We’re now back to Auschwitz. You were there a month, yes?
A: A month.
Q: And what happened there during this month?
A: Well, actually, the food was horrible. Bitter, grass, whatever, and there was some medication in the (?) because all the girls, everybody, stopped menstruating.
Q: So there was bitter something in it.
A: But I said to my sister, “We must eat it, otherwise how are we going to survive?” I said, “My parents are going to go home and we shouldn’t?” So every day selections, Mengele selected us. They took us...there was one instant....They said we’re going to take a shower, to the baths. And the bath was near the gas chamber. And many times they took groups and they never came back. We figured they took them to work, whatever. We didn’t, we didn’t think that it’s the end of them. So once our group, we had to completely undress, leave, that one dress we had on, leave it in a pile and standing outside, naked, waiting to get into the showers. Standing hours, hours. Evening came, dark night. We’re still standing there and then they said there’s an empty barrack, big, tremendous building with nothing in it, just the walls, and they herded us into it, naked, the way we were, for the night. It was August and the nights were so cold - Auschwitz was mountainous around - and the nights were so cold and we were standing there naked all night and the next day. Nothing, nothing happens, no shower. But the showers actually were with gas, it was with gas and they gave gas - that’s how they killed the people before they got into the gas chamber. But they didn’t do anything. We were standing there at least twenty-four hours or more.
Q: You thought you are going to be gassed?
A: To take a shower, they said, and we believed it, but everybody said that, I mean the Polish people who were working around there, they said that that’s the gas chamber and whatever. And then after twenty-four hours they let us out, without food, without a drop of water or anything, and then they started to
talk about, there were rumours that we were waiting near the gas chamber and the gas chamber broke down. And that’s why they sent us back to the barracks. We were waiting, they couldn’t fix it, it broke down. I didn’t believe it.

Q: This you will never know actually.

A: Wait a minute. What happened, last year it was Yom HaShoah and the woman was on the television talking, on the radio - radio or television I don’t even know because I don’t remember her face. She said she was working, she was in Auschwitz and she was working outside of the camps, in the city of Auschwitz in an ammunition factory. And once she smuggled in ammunition and she gave it to the guys who were working in the gas chamber and they blew up the gas chamber and she said it was the middle of August. So that’s...I just couldn’t believe it that it was really true.

Q: But you know that many times there were rumours that it was the gas that time.

A: Yes, rumours - we let it go. But last year, Yom HaShoah, when this woman was talking that she smuggled in ammunition and gave it to the guys who were working there and they blew it up and the gas chamber wasn’t working for days until they fixed it, until then, till last year I didn’t believe it.

Q: And now you believe.

A: Well, there is no two ways about it.

Q: But still, I mean if, they would not send there if it did not work at all, would they?

A: No, but it blew up while we were waiting outside.

Q: And you did not hear that it was blowing up?

A: We heard, but there was always noise and smoke and....we just...You know, till the last minute we never believed, but after the liberation even, I didn’t want to believe that the gas chamber took so many people.

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