ghetto.

FC: In the ghetto.

ER: In many ghettos, there was resistance activity going on.

FC: Yeah, I know.

ER: Were you a part of that?

FC: No.

ER: When did you decide to escape from the ghetto?

FC: When I saw that they are starting to kill everybody. See, in the ghetto, there was doctors and help and everything, but every night, somebody disappeared disappeared then and I know how they are killed, my sisters and brother.

ER: Okay, but you told me that your sisters were not in the ghetto, that they were already captured before.

FC: No, they were in the ghetto.

ER: They were in the ghetto?

FC: Yes. You see it's a long time from then.

ER: I understand that. How did you escape, how did you get out? Did you just pretend you were going to work one day and...

FC: I pretend to going out to work and never come back to the ghetto.

ER: Did they take you out in trains or did you walk out, how did you...

FC: No, no, people what they took in trains they never came back alive.

ER: How did you get to the work every day?

FC: I was going out just to--there was a section what was closed up and I used to have a paper that I'm allowed to go on the other side and I went out and never came back because I know what is going on.

ER: Okay, and you had your sisters with you and your brother?

FC: Yes.

ER: Okay, now where did you go?

FC: We went all into the forest. There was a Ukrainian man, he used to come and tell us everything and I never want to believe him, but my sisters believed him. They gave him everything away, what we got, the clothes, money, and after a short time, he sent his friends and they captured him and they put him in jail for a short time and they were killed.

ER: So this Ukrainian man, was he pretending that he was part of the resistance or was he just...

FC: He was a man what he wants to make money.

ER: Okay.

FC: Kasian was his name, I will never forget his name.

ER: How do you spell that?

FC: K-A-S-I-A-N.

ER: Now, once you were out in the forest, did you get any help from non-Jewish Poles?

FC: Yeah, I got help.

ER: In what way?

FC: In what way? I gave them my clothes, and they gave me a piece of bread.

ER: Did they let you sleep in their homes at all?

FC: No.

ER: In their barn or anything, their farm?

FC: I was going in secretly to sleep in the barn.

ER: But was there anyone in particular who gave you more help than anyone else?

FC: No, they were all the same, *goyim*. They used to scream, "Kill the Jews, kill."

ER: Now, I'd like you to describe a little bit, you were in the forest for three years. Describe what your activities were during these three years.

FC: I was hiding in the day and at nighttime, I used to go out and look for food.

ER: Were you with any organized group, together with other people?

FC: No.

ER: So you were by yourself?

FC: I was with one man and a nephew and they were captured. One night, I came out and searched for them, but they were not there. This Kasian told me they captured them already.

ER: And so after they were captured were you by yourself or did you...

FC: I was by myself.

ER: Was your brother taken the same time your sisters were taken?

FC: Yes, the same day.

ER: So for three years you were basically by yourself?

FC: Yes.

ER: And you found food?

FC: Well, I was eating snow, I was searching for berries, under the snow, between the grass.

ER: And you didn't have any contact with any of the resistance groups?

FC: No, I was not knowing where to go.

ER: Now, what happened, you said you were caught in the forest, can you describe then what happened?

FC: Yeah, he told me he wants to take me to take to the *Gestapo*.

ER: Who took you, was it the same man, Kasian?

FC: No, it was a man what he was killing, you know, I forgot how they called. He was killing small animals.

ER: Small animals, a hunter?

FC: A hunter, yes. He took me, and he was carrying me up to the steps from the *Gestapo*, and I sit down, and I don't want to pick up myself, and I was telling him, "kill me, I don't want to go to them." Then he left me sitting on the floor and he run away.

ER: How old were you at this time?

FC: I was over 30 years.

ER: Over 30 years old, so you managed to survive for three years by yourself. You were aware, you know that they were killing the Jews were you aware of the gas chambers at that time, did you hear anything from anybody?

FC: No, no.

ER: When you were alone in the forest for those three years, did you feel strengthened by your religious faith or an ideology such as Zionism help you to get through?

FC: No, no.

ER: What helped you to get through those three years, how did you live?

FC: I was living very poor. I will tell you the truth, I don't know how I survived.

ER: It must have been very difficult.

FC: But I always were talking to myself. I will never be killed from Hitlerism, never, never. And go and go. I used to go in the morning in one side from that corner where I went.

Tape one, side two:

ER: Would you like to continue, please? You said you went to a corner someplace....

FC: Where I slept I was not in the day, see, I used to run from place to place. I was never tired. Now, I can't even walk to my room to.

ER: Did you ever sneak back into the ghetto at any point to try to make contact with anyone?

FC: No, never. I run out and never want to turn back because I knew they would capture me.

ER: And you had no idea what happened to the other members of your family, not the immediate family?

FC: Yes, I know this Kasian used to tell me they captured them, they captured them and he said, "Your sisters are captured and your brother is captured, why don't you go and give up yourself, you know, to the *Gestapo*" and I say "never..."

ER: What happened when he carried you in to the *Gestapo* office?

FC: I just don't want to go, and I was crying and I told them there will come a time when you will have the same thing that you give to me. Then he left me in the middle of the highway.

ER: He left you in the middle of the highway, I thought he took you to the *Gestapo*?

FC: Yes, this was on a highway.

ER: So you went into the office, he took you to the office?

FC: No, I was not going, I refused to go. I was sitting on the floor, and I was crying, and I said "I'm not going. You kill me, why they have to kill me. You kill me." He said to me, "I'm not killing Jews." I say, "You're not killing, this is the same thing." When you take me to the *Gestapo* and they will kill me, then you kill me, then he left me. He was Ukrainian.

ER: So he did leave you?

FC: Yes.

ER: And what did you do after that?

FC: I returned to the forest.

ER: For how much longer?

FC: For several months, I don't know when exactly.

ER: Now, when did you come out of the forest? Were you caught again?

FC: No, I went out to my old home where I was going to school when I was hiding over there.

ER: Was anybody living there?

FC: Sure, there was *goyim*.

ER: They moved in to your house.

FC: Then I went straight to my home and one woman, Ostapow, she kept me for five weeks and then...

ER: So she hid you for five weeks?

FC: For five weeks.

ER: What was her name?

FC: Maria Ostapow.

ER: Can you spell her last name?

FC: Yeah, O-S-T-A-P-O-W.

ER: Why do you think she helped you, because her life was in danger she had...

FC: She was in danger, too, because they start to kill one every second. Ukrainians were killing the Poles, the Poles were killing Ukrainians, and she was working for my parents and she knows they were doing good things to her and she wants to help me. But it was my fault, I should never go out from that corner where she was hiding me.

ER: Where did she hide you in the house?

FC: In my own home.

ER: It was in your own home?

FC: It was in my own home because they took over the Jewish properties.

ER: So, were you able to walk around the house or...?

FC: No, no, I was sitting in one corner, quiet. At night time, she used to come in and give me some food, and I used to wash up myself and go to sleep.

ER: What happened after those five weeks?

FC: After these five weeks when they find out she's hiding me, I run away to another one.

ER: Who was that, somebody else that you knew from before?

FC: Yes, sure, I forget the name?

ER: But you had contact with them before the war?

FC: Yeah, yeah.

ER: And did she take you into her home?

FC: Sure, she take me in and I was in her home hiding for four or five weeks, too, and then she went to church and I want to prepare for them food because I want to do something for them and I was preparing food and a neighbor came, passed by and looked into the window and saw me.

ER: And saw you?

FC: Yes, and she came in and said, "*chosko*"--they used to call aunt [unclear] and she said, "I saw Yoel's daughter in your house. She say no, this is my granddaughter, not a Jew." But anyway, she was afraid to keep me and nighttime, she told me, "I'm sorry, I can't keep you longer. I have to tell you, you should go because if not, they will kill me, too." And I went out and I went again to another one in the fields and I hid myself over there for several weeks.

ER: Let me just stop right here and ask you a question--when these women were hiding you, did they want anything from you, did they want money from you?

FC: No, I was not having nothing. They didn't want anything.

ER: They didn't want anything, so they were really helping you out of the goodness of their hearts.

FC: They remembered the good things what my father used to do to them.

ER: When you went back into your home, were all your belongings, the family's belongings still there?

FC: Oh, no. This was ransacked.

ER: Ransacked?

FC: Ransacked. There was having nothing.

ER: So the people that moved into your home, they didn't have your belongings?

FC: No.

ER: Okay. Now, you said you went into the field you hired, you hid, you were back in the forest again?

FC: Yes. I was walking from place to place. I was very poor, but I never wanted to give up. Now I'm giving up my life.

ER: When did you come out of the forest? Did you have any idea what was going on, I mean, you still hadn't heard of--did you hear of the mass murders by that time?

FC: Yeah.

ER: How did you hear about them?

FC: The *goyim* used to tell me. They used to tell me this is killed and that one was killed and that one was killed. I used to know everything.

ER: Did you believe what you were hearing?

FC: Yes.

ER: Because it was so unbelievable that many people didn't believe it.

FC: I believed it because I saw them they are not coming more out from that place.

ER: So what happened after you were in the forest again?

FC: I was hiding on the fields in to a place, I forgot the name.

ER: You were hiding with people again?

FC: Yeah. She was hiding me. You know, they used to have stoves what they used to bake breads and everything. She pushed me in on the top of that stove and she made a little cover and nobody knew.

ER: Nobody knew you were there?

FC: No, and nobody see.

ER: How long were you there?

FC: Oh, several months.

ER: You don't remember her name?

FC: Cora.

ER: Cora?

FC: Coral was her name and before she married, Coral was her name.

ER: Can you spell that?

FC: C-O-R-A-L, Coral.

ER: That was her last name?

FC: Yes.

ER: Were you forced to leave there also?

FC: Now she told me--now I want to go out--soon the Russian came in. They recaptured this place again from the Germans.

ER: Because by this time, the Russians were fighting with the allied forces.

FC: Yeah, with the Germans.

ER: Against the Germans, so she went what now...

FC: I want to go out and she said, "no, don't go out I want to hear what they say, maybe they're not friends more to the Jews." You know, and this was the truth. When they came in and she asked them "How are the Jews, is a lot of Jews left over" and this and that and they say "I wish they kill them all."

ER: The Russians said this.

FC: Yes, but we don't saw too many of them. Then she says to me, "You have to go out they should not know that I was hiding you." And she told me where I should go because more Jews were left over and they all went to a small city to Trembowla and over there, I met the Jews you know that were left over from Hitler's war and I met my husband.

ER: So right after you were with this woman, when the Russians came in, you were free, you were liberated?

FC: I was free, I was liberated.

ER: And you went to this small town...

FC: Yes, where the rest of the Jews were left over from Hitler's war.

ER: What was the name of this town again?

FC: Trembowla.

ER: Trembowla?

FC: Yes.

ER: Spell that, please.

FC: T-R-E-M-B-O-W-L-A.

ER: Okay. When you were in this small town, did you meet anybody from your hometown, I know your immediate family was killed?

FC: I don't met no one from my town, just I met from cities, but they know me.

ER: They knew you?

FC: They know me.

ER: How did they know you?

FC: From the name, from my father's name. We came together in a group and we left we went to [unclear] and [unclear]. I was living three or four months and I get

married with my husband. We were both in very poor condition, but I was afraid to stay by myself. The Russian soldiers used to take over the Jewish women do with them what they want to do.

ER: So you met your husband and got married? Did you have any thoughts of going to Israel, to Palestine?

FC: Oh, I was always thinking of Israel, Palestine, but it was hard to go. I was not having money and they was taking just the ones that had family, *proteksia*. I was out from the world.

ER: Were you ever a member of the Zionist groups?

FC: I was a member, sure.

ER: What was the name of it, do you remember?

FC: Yeah.

ER: Was it *HaShamir* [*Hashomer Hatzair*]? Slips your mind?

FC: Yeah.

ER: Well, it's been a long time.

FC: I can't remember. *Hashamir*--Revisionist. I was a Revisionist.

ER: Now, how long did it take you to get your strength back?

FC: Oh, a long time.

ER: Did you have any permanent damage done by the long time without food and the emotional strain?

FC: Sure, I had emotional and I'm half crazy. I damaged my feet. I have arthritis all over my body. I can't walk.

ER: How long did you stay in the small town before you came to the United States?

FC: I was not long over there. I registered immediately to in the HIAS to go to the United States. When I came here, they took care of me.

ER: Who took care of you?

FC: In America, they took care of me.

ER: Was it the HIAS who took care of you or was it...?

FC: The HIAS, yes.

ER: But you had your first child over in Europe? Wasn't Jules born in Europe?

FC: No, he was born in Germany.

ER: Germany? That's...

FC: Gleiwitz after the war.

ER: After the war--was that a Displaced Person camp or just a town?

FC: This was a hospital.

ER: Just a regular hospital.

FC: Mt. Sinai.

ER: Then you all came over in 1946, he must have been a few months old?

FC: Yeah, he was 18 months old when I came to the United States.

ER: Did you find any members of your extended family alive after the war?

FC: Yeah, I find the relatives when they came from Romania, my mother's sister's children and I visit them in Israel. They are now in Israel, in Haifa, in Tel Aviv.

ER: And did you ever have any contact after the war with those few people, those non-Jews that hid you?

FC: No, I wrote to them letters and they never--I don't know if they received them or they just don't give them out to the people. I used to write to a Ukrainian group, Polish group, I wrote to them letters and I wrote to the city and I'm looking for them and them, what now I remind--Salim, was the second that hid me, Salim you know, when I spoke to you before...

ER: Now, are there any other stories or thoughts that you'd like to relate on this tape before we end, now that we've gotten you to the United States and the war is over, is there something that you might have forgotten, an experience?

FC: Yes, I forgot a lot of things.

ER: Is there anything that you can think of that you want on this tape about your experiences?

FC: I can't talk. I'm too tired.

ER: Okay. I want to thank you very much for allowing us to come and talk to you. I know that this was very difficult.