

Nachman Elecwajg With His Brother Dawid And His Family



On this photo, you can see me standing, first from right. It was taken in Kishinev, where I was visiting my brother Dawid, and his family. In the middle you can see my brother's wife and first from left stands my brother. In the bottom row you can see Dawid's three sons, from left: Grisza, Fimka, Sjoma. My brother went to Moldova after the war, because his wife came from there. Later he emigrated with all his family to Israel, where he died four years ago. The situation in Miedzyrzec after the war was that there were only several dozen Jews there. There was a local Jewish committee, headed, in fact, by a guy I knew. But it came to nothing for me because he refused to help me in any way. When aid packages came from the US, clothing, I didn't get anything either. Because the committee passed a resolution not to accept any new arrivals because they didn't want Jews to settle there but to go to the ex-German territories instead. As a result, they only helped you if you wanted some document, a paper from the court or something like that, but they didn't allow you to stay. I didn't know what to do but I met a friend of mine whose brother worked in Zagorze Slaskie, here in Lower Silesia, and he said that brother of his would find us a job. I didn't hesitate for long, nothing kept me in Szczecin, I had left nothing in the apartment there so, just like that, with the keys to the Szczecin apartment still in my pocket, I pulled myself together and went to Zagorze. And that's how I found myself in Lower Silesia. In Zagorze I worked as a tailor at the former Zimmerman's plant. But that lasted for only three weeks because me and some colleagues set up a cooperative. I even sat on its board because I was young and the older guys didn't want to. The cooperative was called Zgoda and had some thirty employees, all tailors. Some time later a course for technical managers was organized in Wroclaw and they sent me to attend it. When I had completed it and secured the right papers, some acquaintances of mine fixed a job for me in Wroclaw, at another cooperative, on Nowowiejska Street. Then I worked at several other tailor cooperatives, first as a technical manager, then as a quality surveyor.