

## From the Testimony of Zelda Moyal about Hiding in the Vilna Ghetto

And one day they made us, they made to cancel the ghetto. It was three, what I would say, like three camps, but that was not in ghetto - that was in another place. The camps was calling one "Hakapay" and it was Kailis One and Kailis Two. And when they cancelled the ghetto then all the Jews...they took some Jews to work and some they took to camps and most of them they took to Ponar to kill them. My father was thinking maybe the war will finish right away. Then we was hiding in a bunker, like two weeks we was there and other people was doing the same thing in other bunkers. In our bunker was maybe like sixty or sixty-five people and it was a bunker, but really is hard to imagine how to do it - this is, like, underground. And in ghetto, when they cancelled the ghetto they closed the water, too, but in this place where we was hiding it was over there water because this was connected from out the ghetto, not in ghetto. What was connecting in ghetto they closed the water. No water. We was there two weeks.

Q: In this place? So many people?

A: So many people.

Q: How did you manage?

A: No toilet. Everything it was smelling and we was going, you know, dressed up - I was wearing, like, three dresses and a heavy coat because we was ready every second they will come and they will take us. Then, you know, a mother, they put on - I was then twelve years old - she put on on me clothes and the sister the same thing, but in the two weeks when we was there we didn't have what to eat. At night it was over there a few men, what also with the families - they went out at night to look in ghetto, maybe they can find something to eat and to bring it down in where we was hiding. Then my father and my sister went out at night and more a few people and we was...the women was going out at night just a little bit to catch air because we didn't have air. And one day, this was one night, we heard, like, heavy steps and

this was a few Germans and a few Lithuanians used to come and to look, maybe they can find - not to look for people - used to look, maybe they can find gold or something, valuable things. And we didn't hear when they came in the "findauss" (not clear) we was just a few women and there was a few kids, but not the small one - like me, twelve years old. And right way we run back in this hiding place and they went after us. Mine mother - she was a very smart woman - she was having, I think, I don't know what it is, five dollars gold or ten dollars gold - I, this time I didn't know. And she pushed them in the hand and she said: "Let us stay here." Then they took away everybody, but a few families, like three, four families, we was, everybody was doing the same thing what my mother was doing, to give them money. And they didn't know about my father, they didn't know about my sister because they went to look for things for food and in the meantime, they heard, like, somebody was shooting, but this was shooting in the air. The people not to run away - this was in the middle of the night, you know, the people what they caught. My mother was, like, hysterical. She start to cry and I was scared for the eyes went out - I never saw her this way.

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