



## SULAMIT WILENKIN-MAJZEL

On 15 January 1947 in Łódź, an investigative judge of the Third Region of the District Court in Łódź, Judge S. Krzyżanowska, heard the person named below as a witness. Having been advised of the criminal liability for making false statements and of the wording of Article 107 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the witness testified as follows:

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Name and surname	Sulamit Wilenkin-Majzel
Wiek	38
Parents' names	Maks and Gitla
Place of residence	Łódź, Nawrot Street 28/3
Occupation	doctor
Religious affiliation	Jewish
Criminal record	none

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I stayed in Auschwitz from January 1943 to August 1944, when I was sent to Merzdorf. At the camp, I first worked in a road works column, and then I was moved to work as a doctor at a *rewir* [hospital]. Initially, I was at the Jewish *rewir*. Dirt, a lack of medicines, inappropriate diets and the fact that the patients with infectious diseases and those with internal diseases were kept together all significantly contributed to the fast development of every sickness.

Lethal injections were not used at the Jewish *rewir*. However, selections for gassing often took place instead. A German doctor would either make the selection himself or order a block elder to bring a certain number of people to be gassed. The German doctor didn't hide the fact that the sick were destined for the crematorium. Besides, there were no cars back then, so the selected sick women were taken by the functional prisoners to block 25,



the so-called death block. The female prisoners would wait there until a sufficient number of victims were gathered, as the crematorium furnaces were not fired for a smaller batch.

After one of such selections at the Jewish *rewir*, I found myself in block 25. I stayed there for three days. We were given almost nothing to eat. Cars came on the third day and several hundred women were loaded onto them and taken to the crematorium. By mere chance, I was withdrawn from the group by a German doctor. I was the only one who survived from that group. The doctor was asking me about my occupation. It was after this miracle rescue that I was sent to the Jewish *rewir*.

Because I fell ill, I was moved to the Aryan *rewir* after some time. The conditions there were the same as at the Jewish *rewir*, but there were no selections. Similarly, I did not see or hear about lethal injections being given at that time, that is, in 1943. I heard from fellow female prisoners that phenol injections used to be given. They had been used until Dr. Rode [Rohde] arrived at the *rewir*. I, at least, did not see any such injections.

From the period of my stay at the Jewish *rewir*, I remember a group of 80 sick, elderly Aryan women, who were apparently placed in the Jewish *rewir* to die. They were given no blankets. They would lie on the bare floor in their shirts, just as they were brought in. They all died soon. I say this to prove that Aryans were usually not gassed. That fate was reserved for Jews, while Aryans were simply killed by the conditions at the camp.

Maria Mandel [Mandl] was a *Lagerführerin* [female camp leader] of the women's camp in Birkenau. She was cruel; despite her high rank, she would beat the prisoners herself. I only saw her a few times, always with a whip. I saw her smite the eye of a prisoner passing in a line.

I don't know the names of Erna Boden or Joanna Lengenfeld. I don't recognize anybody from the photographs of men in German uniforms shown to me by the Investigative Judge. I include the information, however, that the Aryan *rewir* was a little better. The blocks were heated, we were given a certain number of blankets, and so forth. But the dirt was the same, there was not enough medicine, the food was insufficient and inappropriate.

The report was read out.