

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:11,550

2  
00:00:11,550 --> 00:00:14,535  
(film slating)

3  
00:00:14,535 --> 00:00:33,730

4  
00:00:33,730 --> 00:00:42,140  
This one, the kommandant of the  
Jewish Brigade in Treblinka,

5  
00:00:42,140 --> 00:00:44,240  
there was a man by  
the name of Galewski.

6  
00:00:44,240 --> 00:00:47,700

7  
00:00:47,700 --> 00:00:57,270  
The way we know that he  
was converted, bought.

8  
00:00:57,270 --> 00:01:02,510  
He was, I would say,  
one of the finest men.

9  
00:01:02,510 --> 00:01:07,020  
And, matter of fact,  
after the liberation

10  
00:01:07,020 --> 00:01:12,580  
he received the highest award  
of the Polish government

11  
00:01:12,580 --> 00:01:20,610  
because he was involved in  
the uprising of the Treblinka

12  
00:01:20,610 --> 00:01:21,750

revolt.

13

00:01:21,750 --> 00:01:23,790

But he was killed.

14

00:01:23,790 --> 00:01:25,230

He was killed.

15

00:01:25,230 --> 00:01:30,940

During the uprising,  
he was killed.

16

00:01:30,940 --> 00:01:36,770

But working in the gas  
chamber, his girlfriend

17

00:01:36,770 --> 00:01:42,190

came into the gas chamber  
where we cut her hair.

18

00:01:42,190 --> 00:01:47,140

As she saw him walking  
around as a big man,

19

00:01:47,140 --> 00:01:51,570

like a kommandant  
so she thought,

20

00:01:51,570 --> 00:01:54,930

also telling her friends  
and her relatives,

21

00:01:54,930 --> 00:01:58,980

they were together with  
her in the gas chamber,

22

00:01:58,980 --> 00:02:02,700

that her friend is here  
and not to be afraid.

23

00:02:02,700 --> 00:02:05,880

Nothing will happen to them  
because he will not allow

24  
00:02:05,880 --> 00:02:07,500  
something wrong to do to them.

25  
00:02:07,500 --> 00:02:10,740

26  
00:02:10,740 --> 00:02:12,380  
He came over.

27  
00:02:12,380 --> 00:02:17,820  
He motioned to us not to say  
anything, not to say a word.

28  
00:02:17,820 --> 00:02:18,920  
He went over.

29  
00:02:18,920 --> 00:02:20,590  
He kissed her.

30  
00:02:20,590 --> 00:02:24,410  
Also her relatives.

31  
00:02:24,410 --> 00:02:27,890  
And he said to her,  
don't be afraid.

32  
00:02:27,890 --> 00:02:29,240  
Nothing will happen to you.

33  
00:02:29,240 --> 00:02:32,600  
I will be back in five minutes.

34  
00:02:32,600 --> 00:02:36,920  
But she didn't last  
any five minutes.

35  
00:02:36,920 --> 00:02:42,590  
After five minutes, she and the  
other group with her family,

36

00:02:42,590 --> 00:02:47,280  
and the group that came in  
from the ghetto of Å Å³dÅ°,

37  
00:02:47,280 --> 00:02:51,420  
they were already dead.

38  
00:02:51,420 --> 00:02:54,620  
And it happened many  
more times like that.

39  
00:02:54,620 --> 00:02:57,160

40  
00:02:57,160 --> 00:03:03,530  
That people working,  
barbers with us,

41  
00:03:03,530 --> 00:03:08,050  
they met their  
closest relatives.

42  
00:03:08,050 --> 00:03:13,140  
And the worst part was of that,  
that even at the last time,

43  
00:03:13,140 --> 00:03:19,650  
at the last minute, where you  
share joy, you share sorrow,

44  
00:03:19,650 --> 00:03:22,590  
you share other  
things, you are not

45  
00:03:22,590 --> 00:03:27,660  
able to tell your own wife  
or your own sister that

46  
00:03:27,660 --> 00:03:31,000  
is the last time you  
are talking to her,

47  
00:03:31,000 --> 00:03:34,560

and that is the last  
time you will see her.

48  
00:03:34,560 --> 00:03:38,430

49  
00:03:38,430 --> 00:03:43,290  
After we went through  
with a woman transport,

50  
00:03:43,290 --> 00:03:49,030  
they took us out  
from the gas chamber

51  
00:03:49,030 --> 00:03:53,740  
back to Treblinka number one.

52  
00:03:53,740 --> 00:03:56,320

53  
00:03:56,320 --> 00:04:01,150  
And it happened  
for the first time

54  
00:04:01,150 --> 00:04:06,530  
ever that somebody  
worked in Treblinka, one

55  
00:04:06,530 --> 00:04:12,100  
came in to Treblinka two  
where the gas chambers were,

56  
00:04:12,100 --> 00:04:16,660  
that they could walk out  
from the gas chambers

57  
00:04:16,660 --> 00:04:21,279  
and liked enough to  
carry out us at dead men.

58  
00:04:21,279 --> 00:04:25,410

59

00:04:25,410 --> 00:04:29,300

After a while, we  
went back to our work.

60

00:04:29,300 --> 00:04:34,690

But that wasn't for long,  
because in a quarter

61

00:04:34,690 --> 00:04:40,860

of an hour or 20 more minutes,  
the whistle again sounded.

62

00:04:40,860 --> 00:04:43,960

And the barbers  
were called again,

63

00:04:43,960 --> 00:04:48,780

going through the same  
thing what we went through

64

00:04:48,780 --> 00:04:52,410

from the beginning.

65

00:04:52,410 --> 00:04:57,300

And it was a very  
hard thing to do it.

66

00:04:57,300 --> 00:05:00,060

It was very hard for us.

67

00:05:00,060 --> 00:05:06,640

It was very hard for the family,  
which we parted from them.

68

00:05:06,640 --> 00:05:09,550

69

00:05:09,550 --> 00:05:10,830

You said you do--

70

00:05:10,830 --> 00:05:18,340

But the life, the human

life has something in them,

71

00:05:18,340 --> 00:05:21,970  
at the last minute  
when they know already

72

00:05:21,970 --> 00:05:27,100  
that they're going to be killed,  
but still something tells them,

73

00:05:27,100 --> 00:05:32,650  
maybe, maybe a chance, maybe  
a second, they will survive.

74

00:05:32,650 --> 00:05:36,430  
They will go through  
all those suffering,

75

00:05:36,430 --> 00:05:40,510  
and they will live  
to be free people.

76

00:05:40,510 --> 00:05:43,500  
And I will say, it happened.

77

00:05:43,500 --> 00:05:45,310  
It happened to me.

78

00:05:45,310 --> 00:05:48,010  
It happened to a few more.

79

00:05:48,010 --> 00:05:53,500  
But it didn't happen  
to millions of people.

80

00:05:53,500 --> 00:05:56,620  
They went through  
the gas chambers.

81

00:05:56,620 --> 00:05:59,590  
They went through the  
concentration camps.

82

00:05:59,590 --> 00:06:02,710

And that very, very  
few of them really

83

00:06:02,710 --> 00:06:07,870

survived to tell the  
story what was going on,

84

00:06:07,870 --> 00:06:11,980

what did happen actually to  
the Jewish people of none

85

00:06:11,980 --> 00:06:15,460

of the nations.

86

00:06:15,460 --> 00:06:18,670

It doesn't matter how you call  
them, or you call them friends,

87

00:06:18,670 --> 00:06:22,030

or you call them America.

88

00:06:22,030 --> 00:06:26,080

They don't want believe, they  
don't believe up until now

89

00:06:26,080 --> 00:06:28,270

that something  
like that happened.

90

00:06:28,270 --> 00:06:34,270

But not only witnesses, the  
Germans themselves, they

91

00:06:34,270 --> 00:06:39,040

have filmed all those places.

92

00:06:39,040 --> 00:06:42,310

They have photographed  
all those places.

93

00:06:42,310 --> 00:06:48,460



Those places, taking in  
the people, gassing them,

94  
00:06:48,460 --> 00:06:52,900  
and taking out the corpse  
of the dead people,

95  
00:06:52,900 --> 00:06:55,570  
which they cannot deny it.

96  
00:06:55,570 --> 00:06:57,160  
And the German themselves.

97  
00:06:57,160 --> 00:06:58,660  
They know.

98  
00:06:58,660 --> 00:07:03,640  
They know they are guilty  
for this thing what they

99  
00:07:03,640 --> 00:07:08,800  
did to our people and some--

100  
00:07:08,800 --> 00:07:12,610  
I would say some because  
some of other people

101  
00:07:12,610 --> 00:07:18,190  
besides the Jewish people,  
they went through also

102  
00:07:18,190 --> 00:07:21,090  
almost like Jewish people.

103  
00:07:21,090 --> 00:07:23,880

104  
00:07:23,880 --> 00:07:32,810  
Tell me, you told me yesterday  
that most of the women

105  
00:07:32,810 --> 00:07:35,450

did not know what would happen.

106

00:07:35,450 --> 00:07:40,340

And you have said now that some  
of them inside the gas chamber

107

00:07:40,340 --> 00:07:44,000

knew what would arrive.

108

00:07:44,000 --> 00:07:45,030

Yes.

109

00:07:45,030 --> 00:07:48,940

A small majority knew.

110

00:07:48,940 --> 00:07:50,900

How'd they know about it?

111

00:07:50,900 --> 00:07:53,860

The way we looked at them.

112

00:07:53,860 --> 00:07:59,260

The way we felt about them,  
what's going to happen to them,

113

00:07:59,260 --> 00:08:03,580

we didn't have to put words  
in their mouth or put words

114

00:08:03,580 --> 00:08:06,290

in their mind, because  
they could see what

115

00:08:06,290 --> 00:08:08,240

it's going to happen to them.

116

00:08:08,240 --> 00:08:14,170

But very, very few amount of  
the woman, especially the woman

117

00:08:14,170 --> 00:08:16,760

from Poland.

118  
00:08:16,760 --> 00:08:21,580  
They had some different  
feeling, like we had also

119  
00:08:21,580 --> 00:08:25,190  
transports coming in from  
other parts of Europe,

120  
00:08:25,190 --> 00:08:28,490  
not only from Poland.

121  
00:08:28,490 --> 00:08:33,020  
And those people, they  
did not believe at all

122  
00:08:33,020 --> 00:08:37,429  
that something like that  
it's going to happen to them.

123  
00:08:37,429 --> 00:08:43,700  
And matter of fact,  
some of the women,

124  
00:08:43,700 --> 00:08:47,210  
they couldn't part  
from their luggages,

125  
00:08:47,210 --> 00:08:50,810  
or from their clothes,  
or even from their hats

126  
00:08:50,810 --> 00:08:56,660  
trying to drag them into the  
gas chamber because they said,

127  
00:08:56,660 --> 00:08:59,260  
we're going to need it.

128  
00:08:59,260 --> 00:09:03,310  
When some of the people working  
there, they said to them,

129

00:09:03,310 --> 00:09:05,065

you will not need it.

130

00:09:05,065 --> 00:09:06,940

They all said, what do  
you mean I don't need?

131

00:09:06,940 --> 00:09:08,560

I will need it.

132

00:09:08,560 --> 00:09:12,300

How will I walk around  
without these things?

133

00:09:12,300 --> 00:09:14,100

They didn't believe.

134

00:09:14,100 --> 00:09:21,220

But a part of the people in  
Poland, they have that feeling,

135

00:09:21,220 --> 00:09:26,730

they will not get out from  
those gas chambers alive.

136

00:09:26,730 --> 00:09:32,370

It doesn't matter, or  
we did not tell it,

137

00:09:32,370 --> 00:09:34,800

but they looked in our eyes.

138

00:09:34,800 --> 00:09:37,720

They saw in our faces.

139

00:09:37,720 --> 00:09:42,152

They exactly know what's  
going to happen to them.

140

00:09:42,152 --> 00:09:45,150

And they tried to do something  
against this, to resist?

141  
00:09:45,150 --> 00:09:45,740  
No.

142  
00:09:45,740 --> 00:09:47,290  
No, they did not try.

143  
00:09:47,290 --> 00:09:49,790  
Now, I want to come  
to a little thing what

144  
00:09:49,790 --> 00:09:51,860  
had happened at Treblinka.

145  
00:09:51,860 --> 00:09:54,400  
Yes, it happened.

146  
00:09:54,400 --> 00:09:56,420  
What had happened at Treblinka?

147  
00:09:56,420 --> 00:10:01,850  
At Treblinka, it happened  
that a woman coming in

148  
00:10:01,850 --> 00:10:07,280  
with the transport from  
a town near Warsaw.

149  
00:10:07,280 --> 00:10:10,270

150  
00:10:10,270 --> 00:10:14,560  
And I don't know how, but she  
knew what's going to happen.

151  
00:10:14,560 --> 00:10:24,490  
She took out a razor, and  
she cut the throat of one

152  
00:10:24,490 --> 00:10:27,550  
of the workers.

153

00:10:27,550 --> 00:10:28,393

One of them--

154

00:10:28,393 --> 00:10:29,310

Of the Jewish workers?

155

00:10:29,310 --> 00:10:31,060

Of the Jewish worker.

156

00:10:31,060 --> 00:10:34,390

One of them, they  
tried to rescue him.

157

00:10:34,390 --> 00:10:37,630

She cut through his  
throat with the razor.

158

00:10:37,630 --> 00:10:43,222

The other one, matter of fact,  
he was the kapo of the barbers.

159

00:10:43,222 --> 00:10:45,896

She cut his throat, too.

160

00:10:45,896 --> 00:10:53,460

And he survived, but the  
other one, like he was,

161

00:10:53,460 --> 00:11:00,170

I will call a older  
kapo He died from that.

162

00:11:00,170 --> 00:11:03,220

The Germans took  
him to the hospital

163

00:11:03,220 --> 00:11:06,570

and tried to do everything  
they could to rescue them,

164

00:11:06,570 --> 00:11:08,910

but they did not succeed.

165  
00:11:08,910 --> 00:11:15,170  
And the only grave from  
a man dying at Treblinka

166  
00:11:15,170 --> 00:11:18,120  
was his grave,  
which he was buried

167  
00:11:18,120 --> 00:11:21,750  
at natural, buried  
like any other human

168  
00:11:21,750 --> 00:11:24,190  
being all over the world.

169  
00:11:24,190 --> 00:11:25,210  
Stop, stop.

170  
00:11:25,210 --> 00:11:28,090  
(film slating)

171  
00:11:28,090 --> 00:11:41,630

172  
00:11:41,630 --> 00:11:49,830  
It was the only  
time at Treblinka

173  
00:11:49,830 --> 00:11:55,810  
that somebody was not  
killed by the Germans

174  
00:11:55,810 --> 00:12:01,660  
and somebody was not  
gassed in the gas chamber,

175  
00:12:01,660 --> 00:12:08,250  
but it was killed by  
a Jewish woman coming

176  
00:12:08,250 --> 00:12:14,425

in to the extermination  
camp in Treblinka.

177  
00:12:14,425 --> 00:12:18,385  
And it was the only time  
somebody was buried, you said.

178  
00:12:18,385 --> 00:12:21,170  
It was the only time,  
because she killed him.

179  
00:12:21,170 --> 00:12:22,010  
A Jew was buried.

180  
00:12:22,010 --> 00:12:27,260  
She cut his throat with a razor.

181  
00:12:27,260 --> 00:12:32,720  
And they tried to do everything  
they could to save him,

182  
00:12:32,720 --> 00:12:36,460  
because he was for  
them like a hero.

183  
00:12:36,460 --> 00:12:41,250  
A Jewish hero for the Nazis.

184  
00:12:41,250 --> 00:12:42,025  
But he was buried.

185  
00:12:42,025 --> 00:12:42,650  
He had a grave.

186  
00:12:42,650 --> 00:12:45,170  
They couldn't save him.

187  
00:12:45,170 --> 00:12:50,840  
He was buried right  
next to the Lazaret

188  
00:12:50,840 --> 00:12:58,440



And that is the only grave  
in the history of Treblinka,

189  
00:12:58,440 --> 00:13:02,120  
the history of the Jewish  
people in Treblinka,

190  
00:13:02,120 --> 00:13:04,310  
that somebody was buried.

191  
00:13:04,310 --> 00:13:11,720  
Giving a funeral where all the  
Germans went to the funeral.

192  
00:13:11,720 --> 00:13:18,060  
All the people working  
there in Treblinka,

193  
00:13:18,060 --> 00:13:25,480  
they had to stay  
on appell and they

194  
00:13:25,480 --> 00:13:29,170  
had to salute the  
body going through

195  
00:13:29,170 --> 00:13:32,242  
to be buried over there.

196  
00:13:32,242 --> 00:13:34,150  
Tell me one thing.

197  
00:13:34,150 --> 00:13:38,560  
The Jewish women,  
when they arrived

198  
00:13:38,560 --> 00:13:42,220  
in the gas chamber  
naked in front of you,

199  
00:13:42,220 --> 00:13:43,110  
what did they feel?

200

00:13:43,110 --> 00:13:45,910

They were not ashamed  
to be naked in front

201

00:13:45,910 --> 00:13:50,110

of this row of barbers?

202

00:13:50,110 --> 00:13:56,710

Most of the Jewish  
women, they were ashamed.

203

00:13:56,710 --> 00:14:01,690

Because the Jewish women,  
I would say maybe they

204

00:14:01,690 --> 00:14:04,240

were different than  
other kind, they

205

00:14:04,240 --> 00:14:10,940

were more religious  
and more in a way

206

00:14:10,940 --> 00:14:16,830

forbidden to do a lot of things  
which other nationalities did.

207

00:14:16,830 --> 00:14:23,030

They did with their hand  
cover the main part, the woman

208

00:14:23,030 --> 00:14:26,290

part of their--

209

00:14:26,290 --> 00:14:32,500

But all they could do is just  
to cover with their hand.

210

00:14:32,500 --> 00:14:38,770

I want to mention one little  
thing which happened to me.

211

00:14:38,770 --> 00:14:45,600

I was cutting a girl, the girl  
was about 17 or 18 years old.

212

00:14:45,600 --> 00:14:48,160

213

00:14:48,160 --> 00:14:55,785

This girl, as young as  
she was, in her home town,

214

00:14:55,785 --> 00:14:56,535

she was a teacher.

215

00:14:56,535 --> 00:14:59,350

216

00:14:59,350 --> 00:15:06,475

I ask her, her name because she  
was so outspoken and so nice.

217

00:15:06,475 --> 00:15:11,440

And she told me that her  
name was Sarah Levinson

218

00:15:11,440 --> 00:15:14,470

and she came from a  
little town of the name

219

00:15:14,470 --> 00:15:17,130

by Koinsk in Poland.

220

00:15:17,130 --> 00:15:19,750

221

00:15:19,750 --> 00:15:26,910

She told me like that, I  
don't want anything at all.

222

00:15:26,910 --> 00:15:30,550

I know I'm going to be dead.

223

00:15:30,550 --> 00:15:33,740  
And I know that they  
going to gas me.

224  
00:15:33,740 --> 00:15:34,240  
She knew.

225  
00:15:34,240 --> 00:15:40,720  
But please, to me, but please,  
at hair time, do me a favor.

226  
00:15:40,720 --> 00:15:44,620  
You could do, I telling  
you that you could do,

227  
00:15:44,620 --> 00:15:47,980  
you try to escape  
from this place.

228  
00:15:47,980 --> 00:15:51,880  
And please go back to  
the places from where

229  
00:15:51,880 --> 00:15:55,630  
I and from where you  
come from, and tell

230  
00:15:55,630 --> 00:15:59,240  
the people what  
is going on here.

231  
00:15:59,240 --> 00:16:01,890  
And this girl, I don't  
know how, she always

232  
00:16:01,890 --> 00:16:04,530  
was in front of my eyes.

233  
00:16:04,530 --> 00:16:10,890  
Wherever I moved, and wherever  
I turned, and whatever I did,

234  
00:16:10,890 --> 00:16:13,380

I had her picture  
in front of me.

235  
00:16:13,380 --> 00:16:16,830  
Which maybe did  
give me some power

236  
00:16:16,830 --> 00:16:20,320  
to do what I did, to  
organize the escaping

237  
00:16:20,320 --> 00:16:23,140  
for myself and for more people.

238  
00:16:23,140 --> 00:16:34,510  
To get out of the extermination  
camp, to go to the outside

239  
00:16:34,510 --> 00:16:38,080  
and tell the people  
what was going on

240  
00:16:38,080 --> 00:16:40,540  
over there in Treblinka.

241  
00:16:40,540 --> 00:16:44,440  
When they where already  
inside the gas chamber,

242  
00:16:44,440 --> 00:16:50,080  
and when the rooms were locked  
closed, when the gas was given,

243  
00:16:50,080 --> 00:16:55,140  
was sent, did you  
hear something?

244  
00:16:55,140 --> 00:16:58,360  
That is not such thing  
like to ask to hear.

245  
00:16:58,360 --> 00:17:02,490  
Not only that you

heard it, but people

246

00:17:02,490 --> 00:17:09,500  
from the outside, the Polish  
people, for kilometers away,

247

00:17:09,500 --> 00:17:15,359  
you could hear the screaming  
and the choking which

248

00:17:15,359 --> 00:17:21,030  
was going on for a  
number of seconds

249

00:17:21,030 --> 00:17:23,730  
and even for a  
number of minutes,

250

00:17:23,730 --> 00:17:29,310  
like one or two minutes until  
everything was quiet down.

251

00:17:29,310 --> 00:17:30,370  
It was so short?

252

00:17:30,370 --> 00:17:31,440  
No more than two minutes?

253

00:17:31,440 --> 00:17:32,940  
No, it was not short.

254

00:17:32,940 --> 00:17:35,370  
And that's what  
short how it was.

255

00:17:35,370 --> 00:17:42,020  
Because at the time,  
when in Treblinka they

256

00:17:42,020 --> 00:17:46,650  
stopped giving in  
poison or to giving

257

00:17:46,650 --> 00:17:51,170

in other kind of poisoned  
thing to gas them.

258

00:17:51,170 --> 00:17:55,730

What they did, they  
had a pump pumping out

259

00:17:55,730 --> 00:17:58,280

the air from the chamber.

260

00:17:58,280 --> 00:18:02,080

And naturally, without air,  
without anything, the women,

261

00:18:02,080 --> 00:18:06,710

they had to be choked,  
and to fall on each other,

262

00:18:06,710 --> 00:18:10,470

to catch the breath  
from each other.

263

00:18:10,470 --> 00:18:13,010

But it was for them impossible.

264

00:18:13,010 --> 00:18:18,830

And very, very short time,  
maximum one or two minutes,

265

00:18:18,830 --> 00:18:24,650

that all of them were quiet  
down until the other doors

266

00:18:24,650 --> 00:18:28,670

opened up because  
the German Nazi

267

00:18:28,670 --> 00:18:31,310

was looking through  
that little hole

268

00:18:31,310 --> 00:18:33,590  
and looking in what is going on.

269  
00:18:33,590 --> 00:18:37,080  
And to see or they  
are still alive

270  
00:18:37,080 --> 00:18:41,810  
or they are dead, to give  
the order to take them out

271  
00:18:41,810 --> 00:18:43,010  
from the gas chambers.

272  
00:18:43,010 --> 00:18:47,680  
But I thought that the Jews were  
killed with the carbon monoxide

273  
00:18:47,680 --> 00:18:48,840  
gas of a motor.

274  
00:18:48,840 --> 00:18:51,830  
That was happening  
from the beginning.

275  
00:18:51,830 --> 00:18:56,000  
After that, they said that  
because that was expensive,

276  
00:18:56,000 --> 00:18:59,150  
that cost money,  
and that was very

277  
00:18:59,150 --> 00:19:01,670  
hard to get through to them.

278  
00:19:01,670 --> 00:19:03,590  
And at the last  
time, what they did,

279  
00:19:03,590 --> 00:19:06,800  
they pumped out the  
air from the chambers.



280  
00:19:06,800 --> 00:19:07,730  
You are sure of this?

281  
00:19:07,730 --> 00:19:09,430  
I am pretty sure.

282  
00:19:09,430 --> 00:19:10,800  
And I know about it.

283  
00:19:10,800 --> 00:19:12,470  
And I was there and I saw it.

284  
00:19:12,470 --> 00:19:17,030  
I was inside, which not  
too many people are alive.

285  
00:19:17,030 --> 00:19:20,570  
Only very maybe two  
or three of them

286  
00:19:20,570 --> 00:19:26,810  
which they worked in the second  
part of the concentration camp

287  
00:19:26,810 --> 00:19:29,740  
in Treblinka, they are alive.

288  
00:19:29,740 --> 00:19:32,850  
And I am one of  
them, which I know.

289  
00:19:32,850 --> 00:19:33,660  
And I was there.

290  
00:19:33,660 --> 00:19:34,350  
And I saw that.

291  
00:19:34,350 --> 00:19:34,880  
Yes.

292

00:19:34,880 --> 00:19:41,750

How long did it last that  
the barbers cut the hair

293

00:19:41,750 --> 00:19:42,980

inside the gas chamber?

294

00:19:42,980 --> 00:19:46,600

Because it was not  
always the case.

295

00:19:46,600 --> 00:19:47,830

How long it was?

296

00:19:47,830 --> 00:19:49,630

Yes.

297

00:19:49,630 --> 00:19:51,890

It wasn't too long.

298

00:19:51,890 --> 00:19:57,290

A group came in, like I  
said before, about 60 women,

299

00:19:57,290 --> 00:19:59,117

but it didn't take any longer.

300

00:19:59,117 --> 00:20:00,200

No, it is not my question.

301

00:20:00,200 --> 00:20:02,060

Maybe I don't understand  
your question.

302

00:20:02,060 --> 00:20:04,160

Yes.

303

00:20:04,160 --> 00:20:10,490

Because I saw that the time when  
the hair was cut inside the gas

304

00:20:10,490 --> 00:20:13,190

chamber did not last very long.

305

00:20:13,190 --> 00:20:17,360

That after a while, their hair  
was cut before the gas chamber.

306

00:20:17,360 --> 00:20:19,100

After every time--

307

00:20:19,100 --> 00:20:20,230

You told me this yourself.

308

00:20:20,230 --> 00:20:24,290

What ever time they  
locked the doors,

309

00:20:24,290 --> 00:20:27,110

they took out the hair  
from the gas chambers.

310

00:20:27,110 --> 00:20:31,910

They packed them in big sacks  
and put them to a special place

311

00:20:31,910 --> 00:20:36,070

where, after that, we  
transport those things.

312

00:20:36,070 --> 00:20:39,830

And then they want us  
to take that to Germany.

313

00:20:39,830 --> 00:20:41,246

Because they were using for--

314

00:20:41,246 --> 00:20:43,100

No, you don't  
understand what I mean.

315

00:20:43,100 --> 00:20:47,000

How many weeks did  
it last that the hair

316

00:20:47,000 --> 00:20:49,970  
was cut inside the gas chamber?

317

00:20:49,970 --> 00:20:51,080  
How many weeks?

318

00:20:51,080 --> 00:20:54,880  
It didn't last even an hour.

319

00:20:54,880 --> 00:21:00,220  
For every transport which went  
in, and I said that before--

320

00:21:00,220 --> 00:21:01,760  
(film slating)

321

00:21:01,760 --> 00:21:08,510

322

00:21:08,510 --> 00:21:14,360  
For how many weeks did you  
work inside the gas chamber?

323

00:21:14,360 --> 00:21:20,150  
Inside the gas chamber, we  
worked for just, I would say,

324

00:21:20,150 --> 00:21:21,590  
a short period of time.

325

00:21:21,590 --> 00:21:26,240

326

00:21:26,240 --> 00:21:34,400  
Because they decided not  
to let the people working

327

00:21:34,400 --> 00:21:43,260  
in the Treblinka one  
to go to Treblinka two.

328

00:21:43,260 --> 00:21:47,940

So we worked there for  
about a week or 10 days

329

00:21:47,940 --> 00:21:50,610

in the gas chamber.

330

00:21:50,610 --> 00:21:57,300

After that, they decided  
that we will cut the hair

331

00:21:57,300 --> 00:22:03,600

in the undressing barrack  
where they divided the barrack

332

00:22:03,600 --> 00:22:07,560

and partitioned a  
small partition where

333

00:22:07,560 --> 00:22:12,030

we did the job over  
there in that partition

334

00:22:12,030 --> 00:22:13,670

of the undressing barrack.

335

00:22:13,670 --> 00:22:19,840

336

00:22:19,840 --> 00:22:24,790

But tell me, professionally,  
you are a barber for men,

337

00:22:24,790 --> 00:22:27,810

or for women, too?

338

00:22:27,810 --> 00:22:32,620

In the old country, I was  
a barber for men and women.

339

00:22:32,620 --> 00:22:35,920

Over there we had not  
especially like for a man.

340  
00:22:35,920 --> 00:22:39,700  
We had for ladies and for men.

341  
00:22:39,700 --> 00:22:43,160  
And I was able to do  
both men and women.

342  
00:22:43,160 --> 00:22:49,646

343  
00:22:49,646 --> 00:22:52,160  
Today you don't work  
anymore with women.

344  
00:22:52,160 --> 00:22:53,030  
Not today.

345  
00:22:53,030 --> 00:22:56,990  
I don't work anymore, no.

346  
00:22:56,990 --> 00:23:00,270  
I worked for a while.

347  
00:23:00,270 --> 00:23:05,805  
And I guess I worked  
plenty of years.

348  
00:23:05,805 --> 00:23:08,500

349  
00:23:08,500 --> 00:23:11,920  
So I'm just doing a  
little bit of work.

350  
00:23:11,920 --> 00:23:16,880  
Not exactly a lot, but once  
in a while I go into a place

351  
00:23:16,880 --> 00:23:17,770  
and I do that.

352

00:23:17,770 --> 00:23:19,540

What did you feel  
when you started

353

00:23:19,540 --> 00:23:27,540

to cut the hair of the  
women after the war?

354

00:23:27,540 --> 00:23:30,180

355

00:23:30,180 --> 00:23:34,620

After the war, that is  
a real good question.

356

00:23:34,620 --> 00:23:41,010

Because when I came out  
from the extermination camp

357

00:23:41,010 --> 00:23:46,840

in Treblinka, and I went then  
to work in a barber shop,

358

00:23:46,840 --> 00:23:54,620

and when a woman was sitting  
at the chair and dressed,

359

00:23:54,620 --> 00:23:57,170

it was funny for me  
because I was cutting

360

00:23:57,170 --> 00:24:02,220

the hair for so many hundred  
and a hundred women all naked,

361

00:24:02,220 --> 00:24:04,440

without any dress.

362

00:24:04,440 --> 00:24:05,970

From the beginning,  
I didn't know

363

00:24:05,970 --> 00:24:11,250

how to start doing the  
haircut where a woman sits

364

00:24:11,250 --> 00:24:15,990

dressed like a woman should be.

365

00:24:15,990 --> 00:24:21,150

Emotionally. for me, I  
couldn't get used to the idea.

366

00:24:21,150 --> 00:24:26,220

It took quite a time until  
I get used to myself,

367

00:24:26,220 --> 00:24:34,600

to do the cutting of a lady's  
hair, dressed with her clothes

368

00:24:34,600 --> 00:24:35,100

on.

369

00:24:35,100 --> 00:24:43,250

370

00:24:43,250 --> 00:24:49,610

You said something was  
missing, or not missing.

371

00:24:49,610 --> 00:24:51,950

Something was missing.

372

00:24:51,950 --> 00:24:57,280

I tell you something, if you  
work in a place like that,

373

00:24:57,280 --> 00:25:03,040

you get so used to it that you  
feel that something is missing,

374

00:25:03,040 --> 00:25:07,400

that the normal thing is odd.



375

00:25:07,400 --> 00:25:13,100

Or you are brainwashed  
where you do something,

376

00:25:13,100 --> 00:25:16,310

you don't figure out  
what are you doing.

377

00:25:16,310 --> 00:25:20,710

Just think what you  
are supposed to do.

378

00:25:20,710 --> 00:25:29,650

379

00:25:29,650 --> 00:25:31,510

Is it true that the  
people like you,

380

00:25:31,510 --> 00:25:37,490

when you were cutting the hair  
of the naked women just before

381

00:25:37,490 --> 00:25:42,420

their deaths, that you  
looked like automats ?

382

00:25:42,420 --> 00:25:45,470

Well, I would say so, mostly.

383

00:25:45,470 --> 00:25:47,090

Mostly we are.

384

00:25:47,090 --> 00:25:50,810

Like, you know, like, feeling  
about it that we are men

385

00:25:50,810 --> 00:25:52,610

and they are women,  
we had at that time

386

00:25:52,610 --> 00:25:57,500

no feeling because we  
know that in an hour,

387  
00:25:57,500 --> 00:26:02,720  
or two hours, or the day, we  
going to be together with them.

388  
00:26:02,720 --> 00:26:06,000  
We would be as dead as they are.

389  
00:26:06,000 --> 00:26:10,500  
So the feeling was not  
like between man and woman.

390  
00:26:10,500 --> 00:26:14,210  
But the feeling  
was to stay maybe

391  
00:26:14,210 --> 00:26:18,780  
another half hour, or  
maybe another half a day,

392  
00:26:18,780 --> 00:26:21,030  
or the top of it a day.

393  
00:26:21,030 --> 00:26:23,910  
Because most of the people,  
they didn't stay over

394  
00:26:23,910 --> 00:26:25,290  
there too long.

395  
00:26:25,290 --> 00:26:30,630  
If they stayed a day,  
two days, if somebody

396  
00:26:30,630 --> 00:26:33,240  
over there in Treblinka  
worked for a week,

397  
00:26:33,240 --> 00:26:36,250  
he was called an old worker.

398

00:26:36,250 --> 00:26:39,540

Which is not that simple  
because he works already

399

00:26:39,540 --> 00:26:42,340

over there for a week.

400

00:26:42,340 --> 00:26:44,390

And when I was working there--

401

00:26:44,390 --> 00:26:46,590

a little short story,  
maybe I don't know,

402

00:26:46,590 --> 00:26:47,940

maybe will interest you.

403

00:26:47,940 --> 00:26:50,360

Maybe will not interest you.

404

00:26:50,360 --> 00:26:53,970

That meant that I was  
over there, I got sick.

405

00:26:53,970 --> 00:26:56,730

I got very, very  
sick over there.

406

00:26:56,730 --> 00:26:59,310

What made me sick that  
I thought that I'm going

407

00:26:59,310 --> 00:27:01,430

to die or something like that.

408

00:27:01,430 --> 00:27:04,170

And it was going  
over to the head man,

409

00:27:04,170 --> 00:27:06,000

they called him McKeever.

410

00:27:06,000 --> 00:27:07,610

That's what we called him.

411

00:27:07,610 --> 00:27:10,710

The really name, what it  
was, really I don't know.

412

00:27:10,710 --> 00:27:15,300

And I came over to him  
and I said, please,

413

00:27:15,300 --> 00:27:17,280

can you take me  
down to the Lazaret

414

00:27:17,280 --> 00:27:19,050

because I want to be killed.

415

00:27:19,050 --> 00:27:20,790

I cannot take the pains anymore.

416

00:27:20,790 --> 00:27:25,320

Because it was impossible  
to go through those pains.

417

00:27:25,320 --> 00:27:29,320

I had a attack of the kidney.

418

00:27:29,320 --> 00:27:32,620

And without anything, without  
medicine, without anything.

419

00:27:32,620 --> 00:27:36,280

They said it is impossible.

420

00:27:36,280 --> 00:27:38,530

So when I went over  
to him, I said, please

421

00:27:38,530 --> 00:27:41,450

take me down to the  
Lazaret and kill me.

422  
00:27:41,450 --> 00:27:46,280  
He was looking at me  
like I would be crazy.

423  
00:27:46,280 --> 00:27:49,750  
So he is asking me, how  
long are you working here?

424  
00:27:49,750 --> 00:27:52,930  
I said, I'm working here  
already about five, six weeks.

425  
00:27:52,930 --> 00:27:55,180  
Five, six weeks, he said.

426  
00:27:55,180 --> 00:27:59,860  
Go into the kitchen and tell the  
man to give you some whiskey.

427  
00:27:59,860 --> 00:28:02,680  
And then you get some  
whiskey, you feel better.

428  
00:28:02,680 --> 00:28:04,630  
I went over to get  
some kind of whiskey.

429  
00:28:04,630 --> 00:28:06,400  
Whiskey I didn't get.

430  
00:28:06,400 --> 00:28:08,920  
I got a little bit of tea.

431  
00:28:08,920 --> 00:28:13,220  
McKeever told me to go in  
the barrack, to stay there.

432  
00:28:13,220 --> 00:28:17,260  
But to stay in the barrack,  
that means that you are dead.

433

00:28:17,260 --> 00:28:20,630  
It never happened that  
somebody went to the barrack

434  
00:28:20,630 --> 00:28:23,440  
in middle of the day,  
and they shouldn't

435  
00:28:23,440 --> 00:28:25,210  
take him out and to kill him.

436  
00:28:25,210 --> 00:28:28,520  
But really, up til now, I  
don't know what had happened.

437  
00:28:28,520 --> 00:28:32,170  
I went into the  
barrack, laid down,

438  
00:28:32,170 --> 00:28:34,470  
and then some of my  
friends working there,

439  
00:28:34,470 --> 00:28:38,290  
they tried to sneak in to  
see or I'm still alive.

440  
00:28:38,290 --> 00:28:39,130  
And they saw me.

441  
00:28:39,130 --> 00:28:40,280  
They were talking to me.

442  
00:28:40,280 --> 00:28:42,550  
And they see that  
I'm really alive.

443  
00:28:42,550 --> 00:28:45,550  
And they said, my God, I  
don't know what happened.

444  
00:28:45,550 --> 00:28:50,680  
Even the older kapo,

What happened here,

445  
00:28:50,680 --> 00:28:52,930  
that never happened  
in Treblinka.

446  
00:28:52,930 --> 00:28:53,840  
I was there.

447  
00:28:53,840 --> 00:28:56,510  
I was laying down  
until the night.

448  
00:28:56,510 --> 00:29:00,610  
And when the night came  
in, it came in some people,

449  
00:29:00,610 --> 00:29:01,400  
they worked.

450  
00:29:01,400 --> 00:29:03,490  
I will never get forget  
the name of Capitan Zhelo.

451  
00:29:03,490 --> 00:29:05,410

452  
00:29:05,410 --> 00:29:06,170  
Zhelo, yes.

453  
00:29:06,170 --> 00:29:07,130  
Yes.

454  
00:29:07,130 --> 00:29:08,630  
He was the capitan.

455  
00:29:08,630 --> 00:29:10,160  
We slept together.

456  
00:29:10,160 --> 00:29:14,060  
He was the head man in  
the uprising in Treblinka.

457

00:29:14,060 --> 00:29:19,680

He was together with the man  
who was a cousin of Dr. Masaryk.

458

00:29:19,680 --> 00:29:20,880

He was a doctor himself.

459

00:29:20,880 --> 00:29:22,130

He came over to me--

460

00:29:22,130 --> 00:29:23,300

Zhelo Bloch.

461

00:29:23,300 --> 00:29:26,020

He said to me, what  
is wrong with you?

462

00:29:26,020 --> 00:29:28,420

I said, this and that is wrong.

463

00:29:28,420 --> 00:29:30,450

So he took out the tablet.

464

00:29:30,450 --> 00:29:34,010

He said, Abe, take this.

465

00:29:34,010 --> 00:29:39,860

If you don't feel better in  
an hour, just let me know.

466

00:29:39,860 --> 00:29:41,630

I took that tablet.

467

00:29:41,630 --> 00:29:46,490

I got up in the morning  
just like a newborn man.

468

00:29:46,490 --> 00:29:49,710

Up till this day,  
I never felt what



469

00:29:49,710 --> 00:29:53,540

it means to have kidney  
trouble or kidney attack.

470

00:29:53,540 --> 00:29:55,250

And that actually happened.

471

00:29:55,250 --> 00:29:59,940

What I don't know what do  
happened to that man, McKeever,

472

00:29:59,940 --> 00:30:03,810

that he didn't take me  
down just like he took down

473

00:30:03,810 --> 00:30:07,930

hundreds and hundreds of  
people and to kill them.

474

00:30:07,930 --> 00:30:10,570

That means that somebody  
who worked there

475

00:30:10,570 --> 00:30:15,770

for quite a number of days,  
that he was something.

476

00:30:15,770 --> 00:30:19,230

He wasn't like  
somebody comes in.

477

00:30:19,230 --> 00:30:21,690

And to this day, I  
really don't know

478

00:30:21,690 --> 00:30:25,270

how to imagine this thing  
what is happened over there.

479

00:30:25,270 --> 00:30:26,725

It happened many, many times.

480

00:30:26,725 --> 00:30:29,280

481

00:30:29,280 --> 00:30:36,550

When a transport arrived, and  
I try to sneak out some men,

482

00:30:36,550 --> 00:30:39,440

I tried to sneak out  
a cousin of mine.

483

00:30:39,440 --> 00:30:43,160

And I told him, lay  
behind the clothes.

484

00:30:43,160 --> 00:30:44,840

Nobody will look at you.

485

00:30:44,840 --> 00:30:46,730

I will take you out.

486

00:30:46,730 --> 00:30:51,260

But from nowhere, there  
came across a Nazi.

487

00:30:51,260 --> 00:30:53,720

He said, what are  
you doing here?

488

00:30:53,720 --> 00:30:56,000

Took out the gun and killed him.

489

00:30:56,000 --> 00:31:01,670

Most of the killing they  
did, the guy with the hat,

490

00:31:01,670 --> 00:31:04,165

like we called them  
the [INAUDIBLE]..

491

00:31:04,165 --> 00:31:05,915

I still don't know his  
name, even though I

492  
00:31:05,915 --> 00:31:08,230  
was at this trial over there.

493  
00:31:08,230 --> 00:31:09,460  
Miete.

494  
00:31:09,460 --> 00:31:10,240  
Miete.

495  
00:31:10,240 --> 00:31:11,320  
Yeah, that was his name.

496  
00:31:11,320 --> 00:31:12,160  
Miete.

497  
00:31:12,160 --> 00:31:13,840  
That's what they call him.

498  
00:31:13,840 --> 00:31:19,630  
And with him, or with the  
Lajcher, to kill anybody,

499  
00:31:19,630 --> 00:31:25,130  
or the guy that sucks  
up, to kill people

500  
00:31:25,130 --> 00:31:28,830  
just like playing a game.

501  
00:31:28,830 --> 00:31:33,690  
Because the biggest  
pleasure was for them

502  
00:31:33,690 --> 00:31:40,010  
to kill and to shoot  
at this special place

503  
00:31:40,010 --> 00:31:48,190  
where they had in their  
mind to shoot the bullet in.

504

00:31:48,190 --> 00:31:52,120

And when they succeeded,  
there were just happy.

505

00:31:52,120 --> 00:31:54,040

Like the guy Lajcher.

506

00:31:54,040 --> 00:31:59,460

His speciality was  
really in taking out

507

00:31:59,460 --> 00:32:05,190

the most nicest men,  
the most healthiest men,

508

00:32:05,190 --> 00:32:08,460

and without anything  
saying, just--