

Good morning. I'm Joseph Preil, Director of the Holocaust Resource Center here at King College of New Jersey. This morning, Thursday, October 21, 1993, we are privileged to have with us as our guest Miriam Shapiro Spiegel, currently a resident of Staten Island, New York, a neighbor of ours, a neighbor of King College and this community.

Mrs. Spiegel, before we begin, or as we begin, we have two pictures over here, and I'd like you to be good enough to tell us about these pictures. First, the picture of the little girl on the right.

That's me, nine months after the war.

That's in 1945.

Yes.

That's actually 1946, probably. 1945, end of 1945.

Yes. Do you want to say something about this picture, about how you look at the time?

At that time now, after the war, I did not look like that. I looked more frail, fragile, skinny, very hungry.

So this is already looking better.

That's nine months later. I look much, much better.

Where were you nine months later?

I was in Krasnik nine months later.

In Poland?

In Poland, in Krasnik. After that, I went to a children's home in Lublin.

Wait, this is after the war.

Right after the war.

OK, you'll tell us about that later. The second picture, who's that?

The second picture--

That looks like a family.

Yes, this is the family that kept me during the occupation of the Germans. There was no children, only one little kid. The boy was over here. This is the father, little boy, and the mother right here that holds me, in the barn, hidden.

When was this picture taken?

This picture was taken, I don't know, maybe in 1956, maybe.

Oh, so it was quite a while after the war. Right.

In other words, the children were not born yet.

No, they were not. Only one child they had at that time when they took me in.

So this Polish family, this Polish couple with one child, took you in.

Right.

And in essence saved your life.

Saved my life, right.

Thank you. We'll put this aside now, and let's start with the story from the beginning. In 1939 when the war broke out, what did your immediate family consist of? That means your parents, your brothers and sisters.

I had two sisters and a brother and me. I'm the youngest.

You're the youngest. When were you born?

I'm born 1931.

1931. So you were eight years old when the war started.

Yes.

Then you had what, how many brothers, how many sisters?

I had one brother and two sisters.

All right. Since we started with you as the youngest, let's work our way up. Who's the next youngest?

The next youngest, my brother.

Your brother, what's his name?

Sam Shapiro.

All right, and then he was born when? He's how much older than you?

Yes, about two years.

About two years older than you.

Two years.

The the next--

Was sister, [PERSONAL NAME].

And she's how much older than you?

Well, four years.

Four years older.

Yes.

And then you're two years older than Sam.

Well, about. Yeah. And then sister [? Feige, ?] two years.

Oh, so in other words, you were all born two years apart.

Yeah, approximately.

Sounds like 1931, '29, '27, '25.

Yeah.

So it's a family of two parents and four children.

Four children.

OK. Of this family in 1939, how many survived the war?

Survived three and our father, four.

Four.

Yes.

In other words, three children and the father.

Right.

Now, go beyond that to the extended family. That means uncles, aunts, first cousins, and grandparents. You had grandparents?

Yes.

How many at 1939?

Two grandparents.

Two grandparents. And how many would you say the whole family consisted of?

About 31.

Something like that?

Yes.

You counted that. All right. Of your immediate family of six, four survived.

Right.

Of the 31, how many survived?

Only those four.

All the others perished.

All others perished.

And today we're going to hear the story about what happened, basically, with your immediate family.

Yes.

All right. Where were you born?

Janów Lubelski, Poland.

What part of Poland is that?

That's near Lublin.

Near Lublin. And your father did what for a living?

He was a butcher.

And your mother?

My mother was home with the--

Taking care of the house and the children.

Right.

Now, you were only eight years old when the war broke out. How do you remember what happened at that time?

Well, when the bombs started falling on that small town, my father fainted. And we start running out of the house. And that was a whole day going on. In the evening, we went back. But there was no house no more. It was bombed.

And we went in our neighbor's house. And my father said-- after a couple weeks, I think, my uncle was walking in the street. And he was grabbed by the Germans and shot for no reason, just because he was a Jew.

My father came in in the house and said-- we sat down. And he said, let's go to a village. Maybe we'll be better off. And he collected my uncle with all his children, seven children.

A different uncle?

Yeah, different uncle, with seven children. And the end that survived were three children. And we went to a village. With the grandparents, went to a village.

We were there short time, because I walked out of the house, not thinking of nothing-- Germans walked by. And I heard a little boy screaming, Jude! Jude!

About you?

Yes. And a German came over. He had a big ring on his finger. And he punched me right in my mouth and knocked out two teeth right away. Beat me up.

And I went home. And again, my father said, we've got to go away from here. He collected again the family, the uncle and with the children, uncle's children. He said, we should go to the forest. I heard there is a lot of Jews in the forest.

We went to the forest. There was a lot of Jews hiding, like little huts under the hill. And we dugged, and on top, put trees, so it won't be recognized that there is anybody there. That was still the first year.

And we were there. But we were very hungry. We had no food. We were starving.

My father took my mother and two of my uncle's sons-- they were twins-- went to the village that he knew.

He gave them his possessions before we left to the forest. He said, they'll give us maybe some food. So he went there.

What possessions did he give them?

Clothes, money, whatever he had-- everything, whatever he owned.

What did he do with his business?

He left it.

Standing? The store?

That's it. He just abandoned it, because a Jew could not own anything. A Jew couldn't go to school. I could not go to school.

I wanted so much. I craved for knowledge. And I could not go. They told me, Jews are not allowed to enter the school.

Who's they? The Poles or the Germans?

The Germans told the Poles, the principal from the school. So I could not go to school. Of course, I was very saddened. I saw children playing, going to school, being happy. And for me, it was a luxury.

So going back to my father going with my two cousins to that village for food, as he entered to the barn from that family where he gave the possessions, [INAUDIBLE] came in. And he said, [? Josko, ?] you better run.

You mean the person--

That came into the barn.

The one your father entrusted with his possessions.

Right, yes. He said, [? Josko, ?] you better run. Don't come no more here. I can't give you nothing. If they catch you, they'll kill you. He gave him just a loaf of bread. And my father and mother, with their head down, went out.

As he went out, he heard dogs screaming, barking very heavy, and people yelling. And then he heard little boys screaming, help. Please don't take me. Don't hit me, please. When my father heard that, he start running. He runs so fast.

He came to the forest. That's about 20 miles from that village. And he had to tell my uncle that his two sons were taken to the Germans, sold for a pound of sugar. For a pound of sugar, taken like worse than animals.

So when they came to town, your father and the two cousins separated.

Yes.

Each one, I assume, was going to get--

Went to different family.

For food.

For food, different family. And the ones that my cousins went--

They're the ones who gave them away?

Gave them-- took them. Like animals, dragged them to town to the Germans.

And they went to that family because your father knew them and trusted them?

Yes. They thought they'll give them some food. And he go to another family that he know and give them food. Will bring some food in for the rest of people to eat. A piece of bread was a luxury. It was more than cake. You could not imagine what it was.

So they were dragged there. And my father came back to the forest, told my uncle that his two sons were dragged to the Germans, beaten up. He heard them screaming. And probably, he told the uncle, they're dead.

You could imagine-- how they felt, how we all felt. And there is no fault.

If I may, I just want to go back to the beginning. When you were in your original town, which is--

Janów Lubelski.

--Janów Lubelski, near Lublin. The bombs came, and then the Germans came in.

Yes.

And the bombs came. That was for the whole town.

For the whole town, of course.

Then when did the action start taking place, the German action start taking place, separating the Jews from the Poles?

Well, right away they took out Jews and start killing them. That was their first thing to intimidate the people.

But was that organized? I mean, they didn't take everybody. They took a few.

They took whomever they caught in the house. And they told them, raus. And they put them against the wall and killing them.

And as soon as that started, your father said, let's get out of here.

Right. We went.

That was relatively disorganized, in terms of what's going to come later.

Yes. He thought that maybe it will take three months to six months. Everything will settle down. And we'll able to go back.

But your father took quick action.

He did not imagine what's going to happen.

Actually, he took quick action.

Yes. He was a very smart man. He was like the head of the whole family.

And then how did he select the village that you went to?

Was no selection, just we went with no knowledge of anything.

And where did you live in the village? You were there for a short period.

Yes. We were in a small house. Nobody lived there. Was abandoned, that house. So we went in and just--

Was not a luxurious apartment.

No, it was nothing there. We were sleeping on the floor.

And from there, from those very poor headquarters, you went to a hut in the forest.

In the forest, yes.

And you had what kind of facilities?

None, no facilities. We couldn't wash. And excuse me, we couldn't even go to the bathroom. There was no bathroom. Was unsanitary conditions.

How long were you there?

I don't know, maybe six months. Everything happened--

And the activity was trying to get food.

Yes.

And how did the family really get the food?

Well--

Considering that even somebody whom your father trusted told him to stay away.

Right. We were stealing food from the farmers there. We were going in to the farmers'. And whatever they were farming outside, the-- we were stealing the food-- potatoes. Whatever we could get a hand on, we took at night, where nobody saw.

What did you drink?

Well, we were drinking either water that was dirty from the streams or ice water. We put ice and melting it. Melt the water, make a little fire.

This was wintertime.

Yes. It was already winter.

The heat wasn't working in your hut.

No, there was no heat. There was no nothing. We couldn't-- we only had clothes what we were wearing. And that--

24 hours a day.

Yes. And you don't know-- you couldn't imagine the smell. We had boils, lice. You couldn't imagine how we looked-- torn-up clothes, hungry, boils over the face, the whole body, lice, that if you went in with your hand, you could have take them.

You couldn't wash. It was very unsanitary. People were dying, because we were not the only ones in the forest. People were dying for hunger.

I had an aunt with three children. One of the children had a belly like that. She was maybe six years old, undernourished. Her feet was so skinny, only bones you saw and hands.

And then one day, I don't know what happened. A fire caught that hut. And we start to run. We were a lot of people in that hut, concentrated, maybe 10 or more. And we start running out.

We grabbed my father, my older sister. They grabbed the two children out. And my aunt, with her mother, did not want to come out. She said, I'd rather stay here and get burned, and would not come out.

We had to run away, because we were afraid that the fire, the smoke the Germans might see. They might come and kill us. So we run. We run deeper into the forest. My aunt died with her mother.

In the fire?

In the fire.

She wouldn't come out.

She would not come out. She said, I'd rather die than see my children hungry, looking like that.

Do you think she set the fire?

No.

It was an accidental fire.

Accidental, because it was very dry. The trees were very dried up, because at night, we were making a fire to warm up a little or to make food, what we stole from the farmers, potatoes. So we ate. Each one had a potato or half, if we were lucky.

So when we came back, those two were dead. And we just collected all the people. We went to a different forest, which I couldn't remember the name of it. And we were there. A lot of Jews were there.

What was the name of the forest you were in to begin with?

That was near Wólka Ratajska, called the village.

The village was Wólka Ratajska?

Yes, but I couldn't remember the forest.

Can you--

I can't spell.

I don't expect you to spell it, but let's work on it.

B-U-L-K-A, Bulka.

A and a N, I think.

And "Rateiska?"

Ratajska.



Ratajska might be R-A-T-E-I-S-K-A. So that was the village?

Yes.

And that was the village you lived in before you went to the forest.

Before I went to the forest.

And then you went to forest outside Wólka Ratajska.

Yes, to another forest, which was not far from Zdziłowice.

That's the other town.

The other village, a bigger village.

Let's take a guess at how to spell Zdziłowice.

I don't know. I'm sorry. Whatever-- how you write it down.

Can I help?

All right. Your husband is here. He says he'll help.

Yes. What word do you need?

Zdziłowice.

Zdziłowice?

Mm-hmm.

Z-A-L-O-W-I-C-Z-A.

All right, thank you.

So we went to that forest. And in that forest was a lot of Jews, a lot of young people. And--

This is a few months after you were in the first forest.

Right.

And you moved from the first forest because it was just-- no food.

No food, and we were afraid to stay there, because of the fire, that the Germans might come in and kill us. So we moved to that forest, and were a lot of young people. And they were saying that there is-- they call themselves partisans, a group of partisans.

In the new forest.

In the new forest. They will say, is a group of partisans.

Polish partisans?

Polish.

Not Jewish.

Not Jewish. And they were saying that they want to collect all the young people, and they want to go liberate the camp Budzyn.

Budzyn.

Yes.

Camp Budzyn.

Budzyn, by Lublin there.

Now, let's try this. B-U-D-Z-I-N?

B-U-D-Z-I-N.

And near Lublin.

Yes.

All right.

So those partisans collected all the young people. There were maybe 200.

200 young people.

Young people.

Jewish people.

Jewish people, 18-year-olds.

How many partisans were there, would you say?

There was a group. There were not too many, a group maybe of 20.

Small group.

A small group. They were not big. And they collected all those young Jewish men. And they said, we're going to go to liberate the camp.

Budzyn.

Budzyn. As we found out, they were not partisans. They were [NON-ENGLISH], they called. They were against the Poles-- I mean, the Germans-- and against the Jews, natural. They just were killing Jews. They took all those 200 young men at night, took away their arms, tied their feet and hand, and shot them all up. Right after that--

This didn't affect any of your family?

Well, because we were all young at that time.

Wait, you had an older brother.

Yeah, but he still was younger. I don't know. They didn't take him. I don't know what the reason. I guess it had something to do with God, maybe.

Oh yeah, '29, he was a young boy. The war started when he was 10 years old. He might've been only 12 years old at this time.

He was young.

Yeah.

And it didn't take long. One day, they came in, maybe a week later. I don't know. My father previous told a Polish man that he would like to buy food. He'll give him a ring. He has two rings, he had. And he wants to give him if he give him food.

Right after that, those two guys came in with arms. They knew where exactly to go. Came to my father. Hold the gun against his head. He said, if you don't give me those two rings, I'll shoot the whole family right away.

My father, not thinking much, he said, spare my family's life. Here's the rings. And he gave them. Of course, prior to that, he beat them up.

He beat whom up?

My father, my mother-- beat them up.

How did they beat them up? They had guns.

Well, they had guns, but my father didn't.

Then he endangered himself.

They came in like friends. Came in, and then start beating them up.

Oh, they beat up your father.

Yes.

Before they told him they want the rings.

Right.

And--

They beat up your mother too?

My mother too. And we was standing, looking, scared. After that, my father gave him the two rings. He left with those two rings.

Was one person came?

Two of them.

So they left.

They left, left us alone. And we was scared. And we had no food again. But where should we go from there? Nowhere to go. So we were staying on. Meantime, my sister [? Rifke ?] died by the infection.

In the forest?

Yeah, a infection in her leg. He couldn't go to a doctor. You couldn't take her to town. And she died from the infection. She fall on a nail going for bread. When she came back, her feet were swollen. And it took only five days, and she died.

So I lost already a sister, which was very, very dear to me. She was gorgeous, gorgeous girl, very good-looking. When she died-- she always watched me, always took care of me. She died. Part of me died with her. After her death-- I'm all saying, was the same time, same year.

Would you say this is, what, about a year after the war started?

Approximately, yes. And we were sitting one day by the fire eating peels from potatoes. Was nothing to eat. And we looked on each other. I sat near my mother.

All of a sudden, I hear bullets firing, like a war, so heavy the bullets. You can't imagine. It's still ringing in my head.

Every night I go to sleep, I hear ringing in my head, the bullets. I can't sleep at night, thinking, what happened? It was so quiet. And what happened to that quiet forest? All the bullets.

And I run. Everybody run different directions, not knowing where they're going. I ran with my mother.

That was the hardest thing in my entire life. I saw my life go under my eyes. I hear a scream, not knowing that my mother was hit. She screamed, where my children?

You said you were with your mother?

Yes.

And she was hit?

Yes. Where's my children? What's become of my children? Everybody run different directions.

And I run as fast as I could. I turned around. I had no mother. I had nobody. All bloodied up.

You are bloodied up.

Yes.

What are you bloodied up from?

I think I was wounded.

By?

From a bullet. I was disoriented. I walked, I think, to that village and hid under the floor.

Zdziłowice?

Zdziłowice. Cold-- I went under--

What place did you go into?

A barn.

A barn that you knew or that you didn't know?

I did not know where I am. At that time, I didn't know that the name of that village called Zdziłowice. I just

wandered in.

You never lived there.

Never. I never knew it exists. I just wandered in. And I went under the floor.

Of the barn.

The barn. But I was hungry. So I went out. And I went in-- as I walked, I hear, halt, again. I run. But I did not have the strength to run.

I was caught by Poles, young men. And they brought me in and start hitting me. They hit me so hard, till today I have a stain on my lungs. They hit me so hard that you cannot imagine. Like a football, I was tossed and hit.

And they put me in a cooler by a family. And that woman said, not by me you're going to keep her. You want to keep her here and bring her to the Germans, you take her into your house, not by me. She start screaming. They took me out and put me in a barn.

And he came in with a gun. He said, I'm going to kill you. But before that, I'm going to take you to the Germans. And I was sitting in a corner, bundled up like this.

A voice was telling me-- my mother says-- till today, I don't think-- whom I'm saying this story, they don't believe me. But it's true. But in my mind, my mother told me, save yourself. Miriam, save yourself. Get up and save yourself.

I climbed the walls. I don't know. Was impossible to climb, but I did. And with my head, I pushed-- was straw for the cows. I pushed with my head the straw, and I fall down again.

I said, Mom-- Mommy, I can't do it. Whatever happens, I can't do it. They'll kill me.

And she says, get up. Don't sit. Get up. I got up again, climbed again. Took off my shoes, whatever clothes I had, only with a shirt.

I threw myself down on the tree. Snow was maybe 20 feet from the barn, all the snow. You can't imagine. If I fall down, couldn't see me.

You were 20 feet from the barn.

No, no, no. Snow was--

20 feet high?

Yeah, it was so high. It was unbelievable. I threw myself on the tree, because I couldn't go the other side. I heard-- there was people in the other barn.

So I was scared. So I went in the back. And I threw myself on the tree, all scratched up. But I didn't feel anything, that I was scratched up, bruised-- nothing.

And I threw myself on the snow. The snow was hard. It wasn't soft. It was hard snow. And I dig myself out, and I run. I run maybe miles.

I didn't feel cold. I didn't feel snow. Again, I went under a barn, under the floor-- because in Poland, the floors are high, the barns-- under a floor. I must have slept a week, maybe.

Until that point, was that the same day that you were with your mother? The whole story you're telling?

It was maybe a day or two later.

What were you eating this time, during this--

Snow. I had no food. Snow.

You were about a nine-year-old girl, maybe 10.

Yes. By me, the years were-- every year was 10 years. Every day was a year. I didn't count days. I didn't know what day it is. I didn't know what year it is. I didn't know nothing.

I was hungry, confused. And I was laying under that floor long time, a couple days. After that, I got up. I had nobody with me. I was only alone. I had to take care of myself. No sister, no brother, no mother, no knowledge of anybody is alive.

And I wandered. Came in to a family, Polish family. And I begged her for a piece of bread. I don't know how I looked. But she gave one look at me, and she says, don't worry, child. I'll take care of you.

She gave me food. I was so hungry, cold. She warned me up, gave me something to wear.

And she said, I have to put you in the barn. There is a hole there. I'll cover you with straw. The cows are there and the pigs. I'll keep you warm a little.

Her husband came in in the house. And he gave one look. And I looked at him. And I was scared. I thought, he's going to kill me right away.

But he only had a look. He looked like-- but he had a heart as gold. But I didn't know, because I didn't trust nobody. I didn't even trust that lady. That Polish woman, I didn't trust.

But I had no other way. There was no way. I felt, if they'll kill me, I'm already half dead. So I have no alternative. Then put my life in their hands. So they put me in the barn.

When they put me in the barn, sometime they brought me in food. Sometime they couldn't. They said they were afraid, because if they were ever caught, they would be killed, the entire family. They would be killed from the Germans, because they constantly used to come, the Germans, to that village, not only to that, all villages. They used to take their food for their army.

So she was keeping me in that hole, covered with straw. Occasionally, when it was very, very cold at night, very late night, she would take me in in the house so I get warmed up a little bit. And she would feed me.

When she was feeding the cows, she would occasionally bring in some food and knocking, like-- [KNOCKS ON TABLE] so I knew that it's her. And I was laying-- my head, I felt like armies are marching from the lice what I had.

And she knew all this about you, that you had lice.

Yes. But there was no way to wash. She was afraid to take me in the house and wash me. Sometime she would let me wash, bring in water, cold water, and wash.

Outside.

No, in the barn.

In the barn.

I was not allowed--

I mean in the barn, not in the house.

In the barn. And I washed myself, but it didn't-- it was not warm water. You couldn't comb your hair. They were all tangled up. But who looked whether they're tangled or not? And I was there five years.

From when till when, do you know? You got there in 1940, it seems. You were there till after the war?

Till after the war, by her, laying--

So they--

--like this, my feet. Only my feet and hand I had space. There was no space to get--

So she took care of you.

Yes, she kept me there the whole time, fed me.

This was a good person.

Yes.

An excellent person.

She was very good to me. So was her husband. Very good to me.

Did they talk to you during these years?

Once in a while, when they brought me in, they would say-- give me food-- don't worry. Soon the war will be over. And we'll adopt you.

You knew nothing about what was going on in the war.

No, I did not know if anybody's alive. I didn't know if there is Jews. I didn't know even if I lived the next day, if I lived the next hour.

And you were such a young child.

Yes. And I couldn't walk, because when you sit in a position like this, you-- the muscles that-- I couldn't walk.

But evidently, you were not in danger with them.

Not by them. But nevertheless--

In other words, nobody suspected them.

No, because I was not allowed to walk around free.

And you were the only one. If they'd have 12 people, which some--

Yes. I was the only child by them in the barn. Whenever they could, they would bring me in food, because they were afraid neighbors shouldn't see that they carrying any food. When they were able, they would bring me sometime something hot. But that was once in a while.

Do you remember when this village was liberated and by whom?

This village was liberated by the Russian.

That's Zdziłowice. Zdziłowice.

Zdziłowice by the Russian.

Do you know when it was?

I think it was in '45, 1945.

At the end of the war? Your husband is here. And he thinks it was 1944.

End of the war.

'44.

'44-- maybe he's right.

'44.

Could be '44.

It probably was earlier. It probably was earlier than the end of the war. And what was life like after the Russians came in?

After the Russians came in, she took me out from the barn. And I didn't know. I saw soldiers-- clothes different, talk different. And sometime I felt like going over and say, hey, I'm Jewish.

To the Russians.

Yes. But I was scared to tell them that I am Jewish. And she let me walk around freely in the-- not in the street, but in the garden, in the--

But after the liberation by the Russians, the neighbors knew that you were there.

But they didn't know that I'm Jewish.

What did they think you were?

They thought that I'm a niece of hers.

That was the story?

That what she was saying.

Suddenly a niece showed up?

Yes, she was--

Nobody saw the niece come?

Right. From another village.

But you looked terrible.

I looked terrible.

Did you get straightened up as far as the lice was concerned?



Not really. She washed my hair, helped me wash my hair.

How did you look to the neighbors?

She cut the hair a little.

How did you look to the neighbors?

They didn't-- I guess-- I don't know. They didn't ask me. And I did not volunteer.

She gave you clothing?

She changed my clothing. And she let me wash my hair.

This was after liberation.

After the liberation.

And moving into the house? Or you still lived in the barn?

We could not move into the house, because the Russian took the house. They said that the big captain needs the house. So we all were living in the barn.

Including the husband and the wife?

Yeah, with that little baby. But we were walking around already. We were walking around freely. I was free already, walking around. I couldn't understand.

She was telling me that she wants to take me to the church and make me Catholic. Since I didn't have nobody, so I agreed to that, to become Catholic, because I had no one. I knew I'm Jewish.

You were about 13, 14 at this time.

I don't know. Because, like I said, I was mixed up the years while-- it just was like a number.

What kind of a family did you come from? Your father was a butcher. Was he a kosher butcher?

Yes.

So you came from a very observant, orthodox family.

Very religious family. My mother was wearing at that time-- today, it's style-- but at that time, she was wearing a--

Sheitel?

A sheitel, that's right.

The wig.

A wig. She was wearing a wig. And my father, he was very religious, with a beard. Very religious family, nice family, as I remember. I was happy, very happy.

She wanted to adopt you at this point.

She wanted to adopt me.

And take you into the Catholic religion.

Yes.

And you agreed.

I agreed, because I had nobody. So I was happy. And she start giving me little food, because she saw that if I eat too much, I'll die, because I was swollen and boils all over. She start to take care of me, because before, she couldn't. She was afraid of herself. And she hold me there.

One day-- that was a couple months later. One day, she says, go out to the fields. I'll take you out to the fields with the cows. I said, OK.

And she kept me there a whole day. Not know why she kept me there a whole day. Was dark, and she says, now we go home.

She was with you the whole time?

Yes. Now we go home. As I went home, from far, I saw a boy. But I couldn't make it out. As I came closer, I saw my brother.

You knew it was your brother?

Yes. I recognized him. And I ran to him. And that Polish man says, where you running? Don't run. Don't go. And then he says, [SPEAKING POLISH]

That means, a dirty Jew you were, and a dirty Jew you will remain. And as I came close to my--

To your brother.

I didn't know how he knew, how he found me. At this moment, I did not ask him where he was, what he was doing, and how he found me. All I was clinging to him, happy that I have somebody beside me, that I have a brother.

The tape is about over. I'm sorry to cut in at this point. We'll pick it up as soon as they put on a new tape. There are just a few seconds left.

OK.