1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:04,000

2 00:00:04,000 --> 00:00:05,680 Too many of these, I can't tell you.

3 00:00:05,680 --> 00:00:09,210 I could tell you in Paris, because I have my diary.

4 00:00:09,210 --> 00:00:10,430 They are all the talks.

5 00:00:10,430 --> 00:00:14,200 I don't mention the content, but I mention always the effects

6 00:00:14,200 --> 00:00:16,040 of the talks.

7 00:00:16,040 --> 00:00:19,060 What I have got here, nor do I remember,

8 00:00:19,060 --> 00:00:21,470 because all the talks were meaningless.

9 00:00:21,470 --> 00:00:25,910 It was fulfilling our duties in Hebrew [Hebrew phrase]

10 00:00:25,910 --> 00:00:27,840 So I saw [INAUDIBLE],, and I don't

11 00:00:27,840 --> 00:00:30,450 know who was our American representative. 00:00:30,450 --> 00:00:32,369 It was a man who was later a [INAUDIBLE]..

13 00:00:32,369 --> 00:00:33,630 Warren

14 00:00:33,630 --> 00:00:34,180 Who?

15 00:00:34,180 --> 00:00:34,840 Warren,

16 00:00:34,840 --> 00:00:36,610 Warren, the one. .

17 00:00:36,610 --> 00:00:39,832 No, but another one was Warren.

18 00:00:39,832 --> 00:00:40,540 Yes, [INAUDIBLE].

19 00:00:40,540 --> 00:00:41,457 [? The ?] [INAUDIBLE].

20 00:00:41,457 --> 00:00:41,960 [INAUDIBLE]

21 00:00:41,960 --> 00:00:42,670 Yeah.

22 00:00:42,670 --> 00:00:45,900 The one was terrible the one was anti-Semite.

23 00:00:45,900 --> 00:00:49,090 The other one was quite decent, but had much less influence.

24 00:00:49,090 --> 00:00:52,888 [INAUDIBLE] the main men, Breckenridge Long was terrible. 25 00:00:52,888 --> 00:00:55,180 I think he's southern, i don't know where he came from.

26 00:00:55,180 --> 00:00:56,860 Southern, yes.

27 00:00:56,860 --> 00:00:59,150 And especially, the whole was very bad on the top.

28 00:00:59,150 --> 00:01:01,870

29 00:01:01,870 --> 00:01:05,150 And I [? hope ?] I saw this.

30 00:01:05,150 --> 00:01:06,679 So dozens of people.

31 00:01:06,679 --> 00:01:08,304 But in my diary, if you are interested.

32 00:01:08,304 --> 00:01:08,940 Not so good.

33 00:01:08,940 --> 00:01:10,510 But it was very depressing.

34 00:01:10,510 --> 00:01:11,020 Hm?

35 00:01:11,020 --> 00:01:12,340 It was very depressing.

36 00:01:12,340 --> 00:01:14,000 Very depressing.

37 00:01:14,000 --> 00:01:17,530 And we came together we, the Jewish delegation

38

00:01:17,530 --> 00:01:22,350 So And we were unhappy. it didn't help anyone.

39

00:01:22,350 --> 00:01:22,900 Yes.

40

00:01:22,900 --> 00:01:26,390 No, it was a shameful [INAUDIBLE]..

41

00:01:26,390 --> 00:01:28,120 You know, there appeared a book.

42

 $00:01:28,120 \longrightarrow 00:01:30,720$

43

00:01:30,720 --> 00:01:33,510 There was a deal suggested.

44

00:01:33,510 --> 00:01:37,200 There is a book by an Austrian Jew on the Evian Conference.

45

00:01:37,200 --> 00:01:38,970 I forgot the name.

46

00:01:38,970 --> 00:01:45,090 There is so to speak one pretend to reveal a sensational things.

47

00:01:45,090 --> 00:01:47,050 Ah, it is a book of Feingold.

48

00:01:47,050 --> 00:01:47,700 Who is it?

49

00:01:47,700 --> 00:01:48,990 Feingold.

50 00:01:48,990 --> 00:01:49,740 Feingold.

51 00:01:49,740 --> 00:01:52,350 Yes, Politics Of Rescue.

52 00:01:52,350 --> 00:01:53,060 In English?

53 00:01:53,060 --> 00:01:53,770 Yes, English.

54 00:01:53,770 --> 00:01:55,500 And it tells some --

55 00:01:55,500 --> 00:01:56,570 I don't know his story.

56 00:01:56,570 --> 00:01:57,890 He talks a lot about Evian.

57 00:01:57,890 --> 00:01:59,140 There are many, many pages.

58 00:01:59,140 --> 00:02:00,980 I don't know.

59 00:02:00,980 --> 00:02:04,310 No, it was a terrible experience.

60 00:02:04,310 --> 00:02:06,810 And did they -- now another question?

61 00:02:06,810 --> 00:02:09,360 Another question-did it happen to you,

62 00:02:09,360 --> 00:02:18,520 as a Jewish leader, to think of about what would have happened,

63 00:02:18,520 --> 00:02:22,360 what you personally would have done, what kind of stand

64 00:02:22,360 --> 00:02:23,380 you would have taken?

65 00:02:23,380 --> 00:02:24,110 What will have --

66 00:02:24,110 --> 00:02:24,610 what?

67 00:02:24,610 --> 00:02:28,660 If you would have been caught by the Germans,

68 00:02:28,660 --> 00:02:32,263 I mean, during the war, if you had to stay--

69 00:02:32,263 --> 00:02:34,180 Well, they would have -- killed me right away.

70 00:02:34,180 --> 00:02:38,150 [INAUDIBLE] No, no, but as a Jewish leader I mean.

71 00:02:38,150 --> 00:02:40,060 What the other Jewish leaders have done?

72 00:02:40,060 --> 00:02:41,680 Yes.

73 00:02:41,680 --> 00:02:47,990 Well, I can tell you all about I have personal experiences. 74 00:02:47,990 --> 00:02:53,190 The moment Hitler came to power, I

75 00:02:53,190 --> 00:02:58,770 got the urgent telephone calls from Wise, Weizmann.

76 00:02:58,770 --> 00:02:59,695 Leave immediately.

77 00:02:59,695 --> 00:03:02,810 You are in danger.

78 00:03:02,810 --> 00:03:05,720 And I must say, I was also [INAUDIBLE]..

79 00:03:05,720 --> 00:03:10,090 I was heading, head of a great publishing company before

80 00:03:10,090 --> 00:03:13,820 and we had 80 people who lived from this.

81 00:03:13,820 --> 00:03:17,580 And I didn't think it will go so fast.

82 00:03:17,580 --> 00:03:20,470 So I refused.

83 00:03:20,470 --> 00:03:22,510 And I thought I would try to liquidate.

84 00:03:22,510 --> 00:03:24,340 There was a lot of money invested.

85 00:03:24,340 --> 00:03:25,305 I was a responsible.

86 00:03:25,305 --> 00:03:29,480 The money was given by rich German Jews.

87 00:03:29,480 --> 00:03:38,050 And if you ask me, I often say, I am one of the few examples

88 00:03:38,050 --> 00:03:40,420 to show that the virtue is sometimes

89 00:03:40,420 --> 00:03:45,610 rewarded in this world, not only in the other world.

90 00:03:45,610 --> 00:03:47,620 My father lived in Palestine.

91 00:03:47,620 --> 00:03:49,690 After my mother died in Frankfurt,

92 00:03:49,690 --> 00:03:51,160 I sent him to Palestine.

93 00:03:51,160 --> 00:03:55,750 He was sick, was an old Zionist, member of Zionist Congress.

94 00:03:55,750 --> 00:03:58,215 And I established him in Palestine there, in apartment.

95 00:03:58,215 --> 00:03:59,590 And he died.

96 00:03:59,590 --> 00:04:02,890 I got, on the 4th of April-- 00:04:02,890 --> 00:04:04,840 no, what did I say.

98 00:04:04,840 --> 00:04:10,870 Before the 1st of April, the end of March, I got a cable.

99 00:04:10,870 --> 00:04:12,790 My father is very sick.

100 00:04:12,790 --> 00:04:16,750 If I want to see him, I should come right away.

101 00:04:16,750 --> 00:04:20,060 My wife, was that time my fiancee,

102 00:04:20,060 --> 00:04:23,210 tells me all the time to leave.

103 00:04:23,210 --> 00:04:26,900 So I decided to go to see my father.

104 00:04:26,900 --> 00:04:30,230 And we were warned not to go by the great trains,

105 00:04:30,230 --> 00:04:32,300 because the SS was already on the border.

106 00:04:32,300 --> 00:04:35,960 So we went from Munich to Innsbruck on a small train,

107 00:04:35,960 --> 00:04:38,720 if you know that we are safer.

108 00:04:38,720 --> 00:04:41,640 Because the small frontiers were not [INAUDIBLE].. 109 00:04:41,640 --> 00:04:43,970 And I never came back then, my father.

110

00:04:43,970 --> 00:04:48,830 Four days later, the Gestapo came to take me [INAUDIBLE]..

111

00:04:48,830 --> 00:04:53,240 Now, I was twice in the theoretical danger

112

00:04:53,240 --> 00:04:55,700 of being caught.

113

00:04:55,700 --> 00:04:59,516 Once I flew together with Saly Mayer,

114

00:04:59,516 --> 00:05:02,430 from Vienna, where I saw Schuschnigg

115

00:05:02,430 --> 00:05:04,380 there was a danger that Schuschnigg

116

00:05:04,380 --> 00:05:07,350 will abolish Jewish equality.

117

00:05:07,350 --> 00:05:10,980 And Mussolini at that time intervened.

118

00:05:10,980 --> 00:05:12,790 But that's another story.

119

00:05:12,790 --> 00:05:17,030 And I took with Saly Mayer was over there a plane to Zurich, 00:05:17,030 --> 00:05:20,450 was supposed to fly directly.

121

00:05:20,450 --> 00:05:24,280 I had, at that time, still a German passport,

122

00:05:24,280 --> 00:05:30,500 because the German consul general, in the Jerusalem Wolff

123

00:05:30,500 --> 00:05:32,510 was a great anti-Nazi.

124

00:05:32,510 --> 00:05:35,590 When I was the denaturalized, he gave me,

125

00:05:35,590 --> 00:05:39,050 knowing that I had a passport of five years.

126 00:05:39,050 --> 00:05:40,560 But then I didn't want to travel.

127 00:05:40,560 --> 00:05:43,030 as a German so I became counsel from Honduras

128 00:05:43,030 --> 00:05:44,830 and had diplomatic passport.

129 00:05:44,830 --> 00:05:48,070 By that time, I had a German passport.

130 00:05:48,070 --> 00:05:53,160 So that was very shaky and bad weather.

131 00:05:53,160 --> 00:05:55,630 So the stewardess came, passed by, and said,

132

00:05:55,630 --> 00:05:59,540 I'm afraid we have to land in Nordland in Munich.

133

00:05:59,540 --> 00:06:03,230 So I became a little bit nervous.

134

00:06:03,230 --> 00:06:07,270 And we agreed with Saly Mayer, that when we land in Munich,

135

00:06:07,270 --> 00:06:10,840 I will say I've lost my passport in Vienna.

136

00:06:10,840 --> 00:06:13,900 They should know who I am and give another name.

137

00:06:13,900 --> 00:06:16,130 He will continue as a Swiss, and we

138

00:06:16,130 --> 00:06:18,740 mobilize Swiss government, American government,

139

00:06:18,740 --> 00:06:19,970 and so on and so on.

140

00:06:19,970 --> 00:06:23,860 And then I decided I'll go to the pilot and said, look,

141

00:06:23,860 --> 00:06:25,640 I'm in Israel for high treason.

142

00:06:25,640 --> 00:06:28,610 It was a Swiss airplane, Swiss Air. 143 00:06:28,610 --> 00:06:30,940 Don't land.

144

00:06:30,940 --> 00:06:32,920 If you have to, you must.

145 00:06:32,920 --> 00:06:35,860 So the second pilot passed by.

146 00:06:35,860 --> 00:06:37,900 So I said, must we land in Germany.

147 00:06:37,900 --> 00:06:39,130 He said, why?

148 00:06:39,130 --> 00:06:42,030 I said, the stewardess is a nervous idiot.

149 00:06:42,030 --> 00:06:44,020 It's shaky, but we don't have to land.

150 00:06:44,020 --> 00:06:45,010 OK.

151 00:06:45,010 --> 00:06:50,230 The second thing was, during the Saar business,

152 00:06:50,230 --> 00:06:56,530 I came often to Saarbrucken to talk to the Jewish community.

153 00:06:56,530 --> 00:06:59,700 And one day, they had an urgent meeting.

154 00:06:59,700 --> 00:07:01,840 So I said to my secretary in Paris,

155

00:07:01,840 --> 00:07:04,620 book me a plane to Saarbrucken.

156

00:07:04,620 --> 00:07:05,870 I come to the airport.

157

00:07:05,870 --> 00:07:08,790 It's Lufthansa.

158

00:07:08,790 --> 00:07:13,290 Now, the Lufthansa could have easily taken me to Frankfurt.

159

00:07:13,290 --> 00:07:16,760 So first, I'm not a very courageous man, I must say.

160

00:07:16,760 --> 00:07:19,140 Don't want to boast.

161

00:07:19,140 --> 00:07:22,190 But another I had an important meeting in the evening.

162

00:07:22,190 --> 00:07:24,330 And I there were no other plane.

163

00:07:24,330 --> 00:07:29,620 And they flew Saarbrucken, Frankfurt, Cologne.

164

00:07:29,620 --> 00:07:32,440 So I joined it, but it didn't land.

165

00:07:32,440 --> 00:07:34,720

They landed in

Saarbrucken, I got off.

166

00:07:34,720 --> 00:07:38,990

But it could easily have taken me to Frankfurt.

167

00:07:38,990 --> 00:07:42,530 Now, what would have happened?

168

00:07:42,530 --> 00:07:47,247 I mean, I wouldn't have been saved.

169

00:07:47,247 --> 00:07:48,330 They would have caught me.

170

00:07:48,330 --> 00:07:53,666 You know, there was a story in the [INAUDIBLE] one day.

171

00:07:53,666 --> 00:07:58,830 it said Goldmann has died in Tel Aviv

172

00:07:58,830 --> 00:08:02,090 and was buried with his military honors.

173

00:08:02,090 --> 00:08:02,590 What.

174

00:08:02,590 --> 00:08:03,870 Why did I know it?

175

00:08:03,870 --> 00:08:07,320 Because after the war, I visited in our American military.

176

00:08:07,320 --> 00:08:11,190 I was invited by the High Commissioner General Clay

177

00:08:11,190 --> 00:08:13,380

to visit the camps.

178

00:08:13,380 --> 00:08:16,320 I visited an old friend of mine, a lady friend

179

00:08:16,320 --> 00:08:19,130 in [Place name] Have you ever been there?

180

00:08:19,130 --> 00:08:21,030 A wonderful town.

181

00:08:21,030 --> 00:08:23,620 And she fainted when I came in.

182

00:08:23,620 --> 00:08:24,733 And then, she recovered.

183

00:08:24,733 --> 00:08:26,900 I said, what's the matter, [Personal name] She says,

184

00:08:26,900 --> 00:08:27,990 I thought you are dead.

185

00:08:27,990 --> 00:08:30,440 They read it in the -- all the excitement.

186

00:08:30,440 --> 00:08:31,390 She fainted.

187

00:08:31,390 --> 00:08:41,929 Her husband was an American, was a governor of [Place name] And

188 00:08:41,929 --> 00:08:47,395 so then I had all kind of incidents with Nazis,

189 00:08:47,395 --> 00:08:50,260 so outside of [INAUDIBLE],, and so on. 190

00:08:50,260 --> 00:08:54,700 A very typical German -- now my parents-in-law remained

191

00:08:54,700 --> 00:08:55,330 in Germany.

192

00:08:55,330 --> 00:08:58,700 I got them out when I became consul of Honduras.

193

00:08:58,700 --> 00:09:00,610 I got them out.

194

00:09:00,610 --> 00:09:04,700 So when I was denaturalized, it was a long process.

195

00:09:04,700 --> 00:09:08,360 Goebbels had asked for it a long time before this.

196

00:09:08,360 --> 00:09:10,090 The government was against this.

197

00:09:10,090 --> 00:09:12,580 He said Dr. Goldmann defending Jewish rights

198

00:09:12,580 --> 00:09:15,540 and make bad impression.

199

00:09:15,540 --> 00:09:17,534 Then I proclaimed a boycott Goebbels come

200

00:09:17,534 --> 00:09:19,990 and then they had to give in.

201

00:09:19,990 --> 00:09:23,440 So when they discussed it, the Gestapo 202 00:09:23,440 --> 00:09:25,360 called my father-in-law.

203 00:09:25,360 --> 00:09:28,510 He was saved by the fact that he owned a big department

204 00:09:28,510 --> 00:09:31,420 store whose speciality was to sell

205 00:09:31,420 --> 00:09:34,900 officials against a guarantee given by the officers.

206 00:09:34,900 --> 00:09:37,300 They will pay off in installments.

207 00:09:37,300 --> 00:09:42,280 And up to Goethe, Goring all the high official were his clients.

208 00:09:42,280 --> 00:09:44,980 And this saved him, so to speak.

209 00:09:44,980 --> 00:09:46,640 So they said to him, the Gestapo,

210 00:09:46,640 --> 00:09:49,700 you know a typical German.

211 00:09:49,700 --> 00:09:52,850 Your son is not only our enemy number one,

212 00:09:52,850 --> 00:09:56,580 he costs us a lot of money It's terrible. 00:09:56,580 --> 00:09:58,910 He said, why. he said look, and we have to watch him.

214 00:09:58,910 --> 00:10:04,050 So always two officials go where he goes.

215

00:10:04,050 --> 00:10:05,690 So we understand he's in Breslau.

216

00:10:05,690 --> 00:10:06,996 We send two people and He left for Rome.

217 00:10:06,996 --> 00:10:07,704 They run to Rome.

218

00:10:07,704 --> 00:10:09,200 He wants to --

219

00:10:09,200 --> 00:10:15,050 Cost a lot of money, Typical German, was the main complaint.

220

00:10:15,050 --> 00:10:18,500 But I tell you another story which very interesting.

221

00:10:18,500 --> 00:10:21,800 Germans are a very contradictory people.

222

00:10:21,800 --> 00:10:26,740 They confiscated my [? lift. ?] There's a very valuable library

223

00:10:26,740 --> 00:10:27,240 there.

224

00:10:27,240 --> 00:10:31,020 I have the first edition

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.

of Goethe, Voltaire, Hebrew

225

00:10:31,020 --> 00:10:35,910 incunabula Otherwise, there's nothing, my [INAUDIBLE]..

226

00:10:35,910 --> 00:10:40,710 Because I've been to Palestine on this famous Ha-avara

227

00:10:40,710 --> 00:10:43,980 and my [? lift ?] was sent to Haifa.

228

00:10:43,980 --> 00:10:45,640 So Ben Gurion came to me, and he says,

229

00:10:45,640 --> 00:10:47,790 we'll need you in Palestine.

230

00:10:47,790 --> 00:10:49,810 We haven't enough Zionist leaders.

231

00:10:49,810 --> 00:10:51,550 We have nobody in the League of Nations.

232

00:10:51,550 --> 00:10:55,260 You know languages, diplomat, charm, what and what.

233

00:10:55,260 --> 00:10:59,040 So here, he forced me to go to Geneva.

234

00:10:59,040 --> 00:11:02,750 So I order the [? lift ?] to go back to Hamburg.

235

00:11:02,750 --> 00:11:04,500 And then I thought I'd bring it to Geneva.

236

00:11:04,500 --> 00:11:07,290 In Geneva, the first year, when you lived there,

237

00:11:07,290 --> 00:11:09,120 you couldn't bring in your own furniture.

238

00:11:09,120 --> 00:11:11,310 In the meantime, I was denaturalized,

239

00:11:11,310 --> 00:11:13,820 and my whole [? lift ?] was sold.

240

00:11:13,820 --> 00:11:16,230 And I didn't mind it, but I didn't mind the library.

241

00:11:16,230 --> 00:11:19,970 But I had all my manuscript, diaries, love letters,

242

00:11:19,970 --> 00:11:24,500 dramas which I had written as a young man, poetry, you know?

243

00:11:24,500 --> 00:11:29,310 And I thought, when I begin to negotiate with Adenauer some

244

00:11:29,310 --> 00:11:34,000 German, yeah, they sold it in an auction.

245

00:11:34,000 --> 00:11:36,360 Will come and say either I bought it,

246

00:11:36,360 --> 00:11:39,850

here you have it, or pay me money.

247

00:11:39,850 --> 00:11:43,020 So one day, there was a epidemic in Germany

248

00:11:43,020 --> 00:11:48,090 with swastikas which they painted on many synagogues.

249

00:11:48,090 --> 00:11:52,620 So I got Adenauer to go to Bergen-Belsen and put down

250

00:11:52,620 --> 00:11:59,250 flowers on the monument for a Jewish martyr, as a kind of --

251

00:11:59,250 --> 00:12:03,630 Strauss came along and I --

252

00:12:03,630 --> 00:12:05,820 the evening before I stayed in Hamburg. it's

253

00:12:05,820 --> 00:12:07,620 not far from Bergen-Belsen.

254

00:12:07,620 --> 00:12:11,580 And I met him the next day in Hanover and went together.

255

00:12:11,580 --> 00:12:14,600 So the Jewish community gave me a dinner.

256

00:12:14,600 --> 00:12:17,140 And next to me was sitting the president--

257

00:12:17,140 --> 00:12:20,200 he's dead now-- who was

an active Social Democrat.

258

00:12:20,200 --> 00:12:22,741 I forgot his name.

259

00:12:22,741 --> 00:12:25,750 So I said to him, I told him the story of the [? lift, ?]

260

00:12:25,750 --> 00:12:27,880 because he was in the free port of Hamburg.

261

00:12:27,880 --> 00:12:31,200 And he said, don't worry.

262

00:12:31,200 --> 00:12:36,235 Your personal documents are in no hands of strangers.

263

00:12:36,235 --> 00:12:37,030 I said, why?

264

00:12:37,030 --> 00:12:39,800 He say, I'll tell you.

265

00:12:39,800 --> 00:12:43,750 He said, free ports, there are dozens of [? lifts ?]

266

00:12:43,750 --> 00:12:47,560 of Germans who were expelled, confiscated.

267

00:12:47,560 --> 00:12:49,690 And there was an official who opened

268

00:12:49,690 --> 00:12:52,450 the [? lifts ?] to sell them.

269

00:12:52,450 --> 00:12:56,170

But all personal documents, he gave to the Jewish community

270

00:12:56,170 --> 00:12:58,570 to deliver to the men after the war.

271

00:12:58,570 --> 00:13:01,780 was probably an old correct German official.

272

00:13:01,780 --> 00:13:06,100 So he said the Jewish community had two buildings full of this.

273

00:13:06,100 --> 00:13:08,350 They were both bombed and both burned.

274

00:13:08,350 --> 00:13:10,550 So your documents don't exist.

275

00:13:10,550 --> 00:13:13,150 You don't have to worry that your love letters are

276

00:13:13,150 --> 00:13:14,574 in the hands of --

277

00:13:14,574 --> 00:13:15,340 [INAUDIBLE]

278

00:13:15,340 --> 00:13:15,920 -- German.

279

00:13:15,920 --> 00:13:17,070 They weren't.

280

00:13:17,070 --> 00:13:18,070 [CHUCKLING]

281

00:13:18,070 --> 00:13:20,320

All right, very good. --

282 00:13:20,320 --> 00:13:23,670 [AUDIO OUT]

283

00:13:23,670 --> 00:18:01,290