

BRENDA SANDERS Summary

Brenda Sanders discusses her childhood in Sarnee, Poland (now the Ukraine) where her family had lived for more than 800 years; her father Samuel Schier and mother Leah Bourka; her one surviving family member, her sister Simma; her escape with her sister from a work camp outside Sarnee; her joining of a partisan group led by Shimone Picov; how this group joined a larger partisan group consisting of many communists and escaped POWs and was led by MGen Naomoff; her many post-war years in DP camps in Austria (where she was married) and in Italy, at the DP camp Hadriatica in Milan; her arrival in Washington, D.C. in 1951; her many speaking engagements in which she described her experiences with the partisans; her inclusion as a guest speaker at the open ceremonies of United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; her sympathies with the feminist movement, ERA, the civil rights movement, and Israel's struggles; and her personal motto for survival: "Be brave in any situation."