

Anna Danon With The Sports Group Of The Ilya Erenburg Cultural Organization



This is the sports group of the Ilya Erenburg cultural organization. I am fifth from left. I had made my arm bolder, because it was too thin in the picture. We used to take part in sports competitions at the Lunak stadium. The photo was taken in Sofia around 1946/47. The Ilya Erenburg organization was founded within the Jewish community after the end of WWII. It was not a school initiative - there were many people there who hadn't graduated high school. The organization had a choir, a theatre, a ballet ensemble and other groups. We traveled a lot in the country [with the choir] and had many performances. There was a ballet ensemble, too. We were very enthusiastic about it and took part in a number of events. I don't remember any particular town, as we used to travel a lot. We were a very lively and energetic group of young people. We had those uniforms with white shirts and skirts, and stars - these were not Jewish stars, but pentacles. At that time we didn't have any nationalist or Zionist sentiments. It was all about Bulgaria.