```
00:00:00,000 \longrightarrow 00:00:00,570
2
00:00:00,570 \longrightarrow 00:00:03,410
(film slating)
00:00:03,410 --> 00:00:05,685
Do you know, after
this first transport,
00:00:05,685 --> 00:00:07,380
but during this period--
00:00:07,380 \longrightarrow 00:00:10,020
this first period
of deportations--
00:00:10,020 \longrightarrow 00:00:12,840
we felt so stunned
at the first place.
00:00:12,840 --> 00:00:15,280
You know, we couldn't
think straight.
8
00:00:15,280 \longrightarrow 00:00:17,240
It was a horrible feeling.
00:00:17,240 --> 00:00:19,380
Suddenly we also
thought, my god,
10
00:00:19,380 \longrightarrow 00:00:21,810
what's going to happen
to Uncle So-And-So
11
```

 $00:00:21,810 \longrightarrow 00:00:23,160$ and to Aunt So-And-So?

12 00:00:23,160 --> 00:00:25,680 And then they had gone already. 13 00:00:25,680 --> 00:00:28,230 And it became sort of empty around us,

14 00:00:28,230 --> 00:00:31,290 and we felt also so terribly alone.

15 00:00:31,290 --> 00:00:33,510 You know, the Jewish community, after all--

16 00:00:33,510 --> 00:00:37,350 I don't want to pass judgment, but they cooperated.

17 00:00:37,350 --> 00:00:42,120 They had no option but to cooperate with the Nazis.

18 00:00:42,120 --> 00:00:44,100 Those people who were really the ones who

19 00:00:44,100 --> 00:00:50,250 should have been on our side, they shipped us away

20 00:00:50,250 --> 00:00:53,490 to this unknown destination.

21 00:00:53,490 --> 00:00:57,960 Do you think that they did it in order to save their own skin?

22 00:00:57,960 --> 00:00:59,040 Well, obviously.

23 00:00:59,040 --> 00:01:01,020 I mean, if they had refused to do this,

00:01:01,020 --> 00:01:04,019 they would have been shipped immediately.

25

00:01:04,019 --> 00:01:05,880 This is obvious.

26

00:01:05,880 --> 00:01:08,350 Maybe they would have been put into a concentration camp.

27

00:01:08,350 --> 00:01:09,250 I don't know.

28

00:01:09,250 --> 00:01:10,147 I don't know.

29

00:01:10,147 --> 00:01:11,730 They were shipped whatsoever later on.

30

00:01:11,730 --> 00:01:12,810 Exactly.

31

00:01:12,810 --> 00:01:14,640 But you know how human beings are.

32

00:01:14,640 --> 00:01:16,530 They always hope that something will happen

33

00:01:16,530 --> 00:01:17,640 and they will be accepted.

34

00:01:17,640 --> 00:01:18,870 It can't happen to me.

35

00:01:18,870 --> 00:01:21,000 This was always the feeling, obviously.

36 00:01:21,000 --> 00:01:24,600 And I hated those people, especially those people

37 00:01:24,600 --> 00:01:27,120 who came to collect the people.

38 00:01:27,120 --> 00:01:30,155 I was once present when Jewish [INAUDIBLE]

39 00:01:30,155 --> 00:01:34,590 or Jewish functionaries came to collect somebody

40 00:01:34,590 --> 00:01:36,360 who had been sent the list.

41 00:01:36,360 --> 00:01:40,350 And I thought they did it in such a cold manner.

42 00:01:40,350 --> 00:01:42,210 But of course they said to me, do

43 00:01:42,210 --> 00:01:44,650 you think we like doing this?

44 00:01:44,650 --> 00:01:47,280 And I said to my mother, I would never have done this work.

45 00:01:47,280 --> 00:01:48,990 But of course it's so easy to say if you

46 00:01:48,990 --> 00:01:50,970 don't come into the situation.

47 00:01:50,970 --> 00:01:53,670 You just perhaps shouldn't judge.

48 00:01:53,670 --> 00:01:56,050 But I felt-- this I felt so much.

49 00:01:56,050 --> 00:01:59,070 You see, in the beginning of the '30s, the rabbis had gone,

50 00:01:59,070 --> 00:02:00,780 and now the Jewish community that

51 00:02:00,780 --> 00:02:06,060 should have been given that some sort of an assistance

52 00:02:06,060 --> 00:02:07,660 cooperated with the Gestapo.

53 00:02:07,660 --> 00:02:09,150 These are the facts, you see.

54 00:02:09,150 --> 00:02:12,450 I mean, willing or unwillingly, I don't pass judgment.

55 00:02:12,450 --> 00:02:13,230 That was horrible.

56 00:02:13,230 --> 00:02:17,400 Now something-- two phenomena come to my mind

57 00:02:17,400 --> 00:02:19,640 of this first period.

58 00:02:19,640 --> 00:02:24,270 A number of people got married, because they said-- 00:02:24,270 --> 00:02:25,920 I mean, those who were not--

60 00:02:25,920 --> 00:02:28,420 who were widowers.

61 00:02:28,420 --> 00:02:31,920 In fact, there were more people of elderly age--

62 00:02:31,920 --> 00:02:34,620 elderly age groups.

63 00:02:34,620 --> 00:02:36,900 Because they thought it's easier to do this

64 00:02:36,900 --> 00:02:40,080 or to go on to such a thing together.

65 00:02:40,080 --> 00:02:42,750 So there were a number of marriages, I remember.

66 00:02:42,750 --> 00:02:46,980 And there were, of course, a great number of suicides.

67 00:02:46,980 --> 00:02:48,000 There were many.

68 00:02:48,000 --> 00:02:48,840 There were many.

69 00:02:48,840 --> 00:02:50,670 I don't know whether the figure is correct.

70 00:02:50,670 --> 00:02:52,260 I heard something about 7,000. 00:02:52,260 --> 00:02:55,740 I don't think that would be a correct number of suicides.

72 00:02:55,740 --> 00:02:57,600 That's also immaterial.

73 00:02:57,600 --> 00:02:59,220 I remember a family--

74 00:02:59,220 --> 00:03:00,960 friends of my parents.

75 00:03:00,960 --> 00:03:03,270 I remember the woman standing in the street

76 00:03:03,270 --> 00:03:06,510 and saying to my mother, we will not

77 00:03:06,510 --> 00:03:09,180 allow ourselves to be deported by the Nazis.

78 00:03:09,180 --> 00:03:11,050 We shall certainly commit suicide.

79 00:03:11,050 --> 00:03:14,160 She said this as a matter of fact, and they did it.

80 00:03:14,160 --> 00:03:16,260 They did it when they had the feeling now

81 00:03:16,260 --> 00:03:17,400 time is running out.

82 00:03:17,400 --> 00:03:20,752 We will not be-- 00:03:20,752 --> 00:03:21,960 After they got the list?

84 00:03:21,960 --> 00:03:23,760 No, they did it even before when they

85 00:03:23,760 --> 00:03:28,590 saw that the number of Jews was reducing and reducing, you see?

86 00:03:28,590 --> 00:03:32,575 So they were not the only ones.

87 00:03:32,575 --> 00:03:34,200 There were some people who said it's so

88 00:03:34,200 --> 00:03:35,850 crazy to do that sort of thing.

89 00:03:35,850 --> 00:03:38,550 There must always be hope, and perhaps it's early

90 00:03:38,550 --> 00:03:41,310 that they work out in the east.

91 00:03:41,310 --> 00:03:46,170 We just simply didn't know what was at the other end, you see.

92 00:03:46,170 --> 00:03:50,730 Now there were rumors, of course,

93 00:03:50,730 --> 00:03:54,360 and one rumor was very substantial

94 00:03:54,360 --> 00:03:56,430 in the sense that the BBC-- 95 00:03:56,430 --> 00:03:58,920 the British Broadcasting Company--

96 00:03:58,920 --> 00:04:02,730 I believe it was in the end of '42, but of course I

97 00:04:02,730 --> 00:04:04,380 can't answer it anymore--

98 00:04:04,380 --> 00:04:08,490 said something like gassing is going on there,

99 00:04:08,490 --> 00:04:10,650 and something like mass killing.

100 00:04:10,650 --> 00:04:13,860 And I remember saying to my mother, you know,

101 00:04:13,860 --> 00:04:17,250 this sounds like propaganda.

102 00:04:17,250 --> 00:04:20,790 Something like this cannot possibly be true.

103 00:04:20,790 --> 00:04:22,660 We didn't know what to think of it.

104 00:04:22,660 --> 00:04:24,210 We didn't know what to make of it.

105 00:04:24,210 --> 00:04:26,460 It was so terribly difficult.

106 00:04:26,460 --> 00:04:31,440 Now, you see a very interesting feature, I should mention here.

107 00:04:31,440 --> 00:04:33,390 While these deportations were going on,

108 00:04:33,390 --> 00:04:36,090 they were going on perhaps on average,

109 00:04:36,090 --> 00:04:38,100 let's say, one deportation a month.

110 00:04:38,100 --> 00:04:39,240 Sometimes there were two.

111 00:04:39,240 --> 00:04:40,500 It was faster.

112 00:04:40,500 --> 00:04:41,708 In the beginning it was not--

113 00:04:41,708 --> 00:04:43,500 According to the figures we have they were.

114 00:04:43,500 --> 00:04:44,250 Well, later--

115 00:04:44,250 --> 00:04:45,900 There were periods that they were--

116 00:04:45,900 --> 00:04:49,080 Yeah, but I mean, let's now for the argument's sake

117 00:04:49,080 --> 00:04:52,080 say perhaps once a month, twice a month.

00:04:52,080 --> 00:04:54,030 It would speed it up later.

119

00:04:54,030 --> 00:04:56,730 It changed, of course.

120

00:04:56,730 --> 00:04:59,620 Certainly later on-especially at the very end--

121

00:04:59,620 --> 00:05:01,900 but in the beginning there was a certain order.

122

00:05:01,900 --> 00:05:07,340 And there were factories, like AEG and Siemens

123

00:05:07,340 --> 00:05:09,970 for example, which objected bitterly

124

00:05:09,970 --> 00:05:13,240 to this, because they said you are taking away my best

125

00:05:13,240 --> 00:05:14,560 workers.

126

00:05:14,560 --> 00:05:17,530 And they started to argue with the Gestapo

127

00:05:17,530 --> 00:05:20,990 and to reclaim their workers.

128

00:05:20,990 --> 00:05:24,820 And said obviously the Jewish workers were excellent workers.

129

00:05:24,820 --> 00:05:27,040

They were working against death.

130 00:05:27,040 --> 00:05:29,290 They knew very well, you see, the minute

131 00:05:29,290 --> 00:05:31,960 they relaxed in their efforts--

132 00:05:31,960 --> 00:05:33,730 they were no good at their work--

133 00:05:33,730 --> 00:05:35,380 they would be shipped away.

134 00:05:35,380 --> 00:05:36,828 It was a general problem.

135 00:05:36,828 --> 00:05:38,620 It was the same in all the eastern Ghettos.

136 00:05:38,620 --> 00:05:39,880 It was the same.

137 00:05:39,880 --> 00:05:43,210 Yes, but firms like Siemens and AEG

138 00:05:43,210 --> 00:05:50,610 managed for a certain period there to protect, so to speak,

139 00:05:50,610 --> 00:05:53,500 the Jewish workers from this deportation.

140 00:05:53,500 --> 00:05:55,670 And you see, all of that give us a little hope,

141 00:05:55,670 --> 00:05:56,470

# do you understand?

## 142

00:05:56,470 --> 00:05:59,420 Every little ray of hope--it may have been very,

## 143

00:05:59,420 --> 00:06:00,310 very small--

## 144

00:06:00,310 --> 00:06:05,640 helped, in a sense, to make us feel perhaps it's not it's

## 145

00:06:05,640 --> 00:06:07,720 not death yet, you see.

## 146

00:06:07,720 --> 00:06:14,980 I mean, it's very difficult to describe a situation

#### 147

00:06:14,980 --> 00:06:18,100 where you have been in but where you never--

## 148

00:06:18,100 --> 00:06:22,690 you would never want to look into the face of it fully.

#### 149

00:06:22,690 --> 00:06:24,790 No human being does that.

## 150

00:06:24,790 --> 00:06:26,290 So also we didn't do it.

#### 151

00:06:26,290 --> 00:06:30,580 But of course, around it became emptier and emptier.

#### 152

00:06:30,580 --> 00:06:37,420 Now one day, very simple friends of us-- 00:06:37,420 --> 00:06:42,100 friends of those times past, non-Jewish people--

154 00:06:42,100 --> 00:06:44,230 said to my mother-- and this is a scene which I

155 00:06:44,230 --> 00:06:46,300 haven't forgotten to this day.

156 00:06:46,300 --> 00:06:49,900 This was a very simple woman, the owner

157 00:06:49,900 --> 00:06:54,670 of a laundry, who suddenly took the hands of my mother

158 00:06:54,670 --> 00:06:57,820 and said to her, Frau Deutschkorn now

159 00:06:57,820 --> 00:07:00,430 you have to promise me something.

160 00:07:00,430 --> 00:07:03,610 And my mother said, what do you want me to promise you?

161 00:07:03,610 --> 00:07:07,450 You must tell me what you want me to promise.

162 00:07:07,450 --> 00:07:10,060 So she said, no, I won't tell you what.

163 00:07:10,060 --> 00:07:12,820 You first promise, and then I tell you.

164

00:07:12,820 --> 00:07:15,430 So after a little bit of an argument,

165 00:07:15,430 --> 00:07:19,040 my mother finally gave in-said all right, I promise.

166 00:07:19,040 --> 00:07:22,060 And then the woman had a smile on her face and said,

167 00:07:22,060 --> 00:07:24,370 now you have promised me that you

168 00:07:24,370 --> 00:07:27,220 won't allow yourself to be deported by the Nazis

169 00:07:27,220 --> 00:07:29,230 to the east.

170 00:07:29,230 --> 00:07:32,470 And my mother said, but Frau [Personal name]

171 00:07:32,470 --> 00:07:33,850 how can you imagine?

172 00:07:33,850 --> 00:07:34,900 What you mean?

173 00:07:34,900 --> 00:07:37,430 How should we do this?

174 00:07:37,430 --> 00:07:40,900 So she said, you know, we have decided we'll help you.

175 00:07:40,900 --> 00:07:42,180 But my mother said, how?

00:07:42,180 --> 00:07:45,533 First of all, tell me how do you have this idea?

177

00:07:45,533 --> 00:07:47,950 [OVERHEAD ANNOUNCEMENT]

178

00:07:47,950 --> 00:07:55,710 So she said, you see that neighbor of ours, that Fritz--

179

00:07:55,710 --> 00:07:58,570 he was in the East.

180

00:07:58,570 --> 00:08:02,333 And he has seen what they are doing there with the Jews.

181

00:08:02,333 --> 00:08:04,750 And my mother said, but what are they doing with the Jews?

182

00:08:04,750 --> 00:08:08,194 [TRAIN PASSING]

183

00:08:08,194 --> 00:08:17,635

184

00:08:17,635 --> 00:08:20,200 And you see from that question already when

185

00:08:20,200 --> 00:08:22,630 my mother so eagerly asked this woman what

186

00:08:22,630 --> 00:08:27,760 are they doing with the Jews, she said, oh, I can't tell you.

187

00:08:27,760 --> 00:08:28,670 I can't tell you.

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy. 188 00:08:28,670 --> 00:08:29,620 It's so horrible.

189 00:08:29,620 --> 00:08:32,419 And her eyes filled with tears.

190 00:08:32,419 --> 00:08:35,080 And she didn't tell my mother the details

191 00:08:35,080 --> 00:08:36,880 that this boy had seen.

192 00:08:36,880 --> 00:08:39,549 So you see, we didn't really know,

193 00:08:39,549 --> 00:08:41,000 or we didn't really want to know.

194 00:08:41,000 --> 00:08:41,542 But she knew.

195 00:08:41,542 --> 00:08:42,090 She knew.

196 00:08:42,090 --> 00:08:46,240 So she said this to us, and my mother and I--

197 00:08:46,240 --> 00:08:48,670 and she said to us she would help us.

198 00:08:48,670 --> 00:08:51,550 We should come to them.

199 00:08:51,550 --> 00:08:55,030 It sounded so weird, but my mother 200 00:08:55,030 --> 00:08:57,310 said, well, we have to discuss this in detail

201 00:08:57,310 --> 00:08:58,240 and think about it.

202 00:08:58,240 --> 00:08:59,620 It's not so easy, you know.

203 00:08:59,620 --> 00:09:00,370 What do you think?

204 00:09:00,370 --> 00:09:01,690 What you are doing?

205 00:09:01,690 --> 00:09:03,870 And you are also getting in danger.

206 00:09:03,870 --> 00:09:08,560 And so we went to other German friends of ours.

207 00:09:08,560 --> 00:09:13,660 And in the meantime, of course, the deportations

208 00:09:13,660 --> 00:09:15,190 took a different turn--

209 00:09:15,190 --> 00:09:18,010 became worse, were speeded up.

210 00:09:18,010 --> 00:09:20,240 Yes, because what did the [INAUDIBLE]..

211 00:09:20,240 --> 00:09:24,610 It's very paradoxical in the newly conquered territory, 212 00:09:24,610 --> 00:09:29,560 they got either the Jews they killed earlier than

213 00:09:29,560 --> 00:09:31,420 in Germany itself.

214 00:09:31,420 --> 00:09:34,300 And then the Jews of Germany, some of them

215 00:09:34,300 --> 00:09:37,420 succeeded to stay or to remain.

216 00:09:37,420 --> 00:09:39,430 They didn't succeed as a matter of fact

217 00:09:39,430 --> 00:09:42,880 to have a Germany cleaned--

218 00:09:42,880 --> 00:09:45,070 judenrein.

219 00:09:45,070 --> 00:09:46,100 Not ever.

220 00:09:46,100 --> 00:09:48,490 Yes, as quickly as possible [INAUDIBLE]..

221 00:09:48,490 --> 00:09:53,740 No, you see one day apparently--

222 00:09:53,740 --> 00:09:55,300 I mean, these were the rumors.

223 00:09:55,300 --> 00:09:58,950 I can only repeat what I heard-- 00:09:58,950 --> 00:10:01,960 the Nazi government was not satisfied with the speed

225

00:10:01,960 --> 00:10:03,520 of the deportations.

226

00:10:03,520 --> 00:10:07,330 And at that time, Vienna was already judenrien,

227

00:10:07,330 --> 00:10:08,890 exactly what you said.

228

00:10:08,890 --> 00:10:12,220 So they decided to bring the Vienner Gestapo to Berlin

229

00:10:12,220 --> 00:10:12,790 to complete.

230

00:10:12,790 --> 00:10:15,190 Yes, this was the Eichmann [INAUDIBLE]

231

00:10:15,190 --> 00:10:16,505 was the full experience.

232

00:10:16,505 --> 00:10:20,410 Exactly, and they also came with some Jewish functionaries who

233

00:10:20,410 --> 00:10:25,210 had also in the Jewish community in Vienna helped to do the job.

234

00:10:25,210 --> 00:10:32,860 And they came with these Gestapo men and made Berlin judenrein.

235

00:10:32,860 --> 00:10:36,250

They did it in a different manner.

236 00:10:36,250 --> 00:10:38,812 (film slating)

237

00:10:38,812 --> 00:10:39,688

238

00:10:39,688 --> 00:10:42,760 Well, now a totally different system started.

239

00:10:42,760 --> 00:10:46,340 The Gestapo from Vienna didn't bother any more

240

00:10:46,340 --> 00:10:49,180 about lists and all this paraphernalia.

241

00:10:49,180 --> 00:10:51,340 They were there to finish quickly.

242

00:10:51,340 --> 00:10:52,840 They wanted to finish quickly.

243

00:10:52,840 --> 00:10:54,460 That took much too much time.

244

00:10:54,460 --> 00:10:58,660 So all they did-- they hired removal vans.

245

00:10:58,660 --> 00:11:01,180 During the war these vans were not used anyway,

246

00:11:01,180 --> 00:11:05,510 and because nobody moved from one place to the other.

247

00:11:05,510 --> 00:11:10,750

So they took the removal vans, and it stopped

248

00:11:10,750 --> 00:11:12,023 in front of those houses.

249

00:11:12,023 --> 00:11:13,315 They had a list of the houses--

250

00:11:13,315 --> 00:11:15,000 Where Jews were.

251

00:11:15,000 --> 00:11:16,570 --where the Jews lived.

252

00:11:16,570 --> 00:11:18,940 And so they went in, rang the bell,

253

00:11:18,940 --> 00:11:21,760 took the people as they were, whether they

254

00:11:21,760 --> 00:11:26,373 were wearing a nightgown or they were in an apron, or whatever.

255

00:11:26,373 --> 00:11:27,040 They took them--

256

00:11:27,040 --> 00:11:28,800 There were no lists anymore.

257

00:11:28,800 --> 00:11:30,670 No lists any more.

258

00:11:30,670 --> 00:11:32,260

No warning anymore.

259

00:11:32,260 --> 00:11:34,900 They just emptied the houses.

00:11:34,900 --> 00:11:38,200 So this was, I would say, in the last few months of this

261 00:11:38,200 --> 00:11:38,830 [INAUDIBLE].

262

00:11:38,830 --> 00:11:46,660 And perhaps it was obviously the most cruel way

263

00:11:46,660 --> 00:11:48,670 of doing these things.

264

00:11:48,670 --> 00:11:51,220 They also had the Jewish [INAUDIBLE]

265

00:11:51,220 --> 00:11:52,930 as their assistants--

266

00:11:52,930 --> 00:11:55,840 the Jewish functionaries of the Jewish community.

267

00:11:55,840 --> 00:11:59,570 And I should perhaps mention here that these--

268

00:11:59,570 --> 00:12:01,867 you asked me before whether the people

269

00:12:01,867 --> 00:12:03,325 did this-- the Jewish [INAUDIBLE],

270

00:12:03,325 --> 00:12:05,950 the Jewish functionaries to save their own skin.

271

00:12:05,950 --> 00:12:08,200

Well, of course, and they also had a hope

272

00:12:08,200 --> 00:12:11,590 that they could save their own skin, because there

273

00:12:11,590 --> 00:12:15,730 was this Theresienstadt, which was called

274

00:12:15,730 --> 00:12:17,990 the camp of the prominent people--

275

00:12:17,990 --> 00:12:21,040 the camp of those who deserved honors.

276

00:12:21,040 --> 00:12:24,760 All those who had helped and assisted in this

277

00:12:24,760 --> 00:12:26,890 would be taken to Theresienstadt,

278

00:12:26,890 --> 00:12:29,200 which was, of course, in the first place meant

279

00:12:29,200 --> 00:12:32,560 for elderly people over the age of 65.

280

00:12:32,560 --> 00:12:35,320 And the transports to Theresienstadt

281

00:12:35,320 --> 00:12:38,170 were going side by side with the other transports.

282

00:12:38,170 --> 00:12:42,070 So everyone who did the dirty work, if you call it this way,

283

00:12:42,070 --> 00:12:44,170 had this slight hope that he would

284

00:12:44,170 --> 00:12:46,990 be taken to Theresienstadt, which, as I said,

285

00:12:46,990 --> 00:12:48,430 permanent camp--

286

00:12:48,430 --> 00:12:51,400 might not be so bad.

287

00:12:51,400 --> 00:12:54,100 But, in fact, it was bad, too, in one way.

288

00:12:54,100 --> 00:12:57,700 I'm talking now not afterwards, but of the feeling

289

00:12:57,700 --> 00:12:59,300 we had at the time.

290

00:12:59,300 --> 00:13:01,430 And, of course, they were very much envied.

291

00:13:01,430 --> 00:13:02,680 I don't need to tell you that.

292

00:13:02,680 --> 00:13:04,690 Everybody who was going to Theresienstadt

293

00:13:04,690 --> 00:13:07,750 was looked at as a god, you see.

00:13:07,750 --> 00:13:09,610 And they felt like a god, too--

295

00:13:09,610 --> 00:13:11,320 something better than the others.

296

00:13:11,320 --> 00:13:13,000 There was also this feeling--

297

00:13:13,000 --> 00:13:16,000 you know, there was no more equality, in a way,

298

00:13:16,000 --> 00:13:16,720 among the Jews.

299

00:13:16,720 --> 00:13:22,090 There was this feeling of being the cattle

300

00:13:22,090 --> 00:13:27,670 and the big shots, who although they walked on a tightrope

301

00:13:27,670 --> 00:13:29,920 sometimes, but they had the chance at least

302

00:13:29,920 --> 00:13:33,920 to be taken to Theresienstadt and to a better condition.

303

00:13:33,920 --> 00:13:41,140 Now then this friend of ours, who had tried to persuade us

304

00:13:41,140 --> 00:13:45,040 to go underground-- not to allow ourselves to be deported--

305

00:13:45,040 --> 00:13:47,710

had to put a bee into our bonnet.

306

00:13:47,710 --> 00:13:48,990 I don't need to tell you this.

307

00:13:48,990 --> 00:13:50,600 I mean, this idea was going on.

308

00:13:50,600 --> 00:13:52,720 And my mother and I, we were discussing it.

309

00:13:52,720 --> 00:13:54,800 And I was very much it.

310

00:13:54,800 --> 00:13:57,920 And then we went to our German friends--

311

00:13:57,920 --> 00:13:59,830 the former Social Democrats--

312

00:13:59,830 --> 00:14:03,530 and said to them, what do you think of this idea?

313

00:14:03,530 --> 00:14:06,970 And I remember how the men jumped up in joy--

314

00:14:06,970 --> 00:14:10,180 absolute joy-- and said, this is marvelous.

315

00:14:10,180 --> 00:14:13,630 And you must not allow yourself to be deported.

316

00:14:13,630 --> 00:14:16,720 I have heard on the BBC what they do with Jews.

00:14:16,720 --> 00:14:18,540 And we shall help.

318

00:14:18,540 --> 00:14:21,760

That you had

extraordinary courage?

319

00:14:21,760 --> 00:14:24,610 Extraordinary courage no doubt.

320

00:14:24,610 --> 00:14:27,040

But they also had a very funny attitude,

321

00:14:27,040 --> 00:14:28,990

which I cannot explain.

322

00:14:28,990 --> 00:14:32,680 The men said, but you see Hitler will be over in three months.

323

 $00:14:32,680 \longrightarrow 00:14:35,140$ That can't take much longer.

324

00:14:35,140 --> 00:14:36,910

And God alone knows.

325

00:14:36,910 --> 00:14:39,940

And I can't ask him today

anymore, because he's dead.

326

00:14:39,940 --> 00:14:41,740

What made him think this?

327

00:14:41,740 --> 00:14:43,240

But it, of course, helped us.

328

00:14:43,240 --> 00:14:46,420

And then we were sort of

clinging to every straw.

00:14:46,420 --> 00:14:48,490 I mean, we accepted this with great joy--

330

00:14:48,490 --> 00:14:49,240 three months.

331

00:14:49,240 --> 00:14:51,200 What is three months?

332

00:14:51,200 --> 00:14:54,280 So when he said--

333

00:14:54,280 --> 00:14:57,430 we considered him a very serious man--

334

00:14:57,430 --> 00:15:00,460 we should do it, we decided, all right, we shall do it.

335

00:15:00,460 --> 00:15:04,910 Now and now we had to decide on the date.

336

00:15:04,910 --> 00:15:07,690 Of course, he wanted to do it as late as possible,

337

00:15:07,690 --> 00:15:08,440 you understand.

338

00:15:08,440 --> 00:15:10,540 Because every month, you see, it meant--

339

00:15:10,540 --> 00:15:13,750 You just went to become completely clandestine--

340

00:15:13,750 --> 00:15:14,530 underground?

00:15:14,530 --> 00:15:20,800 Meant to be completely underground.

342

00:15:20,800 --> 00:15:23,026 I mean, we called a Jew boat--

343

00:15:23,026 --> 00:15:23,526 U boat

344

00:15:23,526 --> 00:15:26,140 U boat, yes, the submarine--

345

00:15:26,140 --> 00:15:28,870 which means to take off the Jewish star, to go away

346

00:15:28,870 --> 00:15:29,920 from where you live--

347

00:15:29,920 --> 00:15:32,800 to obviously be without ration cards,

348

00:15:32,800 --> 00:15:35,110 without documents, without anything.

349

00:15:35,110 --> 00:15:39,490 Just nobody, you see?

350

00:15:39,490 --> 00:15:45,950 So to do this, it was clear that this was a very difficult step.

351

00:15:45,950 --> 00:15:48,260 So he wanted to do it as late as possible.

352

00:15:48,260 --> 00:15:53,470 Now I knew at the time one of those Viennese Jews 353 00:15:53,470 --> 00:15:55,840 who was connected with the deportation.

354

00:15:55,840 --> 00:16:00,670 And he came to me one day and said to me, Inge,

355

00:16:00,670 --> 00:16:01,930 time has come.

356

00:16:01,930 --> 00:16:03,550 Time is running out.

357

00:16:03,550 --> 00:16:07,210 There are too few Jewish houses left.

358

00:16:07,210 --> 00:16:09,550 It's about time you made up your mind.

359

00:16:09,550 --> 00:16:13,400 If you want to go underground, do it now.

360

00:16:13,400 --> 00:16:16,070 Don't wait much longer.

361

00:16:16,070 --> 00:16:19,090 So we prepared this, meaning that--

362

00:16:19,090 --> 00:16:21,130 I am sorry.

363

00:16:21,130 --> 00:16:22,880 It's sounds probably very trivial,

very urviai

364

00:16:22,880 --> 00:16:26,620

but I didn't want the Gestapo to have anything of my belongings.

365

00:16:26,620 --> 00:16:29,560 And I carried away whatever I could carry away--

366

00:16:29,560 --> 00:16:30,970 what we still possessed.

367

00:16:30,970 --> 00:16:33,790 It was just things like shoes and clothes, which

368

00:16:33,790 --> 00:16:35,530 is probably very unimportant.

369

00:16:35,530 --> 00:16:40,240 And those things which are left in this horrible [INAUDIBLE]

370

00:16:40,240 --> 00:16:42,430 we lived in, I destroyed in a sense.

371

00:16:42,430 --> 00:16:46,030 And I made-- branded with a cigarette or something

372

00:16:46,030 --> 00:16:46,690 like this.

373

00:16:46,690 --> 00:16:49,360 This is only a child's play, I would say.

374

00:16:49,360 --> 00:16:57,470 At any rate, so we said then one day, they deciding factor,

375

00:16:57,470 --> 00:17:02,260 or rather the setting of the date was caused by an accident

376 00:17:02,260 --> 00:17:05,829 or by an incident that happened to my mother.

377

00:17:05,829 --> 00:17:09,849 My mother worked at night shift and was at home during the day.

378

00:17:09,849 --> 00:17:13,930 And suddenly one morning the Gestapo

379

00:17:13,930 --> 00:17:19,210 rang to clear out a room of furniture

380

00:17:19,210 --> 00:17:21,700 where people had already been deported.

381

00:17:21,700 --> 00:17:25,210 And there was a very sadistic, absolutely--

382

00:17:25,210 --> 00:17:27,310 well, I mean, they were all sadistic,

383

00:17:27,310 --> 00:17:30,280 but this was something that was so special.

384

00:17:30,280 --> 00:17:33,760 This Gestapo man came in and said--

385

00:17:33,760 --> 00:17:36,730 first they did their business, and said to my mother

386

00:17:36,730 --> 00:17:38,380 what are you doing at home?

387 00:17:38,380 --> 00:17:40,060 And she explained to him that she was

388

00:17:40,060 --> 00:17:41,770 working at nights and all this.

389

00:17:41,770 --> 00:17:45,670 And they said to her, we will take you with us immediately,

390

00:17:45,670 --> 00:17:46,750 too.

391

00:17:46,750 --> 00:17:48,970 So she said but look I've got a daughter,

392

00:17:48,970 --> 00:17:51,700 and if at all I want to be together with her.

393

00:17:51,700 --> 00:17:55,000 So he said, well, you know, that can always

394

00:17:55,000 --> 00:17:56,710 be arranged afterwards.

395

00:17:56,710 --> 00:17:59,920 And then he played this game with her.

396

00:17:59,920 --> 00:18:01,660 And she's preparing yourself yet,

397

00:18:01,660 --> 00:18:05,530 and then he sat down in her room and was sort

398

00:18:05,530 --> 00:18:08,590 of reading the papers, playing a bit of [INAUDIBLE] with her,

399

00:18:08,590 --> 00:18:13,040 making all the sexual advances and things like this.

400

00:18:13,040 --> 00:18:15,400 And then in the end, he said, oh well.

401

00:18:15,400 --> 00:18:16,000 All right.

402

00:18:16,000 --> 00:18:17,950 I'll leave you here.

403

00:18:17,950 --> 00:18:19,900 And when I came home, I found a note

404

00:18:19,900 --> 00:18:22,000 from my mother, who was working night shift,

405

00:18:22,000 --> 00:18:23,950 saying I can no longer go on.

406

00:18:23,950 --> 00:18:26,450 We have now to disappear.

407

00:18:26,450 --> 00:18:30,880 And so we went to our friend and said, we would like to come.

408

00:18:30,880 --> 00:18:33,110 And all right, no problem.

409

00:18:33,110 --> 00:18:39,250 So on the 15th of January, 1943, very late,

00:18:39,250 --> 00:18:45,820 we took our last things and left the house.

411

00:18:45,820 --> 00:18:50,810 And I remember still that we were already in the street,

412

00:18:50,810 --> 00:18:55,420 that my mother said my god, I forgot my watch.

413

00:18:55,420 --> 00:18:56,980 Go back or not to go back?

414

00:18:56,980 --> 00:19:00,190 And it was this feeling of a bad omen when you went back.

415

00:19:00,190 --> 00:19:02,470 And I said to my mother, oh, go back.

416

00:19:02,470 --> 00:19:05,510 And I remember we went back, and it was already

417

00:19:05,510 --> 00:19:08,830 as if we were going into something that we'd never

418

00:19:08,830 --> 00:19:09,340 been in.

419

00:19:09,340 --> 00:19:12,160 It was something that we had already left.

420

00:19:12,160 --> 00:19:14,710 And indeed, there was her watch, and we left,

00:19:14,710 --> 00:19:19,330 and we went to our friends, and they took us in.

422

00:19:19,330 --> 00:19:21,340 And we had made the cut.

423

00:19:21,340 --> 00:19:24,490 We were without the star.

424

00:19:24,490 --> 00:19:28,270 I remember the first few nights I slept like a log.

425

00:19:28,270 --> 00:19:29,740 It was suddenly--

426

00:19:29,740 --> 00:19:31,210 I was free.

427

00:19:31,210 --> 00:19:34,540 I was free also from the fear.

428

00:19:34,540 --> 00:19:36,970 In my position, this was--

429

00:19:36,970 --> 00:19:39,880 I was free from the fear that suddenly somebody

430

00:19:39,880 --> 00:19:42,920 would knock at my door and take me away.

431

00:19:42,920 --> 00:19:47,620 I was also free from the terrible rumors which always

432

00:19:47,620 --> 00:19:49,960 predicted something even worse.

433

00:19:49,960 --> 00:19:53,890

## I was free from the feeling that perhaps there

434

00:19:53,890 --> 00:19:55,450 was death at the other side.

435

00:19:55,450 --> 00:19:57,910 Yeah, not the Jews of Berlin.

436

00:19:57,910 --> 00:20:01,510 I mean, Berlin was officially--

437

00:20:01,510 --> 00:20:02,260 Ves

438

00:20:02,260 --> 00:20:07,840 We were underground, as I said, on the 15th of January, 1943.

439

00:20:07,840 --> 00:20:13,510 And of course deportation went on.

440

00:20:13,510 --> 00:20:17,770 And I had a phone call from an official--

441

00:20:17,770 --> 00:20:20,860 a friend of mine from the Jewish community who said to me,

442

00:20:20,860 --> 00:20:27,670 please, do not go out on Saturday, the 27th this was--

443

00:20:27,670 --> 00:20:30,190 of February '43.

444

00:20:30,190 --> 00:20:33,940 And I couldn't ask him, because he rang off immediately.

00:20:33,940 --> 00:20:36,250 And, of course, what for?

446 00:20:36,250 --> 00:20:38,890 So I stayed inside, and I said to my mother,

447 00:20:38,890 --> 00:20:40,660 what could this be?

448 00:20:40,660 --> 00:20:44,230 And then suddenly in the morning we watched--

449 00:20:44,230 --> 00:20:48,460 we saw police cars--

450 00:20:48,460 --> 00:20:52,660 patrol cars-- rushing through the streets of Berlin.

451 00:20:52,660 --> 00:20:55,170

452 00:20:55,170 --> 00:20:57,712 (film slating)

453 00:20:57,712 --> 00:20:59,200

454 00:20:59,200 --> 00:21:04,640 So one day I had a phone call, and a friend of mine--

455 00:21:04,640 --> 00:21:05,560 an official of the

456 00:21:05,560 --> 00:21:08,350 Jewish community-called in the telephone.

457 00:21:08,350 --> 00:21:10,390 Don't go out on the Saturday.

458

00:21:10,390 --> 00:21:17,770 And the Saturday was the 27th of February 1943, which turned out

459

00:21:17,770 --> 00:21:23,550 to be the day when the Gestapo made Berlin judenrein,

460

00:21:23,550 --> 00:21:27,730 or at least what they thought to be judenrein.

461

00:21:27,730 --> 00:21:30,678 On that day, and I remember this very vividly.

462

00:21:30,678 --> 00:21:31,720 It was one of the worst--

463

00:21:31,720 --> 00:21:32,887 There were no-- officially--

464

00:21:32,887 --> 00:21:35,860 Jews alive in Berlin after this day.

465

00:21:35,860 --> 00:21:39,070 Officially, there were no Jews alive in Berlin,

466

00:21:39,070 --> 00:21:41,500 except those who lived in mixed marriages

467

00:21:41,500 --> 00:21:43,750 and were considered non-Jewish in a sense.

468

00:21:43,750 --> 00:21:46,480

469

00:21:46,480 --> 00:21:50,320 So on that 27th of February-- and I remember this day

470

00:21:50,320 --> 00:21:53,470 very vividly, because it was, for me, one of the greatest

471

00:21:53,470 --> 00:21:54,280 shocks, perhaps.

472

00:21:54,280 --> 00:21:56,830

473

00:21:56,830 --> 00:22:02,470 From behind the curtains, we watched the police cars

474

00:22:02,470 --> 00:22:05,110 rushing through the city and taking

475

00:22:05,110 --> 00:22:06,580 people out of the houses.

476

00:22:06,580 --> 00:22:10,210 And you could see that people were absolutely paralyzed.

477

00:22:10,210 --> 00:22:13,210 You could see them, you know, they did everything

478

00:22:13,210 --> 00:22:14,770 that they were told.

479

00:22:14,770 --> 00:22:17,510 Often they were not dressed properly.

480

00:22:17,510 --> 00:22:20,650 They were taken and pushed into the car and taken away.

481

00:22:20,650 --> 00:22:22,780 It was all a matter of seconds.

482

00:22:22,780 --> 00:22:25,600 It's something like a film that rolled up.

483

00:22:25,600 --> 00:22:27,430 It was horrible to see.

484

00:22:27,430 --> 00:22:30,070 And there was this talking.

485

00:22:30,070 --> 00:22:33,820 I mean, people-- the Germans said, look what they're doing.

486

00:22:33,820 --> 00:22:35,470 There are friends coming into us.

487

00:22:35,470 --> 00:22:37,960 They're taking all the Jews away today.

488

00:22:37,960 --> 00:22:41,290 And later on we heard that they had herded together

489

00:22:41,290 --> 00:22:43,660 from factories, from the houses-- wherever

490

00:22:43,660 --> 00:22:45,280 they could find the Jews.

491

00:22:45,280 --> 00:22:49,330 They'd herded together I think about 15,000 something,

492

00:22:49,330 --> 00:22:54,040 and had put them into something that's called Clue.

493 00:22:54 040

00:22:54,040 --> 00:22:59,420

The Clue was a dance restaurant-- a very big one.

494

00:22:59,420 --> 00:23:02,260 And there they herded them together, those last ones.

495

00:23:02,260 --> 00:23:04,480 The other ones of them

had been taken formally

496

00:23:04,480 --> 00:23:07,600

to another smaller camp, obviously, that

497

00:23:07,600 --> 00:23:11,020

was at Grosse Hamburg Strasse, where they could accommodate

498

00:23:11,020 --> 00:23:12,430

perhaps 1,000 people.

499

 $00:23:12,430 \longrightarrow 00:23:14,560$ 

But such a great

number for this.

500

 $00:23:14,560 \longrightarrow 00:23:17,260$ 

They had to choose

a place like Clue

501

00:23:17,260 --> 00:23:19,990

where they collected

those 15,000 people

502

00:23:19,990 --> 00:23:21,910

or however many it was.

503

00:23:21,910 --> 00:23:24,220

Maybe the figure is not quite right.

504 00:23:24,220 --> 00:23:27,370 At any rate, from there they were then

505 00:23:27,370 --> 00:23:31,330 deported in various transports, and that one--

506 00:23:31,330 --> 00:23:34,920 that was that horrible day.

507 00:23:34,920 --> 00:23:39,970 This was a day when I felt suddenly so utterly

508 00:23:39,970 --> 00:23:43,720 alone, so utterly left alone.

509 00:23:43,720 --> 00:23:46,630 Because now I knew we would be one

510 00:23:46,630 --> 00:23:48,040 of the very few people left.

511 00:23:48,040 --> 00:23:51,110 I didn't know how many more would be underground.

512 00:23:51,110 --> 00:23:54,220 And this was a day when I also felt very guilty

513 00:23:54,220 --> 00:23:57,130 that I didn't go myself, that I tried

514 00:23:57,130 --> 00:24:02,230 to escape a fate that the others could not escape. 515 00:24:02,230 --> 00:24:05,900 Of course, I didn't know that I would succeed, but at any rate,

516 00:24:05,900 --> 00:24:08,200 I remember that I cried all day long.

517 00:24:08,200 --> 00:24:10,190 And not only I cried.

518 00:24:10,190 --> 00:24:13,840 Those friends we were with, perhaps they didn't cry,

519 00:24:13,840 --> 00:24:19,030 but I remember one of my girlfriends saying, these pigs.

520 00:24:19,030 --> 00:24:21,110 And she hit hand--

521 00:24:21,110 --> 00:24:23,530 hit on the table and left the room.

522 00:24:23,530 --> 00:24:28,300 It was a horrible day for all of us, something unforgettable.

523 00:24:28,300 --> 00:24:29,865 You said that you went--

524 00:24:29,865 --> 00:24:32,470 you and your mother had left [INAUDIBLE]..

525 00:24:32,470 --> 00:24:36,160 We felt that-- we felt as if we were the last-- 00:24:36,160 --> 00:24:39,280 Completely alone among the among the Aryans, among the Germans.

527 00:24:39,280 --> 00:24:41,620 Completely alone, and completely--

528 00:24:41,620 --> 00:24:46,080 it was as if we were out in a terrible [INAUDIBLE] with them.

529 00:24:46,080 --> 00:24:47,590 [INAUDIBLE]

530 00:24:47,590 --> 00:24:48,470 Very much.

531 00:24:48,470 --> 00:24:49,590 Very effective.

532 00:24:49,590 --> 00:24:50,470 Very much.

533 00:24:50,470 --> 00:24:51,930 was that constructive feeling.

534 00:24:51,930 --> 00:24:52,527 Oh, look.

535 00:24:52,527 --> 00:24:53,860 [INAUDIBLE] feeling at the time.

536 00:24:53,860 --> 00:24:56,620 No, it was a feeling at the time that I

537 00:24:56,620 --> 00:25:00,035 tried to escape something that the others had to go to.

538 00:25:00,035 --> 00:25:00,910 Don't you understand?

539

00:25:00,910 --> 00:25:03,190 I was Jewish.

540

00:25:03,190 --> 00:25:08,470 And I have never overcome it, I don't think.

541

00:25:08,470 --> 00:25:09,280 But anyway--

542

00:25:09,280 --> 00:25:12,860 [TRAIN CLANGING]

543

00:25:12,860 --> 00:25:15,830 Later on we learned that more people are underground

544

00:25:15,830 --> 00:25:17,180 like ourselves.

545

00:25:17,180 --> 00:25:21,650 There were, in fact, about 5,000 Jews--

546

00:25:21,650 --> 00:25:24,350 that's the number I know today--

547

00:25:24,350 --> 00:25:27,170 who had tried to live underground.

548

00:25:27,170 --> 00:25:31,910 And we know today that 1,200 survived it.

549

00:25:31,910 --> 00:25:33,020 1,260.

550

00:25:33,020 --> 00:25:37,850

In Berlin, 1,200 Jews

## survived underground

551 00:25:37,850 --> 00:25:40,590 with the help of German people, of course.

552 00:25:40,590 --> 00:25:45,120 So we learned-during that time,

553 00:25:45,120 --> 00:25:48,680 I met, for example, a friend who lived underground

554 00:25:48,680 --> 00:25:52,280 and who, unfortunately, was caught later on.

555 00:25:52,280 --> 00:25:57,640 But at least we knew gradually that we were not the only ones,

556 00:25:57,640 --> 00:26:00,740 and I heard later on also that the Gestapo

557 00:26:00,740 --> 00:26:05,420 had a card index, which they called the [SPEAKING GERMAN]..

558 00:26:05,420 --> 00:26:07,730 It's something you cannot hardly translate.

559 00:26:07,730 --> 00:26:10,220 It's a card index of all the names of those

560 00:26:10,220 --> 00:26:12,020 who had gone underground.

561 00:26:12,020 --> 00:26:14,660 And, of course, they wanted to try to find them.

562

00:26:14,660 --> 00:26:19,400 It was not like this-- that they didn't want to find them.

563

00:26:19,400 --> 00:26:23,060 They were very keen on doing the job,

564

00:26:23,060 --> 00:26:27,395 as any German would do, perfectly well to the very end,

565

00:26:27,395 --> 00:26:29,860 you see?

566

00:26:29,860 --> 00:26:34,890 It was, in a way, a debacle that Berlin was not quite judenrein,

567

00:26:34,890 --> 00:26:35,630 and they knew it.

568

00:26:35,630 --> 00:26:41,438

569

00:26:41,438 --> 00:26:44,658 (filming logistics discussion)

570

00:26:44,658 --> 00:27:14,880

571

00:27:14,880 --> 00:27:18,960 You see that feeling of guilt, which you asked

572

00:27:18,960 --> 00:27:20,790 whether it came afterwards.

573

00:27:20,790 --> 00:27:24,960

Afterwards came the

## feeling of guilt

574 00:27:24,960 --> 00:27:27,540 that we did not take anybody with us--

575 00:27:27,540 --> 00:27:28,590 that we did it alone.

576 00:27:28,590 --> 00:27:31,270 For example, I all the time talked about a little girl.

577 00:27:31,270 --> 00:27:34,920 My cousin had a little daughter, Bella.

578 00:27:34,920 --> 00:27:36,810 I mentioned her name before sometime.

579 00:27:36,810 --> 00:27:38,790 She was about three years old, and she

580 00:27:38,790 --> 00:27:43,320 was sort of a copy of myself as a child-- a sweet little girl,

581 00:27:43,320 --> 00:27:45,540 blonde curls and all.

582 00:27:45,540 --> 00:27:47,620 And I always said, we could have taken her along.

583 00:27:47,620 --> 00:27:52,170 You see, this was the feeling of guilt that came afterwards.

584 00:27:52,170 --> 00:27:56,190 But the feeling of guilt that we were try-- why we. 585 00:27:56,190 --> 00:29:25,290

586 00:29:25,290 --> 00:29:28,640 [TRAIN HORN]

587 00:29:28,640 --> 00:30:21,035