

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,888

2

00:00:03,888 --> 00:00:06,330

(film slating)

3

00:00:06,330 --> 00:00:10,110

OK, I would very much like
to say a few words now

4

00:00:10,110 --> 00:00:13,200

about maybe two or three
different-- not completely

5

00:00:13,200 --> 00:00:17,880

in the time sequence, but they
are very important for me,

6

00:00:17,880 --> 00:00:21,360

because these are my relation
to Rabbi Weissmandel.

7

00:00:21,360 --> 00:00:22,740

Mm-hmm.

8

00:00:22,740 --> 00:00:25,683

And let me tell you the
first important meeting--

9

00:00:25,683 --> 00:00:27,850

which we had with him in
connection with the working

10

00:00:27,850 --> 00:00:30,360

camps, as I mentioned
to you before--

11

00:00:30,360 --> 00:00:34,980

the working camps, there are
two different concentrations.

12

00:00:34,980 --> 00:00:36,510
One part of the work camps--

13
00:00:36,510 --> 00:00:38,520
Sered', Vyhne, and NovÁky--

14
00:00:38,520 --> 00:00:41,370
was deportation concentration.

15
00:00:41,370 --> 00:00:45,630
And part of it was
concentration for work.

16
00:00:45,630 --> 00:00:51,750
And they brought
into these camps

17
00:00:51,750 --> 00:00:56,160
Slovak Jews who had been thrown
out from their economic life

18
00:00:56,160 --> 00:00:59,820
and trying now to create
there a new economic life,

19
00:00:59,820 --> 00:01:04,414
based on their own experiences,
their own profession.

20
00:01:04,414 --> 00:01:08,430
This means that you try
to restore a kind of life?

21
00:01:08,430 --> 00:01:10,410
To restore to life,
and rescue them,

22
00:01:10,410 --> 00:01:12,555
and get them the
exception for deportation.

23
00:01:12,555 --> 00:01:13,620
Mm-hmm.

24
00:01:13,620 --> 00:01:15,960
Which was assured for
us that if so long they

25
00:01:15,960 --> 00:01:18,150
are going to be there
and work, they will

26
00:01:18,150 --> 00:01:21,000
be excepted from deportation.

27
00:01:21,000 --> 00:01:22,550
Because this was
in Slovakia, it's

28
00:01:22,550 --> 00:01:23,885
the same scheme as everywhere--

29
00:01:23,885 --> 00:01:24,160
You're correct.

30
00:01:24,160 --> 00:01:25,170
--an excuse for work.

31
00:01:25,170 --> 00:01:29,760
And now, life started to be
pretty easy in these work

32
00:01:29,760 --> 00:01:30,390
camps.

33
00:01:30,390 --> 00:01:32,790
And one day
Weissmandel comes to me

34
00:01:32,790 --> 00:01:37,050
and asks me that I should
get him the permission

35
00:01:37,050 --> 00:01:39,780
to get a kosher kitchen.

36
00:01:39,780 --> 00:01:44,280
And I really just looked at
him and told him, Rabbi, today

37
00:01:44,280 --> 00:01:45,550
that is important?

38
00:01:45,550 --> 00:01:47,220
We are trying to
save lives, and you

39
00:01:47,220 --> 00:01:50,940
are coming to me to
ask for Dr. Koso,

40
00:01:50,940 --> 00:01:52,805
to ask him for a kosher kitchen?

41
00:01:52,805 --> 00:01:54,930
He is going to laugh about
it, because that is just

42
00:01:54,930 --> 00:01:56,190
completely unimportant!

43
00:01:56,190 --> 00:01:59,190
To save lives and secure
them in Sered' and NovÃjky,

44
00:01:59,190 --> 00:01:59,940
that is important!

45
00:01:59,940 --> 00:02:00,990
That's what counts.

46
00:02:00,990 --> 00:02:01,860
That's what counts.

47
00:02:01,860 --> 00:02:07,230
And Rabbi Weissmandel and
his beautiful blue eye--

48

00:02:07,230 --> 00:02:09,570

because that was really the
only part you just saw was

49

00:02:09,570 --> 00:02:13,860

beautiful-- otherwise he was
outside a pretty ugly Jew,

50

00:02:13,860 --> 00:02:16,110

like Der StÄ¼rmer.

51

00:02:16,110 --> 00:02:18,870

StÄ¼rmer had caricatures very
often that with the typical

52

00:02:18,870 --> 00:02:23,160

case, like a Jew, would be a
dirty caftan with a long payes

53

00:02:23,160 --> 00:02:26,800

and with a beard, very
unkempt and dirty and so on.

54

00:02:26,800 --> 00:02:28,050

He was dirty?

55

00:02:28,050 --> 00:02:30,720

Yeah, but outside.

56

00:02:30,720 --> 00:02:32,370

And I had the feeling--

57

00:02:32,370 --> 00:02:37,080

and that was how he started to
influence my work with him--

58

00:02:37,080 --> 00:02:41,400

as I had been facing
him eye to eye.

59

00:02:41,400 --> 00:02:45,330

Suddenly, I started to
see not this outside,

60
00:02:45,330 --> 00:02:49,980
but suddenly saw through his eye
an incredible, beautiful human

61
00:02:49,980 --> 00:02:51,180
being.

62
00:02:51,180 --> 00:02:54,120
And not only that, he
started to have, I would say,

63
00:02:54,120 --> 00:02:56,010
a magic influence on me.

64
00:02:56,010 --> 00:03:01,360
And some of the very important
meetings and intervention,

65
00:03:01,360 --> 00:03:06,990
which I carried out, where I
was daring to oppose Wisliceny

66
00:03:06,990 --> 00:03:09,810
or Dr. Koso and ask them certain
things-- which, otherwise,

67
00:03:09,810 --> 00:03:12,060
I wouldn't even
dream to ask them--

68
00:03:12,060 --> 00:03:15,210
I did only just because
Weissmandel gave me

69
00:03:15,210 --> 00:03:16,770
the strength to do it.

70
00:03:16,770 --> 00:03:19,500
And now, this would be
very typical for him

71
00:03:19,500 --> 00:03:21,600
how he achieved those things.

72
00:03:21,600 --> 00:03:23,155
He came and he asked
you to provide--

73
00:03:23,155 --> 00:03:25,405
He come to camp and asked
me to provide the permission

74
00:03:25,405 --> 00:03:26,340
for kosher kitchen.

75
00:03:26,340 --> 00:03:27,530
--a kosher kitchen
for the religious Jews

76
00:03:27,530 --> 00:03:28,370
who were in the camps?

77
00:03:28,370 --> 00:03:28,800
The Jews who were in the camps.

78
00:03:28,800 --> 00:03:30,660
So I told him, no,
I cannot do that.

79
00:03:30,660 --> 00:03:32,790
He said, Andrej, you can.

80
00:03:32,790 --> 00:03:35,850
And not only you can, you
are going to go to Dr. Koso

81
00:03:35,850 --> 00:03:39,060
and you are going to get it!

82
00:03:39,060 --> 00:03:42,750
And he said-- and I ask him,
Rabbi, now what do you mean?

83
00:03:42,750 --> 00:03:44,310
How can how can you say it?

84
00:03:44,310 --> 00:03:46,920
How can I even speak
with Koso that way?

85
00:03:46,920 --> 00:03:49,920
And now he's told me something
which-- not only in Slovakia,

86
00:03:49,920 --> 00:03:53,820
but even here in my profession--
influenced me very, very much.

87
00:03:53,820 --> 00:03:55,890
He said, Andrej, I
tell you something.

88
00:03:55,890 --> 00:03:58,290
You go to Dr. Koso,
and the moment you

89
00:03:58,290 --> 00:03:59,940
start to speak
with him, you look

90
00:03:59,940 --> 00:04:03,060
at him sitting on a johnny.

91
00:04:03,060 --> 00:04:03,660
Sitting down--

92
00:04:03,660 --> 00:04:05,670
Sitting on a
johnny, on a toilet!

93
00:04:05,670 --> 00:04:07,290
It's a a johnny,
you know what it is.

94

00:04:07,290 --> 00:04:07,790
Ah, yes.

95
00:04:07,790 --> 00:04:08,550

96
00:04:08,550 --> 00:04:11,040
In a WC, in a toilet.

97
00:04:11,040 --> 00:04:13,560
And the very moment you
look at him that way,

98
00:04:13,560 --> 00:04:16,990
he is the same human
being as you are.

99
00:04:16,990 --> 00:04:19,410
And you will see,
suddenly, you are

100
00:04:19,410 --> 00:04:21,750
going to dare to tell him
anything what you want.

101
00:04:21,750 --> 00:04:23,190
And don't be ashamed!

102
00:04:23,190 --> 00:04:25,260
You will achieve it.

103
00:04:25,260 --> 00:04:26,280
And sure enough--

104
00:04:26,280 --> 00:04:29,510
This means Dr. Koso has
to shit like everybody.

105
00:04:29,510 --> 00:04:30,675
Shit like everybody else.

106
00:04:30,675 --> 00:04:32,550

He says, what are you
afraid to tell him now?

107
00:04:32,550 --> 00:04:35,970
He's just as a human
being as you are.

108
00:04:35,970 --> 00:04:37,880
[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]

109
00:04:37,880 --> 00:04:41,010
So truth of the matter is I
did exactly what Weissmandel

110
00:04:41,010 --> 00:04:42,240
told me.

111
00:04:42,240 --> 00:04:44,760
I went to Dr. Koso
in his office.

112
00:04:44,760 --> 00:04:46,350
And I used to--

113
00:04:46,350 --> 00:04:48,810
a few minutes all the time
before I sit down with him--

114
00:04:48,810 --> 00:04:51,210
I was a little bit standing,
and he was standing.

115
00:04:51,210 --> 00:04:55,560
And I was looking at
him as he sat down.

116
00:04:55,560 --> 00:04:57,540
I looked at him exactly
as Weissmandel told me.

117
00:04:57,540 --> 00:04:59,370
Sitting, that guy was naked.

118

00:04:59,370 --> 00:05:03,050

In my eye, seeing him
sitting on a johnny.

119

00:05:03,050 --> 00:05:05,090

And I started to smile.

120

00:05:05,090 --> 00:05:08,660

And Dr. Koso asked me,
why are you smiling?

121

00:05:08,660 --> 00:05:11,420

And I was--

122

00:05:11,420 --> 00:05:12,690

I told him that.

123

00:05:12,690 --> 00:05:13,490

You told him?

124

00:05:13,490 --> 00:05:14,783

I told him that!

125

00:05:14,783 --> 00:05:18,440

Dr. Koso, I must tell you,
you know Rabbi Weissmandel,

126

00:05:18,440 --> 00:05:19,610

who he is.

127

00:05:19,610 --> 00:05:21,770

And he asked me to
come to you to ask

128

00:05:21,770 --> 00:05:23,000

this, and this, and this.

129

00:05:23,000 --> 00:05:24,670

And I was afraid
even to come to you.

130

00:05:24,670 --> 00:05:25,670
[LANDLINE PHONE RINGING]

131
00:05:25,670 --> 00:05:29,780
But, of course, Weissmandel
told me I should look at you

132
00:05:29,780 --> 00:05:33,470
and see you as sitting
on a johnny, and I did.

133
00:05:33,470 --> 00:05:36,080
And I really saw you
sitting on a johnny.

134
00:05:36,080 --> 00:05:39,830
Now, please, listen to me
what he wanted to have.

135
00:05:39,830 --> 00:05:43,670
And the miracle happened,
just like Weissmandel said.

136
00:05:43,670 --> 00:05:45,470
He said, OK, go ahead.

137
00:05:45,470 --> 00:05:46,880
You can have it.

138
00:05:46,880 --> 00:05:48,090
He was not hurt?

139
00:05:48,090 --> 00:05:49,760
He was not hurt,
he wasn't angry.

140
00:05:49,760 --> 00:05:52,160
He was laughing about it.

141
00:05:52,160 --> 00:05:55,670
And he really gave permission
and immediately called Pechuk.

142

00:05:55,670 --> 00:05:57,830

That was the other guy
with whom I had contact,

143

00:05:57,830 --> 00:05:59,885

and he was the
day-to-day operator.

144

00:05:59,885 --> 00:06:01,400

A Slovak?

145

00:06:01,400 --> 00:06:02,240

Slovak too.

146

00:06:02,240 --> 00:06:04,350

And say, Pechuk,
Steiner is here.

147

00:06:04,350 --> 00:06:07,307

Sit down with him and organize
that the orthodox Jewish would

148

00:06:07,307 --> 00:06:08,390

have the orthodox kitchen.

149

00:06:08,390 --> 00:06:10,085

There were many
orthodox Jews in the--

150

00:06:10,085 --> 00:06:10,370

In the camps.

151

00:06:10,370 --> 00:06:11,670

--in the concentration camp?

152

00:06:11,670 --> 00:06:13,160

Sure there were
many orthodox Jews.

153

00:06:13,160 --> 00:06:15,390

In Slovakia, there were many?

154

00:06:15,390 --> 00:06:17,240

Many, many, sure.

155

00:06:17,240 --> 00:06:20,120

Yes, and you talked about
the blue eyes of Weissmandel.

156

00:06:20,120 --> 00:06:21,560

No, that-- Yeah.

157

00:06:21,560 --> 00:06:23,570

Can you say more about the eyes?

158

00:06:23,570 --> 00:06:26,060

No, I would say
something else now.

159

00:06:26,060 --> 00:06:30,380

That was my-- that was the
first really connection which

160

00:06:30,380 --> 00:06:31,580

I had with Weissmandel.

161

00:06:31,580 --> 00:06:34,100

And I really suddenly
started to feel

162

00:06:34,100 --> 00:06:36,410

that he had some
magic influence on me,

163

00:06:36,410 --> 00:06:38,120

and really a magic influence.

164

00:06:38,120 --> 00:06:39,780

You were not a
total religious Jew.

165

00:06:39,780 --> 00:06:40,280

No.

166

00:06:40,280 --> 00:06:41,630

No, not at all.

167

00:06:41,630 --> 00:06:44,030

And the second time
that I really felt it

168

00:06:44,030 --> 00:06:46,160

was in connection
with Wisliceny.

169

00:06:46,160 --> 00:06:48,470

As you know, Hochberg,
who was our first contact,

170

00:06:48,470 --> 00:06:51,230

was put in jail by the Slovaks.

171

00:06:51,230 --> 00:06:54,470

And suddenly, the
contact men which he had

172

00:06:54,470 --> 00:06:57,230

before to Wisliceny was gone.

173

00:06:57,230 --> 00:07:00,350

And the so-called [INAUDIBLE],,
The Shadow Government,

174

00:07:00,350 --> 00:07:03,800

decided who should go
now instead of Hochberg.

175

00:07:03,800 --> 00:07:07,220

And because they
knew of my, let's

176

00:07:07,220 --> 00:07:10,550

say, useful enthusiasm
and daring thing,

177

00:07:10,550 --> 00:07:12,110

he said Andrej
Steiner should go.

178
00:07:12,110 --> 00:07:15,500
You were very daring.

179
00:07:15,500 --> 00:07:18,727
Again, Weissmandel
said Andrej should go,

180
00:07:18,727 --> 00:07:20,810
and I'm going to tell him
how he should handle it,

181
00:07:20,810 --> 00:07:24,800
just as I told him how to handle
this whole thing with Koso.

182
00:07:24,800 --> 00:07:26,480
Let us handle it.

183
00:07:26,480 --> 00:07:28,640
I'm going to tell
Andrej what to do.

184
00:07:28,640 --> 00:07:32,270
And sure enough-- so after it
was decided I should go and see

185
00:07:32,270 --> 00:07:36,440
Wisliceny because he was very,
very angry that Hochberg is

186
00:07:36,440 --> 00:07:37,486
gone--

187
00:07:37,486 --> 00:07:38,970
[INAUDIBLE]

188
00:07:38,970 --> 00:07:40,130

189

00:07:40,130 --> 00:07:43,160
--Weissmandel told
me, Andrej, you

190
00:07:43,160 --> 00:07:46,700
go to Wisliceny and tell
him the following thing.

191
00:07:46,700 --> 00:07:49,400

192
00:07:49,400 --> 00:07:52,460
Wisliceny, you think that
you are going to win.

193
00:07:52,460 --> 00:07:58,220
We, the Jews here in Slovakia,
think that we are going to win.

194
00:07:58,220 --> 00:07:59,210
We are going to win?

195
00:07:59,210 --> 00:07:59,710
We!

196
00:07:59,710 --> 00:08:04,550
We, the Jews or the English and
the French, are going to win

197
00:08:04,550 --> 00:08:06,200
and you are going to lose.

198
00:08:06,200 --> 00:08:10,220
So start to be a little bit
more cooperative with us.

199
00:08:10,220 --> 00:08:12,470
We give you money
for it, and you

200
00:08:12,470 --> 00:08:14,726
can create for
yourself the biggest

201
00:08:14,726 --> 00:08:16,550
alibi that you can have.

202
00:08:16,550 --> 00:08:19,520
If the Germans are
winning, nothing happened.

203
00:08:19,520 --> 00:08:21,950
You played a very clever game.

204
00:08:21,950 --> 00:08:25,640
But if we are going
to win-- as we think--

205
00:08:25,640 --> 00:08:28,760
you still are very fine,
because we are going to help you

206
00:08:28,760 --> 00:08:32,539
and we will be able to help you.

207
00:08:32,539 --> 00:08:37,711
Again I thought, Rabbi, how
do you expect me to go and say

208
00:08:37,711 --> 00:08:38,419
things like that.

209
00:08:38,419 --> 00:08:42,049
He is going to
send me to Poland.

210
00:08:42,049 --> 00:08:48,050
Again, he looked at me like
a prophet, I would say.

211
00:08:48,050 --> 00:08:51,860
That is the best description as
I would describe Weissmandel.

212
00:08:51,860 --> 00:08:54,320

The more I was with
him, he started

213
00:08:54,320 --> 00:08:56,420
to have a tremendous influence.

214
00:08:56,420 --> 00:08:58,640
Anybody else from
the whole [INAUDIBLE]

215
00:08:58,640 --> 00:09:01,680
could have asked me, I
wouldn't have dared to do that.

216
00:09:01,680 --> 00:09:04,340
But Weissmandel asked
me and he looked at me,

217
00:09:04,340 --> 00:09:07,760
and I had the feeling a Jewish
prophet speaks now to me.

218
00:09:07,760 --> 00:09:10,250
And he told me, Andrej,
don't worry about it.

219
00:09:10,250 --> 00:09:12,660
God will help you.

220
00:09:12,660 --> 00:09:17,040
So now I remembered how true
he was in the Koso affair.

221
00:09:17,040 --> 00:09:19,640
And I told myself, yes,
I'm going to do it.

222
00:09:19,640 --> 00:09:23,930
And sure enough, exactly what
happened, I went to Wisliceny.

223
00:09:23,930 --> 00:09:27,710
And first, he was raving

like an animal to me

224

00:09:27,710 --> 00:09:29,795
that was Hochberg,
we put him in jail,

225

00:09:29,795 --> 00:09:31,700
and what he should
do now if he started

226

00:09:31,700 --> 00:09:35,480
to do certain negotiation, and
what's going to happen now.

227

00:09:35,480 --> 00:09:38,510
And he was raving and
I didn't answer him.

228

00:09:38,510 --> 00:09:41,030
And he just--
something told me--

229

00:09:41,030 --> 00:09:43,400
Excuse me, I cut
you because I would

230

00:09:43,400 --> 00:09:46,490
like you to describe very
carefully the first meeting

231

00:09:46,490 --> 00:09:48,045
with Wisliceny.

232

00:09:48,045 --> 00:09:49,920
That was not my first
meeting with Wisliceny,

233

00:09:49,920 --> 00:09:51,420
because I was in
connection with him

234

00:09:51,420 --> 00:09:54,410
and I knew him already in

connection with the work camps.

235

00:09:54,410 --> 00:09:55,010

Ah, yes.

236

00:09:55,010 --> 00:09:55,820

You mentioned that.

237

00:09:55,820 --> 00:09:57,710

In the work camps, I met him--

238

00:09:57,710 --> 00:10:00,950

that's why I was selected,
because there was nobody else.

239

00:10:00,950 --> 00:10:03,820

Dr. Neumann could
go to him or Andre

240

00:10:03,820 --> 00:10:05,650

would go to him,
because Dr. Neumann knew

241

00:10:05,650 --> 00:10:07,330

him and I knew him.

242

00:10:07,330 --> 00:10:11,110

But Weissmandel especially
said that I should go.

243

00:10:11,110 --> 00:10:15,550

Maybe Weissmandel knew
the really magic influence

244

00:10:15,550 --> 00:10:16,750

he had on me.

245

00:10:16,750 --> 00:10:19,700

And he saw that
if, he and myself,

246

00:10:19,700 --> 00:10:21,550

we are going to work
together, work it out

247
00:10:21,550 --> 00:10:22,480
how to approach it--

248
00:10:22,480 --> 00:10:24,480
But did he like
you, Weissmandel?

249
00:10:24,480 --> 00:10:26,210
Weissmandel liked
me pretty much,

250
00:10:26,210 --> 00:10:29,980
but once he made a
very joking remark.

251
00:10:29,980 --> 00:10:33,460
He said, Andrej, you know
just one thing is wrong you,

252
00:10:33,460 --> 00:10:35,500
that you are not orthodox.

253
00:10:35,500 --> 00:10:37,420
It was very important for him?

254
00:10:37,420 --> 00:10:40,210
It was very important
for him, that's right.

255
00:10:40,210 --> 00:10:43,510
He made it completely clear
that he forgives me my

256
00:10:43,510 --> 00:10:47,890
being an assimilated Jew,
just because I am just

257
00:10:47,890 --> 00:10:52,030
as much in a helping action
to save Jews like he is.

258
00:10:52,030 --> 00:10:55,300
But he didn't make
any hail about it,

259
00:10:55,300 --> 00:10:59,100
he said the trouble with you
is that you are not orthodox.

260
00:10:59,100 --> 00:11:01,480
He very frankly said it would
have been much, much better

261
00:11:01,480 --> 00:11:04,880
for him if I would be orthodox.

262
00:11:04,880 --> 00:11:08,630
But anyway, really interesting
what happened with Wisliceny.

263
00:11:08,630 --> 00:11:11,320
And after Wisliceny had
been raving, and I didn't--

264
00:11:11,320 --> 00:11:12,080
We need another.

265
00:11:12,080 --> 00:11:14,955

266
00:11:14,955 --> 00:11:16,410
[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]

267
00:11:16,410 --> 00:11:17,870
(film slating)

268
00:11:17,870 --> 00:11:19,830
[SLATE CLAPS]

269
00:11:19,830 --> 00:11:25,530
But I mentioned for you
me first really meeting

270

00:11:25,530 --> 00:11:29,480
with Weissmandel in connection
with a kosher kitchen,

271

00:11:29,480 --> 00:11:33,100
that was in the beginning
before the deportation.

272

00:11:33,100 --> 00:11:34,980
And then deportation
started to roll.

273

00:11:34,980 --> 00:11:38,490
And in a few months time,
more than 50,000 Jews

274

00:11:38,490 --> 00:11:40,890
had been deported from Slovakia.

275

00:11:40,890 --> 00:11:44,310
The situation became
very, very serious.

276

00:11:44,310 --> 00:11:47,490
Excuse me, how many
Jews were in Slovakia?

277

00:11:47,490 --> 00:11:51,340
I think about 75,000 or 80,000.

278

00:11:51,340 --> 00:11:52,590
This means two-thirds already?

279

00:11:52,590 --> 00:11:53,340
That's correct.

280

00:11:53,340 --> 00:11:55,920

281

00:11:55,920 --> 00:12:00,540
After, because the situation

became very, very serious,

282

00:12:00,540 --> 00:12:02,640

the idea came again for
Weissmandel something

283

00:12:02,640 --> 00:12:03,700

has to be done.

284

00:12:03,700 --> 00:12:08,460

And not on the Slovak, but
the Germans has to be bribed.

285

00:12:08,460 --> 00:12:10,470

That was partly
how he got, first,

286

00:12:10,470 --> 00:12:17,320

Hochberg to bribe
Wisliceny with \$40,000.

287

00:12:17,320 --> 00:12:18,600

Interesting enough--

288

00:12:18,600 --> 00:12:19,500

Hochberg was--

289

00:12:19,500 --> 00:12:22,990

Hochberg was the
first man who bribed--

290

00:12:22,990 --> 00:12:23,490

Hold on.

291

00:12:23,490 --> 00:12:25,765

(film logistics)

292

00:12:25,765 --> 00:12:27,130

(film slating)

293

00:12:27,130 --> 00:12:29,100

[SLATE CLAPS]

294
00:12:29,100 --> 00:12:34,145
As I mentioned to
you before, this

295
00:12:34,145 --> 00:12:35,520
was the time that
the deportation

296
00:12:35,520 --> 00:12:37,260
started in Slovakia.

297
00:12:37,260 --> 00:12:41,160
And the deportations
started in a very big scale

298
00:12:41,160 --> 00:12:43,590
and very rapidly.

299
00:12:43,590 --> 00:12:46,320
We had the feeling that
now really something

300
00:12:46,320 --> 00:12:50,490
has to be done, if you want to
save as many Jews as possible

301
00:12:50,490 --> 00:12:52,350
and keep them in Slovakia.

302
00:12:52,350 --> 00:12:56,400
And now the question came up to
bribe, not only the Slovaks--

303
00:12:56,400 --> 00:12:58,330
which we did up to that point--

304
00:12:58,330 --> 00:13:01,710
especially Weissmandel's idea
that absolutely it is a must

305
00:13:01,710 --> 00:13:03,270

to bribe the German.

306

00:13:03,270 --> 00:13:05,910

Because so long we
don't play safely

307

00:13:05,910 --> 00:13:08,040

on both sides, the
German and the Slovak,

308

00:13:08,040 --> 00:13:11,820

we never going to be able to
stop deportation in Slovakia.

309

00:13:11,820 --> 00:13:15,330

The question was how to
dare to bribe Wisliceny.

310

00:13:15,330 --> 00:13:19,050

That's why Weissmandel said
that he is going to speak with

311

00:13:19,050 --> 00:13:22,320

Hochberg, who was a
member of the Judenrat,

312

00:13:22,320 --> 00:13:25,720

in charge about the special
activity department--

313

00:13:25,720 --> 00:13:28,500

which means in charge
about the deportation--

314

00:13:28,500 --> 00:13:31,860

and working with Wisliceny,
giving him all the time

315

00:13:31,860 --> 00:13:35,010

the statistics involved.

316

00:13:35,010 --> 00:13:35,970

The lists?

317
00:13:35,970 --> 00:13:36,700
The lists.

318
00:13:36,700 --> 00:13:39,167
The deported list
and the statistics.

319
00:13:39,167 --> 00:13:39,750
But Hochberg--

320
00:13:39,750 --> 00:13:42,930
This Hochberg, he was
complying to the German order?

321
00:13:42,930 --> 00:13:46,770
Hochberg was in many Jews
at traitor-- many Jews eyes

322
00:13:46,770 --> 00:13:48,450
thought that he was a traitor.

323
00:13:48,450 --> 00:13:50,490
And that's why we didn't
want to work with him,

324
00:13:50,490 --> 00:13:52,740
because we had been
afraid if he would

325
00:13:52,740 --> 00:13:55,110
know about our activities,
we would be exposed

326
00:13:55,110 --> 00:13:57,450
and we couldn't work in
the ways we wanted to work.

327
00:13:57,450 --> 00:14:00,010
If he had known about the
activities of the shadow

328

00:14:00,010 --> 00:14:00,510
government?

329
00:14:00,510 --> 00:14:01,320
Shadow government.

330
00:14:01,320 --> 00:14:03,990
He would have gone, eventually,
to Wisliceny or to somebody

331
00:14:03,990 --> 00:14:06,060
else and create difficulties.

332
00:14:06,060 --> 00:14:09,120
That's why we didn't want
to have him involved.

333
00:14:09,120 --> 00:14:12,480
But Weissmandel,
against our [INAUDIBLE],,

334
00:14:12,480 --> 00:14:13,830
we should leave it up to him.

335
00:14:13,830 --> 00:14:15,480
And he really
spoke with Hochberg

336
00:14:15,480 --> 00:14:19,350
and told him you did
a lot of bad things.

337
00:14:19,350 --> 00:14:21,820
But you could correct
all those what you did,

338
00:14:21,820 --> 00:14:23,730
if you are going to help me.

339
00:14:23,730 --> 00:14:27,870
And you could save now the
rest of the Jews in Slovakia.

340

00:14:27,870 --> 00:14:31,530

You have to go to
Wisliceny, tell him

341

00:14:31,530 --> 00:14:35,100

that we will give him \$40,000.

342

00:14:35,100 --> 00:14:38,730

You will take it
with you and tell him

343

00:14:38,730 --> 00:14:43,020

that he should help to
stop the deportation.

344

00:14:43,020 --> 00:14:47,250

Hochberg really did it, and
went Wisliceny and gave him

345

00:14:47,250 --> 00:14:47,790

the money.

346

00:14:47,790 --> 00:14:49,860

This mean that
Weissmandel succeeded to--

347

00:14:49,860 --> 00:14:51,007

Weissmandel succeeded--

348

00:14:51,007 --> 00:14:51,840

--convince Hochberg.

349

00:14:51,840 --> 00:14:55,410

--to convince Hochberg to
work this time, this way,

350

00:14:55,410 --> 00:14:56,520

and being helpful.

351

00:14:56,520 --> 00:15:00,120

And Hochberg really
needed this alibi

352
00:15:00,120 --> 00:15:06,000
and needed this type of help
and grabbed it immediately,

353
00:15:06,000 --> 00:15:09,660
just like Weissmandel said.

354
00:15:09,660 --> 00:15:11,970
Now, I don't want to go
into much detail what

355
00:15:11,970 --> 00:15:12,960
happened in between.

356
00:15:12,960 --> 00:15:15,600
But I want to go
now and prepare now

357
00:15:15,600 --> 00:15:20,340
the possibilities how,
again, Weissmandel's idea was

358
00:15:20,340 --> 00:15:22,200
a so-called Europea plan.

359
00:15:22,200 --> 00:15:24,040
[INAUDIBLE]

360
00:15:24,040 --> 00:15:24,855
What is a Europea?

361
00:15:24,855 --> 00:15:26,880
Before that comes, it
is important to show

362
00:15:26,880 --> 00:15:29,400
how we had been able to
build up with Wisliceny

363
00:15:29,400 --> 00:15:31,170
a very intimate relation.

364

00:15:31,170 --> 00:15:34,170

And that is exactly how
under the influence,

365

00:15:34,170 --> 00:15:36,900

like I told you before
about Weissmandel

366

00:15:36,900 --> 00:15:39,420

told me how I should
approach Wisliceny,

367

00:15:39,420 --> 00:15:42,420

was the basis of our
intimate relation with him.

368

00:15:42,420 --> 00:15:44,538

And here, again, Weissmandel
said you will see,

369

00:15:44,538 --> 00:15:45,830

you will be able to achieve it.

370

00:15:45,830 --> 00:15:47,290

Don't be afraid.

371

00:15:47,290 --> 00:15:48,810

Don't be afraid of bribing.

372

00:15:48,810 --> 00:15:51,600

I was afraid of bribing,
because that was my relation

373

00:15:51,600 --> 00:15:55,050

to Wisliceny, and to Koso,
and to all the other Slovaks

374

00:15:55,050 --> 00:15:57,390

and Germans was not bribing.

375

00:15:57,390 --> 00:16:00,360

I was simply professional
like an architect, builder,

376
00:16:00,360 --> 00:16:02,820
planner to the others.

377
00:16:02,820 --> 00:16:06,510
And Weissmandel started
to explain to me on radio,

378
00:16:06,510 --> 00:16:08,520
sometimes that doesn't go.

379
00:16:08,520 --> 00:16:11,070
We know better like
you, maybe, there

380
00:16:11,070 --> 00:16:17,320
are assimilate Jews that life
and can be bought by bribing.

381
00:16:17,320 --> 00:16:20,540
And that is what
makes us still survive

382
00:16:20,540 --> 00:16:23,210
through many, many difficulties
all over the world.

383
00:16:23,210 --> 00:16:26,140
So you will have to learn it.

384
00:16:26,140 --> 00:16:29,290
Bribing, in a case like
that, is absolutely a must.

385
00:16:29,290 --> 00:16:33,250
Because to bribe
the Gentiles was

386
00:16:33,250 --> 00:16:35,290
the way the orthodox Jewish--

387

00:16:35,290 --> 00:16:36,640

Orthodox Jewish lived.

388

00:16:36,640 --> 00:16:38,050

And it's this all along?

389

00:16:38,050 --> 00:16:39,380

It was all along with.

390

00:16:39,380 --> 00:16:42,670

And after that, I read enough
about the Jewish history

391

00:16:42,670 --> 00:16:44,410

to know how true it is.

392

00:16:44,410 --> 00:16:47,500

But, for me, it was a
completely new experience

393

00:16:47,500 --> 00:16:50,740

to achieve something by bribing.

394

00:16:50,740 --> 00:16:53,680

So anyway, I went up to
Wisliceny, as I told you.

395

00:16:53,680 --> 00:16:56,620

After he was raving
and shouting.

396

00:16:56,620 --> 00:16:59,680

And I didn't answer
him, so he told me

397

00:16:59,680 --> 00:17:01,990

what are you standing
there without answering?

398

00:17:01,990 --> 00:17:05,630

I asked him the question,
what is [INAUDIBLE]??

399

00:17:05,630 --> 00:17:07,726

How was Wisliceny?

400

00:17:07,726 --> 00:17:08,980

What did he look?

401

00:17:08,980 --> 00:17:12,490

Wisliceny was stubby,
not too high man,

402

00:17:12,490 --> 00:17:17,560

and a little bit smaller as
I am, but very distinguished

403

00:17:17,560 --> 00:17:21,579

looking, a so-called
refined German.

404

00:17:21,579 --> 00:17:22,810

But he was an SS man?

405

00:17:22,810 --> 00:17:24,619

He was an SS Hauptsturmführer.

406

00:17:24,619 --> 00:17:25,119

Yes.

407

00:17:25,119 --> 00:17:28,750

And he was directly in contact
constantly with Eichmann

408

00:17:28,750 --> 00:17:34,060

and with Himmler, because
I think his wife was

409

00:17:34,060 --> 00:17:35,860

a cousin of Himmler.

410

00:17:35,860 --> 00:17:39,580

That's why, because of
that, he had direct access

411
00:17:39,580 --> 00:17:41,860
to speak with
Himmler and not to go

412
00:17:41,860 --> 00:17:45,600
all the time through Eichmann.

413
00:17:45,600 --> 00:17:50,830
And gestures just by a little
detour which I did right now.

414
00:17:50,830 --> 00:17:54,120
Now after, he shouted at me
that he didn't get an answer.

415
00:17:54,120 --> 00:17:57,080
He asked me, why don't
you give me an answer?

416
00:17:57,080 --> 00:18:02,290
And I looked at
him again like what

417
00:18:02,290 --> 00:18:03,910
Weissmandel told me about Koso.

418
00:18:03,910 --> 00:18:07,480
And suddenly, I saw Wisliceny
sitting like on a johnny.

419
00:18:07,480 --> 00:18:10,000
And again, instead
of being afraid,

420
00:18:10,000 --> 00:18:11,530
I suddenly got the courage.

421
00:18:11,530 --> 00:18:15,640
And I told myself I am going to
do now and say everything what

422

00:18:15,640 --> 00:18:18,130
Weissmandel told me to say.

423
00:18:18,130 --> 00:18:21,880
And I told Wisliceny,
HauptsturmfÃ¼hrer,

424
00:18:21,880 --> 00:18:24,640
I am not accustomed to
that type of treatment.

425
00:18:24,640 --> 00:18:27,950
And if you start
now to speak with me

426
00:18:27,950 --> 00:18:32,530
the same way like
my Slovak positions

427
00:18:32,530 --> 00:18:35,920
talk in a civilized way,
I'm going to give you

428
00:18:35,920 --> 00:18:38,560
all the answer, but not before.

429
00:18:38,560 --> 00:18:39,580
Wisliceny told me--

430
00:18:39,580 --> 00:18:40,965
What do you mean by the answers?

431
00:18:40,965 --> 00:18:41,840
What kind of answers?

432
00:18:41,840 --> 00:18:44,260
He asked me, what
happened with Hochberg?

433
00:18:44,260 --> 00:18:45,370
Where he is?

434

00:18:45,370 --> 00:18:47,840

And I didn't give him
any answer to that.

435

00:18:47,840 --> 00:18:50,020

So after, he told
me take a seat.

436

00:18:50,020 --> 00:18:53,200

And the very moment I
was sitting with him,

437

00:18:53,200 --> 00:18:58,600

I knew that Weissmandel
was, again, right.

438

00:18:58,600 --> 00:19:01,150

Here, the magic worked again.

439

00:19:01,150 --> 00:19:06,130

I dared to stand
up to the German,

440

00:19:06,130 --> 00:19:08,890

based on the strength,
which not I had,

441

00:19:08,890 --> 00:19:12,050

but really Weissmandel
gave to me.

442

00:19:12,050 --> 00:19:13,030

You think really so?

443

00:19:13,030 --> 00:19:13,930

Oh, absolutely!

444

00:19:13,930 --> 00:19:17,020

He had, in this thing,
absolutely a magic influence

445

00:19:17,020 --> 00:19:18,230

on me.

446

00:19:18,230 --> 00:19:21,123

And I suddenly followed,
again, his advice.

447

00:19:21,123 --> 00:19:23,290

And after I was sitting
with Wisliceny all the time,

448

00:19:23,290 --> 00:19:25,090

I told him all of
what he told me.

449

00:19:25,090 --> 00:19:29,080

And I told Wisliceny
the same story.

450

00:19:29,080 --> 00:19:30,580

You think that you
are going to win,

451

00:19:30,580 --> 00:19:32,590

we think you are going to lose.

452

00:19:32,590 --> 00:19:37,210

So be from now on our informer.

453

00:19:37,210 --> 00:19:39,290

We are going to pay you fine.

454

00:19:39,290 --> 00:19:41,680

And we are going to do
certain things which

455

00:19:41,680 --> 00:19:46,150

will be good for us Jews, too,
and good for you Germans, too.

456

00:19:46,150 --> 00:19:51,730

You were the one who
started to bribe?

457

00:19:51,730 --> 00:19:55,600
I had with me \$10,000
already, at that time.

458
00:19:55,600 --> 00:19:57,310
And told him,
listen, here I have

459
00:19:57,310 --> 00:20:02,380
and I would like to give you
the \$10,000 that is only just

460
00:20:02,380 --> 00:20:05,500
to show you that there
are some possibilities,

461
00:20:05,500 --> 00:20:08,050
and not only Hochberg is
able to give you that.

462
00:20:08,050 --> 00:20:10,030
Don't worry about if
Hochberg is not here,

463
00:20:10,030 --> 00:20:13,070
I'm, Steiner, am going
to be now the contact

464
00:20:13,070 --> 00:20:15,130
men to you and the World Jewry.

465
00:20:15,130 --> 00:20:18,385
That's something which I
would like to tell you, too.

466
00:20:18,385 --> 00:20:22,030
Gisi Fleischmann made an
additional request to me that

467
00:20:22,030 --> 00:20:25,630
under no circumstances
should I say that it is

468

00:20:25,630 --> 00:20:28,810
the Slovak Jew speaking to him.

469
00:20:28,810 --> 00:20:30,580
Slovak Jews are
not strong enough.

470
00:20:30,580 --> 00:20:33,400
Wisliceny will immediately
see that if we are speaking

471
00:20:33,400 --> 00:20:37,372
about big 1,000, maybe
a million dollars,

472
00:20:37,372 --> 00:20:40,600
he will know that it
is something fake.

473
00:20:40,600 --> 00:20:42,940
But if we are going to
tell him that the World

474
00:20:42,940 --> 00:20:48,203
Jewry is behind that,
then he will believe it.

475
00:20:48,203 --> 00:20:50,370
And exactly what happened,
that's what went through.

476
00:20:50,370 --> 00:20:54,810
The World Jewry, had a
strong meaning for Wisliceny?

477
00:20:54,810 --> 00:20:56,970
Wisliceny believed
it right away!

478
00:20:56,970 --> 00:20:57,820
He really did?

479
00:20:57,820 --> 00:20:59,830

He really believed
it immediately

480
00:20:59,830 --> 00:21:02,350
that that is something,
not we, but we

481
00:21:02,350 --> 00:21:06,820
are doing in accordance with the
knowledge of the World Jewry.

482
00:21:06,820 --> 00:21:09,310
And everything that we are
going to discuss with him

483
00:21:09,310 --> 00:21:12,610
and agree upon will be
backed by the World Jewry.

484
00:21:12,610 --> 00:21:17,600
This means this was an old
idea of the secret power

485
00:21:17,600 --> 00:21:22,253
of the Jews, The Protocols
of the Elders of Zion?

486
00:21:22,253 --> 00:21:24,170
The Protocols of the
Elders of Zion and so on.

487
00:21:24,170 --> 00:21:25,550
What is behind it, I don't know.

488
00:21:25,550 --> 00:21:27,770
But you know that the
German propaganda constantly

489
00:21:27,770 --> 00:21:31,820
said the Jews had the
power all over the world.

490
00:21:31,820 --> 00:21:35,300

So Gisi Fleischmann,
again, was right.

491
00:21:35,300 --> 00:21:38,450
She said follow Rabbi
Weissmandel's advice,

492
00:21:38,450 --> 00:21:41,810
what to do and how to speak with
him, but under no circumstances

493
00:21:41,810 --> 00:21:42,350
say--

494
00:21:42,350 --> 00:21:44,690
and be sure that he
understands that this

495
00:21:44,690 --> 00:21:48,770
is an action which is backed
and financed by the World Jewry.

496
00:21:48,770 --> 00:21:52,430
And I'm absolutely sure
that Wisliceny bought it

497
00:21:52,430 --> 00:21:56,210
because of these two
elements, that I combined

498
00:21:56,210 --> 00:21:59,070
what Weissmandel told me to
say and combined what Gisi

499
00:21:59,070 --> 00:22:00,657
Fleischmann told me to say.

500
00:22:00,657 --> 00:22:02,240
There were two people
who advised you.

501
00:22:02,240 --> 00:22:05,400
There was Weissmandel who

told you explains them

502

00:22:05,400 --> 00:22:08,130

that they will lose the war--

503

00:22:08,130 --> 00:22:11,810

explain to Wisliceny that the

Germans will lose the war--

504

00:22:11,810 --> 00:22:14,070

and Gisi Fleischmann,

who was a woman.

505

00:22:14,070 --> 00:22:14,570

Yeah.

506

00:22:14,570 --> 00:22:16,490

And she was a member

of the Judenrat, too?

507

00:22:16,490 --> 00:22:17,310

Judenrat, too.

508

00:22:17,310 --> 00:22:17,810

Yeah.

509

00:22:17,810 --> 00:22:23,120

Told you let him think that this

money is gathered by the World

510

00:22:23,120 --> 00:22:23,640

Jewry?

511

00:22:23,640 --> 00:22:24,140

Correct.

512

00:22:24,140 --> 00:22:27,110

513

00:22:27,110 --> 00:22:28,280

[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]

514

00:22:28,280 --> 00:22:30,900
(film slating)

515

00:22:30,900 --> 00:22:31,400

516

00:22:31,400 --> 00:22:36,950
You say that when you
came to Wisliceny,

517

00:22:36,950 --> 00:22:42,320
when you offered
the bribe, that you

518

00:22:42,320 --> 00:22:47,780
had received \$10,000, and
that already \$40,000--

519

00:22:47,780 --> 00:22:50,840
\$40,000 was given
to him by Hochberg.

520

00:22:50,840 --> 00:22:53,840
Yes, but where did
this money come from?

521

00:22:53,840 --> 00:22:56,408
That money was not
for the World Jewry,

522

00:22:56,408 --> 00:22:57,950
and not even from
the American Jewry.

523

00:22:57,950 --> 00:22:59,450
It didn't come from
the World Jewry.

524

00:22:59,450 --> 00:23:02,280
No, no, that was so-called
Slovak Boden Credit-Anstalt

525

00:23:02,280 --> 00:23:02,780
money.

526
00:23:02,780 --> 00:23:03,500
What is it?

527
00:23:03,500 --> 00:23:06,770
Boden Credit-Anstalt money
means that in Vienna, which

528
00:23:06,770 --> 00:23:10,540
is a nearby big city, was a
really big bank called Boden

529
00:23:10,540 --> 00:23:12,260
Credit-Anstalt And
that was for us

530
00:23:12,260 --> 00:23:16,490
the so-called word for the
money put into the ground

531
00:23:16,490 --> 00:23:17,540
and hidden in the ground.

532
00:23:17,540 --> 00:23:19,248
Because boden in German
means the ground.

533
00:23:19,248 --> 00:23:20,340
Boden means the ground.

534
00:23:20,340 --> 00:23:23,030
And if you spoke about
Boden Credit-Anstalt,

535
00:23:23,030 --> 00:23:25,010
everybody in the
[INAUDIBLE] knew

536
00:23:25,010 --> 00:23:28,730
that it is something mostly
the orthodox Jewry had

537
00:23:28,730 --> 00:23:32,030
hidden and put into the ground.

538
00:23:32,030 --> 00:23:34,220
This means that the
orthodox Jews had money?

539
00:23:34,220 --> 00:23:38,540
Had money all over,
not only in Bratislava.

540
00:23:38,540 --> 00:23:41,930
All over Slovakia they knew
that many of the orthodox Jews

541
00:23:41,930 --> 00:23:45,140
had dollars hidden
in the ground, that's

542
00:23:45,140 --> 00:23:46,940
why we called it the
Boden Credit-Anstalt.

543
00:23:46,940 --> 00:23:49,880
Now the question was
how to get it out,

544
00:23:49,880 --> 00:23:52,040
because the official
money, which

545
00:23:52,040 --> 00:23:57,230
we received from the American
joint, was \$5,000 only.

546
00:23:57,230 --> 00:23:58,430
Nothing.

547
00:23:58,430 --> 00:23:59,510
That was nothing.

548

00:23:59,510 --> 00:24:04,580
So now \$40,000 and the
\$10,000, which I took over,

549
00:24:04,580 --> 00:24:06,500
is together \$50,000.

550
00:24:06,500 --> 00:24:09,020
It was unheard.

551
00:24:09,020 --> 00:24:11,570
This was, again,
Weissmandel's idea.

552
00:24:11,570 --> 00:24:14,180
He said, you're ridiculous,
you cannot go with \$5,000.

553
00:24:14,180 --> 00:24:16,310
You must give
\$40,000 and \$10,000.

554
00:24:16,310 --> 00:24:20,210
And the finance minister and
Dr. Neumann who heard this,

555
00:24:20,210 --> 00:24:22,730
said to Rabbi, where
can we take it?

556
00:24:22,730 --> 00:24:24,300
He said, don't worry about it.

557
00:24:24,300 --> 00:24:27,020
We will have to take it.

558
00:24:27,020 --> 00:24:28,070
It must be here.

559
00:24:28,070 --> 00:24:32,540
And Gisi Fleischmann thought,
let's call [Personal name]

560

00:24:32,540 --> 00:24:33,300

[Personal name]

561

00:24:33,300 --> 00:24:33,950

[Personal name]

562

00:24:33,950 --> 00:24:35,035

Who was he?

563

00:24:35,035 --> 00:24:38,330

He was a orthodox Jew, a very
good friend of Weissmandel.

564

00:24:38,330 --> 00:24:41,480

And he was known
that he was working

565

00:24:41,480 --> 00:24:46,640

in valutas, the division
in foreign currency,

566

00:24:46,640 --> 00:24:48,770

especially in dollars.

567

00:24:48,770 --> 00:24:52,340

And if we had to call
[Personal name] Weissmandel

568

00:24:52,340 --> 00:24:55,130

spoke with him and
try and ask him

569

00:24:55,130 --> 00:24:57,400

can you get out from the
Boden Credit-Anstalt.

570

00:24:57,400 --> 00:24:58,970

From the ground?

571

00:24:58,970 --> 00:25:00,200

From the ground.

572

00:25:00,200 --> 00:25:03,320

And [Personal name] said,
OK, how much do you need?

573

00:25:03,320 --> 00:25:07,340

And we needed once
\$40,000 and once \$10,000.

574

00:25:07,340 --> 00:25:11,300

It was in a week, I
think, the money was here.

575

00:25:11,300 --> 00:25:14,230

It was taken out
from the ground,

576

00:25:14,230 --> 00:25:17,445

nicely cleaned and
nicely packed and so on.

577

00:25:17,445 --> 00:25:17,945

Cleaned?

578

00:25:17,945 --> 00:25:21,890

Cleaned, because very
often it was really dirty.

579

00:25:21,890 --> 00:25:23,750

And after we cleaned
it and nicely

580

00:25:23,750 --> 00:25:27,200

packed-- it was the three of
us put it in a big envelope,

581

00:25:27,200 --> 00:25:30,260

and we took it to Wisliceny.

582

00:25:30,260 --> 00:25:37,790

And when you had shown
these \$10,000 to Wisliceny,

583

00:25:37,790 --> 00:25:39,170
how did he react to this?

584
00:25:39,170 --> 00:25:41,100
He wanted the money or not?

585
00:25:41,100 --> 00:25:44,015
Oh, he wanted the money.

586
00:25:44,015 --> 00:25:47,160
Truth in my eyes, I thought
that it's not only the money

587
00:25:47,160 --> 00:25:48,530
he wanted to have.

588
00:25:48,530 --> 00:25:52,730
This alibi, or the alibi
which I told him about,

589
00:25:52,730 --> 00:25:54,830
that is not for sure
that you are winning,

590
00:25:54,830 --> 00:25:56,780
maybe we are going to win it.

591
00:25:56,780 --> 00:26:02,990
I had the feeling that played
quite a role, too, quite a role

592
00:26:02,990 --> 00:26:04,700
to accept our proposal.

593
00:26:04,700 --> 00:26:06,830
Because we ask him--

594
00:26:06,830 --> 00:26:09,020
for the following
thing, we ask him.

595
00:26:09,020 --> 00:26:12,295

Immediately, finish--

596

00:26:12,295 --> 00:26:14,630

Yes, what was the deal?

597

00:26:14,630 --> 00:26:17,270

Because this meeting with
Wisliceny-- your meeting

598

00:26:17,270 --> 00:26:20,292

with Wisliceny-- with
the money, the bribing,

599

00:26:20,292 --> 00:26:23,840

took place in the middle of the
first wave of the deportation.

600

00:26:23,840 --> 00:26:25,490

On the first day of deportation.

601

00:26:25,490 --> 00:26:28,820

So we said they have
to stop deportation.

602

00:26:28,820 --> 00:26:31,040

He will have now to
give us the permission

603

00:26:31,040 --> 00:26:33,650

to have correspondence--
connection--

604

00:26:33,650 --> 00:26:37,020

with the different
camps in Germany.

605

00:26:37,020 --> 00:26:39,260

And he must give
us the possibility

606

00:26:39,260 --> 00:26:42,530

to give some medical help
to the concentration camps.

607
00:26:42,530 --> 00:26:45,890
Because you said Germany,
this means that you

608
00:26:45,890 --> 00:26:47,008
didn't know at the time--

609
00:26:47,008 --> 00:26:48,800
We didn't know at the
time where they were.

610
00:26:48,800 --> 00:26:50,900
You saw that the people
were being shipped.

611
00:26:50,900 --> 00:26:54,020
Whether in Poland or the German
camps, we didn't know for sure.

612
00:26:54,020 --> 00:26:57,200
And you talked about the
killings, the extermination?

613
00:26:57,200 --> 00:26:58,730
No, that time we didn't know it.

614
00:26:58,730 --> 00:27:00,650
And Wisliceny said he knew.

615
00:27:00,650 --> 00:27:02,290
Of course, he knew.

616
00:27:02,290 --> 00:27:04,190
I don't know.

617
00:27:04,190 --> 00:27:08,900
At least, that is, he behaved
sometimes as he wouldn't know.

618
00:27:08,900 --> 00:27:12,500
But, you know, you never can

say about what he really knew

619

00:27:12,500 --> 00:27:14,990

and what he didn't know.

620

00:27:14,990 --> 00:27:19,340

Now after that,

Wisliceny said, OK.

621

00:27:19,340 --> 00:27:21,440

And he promised me

that he is going

622

00:27:21,440 --> 00:27:24,890

to get together and submit

this whole plan to Eichmann.

623

00:27:24,890 --> 00:27:27,582

The plan to stop the

deportations from Slovakia?

624

00:27:27,582 --> 00:27:29,040

To stop deportations

from Slovakia.

625

00:27:29,040 --> 00:27:32,070

And I told him real frankly

that it is not from his spot,

626

00:27:32,070 --> 00:27:33,720

from the German

parts, we don't need

627

00:27:33,720 --> 00:27:35,730

too much, because

Dr. [Personal name]

628

00:27:35,730 --> 00:27:38,670

was working in the Slovak

part for the same time.

629

00:27:38,670 --> 00:27:42,840

And we of us knew the Slovaks

would be willing to stop this,

630

00:27:42,840 --> 00:27:45,480

if the Germans are not
going to ask for anything.

631

00:27:45,480 --> 00:27:48,750

For what we ask
Wisliceny, he should not

632

00:27:48,750 --> 00:27:52,530

ask any further transports.

633

00:27:52,530 --> 00:27:54,570

You just asked him--

634

00:27:54,570 --> 00:27:56,580

Stop asking further transports.

635

00:27:56,580 --> 00:27:58,830

The Slovak part we are
going to take care of.

636

00:27:58,830 --> 00:28:00,163

You have a know-it-all attitude.

637

00:28:00,163 --> 00:28:01,080

That's correct.

638

00:28:01,080 --> 00:28:05,460

And he said I should come
in a few days later again.

639

00:28:05,460 --> 00:28:07,500

Meanwhile, he is going
to speak with Eichmann

640

00:28:07,500 --> 00:28:09,540

and see what he can do.

641

00:28:09,540 --> 00:28:12,660

And sure enough, a

few days later, I

642

00:28:12,660 --> 00:28:18,655

came back again to him, and
he said the plan is accepted.

643

00:28:18,655 --> 00:28:21,030

At that time, he told me that
he sent a money all the way

644

00:28:21,030 --> 00:28:24,270

to Berlin, because he wanted
to be sure that I should

645

00:28:24,270 --> 00:28:29,310

know that I'm not bribing him.

646

00:28:29,310 --> 00:28:31,290

I gave money for him,
but he's giving it

647

00:28:31,290 --> 00:28:36,780

to his superiors
for money which goes

648

00:28:36,780 --> 00:28:40,680

to the SS, or the
generals, I don't know.

649

00:28:40,680 --> 00:28:41,180

Yes.

650

00:28:41,180 --> 00:28:44,070

651

00:28:44,070 --> 00:28:47,400

The same time after that was
achieved, Dr. [INAUDIBLE],,

652

00:28:47,400 --> 00:28:50,900

Rabbi [INAUDIBLE],,
and Weissmandel--

653

00:28:50,900 --> 00:28:52,650

They were all the
members of the Judenrat?

654

00:28:52,650 --> 00:28:53,910

All the members of Judenrat--

655

00:28:53,910 --> 00:28:55,470

The [INAUDIBLE]-- Dr. Frida.

656

00:28:55,470 --> 00:28:58,110

The Shadow Government,
not Judenrat.

657

00:28:58,110 --> 00:29:01,320

That time we didn't have too
much to do with the Judenrat.

658

00:29:01,320 --> 00:29:05,530

We had been working only on
saving as many Jews as possible

659

00:29:05,530 --> 00:29:06,510

in Slovakia.

660

00:29:06,510 --> 00:29:10,830

And we didn't do too much part
about the Judenrat activities

661

00:29:10,830 --> 00:29:14,420

at all, because that was so
much time consuming here,

662

00:29:14,420 --> 00:29:16,650

that was the only thing
that we really did.

663

00:29:16,650 --> 00:29:19,170

664

00:29:19,170 --> 00:29:26,580

The idea was to bribe the

Germans with money, in order

665

00:29:26,580 --> 00:29:28,920
to stop the deportations
from Slovakia.

666

00:29:28,920 --> 00:29:31,230
You were the first,
as a matter of fact,

667

00:29:31,230 --> 00:29:34,040
to initiate this kind of deal?

668

00:29:34,040 --> 00:29:35,220
That's correct.

669

00:29:35,220 --> 00:29:39,450
That was very important
for us, because let's say

670

00:29:39,450 --> 00:29:43,650
we made the first breakthrough.

671

00:29:43,650 --> 00:29:46,110
That time, we thought that
this Wisliceny is going

672

00:29:46,110 --> 00:29:47,800
to stay with us a long time.

673

00:29:47,800 --> 00:29:50,700
And slowly, slowly-- that
was Weissmandel's plan--

674

00:29:50,700 --> 00:29:54,720
after he's able to
do this, we will

675

00:29:54,720 --> 00:29:58,740
be able to see that he
is able to make a deal

676

00:29:58,740 --> 00:30:01,080
and implement even
the deals, then

677
00:30:01,080 --> 00:30:04,290
we can eventually go to him and
ask for more and more and more.

678
00:30:04,290 --> 00:30:08,490
Yes, but was the deal
really implemented?

679
00:30:08,490 --> 00:30:09,240
What happened?

680
00:30:09,240 --> 00:30:13,500
The implementation was, insofar
as seen from Wisliceny's side,

681
00:30:13,500 --> 00:30:16,410
because truth of the matter
is deportation stopped.

682
00:30:16,410 --> 00:30:18,960
Around for two
months from that time

683
00:30:18,960 --> 00:30:23,310
that I gave him the \$10,000,
he did not-- and we knew.

684
00:30:23,310 --> 00:30:25,890
He used to be
[INAUDIBLE] all the time.

685
00:30:25,890 --> 00:30:28,800
This is very, very strange and
very difficult to understand.

686
00:30:28,800 --> 00:30:34,110
Because for the
Boden Credit-Anstalt,

687

00:30:34,110 --> 00:30:36,820
\$50,000 was really
a lot of money.

688
00:30:36,820 --> 00:30:37,410
Lots of money.

689
00:30:37,410 --> 00:30:43,590
Yes, but for the Germans
it was nothing, \$50,000.

690
00:30:43,590 --> 00:30:47,130
Do you think that the
deportations stopped--

691
00:30:47,130 --> 00:30:48,674
Not because of that.

692
00:30:48,674 --> 00:30:53,250
No, we told Wisliceny the
money he received up to now

693
00:30:53,250 --> 00:30:58,890
was only the beginning, if
he's going to cooperate with us

694
00:30:58,890 --> 00:31:02,440
and inform us about dangers
which we have to face,

695
00:31:02,440 --> 00:31:05,640
and really helped
us, too, and not only

696
00:31:05,640 --> 00:31:08,430
being the exterminator
of the Jews here,

697
00:31:08,430 --> 00:31:10,050
then more money
is going to come.

698
00:31:10,050 --> 00:31:11,880

And that's why Gisi
Fleischmann said

699
00:31:11,880 --> 00:31:14,910
that we should emphasize
that it is not only

700
00:31:14,910 --> 00:31:18,180
the Slovaks behind it, that
we all really represent here

701
00:31:18,180 --> 00:31:20,170
the World Jewry.

702
00:31:20,170 --> 00:31:24,780
And we made it very clear to him
that if he is going to do that,

703
00:31:24,780 --> 00:31:27,820
later on much more money
is going to come to him.

704
00:31:27,820 --> 00:31:29,040
The deportations stopped--

705
00:31:29,040 --> 00:31:31,830
The deportations
stopped that time.

706
00:31:31,830 --> 00:31:37,860
From July to September,
was no deportation.

707
00:31:37,860 --> 00:31:44,610
And the in September
and October--

708
00:31:44,610 --> 00:31:47,820
I think-- before it
completely stopped,

709
00:31:47,820 --> 00:31:50,880
there had been three

more transports.

710
00:31:50,880 --> 00:31:55,470
And now in the history about
these three transports,

711
00:31:55,470 --> 00:31:58,050
it is not completely
clear was is it

712
00:31:58,050 --> 00:32:00,240
only because that time
we already succeeded

713
00:32:00,240 --> 00:32:03,000
to bribe the Slovaks
and the Germans,

714
00:32:03,000 --> 00:32:07,830
or was it because of some
type of statistical set up

715
00:32:07,830 --> 00:32:09,150
in Slovakia.

716
00:32:09,150 --> 00:32:17,460
Some say that the bribe, that's
what stopped the deportations.

717
00:32:17,460 --> 00:32:22,050
And the three additional,
that came only

718
00:32:22,050 --> 00:32:27,602
because the Slovak
State Statistic Office

719
00:32:27,602 --> 00:32:28,435
suddenly discovers--

720
00:32:28,435 --> 00:32:32,020
[INAUDIBLE] pointed out-- that
there are only 20,000 Jews only

721
00:32:32,020 --> 00:32:33,520
left in Slovakia.

722
00:32:33,520 --> 00:32:36,280
And now this
so-called statistician

723
00:32:36,280 --> 00:32:39,130
said that is not true, because
I know for sure that more

724
00:32:39,130 --> 00:32:41,890
than 25,000 are still here.

725
00:32:41,890 --> 00:32:44,470
And because of
seemingly a [INAUDIBLE]

726
00:32:44,470 --> 00:32:48,040
and a Slovak understanding,
by Dr. [INAUDIBLE],,

727
00:32:48,040 --> 00:32:52,600
that by 20,000, they
are willing to stop.

728
00:32:52,600 --> 00:32:55,180
Because of this,
some said that it

729
00:32:55,180 --> 00:32:59,530
was because of this difference
in the statistics, that's

730
00:32:59,530 --> 00:33:01,780
why three transports went.

731
00:33:01,780 --> 00:33:04,510
And some think that the
three transports went only

732

00:33:04,510 --> 00:33:07,220
because some--

733
00:33:07,220 --> 00:33:09,700
What was your opinion
of Weissmandel?

734
00:33:09,700 --> 00:33:16,060
Weissmandel thought sure that
the stoppage came because

735
00:33:16,060 --> 00:33:19,000
of the bribing of
Wisliceny, and because we

736
00:33:19,000 --> 00:33:21,978
failed to give him very
quickly additional money,

737
00:33:21,978 --> 00:33:23,270
because we just didn't have it!

738
00:33:23,270 --> 00:33:25,240
Did he ask for additional money?

739
00:33:25,240 --> 00:33:27,010
Yeah, he asked for
additional money.

740
00:33:27,010 --> 00:33:29,530
He told me, when I'm
getting-- when are

741
00:33:29,530 --> 00:33:31,990
the rest of the money coming?

742
00:33:31,990 --> 00:33:34,360
And how much did you compromise?

743
00:33:34,360 --> 00:33:38,620
We never gave that
time a definite sum.

744

00:33:38,620 --> 00:33:41,170

A definite sum we
told him only later,

745

00:33:41,170 --> 00:33:44,040

in connection with
the Europea Plan.

746

00:33:44,040 --> 00:33:53,000