

HOLOCAUST TESTIMONY

OF

NADIA FREY

Transcript of Audiotaped Interview

Interviewer: Inge Karo
Date: May 15, 2002

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Gratz College
Melrose Park, PA 19027

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NF - Nadia Frey¹ [interviewee]

IK - Inge Karo [interviewer]

RF - Ruth Frey [daughter]

Date: May 15, 2002

Tape one, side one:

IK: This is Inge Karo interviewing Nadia Frey in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on May 15, 2002. Mrs. Frey, could you just tell me where you were born and your date of birth?

NF: I born September, October 8, 1916. [Tape pauses]

IK: 2002 -- This is Inge Karo interviewing Nadia Frey in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on May 15, 2002. [long pause on tape] Now do you want to tell me your maiden name and a little bit about yourself, and then I...

NF: Am I supposed to start from the beginning?

IK: No, just tell--if you want to just tell me your maiden name--you don't have to if you don't want to, and just tell me a little bit about yourself, your parents, what -- you know, what your life was like before the war, whatever you want--you care to say. If you don't want to you don't have to.

NF: I don't know [sigh]...

IK: Alright, it's alright. Then why don't we--where did you live before the war?

NF: In Sambor near Poland, in Sambor.

IK: How do you spell that---S?

NF: S-A-M

IK: M...

NF: B...

IK: Z?

NF: B.

IK: B?

NF: Sambor, R...

IK: U-R-G?

RF: No O-R.

IK: O-R, Sambor.

NF: Sambor.

RF: You need to stay closer to the microphone, Mom.

NF: Yeah, I understand.

¹nee Tomaszek.

IK: And do you want to tell me a little bit about your family? I mean what did your father do?

NF: My father was a teacher.

IK: A teacher.

NF: And my mother was a--she was educated but she was just a wife and take care of the house/children.

IK: Now first, first were you in a religious family?

NF: They was Catholic.

IK: Catholic. And, but I mean, were they very religious? Do you think that...?

NF: [unclear] I think this was -- he was a teacher. You have to be -- to give an example to children in the family and to go to church. And we would celebrate holidays. It were nothing special.

IK: Did you go to a Catholic School?

NF: No, I don't know even if there was Catholic School. I got in private school.

IK: And did your family have a history of helping other people? Did you get that from your family, you think?

NF: No, I don't know.

IK: And if you're ready to talk about that, in what way did you help Jews? Did you hide them or...?

NF: There was *Aktion*-- was taking people to Auschwitz, so I was hiding them, sometimes 10 people, sometimes just eight.

IK: And where...?

NF: And every time there was *Aktion*, they was coming.

IK: By *Aktion*, you mean when they were rounding people up to deport them?

NF: Yes, because they know there is going to be *Aktion*. *Aktions*, they was hiding.

IK: And how did you know there was going to be an *Aktion*?

NF: They know because the committee, the Jewish committee -- he knows. He was prepared for this, so people was knowing about it.

IK: Oh, the Jewish community knew about it.

NF: Yeah.

IK: But how did, how did - the general, the people who weren't Jewish, did they know about it too?

NF: They just know when it happened, the day when they start.

IK: Oh.

NF: Gestapo you know, and catching people like dogs.

IK: So in other words, when they were actually starting to round up people, that's when you started to help?

NF: Yes.

IK: Okay, and what made you decide to get involved?

NF: Because I was, how to say? The people have the right to live, everyone. Why, why they pick up on Jews? I didn't see nothing was wrong. My brother – he has friends Jewish. I was playing when I was little just with a Jewish girl. The Ukranian girls doesn't want to play with me because I had – was playing with Polish girls and Jew.

IK: Oh, and the Jews that you actually helped were these people that you knew before or did you help strangers?

NF: No, I just--when I was working with them and, for example, my mother -- how you say?

IK: How old were you at that time?

NF: I was about 22.

IK: Oh, you were 22 and what work, what kind of work did you do?

NF: I was working in a bank.

IK: A bank. So you, mainly the Jews that you helped were people that you at least knew slightly?

NF: But later I changed my job and I went to work, to court.

IK: To where?

NF: To court.

IK: In a court?

NF: Court.

IK: Like where there were judges.

NF: Yes, correct, yes.

IK: And did these people approach you and ask you for help or did you go to them and say I'm going to help you?

NF: I say to them. But then one she was working with us and she was our secretary and she was secretary and she was staying outside. I say, "Come to my house," and she say "There are peoples coming, the Gestapo." She was hiding behind me and she saw her aunt. She left me and then she say, "I'm going with my aunt," because people didn't know at that time that they're going to, and, for-- tell you how you say?

IK: To be killed.

NF: Yeah, correct?

IK: And, so when you said you took people into your house, were you living by yourself or were you living with someone?

NF: No, I was married before.

IK: Oh, you were married?

NF: I was married. My husband was a teacher and I was working in a court. And there was lawyers and coming to court and special my husband and he knows my, my husband's family, his sister and they, often he come.

IK: And they knew that you were doing this and it was alright with them or did you do it in secret?

NF: No, not in, not in secret.

IK: The family – they were alright with it?

NF: Yeah, yeah, yeah, but my husband was not alive anymore. He was arrested during the -- when the Germans come. He was arrested for one month in Sambor, or three weeks when Russian come. When was Russian, they say he was a National, that he was, but he - I didn't know that he was - belonged to the party, and they say. "Why your wife doesn't belong? And another girl say, "You don't want her because she's not ours." Yeah.

IK: They're talking about you?

NF: Yeah, because she just associates with Jews. Because her secretary is Jew. I was a lawyer's wife and they liked me. I liked them and we were friends, very good friends.

IK: And did you, did you worry about the danger at all?

NF: Well sure, maybe because, they, when the girl, Ukrainian girl, very young women in her twenties - she had, she have two Jewish women, and they was living in the -- behind the closet. You know in Europe it's separate, not like in the wall, there was behind the closet. One day she went to the rubbish, this Ukrainian girl, and these two women, so they did, I don't know, they come out – make yourself breakfast. They would stay in the kitchen, you thinking, somebody, the neighbor saw through the window, and he went to the Gestapo. When she come she find out and the Gestapo was waiting for her and she was hanging there – that was City Hall. Beautiful girl, young girl. And they show – who is going to help Jew is going to be there. And when I say to my husband, I propose, how you say, told him to come and he say, "You're not afraid? Are you?"

IK: This was, this was your second -- not your husband that had been arrested, this was the husband you married after.

NF: Yeah, yeah, yeah, because my husband he was arrested – NKVD² and when I come from the work and NKVD was sitting and waiting for me and I say, "Why they arrested my husband?" He was, he didn't belong to no -- he was not associate

IK: But when they arrested him, he wasn't your husband?

NF: Yeah, he was my husband.

IK: Oh.

NF: That time, yeah, when he was arrested. His name was Katchmar. [phonetic].

IK: Oh, oh that, that is your first husband.

NF: First husband, yes.

IK: I'm sorry Nadia.

²Narodnyi Komissariat Vnutrennilch Del: Department of Police

NF: Yeah, but he say NKVD, “You are our person, your husband was Nationalist and he didn’t belong to the party.” That’s all and then when I was going to work, some people was, didn’t talk to me because they was afraid. He was arrested - who knows what is going to happen to me?

IK: They were afraid if they associated with you they would get it.

NF: Yes, yes, my husband, second husband, he was good to me. He was coming to our house, to my in-laws and they like him. And when German left, no, Russian went back and Germans come, and was pogrom, big pogrom, because there was plenty of Ukrainian peop--young people was killed, girls, young men, educated people. And they took Gestapo, Ukrainian...

IK: These were not Jewish Ukrainians. These were non-Jewish Ukrainians that were killed?

NF: Soviets would kill Ukrainian. Yeah, because they say they Nationalists. And they was killed, so Ukrainian police and Gestapo taking Jews to...[pause]

IK: To transport them?

NF: No - where people were killed was plenty of – Ruth, help me!

IK: The concentration camps?

NF: No, it was in Sambor. They was people, Ukrainian people who was in . . .

IK: You mean they had like an area in the woods or in the country where they killed people?

NF: No, there was. Yeah, they were taken to forests Ukraine, is not to the River Dniester. There was many people and they said Jews did this. The Jews did that.

IK: In other words the Russians blamed the Jews for killing the Ukrainians?

NF: Yes, the Russians were killing the Ukrainians because NKVD and everybody were saying it was the Jews. Which is not true. Some were Jews; some were Russians. Some Ukrainians, yes. And my husband was, at that time, he was hiding with his friend, another lawyer, in an Ukrainian priest home. And they saw how they was taking -- Ukrainian police and Gestapo – Jews to the court. And behind the court it was, how you call – prison? Prison. There was Ukrainians people killed.

IK: In the prison?

NF: In the prison, yes. NKVD killed the Ukrainian people. So they say Jew go and work. There was, you know, stinks because was lying too long. And the bodies was, how you say? It’s hard to say.

IK: You mean, you are talking about the people who had been killed?

NF: They was, they was killed. They was lying there.

IK: So they didn’t bury them. They just left them?

NF: Yeah, they bury, they left, they didn’t have time to bury. Some was buried but sometimes they just left in prison and they...

IK: And the Jews then had to take care of the bodies, is that what you’re saying?

NF: Yeah, yes. Yes, yes. They put in big boxes and everything was Jews was doing. They even, my husband and Ukrainian [unclear] was his friend and they took them there and they was beating them. And my husband, my second husband, was all this blood and he was very tiny, not strong, and he has to carry this – in his arm and in front was his friend, another lawyer, and another side was, yes, it was Jews, too. And it was was plenty of us going and they beating them with, you know . . .

IK: Was whipped.

NF: Yes.

IK: And who was doing the beating, the Russians and the Ukrainians?

NF: No, there was Russians and Germans.

IK: Oh, the Russians and the Germans.

NF: Germans, because it was Germans already.

IK: Oh okay.

NF: Yeah, and because the Ukrainian was killed by Russians, when the Germans come, the Ukrainian police discovered everything and who was fault? Jews. And when he was going and carrying this box and he saw...

IK: You mean the box with the bodies in it, the coffin.

NF: Yeah, yeah it was...

IK: Like a coffin or casket.

NF: Not that it was hard for him, but he was beating, he was beating and his friend from school, Ukrainian, and he said "Help me!". "*Ratuy* me," it mean help me, and he passed by and said "Okay, alright be quiet." His brother was police. I don't know what he was, but he was *shiska* [phonetic] as they say and this...

IK: What does that mean, he was drunk?

NF: Pardon me? No he was, his brother was in, was police station, working, helping the Gestapo. So this, my husband's friend, went to him and say, "Listen, Frey is arrested [unclear]."

IK: So, in other words, the man, the man who was working, so the man who was working with the police was the brother of the man who was trying to help your husband?

NF: Correct, correct, yes. He was from a very good friend, Ukrainian and not antisemitic. And then he say, "Where is Frey?" So he called, "Frey, where is Frey?" and they stop and Dolek, which was my husband, went, he say to his--"Where's my friend Adolph?" And the police, which was Ukrainian, they didn't want to let him go. But he said "*Yud, Yud* [derogatory word for Jew] do what I'm telling you to do," take them and hid. My husband and his friend from the cemetery rode another straight to his home. This policeman and his wife, he stayed to take care of him. When was she coming, Ukrainian police looking for Jews, she just opened the door and she say, "No Jews here."

IK: So this was your husband's friend's wife?

NF: Correct. She said she was like a mother. She watched them -- she gives them -- she changed clothes -- give to -- she make something to eat -- she said some scrambled eggs and bread. And he was there about a whole week and everybody when they was asking, looking for Dolek, and then one of the girls said he is killed because they saw him going to the...

IK: Going to the cemetery.

NF: Cemetery. Who went to the cemetery didn't come back. He was -- right away they killed him. I'm telling you . . .

IK: At that time did you know that he was still alive or you thought . . .?

NF: No, I was thinking he was dead because he was in this, in this police house for a week. And then I was, maybe two weeks later, I was laying -- I was in my sister-in-law room, laying in the sofa, and I was crying, crying, crying. They did not know I was crying for my husband or crying for Dolek and I fell like asleep. Somebody come to this room and give me a kiss on the forehead. I opened my eyes, I see my husband, Dolek, and I was scared, he is dead, and I say, "You are dead. Is something wrong with me?" I see him. He say, "I'm alive my dear, I'm alive."

IK: So Dolek -- just so we know, when we listen to it again, we understand. Dolek Frey . . .

NF: Right, Dolek - his name was Adolf - but everybody calls him Dolek.

IK: And that was your second husband?

NF: Yeah, my second husband.

IK: Okay.

NF: Yes, and even when he was buried and rabbi was, my friend told him not to say Adolf, just Dolek, because, because he hate this name.

IK: And that's D-O-L-E-C-K, is that how you spell that, Dolek?

NF: That, it's D-O-L-E-K.

IK: K.

NF: Yeah, Dolek.

IK: Maybe that was, was that his nickname or do you think it was his Hebrew name?

NF: No, it was, there was, he has two of, Jewish name, Hebrew name. Avrum and-- Ruth, do you remember?

RF: [unclear]

IK: It doesn't matter.

NF: Okay, but Dolek, Adolf, he used for, I don't know, for school. He was going to a school at the time, he was Adolf, and everybody call him Dolek, his friends.

IK: Now I wanted to get back to when you were hiding people, I mean the...

NF: [unclear]

IK: They were with you for a short time and then where did they go after?

NF: Back to the ghetto. There was *Aktion*, they was coming and was...

IK: So after, I mean after the *Aktion* was finished, they could...

NF: Yeah.

IK: ...go back to the ghetto and they would be all right.

NF: Yeah, yeah.

IK: Till the next time.

NF: When they, when they...

IK: So you didn't have to, like, hide them for months and years?

NF: No, no, it was just week or a little longer. I was going and looking, if there was quiet, and so I came and the next day they left. Again they left so nobody would see them, the neighbors.

IK: And while they were staying, while you were hiding them...

NF: They...

IK: ...they had to stay, they couldn't go out?

NF: No.

IK: They couldn't be in a room with windows or anything like that?

NF: No, [unclear]

IK: How do you?

NF: I give my room. My room was small, just I had toption. I don't know how to say it in English. It was a, pull-out, and I put pillows and everything, looks like a canopy, you know?

IK: And how did you manage the everyday things, like how did they manage-- did you manage it so they could get, have, get washed or use or go to the bathroom?

NF: They would get washed.

IK: And how did you manage to get food?

NF: There was a small room there, grandma and she had a granddaughter, that was my husband's mother. She had a [unclear] and they were sleeping in the bed and the rest was sitting. It was a very small room. I had this closet, table, one chair and they was sleeping.

IK: And about how many people was it usually?

NF: It was, my husband and his family - was seven: husband, mother, brother, brother, wife and child, and his brother's sister-in-law. It was seven, yeah? And my sister-in-law from the first marriage she had two friends, yes, so that's nine. It was tight.

IK: This family group, that's, that's, those were basically the people you hid?

NF: Yeah.

IK: Or were there other people?

NF: Yes, they were all together, yeah.

IK: Yeah. And did you have to--obviously your family you didn't have to worry about, but were you afraid that your neighbors might turn you in or townspeople?

NF: No, because my sister was living with me in [unclear] and she was working. She was going to work and she knows everything and when I was decide to take

them and, I was supposed to have some, you know, house where nobody lived. And I was found, was very far from the city, and outside where you, and in the front was a big house and this was, how you say, this woman who rent me this house...

IK: The landlady.

NF: Yeah, in the house, small house, it was when you were talking or crying or laughing outside, people can hear, so primitive. But was basement, from the kitchen was over a basement.

IK: And that's the house where you hid them?

NF: Yes, and I have a kitchen and one room here and another room [unclear] my sister and then the front room. So we wait about maybe, before this happened about a month, so nobody, I was coming home and I was crying. I said to my sister, "I would like to hide Dolek and his family, but people would say 'Why I move?' Sister's living in this house and my in-laws they good to me, why I move?" She say, "You know what? I'm going with you, I will help you. I will live with you." It was different – was two sisters moved from there and my in-laws, you know?

IK: Was she your only sister?

NF: No, another sister was with my parents and in Sambor.

IK: And did your parents know that you were doing this thing also?

NF: Yes, yes, yes, you...

IK: Were they worried that something might . . . ?

NF: It was just my younger sister. She was just fourteen and they keep her [unclear] and later she was very hurt and she was mad at me. She say you think I would give you away--to tell, but we keep it a secret.

IK: Well you had to be careful.

NF: Sure.

IK: Was there ever a time when you really thought that this was too dangerous and you wouldn't be able to do it anymore?

NF: I even don't think. Where he goes, I go--that's all.

IK: And now how did you--was there any kind of signal so that you knew it was not safe for people to go back to the ghetto or did you just...?

NF: No, they coming and everything was alright.

IK: And I forgot to ask you earlier, maybe this will be a little bit easier for you to talk about. How large a town was Sambor? Was it a large city, Sambor?

NF: No, it was not a, it was small city, yah. There was no college, just the *gymnasium*³ *seminarium*. There were like...

IK: And about what was the - was there a large Jewish population or was it mostly Catholics?

NF: I would say maybe half and half. I don't know.

³*gymnasium* – the equivalent of high school.

IK: It was half and half?
NF: Maybe, yeah. I don't have no idea.
IK: And until the war, the relations obviously, at least for you, were fairly good?
NF: Yes.
IK: And it was Ukraine and at that time was a part of Poland?
NF: Yeah, it was Poland, yes.
IK: Part of Poland, until they got invaded.
NF: Yeah.
IK: And also, I forgot to ask you because I didn't want to interrupt you. What, what year are we talking about that you hid your husband and his family, do you know?
NF: Yeah.
IK: Was it 1940, or 1942 or ...?
NF: It was 19...I think '42.
IK: 1942.
NF: Or '41, I don't remember exactly...'40? They was in hiding a year and a half, where I was coming, when I find this house so I want to tell my husband good news. And I went to the ghetto behind [unclear] but I have packages of cigarettes, you know, a case of cigarettes and I was talking to him, to tell him and I was ...
IK: And why did you have the cigarettes, to bribe somebody?
NF: No, no to give him because he was smoking, yeah.
IK: Were you allowed--did they let you go into the ghetto and give the people something?
NF: No, no.
IK: So how did you do it?
NF: I was behind there--he was one side, I was on another side, because it was an iron fence.
IK: ...fence and you threw the cigarettes over the fence.
NF: Yeah, Ukrainian police saw this and he was coming. My husband he said, "Come in so he has not have the right to take you." He pick up the, and I went to the ghetto.
IK: You went under the fence to go into the ghetto.
NF: Yeah, I went to the ghetto and he come, he took me, he had a . . .
IK: Who, the police?
NF: Police, Ukrainian police and he said to -- he asked my name, everything and what you doing here? I say, "I bring cigarettes to sell because I need money," and he believed it. He took me...
IK: I think I have to... [tape one, side one ended]

Tape one, side two:

IK: This is side two of tape one of an interview with Nadia Frey. And you were just telling me that you were arrested by the Ukrainian policeman and you, and...

NF: Yeah.

IK: He asked you what you were doing?

NF: Yes, and he took me to -- the next day he come, he let me go home. And next day he took my papers, everything, what I had I give him.

IK: Your identity papers?

NF: Yeah, my identity papers. And the next day when I came to work, to the bank, he come and he say he wants to talk to the boss, to the director. And he tell him everything and he returned my papers and told him to the director to take care about me, to talk to me. He doesn't want to arrest me, and just not to do such foolish things like I did, you see? Okay.

IK: By foolish things he meant hiding people?

NF: No, I went to the...

IK: Selling cigarettes, oh.

NF: Yeah, I went to the ghetto, to the ghetto.

IK: And did he realize that this was somebody you knew?

NF: No, I didn't know him.

IK: No, I mean did the policeman realize that this was someone you knew?

IK: No, I mean did the policeman realize that you knew your husband?

NF: I don't know, maybe...

IK: Of course that would have been...

NF: But later he said, the policeman, he said, you know about Adolf? And he was sure he killed him in the *Aktion*, do you understand?

IK: No, the policeman killed who in the *Aktion*?

NF: The Ukrainian police who arrest me, he has an eye on my husband Dolek and he took maybe the wrong person. And he said he was talking to my sister-in-law, and he say, "I killed this Jew who was a friend of your sister-in-law."

IK: Oh, oh, he thought he had killed Dolek.

NF: Yes.

IK: And he told your...

NF: Yeah, yeah.

IK: sister-in-law that...

NF: Yeah, yeah.

IK: But he had killed somebody else.

NF: If he would not think he killed, he would have an eye on me, maybe he would even death.

IK: You mean he would have watched you more.

NF: Sure, sure.

IK: Watched you more closely?

NF: Sure, sure, he would watch what I doing, why I move from the in-laws' house.

IK: And was there ever a time when you were helping Jews and hiding Jews that you realized that people were suspecting you and that you were in real danger?

NF: No, no, my sister-in-law and I - we would bring and nobody would know.

IK: So how did you do it so that nobody would know? They only came at night or...?

NF: They came and they was not a day and not an evening, just, you know, between, when you cannot see from the far who is there, who is coming, who is going.

IK: Like twilight.

NF: Pardon me?

IK: Like twilight when it just starts to get dark?

NF: Yes, yes.

IK: That's when they came?

NF: Yeah, and they came not from the front, just from the back. They know how to, there was a water, a very small river there and they was coming to the house and...

IK: So where your house was, it was like in a farm area where none of the streets with other houses?

NF: Yeah, there was this house and next was a house there was an old lady living there and before she had Jews that was rented there, so then later she was by herself. And another was big, big signs, it was far and then there was mailman. He was living with family, he didn't care, he doesn't know.

IK: And I don't know whether we made this clear in the beginning, how did your, how did Dolek and his family find out, how did you notify them that you were willing to hide all of them? How did that happen, that you let them know that they could all hide with you?

NF: Because, because I was meeting. He was coming to our house, he was talking, and this was not against his family to come to hide. She has some friends she was hiding in my room, so, anyway, everything came okay.

IK: So there must have been something really wonderful about your family that the whole family, you know, was willing to do such a dangerous thing and hide all these Jews.

NF: Yes.

IK: 'Cause I'm sure it was very dangerous.

NF: Oh yeah.

IK: And what do you think--was it something in their beliefs or they were very humanitarian or...?

NF: Maybe they...

IK: Because not many, not many people did this.

NF: Yeah, they didn't see it and maybe there was not -- I don't know. I can tell this myself, I was, when I was child, the children, father always say to us, "Love yours, but have respect for another people," you know? [Ukrainian phrase] -- that was Ukrainian you know.

IK: And it means have respect for other people?

NF: Correct.

IK: Okay.

NF: And he has friends, Jewish always was coming in there and buying. And Ukrainian people say, "Why are you buying in Jewish stores?" and he say, "You're not going to tell me where I have to go and buy."

IK: He was independent.

NF: Yeah.

IK: Do you think it has something to do with the fact that your parents maybe were more educated than some of the other people?

NF: No, I don't think so. I don't know. Maybe in my blood there was a little bit Jewish when because my grandmoth--my mother, grandmother of mother, I even don't remember was a Jew. And she tell you of this - my grandpa - he was a [unclear] grandpa - and she lived, was in near Landsberg and he was teacher in [unclear]. She was very rich, she was beautiful, and he was giving her lessons. She was suppose to go higher, because she was 15 years old and she left, they, he took her to the [unclear Polish word] and to the Monastery, the woman with...

IK: A convent.

NF: Yeah and they educate her and she becomes a Catholic.

IK: And you were raised as a Catholic?

NF: Yeah.

IK: Now how did you, do you--unless there's something else important you wanted to mention, did you want to talk about when you were liberated and how--what happened after the war and when you got married and how you came to the United States.

NF: When it was, Jews can come from their hiding and they know that I was hiding a family. So my sister has, when they was talking in the office, and my cousin was working, and later she said to my cousin - to my sister, "I am ashamed even to say that I am cousin," my cousin. She was ashamed that I was...

IK: That she was here because you were hiding Jews?

NF: Yes.

IK: That's why she was ashamed?

NF: Yes. And Darka say how can you say something -- this is people, this is not animals -- just people, like we are. They believe in same G-d. She was, now sister,

my sister, she couldn't get married because of this. In the beginning, she say in the beginning they hate us and now they're on the TV, and everybody knows, and they proud because they was hiding the Jews. But then...

IK: Are they all still living there in Sambor?

NF: Yes, they, she was taking care of, mother was 52 years old. When she was dying, dead, and brother he gets stroke - he was in the morning, gets up to, go to school to teach and fell on the floor and was paralyzed. But my sister Darka who helped me, she was taking care of him, my brother and her brother.

IK: Now when the war was over, what--do you remember the year? Or was it 1944 or-- and what were you...?

NF: My son was...

IK: American army or ...?

NF: No, my son was born in Germany in 1946-- Harry, in Germany.

IK: In Germany, but that was where? So how did you get to Germany?

NF: Because when he was Russian, with Russian and my husband say he doesn't want to be in Sambor, he wants to go to Poland and they, the Russians...

IK: This was after the Russians took control of Sambor?

NF: Sambor, yes. And they say who wants to go to Poland to the Jews. To Poland they can go and they, and we went to Lvov and from there to Przems⁴ and Krakow there was.

IK: Now wait a minute, let me spell that. What was that town-- Przems? How do you spell that?

NF: But.

IK: The town before you got to Krakow, where did you go?

NF: Lvov, from Sambor to Lvov from...

IK: Lvov?

NF: Lvov, from Lvov to Przems.

IK: How do you spell that, do you know?

NF: Pshemys, P-S-H-E-M-Y-S. [Przems]

IK: P-S-H-E-M-Y-S.

NF: Yeah, Przems.

IK: Ok and then from there you went...

NF: Krakow.

IK: To Krakow, okay.

NF: [Unclear] and from Krakow we went to Breslau.

IK: Breslau, that's in Germany, right?

NF: Yes, but it...

IK: What--were you in a camp?

⁴Sounds like Pshemys in English, but is spelled Przems.

NF: But they did belong to the Poland after the World War before was Poland and then during the war they give back to. They took, Germans took Breslau and later and now and after the war they give back to Poland, Breslau.

IK: Now were you in a camp?

NF: In Germany.

IK: In...

NF: In Breslau...

IK: And how did you travel? Did you do this on your own or did some agency help you?

NF: From Sambor to Lvov we took a train, and from Lvov to Przemsł we took a train and later we was taking, getting with Russian soldiers, they was getting in Jaroslaw. When we were in Jaroslaw they say the Germans coming back, we have to go back. And Dolek say, "What we going to do? We're going to stay." And he say, "Here nobody knows who we are." They are Germans coming. He say, "You don't look Jew. I am not looking. They don't know us. We can live there."

IK: But living as you stay, you did this on your own. You weren't part of a group or you weren't helped by one of these agencies.

NF: Just Dolek and I, we was traveling to until Breslau.

IK: And then what happened after Breslau?

NF: Breslau he went, he opened his office, lawyer and he was going to the court.

IK: Your husband worked as a lawyer?

NF: Yes, yes.

IK: He was able to do--this was after the war?

NF: Yes, because in German was very good. So there he say he was so sad meeting him German people to, you know, how to say...

IK: And were you married at that time?

NF: Oh yes.

IK: And when did you get married?

NF: In Sambor when he went to Germany then to Russia.

IK: Oh, during the time you were hiding him you got married?

NF: No, after.

IK: After.

NF: After [unclear] we were sitting...

IK: After the war?

NF: Yeah, we were sitting in a bench in beautiful around City Hall. He said, "Nadia come to City Hall, we are going to get married." And we went and again, the Russian give us papers and you know it was just civil, civil marriage.

IK: Civil ceremony.

NF: And later here in America, we get an organ, and Jewish...

IK: Jewish ceremony.

NF: Yeah and we have...

IK: But now do you have, I thought when I talked to you on the phone you mentioned something about a displaced persons camp. Were you in a displaced persons camp at all?

NF: Okay, we were in camp. There were all Jews who was going from the camp during the German occupation to go somewhere. They was coming to...

IK: The Jews from the concentration camps.

NF: Yeah.

IK: But were you ever in one of those camps?

NF: Yes, yes, yes, yes.

IK: The displaced persons camp?

NF: Yes, yes, from there we went to America.

IK: Oh, but was this after--did you go to that after your husband worked in Breslau?

NF: Breslau, at the lawyers.

IK: Yeah.

NF: He saved with a little money and he brought 200 dollars for this money because it was very high. He paid some 3,000 and something for 200 dollars. It was not regular good money. This was in a book, because it was separate, you know?

IK: Like coupons.

NF: Yeah, it was separate from others, yeah.

IK: And what did he--why did he want this money?

NF: Because we know we are going to America some day, that's when he bought this, yeah. And I was so very [unclear] because some Jew hide in the, under the ground, it was...

IK: They buried, they buried the money.

NF: Yeah and later after they could come and get out and was not the same.

IK: Got ruined by being, it got damp and everything.

NF: It was ruined, yeah.

IK: Now what did, when you went to the United States, how did you get a visa?

NF: From Jewish here in America. I forgot their name.

IK: From whom?

NF: Jewish.

IK: HIAS or one of those?

NF: HIAS, yeah.

IK: HIAS.

NF: I think it HIAS, yeah.

IK: And you, it was just your husband, yourself and your son or the rest of the family?

NF: No, we went back to Lvov from Sambor. They had store, his brother, and he was doing very good. So he want to make money to dress himself because my husband come out he didn't have even shoes. Because I saw why bread and milk and potatoes for soup to make potato soup. It was our food. [sighs]

IK: This was after the war was over that you had to do this?

NF: No, during the war.

IK: During the war?

NF: Yes. I was coming and then they come from ghetto. So I took first his brother, sister-in-law and his niece, my husband niece and it was long way to go from city to this house. But then later I took his sister-in-law and the very next day I took...

IK: Now we're talking when you were hiding?

NF: Yeah, and I took mother. She didn't want to go with me together. She was elegant dressed, so tiny, small and she...

IK: She didn't think you were good enough?

NF: No, somebody recognize her...

IK: Oh.

NF: I would not, she would be...

IK: Oh, she didn't want to put you into danger.

NF: Yes, and she was going in the front and I was going behind her because none of this was holding me. They were scared and everybody know them. I don't know how I did this, because of all they had store and like ice cream and sandwiches and...

IK: Like a delicatessen, a grocery?

NF: No, no, not a delicatessen, it was coming, have a -- coffee and cake, and ice cream. He was, he knows how to...

IK: Like a coffee house?

NF: Yes, something like that.

IK: [unclear]

NF: Yeah, it was--everybody, he was making some chocolates, very, very good.

IK: And was the [unclear]?

NF: Yeah.

IK: Now how did they, how did they manage each time there was a raid and they had to go into hiding? How did they manage to get out of the ghetto when the Germans were going to raid the ghetto and arrest Jews? Didn't they have guards so that nobody could step out?

NF: They can go and they, I don't know how to, because it was not yet a ghetto.

IK: Yes, but you mentioned it had a fence.

NF: Yes it was fence, but peoples was coming.

IK: So how did they let them out when they were going to try and round them up?

NF: They were, with policeman who was Jew, they let him go. Everybody who wants to go, they was going in the nighttime under the, you know, tents and so the...

IK: Oh, so the policemen who were guarding the ghetto let Jews out?

NF: Yes, yes, they let him out, and my husband come in the evening. I was waiting for him in some place where he say I am going to be and next day in the morning somebody next to the --it was rain, I have umbrella so nobody to see [unclear] like were people just behind, like backyard, backyard the people they come through.

IK: They walk through the backyards to get to your house instead of walking on the street?

NF: Just my husband, just my husband.

IK: Instead of walking on the road?

NF: Yes, and in the morning, knock on the door, and I open. This woman has milk and she say, "I cannot go to the city." She say, "It just happened, Jews laying, killed, [unclear] streets with death, with people kill." Germans liquidate the ghetto.

IK: In other words she was telling you that the Germans had liquidated the ghetto and about the Jews that were lying there?

NF: Yes.

IK: [unclear] Jews that were lying...

NF: Yeah [unclear]-some were free, Jews and I was happy and glad. She brought me milk, I just had milk [chuckle] and bread I had and my...

IK: So you think she may, she used this as an excuse, to have an excuse to give you milk and bread?

NF: Because she didn't want to go and to see this. She was talking to me and she has tears in her eyes. She was just a human being; she saw what happened to another human being.

IK: Right, so she was, she was a good person, she did not...

NF: Yes, yes, yes.

IK: ...approve of this happening? And she probably gave you the food because she knew you could use it?

NF: Sure, yeah.

IK: Now when you went to the United States – did you arrive, where did you go?

NF: We went to New York and we was there in hotel. Everything was paid by this organization, and my husband he want to stay in New York because he has some friend there, that he brings because of war. And they say that we cannot be in New York because now no place. [Unclear], it is over, there is too much people coming. They say to where would you like to go and my husband say, "Maybe to Pittsburgh," because I had

there my father's family. And friends say "No" because Pittsburgh be no good for Jew. Okay, they say Philadelphia, and we went to Philadelphia.

IK: So you did, you had some help from HIAS.

NF: Yes.

IK: And then in Philadelphia was your husband able to practice law?

NF: He was planning in Europe but when he come he say no, it is different. He say, I cannot afford to go evenings to school to practice again the law and...

IK: And what did he do?

NF: He was sweeping the floors.

IK: My father, my father became a janitor and my mother became a maid.

NF: And it was...

IK: Well, do you know when you came to the United States?

NF: Pardon me?

IK: Do you know when you came to the United States?

NF: November the, Thanksgiving's Day, it was Thanksgiving Day 1960...1947 because Harry was one year old. He was born in 1946, 1947.

IK: How many children do you have?

NF: Two, a son and a daughter.

IK: Oh, two sons and a daughter.

NF: No, one son and daughter.

IK: Oh, one son and one daughter.

NF: Yeah, he's in Hong Kong.

IK: And, unless there's something else you want to talk about in the war years, I think it might be nice to, for you to explain, you know, that you are raising all your children as Jews and that whole thing.

NF: Because I, what Ukrainian people, not every Ukrainian people, you know I would say because in Landsberg and Wyszkwow, we hide Jews. And now they know my sister was hiding something like 50 or 100 Jews this [unclear] you know what a [unclear] is--it was priest, not regular priest. . .

IK: Do you mean from the Orthodox, from the Orthodox Church?

NF: Yeah, from Greco-Catholic.

IK: Yeah, Greek Orthodox.

NF: Yeah, yeah Ukrainian.

IK: And who was this priest?

NF: Pardon me?

IK: What were you going to say about the Greek Orthodox priest?

NF: Now, Ukrainian people are proud that he was hiding Jew but in the beginning I was beaten. I went to take -- when he was living in Sambor -- maybe two, three weeks, I went to take water to fountain. And from nowhere a man, I didn't know

who he was, and he started beating me, and I said, "What happened, why you do this to me?"

IK: He slapped you on the face?

NF: Yeah, when I come home Dolek say, "What happened to your face?" I say, I was beaten in my face. He say, "Who?" I say, "I don't know, maybe from the, you know, the Ukrainian that was hiding even German occupation in Russian." They was living in a forest. Now that's all. What was I want to say here?

IK: Oh, you were going to talk about, that you raised your children Jewish.

NF: Yeah, and they know they're, Harry when they took him to Strawbridge Clothier there was Santa Claus and he was about four years old. And Santa Claus was talking to him and he was walking around, say, "What you like to have Christmas?" He say, "I'm not going to get nothing for Christmas, I'm going to get for Hanukkah." [chuckle] Four years old, yeah for Hanukkah, so he gives him [unclear] chocolate, what is it, chocolate.

IK: And did you, did you always tell your children about your background?

NF: Yeah, yeah, not when he was--after Bar Mitzvah, I think, he find out. He was shocked and it was a year before he find out. He was writing his friends and he was brought up in Atlantic City and friends had two boys and [unclear] Harry and it was eight years different between Harry and Ruthy. And he said something, I don't know he was talking, and I hear him say, "G-d forbid my mother was Christian," or something like that. "G-d forbid," he said that, and right there I say this to Dolek, I said, "We have to tell him because if he find out from somebody else"...

IK: Right.

NF: It is not no good.

IK: Right, right.

NF: He say that when he was seven or eight years old and we tell him when he was bar mitzvah. He said, "Okay Mom, I love you anyway." He hugged me and kissed me. I have very good children.

IK: Yes apparently.

NF: Ruthy knows, Ruthy, even here, she would like . . .

IK: They know, they know the wonderful things you did in hiding Jews, you told them that.

NF: Yes, because my husband told them and Harry he say, "I'm proud that I am Jew."

IK: Well I think they can be proud of you also. You're a very courageous woman.

NF: I was living with my husband for 60 years and now year ago he passed away. [Sobbing] Already year, it's going to be in July.

IK: Well I think, I don't want to upset you anymore. I really appreciate your talking to me because I can see that it's really very, very difficult for you, but you know it's a wonderful thing that you did and it's important that people know.

NF: My father was--I need potatoes because to take every day. I was from bank went to there where they was selling, you know, vegetables, potatoes, and I was carrying was heavy and it was so [unclear] from city to this house, to my father, he...

[Tape one, side two ended]

Tape two, side one:

IK: Nadia Frey by Inge Karo on May 15, 2002. You were talking about when you were carrying potatoes to your . . .

NF: Yeah, yeah, but in the beginning when I was taking, it was, "I need water for people, seven people, to washing with the hands and face." To my, the woman was sitting always in the window and were watching what was going, and she asked me, "Why you using so much water? You just the two of you and so much water you taking." It was again hard for me, it was, I had to put under the wood, stick, wood stick, water and enough of them and she didn't even have this kind because it was out of the city.

IK: You didn't have, you didn't have running water in the house?

NF: No, no.

IK: Did you have electricity?

NF: No, they did not.

IK: No.

NF: And just in the city, and who was living in the city, it was out a little bit.

IK: Yes, that's fine.

NF: And I say to the Dolek, so he say to stop – we're going to once a day so every day somebody else is going to be washed and . . .

IK: So in other words the people you were hiding, not everybody got washed every day?

NF: Every day, just...

IK: [unclear]

NF: Just hands and face but...

IK: Yes, and since...

NF: But to wash, to, one a day, one person a day.

IK: To wash their body?

NF: Yeah.

IK: Right. And were you afraid that this woman who wanted to know why you needed so much water, were you afraid she would turn you into the Germans?

NF: Oh, sure she would. She would.

IK: But she didn't do it.

NF: No, because she didn't know.

IK: She believed, she believed the excuse you made up?

NF: I had cat in the house and they was keeping in their room and one day I come home. I was just looking, I have my door alright, so nobody went in and she started. She say, "Why you keeping this cat in the house?" I had today some glass he broke. And when I come and Dolek say Bronka was washing glass.

IK: She was washing what?

NF: Glass.

IK: She was washing glass?

NF: Yeah, drinking glass.

IK: Drinking glass, yes.

NF: And fell – was broken - and she come, this woman, to the window and was looking. I was laying on the floor quiet and she -- but I put very heavy in that...

IK: Drapes?

NF: Drapes, yes, and she couldn't see it -- nothing and she told me, "Why you keeping this cat?" Now my daddy took, went to next the village and paid peasants money to borrow the carriage and horse and he would help brought me, how you call potatoes in it?

IK: In a big wooden basket or something?

NF: No, in a, making in a big sacks or how you call it?

IK: Sacks?

NF: Sacks, yeah.

IK: In other words, he rented the horse and carriage so you wouldn't have to carry the food?

NF: Yeah, and potatoes plentiful and some carrots, you know, a vegetable to make a soup, and later he did again brought me wood too because, in the wintertime.

IK: Your father brought you wood?

NF: Wood, yes, to cook and wintertime it was very cold and was damp, how you say? It was water in evening, nighttime it was water in the wintertime.

IK: Ice?

NF: Water was dropping.

IK: Water was dripping.

NF: Yeah, dripping from the ceiling. It was very unhealthy but, you know...

IK: Now we didn't really establish this. About for how long a period of time, how many months was it that you were hiding people, was it months, was it years?

NF: It was...

IK: I realize it was off and on, but was it for a year and a half?

NF: A year and a half.

IK: Off and on but it was for a year and a half?

NF: Yes, all the time, then this, in this house.

IK: And do you know the dates when you started and when you stopped?

NF: It was, I think, when they liquidate ghetto, my husband come in the evening and in the morning Jews was disappeared from Sambor, was killed.

IK: But you started hiding him before then, you said each time there was an *Aktion* you started hiding him.

NF: This was for five, for weeks after -- they needed Jews. They say they needed . . .

IK: And once they, once they, after they liquidated the ghetto about how long do you think they stayed with you?

NF: A year and a half.

IK: A year and a half. Well that's important. I should have asked you. A year and a half.

NF: Year and a half.

IK: A year and a half.

NF: Poor grandpa, he was in the morning get up to go to, because he was already weak. He was falling himself because he couldn't move.

IK: Oh, he was falling because he was all cramped, he couldn't stand.

NF: Yeah, he was always sitting.

IK: When you say grandpa that was your father's family?

NF: His father-in-law, my father-in-law.

NF: Yeah, and he was with us until his death, and...

IK: Because he didn't, because he didn't have room enough, his legs got cramped and he fell down.

NF: Yes, they did, they took, they make hiding, they took floor, you know. They...

IK: They made a hole under the floor.

NF: Yes, under the floor.

IK: And was that in your house?

NF: No, it was this woman. I rent. It was -- there were no more Jews in Sambor, they were hiding.

IK: But where, when you're telling me that somebody was hiding under the floor, were those the people you were hiding or somebody...?

NF: No, when they come from the ghetto...

IK: Yeah.

NF: They were liquidation. They were staying a year a half, but in the beginning they want to make -- somebody would come and say, "Open the door," because they was in and covered with boards.

IK: I know but was, were those, was that your husband and his family that you were hiding, that was...?

NF: Yes.

IK: That was under the floor?

NF: Yes, they was.

IK: That was in the house that you had far away?

NF: Yes, yes and they was doing that way with a spoon they was digging dirt and put in the...

IK: They couldn't put it outside so people would notice.

NF: No, they take to the kitchen and to the basement and they put everything and make seat. Everybody could sit but just five minutes and later they have to pick up this...

IK: Floor?

NF: Yeah, and to take fresh air and...

IK: Oh, because otherwise [unclear]...

NF: Yeah if somebody come to me [unclear] . . .

IK: About how many people were in this hole?

NF: It was father, mother, his brother, brother wife and broth--wife sister and child -- seven people, no, or six I cannot count -- two, four, five, six, seven.

IK: And did they have to stay there for a long time or just for short periods of time when they were afraid somebody was coming?

NF: Yeah, just for short time, sometimes once a week, sometimes two and then...

IK: And did you say there were children there too?

NF: No, they was 13 years old, my husband's niece. She was 13.

IK: And how did she manage? Did she, didn't she get bored and restless?

NF: I don't know. It was very hard.

IK: I mean people must have started to, you know, get on each other's nerves. It must have been very difficult.

NF: [unclear]

IK: And how did you...?

NF: And they was talking shhhh-shhh all the time.

IK: Was there any--during this long period of time -- were there any religious things happening or...?

NF: No.

IK: Did you go to church?

NF: No, no I was not going. When I finished the school I stopped going to church.

IK: But you were still, during this time you were still working?

NF: Yeah, yeah I was working and...

IK: And when you were working these people were in your house alone?

NF: Yes, and I locked them...

IK: They had to be locked in?

NF: Oh yes.

IK: And nobody could see them?

NF: Yes, but sometimes Dolek told me Bronka because I didn't have no more bread and they were hungry, and she knows I have bread on the table and cover with, you know, how you say?

IK: A bread box?

NF: No, it was with a
IK: With a napkin?
NF: Yes, and she was going quiet, like mouse, like, and took bread.
IK: Bronka was one of the people you were hiding?
NF: Yeah, yeah, Bronka -- she was his brother wife sister. She was not married and they want Dolek to marry her. They was not satisfied that he was marry me.
IK: And how did you manage to, you had to buy all this extra food. Did you have enough money for all this, for buying food for so many people?
NF: But sometimes I have cards, I bought for myself so I give them, but I was always trying to...
IK: Didn't you have, did you have...?
NF: They came without money. They had...
IK: But you also, you were not rich. How did you have enough money to buy food for so many people and did you need ration cards, was food rationed during that time?
NF: What do you mean?
IK: That you could only buy, you know, like maybe a pound of butter a month and, and...
NF: Yes, yes, they sell them. They just bread, a piece of bread and glass of milk.
IK: What did you, what kind of food did you have mostly? What kind of foods were you able to get? You mentioned potatoes.
NF: Potatoes, potatoes and vegetable soup, that's all. They cook when I come home from work.
IK: And did they stay, nobody got sick between being in the house or indoors all the time and not having good food?
NF: No, no, no, nobody was sick but the mother she get some bump here in head. It was like egg, big like egg.
IK: A big lump on her head?
NF: Yeah, they don't know what was this because you cannot have a doctor.
IK: Right, but all of them survived the time you were hiding them until the war was over.
NF: Yes, but no, she died. One month before Russian came, she passed away.
IK: And what did you do?
NF: They put...
IK: You couldn't - could you bury her?
NF: No, we put her - I had clean sheets and I give two sheets and they covered her in these sheets.
IK: They wrapped her in these sheets?

NF: And put her there where they were sitting. They was with her for one month and later when the Russians came they took her and buried in the cemetery.

IK: It looks to me like you really, you really became very fond of her.

NF: Yes, she was something, she was very nice. Father told me he was with us.

IK: He was what?

NF: With us, same as with Dolek. [unclear]

IK: Yeah, you mean after you came to the United States he was living with you?

NF: In Sambor, the same, and later when we left, he was there by himself and in Sambor. And later when they go to the Przemsł, they took him and he was sick and we was in Krakow, he was very sick. And brother said, "Come and take him," because his wife didn't like the parents, her husband's parents. And because they was not happy he was married her and maybe she cannot forget this and she was mean. When they came to, Dolek, went to Przemsł, and brought him to...

IK: His father?

NF: Yeah, to Krakow and we have, I had two rooms. And everybody who was coming from Sambor to Krakow, everybody, it was like hotel, come to us and there was for two week, three weeks basically. When they came, find the house to live, apartment. When his grandpa come, we give him a bath, a clean everything and he had bed, clean nice. When...

IK: So you were able to get a doctor for him?

NF: Oh yeah he had, and he had even in Krakow, he had his friend, he was a doctor and he went to see him. What I want to say? They came, he come to Krakow, Dolek's brother. I don't want you to put this in because...

IK: Oh. [tape shut off]

IK: Okay, now one thing I forgot to ask you earlier is, what was your maiden name?

NF: Tomaszek.

IK: Tomas--Could you spell that?

NF: T-O-M-A and how to say? S-Z-E-K, Tomaszek.

IK: That was your maiden name?

NF: Yeah.

IK: Okay. And what effect do you think this has had on you, what you went through and the wonderful things you did in hiding all these people and coming from the Ukraine to the United States - how do you feel about all that?

NF: I don't care about them, Ukrainians. Dolek say, ah ha, when they was hiding he say, "Pray, go and pray for our [unclear]"

IK: For what?

NF: To go to church and to pray to G-d to help them. I say I am not going to church. But I was going my, when I was past a Polish church and was closed, I went and on the steps I kneeled and I pray...

IK: Outside the church you prayed?

NF: Yeah, I pray. And I, it wasn't -- I believe in G-d.

IK: Was it difficult for you to become Jewish?

NF: No.

IK: After having been...?

NF: No, no, not at all. There's this woman who was doing when I was down in the water and she took my head.

IK: Baptize you -- Oh, oh, you mean when you, when you went to a *Mikvah*, you mean.

NF: Yes, yes, yes.

IK: You had an Orthodox...?

NF: And she was very mean because I didn't know I had...

IK: Nail polish?

NF: Nail polish and she had to take it off and she was Russian Jew and she was a very unpleasant woman.

IK: And where was this, in the, in Europe or in the United States?

NF: Yeah, here.

IK: Oh, in the United States.

NF: Yeah in Logan.

IK: Oh.

NF: I forgot this, this rabbi, he was very nice and he left, he went to Canada.

IK: Well, unless there's something else you want to add -- I know this has been a long interview. I don't want to wear you out.

NF: My parents, my mother come, she was sitting on the floor together with them talking, telling them what is news...

IK: While they were hiding or in the United States?

NF: No, in the United States.

IK: Oh, your mother came?

NF: No, no in Europe, in this hiding, where they was hiding. They was sitting on the floor, no chairs and she was sitting with them and talking, bring newspaper and what's going on?

IK: So you really, you really were helped and supported by your family?

NF: Yes.

IK: Which must have made it a little easier.

NF: Yes.

IK: But it was still dangerous.

NF: My sister told me, father sometimes nighttime he was crying. Why he was crying? Because he was afraid that somebody come with Dolek he's going to that...[unclear]

IK: Do you know of any other people in Sambor who did the same thing, or that you wouldn't have, they would have not let you know?

NF: Yeah, this one woman she told me she hide a doctor, young man, and she say to me, "I know that you had somebody because you always was carrying packages every day when you was coming home." She said, "I know," but she didn't know who. It was Polish woman.

IK: You didn't have any contact with any kind of underground or partisans or anybody like that, did you?

NF: No, no, no.

IK: Well was it difficult for you to go to work and concentrate on work when you knew you had all these people in your house?

NF: Many times I was afraid and I had to [unclear] it was true. I was afraid of them - that they would discover, but I was not afraid because I was ready what should happen to Dolek is going to happen to me. I'm going with him. I am now crying why I didn't go with him now. I even didn't lay in his bed when he died because he died in a hospital. He was calling "Nadia," they told me. He was calling my name. It was five in the morning and this evening, when [unclear] would come to pick me up nine o'clock because I was in the hospital every day from nine in the morning, sometimes eight- thirty. I went to, it was in Jeanes Hospital. They was keeping me till night, let me stay. When he was short of breath, they didn't do nothing, he was crying.

IK: I turned the tape off for a few minutes because it was very painful for Nadia and now she would like to talk to her last days in Germany before she came to the United States. Now you were saying you were in a DP camp.

NF: Yes. In a DP camp.

IK: And people were infected with hepatitis?

NF: No, not in the camp. When we had to go to United States we was in München and from München we went to Port [unclear] before we went to ship on to America.

IK: Was that to, for immunization?

NF: Pardon me?

IK: Was that for a lack of being vaccinated?

NF: Yes, yes, and I was sick all the time when we was coming to America. I couldn't eat and was starved that we [unclear] to go to America, the wind was so strong - was pushing...

IK: On the plane?

NF: No, not plane, it was...

IK: Oh, you came by ship?

NF: Ship, yeah. And [unclear] was going back to England. We was about two weeks on ship-- yeah, but I'm most alright.

IK: Well anyhow I real--as I said earlier-- I know this was upsetting to you and I appreciate your talking to us, and you know your interview is really important because you give a whole, a whole other dimension because not too many people can talk about the things that you could talk about and did the things that you've done. So we're really very grateful that you were, that you allowed us to interview you.

NF: What they went through very much because a year and a half to live in one room, small room and from time to time to go under the floor.

IK: They could never go outside.

NF: No.

IK: They just come out of the hole and be in the house?

NF: No, sometimes it was quiet. I wait, I open the window. Once a day, everybody was coming to take this fresh air, and they had a big bucket and seven people go in this.

IK: Yes, yes.

NF: And I don't.

IK: And you had to empty the bucket out?

NF: Yes, and I was afraid because it was in the house, nobody see. I have to go out around and there was you know I have to...

IK: Go around.

NF: I didn't go in but I go behind and outside. I throw this. It was heavy to come to [unclear]. Yeah, they went through too, and [long pause].

IK: Well, I think you, if you, if you know, if you would think of anything else, I think you had about all you can take today. If you think about anything else I can always come back, but I think you've done enough for today.

NF: Yes.

IK: Thank you again.

[Tape two, side one ended; interview ended.]