

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,330
[film slating)

2
00:00:03,330 --> 00:00:05,130

3
00:00:05,130 --> 00:00:07,460
You go on describing
these survivors,

4
00:00:07,460 --> 00:00:10,470
but I would like to know
what were your feelings when

5
00:00:10,470 --> 00:00:12,890
you were waiting for
these trains on the way.

6
00:00:12,890 --> 00:00:15,090
Is that most of the
people who would

7
00:00:15,090 --> 00:00:22,430
be in would be immediately
sent to the gas?

8
00:00:22,430 --> 00:00:25,070
But describe as you wish.

9
00:00:25,070 --> 00:00:28,750

10
00:00:28,750 --> 00:00:33,175
It is very difficult
to describe feelings.

11
00:00:33,175 --> 00:00:39,370

12
00:00:39,370 --> 00:00:44,350
But I have seen it so many

times that it became a routine.

13

00:00:44,350 --> 00:00:50,680

I wouldn't think that I have
been in any way particularly

14

00:00:50,680 --> 00:00:51,520

moved or--

15

00:00:51,520 --> 00:00:56,090

16

00:00:56,090 --> 00:00:57,515

It was not time for feelings.

17

00:00:57,515 --> 00:01:02,850

18

00:01:02,850 --> 00:01:05,940

It was more as a thought
which I had behind it.

19

00:01:05,940 --> 00:01:10,240

You see, I saw those transport
rolling in one after the other,

20

00:01:10,240 --> 00:01:12,570

one after the other,
and I am sure that they

21

00:01:12,570 --> 00:01:15,750

have seen at least 200
of them in this position.

22

00:01:15,750 --> 00:01:16,470

200 possible?

23

00:01:16,470 --> 00:01:18,480

At least.

24

00:01:18,480 --> 00:01:21,270

And each transport had

sometimes 1,000 people

25

00:01:21,270 --> 00:01:22,650
and sometimes 5,000.

26

00:01:22,650 --> 00:01:24,600
It varied.

27

00:01:24,600 --> 00:01:29,280
And what was for me very
difficult to comprehend

28

00:01:29,280 --> 00:01:33,420
was that those people are
disappearing from somewhere.

29

00:01:33,420 --> 00:01:34,170
From somewhere?

30

00:01:34,170 --> 00:01:37,140
Yes, they are disappearing.

31

00:01:37,140 --> 00:01:44,220
And, of course, I developed
a certain attitude

32

00:01:44,220 --> 00:01:48,240
towards those people
who themselves never

33

00:01:48,240 --> 00:01:51,090
asked the questions
and where are those

34

00:01:51,090 --> 00:01:53,710
who are deported before us.

35

00:01:53,710 --> 00:01:57,150
But they would never
ask when and to who?

36

00:01:57,150 --> 00:01:59,080

Well, say--

37

00:01:59,080 --> 00:02:00,877

When they arrived or
before they got there?

38

00:02:00,877 --> 00:02:02,710

Before they arrived,
yes, for the departure.

39

00:02:02,710 --> 00:02:05,350

Constantly people from sent
from the heart of Europe

40

00:02:05,350 --> 00:02:08,259

are disappearing
somewhere into nowhere

41

00:02:08,259 --> 00:02:09,785

as ever arriving
to the same place.

42

00:02:09,785 --> 00:02:12,450

43

00:02:12,450 --> 00:02:15,870

It's the same ignorance of the
fate of the previous transport

44

00:02:15,870 --> 00:02:17,470

each time.

45

00:02:17,470 --> 00:02:20,730

So this was positive for me.

46

00:02:20,730 --> 00:02:23,530

I couldn't understand it.

47

00:02:23,530 --> 00:02:30,295

And if-- well, it became
clear to me that they simply--

48

00:02:30,295 --> 00:02:32,800

49

00:02:32,800 --> 00:02:37,900

well, everybody was so
interesting about himself

50

00:02:37,900 --> 00:02:41,177

and not interested about
what's happening around him.

51

00:02:41,177 --> 00:02:42,010

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

52

00:02:42,010 --> 00:02:44,060

Yes, but you say
that you developed

53

00:02:44,060 --> 00:02:47,600

a kind of within yourself.

54

00:02:47,600 --> 00:02:50,720

Well, I would think so, yes.

55

00:02:50,720 --> 00:02:52,310

But not only you?

56

00:02:52,310 --> 00:02:55,160

Oh, this was-- who
didn't develop a routine.

57

00:02:55,160 --> 00:03:02,350

I mean is-- it was the
first sign of surviving

58

00:03:02,350 --> 00:03:05,300

was accepting the
different mentality,

59

00:03:05,300 --> 00:03:08,830

accepting the reality,
which is so very

60

00:03:08,830 --> 00:03:13,200
different from the textbook
on which we have been educated

61

00:03:13,200 --> 00:03:14,370
and still living.

62

00:03:14,370 --> 00:03:16,980

63

00:03:16,980 --> 00:03:19,890
The number of survivors is
a very small percentage,

64

00:03:19,890 --> 00:03:21,390
and we don't know
what were thinking

65

00:03:21,390 --> 00:03:24,150
those who didn't survive or
who didn't choose to survive.

66

00:03:24,150 --> 00:03:29,690
Among those who-- you see
from the prisoners, 50%

67

00:03:29,690 --> 00:03:31,730
from new arrivals
of prisoners those

68

00:03:31,730 --> 00:03:35,150
who were not gassed
but came into the camp

69

00:03:35,150 --> 00:03:38,210
would live only a very short
time, two or three months.

70

00:03:38,210 --> 00:03:43,160
And I'm not so sure if
it was only a physical--

71

00:03:43,160 --> 00:03:44,960
physical reasons which
caused the deaths.

72
00:03:44,960 --> 00:03:51,540
I suppose that the
difficulty to change

73
00:03:51,540 --> 00:03:58,008
the mentality completely,
loss of will to live.

74
00:03:58,008 --> 00:03:58,550
I don't know.

75
00:03:58,550 --> 00:04:02,170

76
00:04:02,170 --> 00:04:04,380
But can you go on
describing those--

77
00:04:04,380 --> 00:04:08,280
But the inertia against
what you are seeing,

78
00:04:08,280 --> 00:04:11,000
this had to develop.

79
00:04:11,000 --> 00:04:11,540
Yes.

80
00:04:11,540 --> 00:04:14,360
I understand that.

81
00:04:14,360 --> 00:04:17,740
Well, what was happening
was the transport arrived.

82
00:04:17,740 --> 00:04:20,269
Because there was the lights?

83

00:04:20,269 --> 00:04:21,320
Everything was lighted?

84
00:04:21,320 --> 00:04:21,820
Yeah.

85
00:04:21,820 --> 00:04:24,280
Now, again, it was a
routine, but this routine

86
00:04:24,280 --> 00:04:26,130
had variations.

87
00:04:26,130 --> 00:04:26,720
Yes.

88
00:04:26,720 --> 00:04:30,070
I will give you a
typical example.

89
00:04:30,070 --> 00:04:32,410
Once a train arrived,
naturally the SS

90
00:04:32,410 --> 00:04:36,190
who were standing around the
platform, they wouldn't move.

91
00:04:36,190 --> 00:04:41,330
But this lead inside all those
German gangsters in officer's

92
00:04:41,330 --> 00:04:41,830
uniform.

93
00:04:41,830 --> 00:04:44,400

94
00:04:44,400 --> 00:04:47,700
They all were wearing
walking sticks,

95

00:04:47,700 --> 00:04:53,010
not clubs, elegant walking
sticks, white gloves

96
00:04:53,010 --> 00:04:56,060
in those backgrounds.

97
00:04:56,060 --> 00:04:58,180
So the rest got the point.

98
00:04:58,180 --> 00:04:59,730
There was never
much explanation.

99
00:04:59,730 --> 00:05:03,825

100
00:05:03,825 --> 00:05:05,210
My hand back?

101
00:05:05,210 --> 00:05:05,730
Yeah.

102
00:05:05,730 --> 00:05:06,770
OK.

103
00:05:06,770 --> 00:05:08,660
Sorry.

104
00:05:08,660 --> 00:05:11,790
There was never
much explanation.

105
00:05:11,790 --> 00:05:19,980
And so the people got
out from the wagons.

106
00:05:19,980 --> 00:05:21,120
They jumped?

107
00:05:21,120 --> 00:05:27,330
Well, they were driven

out with sticks--

108
00:05:27,330 --> 00:05:29,020
with bamboo sticks with clubs.

109
00:05:29,020 --> 00:05:31,430
They were driven out.

110
00:05:31,430 --> 00:05:32,220
Things like that.

111
00:05:32,220 --> 00:05:32,750
Really?

112
00:05:32,750 --> 00:05:33,250
Yes.

113
00:05:33,250 --> 00:05:35,640
Yes, there was--
there was a variation.

114
00:05:35,640 --> 00:05:37,670
They were bored, too.

115
00:05:37,670 --> 00:05:39,960
If they had time.

116
00:05:39,960 --> 00:05:43,100
If you had a transport day
on which five, six transports

117
00:05:43,100 --> 00:05:46,280
would come, then
this wouldn't happen

118
00:05:46,280 --> 00:05:48,260
because whenever a
new transport came,

119
00:05:48,260 --> 00:05:52,100
the ramp was cleaned
absolutely to zero point.

120
00:05:52,100 --> 00:05:56,106
No trace from the previous
transport was allowed to--

121
00:05:56,106 --> 00:05:56,800
To remain?

122
00:05:56,800 --> 00:05:57,300
To remain.

123
00:05:57,300 --> 00:05:58,090
No one trace?

124
00:05:58,090 --> 00:06:00,350
Not one trace.

125
00:06:00,350 --> 00:06:03,030
Therefore if they
expected on that day four,

126
00:06:03,030 --> 00:06:06,050
five, six transports,
the pressure

127
00:06:06,050 --> 00:06:09,680
on getting out from
the wagons was high.

128
00:06:09,680 --> 00:06:12,240
Then they used sticks,
clubs, [INAUDIBLE],,

129
00:06:12,240 --> 00:06:13,610
et cetera, et cetera.

130
00:06:13,610 --> 00:06:14,970
It had to go very fast?

131
00:06:14,970 --> 00:06:16,580
Very fast.

132

00:06:16,580 --> 00:06:20,780

On the other hand,
when they had time

133

00:06:20,780 --> 00:06:24,170

and when the weather
was good, too, well, it

134

00:06:24,170 --> 00:06:26,210

could go a bit slower,
and they exhibited

135

00:06:26,210 --> 00:06:29,480

a lot of good will and
sort of a subtle irony

136

00:06:29,480 --> 00:06:30,780

if I may put it that way.

137

00:06:30,780 --> 00:06:33,745

I think typical Prussian humor.

138

00:06:33,745 --> 00:06:34,370

Prussian humor?

139

00:06:34,370 --> 00:06:37,505

The Prussian humor, yes.

140

00:06:37,505 --> 00:06:46,560

They would be extremely
polite and having a good time.

141

00:06:46,560 --> 00:06:50,680

Things were sometimes different.

142

00:06:50,680 --> 00:06:55,810

So people came out and
were ordered to immediately

143

00:06:55,810 --> 00:06:59,140

to stand up in five, in columns.

144

00:06:59,140 --> 00:07:03,280

They were organized in a
column and in rows of five.

145

00:07:03,280 --> 00:07:06,160

Now there was always an
amount of people who could not

146

00:07:06,160 --> 00:07:08,350

get out from the wagons.

147

00:07:08,350 --> 00:07:11,410

That was those who
died on the route.

148

00:07:11,410 --> 00:07:12,400

In each wagon?

149

00:07:12,400 --> 00:07:13,780

In-- not in each wagon.

150

00:07:13,780 --> 00:07:15,590

There are no rules
about that, you see.

151

00:07:15,590 --> 00:07:17,980

There was a great variation
because if the train came

152

00:07:17,980 --> 00:07:24,310

from a place in winter and the
train was 10 days on the route

153

00:07:24,310 --> 00:07:27,400

and there were 80, 90
people per wagon, well,

154

00:07:27,400 --> 00:07:29,920

you could have as many as
one third of the people

155

00:07:29,920 --> 00:07:32,050

dead on arrival.

156
00:07:32,050 --> 00:07:33,910
On the other hand,
if the train came

157
00:07:33,910 --> 00:07:36,130
from a place like
Prague or Vienna

158
00:07:36,130 --> 00:07:42,316
where the Nazis had to
keep better appearances

159
00:07:42,316 --> 00:07:44,090
or from Paris, for instance--

160
00:07:44,090 --> 00:07:45,680
Yes.

161
00:07:45,680 --> 00:07:47,940
And the train wasn't
too long on the journeys

162
00:07:47,940 --> 00:07:50,670
and it was possible that there
was only in every second wagon

163
00:07:50,670 --> 00:07:51,840
a death.

164
00:07:51,840 --> 00:07:54,710
So sometimes there were in the
transport, already 100, 200,

165
00:07:54,710 --> 00:07:58,490
300 dead people, and
sometimes only three or four.

166
00:07:58,490 --> 00:08:01,430
So this was very
difficult to say.

167

00:08:01,430 --> 00:08:05,930
Then there were others who the
number of people in the wagon--

168

00:08:05,930 --> 00:08:07,940
who in spite of the
collapse couldn't

169

00:08:07,940 --> 00:08:11,920
be persuaded to get out
because they were dying.

170

00:08:11,920 --> 00:08:13,070
They were not yet dead.

171

00:08:13,070 --> 00:08:14,060
They were dying?

172

00:08:14,060 --> 00:08:14,870
Dying.

173

00:08:14,870 --> 00:08:19,010
And all people who are
sick to such a degree that

174

00:08:19,010 --> 00:08:23,180
even persuasion
with violent beating

175

00:08:23,180 --> 00:08:24,980
wouldn't get them
moving fast enough.

176

00:08:24,980 --> 00:08:25,580
Yes.

177

00:08:25,580 --> 00:08:27,380
So those people stood--

178

00:08:27,380 --> 00:08:29,612
remained in the wagons.

179

00:08:29,612 --> 00:08:31,070

Also the people
who were driven out

180

00:08:31,070 --> 00:08:34,370

from the wagons and
everybody-- it was told to them

181

00:08:34,370 --> 00:08:36,679

don't take anything with you.

182

00:08:36,679 --> 00:08:37,990

[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH]

183

00:08:37,990 --> 00:08:40,150

They had their belongings
in the same wagon?

184

00:08:40,150 --> 00:08:41,285

In the same wagon.

185

00:08:41,285 --> 00:08:44,990

You see, the wagon was their
belongings and the people

186

00:08:44,990 --> 00:08:49,280

somehow and some way pressed in.

187

00:08:49,280 --> 00:08:51,710

So then the people were
already out of the wagons

188

00:08:51,710 --> 00:08:53,420

and separated from
other prisoners

189

00:08:53,420 --> 00:08:55,670

because it was very
important for the Nazis

190

00:08:55,670 --> 00:08:58,460

that these prisoners should

not be able to communicate

191

00:08:58,460 --> 00:09:00,880

with those new arrivals.

192

00:09:00,880 --> 00:09:05,000