

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,955

2
00:00:02,955 --> 00:00:03,455
Tamir.

3
00:00:03,455 --> 00:00:03,955
Cut four.

4
00:00:03,955 --> 00:00:07,170

5
00:00:07,170 --> 00:00:07,670
OK.

6
00:00:07,670 --> 00:00:10,280

7
00:00:10,280 --> 00:00:14,540
It was not the Judenrat
and it was not typical.

8
00:00:14,540 --> 00:00:17,270
And to the best of
my knowledge, this

9
00:00:17,270 --> 00:00:22,420
is a very single case to
such an extent, and so deep.

10
00:00:22,420 --> 00:00:26,120

11
00:00:26,120 --> 00:00:33,650
Every nation, every people
has its wonderful elements

12
00:00:33,650 --> 00:00:40,940
and it has its weak ones which
become a victim and eventually

13

00:00:40,940 --> 00:00:45,990

dangerous victim as I said,
this is the exception.

14

00:00:45,990 --> 00:00:48,680

This is not the general thing.

15

00:00:48,680 --> 00:00:58,250

And what actually
gave the final proof

16

00:00:58,250 --> 00:01:01,730

of this horrifying
collaboration was the fact

17

00:01:01,730 --> 00:01:09,710

that after the war,
in Nuremberg in 1947,

18

00:01:09,710 --> 00:01:13,130

he testified for Becher.

19

00:01:13,130 --> 00:01:20,210

He saved him from punishment
by giving false affidavit.

20

00:01:20,210 --> 00:01:23,880

Totally false.

21

00:01:23,880 --> 00:01:32,760

He has tried which is
known less to save Krume

22

00:01:32,760 --> 00:01:37,020

And he succeeded
at the beginning

23

00:01:37,020 --> 00:01:41,310

and he has written Krume

24

00:01:41,310 --> 00:01:45,180

never forget his help.

25

00:01:45,180 --> 00:01:49,800

The man who was number
two to Eichmann He

26

00:01:49,800 --> 00:01:54,000

has tried to persuade the
American to bring Wisliceny

27

00:01:54,000 --> 00:01:57,360

from the hands of the
Poles and the Slovaks where

28

00:01:57,360 --> 00:02:01,800

he was bound to face what
was due to him, death.

29

00:02:01,800 --> 00:02:07,230

To an American part of Germany
where his life could be

30

00:02:07,230 --> 00:02:10,990

rescued, and this is
documented too and he has given

31

00:02:10,990 --> 00:02:16,510

a testimony relating to JÄ¼ttner
to SS general JÄ¼ttner as well.

32

00:02:16,510 --> 00:02:24,510

So in a wholesale way, he
tries to save arch Nazi killers

33

00:02:24,510 --> 00:02:26,670

because towards
the end of the war,

34

00:02:26,670 --> 00:02:30,030

he crossed the line totally.

35

00:02:30,030 --> 00:02:31,890

And this is a very

unique case, I

36
00:02:31,890 --> 00:02:33,190
don't know if any other could--

37
00:02:33,190 --> 00:02:36,690
Would you say that he was--

38
00:02:36,690 --> 00:02:38,500
you talked some
minutes ago about

39
00:02:38,500 --> 00:02:43,270
his ideological collaborators
who identify themselves as--

40
00:02:43,270 --> 00:02:43,770
No.

41
00:02:43,770 --> 00:02:46,440
He was not an
ideological collaborator.

42
00:02:46,440 --> 00:02:55,860
I think he was caught by his
own activity into the feeling

43
00:02:55,860 --> 00:02:59,940
that he's a part of the
strong, of the winning

44
00:02:59,940 --> 00:03:09,840
side of the successful, of
those who control the lives

45
00:03:09,840 --> 00:03:12,270
of hundreds of thousands.

46
00:03:12,270 --> 00:03:14,010
And he became part of them.

47
00:03:14,010 --> 00:03:18,930

He gradually identified himself with them, not ideologically.

48

00:03:18,930 --> 00:03:22,270

This is the winning side for the Germans at the end of the war.

49

00:03:22,270 --> 00:03:22,770

He knew--

50

00:03:22,770 --> 00:03:23,640

At the beginning.

51

00:03:23,640 --> 00:03:25,470

At the beginning.

52

00:03:25,470 --> 00:03:29,310

At the beginning when they came and took over

53

00:03:29,310 --> 00:03:34,230

Hungary and they had full control

54

00:03:34,230 --> 00:03:35,790

of the lives of the Jews.

55

00:03:35,790 --> 00:03:39,690

I mean, in the war between Germany and the Jews,

56

00:03:39,690 --> 00:03:42,990

they, unfortunately, were the winning side.

57

00:03:42,990 --> 00:03:43,710

Oh Yes.

58

00:03:43,710 --> 00:03:46,920

This is different.

59

00:03:46,920 --> 00:03:50,100

He came to represent the Jews.

60

00:03:50,100 --> 00:03:54,930

And I say again, the man
started as an idealist,

61

00:03:54,930 --> 00:03:58,470

a Zionist socialist idealist.

62

00:03:58,470 --> 00:04:01,860

Power, power
totally blinded him.

63

00:04:01,860 --> 00:04:09,120

I'll never forget how, once
he was asked by journalists

64

00:04:09,120 --> 00:04:12,090

during the trial,
in an interval,

65

00:04:12,090 --> 00:04:15,510

can you give us a description
of Kurt Becher How was he?

66

00:04:15,510 --> 00:04:17,959

How did he look?

67

00:04:17,959 --> 00:04:19,050

Was he handsome?

68

00:04:19,050 --> 00:04:20,579

Was he good looking?

69

00:04:20,579 --> 00:04:22,860

Was he strong?

70

00:04:22,860 --> 00:04:28,650

And he said he was
handsome as God.

71

00:04:28,650 --> 00:04:29,790

About Kurt Becher.

72

00:04:29,790 --> 00:04:32,880

73

00:04:32,880 --> 00:04:37,830

The very expression, the
identity was twisted.

74

00:04:37,830 --> 00:04:38,980

It's a tragedy.

75

00:04:38,980 --> 00:04:40,290

It's a unique case, I say.

76

00:04:40,290 --> 00:04:41,880

It's very non-typical.

77

00:04:41,880 --> 00:04:45,990

It has nothing to do
with the Judenrats.

78

00:04:45,990 --> 00:04:48,360

But he was very clear.

79

00:04:48,360 --> 00:04:51,270

He was very lucid, in some way.

80

00:04:51,270 --> 00:04:55,290

I found in his report,
at least two passages

81

00:04:55,290 --> 00:05:00,000

where he said, if you permit
me I will read them to you.

82

00:05:00,000 --> 00:05:03,570

When he is negotiating with
Eichmann about this transport

83

00:05:03,570 --> 00:05:06,902

from KoloszvÃ¡r, from Cluj.

84
00:05:06,902 --> 00:05:12,180
This transport is 388
people, which is not much.

85
00:05:12,180 --> 00:05:16,080
And Eichmann is always
delaying and delaying.

86
00:05:16,080 --> 00:05:20,190
And he writes, Kasztner,
And now Eichmann

87
00:05:20,190 --> 00:05:24,600
simply stated that he did
not want to keep his word,

88
00:05:24,600 --> 00:05:27,360
not even to these few.

89
00:05:27,360 --> 00:05:32,170
If I take this as such,
this is Kasztner writes,

90
00:05:32,170 --> 00:05:35,230
We become accomplices
to the deportation

91
00:05:35,230 --> 00:05:38,170
of people who after
so much suffering

92
00:05:38,170 --> 00:05:40,600
have been chosen to be rescued.

93
00:05:40,600 --> 00:05:43,570
With this, the lowest
point has been reached,

94
00:05:43,570 --> 00:05:47,830
we cannot go on in this way.

95

00:05:47,830 --> 00:05:49,630
He knew the line.

96
00:05:49,630 --> 00:05:52,690
This was quoted by Judge Halevy,
the president of the district

97
00:05:52,690 --> 00:05:53,190
court.

98
00:05:53,190 --> 00:05:57,580

99
00:05:57,580 --> 00:06:01,420
This was put by himself in
a very sophisticated way

100
00:06:01,420 --> 00:06:03,500
and showed that
he had it in mind.

101
00:06:03,500 --> 00:06:05,320
And he escaped from
these situations.

102
00:06:05,320 --> 00:06:08,200
This one is even
less sophisticated.

103
00:06:08,200 --> 00:06:12,070
If now Eichmann cannot be
forced to come to reason,

104
00:06:12,070 --> 00:06:17,200
then the Vaada entering this
game of roulette on human

105
00:06:17,200 --> 00:06:22,980
lives, I'm putting its money on
the German side, was as naive,

106
00:06:22,980 --> 00:06:28,510
a loser as many of those

of us in occupied Europe.

107

00:06:28,510 --> 00:06:30,940

Then the media and
Spade we complete

108

00:06:30,940 --> 00:06:35,710

craziness, the loser in this
game is also called traitor.

109

00:06:35,710 --> 00:06:40,350

110

00:06:40,350 --> 00:06:47,010

The word roulette is very
typical to the attitude

111

00:06:47,010 --> 00:06:47,970

of this man.

112

00:06:47,970 --> 00:06:49,290

Yes.

113

00:06:49,290 --> 00:06:54,570

Roulette with the lives
of hundreds of thousands.

114

00:06:54,570 --> 00:07:02,350

He simply lost, in the tragedy,
the last senses of values.

115

00:07:02,350 --> 00:07:07,980

But even though he did
not live in a death camp

116

00:07:07,980 --> 00:07:13,410

or in Treblinka, or Majdanek,
and he lived in Budapest,

117

00:07:13,410 --> 00:07:18,480

in relatively comfortable
conditions but his mind

118

00:07:18,480 --> 00:07:23,535

was totally twisted by
this horrifying pressure.

119

00:07:23,535 --> 00:07:27,060

120

00:07:27,060 --> 00:07:32,340

This happened to
leaders of other nations

121

00:07:32,340 --> 00:07:34,500

who crossed the line
and collaborated.

122

00:07:34,500 --> 00:07:38,820

And the tragedy here,
was that, if you

123

00:07:38,820 --> 00:07:52,260

take a quisling or Laval, they
betrayed sovereignty freedom,

124

00:07:52,260 --> 00:07:54,410

independence.

125

00:07:54,410 --> 00:07:57,680

Their justification, which
was no justification,

126

00:07:57,680 --> 00:08:03,950

but their justification,
coming from them, was someday,

127

00:08:03,950 --> 00:08:08,360

this situation will change
and we have saved the people

128

00:08:08,360 --> 00:08:10,940

and we've saved the
country, physically.

129

00:08:10,940 --> 00:08:15,110
And freedom will
dawn upon us one day.

130
00:08:15,110 --> 00:08:17,960
This they could whisper
to themselves, perhaps.

131
00:08:17,960 --> 00:08:20,540
There's no justification.

132
00:08:20,540 --> 00:08:24,680
Kasztner collaborated
with a death machine.

133
00:08:24,680 --> 00:08:29,200
Behind this collaboration,
there was no future.

134
00:08:29,200 --> 00:08:32,120
There was only
one thing, the few

135
00:08:32,120 --> 00:08:36,480
who will be escaped,
that he will choose.

136
00:08:36,480 --> 00:08:41,250
And of course, we have debated
this horrible dilemma time

137
00:08:41,250 --> 00:08:47,730
and again, and we've
posed the question,

138
00:08:47,730 --> 00:08:51,570
we've posed the
question to the court.

139
00:08:51,570 --> 00:08:54,210
If you are the
captain of a boat,

140

00:08:54,210 --> 00:09:00,510
in charge of 1,000 passengers,
and all of a sudden

141
00:09:00,510 --> 00:09:05,910
you know that something bad is
going to happen to the boat.

142
00:09:05,910 --> 00:09:10,560
Are you allowed to pick 10
members of the passengers,

143
00:09:10,560 --> 00:09:17,220
quietly, calmly, hiding
the facts from the 990,

144
00:09:17,220 --> 00:09:25,380
put them on a small tiny boat
and say, save your lives?

145
00:09:25,380 --> 00:09:30,750
Or is it your duty to announce,
the boat is about to wreck?

146
00:09:30,750 --> 00:09:34,000
Everybody should try
to save his life.

147
00:09:34,000 --> 00:09:35,880
I can't take care of all of us.

148
00:09:35,880 --> 00:09:38,740

149
00:09:38,740 --> 00:09:42,760
My line was, the
minute you can't

150
00:09:42,760 --> 00:09:44,620
take care of the
life of everybody

151
00:09:44,620 --> 00:09:51,490

and save them, your only duty
is share with them the facts,

152
00:09:51,490 --> 00:09:55,450
and everybody will be
responsible for his own life.

153
00:09:55,450 --> 00:10:01,270
When you hide the
facts to save the 10,

154
00:10:01,270 --> 00:10:09,340
you are pushing the 990
to the fateful death,

155
00:10:09,340 --> 00:10:14,020
and knowingly, this
is the collaboration.

156
00:10:14,020 --> 00:10:18,190
And we've proven that he did
hide the facts from the people

157
00:10:18,190 --> 00:10:23,125
at the price of
rescuing the few.

158
00:10:23,125 --> 00:10:24,250
This was the collaboration.

159
00:10:24,250 --> 00:10:27,310
You know what the
people who support

160
00:10:27,310 --> 00:10:31,030
Kasztner, today and there are
still people who support--

161
00:10:31,030 --> 00:10:32,800
Yes, who vouch for him.

162
00:10:32,800 --> 00:10:35,080
Yes it's his country.

163
00:10:35,080 --> 00:10:39,100
And you know what
they answer to this?

164
00:10:39,100 --> 00:10:40,660
They answer several things.

165
00:10:40,660 --> 00:10:46,960
They say once that, I don't
agree with them personally,

166
00:10:46,960 --> 00:10:52,340
they said that Kasztner
tried to warn them.

167
00:10:52,340 --> 00:10:57,340
This is a new finding,
that he sent the Halutzim,

168
00:10:57,340 --> 00:11:02,635
in some ghetto, in order to
warn the people of the ghetto.

169
00:11:02,635 --> 00:11:12,310

170
00:11:12,310 --> 00:11:15,820
Yes, you know what the
supporters of Kasztner,

171
00:11:15,820 --> 00:11:22,490
and there are still many,
answer to your argumentation.

172
00:11:22,490 --> 00:11:24,550
They say two things.

173
00:11:24,550 --> 00:11:26,320
They say that, first
of all, Kasztner

174

00:11:26,320 --> 00:11:29,530
tried to warn the
people of the ghetto.

175
00:11:29,530 --> 00:11:36,950
That the Vaada sent young
Halutzim in several ghetto

176
00:11:36,950 --> 00:11:41,320
and that they told the truth
but that the people didn't

177
00:11:41,320 --> 00:11:44,050
want to believe it.

178
00:11:44,050 --> 00:11:47,890
And the second things
they say, is that to warn,

179
00:11:47,890 --> 00:11:52,720
would have been absolutely
useless, for this very reason

180
00:11:52,720 --> 00:11:56,920
that the majority of the
people didn't want to believe,

181
00:11:56,920 --> 00:11:59,830
and wouldn't have
want to believe.

182
00:11:59,830 --> 00:12:03,550
In any case, to which
they answer, personally,

183
00:12:03,550 --> 00:12:05,260
that it is not true,
because I think

184
00:12:05,260 --> 00:12:08,900
that the natural chiefs of
the community, would have

185

00:12:08,900 --> 00:12:11,350
speak themselves.

186
00:12:11,350 --> 00:12:13,210
I'll say the truth
maybe those things would

187
00:12:13,210 --> 00:12:17,010
have been different, but
what is your own answer?

188
00:12:17,010 --> 00:12:22,060
The two arguments are
contradicting each other.

189
00:12:22,060 --> 00:12:28,150
Because had Kasztner
really believed, or taken

190
00:12:28,150 --> 00:12:38,080
the line of warning to the
masses then the other story,

191
00:12:38,080 --> 00:12:41,200
that it wouldn't work,
wouldn't have come.

192
00:12:41,200 --> 00:12:47,830
The other argument
of his supporters,

193
00:12:47,830 --> 00:12:51,970
shows that they didn't
believe in this line.

194
00:12:51,970 --> 00:12:56,380
I don't want to argue the fact
that maybe at the beginning

195
00:12:56,380 --> 00:13:02,890
a few warnings were made,
although all the elements

196

00:13:02,890 --> 00:13:06,990
of proof were contrary to that.

197
00:13:06,990 --> 00:13:09,940
But what does it mean to warn?

198
00:13:09,940 --> 00:13:15,370
The natural instinct of
a man is to disbelieve

199
00:13:15,370 --> 00:13:18,380
that death is coming upon him.

200
00:13:18,380 --> 00:13:22,900
Ask every sick man in
cancer, most people

201
00:13:22,900 --> 00:13:27,550
will hope, that somehow
it won't happen.

202
00:13:27,550 --> 00:13:31,930
That it isn't cancer,
that it isn't that bad.

203
00:13:31,930 --> 00:13:36,040
The natural human
desire for life

204
00:13:36,040 --> 00:13:43,940
pushes aside any information
that he's doomed.

205
00:13:43,940 --> 00:13:51,140
Therefore, the duty to warn
must be a very heavy one,

206
00:13:51,140 --> 00:13:56,900
and the warning must come
from very competent authority,

207
00:13:56,900 --> 00:14:01,730
in order to neutralize

this natural instinct

208
00:14:01,730 --> 00:14:03,170
of this belief.

209
00:14:03,170 --> 00:14:04,400
Very high.

210
00:14:04,400 --> 00:14:10,190
And therefore, it had to come
from very authoritative sources

211
00:14:10,190 --> 00:14:16,250
who are trusted, their
leaders, accepted leaders.

212
00:14:16,250 --> 00:14:22,010
Then the two lines
couldn't go together.

213
00:14:22,010 --> 00:14:25,820
The Germans gave
Kasztner, or promised

214
00:14:25,820 --> 00:14:28,610
to give the 380,
which later developed

215
00:14:28,610 --> 00:14:37,130
into a somewhat larger number
of 600 and still later, 1,200.

216
00:14:37,130 --> 00:14:41,610
And it was exploited
along a very long time.

217
00:14:41,610 --> 00:14:44,270
Every time for another purpose.

218
00:14:44,270 --> 00:14:46,250
But the main purpose
at the beginning

219

00:14:46,250 --> 00:14:58,590
was one; to blind the
masses by taking the leaders

220

00:14:58,590 --> 00:15:04,090
and putting them into
a special category

221

00:15:04,090 --> 00:15:08,200
so that their
interests will conflict

222

00:15:08,200 --> 00:15:10,690
the interests of the masses.

223

00:15:10,690 --> 00:15:17,560
The interest of the masses was
to know, to escape, to revolt,

224

00:15:17,560 --> 00:15:20,830
to hide, to save themselves.

225

00:15:20,830 --> 00:15:23,140
The interests of the
few who were chosen

226

00:15:23,140 --> 00:15:27,130
to be put on a train and
led to eventual safety,

227

00:15:27,130 --> 00:15:34,270
was to keep calm, not to
notify, let the program develop

228

00:15:34,270 --> 00:15:38,980
while they are put in safety.

229

00:15:38,980 --> 00:15:44,020
And this was the satanic
gimmick of Eichmann with which

230

00:15:44,020 --> 00:15:46,450

Kasztner collaborated.

231
00:15:46,450 --> 00:15:50,260
The conflict of interest
developed immediately,

232
00:15:50,260 --> 00:15:55,570
when a group of selected
ones was put aside.

233
00:15:55,570 --> 00:15:58,570
That moment the tragedy started.

234
00:15:58,570 --> 00:16:00,970
And he was dedicated
to the mission.

235
00:16:00,970 --> 00:16:02,330
He was ambitious.

236
00:16:02,330 --> 00:16:04,360
He wanted to succeed.

237
00:16:04,360 --> 00:16:07,360
He called it the ark of Noah.

238
00:16:07,360 --> 00:16:10,510
He made it an ideology.

239
00:16:10,510 --> 00:16:14,350
And that moment, he
objectively started

240
00:16:14,350 --> 00:16:17,860
to be a tool in the
hands of the Nazis.

241
00:16:17,860 --> 00:16:23,860
Later, it became a knowing
tool, which was done already,

242
00:16:23,860 --> 00:16:24,550

willfully.

243

00:16:24,550 --> 00:16:27,970

Not that he wanted to see
the death of the masses,

244

00:16:27,970 --> 00:16:32,950

but he developed the
other terrible phenomena.

245

00:16:32,950 --> 00:16:38,290

The apathy to the
hundreds of thousands.

246

00:16:38,290 --> 00:16:40,120

They are dead.

247

00:16:40,120 --> 00:16:44,260

They are hopeless.

248

00:16:44,260 --> 00:16:47,170

They actually are
not regarded anymore,

249

00:16:47,170 --> 00:16:50,860

although they are still
alive, but the order of death

250

00:16:50,860 --> 00:16:52,330

is over their heads.

251

00:16:52,330 --> 00:16:54,370

Nothing doing.

252

00:16:54,370 --> 00:16:57,610

And all the effort should
be concentrated on the few.

253

00:16:57,610 --> 00:17:03,640

And I say, as a Supreme Court
Judge Zilber eventually judged,

254

00:17:03,640 --> 00:17:07,780
there is no human
being who is authorized

255
00:17:07,780 --> 00:17:09,760
to take the place
of God and say,

256
00:17:09,760 --> 00:17:13,630
you will go to death,
masses, and you

257
00:17:13,630 --> 00:17:18,099
few will be rescued
because I have chosen you.

258
00:17:18,099 --> 00:17:20,890
And I'm paying a
price for your safety,

259
00:17:20,890 --> 00:17:29,590
not just as I rescue you and the
other are sunk in a hurricane.

260
00:17:29,590 --> 00:17:38,470
I'm paying a price because the
masses rely on me, because I

261
00:17:38,470 --> 00:17:41,230
could have divulged the story.

262
00:17:41,230 --> 00:17:45,820
And the collaboration became so
close, that he knew everything.

263
00:17:45,820 --> 00:17:49,180
He was in the picture already,
and the German, already,

264
00:17:49,180 --> 00:17:50,170
could trust him.

265
00:17:50,170 --> 00:17:52,630

He knew everything
about Auschwitz.

266
00:17:52,630 --> 00:17:57,400
He knew everything about what's
going on among the Germans,

267
00:17:57,400 --> 00:17:58,030
themselves.

268
00:17:58,030 --> 00:18:00,830
He became part of
the Nazi [INAUDIBLE]

269
00:18:00,830 --> 00:18:04,030
in Hungary, gradually.

270
00:18:04,030 --> 00:18:07,330
And eventually, in
the beginning of 1945,

271
00:18:07,330 --> 00:18:10,460
they took him all
around, all around.

272
00:18:10,460 --> 00:18:15,940
He came back from
Switzerland, to Vienna,

273
00:18:15,940 --> 00:18:20,270
when they were
almost no Jews there,

274
00:18:20,270 --> 00:18:23,340
to accompany the Nazi leaders.

275
00:18:23,340 --> 00:18:25,810
He was an alibi for them.

276
00:18:25,810 --> 00:18:28,420
He was the alibi for
them and they kept him,

277

00:18:28,420 --> 00:18:31,770

and they trusted
the developments

278

00:18:31,770 --> 00:18:35,110

that even in the
free world, he would

279

00:18:35,110 --> 00:18:36,850

continue to give them an alibi.

280

00:18:36,850 --> 00:18:41,890

Yes, and he was a kind of
Inspector of the concentration

281

00:18:41,890 --> 00:18:43,630

camps.

282

00:18:43,630 --> 00:18:45,460

According to some reports.

283

00:18:45,460 --> 00:18:48,280

I don't know the facts for that.

284

00:18:48,280 --> 00:18:51,610

No, no, I mean at the end,
objectively, when he went--

285

00:18:51,610 --> 00:18:52,390

Not an inspector.

286

00:18:52,390 --> 00:18:55,000

287

00:18:55,000 --> 00:18:57,310

There were all kinds
of rumors to how deep

288

00:18:57,310 --> 00:19:03,080

and how close this friendship
and fraternity developed

289

00:19:03,080 --> 00:19:05,350
between them and himself.

290

00:19:05,350 --> 00:19:09,050
But anyhow, I agree with you
the tragedy as a selection,

291

00:19:09,050 --> 00:19:10,030
it started--

292

00:19:10,030 --> 00:19:12,430
It started there
but it developed

293

00:19:12,430 --> 00:19:15,320
into a much deeper abyss.

294

00:19:15,320 --> 00:19:15,820
Yes.

295

00:19:15,820 --> 00:19:19,690

296

00:19:19,690 --> 00:19:23,530
We could say this, he was
negotiating with Eichmann

297

00:19:23,530 --> 00:19:28,540
in order to save
some Jewish lives.

298

00:19:28,540 --> 00:19:32,920
And because he was negotiating
in order to save some,

299

00:19:32,920 --> 00:19:37,060
he had to keep the
side on the secrecy

300

00:19:37,060 --> 00:19:39,250
and to doom all the others.

301

00:19:39,250 --> 00:19:42,190

This is the paradox
of the negotiation.

302

00:19:42,190 --> 00:19:44,200

Because in principle,
he was negotiating

303

00:19:44,200 --> 00:19:46,150

to save Jewish lives.

304

00:19:46,150 --> 00:19:47,860

That's how it started.

305

00:19:47,860 --> 00:19:52,255

But towards the end,
he didn't save anybody.

306

00:19:52,255 --> 00:19:54,970

But this leads us
to something else,

307

00:19:54,970 --> 00:19:59,290

and I would like you very
much to talk about this.

308

00:19:59,290 --> 00:20:01,840

And I know it's very
difficult to formulate,

309

00:20:01,840 --> 00:20:05,320

and I don't even know how
to formulate it myself,

310

00:20:05,320 --> 00:20:15,190

but there was who did he
select in the Koloszyński.

311

00:20:15,190 --> 00:20:20,890

He selected, mostly a
kind of elite people,

312

00:20:20,890 --> 00:20:27,160
or which he considered
as an elite, the Zionist

313
00:20:27,160 --> 00:20:29,840
or some other prominence.

314
00:20:29,840 --> 00:20:32,300
Not necessarily Zionists.

315
00:20:32,300 --> 00:20:32,950
No.

316
00:20:32,950 --> 00:20:36,970
He took from all branches.

317
00:20:36,970 --> 00:20:41,080
Not in KolosvÃ¡r
Afterwards in Budapest.

318
00:20:41,080 --> 00:20:48,040
In Cluj and KoloszvÃ¡r
there were 20,000 Jews.

319
00:20:48,040 --> 00:20:52,480
And among them, there were
thousands of Zionists.

320
00:20:52,480 --> 00:20:57,910
He picked leaders,
or what he considered

321
00:20:57,910 --> 00:21:01,270
leaders, or activists,
or prominent people.

322
00:21:01,270 --> 00:21:03,940
This was the word, prominent.

323
00:21:03,940 --> 00:21:07,210
Among them, of course, were
Zionist prominent people,

324

00:21:07,210 --> 00:21:08,950
but not only them.

325

00:21:08,950 --> 00:21:11,800
Some people, apparently,
were put in the list

326

00:21:11,800 --> 00:21:15,550
because they have donated
to the fund of the committee

327

00:21:15,550 --> 00:21:19,660
and not to his personal purpose.

328

00:21:19,660 --> 00:21:21,595
There were a few very
religious people.

329

00:21:21,595 --> 00:21:24,190

330

00:21:24,190 --> 00:21:27,670
Rabbi Teitelbaum was there.

331

00:21:27,670 --> 00:21:31,990
But the Zionists, and
the Zionist of his party,

332

00:21:31,990 --> 00:21:38,500
were among those who
were firstly selected

333

00:21:38,500 --> 00:21:43,790
for this prominent group.

334

00:21:43,790 --> 00:21:45,050
Yes.

335

00:21:45,050 --> 00:21:50,870
But I give you two
pages, 20 and 21.

336

00:21:50,870 --> 00:21:52,590

Maybe you put the
question yourself?

337

00:21:52,590 --> 00:21:55,430

338

00:21:55,430 --> 00:21:59,630

I mean, what is very wrong,
and you said it perfectly,

339

00:21:59,630 --> 00:22:01,400

is the idea of selection.

340

00:22:01,400 --> 00:22:05,550

341

00:22:05,550 --> 00:22:12,890

But it is true, too, that
everybody couldn't be saved.

342

00:22:12,890 --> 00:22:25,890

343

00:22:25,890 --> 00:22:28,710

Whether you know the
point of the people who

344

00:22:28,710 --> 00:22:31,430

support Kasztner's stand.

345

00:22:31,430 --> 00:22:34,170

It's what they said
during the trial,

346

00:22:34,170 --> 00:22:36,150

and what they go and say today.

347

00:22:36,150 --> 00:22:40,605

That because it was
impossible to save everybody,

348

00:22:40,605 --> 00:22:47,640

it was perfectly right to
choose a kind of sample,

349

00:22:47,640 --> 00:22:51,330

and people of its own kind.

350

00:22:51,330 --> 00:22:56,970

They said that it was
always so in Jewish history,

351

00:22:56,970 --> 00:22:58,050

where they had to choose.

352

00:22:58,050 --> 00:23:00,300

They choose the people
or their own family,

353

00:23:00,300 --> 00:23:05,500

or their own political parties.

354

00:23:05,500 --> 00:23:11,760

And what I don't like in all
this, is the idea of an elite.

355

00:23:11,760 --> 00:23:14,130

I agree completely with you.

356

00:23:14,130 --> 00:23:17,490

But I think and I
say this myself.

357

00:23:17,490 --> 00:23:22,290

You are not obliged
to agree with me.

358

00:23:22,290 --> 00:23:25,650

Zionism was born
with the idea that it

359

00:23:25,650 --> 00:23:29,700

was necessary to redeem

the Jewish people.

360

00:23:29,700 --> 00:23:37,410

And, of course, it's not so
difficult to trace a line which

361

00:23:37,410 --> 00:23:41,280

says if it's impossible
to save everybody,

362

00:23:41,280 --> 00:23:43,440

it's better to
save the people who

363

00:23:43,440 --> 00:23:46,800

redeem than there was no one.

364

00:23:46,800 --> 00:23:51,600

And for instance, as
a lawyer of Kasztner

365

00:23:51,600 --> 00:23:56,670

during the trial, the
church, Chaim Cohen

366

00:23:56,670 --> 00:24:02,460

had a very striking,
and for me, for many

367

00:24:02,460 --> 00:24:04,830

who have horrifying word.

368

00:24:04,830 --> 00:24:10,350

A sentence he wrote, he said,
for those and millions of Jews

369

00:24:10,350 --> 00:24:13,550

like them, I mean Jews
who were murdered.

370

00:24:13,550 --> 00:24:17,520

They came to the
old curse on laws

371
00:24:17,520 --> 00:24:21,660
they were meant to be taken
like sheep for slaughter,

372
00:24:21,660 --> 00:24:26,080
for killing, for destruction,
for crushing and shame, which

373
00:24:26,080 --> 00:24:28,860
is a biblical
saying, as we know.

374
00:24:28,860 --> 00:24:32,970
But he goes on, and he says,
there was no spirit in them.

375
00:24:32,970 --> 00:24:37,750
The Jewish masses in the Warsaw
were in the same condition.

376
00:24:37,750 --> 00:24:41,310
What would you say?

377
00:24:41,310 --> 00:24:48,660
I'll first react to your
first point, where you say,

378
00:24:48,660 --> 00:24:53,280
if you can't save everybody,
you save those who you can.

379
00:24:53,280 --> 00:24:55,080
I don't say this, myself.

380
00:24:55,080 --> 00:24:58,840
All that this was
claimed, for example,

381
00:24:58,840 --> 00:25:03,540
if many people are in danger,
you take care of your family.

382

00:25:03,540 --> 00:25:06,900

Definitely and naturally.

383

00:25:06,900 --> 00:25:14,790

Private citizen, private member
of the community, or even

384

00:25:14,790 --> 00:25:18,300

a small activist.

385

00:25:18,300 --> 00:25:21,000

I call it small.

386

00:25:21,000 --> 00:25:25,440

When he sees danger around,
and many people are in danger,

387

00:25:25,440 --> 00:25:32,430

and he has his wife, his
children, his parents,

388

00:25:32,430 --> 00:25:35,220

it's perfectly
natural that he'll

389

00:25:35,220 --> 00:25:41,520

do his utmost, first to save
those who are close to him.

390

00:25:41,520 --> 00:25:45,150

I would be the last
to argue against such

391

00:25:45,150 --> 00:25:49,380

a natural inborn attitude.

392

00:25:49,380 --> 00:25:54,750

I'm talking of the role of
a leader who was trusted

393

00:25:54,750 --> 00:25:59,776

with a mission, rescue mission.

394
00:25:59,776 --> 00:26:05,410
A rescue mission of
hundreds of thousands,

395
00:26:05,410 --> 00:26:13,570
who capitulates and winds
up in a personal rescue

396
00:26:13,570 --> 00:26:18,010
operation, or semi-permanent
rescue operation,

397
00:26:18,010 --> 00:26:24,460
at the price of collaborating
with the killers of those

398
00:26:24,460 --> 00:26:32,320
whom he was destined, or
sent, or take upon himself,

399
00:26:32,320 --> 00:26:34,300
to rescue.

400
00:26:34,300 --> 00:26:36,280
So it's all the
difference in the world.

401
00:26:36,280 --> 00:26:39,800

402
00:26:39,800 --> 00:26:41,620
I said, too, that
only the family.

403
00:26:41,620 --> 00:26:44,395
But the people of
their own parties,

404
00:26:44,395 --> 00:26:47,800
and in political parties.

405

00:26:47,800 --> 00:26:51,190
Political party
is another story.

406
00:26:51,190 --> 00:26:55,490
I don't think a man
has a duty, any duty,

407
00:26:55,490 --> 00:27:00,880
in a moment of danger, to prefer
members of one's own party,

408
00:27:00,880 --> 00:27:03,390
to members of
somebody else's party.

409
00:27:03,390 --> 00:27:06,680
Party is a framework
of political activity.

410
00:27:06,680 --> 00:27:11,600
It has nothing to do with
saving lives, and so on.

411
00:27:11,600 --> 00:27:18,670
But as to your second
point, you have made a quote

412
00:27:18,670 --> 00:27:24,725
from Attorney General, the
then Attorney General Chaim

413
00:27:24,725 --> 00:27:29,840
Cohen, today a member
of the Supreme Court.

414
00:27:29,840 --> 00:27:38,360
I bitterly contested in
the trial, this attitude.

415
00:27:38,360 --> 00:27:45,080
First of all, nobody, neither
Kasztner, nor any other Zionist

416

00:27:45,080 --> 00:27:51,770
leader then, had the right to
say, those are the doomed ones,

417

00:27:51,770 --> 00:27:53,810
and those are the
chosen for life.

418

00:27:53,810 --> 00:27:56,340

419

00:27:56,340 --> 00:28:00,060
And who is to say that
there was no spirit them?

420

00:28:00,060 --> 00:28:04,260
I've answered in
court, I feel it today,

421

00:28:04,260 --> 00:28:06,840
with the same conviction.

422

00:28:06,840 --> 00:28:09,210
No spirit?

423

00:28:09,210 --> 00:28:12,000
Hannah Szenes?

424

00:28:12,000 --> 00:28:12,720
Jews of Hungary?

425

00:28:12,720 --> 00:28:15,810

426

00:28:15,810 --> 00:28:18,060
He didn't talk
about Hannah Szenes.

427

00:28:18,060 --> 00:28:21,150
He talked of the masses.

428

00:28:21,150 --> 00:28:23,100
How many Hannah
Szenes's were there

429
00:28:23,100 --> 00:28:27,480
in Hungary, that we don't
know their names, because they

430
00:28:27,480 --> 00:28:30,330
are dead?

431
00:28:30,330 --> 00:28:32,700
Out of the same
Hungary, came a boy,

432
00:28:32,700 --> 00:28:37,380
who later was known as Dov
Gruner, was put to the gallows

433
00:28:37,380 --> 00:28:40,770
by the British, here
in this country.

434
00:28:40,770 --> 00:28:41,460
Or Weiss.

435
00:28:41,460 --> 00:28:43,980

436
00:28:43,980 --> 00:28:45,420
Or Perez Goldstein.

437
00:28:45,420 --> 00:28:49,020

438
00:28:49,020 --> 00:28:54,000
Do we know who had the spirit
and who didn't have spirit?

439
00:28:54,000 --> 00:28:59,550
Mothers had no spirit to
rescue and risk their own lives

440

00:28:59,550 --> 00:29:02,310
to save their children?

441

00:29:02,310 --> 00:29:07,260
Husbands to protect their
wives with their own body,

442

00:29:07,260 --> 00:29:08,925
had they known all the facts?

443

00:29:08,925 --> 00:29:12,720

444

00:29:12,720 --> 00:29:16,020
How many people like
Rabbi Weissmandel,

445

00:29:16,020 --> 00:29:22,620
not as eloquent, not leaders,
but with the same soul

446

00:29:22,620 --> 00:29:27,120
and the same spirit, and the
same readiness to be active.

447

00:29:27,120 --> 00:29:32,960

448

00:29:32,960 --> 00:29:37,300
Hundreds of thousands of people.

449

00:29:37,300 --> 00:29:38,770
To justify him?

450

00:29:38,770 --> 00:29:41,440

451

00:29:41,440 --> 00:29:48,460
You have to put after
the death an epitaph

452

00:29:48,460 --> 00:29:54,010
over their dead bodies,
they had no spirit

453
00:29:54,010 --> 00:29:57,970
because the leadership failed?

454
00:29:57,970 --> 00:29:59,200
Bitterly disagreed.

455
00:29:59,200 --> 00:30:05,500
I bitterly disagreed today,
and I think it's totally wrong.

456
00:30:05,500 --> 00:30:08,050
How do you how do
you explain that they

457
00:30:08,050 --> 00:30:12,350
came to such extremities
to think like this?

458
00:30:12,350 --> 00:30:16,930

459
00:30:16,930 --> 00:30:22,430
This is a question that should
be posed for people said it.

460
00:30:22,430 --> 00:30:25,120
I'm not so sure, I think.

461
00:30:25,120 --> 00:30:29,260
To think that it is
an explanation given

462
00:30:29,260 --> 00:30:30,610
by a single man.

463
00:30:30,610 --> 00:30:32,090
I mean the Zimmerman trial--

464

00:30:32,090 --> 00:30:36,700

In the trial it was given
by the Attorney General who

465

00:30:36,700 --> 00:30:42,490

defended the case of
Kasztner against our charges,

466

00:30:42,490 --> 00:30:46,450

and he has raised
every argument.

467

00:30:46,450 --> 00:30:51,970

I think that,
philosophically, morally,

468

00:30:51,970 --> 00:30:56,920

from any standard of
values, it is wrong.

469

00:30:56,920 --> 00:30:59,026

It is wrong.

470

00:30:59,026 --> 00:31:00,520

I think so, too, deeply.

471

00:31:00,520 --> 00:31:03,580

472

00:31:03,580 --> 00:31:05,560

You cannot elaborate
more on this.

473

00:31:05,560 --> 00:31:08,730

474

00:31:08,730 --> 00:31:15,810

No, because as to the
old debate in Zionism,

475

00:31:15,810 --> 00:31:19,020

I can only say this.

476

00:31:19,020 --> 00:31:23,910

Zionism, and here

I totally disagreed

477

00:31:23,910 --> 00:31:27,330

with this wonderful

man, Rabbi Weissmandel,

478

00:31:27,330 --> 00:31:32,730

that Zionism was never

meant to save the few

479

00:31:32,730 --> 00:31:35,730

with the price of the many.

480

00:31:35,730 --> 00:31:44,250

The founders of Zionism, Herzl,

Nordau eventually Jabotinsky,

481

00:31:44,250 --> 00:31:48,210

came to their Zionist

conviction with one aim,

482

00:31:48,210 --> 00:31:56,550

one paramount aim, to

save Jewry, all of Jewry

483

00:31:56,550 --> 00:31:59,640

and to begin with

the European Jewry

484

00:31:59,640 --> 00:32:04,990

from the danger of

extinction, 60 years back.

485

00:32:04,990 --> 00:32:11,530

Max Nordau, famous writer

and the aide of Herzl,

486

00:32:11,530 --> 00:32:19,660

said, almost in

quote, 5 million Jews

487

00:32:19,660 --> 00:32:24,520
are in danger of
extinction in Europe,

488

00:32:24,520 --> 00:32:30,310
and Zionism is established
in order to uproot them

489

00:32:30,310 --> 00:32:35,440
from Europe, and replant
them in the land of Israel,

490

00:32:35,440 --> 00:32:38,140
to save the masses.

491

00:32:38,140 --> 00:32:41,230
And this was the line of Herzl.

492

00:32:41,230 --> 00:32:47,320
Herzl didn't envisage a
small tiny Jewish community

493

00:32:47,320 --> 00:32:57,670
in Palestine, which will be
only a sample of something

494

00:32:57,670 --> 00:33:00,460
special of the elite.

495

00:33:00,460 --> 00:33:06,040
He meant the replant
of the Jewish masses

496

00:33:06,040 --> 00:33:13,490
in the new Renaissance,
spiritual but physical as well.

497

00:33:13,490 --> 00:33:19,990
And this was the line of
Jabotinsky, mass evacuation

498

00:33:19,990 --> 00:33:21,870

and mass--

499

00:33:21,870 --> 00:33:37,000