

## From the Testimony of Wilfred Ofstein about Escaping from a Death March, 1945

Now that was why, with two other friends, we decided to escape. We had prepared the route out of the factory and out of our living accommodation. We prepared it by taking up floorboards and cutting some wires so that we could get out and making that some windows opened down in the factory because we were locked in. And what happened...have you heard the fact that at the end of the war - February 1945 - it was still very cold. The Germans started moving the prisoner-of-war camps in the east. They moved them, tried to move them west away from the Russians, toward the Americans. It was called "The Death March."

Q: Since December, January.

A: That's right. It was called "The Death March" and a lot of people died on that march. We decided we didn't want to die on that march.

Q: You heard about this march?

A: Yes, we knew about it. We knew about it. No, no, we didn't see them. They were still beyond us, still further east from us, but we heard about it. And we didn't want to be on that death march.

**Source: Yad Vashem Archives 0.3-8111**