

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,590

2

00:00:02,590 --> 00:00:05,190

(film slating)

3

00:00:05,190 --> 00:00:08,760

4

00:00:08,760 --> 00:00:15,960

So now, in this nightmarish
two meetings I had with them--

5

00:00:15,960 --> 00:00:19,920

nightmarish meetings--
well, then they

6

00:00:19,920 --> 00:00:24,970

presented their demands,
several demands.

7

00:00:24,970 --> 00:00:28,860

Did they show some
hope in the fulfillment

8

00:00:28,860 --> 00:00:30,940

of these demands or not?

9

00:00:30,940 --> 00:00:31,440

Yes.

10

00:00:31,440 --> 00:00:34,140

Some of them, yes.

11

00:00:34,140 --> 00:00:36,730

It must be done.

12

00:00:36,730 --> 00:00:42,360

For instance, Polish
authorities on certain subjects

13

00:00:42,360 --> 00:00:46,710

so far have failed
to do their duties.

14

00:00:46,710 --> 00:00:49,170

So they were hopeful.

15

00:00:49,170 --> 00:00:52,410

You may help us.

16

00:00:52,410 --> 00:00:54,540

Certain things must be done.

17

00:00:54,540 --> 00:00:57,450

Certain demands, no.

18

00:00:57,450 --> 00:00:58,933

They didn't believe themselves.

19

00:00:58,933 --> 00:01:00,600

They didn't believe
what they asked for.

20

00:01:00,600 --> 00:01:01,100

No.

21

00:01:01,100 --> 00:01:03,400

Yeah.

22

00:01:03,400 --> 00:01:09,130

So now, do you want me
to deal with this problem

23

00:01:09,130 --> 00:01:11,250

of their demands?

24

00:01:11,250 --> 00:01:14,790

What did they want?

25

00:01:14,790 --> 00:01:15,720

So what?

26
00:01:15,720 --> 00:01:19,770
The President of the
Polish Republic, I covered.

27
00:01:19,770 --> 00:01:23,670
Intervention with the pope.

28
00:01:23,670 --> 00:01:31,530
Next, to the allied
governments only.

29
00:01:31,530 --> 00:01:35,460
And, in this way, I was
supposed to do my utmost

30
00:01:35,460 --> 00:01:37,440
to see whomever.

31
00:01:37,440 --> 00:01:43,920
My cleverness, my
shrewdness, my perseverance

32
00:01:43,920 --> 00:01:46,320
would allow me to reach them.

33
00:01:46,320 --> 00:01:48,940

34
00:01:48,940 --> 00:01:53,650
Only officials,
government officials.

35
00:01:53,650 --> 00:01:58,600
Polish government--
not very important.

36
00:01:58,600 --> 00:02:01,240
You will have to talk
to the prime minister,

37
00:02:01,240 --> 00:02:04,850

to the Minister of Interior,
to the Council of Ministers.

38
00:02:04,850 --> 00:02:09,430
Officially present
to them our demands.

39
00:02:09,430 --> 00:02:12,010
What is more important?

40
00:02:12,010 --> 00:02:13,540
Allied leaders.

41
00:02:13,540 --> 00:02:14,440
Allied.

42
00:02:14,440 --> 00:02:14,950
Yeah.

43
00:02:14,950 --> 00:02:17,500
At that time I
didn't know-- they

44
00:02:17,500 --> 00:02:23,500
didn't know that I would
reach also America.

45
00:02:23,500 --> 00:02:25,900
I didn't expect it.

46
00:02:25,900 --> 00:02:29,890
So British government leaders--

47
00:02:29,890 --> 00:02:33,430

48
00:02:33,430 --> 00:02:39,680
the message was Jewish
situation is unprecedented.

49
00:02:39,680 --> 00:02:44,290
It never happened before

50
00:02:44,290 --> 00:02:50,500
Hitler cannot be allowed
to continue extermination.

51
00:02:50,500 --> 00:02:53,620
Consequently, every day counts.

52
00:02:53,620 --> 00:02:58,150
Thousands of Jews
are being murdered.

53
00:02:58,150 --> 00:03:04,600
The allies-- allied governments
cannot treat this war only from

54
00:03:04,600 --> 00:03:10,180
purely military
strategic standpoint.

55
00:03:10,180 --> 00:03:16,330
They will win the war if
they take such an attitude.

56
00:03:16,330 --> 00:03:21,220
But who or what good
will it do to us?

57
00:03:21,220 --> 00:03:25,570
Hitler will lose the
war against humanity.

58
00:03:25,570 --> 00:03:29,740
But he will win his
war against the Jews.

59
00:03:29,740 --> 00:03:34,150
The allied governments
cannot take such a stand.

60
00:03:34,150 --> 00:03:38,180

61

00:03:38,180 --> 00:03:40,520

We contributed to humanity.

62

00:03:40,520 --> 00:03:43,250

We gave scientists.

63

00:03:43,250 --> 00:03:49,070

For thousands of years we
originated great religions.

64

00:03:49,070 --> 00:03:51,350

We are humans.

65

00:03:51,350 --> 00:03:53,300

It's what they said?

66

00:03:53,300 --> 00:03:55,130

Yes.

67

00:03:55,130 --> 00:04:00,200

The Allies cannot disregard
the uniqueness of our problem.

68

00:04:00,200 --> 00:04:05,920

69

00:04:05,920 --> 00:04:08,270

(film slating)

70

00:04:08,270 --> 00:04:08,770

71

00:04:08,770 --> 00:04:14,050

Well, they said that
Hitler will lose the war,

72

00:04:14,050 --> 00:04:17,110

but that he will win his
war against the Jews?

73

00:04:17,110 --> 00:04:21,390

What good to the Jews will
come out of his victory?

74
00:04:21,390 --> 00:04:28,720
At times they were almost
hateful towards me.

75
00:04:28,720 --> 00:04:31,210
They were whispering
almost with hatred,

76
00:04:31,210 --> 00:04:32,800
you Poles, you will survive.

77
00:04:32,800 --> 00:04:33,910
You will win this war.

78
00:04:33,910 --> 00:04:36,790
You will rebuild your country.

79
00:04:36,790 --> 00:04:37,690
You will live.

80
00:04:37,690 --> 00:04:43,790
You will make sacrifices, but
you will survive as a nation.

81
00:04:43,790 --> 00:04:45,700
But we are perishing.

82
00:04:45,700 --> 00:04:47,020
Do you understand?

83
00:04:47,020 --> 00:04:51,790
We will not survive this war.

84
00:04:51,790 --> 00:04:58,240
Then we understand we have
no country of our own.

85
00:04:58,240 --> 00:05:00,490
We have no government.

86
00:05:00,490 --> 00:05:03,745
We have no voice in
the allied councils.

87
00:05:03,745 --> 00:05:06,590

88
00:05:06,590 --> 00:05:11,780
So we have to use services,
little people like you are.

89
00:05:11,780 --> 00:05:15,020
So we are trying our best.

90
00:05:15,020 --> 00:05:15,950
Will you do it?

91
00:05:15,950 --> 00:05:18,680
Will you approach them?

92
00:05:18,680 --> 00:05:21,710
Because, so far,
nothing happens.

93
00:05:21,710 --> 00:05:23,960
The allied will
listen to the radio.

94
00:05:23,960 --> 00:05:28,130
They are making-- winning
the war, victorious.

95
00:05:28,130 --> 00:05:30,350
But we are perishing.

96
00:05:30,350 --> 00:05:33,180
Nobody is helping us here.

97
00:05:33,180 --> 00:05:38,660
So what is good to us
out of all of this?

98

00:05:38,660 --> 00:05:42,200

Will you fulfill your mission?

99

00:05:42,200 --> 00:05:44,750

Whatever you can do--
you are a little man.

100

00:05:44,750 --> 00:05:48,800

Perhaps you will be able
to contribute something

101

00:05:48,800 --> 00:05:49,535

to this problem.

102

00:05:49,535 --> 00:06:00,370

103

00:06:00,370 --> 00:06:01,900

Approach the allied leaders.

104

00:06:01,900 --> 00:06:06,450

105

00:06:06,450 --> 00:06:16,200

We want an official declaration
of the Allied Nations

106

00:06:16,200 --> 00:06:22,620

that in addition to
their military strategy,

107

00:06:22,620 --> 00:06:26,340

which aims at securing victory--

108

00:06:26,340 --> 00:06:30,330

military victory in this war--

109

00:06:30,330 --> 00:06:37,260

extermination of the Jews
forms a separate chapter.

110

00:06:37,260 --> 00:06:44,280

And the Allied Nations
formally publicly announce

111

00:06:44,280 --> 00:06:48,030

that they will deal
with this problem,

112

00:06:48,030 --> 00:06:56,610

that it becomes a part of their
overall strategy in this war.

113

00:06:56,610 --> 00:07:02,790

Not only defeat of Germany,
but also saving the remaining

114

00:07:02,790 --> 00:07:04,110

Jewish population.

115

00:07:04,110 --> 00:07:06,930

116

00:07:06,930 --> 00:07:11,850

Once they make such an
official declaration

117

00:07:11,850 --> 00:07:14,580

they have Air Force.

118

00:07:14,580 --> 00:07:18,030

They drop the bombs on Germany.

119

00:07:18,030 --> 00:07:24,430

Why cannot they drop millions
of leaflets on the German

120

00:07:24,430 --> 00:07:31,120

population, informing the
German population exactly what

121

00:07:31,120 --> 00:07:34,330

their government is

doing to the Jews?

122

00:07:34,330 --> 00:07:35,830

Perhaps they don't know it.

123

00:07:35,830 --> 00:07:38,380

124

00:07:38,380 --> 00:07:39,610

But they have data.

125

00:07:39,610 --> 00:07:42,340

They have statistics.

126

00:07:42,340 --> 00:07:47,380

Through radio, other means, we
give the name of the officials,

127

00:07:47,380 --> 00:07:49,270

German officials.

128

00:07:49,270 --> 00:07:51,850

We offer statistics.

129

00:07:51,850 --> 00:07:54,380

The data is available.

130

00:07:54,380 --> 00:07:59,830

Let them inform the
German people officially

131

00:07:59,830 --> 00:08:07,750

as the governments, this is what
the German government is doing.

132

00:08:07,750 --> 00:08:15,400

Let them officially, publicly
inform the German people.

133

00:08:15,400 --> 00:08:19,930

We, the allies, ally
the governments.

134
00:08:19,930 --> 00:08:27,920
We expect that the German
people will exercise pressure,

135
00:08:27,920 --> 00:08:35,049
whatever pressure you can
exercise on your own government

136
00:08:35,049 --> 00:08:39,260
that they stop it,
whatever harm they did.

137
00:08:39,260 --> 00:08:41,919
Every day counts.

138
00:08:41,919 --> 00:08:43,030
They must do it now.

139
00:08:43,030 --> 00:08:45,998
They had an extraordinary
feeling of urgency,

140
00:08:45,998 --> 00:08:46,540
of emergency.

141
00:08:46,540 --> 00:08:47,380
Yes, naturally.

142
00:08:47,380 --> 00:08:50,530
Day after day
extermination continued.

143
00:08:50,530 --> 00:08:55,020
This was only August 1942.

144
00:08:55,020 --> 00:08:56,040
Next.

145
00:08:56,040 --> 00:08:57,990
And it's Berman, who
said, I think that--

146
00:08:57,990 --> 00:09:02,520
He was more-- yes,
I think Zionist.

147
00:09:02,520 --> 00:09:03,251
Yes, Zionist.

148
00:09:03,251 --> 00:09:04,690
And the Germans understood?

149
00:09:04,690 --> 00:09:05,190
Yes

150
00:09:05,190 --> 00:09:06,023
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

151
00:09:06,023 --> 00:09:13,530
But the most outspoken was the
Bund leader, apparently Feiner.

152
00:09:13,530 --> 00:09:18,420
Then our situation is unique.

153
00:09:18,420 --> 00:09:24,750
We understand that
many people may also

154
00:09:24,750 --> 00:09:27,450
feel helpless, what to do.

155
00:09:27,450 --> 00:09:31,710
So we present
their demands also,

156
00:09:31,710 --> 00:09:36,040
which we know ourselves
probably they cannot do.

157
00:09:36,040 --> 00:09:39,030
But we have to
present those demands,

158

00:09:39,030 --> 00:09:44,190
they were like mad, both of
them, at a certain point they

159

00:09:44,190 --> 00:09:47,710
were grabbing my-- do you
understand, do you understand?

160

00:09:47,710 --> 00:09:52,200

161

00:09:52,200 --> 00:10:01,190
Let them announce that
German war prisoners, having

162

00:10:01,190 --> 00:10:06,140
been informed what
happens to the Jews,

163

00:10:06,140 --> 00:10:12,740
still profess allegiance
to their government.

164

00:10:12,740 --> 00:10:16,040
Let them be held
responsible for this--

165

00:10:16,040 --> 00:10:19,140
for those crimes.

166

00:10:19,140 --> 00:10:21,450
And there are many
German nationals

167

00:10:21,450 --> 00:10:25,190
in the Allied countries.

168

00:10:25,190 --> 00:10:29,150
Those Germans, and
we understand they

169

00:10:29,150 --> 00:10:35,690
are allowed to do it, who
profess allegiance to Germany

170
00:10:35,690 --> 00:10:42,410
still, having been
informed of what happens,

171
00:10:42,410 --> 00:10:47,600
let the Allies hold
them responsible for it.

172
00:10:47,600 --> 00:10:50,600
We understand that perhaps
they will not do it.

173
00:10:50,600 --> 00:10:54,830
We have to advance
these demands.

174
00:10:54,830 --> 00:10:57,560
Young man, do you understand,
do you understand?

175
00:10:57,560 --> 00:11:01,790
We have to do it,
to show to them.

176
00:11:01,790 --> 00:11:04,130
It never happened
before in history what

177
00:11:04,130 --> 00:11:07,790
is happening to our people now.

178
00:11:07,790 --> 00:11:11,990
Perhaps it will shake the
conscience of the world.

179
00:11:11,990 --> 00:11:21,470
This you will give to the
government officials, whatever

180

00:11:21,470 --> 00:11:23,810
officials you will be able to.

181
00:11:23,810 --> 00:11:26,720
They asked even for--

182
00:11:26,720 --> 00:11:29,180
it's what you write in
your book-- for execution

183
00:11:29,180 --> 00:11:33,080
of these Germans, who were
in the hands of the Allies?

184
00:11:33,080 --> 00:11:37,430
If it is necessary,
for execution,

185
00:11:37,430 --> 00:11:40,580
holding them responsible.

186
00:11:40,580 --> 00:11:42,460
I heard that you
protested against this.

187
00:11:42,460 --> 00:11:47,680

188
00:11:47,680 --> 00:11:51,190
At the time, I was
already an educated man.

189
00:11:51,190 --> 00:11:55,180
I studied the law,
part of my curriculum

190
00:11:55,180 --> 00:12:02,140
was international law, and this
is against international law.

191
00:12:02,140 --> 00:12:09,150
Do you realize, I would,
they will not do it.

192
00:12:09,150 --> 00:12:15,850
Say, yes, we know it,
we want you to say it,

193
00:12:15,850 --> 00:12:19,300
to show to them that
this is again and again,

194
00:12:19,300 --> 00:12:23,230
unique situation, that
unprecedented actions have

195
00:12:23,230 --> 00:12:25,540
to take place whatever.

196
00:12:25,540 --> 00:12:27,040
This is what is on my mind.

197
00:12:27,040 --> 00:12:31,000
Perhaps this will help,
perhaps it will help.

198
00:12:31,000 --> 00:12:32,650
Let them try whatever.

199
00:12:32,650 --> 00:12:37,930
The Allied governments, the
Allied Nations cannot disregard

200
00:12:37,930 --> 00:12:40,180
the Jewish extermination.

201
00:12:40,180 --> 00:12:45,340
They cannot just look
for military victory,

202
00:12:45,340 --> 00:12:49,900
and then like mad walking in
the room, do you understand,

203
00:12:49,900 --> 00:12:52,090

do you understand, do
you understand this?

204
00:12:52,090 --> 00:12:55,470

205
00:12:55,470 --> 00:12:59,840
Yeah, I agree to it.

206
00:12:59,840 --> 00:13:03,590
So this was one mission.

207
00:13:03,590 --> 00:13:12,450
Next, by the way, there are
representatives, Polish Jews,

208
00:13:12,450 --> 00:13:19,540
they take part in your National
Council in your government.

209
00:13:19,540 --> 00:13:20,210
In London?

210
00:13:20,210 --> 00:13:22,990
In London.

211
00:13:22,990 --> 00:13:29,600
Probably they
cannot do too much,

212
00:13:29,600 --> 00:13:32,450
we don't doubt that they
are trying to do their best.

213
00:13:32,450 --> 00:13:36,230

214
00:13:36,230 --> 00:13:37,490
(film slating)

215
00:13:37,490 --> 00:13:43,060

216
00:13:43,060 --> 00:13:45,570
Yes.

217
00:13:45,570 --> 00:13:53,190
Then probably representatives
of the Polish Jews

218
00:13:53,190 --> 00:13:55,320
in the government
cannot do more.

219
00:13:55,320 --> 00:13:59,680

220
00:13:59,680 --> 00:14:04,090
But there are international
Jewish leaders,

221
00:14:04,090 --> 00:14:09,460
for centuries we hear that
they are so powerful, that they

222
00:14:09,460 --> 00:14:12,010
are so influential.

223
00:14:12,010 --> 00:14:16,660
In every country, in England,
in America, in France.

224
00:14:16,660 --> 00:14:17,650
What are they doing?

225
00:14:17,650 --> 00:14:21,050

226
00:14:21,050 --> 00:14:25,320
We want evidence, we
don't see evidence.

227
00:14:25,320 --> 00:14:26,340
They send us money.

228

00:14:26,340 --> 00:14:31,300

It is insufficient, by the way,
the amount of money we receive,

229

00:14:31,300 --> 00:14:35,100

it is totally insufficient.

230

00:14:35,100 --> 00:14:38,940

But we don't see any evidence,
what else do they do?

231

00:14:38,940 --> 00:14:43,210

So where is there an influence?

232

00:14:43,210 --> 00:14:49,350

Reach as many as possible,
tell them this, they cannot--

233

00:14:49,350 --> 00:14:52,000

they must (STUTTERING) do more--

234

00:14:52,000 --> 00:14:54,660

we don't know what they can do.

235

00:14:54,660 --> 00:15:00,960

But we want to see that
they are doing more for us.

236

00:15:00,960 --> 00:15:04,230

But, excuse me, what did
they request precisely

237

00:15:04,230 --> 00:15:11,250

from the Polish Jews who were in
the members of the government?

238

00:15:11,250 --> 00:15:12,890

There were also precise demands.

239

00:15:12,890 --> 00:15:15,930

240

00:15:15,930 --> 00:15:25,030

My message was-- apparently they
considered three individuals

241

00:15:25,030 --> 00:15:30,880

as, let's say, authoritative
representatives of the Polish

242

00:15:30,880 --> 00:15:37,360

Jews, Szmul Zygielbojm, member
of the National Council,

243

00:15:37,360 --> 00:15:43,930

Dr. Schwarzbart, member
of the National Council,

244

00:15:43,930 --> 00:15:51,820

Dr. Leon Grosfeld, who was
not a member of the Bund,

245

00:15:51,820 --> 00:15:57,730

he was a leader of the
Polish Socialist Party.

246

00:15:57,730 --> 00:16:01,630

They considered him,
he also as a Jew

247

00:16:01,630 --> 00:16:06,790

represents the Polish Jews.

248

00:16:06,790 --> 00:16:08,410

And he or--

249

00:16:08,410 --> 00:16:10,060

I reported to those three.

250

00:16:10,060 --> 00:16:13,870

As a matter of fact,
when I came to London

251

00:16:13,870 --> 00:16:18,310
and began reporting there
was another individual,

252
00:16:18,310 --> 00:16:22,000
his name was
Tartakower, by the way.

253
00:16:22,000 --> 00:16:24,470
He wanted to see me, I refused.

254
00:16:24,470 --> 00:16:27,850
I have no message
to you, if you want

255
00:16:27,850 --> 00:16:31,640
to know what I brought
to, ask Szmul Zygielbojm,

256
00:16:31,640 --> 00:16:34,000
ask Schwarzbart ask Grosfeld.

257
00:16:34,000 --> 00:16:36,130
I never saw Tartakower.

258
00:16:36,130 --> 00:16:39,160
I know he resented it.

259
00:16:39,160 --> 00:16:44,240
So now, as far as the
Polish Jews were concerned,

260
00:16:44,240 --> 00:16:50,710
this was the message to them,
and to the Prime Minister

261
00:16:50,710 --> 00:16:55,000
of the Polish government,
General Sikorski,

262
00:16:55,000 --> 00:17:00,340
and to the Minister of
Interior Wladyslaw Raczkievicz,

263
00:17:00,340 --> 00:17:01,630
the problem was such--

264
00:17:01,630 --> 00:17:05,890

265
00:17:05,890 --> 00:17:10,660
there are some Jews who
escaped from the ghetto.

266
00:17:10,660 --> 00:17:15,280
They live, some of them,
under false documents,

267
00:17:15,280 --> 00:17:21,280
they do not look Semitic
and they are living in

268
00:17:21,280 --> 00:17:23,950
among other Poles.

269
00:17:23,950 --> 00:17:27,250
Second there are
Jews who succeeded

270
00:17:27,250 --> 00:17:34,720
to escape from Poland, who are
in hiding, many of them living

271
00:17:34,720 --> 00:17:41,500
with Polish families in the
cities or in the countryside.

272
00:17:41,500 --> 00:17:43,850
Succeeded to escape
from the ghetto?

273
00:17:43,850 --> 00:17:46,600
From the ghetto, yes.

274
00:17:46,600 --> 00:17:57,340

Now, we know there are
Poles who blackmailed

275
00:17:57,340 --> 00:18:10,330
them, who murdered them, who
denounced them to Gestapo.

276
00:18:10,330 --> 00:18:14,600

277
00:18:14,600 --> 00:18:20,600
We are Polish citizens,
men, do you understand

278
00:18:20,600 --> 00:18:21,985
that, we are probably citizens.

279
00:18:21,985 --> 00:18:24,680

280
00:18:24,680 --> 00:18:28,280
There is an underground, you say
you are an underground state,

281
00:18:28,280 --> 00:18:33,250
you are the government, you must
take an action against them.

282
00:18:33,250 --> 00:18:37,120

283
00:18:37,120 --> 00:18:41,920
General Sikorski, as commander
in chief and as prime minister

284
00:18:41,920 --> 00:18:49,780
of Poland, must issue orders
that the underground movement

285
00:18:49,780 --> 00:18:56,170
in Poland will apply
punitive sanctions,

286

00:18:56,170 --> 00:19:02,620

executions included-- secret
executions, kill them--

287

00:19:02,620 --> 00:19:06,250

and then publish
the names of those

288

00:19:06,250 --> 00:19:09,700

whom you killed in
the underground press

289

00:19:09,700 --> 00:19:14,860

and give the nature
of their crimes--

290

00:19:14,860 --> 00:19:18,670

underground press was
very widely spread--

291

00:19:18,670 --> 00:19:23,620

then others will learn about
it-- this is a risky business.

292

00:19:23,620 --> 00:19:26,440

Such orders must be issued.

293

00:19:26,440 --> 00:19:29,950

It's a risky business
to blackmail the Jews

294

00:19:29,950 --> 00:19:31,900

and to denounce them?

295

00:19:31,900 --> 00:19:32,410

Yes.

296

00:19:32,410 --> 00:19:40,840

Yes, now, I remember when I
reported this to Zygielbojm,

297

00:19:40,840 --> 00:19:47,820

and it was at that point he was
already totally disintegrated.

298
00:19:47,820 --> 00:19:52,590
He burst out, such
orders will be issued,

299
00:19:52,590 --> 00:19:58,200
I will blow up Sikorski's
office if he does not

300
00:19:58,200 --> 00:20:00,780
issue this order.

301
00:20:00,780 --> 00:20:07,140
Beginning with
February or March 1943,

302
00:20:07,140 --> 00:20:11,910
I have photostatic copies,
executions were carried out,

303
00:20:11,910 --> 00:20:15,330
the names were published
in the underground press,

304
00:20:15,330 --> 00:20:18,630
the nature of the
crime was specified.

305
00:20:18,630 --> 00:20:23,040
And the commitment of the Civil
Commission, it was called,

306
00:20:23,040 --> 00:20:27,030
executions will
continue against those

307
00:20:27,030 --> 00:20:31,230
against whom we have evidence
that they committed one

308
00:20:31,230 --> 00:20:34,530

of those three crimes.

309

00:20:34,530 --> 00:20:37,800

This was to
Sikorsky, Mikołajczyk

310

00:20:37,800 --> 00:20:41,130

and the Polish leaders, Jews.

311

00:20:41,130 --> 00:20:45,060

But I was specifically
forbidden, by the way,

312

00:20:45,060 --> 00:20:49,120

in this respect not to
discuss this problem

313

00:20:49,120 --> 00:20:52,590

with any political
party leaders.

314

00:20:52,590 --> 00:20:58,020

They suspected some of them
might not like it apparently.

315

00:20:58,020 --> 00:21:00,630

Only to those individuals.

316

00:21:00,630 --> 00:21:06,480

Next I was
specifically forbidden

317

00:21:06,480 --> 00:21:11,900

to discuss the subject
with any non-Polish Jew.

318

00:21:11,900 --> 00:21:15,560

This means an English
Jew, American Jew?

319

00:21:15,560 --> 00:21:16,060

Yes.

320

00:21:16,060 --> 00:21:19,170

They were making
that point, this

321

00:21:19,170 --> 00:21:22,530

may feed anti-Polish
propaganda of anti-Semitism,

322

00:21:22,530 --> 00:21:26,100

we don't want that,
we want to survive,

323

00:21:26,100 --> 00:21:30,100

this is not a political matter.

324

00:21:30,100 --> 00:21:34,060

But they have something else
from Zygielbojm and the Polish

325

00:21:34,060 --> 00:21:35,980

Jews.

326

00:21:35,980 --> 00:21:39,140

What do you mean?

327

00:21:39,140 --> 00:21:45,905

To-- to enter in hunger strikes,
in front of the government

328

00:21:45,905 --> 00:21:46,680

and--

329

00:21:46,680 --> 00:21:49,040

Oh yes, oh yes.

330

00:21:49,040 --> 00:21:54,260

So this was another
part of the mission.

331

00:21:54,260 --> 00:21:56,410

I cut this mission--

332

00:21:56,410 --> 00:21:59,280

333

00:21:59,280 --> 00:22:01,500

Well?

334

00:22:01,500 --> 00:22:03,852

Then

335

00:22:03,852 --> 00:22:07,338

(TALKING UNDER HIS BREATH)

336

00:22:07,338 --> 00:22:12,330

337

00:22:12,330 --> 00:22:16,440

Yes, that was another problem.

338

00:22:16,440 --> 00:22:19,770

I didn't know it at
that time, I was not

339

00:22:19,770 --> 00:22:25,090

acquainted with the Jewish
problem or Jewish activities.

340

00:22:25,090 --> 00:22:32,490

Both of them, particularly
now the Zionist leader,

341

00:22:32,490 --> 00:22:38,050

he was again like
whispering, hissing to me,

342

00:22:38,050 --> 00:22:44,960

something is going to happen,
particularly young elements,

343

00:22:44,960 --> 00:22:45,810

they will fight.

344

00:22:45,810 --> 00:22:48,470

345

00:22:48,470 --> 00:22:53,390

They speak about
declaration of war

346

00:22:53,390 --> 00:23:03,210

against the Third Reich, unique
war in the world history,

347

00:23:03,210 --> 00:23:06,665

they say, they want
to die fighting.

348

00:23:06,665 --> 00:23:09,900

349

00:23:09,900 --> 00:23:11,700

By the way I didn't
know at the time,

350

00:23:11,700 --> 00:23:18,960

Irgun already was active
at that time, October.

351

00:23:18,960 --> 00:23:24,810

Only later I learned already
Jewish Military Organization

352

00:23:24,810 --> 00:23:25,680

emerged.

353

00:23:25,680 --> 00:23:28,590

I had no idea, they
didn't tell me about it,

354

00:23:28,590 --> 00:23:36,550

only that something is going
to happen, the Jews will fight.

355

00:23:36,550 --> 00:23:45,060

We approached the commander

of the Home Army--

356
00:23:45,060 --> 00:23:52,770
they need arms, those
arms that were denied.

357
00:23:52,770 --> 00:23:53,820
They were refused?

358
00:23:53,820 --> 00:23:56,138
Refused.

359
00:23:56,138 --> 00:24:04,480
Now, we know that when
they start fighting,

360
00:24:04,480 --> 00:24:08,110
we know how it will end.

361
00:24:08,110 --> 00:24:11,710
But they are Polish
citizens, they

362
00:24:11,710 --> 00:24:15,140
want to fight against the enemy.

363
00:24:15,140 --> 00:24:19,890
They cannot be denied
arms, if such items exist,

364
00:24:19,890 --> 00:24:23,670
and we know you have arms.

365
00:24:23,670 --> 00:24:30,660
This message to commander
in chief, General Sikorski

366
00:24:30,660 --> 00:24:38,065
to issue orders that those
arms will be given to the Jews.

367
00:24:38,065 --> 00:24:39,315

This means that they foresaw--

368
00:24:39,315 --> 00:24:42,250

369
00:24:42,250 --> 00:24:45,070
Apparently they knew, at
that time I didn't know.

370
00:24:45,070 --> 00:24:46,500
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

371
00:24:46,500 --> 00:24:48,400
Apparently but I--

372
00:24:48,400 --> 00:24:52,840

373
00:24:52,840 --> 00:24:54,850
(film slating)

374
00:24:54,850 --> 00:24:59,180

375
00:24:59,180 --> 00:25:03,530
Well, when they asked me to
carry the message complaining

376
00:25:03,530 --> 00:25:08,270
against the commander in
chief of the Home Army,

377
00:25:08,270 --> 00:25:15,320
I refused to carry the
message, unless they authorized

378
00:25:15,320 --> 00:25:20,270
me to seek an
appointment with him,

379
00:25:20,270 --> 00:25:25,400
to repeat to him what

message I am carrying.

380
00:25:25,400 --> 00:25:28,940
Excuse me, when they were
requesting for arms already

381
00:25:28,940 --> 00:25:33,260
at this time, this means that
they foresaw that there would

382
00:25:33,260 --> 00:25:36,530
be the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising?

383
00:25:36,530 --> 00:25:38,090
Apparently.

384
00:25:38,090 --> 00:25:42,590
I understand my role in
this film, at that time

385
00:25:42,590 --> 00:25:44,060
I didn't know anything about it.

386
00:25:44,060 --> 00:25:45,920
And Berman said-- I say it.

387
00:25:45,920 --> 00:25:47,900
I would like you
to repeat this, it

388
00:25:47,900 --> 00:25:52,250
will be the most
desperate war which er--

389
00:25:52,250 --> 00:25:57,000
Yes, the Jews in
the Warsaw Ghetto,

390
00:25:57,000 --> 00:26:00,520
they are talking about it.

391
00:26:00,520 --> 00:26:02,250

They want to wage--

392
00:26:02,250 --> 00:26:07,410
they declare a war
against the Third Reich,

393
00:26:07,410 --> 00:26:08,985
never such a war took place.

394
00:26:08,985 --> 00:26:11,870

395
00:26:11,870 --> 00:26:19,250
They want to die
fighting, what can we do?

396
00:26:19,250 --> 00:26:23,560
We cannot deny them
this kind of death.

397
00:26:23,560 --> 00:26:26,250

398
00:26:26,250 --> 00:26:28,720
Well, and then arms.

399
00:26:28,720 --> 00:26:31,230

400
00:26:31,230 --> 00:26:31,770
No.

401
00:26:31,770 --> 00:26:34,500
So at that point I refused
to carry the message

402
00:26:34,500 --> 00:26:37,740
unless they are
authorized me to seek

403
00:26:37,740 --> 00:26:40,740
an appointment with the

commander in chief of the Home

404

00:26:40,740 --> 00:26:45,150

Army, General Stefan

Rowecki, who, by the way,

405

00:26:45,150 --> 00:26:52,830

perished one year later, to

repeat to him the complaint,

406

00:26:52,830 --> 00:26:54,630

and to ask him for comments.

407

00:26:54,630 --> 00:26:58,740

They heartily agreed, go, go.

408

00:26:58,740 --> 00:27:02,610

I did go, I did see him.

409

00:27:02,610 --> 00:27:10,550

His answer was, I am

a military commander,

410

00:27:10,550 --> 00:27:17,660

I act within the statute

which the Home Army has,

411

00:27:17,660 --> 00:27:21,590

I am subjected to

orders which are coming

412

00:27:21,590 --> 00:27:24,140

from the commander in chief.

413

00:27:24,140 --> 00:27:30,990

Now, I do have arms, I

am using those arms--

414

00:27:30,990 --> 00:27:34,085

and I don't have many of them--

415

00:27:34,085 --> 00:27:41,890

first, for daily sabotage of
my members of the Home Army,

416
00:27:41,890 --> 00:27:47,070
second for larger
diversionary activities--

417
00:27:47,070 --> 00:27:52,500
derailing trains, blowing
up the buildings, et cetera.

418
00:27:52,500 --> 00:28:00,660
The most important, I act within
our general strategy that I

419
00:28:00,660 --> 00:28:07,140
cannot waste any arms,
I have to keep them.

420
00:28:07,140 --> 00:28:14,650
Because when the end
of Germany will come,

421
00:28:14,650 --> 00:28:22,500
and when the Russian armies will
push them on our territories,

422
00:28:22,500 --> 00:28:26,850
and we come to the
conclusion that this

423
00:28:26,850 --> 00:28:33,120
will be a proper moment,
I must have every weapon

424
00:28:33,120 --> 00:28:40,390
I can put my hand on it, to
stab Germany in the back.

425
00:28:40,390 --> 00:28:46,140
Now, I know that the
Jews in the ghetto

426

00:28:46,140 --> 00:28:52,630
are contemplating
some military action.

427
00:28:52,630 --> 00:28:57,830
I understand, I
have respect for it,

428
00:28:57,830 --> 00:29:02,290
but militarily it is
without any significance.

429
00:29:02,290 --> 00:29:07,210
What can they do
against the Third Reich?

430
00:29:07,210 --> 00:29:15,280
I will give them whatever the
commander in chief, General

431
00:29:15,280 --> 00:29:19,240
Sikorski orders me to do.

432
00:29:19,240 --> 00:29:21,085
Otherwise it is beyond
my jurisdiction.

433
00:29:21,085 --> 00:29:24,790
Did he talk at the time about,
I think I remember also,

434
00:29:24,790 --> 00:29:29,830
about the ability or the
inability of the Jews to fight?

435
00:29:29,830 --> 00:29:32,035
I think he had some
distrust in this respect.

436
00:29:32,035 --> 00:29:35,780

437
00:29:35,780 --> 00:29:38,900

Well as far as I
remember he did not

438
00:29:38,900 --> 00:29:41,120
consider it as a
military-- as an action

439
00:29:41,120 --> 00:29:44,120
of military significance.

440
00:29:44,120 --> 00:29:50,270
But he was a military leader,
he acted within his statute.

441
00:29:50,270 --> 00:29:55,810
This was a moral standpoint
which had to be applied--

442
00:29:55,810 --> 00:29:58,030
ethical, whatsoever.

443
00:29:58,030 --> 00:30:03,790
But he would do, he must
receive order that is--

444
00:30:03,790 --> 00:30:07,090
As a matter of fact, he said
the same thing as Berman,

445
00:30:07,090 --> 00:30:10,450
when Berman told you
this will be the most

446
00:30:10,450 --> 00:30:13,690
hopeless declaration of war.

447
00:30:13,690 --> 00:30:15,640
Yes, only Berman wanted arms.

448
00:30:15,640 --> 00:30:16,700
Yes, I know.

449

00:30:16,700 --> 00:30:20,440
And he says, I act under orders.

450
00:30:20,440 --> 00:30:24,190
Within the structure
of my organization

451
00:30:24,190 --> 00:30:28,300
only military actions count.

452
00:30:28,300 --> 00:30:34,940
I must receive specific orders
from the Commander -in-chief.

453
00:30:34,940 --> 00:30:40,520
Now I did carry the
message, the message

454
00:30:40,520 --> 00:30:46,910
was, again, Zygielbojm,
Schwarzbart, Grosfeld, and only

455
00:30:46,910 --> 00:30:49,670
Sikorski to nobody else.

456
00:30:49,670 --> 00:30:53,810
Particularly again,
they emphasize,

457
00:30:53,810 --> 00:30:58,880
you will not speak about it to
any non-Polish Jewish leader,

458
00:30:58,880 --> 00:31:01,550
it may arouse
anti-Polish propaganda.

459
00:31:01,550 --> 00:31:04,730
We don't want it, we are
not interested in it,

460
00:31:04,730 --> 00:31:08,960
we want to deal with

our own business.

461
00:31:08,960 --> 00:31:10,760
I reported.

462
00:31:10,760 --> 00:31:13,610
Because again, you must
realize, at that time

463
00:31:13,610 --> 00:31:18,770
my mission was important,
but I was a little man.

464
00:31:18,770 --> 00:31:22,850
Nobody told me what
were they going to do

465
00:31:22,850 --> 00:31:25,160
with what I told them to do.

466
00:31:25,160 --> 00:31:28,910
The same with General Sikorski--

467
00:31:28,910 --> 00:31:31,940
orders will be
issued, we will handle

468
00:31:31,940 --> 00:31:35,360
this problem, Lieutenant.

469
00:31:35,360 --> 00:31:39,710
I was-- at that time I was
supposed to go back to Poland.

470
00:31:39,710 --> 00:31:44,390
Lieutenant, either
you, or somebody else,

471
00:31:44,390 --> 00:31:46,880
will carry orders.

472
00:31:46,880 --> 00:31:48,230

What orders?

473

00:31:48,230 --> 00:31:49,130

He didn't tell me--

474

00:31:49,130 --> 00:31:53,670

I couldn't ask him, General what
are you going to do about it?

475

00:31:53,670 --> 00:31:56,780

Now what I understand
and realize that--

476

00:31:56,780 --> 00:32:01,730

after the war by the way,
from the Jewish publication--

477

00:32:01,730 --> 00:32:06,710

that when the Warsaw uprising--
the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising--

478

00:32:06,710 --> 00:32:16,790

started, April 1943, they
did receive some small arms.

479

00:32:16,790 --> 00:32:20,930

At the beginning, the first
delivery that Rowecki made

480

00:32:20,930 --> 00:32:22,175

was only 10 pistols.

481

00:32:22,175 --> 00:32:24,780

482

00:32:24,780 --> 00:32:29,670

Yes, this I have no information,
you know how many-- what--

483

00:32:29,670 --> 00:32:32,550

I understand he gave
them some machine guns--

484

00:32:32,550 --> 00:32:33,090

Afterwards--

485

00:32:33,090 --> 00:32:34,080

Yes.

486

00:32:34,080 --> 00:32:36,790

Some machine guns,
some light weapons.

487

00:32:36,790 --> 00:32:38,280

Later on.

488

00:32:38,280 --> 00:32:40,620

Now, was it the
result of my mission?

489

00:32:40,620 --> 00:32:42,000

Did he received orders?

490

00:32:42,000 --> 00:32:44,400

Did he do it on
his own initiative?

491

00:32:44,400 --> 00:32:46,283

What do I know about that?

492

00:32:46,283 --> 00:32:50,510

493

00:32:50,510 --> 00:32:59,550

At a certain point I remember,
I raised this question,

494

00:32:59,550 --> 00:33:06,070

those demands are so
varied, on such a scale,

495

00:33:06,070 --> 00:33:09,430

well, I can see my
situation in London.

496

00:33:09,430 --> 00:33:12,540

What Zygielbojm--

what Schwarzbart--

497

00:33:12,540 --> 00:33:16,950

what Grosfeld-- what

can they do about it?

498

00:33:16,950 --> 00:33:21,020

I am sure they are

doing their best.

499

00:33:21,020 --> 00:33:27,010

So then again, like

a nervous breakdown,

500

00:33:27,010 --> 00:33:32,010

I think again that

it was a Zionist.

501

00:33:32,010 --> 00:33:35,026

Again he shaped-- shook me--

502

00:33:35,026 --> 00:33:38,290

503

00:33:38,290 --> 00:33:40,280

so what, again impossible, yes?

504

00:33:40,280 --> 00:33:43,660

You're saying impossible,

so nothing, nothing.

505

00:33:43,660 --> 00:33:44,370

They cannot do.

506

00:33:44,370 --> 00:33:47,290

507

00:33:47,290 --> 00:33:52,800

Tell them, they

are Jewish leaders,

508

00:33:52,800 --> 00:33:57,490

their people are dying,
there will be no Jews.

509

00:33:57,490 --> 00:34:00,380

510

00:34:00,380 --> 00:34:03,800

So what more do we
need the leaders?

511

00:34:03,800 --> 00:34:08,659

We are going to die as well,
we don't try to escape,

512

00:34:08,659 --> 00:34:09,800

we stay here.

513

00:34:09,800 --> 00:34:14,170

514

00:34:14,170 --> 00:34:21,889

Let them go to
important officers

515

00:34:21,889 --> 00:34:25,980

in London, wherever they are.

516

00:34:25,980 --> 00:34:27,674

Let them demand for action.

517

00:34:27,674 --> 00:34:30,689

518

00:34:30,689 --> 00:34:40,179

If it is refused, let them
walk out, stay in the street,

519

00:34:40,179 --> 00:34:49,883

refuse food, refuse
drink, let them die.

520
00:34:49,883 --> 00:34:50,550
That slow death.

521
00:34:50,550 --> 00:34:51,092
Let them die?

522
00:34:51,092 --> 00:34:53,550
Die, die, slow death.

523
00:34:53,550 --> 00:34:56,510
In view of all humanity.

524
00:34:56,510 --> 00:34:59,000
Who knows, perhaps
it will strike

525
00:34:59,000 --> 00:35:01,130
the conscience of the world.

526
00:35:01,130 --> 00:35:05,780
They were toppled like a
breakdown, perhaps this help.

527
00:35:05,780 --> 00:35:09,050
We don't know, we are dying--

528
00:35:09,050 --> 00:35:10,900
they are leaders, let them die.

529
00:35:10,900 --> 00:35:14,930

530
00:35:14,930 --> 00:35:17,467
Yes, so then came
Szmul Zygielbojm.

531
00:35:17,467 --> 00:35:24,930

532
00:35:24,930 --> 00:35:28,290

Well, so what, do you want me
to talk about Szmul Zygielbojm,

533
00:35:28,290 --> 00:35:29,350
or what?

534
00:35:29,350 --> 00:35:31,110
You want to talk now?

535
00:35:31,110 --> 00:35:31,610
Whatever.

536
00:35:31,610 --> 00:35:34,380

537
00:35:34,380 --> 00:35:36,230
That's fine.

538
00:35:36,230 --> 00:36:17,345