

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:07,450

2

00:00:07,450 --> 00:00:11,590

A little bit before about the  
Judenrat and your feelings

3

00:00:11,590 --> 00:00:14,740

toward the Judenrat, and could  
you describe them a little bit?

4

00:00:14,740 --> 00:00:20,320

Well, as I said, I hear a  
lot about Judenrats, but my--

5

00:00:20,320 --> 00:00:23,410

whatever I remember about  
Judenrat, the feeling

6

00:00:23,410 --> 00:00:26,440

that we had about Judenrat,  
they were the people

7

00:00:26,440 --> 00:00:28,300

that we didn't  
envy, because they

8

00:00:28,300 --> 00:00:31,330

had to face the Germans for us.

9

00:00:31,330 --> 00:00:35,070

It was-- the feeling was,  
that I remember, I mean,

10

00:00:35,070 --> 00:00:36,280

I wasn't a baby.

11

00:00:36,280 --> 00:00:40,450

The feeling was, it is easier  
to give that silver candelabra,

12

00:00:40,450 --> 00:00:44,710  
or that money, or whatever  
than to face the German who

13  
00:00:44,710 --> 00:00:49,060  
comes to take it once a month  
in order for the promise

14  
00:00:49,060 --> 00:00:52,510  
that they wouldn't have  
Aktion in our city.

15  
00:00:52,510 --> 00:00:56,980  
And when we heard already that  
in all the neighboring cities

16  
00:00:56,980 --> 00:00:59,680  
they had Aktion, we  
saw that it works,

17  
00:00:59,680 --> 00:01:02,470  
that our Judenrat works for us.

18  
00:01:02,470 --> 00:01:05,360  
Because people started  
jumping off the train.

19  
00:01:05,360 --> 00:01:08,008  
We lived on the way to Belzec.

20  
00:01:08,008 --> 00:01:09,550  
People were being  
taken on the train.

21  
00:01:09,550 --> 00:01:12,620  
Yes, and that's when I got this.

22  
00:01:12,620 --> 00:01:15,870  
Now, when you see people  
jumping out of the train,

23  
00:01:15,870 --> 00:01:17,620  
you knew where they

were being taken?

24

00:01:17,620 --> 00:01:19,650

Oh, by that time  
people already knew.

25

00:01:19,650 --> 00:01:20,608

This is, we're still --

26

00:01:20,608 --> 00:01:22,480

People knew that they  
are going to Belzec

27

00:01:22,480 --> 00:01:24,880

and they don't come back.

28

00:01:24,880 --> 00:01:27,550

In the beginning,  
people weren't sure.

29

00:01:27,550 --> 00:01:31,396

But deeper into the  
summer we knew already.

30

00:01:31,396 --> 00:01:33,530

Of '42.

31

00:01:33,530 --> 00:01:34,510

Of '42.

32

00:01:34,510 --> 00:01:35,890

I'm speaking of '40.

33

00:01:35,890 --> 00:01:39,610

When they were taken away in  
March, the first Aktion, which

34

00:01:39,610 --> 00:01:41,740

they took the  
people, the cripples,

35

00:01:41,740 --> 00:01:44,620

you know because the first thing  
that the Germans-- you see,

36  
00:01:44,620 --> 00:01:48,850  
I'm not very chronological,  
by the first thing when

37  
00:01:48,850 --> 00:01:51,700  
the Germans came I'm sure  
you are familiar with.

38  
00:01:51,700 --> 00:01:55,030  
They had-- they told  
to register every Jew,

39  
00:01:55,030 --> 00:02:00,250  
and they categorized if you  
are A category, strong to work,

40  
00:02:00,250 --> 00:02:05,410  
B, half, not so strong,  
and C, was a cripple.

41  
00:02:05,410 --> 00:02:07,900  
And there were a lot of  
people who wanted to--

42  
00:02:07,900 --> 00:02:10,479  
went to the doctor and  
[? weren't ?] a cripple.

43  
00:02:10,479 --> 00:02:16,750  
And that I remember, my  
mother telling my father

44  
00:02:16,750 --> 00:02:18,370  
why doesn't he do it.

45  
00:02:18,370 --> 00:02:21,070  
So my father said,  
by the Deutschen,

46  
00:02:21,070 --> 00:02:23,620

I don't want to be a cripple.

47

00:02:23,620 --> 00:02:25,390

That's what he said.

48

00:02:25,390 --> 00:02:28,170

And that job, that

Aktion was easy.

49

00:02:28,170 --> 00:02:30,805

All they did, they took

the list of the cripples.

50

00:02:30,805 --> 00:02:33,340

51

00:02:33,340 --> 00:02:35,590

Did they take non-Jews

also or only Jews?

52

00:02:35,590 --> 00:02:37,390

No, no, only Jews.

53

00:02:37,390 --> 00:02:42,490

Non-Jews, I remember when they

only came there was a family.

54

00:02:42,490 --> 00:02:48,490

I don't know what it was,

but they were walking around.

55

00:02:48,490 --> 00:02:49,960

Children were laughing at them.

56

00:02:49,960 --> 00:02:51,790

They were retarded, apparently.

57

00:02:51,790 --> 00:02:53,050

And they were always dirty.

58

00:02:53,050 --> 00:02:58,140

That family, because they lived

further down beyond the city,

59

00:02:58,140 --> 00:02:58,930  
so I remember.

60

00:02:58,930 --> 00:03:01,510  
I saw through the  
window the truck

61

00:03:01,510 --> 00:03:04,630  
when they took the whole  
family, the Germans.

62

00:03:04,630 --> 00:03:07,780  
Before they even touched a Jew.

63

00:03:07,780 --> 00:03:10,160  
They must have had a  
disease or something.

64

00:03:10,160 --> 00:03:11,535  
I don't remember it.

65

00:03:11,535 --> 00:03:12,130  
Yeah.

66

00:03:12,130 --> 00:03:14,140  
But that was a special family.

67

00:03:14,140 --> 00:03:15,290  
Everybody knew about them.

68

00:03:15,290 --> 00:03:16,370  
Nobody touched them.

69

00:03:16,370 --> 00:03:18,340  
They weren't Jewish.

70

00:03:18,340 --> 00:03:21,910  
But they were running  
around, their children

71

00:03:21,910 --> 00:03:28,360

very filthy and running noses,  
and with all kinds of rashes.

72

00:03:28,360 --> 00:03:29,620

You know.

73

00:03:29,620 --> 00:03:31,870

And cross-eyed.

74

00:03:31,870 --> 00:03:35,290

I mean, everybody knew that  
it's not a normal family.

75

00:03:35,290 --> 00:03:38,238

Them they took away right away,  
before they touched a Jew.

76

00:03:38,238 --> 00:03:39,030

Were you surprised?

77

00:03:39,030 --> 00:03:40,965

Did you know why?

78

00:03:40,965 --> 00:03:42,330

No.

79

00:03:42,330 --> 00:03:45,070

Who imagined anything?

80

00:03:45,070 --> 00:03:46,780

Then when they  
took over in March

81

00:03:46,780 --> 00:03:51,220

the people who were the  
cripples and non-cripples who

82

00:03:51,220 --> 00:03:55,400

were listed as such, they  
took them and their families.

83

00:03:55,400 --> 00:03:57,190

They didn't come back.

84

00:03:57,190 --> 00:03:59,860

I remember they  
sent some Polacks.

85

00:03:59,860 --> 00:04:04,540

They paid them off they  
should go and sniff out where

86

00:04:04,540 --> 00:04:05,230

the train--

87

00:04:05,230 --> 00:04:08,590

I mean, they knew the train,  
the direction of the train.

88

00:04:08,590 --> 00:04:13,480

But by the end of the summer,  
we knew already it is Belzec

89

00:04:13,480 --> 00:04:14,470

and it is bad.

90

00:04:14,470 --> 00:04:16,120

They're not coming  
back from that.

91

00:04:16,120 --> 00:04:18,910

Nobody was inside.

92

00:04:18,910 --> 00:04:21,339

And people jump-- knew  
already and people

93

00:04:21,339 --> 00:04:23,350

started jumping off the train.

94

00:04:23,350 --> 00:04:24,640

That's when I got this.



95

00:04:24,640 --> 00:04:30,400

Because when I was with my  
appendicitis in the hospital,

96

00:04:30,400 --> 00:04:31,810

it was bad still.

97

00:04:31,810 --> 00:04:34,840

Penicillin was discovered  
but someplace else.

98

00:04:34,840 --> 00:04:37,450

I was three months  
in the hospital.

99

00:04:37,450 --> 00:04:39,940

And I developed a hobby.

100

00:04:39,940 --> 00:04:42,550

I went to the-- there  
was a room where you--

101

00:04:42,550 --> 00:04:45,280

a dressing room,  
where you changed

102

00:04:45,280 --> 00:04:48,490

the dressing, which they did  
for me also every other day.

103

00:04:48,490 --> 00:04:51,730

And I rolled the bandages,  
and I held the water,

104

00:04:51,730 --> 00:04:54,520

and I helped out.

105

00:04:54,520 --> 00:04:58,630

In our city was only  
one Jewish nurse.

106

00:04:58,630 --> 00:05:00,100

And why she was a nurse?

107

00:05:00,100 --> 00:05:02,020

Because she had a hoiter.

108

00:05:02,020 --> 00:05:03,410

How do I say in English?

109

00:05:03,410 --> 00:05:06,554

110

00:05:06,554 --> 00:05:08,210

Uh--

111

00:05:08,210 --> 00:05:09,215

Caught you.

112

00:05:09,215 --> 00:05:11,240

You caught me for  
a second, yeah.

113

00:05:11,240 --> 00:05:12,300

Not a hernia?

114

00:05:12,300 --> 00:05:13,944

No, a hunchback.

115

00:05:13,944 --> 00:05:15,950

A hunchback, OK.

116

00:05:15,950 --> 00:05:18,530

And she was a nurse.

117

00:05:18,530 --> 00:05:21,530

She was the only Jewish nurse.

118

00:05:21,530 --> 00:05:24,710

So the people jumped  
off the train.

119

00:05:24,710 --> 00:05:26,600

They were shot at  
by the Germans.

120  
00:05:26,600 --> 00:05:29,360  
They didn't stop  
to collect them.

121  
00:05:29,360 --> 00:05:35,000  
Or they broke a leg, or they had  
hurt themselves on the stones.

122  
00:05:35,000 --> 00:05:39,140  
And boys, young Jewish boys used  
to go there, and collect them,

123  
00:05:39,140 --> 00:05:41,510  
and bring them to Jewish houses.

124  
00:05:41,510 --> 00:05:44,560  
And I went with her, because  
I was the only one that

125  
00:05:44,560 --> 00:05:47,720  
could look at the blood.

126  
00:05:47,720 --> 00:05:52,160  
And that meant sometimes  
going through the whole city,

127  
00:05:52,160 --> 00:05:58,100  
from one end to another  
and changing the dressings

128  
00:05:58,100 --> 00:05:59,060  
with her.

129  
00:05:59,060 --> 00:06:01,820  
And my mother cooked soup,  
and I took soup there,

130  
00:06:01,820 --> 00:06:04,790  
because people could give  
you a bench to lie down

131  
00:06:04,790 --> 00:06:06,920  
or a bed to lie  
down, but they didn't

132  
00:06:06,920 --> 00:06:08,990  
have what to eat themselves.

133  
00:06:08,990 --> 00:06:10,570  
And that's what I  
did, the whole--

134  
00:06:10,570 --> 00:06:13,760  
I organized my friends.

135  
00:06:13,760 --> 00:06:16,610  
And that's what we  
did the whole summer.

136  
00:06:16,610 --> 00:06:20,180  
I remember once being told.

137  
00:06:20,180 --> 00:06:23,570  
They said, the Germans are here.

138  
00:06:23,570 --> 00:06:27,170  
You know, because you were  
expecting it the whole summer

139  
00:06:27,170 --> 00:06:27,860  
that one day--

140  
00:06:27,860 --> 00:06:29,810  
I mean, we didn't  
delude ourselves.

141  
00:06:29,810 --> 00:06:32,750  
One day they will come for us.

142  
00:06:32,750 --> 00:06:35,060  
And they said the  
Germans are here.

143

00:06:35,060 --> 00:06:37,070

And I didn't have where to run.

144

00:06:37,070 --> 00:06:39,470

There was a door,  
like a double door.

145

00:06:39,470 --> 00:06:41,000

And I went there  
between the door.

146

00:06:41,000 --> 00:06:42,230

And then I heard it is quiet.

147

00:06:42,230 --> 00:06:43,160

Nobody's running.

148

00:06:43,160 --> 00:06:44,420

I came out.

149

00:06:44,420 --> 00:06:46,140

That was in your own home?

150

00:06:46,140 --> 00:06:47,150

In my hometown.

151

00:06:47,150 --> 00:06:48,200

Not in my home.

152

00:06:48,200 --> 00:06:52,460

I got caught someplace  
else going with her

153

00:06:52,460 --> 00:06:54,350

to change dressings.

154

00:06:54,350 --> 00:06:57,290

So in other words, many boys,  
and yourself, and this nurse

155

00:06:57,290 --> 00:06:57,920  
would go.

156  
00:06:57,920 --> 00:06:58,795  
Yeah.

157  
00:06:58,795 --> 00:07:00,170  
And you knew  
exactly where people

158  
00:07:00,170 --> 00:07:01,250  
would jump off the train.

159  
00:07:01,250 --> 00:07:03,170  
As a matter of  
fact, my best friend

160  
00:07:03,170 --> 00:07:05,290  
today, she lives in Israel.

161  
00:07:05,290 --> 00:07:07,610  
As a matter of fact, she will  
be next week in my house.

162  
00:07:07,610 --> 00:07:11,960  
Because her husband is a doctor,  
and he's on a convention here.

163  
00:07:11,960 --> 00:07:15,530  
She and her mother  
jumped off the train.

164  
00:07:15,530 --> 00:07:17,420  
She's from Kolomyia.

165  
00:07:17,420 --> 00:07:24,860  
And then her mother got  
Zolkiew false papers.

166  
00:07:24,860 --> 00:07:28,220  
She still sent for  
her son to Kolomyia.

167

00:07:28,220 --> 00:07:32,480

And because she looked like  
a gentile, had children,

168

00:07:32,480 --> 00:07:37,420

and she hid her children in a  
bunker and survived in Zolkiew.

169

00:07:37,420 --> 00:07:40,220

And that's why the first  
sight of her I have.

170

00:07:40,220 --> 00:07:43,340

She had her-- you can  
see it even today.

171

00:07:43,340 --> 00:07:47,280

She wasn't-- I mean, she was  
shot at, but she wasn't hurt

172

00:07:47,280 --> 00:07:47,780

bad.

173

00:07:47,780 --> 00:07:50,330

But she fell  
probably on her knee,

174

00:07:50,330 --> 00:07:52,940

and it was open to the bone.

175

00:07:52,940 --> 00:07:56,120

And her mother had a blue eye  
and all had these teeth missing

176

00:07:56,120 --> 00:07:57,620

because she fell on her face.

177

00:07:57,620 --> 00:08:00,240

178

00:08:00,240 --> 00:08:02,010

The Germans obviously

didn't realize

179

00:08:02,010 --> 00:08:05,140

that there were boys  
waiting at these places.

180

00:08:05,140 --> 00:08:05,640

No.

181

00:08:05,640 --> 00:08:06,790

No, they did.

182

00:08:06,790 --> 00:08:08,850

You know, the Germans,  
they go straight.

183

00:08:08,850 --> 00:08:11,380

He had to escort this train.

184

00:08:11,380 --> 00:08:12,660

He shot.

185

00:08:12,660 --> 00:08:14,880

He knew if he doesn't  
die today, he will die.

186

00:08:14,880 --> 00:08:16,920

And how many people  
were saved in our city

187

00:08:16,920 --> 00:08:21,210

and died when the  
Aktion came in our city?

188

00:08:21,210 --> 00:08:25,320

Then, toward the end of the  
summer, we were already--

189

00:08:25,320 --> 00:08:28,320

we knew it's any day.

190

00:08:28,320 --> 00:08:31,920



Every neighboring city  
had already a ghetto.

191  
00:08:31,920 --> 00:08:33,870  
We knew.

192  
00:08:33,870 --> 00:08:37,620  
So we had several  
bunkers prepared

193  
00:08:37,620 --> 00:08:42,419  
to hide during an  
Aktion, our family.

194  
00:08:42,419 --> 00:08:45,930  
One of them was in our factory.

195  
00:08:45,930 --> 00:08:50,760  
In a tool shed.

196  
00:08:50,760 --> 00:08:52,740  
You know, you couldn't  
just dig a hole.

197  
00:08:52,740 --> 00:08:56,400  
You had to have an approach  
that wouldn't be seen.

198  
00:08:56,400 --> 00:08:59,940  
And the main thing, nobody  
could look after you

199  
00:08:59,940 --> 00:09:01,830  
and masquerade after.

200  
00:09:01,830 --> 00:09:03,520  
You had to go in.

201  
00:09:03,520 --> 00:09:08,250  
And so one of them was in  
a tool shed in our factory.

202

00:09:08,250 --> 00:09:13,500

But one, we had my  
father's friend.

203

00:09:13,500 --> 00:09:15,210

They lived across  
the street from us.

204

00:09:15,210 --> 00:09:17,490

They had a one family home.

205

00:09:17,490 --> 00:09:21,310

And they had the parquet floor,  
the modern parquet floor,

206

00:09:21,310 --> 00:09:23,160

which was herringbone.

207

00:09:23,160 --> 00:09:25,180

And in the bedroom,  
underneath the bed,

208

00:09:25,180 --> 00:09:28,830

we took out that parquet  
floor like the design

209

00:09:28,830 --> 00:09:36,290

went, and dug into  
the opposite room.

210

00:09:36,290 --> 00:09:40,460

Not the room here where we  
went, but you had to go through

211

00:09:40,460 --> 00:09:42,710

like a tunnel to another room.

212

00:09:42,710 --> 00:09:46,340

And over there we had  
prepared a bunker to hide.

213

00:09:46,340 --> 00:09:50,120

So we used to go after

5 o'clock everybody

214

00:09:50,120 --> 00:09:52,310  
to sleep there, three families.

215

00:09:52,310 --> 00:09:55,850  
To sleep, because I mean,  
there wouldn't be time.

216

00:09:55,850 --> 00:09:58,070  
Was this beneath  
the first floor?

217

00:09:58,070 --> 00:09:58,830  
In other words--

218

00:09:58,830 --> 00:10:01,820  
That was beneath  
even the crawl space.

219

00:10:01,820 --> 00:10:07,220  
That was in-- when we went  
there, after 10 minutes

220

00:10:07,220 --> 00:10:08,660  
the candle didn't light anymore.

221

00:10:08,660 --> 00:10:09,866  
There was no air.

222

00:10:09,866 --> 00:10:12,230  
Right.

223

00:10:12,230 --> 00:10:17,297  
The house was built  
like on the crawl space.

224

00:10:17,297 --> 00:10:18,630  
You know what's the crawl space.

225

00:10:18,630 --> 00:10:19,520  
Right, right.

226  
00:10:19,520 --> 00:10:22,280  
So the whole house  
was on a crawl space.

227  
00:10:22,280 --> 00:10:25,280  
One of the rooms underneath  
the kitchen was a cellar.

228  
00:10:25,280 --> 00:10:27,050  
The rest was just crawl space.

229  
00:10:27,050 --> 00:10:28,280  
That's where.

230  
00:10:28,280 --> 00:10:31,280  
From there we dig underneath.

231  
00:10:31,280 --> 00:10:35,130  
Really underneath  
inside, in there.

232  
00:10:35,130 --> 00:10:37,460  
And we went every  
night to sleep there,

233  
00:10:37,460 --> 00:10:39,620  
because the Aktion,  
this much we knew,

234  
00:10:39,620 --> 00:10:41,570  
usually start at 4  
o'clock in the morning.

235  
00:10:41,570 --> 00:10:44,210  
Very early in the morning they  
used to surround the city.

236  
00:10:44,210 --> 00:10:46,800  
Or a ghetto if  
there was a ghetto.

237

00:10:46,800 --> 00:10:50,680  
And sure enough-- they  
all don't live anymore.

238  
00:10:50,680 --> 00:10:56,180  
My father's friend and partner,  
he used to get up at 4 o'clock

239  
00:10:56,180 --> 00:10:57,980  
in the morning to walk around.

240  
00:10:57,980 --> 00:11:00,000  
He saved our life.

241  
00:11:00,000 --> 00:11:03,860  
He ran in and said,  
they are here.

242  
00:11:03,860 --> 00:11:05,780  
And we all went  
into that bunker,

243  
00:11:05,780 --> 00:11:12,200  
closed, that it was a piece,  
and it had two like handles.

244  
00:11:12,200 --> 00:11:14,420  
We closed it, and we went there.

245  
00:11:14,420 --> 00:11:16,460  
After a few minutes,  
like I said.

246  
00:11:16,460 --> 00:11:19,070  
At that time, we were, I  
think, 11 people there.

247  
00:11:19,070 --> 00:11:21,000  
So it's your  
father, your mother,

248  
00:11:21,000 --> 00:11:22,470  
your sister yourself is four.

249  
00:11:22,470 --> 00:11:22,970  
Four.

250  
00:11:22,970 --> 00:11:27,000  
Now, two friends of my  
father's, each had one child.

251  
00:11:27,000 --> 00:11:27,500  
OK.

252  
00:11:27,500 --> 00:11:29,870  
That's the people we were there.

253  
00:11:29,870 --> 00:11:31,334  
So it is six.

254  
00:11:31,334 --> 00:11:32,460  
10.

255  
00:11:32,460 --> 00:11:32,960  
10.

256  
00:11:32,960 --> 00:11:33,460  
10.

257  
00:11:33,460 --> 00:11:34,640  
That's what we were.

258  
00:11:34,640 --> 00:11:37,850  
After a few minutes,  
the candle didn't light,

259  
00:11:37,850 --> 00:11:38,900  
and we were sitting.

260  
00:11:38,900 --> 00:11:41,480  
We lost track of time.

261  
00:11:41,480 --> 00:11:43,340  
We lost track of

time completely.

262

00:11:43,340 --> 00:11:46,520

We didn't know if it  
is over, not over.

263

00:11:46,520 --> 00:11:50,720

But we did know that it  
always takes just one day.

264

00:11:50,720 --> 00:11:52,340

And then they leave.

265

00:11:52,340 --> 00:11:55,953

And when they leave, you can  
see a German in the street,

266

00:11:55,953 --> 00:11:56,870

he doesn't bother you.

267

00:11:56,870 --> 00:11:59,780

Because that's not his business.

268

00:11:59,780 --> 00:12:02,210

Unless it's judenfrei.

269

00:12:02,210 --> 00:12:06,120

So then they opened,  
crawled out, open slightly

270

00:12:06,120 --> 00:12:08,270

and saw it is quiet  
in the street.

271

00:12:08,270 --> 00:12:12,320

But it was over, but there were  
a lot of dead people, people

272

00:12:12,320 --> 00:12:14,360

who were running.

273

00:12:14,360 --> 00:12:21,230

It was-- I remember my mother  
didn't let me go out to see.

274  
00:12:21,230 --> 00:12:26,240  
I stayed in the house,  
because they were taken away.

275  
00:12:26,240 --> 00:12:30,200  
It was the first frost,  
and she was telling me,

276  
00:12:30,200 --> 00:12:31,610  
it's not a sight for you.

277  
00:12:31,610 --> 00:12:34,390

278  
00:12:34,390 --> 00:12:37,420  
And then after  
this Aktion, which

279  
00:12:37,420 --> 00:12:40,670  
was the biggest one, I mean,  
that was the big Aktion,

280  
00:12:40,670 --> 00:12:47,952  
they called it, they posted the  
notices to go to the ghetto.

281  
00:12:47,952 --> 00:12:50,320  
OK.

282  
00:12:50,320 --> 00:12:51,880  
We didn't go to the ghetto.

283  
00:12:51,880 --> 00:12:55,780  
OK, so then the ghetto  
was established.

284  
00:12:55,780 --> 00:12:59,680  
And after the Aktion  
was September--



285

00:12:59,680 --> 00:13:00,560

November 22nd.

286

00:13:00,560 --> 00:13:03,590

287

00:13:03,590 --> 00:13:04,946

It took two days.

288

00:13:04,946 --> 00:13:07,850

OK, do you know how many people  
were killed during the Aktion?

289

00:13:07,850 --> 00:13:10,860

Over 2,000, I remember.

290

00:13:10,860 --> 00:13:13,160

Maybe I wrote it in  
my diary at that time.

291

00:13:13,160 --> 00:13:13,910

I don't know.

292

00:13:13,910 --> 00:13:17,210

But over 2,000, I remember.

293

00:13:17,210 --> 00:13:19,280

And then they set the ghetto.

294

00:13:19,280 --> 00:13:24,050

The ghetto was in the  
center of the city.

295

00:13:24,050 --> 00:13:27,470

You know, surrounded by a  
ring around the synagogue.

296

00:13:27,470 --> 00:13:29,180

Because that's where  
the most Jews lived.

297

00:13:29,180 --> 00:13:30,770  
Right.

298  
00:13:30,770 --> 00:13:32,780  
And I never saw--

299  
00:13:32,780 --> 00:13:34,730  
I mean, I saw the ghetto once.

300  
00:13:34,730 --> 00:13:37,910  
One night I was  
there, but that's it.

301  
00:13:37,910 --> 00:13:39,140  
We never went to the ghetto.

302  
00:13:39,140 --> 00:13:45,590  
My father, in the meantime,  
there was a Polack.

303  
00:13:45,590 --> 00:13:50,810  
His wife was a servant in my--

304  
00:13:50,810 --> 00:13:54,260  
this patron, that's my  
father's friend's house.

305  
00:13:54,260 --> 00:13:55,640  
And she came.

306  
00:13:55,640 --> 00:13:57,020  
She says, I want to save you.

307  
00:13:57,020 --> 00:13:59,670

308  
00:13:59,670 --> 00:14:02,670  
So he said, yes, but  
I have two friends.

309  
00:14:02,670 --> 00:14:05,740  
We live or die together.

310  
00:14:05,740 --> 00:14:08,760  
And one of the friends has  
the house that we need.

311  
00:14:08,760 --> 00:14:09,900  
This was the house.

312  
00:14:09,900 --> 00:14:11,040  
Because don't forget.

313  
00:14:11,040 --> 00:14:16,350  
In order to save Jews,  
you had to be isolated.

314  
00:14:16,350 --> 00:14:18,900  
You had to live in  
a one family home.

315  
00:14:18,900 --> 00:14:19,920  
Then you had a chance.

316  
00:14:19,920 --> 00:14:22,590  
I mean, it was a small city.

317  
00:14:22,590 --> 00:14:26,460  
And this was a one family home.

318  
00:14:26,460 --> 00:14:31,440  
And it had already  
that approach there.

319  
00:14:31,440 --> 00:14:32,850  
And that's how it started.

320  
00:14:32,850 --> 00:14:35,070  
So this person actually--

321  
00:14:35,070 --> 00:14:38,190  
This person, he  
was a Volksdeutche.

322

00:14:38,190 --> 00:14:41,400

And as a Volksdeutsche, he  
could get any Jewish house

323

00:14:41,400 --> 00:14:42,390

that he wanted.

324

00:14:42,390 --> 00:14:43,020

Right.

325

00:14:43,020 --> 00:14:46,200

And he asked for this one.

326

00:14:46,200 --> 00:14:48,000

And he approached your father.

327

00:14:48,000 --> 00:14:50,415

Not my father, my  
father's friend.

328

00:14:50,415 --> 00:14:51,780

Your father's friend, excuse me.

329

00:14:51,780 --> 00:14:54,750

His wife was there a family  
servant all her life.

330

00:14:54,750 --> 00:14:55,980

In your house.

331

00:14:55,980 --> 00:14:59,610

And my friend's sister,  
she was a widow.

332

00:14:59,610 --> 00:15:03,372

She was-- you know  
what is a Milchmama?

333

00:15:03,372 --> 00:15:06,530

A milkmaid?

334

00:15:06,530 --> 00:15:11,200

When you-- my grandmother when  
she gave birth to my mother

335

00:15:11,200 --> 00:15:14,820

and she didn't have enough milk,  
so he took a peasant woman who

336

00:15:14,820 --> 00:15:18,390

had a child, that woman,  
the wife of this Polack,

337

00:15:18,390 --> 00:15:21,240

she was my mother's milk sister.

338

00:15:21,240 --> 00:15:24,930

She was my mother's age, and  
she knew the family, too.

339

00:15:24,930 --> 00:15:26,460

And they wanted to save us.

340

00:15:26,460 --> 00:15:27,480

They just wanted.

341

00:15:27,480 --> 00:15:30,210

That family and us,  
and he took this house.

342

00:15:30,210 --> 00:15:33,150

And you think it was  
just the feeling--

343

00:15:33,150 --> 00:15:34,470

It was also money.

344

00:15:34,470 --> 00:15:37,770

But mainly I wouldn't  
say-- he could--

345

00:15:37,770 --> 00:15:41,070

look, he could have taken  
our money the first two days

346  
00:15:41,070 --> 00:15:43,560  
and then to the  
Gestapo, here they are.

347  
00:15:43,560 --> 00:15:44,130  
That's all.

348  
00:15:44,130 --> 00:15:50,460  
I mean, I will tell you also  
how many helped the Germans,

349  
00:15:50,460 --> 00:15:53,700  
but money factor  
wasn't the main--

350  
00:15:53,700 --> 00:15:57,300  
because all right, so let's  
say it was the money factor.

351  
00:15:57,300 --> 00:15:59,450  
But he could of after  
a few weeks just

352  
00:15:59,450 --> 00:16:04,410  
go, denounce us, and be  
clean with all the money.

353  
00:16:04,410 --> 00:16:06,870  
He was a known anti-Semite.

354  
00:16:06,870 --> 00:16:08,700  
Like he said like this.

355  
00:16:08,700 --> 00:16:12,630  
"I always wanted Poland  
without Jews but not this way."

356  
00:16:12,630 --> 00:16:17,090

357  
00:16:17,090 --> 00:16:18,054

Interesting.

358

00:16:18,054 --> 00:16:22,400

359

00:16:22,400 --> 00:16:24,560

Wasn't a Jew lover.

360

00:16:24,560 --> 00:16:28,160

He said-- he said, I always  
wanted Poland without Jews.

361

00:16:28,160 --> 00:16:31,780

So actually there was  
a specific date when

362

00:16:31,780 --> 00:16:33,835

the ghetto was to be created.

363

00:16:33,835 --> 00:16:34,460

There was, yes.

364

00:16:34,460 --> 00:16:37,220

I don't remember exactly,  
but it was just a few days.

365

00:16:37,220 --> 00:16:40,610

Right after this Aktion,  
the announcements came out,

366

00:16:40,610 --> 00:16:42,725

and it just took a few days.

367

00:16:42,725 --> 00:16:43,850

They gave you so something.

368

00:16:43,850 --> 00:16:48,680

And we were already afraid  
to live in our house, which

369

00:16:48,680 --> 00:16:50,040

was the front.

370  
00:16:50,040 --> 00:16:53,270  
We went to my aunt,  
where my sister.

371  
00:16:53,270 --> 00:16:56,060  
And the Volksdeutsche,  
they used--

372  
00:16:56,060 --> 00:16:59,550  
they went and everybody  
had everything put in,

373  
00:16:59,550 --> 00:17:03,140  
and luggage, and  
valises, and trunks.

374  
00:17:03,140 --> 00:17:06,680  
And the Volksdeutches, I  
mean, there were no cars.

375  
00:17:06,680 --> 00:17:08,877  
Horse and buggy, and they  
went from house to house,

376  
00:17:08,877 --> 00:17:10,460  
which they knew there  
are rich people.

377  
00:17:10,460 --> 00:17:12,260  
They came they  
came to our house.

378  
00:17:12,260 --> 00:17:15,859  
A guy who went  
with me to school.

379  
00:17:15,859 --> 00:17:20,060  
I did all his math work  
because he was stupid in math.

380  
00:17:20,060 --> 00:17:24,050  
And he knew where to



come, and came and took.

381

00:17:24,050 --> 00:17:24,990

He did me a favor.

382

00:17:24,990 --> 00:17:27,630

I asked him to give  
me-- and I still have--

383

00:17:27,630 --> 00:17:31,640

like you have a little memory  
book and a few pictures.

384

00:17:31,640 --> 00:17:33,590

So I asked him if I  
can take out this.

385

00:17:33,590 --> 00:17:34,850

And he gave that.

386

00:17:34,850 --> 00:17:37,430

He did me a favor.

387

00:17:37,430 --> 00:17:39,290

But we never went to ghetto.

388

00:17:39,290 --> 00:17:41,020

We went there.

389

00:17:41,020 --> 00:17:43,040

Were there a lot of other  
families who were able

390

00:17:43,040 --> 00:17:44,125

to go into bunkers?

391

00:17:44,125 --> 00:17:44,750

No, there were.

392

00:17:44,750 --> 00:17:46,870

And then when we were in  
bunker, you heard here

393  
00:17:46,870 --> 00:17:49,160  
and there, they were  
caught left and right.

394  
00:17:49,160 --> 00:17:53,450  
Because there was a bounty.

395  
00:17:53,450 --> 00:17:57,110  
And if there was  
just a suspicion,

396  
00:17:57,110 --> 00:17:58,310  
they went to the police.

397  
00:17:58,310 --> 00:18:00,530  
They did the rest.

398  
00:18:00,530 --> 00:18:03,740  
So you heard here and  
there, they were caught.

399  
00:18:03,740 --> 00:18:04,580  
I don't know.

400  
00:18:04,580 --> 00:18:05,750  
It's a [INAUDIBLE].

401  
00:18:05,750 --> 00:18:09,230  
We wound up being  
18 people there.

402  
00:18:09,230 --> 00:18:10,130  
We went.

403  
00:18:10,130 --> 00:18:12,110  
You know, it was November.

404  
00:18:12,110 --> 00:18:13,910  
It was the Battle of Stalingrad.

405

00:18:13,910 --> 00:18:14,450  
Right.

406  
00:18:14,450 --> 00:18:17,330  
We also went for six weeks.

407  
00:18:17,330 --> 00:18:20,390  
If we knew it is two years,  
we wouldn't even try.

408  
00:18:20,390 --> 00:18:22,520  
He wouldn't try, the Polack.

409  
00:18:22,520 --> 00:18:28,010  
It was only him, his  
wife, and his daughter.

410  
00:18:28,010 --> 00:18:30,290  
But we thought in six  
weeks the war is over.

411  
00:18:30,290 --> 00:18:33,740  
So for six weeks-- in  
six weeks he's a hero.

412  
00:18:33,740 --> 00:18:36,950  
And at that time, we couldn't  
be already in this bunker.

413  
00:18:36,950 --> 00:18:40,370  
We just were-- you  
imagine the crawl space

414  
00:18:40,370 --> 00:18:42,200  
and there are little  
poles made out

415  
00:18:42,200 --> 00:18:46,550  
of stones that hold the floor.

416  
00:18:46,550 --> 00:18:52,310  
So we took a big pole in the  
middle to hold up the floor,

417  
00:18:52,310 --> 00:18:54,200  
and removed a few of--

418  
00:18:54,200 --> 00:18:55,620  
not all of them.

419  
00:18:55,620 --> 00:19:01,370  
So we had an area like  
half of this, smaller.

420  
00:19:01,370 --> 00:19:02,900  
Just to straighten out.

421  
00:19:02,900 --> 00:19:05,270  
The rest we put straw.

422  
00:19:05,270 --> 00:19:09,970  
It was you imagine  
a square area an L.

423  
00:19:09,970 --> 00:19:12,800  
Where we had straw we all slept.

424  
00:19:12,800 --> 00:19:15,570  
And this was just to go down.

425  
00:19:15,570 --> 00:19:20,720  
We were sitting all  
day long on that straw.

426  
00:19:20,720 --> 00:19:23,050  
So now there were-- you're  
saying there were 18 people.

427  
00:19:23,050 --> 00:19:25,330  
At that time went in, 10.

428  
00:19:25,330 --> 00:19:26,590  
You went in 10.

429

00:19:26,590 --> 00:19:31,280  
11, because that widow,  
[INAUDIBLE] sister.

430  
00:19:31,280 --> 00:19:34,600  
She's dead of cancer already.

431  
00:19:34,600 --> 00:19:42,130  
Then around Christmastime,  
we didn't know but one

432  
00:19:42,130 --> 00:19:47,320  
of the people that were with us,  
that was his house, Mr. Melman.

433  
00:19:47,320 --> 00:19:51,370  
He had two brothers.

434  
00:19:51,370 --> 00:19:55,090  
And he had them  
stashed someplace else.

435  
00:19:55,090 --> 00:20:00,160  
That was Mrs. Beck is that  
the Pollak, the Volksdeutsche.

436  
00:20:00,160 --> 00:20:02,560  
She had a sister  
who was an old maid.

437  
00:20:02,560 --> 00:20:06,430  
She lived alone in like--

438  
00:20:06,430 --> 00:20:10,760  
not in the city, like  
out in the field.

439  
00:20:10,760 --> 00:20:12,940  
So he had there--

440  
00:20:12,940 --> 00:20:19,120  
he talked to her, and she took  
them, his two younger brothers,

441  
00:20:19,120 --> 00:20:22,390  
fiancee one and  
a brother of one.

442  
00:20:22,390 --> 00:20:25,120  
But then the neighbors  
got suspicious.

443  
00:20:25,120 --> 00:20:26,890  
And when she came home--

444  
00:20:26,890 --> 00:20:27,760  
she wasn't home.

445  
00:20:27,760 --> 00:20:29,470  
When she came  
home, the neighbors

446  
00:20:29,470 --> 00:20:35,260  
told her that the police was  
here, looking at the house.

447  
00:20:35,260 --> 00:20:36,700  
So she chased them at night.

448  
00:20:36,700 --> 00:20:38,830  
She was afraid.

449  
00:20:38,830 --> 00:20:41,920  
So they went to the  
ghetto at night.

450  
00:20:41,920 --> 00:20:44,530  
But the following day,  
they came into the ghetto,

451  
00:20:44,530 --> 00:20:51,010  
and they rounded up young men  
for the concentration camp

452  
00:20:51,010 --> 00:20:51,830

in Lemberg.

453

00:20:51,830 --> 00:20:54,520

Janower Lager, you  
probably heard.

454

00:20:54,520 --> 00:20:59,560

So they took away one of the  
brothers and the young boy.

455

00:20:59,560 --> 00:21:01,420

So the other brother  
and the fiancée,

456

00:21:01,420 --> 00:21:07,360

which was not his fiancée,  
came at night to our bunker.

457

00:21:07,360 --> 00:21:11,560

Then there were two  
single people, [INAUDIBLE]

458

00:21:11,560 --> 00:21:15,290

the brothers of the widow, the  
brothers of my father's friend.

459

00:21:15,290 --> 00:21:19,000

They were in a camp  
in [PLACE NAME]

460

00:21:19,000 --> 00:21:22,540

So when they dissolved this  
camp, they knew where we are,

461

00:21:22,540 --> 00:21:24,550

and they came.

462

00:21:24,550 --> 00:21:26,560

And then there was  
a couple, he was--

463

00:21:26,560 --> 00:21:27,850

he was the only one.

464  
00:21:27,850 --> 00:21:31,660  
My uncle, my mother's brother  
was still in the ghetto.

465  
00:21:31,660 --> 00:21:34,160  
And he knew that we  
would need money.

466  
00:21:34,160 --> 00:21:34,660  
He knew.

467  
00:21:34,660 --> 00:21:36,610  
I mean, my father  
made a lot of money,

468  
00:21:36,610 --> 00:21:38,410  
if he wanted to charge money.

469  
00:21:38,410 --> 00:21:41,200  
But my mother gave  
away all the food.

470  
00:21:41,200 --> 00:21:43,450  
So he knew how long this  
engagement [INAUDIBLE]

471  
00:21:43,450 --> 00:21:45,500  
would last or anything.

472  
00:21:45,500 --> 00:21:48,040  
So he got a guy who they  
didn't have children.

473  
00:21:48,040 --> 00:21:52,480  
I mean, there was a big  
thing by the Germans

474  
00:21:52,480 --> 00:21:53,890  
that you didn't have children.

475  
00:21:53,890 --> 00:21:55,300



So it was easier on you.

476

00:21:55,300 --> 00:21:56,530

You could hide.

477

00:21:56,530 --> 00:21:58,870

Children was bad.

478

00:21:58,870 --> 00:22:01,210

So he told him-- he  
was the only one that

479

00:22:01,210 --> 00:22:05,140

didn't live in the ghetto,  
because the only drug store was

480

00:22:05,140 --> 00:22:08,260

out of the ghetto, and he had  
to be there day and night.

481

00:22:08,260 --> 00:22:10,390

So he told-- he knew that  
he has a lot of money.

482

00:22:10,390 --> 00:22:12,370

He told him where we are.

483

00:22:12,370 --> 00:22:16,120

If an Aktion comes,  
he should come.

484

00:22:16,120 --> 00:22:17,590

He came when the Aktion was.

485

00:22:17,590 --> 00:22:18,730

My uncle was killed.

486

00:22:18,730 --> 00:22:21,380

487

00:22:21,380 --> 00:22:24,530

And he had the money

and didn't share it.

488

00:22:24,530 --> 00:22:27,170

I mean, you know,  
people don't change.

489

00:22:27,170 --> 00:22:29,390

We were starving.

490

00:22:29,390 --> 00:22:32,180

And he was paying these Polacks.

491

00:22:32,180 --> 00:22:36,830

They gave him three times a  
day a tray of food downstairs.

492

00:22:36,830 --> 00:22:41,000

And I tell you, no matter  
what circumstances, people

493

00:22:41,000 --> 00:22:42,020

don't change.

494

00:22:42,020 --> 00:22:45,740

Because Mr. [PERSONAL NAME] was  
the one who opened the door--

495

00:22:45,740 --> 00:22:47,810

when they knocked, you opened.

496

00:22:47,810 --> 00:22:49,220

They gave him a tray.

497

00:22:49,220 --> 00:22:54,200

His child, Klaronia,  
she must have

498

00:22:54,200 --> 00:22:57,620

been then five, six years old.

499

00:22:57,620 --> 00:23:00,140

Looked at the food,

and he handed the tray

500  
00:23:00,140 --> 00:23:02,570  
to these people.

501  
00:23:02,570 --> 00:23:04,400  
And they ate there,  
and they never

502  
00:23:04,400 --> 00:23:07,520  
said there were four  
children in the bunker,

503  
00:23:07,520 --> 00:23:09,590  
here is a piece of bread.

504  
00:23:09,590 --> 00:23:12,680  
We were all starving.

505  
00:23:12,680 --> 00:23:14,480  
Even if he had the  
money, he couldn't

506  
00:23:14,480 --> 00:23:16,820  
buy a lot of bread or things.

507  
00:23:16,820 --> 00:23:21,140  
Because in a small city  
right way, "Oh, he has Jews."

508  
00:23:21,140 --> 00:23:23,600  
A lot of people  
perished that way

509  
00:23:23,600 --> 00:23:25,850  
because they bought  
too many things.

510  
00:23:25,850 --> 00:23:28,640  
So he bought swine.

511  
00:23:28,640 --> 00:23:31,790

And he used to buy sacks  
of the small potatoes.

512  
00:23:31,790 --> 00:23:32,840  
And we used to cook.

513  
00:23:32,840 --> 00:23:34,760  
We had electric  
plate downstairs,

514  
00:23:34,760 --> 00:23:36,740  
and used to cook these potatoes.

515  
00:23:36,740 --> 00:23:39,380  
Used to peel them with  
a small pocketknife,

516  
00:23:39,380 --> 00:23:41,880  
because it shouldn't--

517  
00:23:41,880 --> 00:23:44,880  
and water, we had  
rationed, because he

518  
00:23:44,880 --> 00:23:48,540  
had to bring the  
water from the well.

519  
00:23:48,540 --> 00:23:50,400  
And we had a  
gentleman's agreement

520  
00:23:50,400 --> 00:23:52,270  
that we had to wash every day.

521  
00:23:52,270 --> 00:23:55,730  
We shouldn't get  
lice and typhoid.

522  
00:23:55,730 --> 00:23:57,210  
So how were you able to do this?

523

00:23:57,210 --> 00:24:00,090  
Oh, there was no soap.

524  
00:24:00,090 --> 00:24:02,670  
But there was washing powder.

525  
00:24:02,670 --> 00:24:06,570  
So we took 2 cups of  
water in a basin and rag

526  
00:24:06,570 --> 00:24:08,580  
with a little powder,  
and we washed.

527  
00:24:08,580 --> 00:24:12,810  
So you were in this bunker  
for a total of how long?

528  
00:24:12,810 --> 00:24:14,190  
22 months.

529  
00:24:14,190 --> 00:24:14,850  
22 months.

530  
00:24:14,850 --> 00:24:16,267  
Originally you  
thought it would be

531  
00:24:16,267 --> 00:24:17,580  
till after the war, six weeks.

532  
00:24:17,580 --> 00:24:18,390  
That's it.

533  
00:24:18,390 --> 00:24:19,465  
Battle of Stalingrad.

534  
00:24:19,465 --> 00:24:20,310  
It dragged us in.

535  
00:24:20,310 --> 00:24:22,350  
OK.

536  
00:24:22,350 --> 00:24:24,927  
Now, can you describe a day?

537  
00:24:24,927 --> 00:24:26,760  
I mean, you've sort of  
described it already.

538  
00:24:26,760 --> 00:24:27,640  
That's what I haven't.

539  
00:24:27,640 --> 00:24:28,765  
Well, we were just sitting.

540  
00:24:28,765 --> 00:24:30,720  
I mean, at what point--  
did you come out

541  
00:24:30,720 --> 00:24:33,030  
of the bunker at any time  
during the course of the day?

542  
00:24:33,030 --> 00:24:34,176  
You kidding?

543  
00:24:34,176 --> 00:24:34,676  
Never?

544  
00:24:34,676 --> 00:24:36,840  
Nobody got out.

545  
00:24:36,840 --> 00:24:41,730  
You-- there were upstairs,  
there was the bedroom,

546  
00:24:41,730 --> 00:24:46,230  
and the thing was under the bed.

547  
00:24:46,230 --> 00:24:48,690  
It was that opening.

548

00:24:48,690 --> 00:24:49,260  
Right.

549  
00:24:49,260 --> 00:24:51,240  
And there was a  
scatter rug over it.

550  
00:24:51,240 --> 00:24:52,230  
Right.

551  
00:24:52,230 --> 00:24:54,030  
Half of it was under the bed.

552  
00:24:54,030 --> 00:24:55,730  
Half was there.

553  
00:24:55,730 --> 00:24:59,025  
Now, we had two piles--

554  
00:24:59,025 --> 00:25:00,400  
So how old were  
you at this time?

555  
00:25:00,400 --> 00:25:01,110  
You were--

556  
00:25:01,110 --> 00:25:03,540  
I went in 1940--

557  
00:25:03,540 --> 00:25:05,760  
or 1942.

558  
00:25:05,760 --> 00:25:06,400  
15 years old.

559  
00:25:06,400 --> 00:25:06,900  
15.

560  
00:25:06,900 --> 00:25:08,550  
I was 15 when I got in.

561

00:25:08,550 --> 00:25:11,130  
I was 17 when I got out.

562  
00:25:11,130 --> 00:25:16,200  
And we had two piles,  
and we used to make that.

563  
00:25:16,200 --> 00:25:20,220  
And at night, or  
early in the morning,

564  
00:25:20,220 --> 00:25:21,680  
we used to knock at the door.

565  
00:25:21,680 --> 00:25:23,590  
There was one thing  
that house had,

566  
00:25:23,590 --> 00:25:28,350  
which was also for us why  
we had to take this house.

567  
00:25:28,350 --> 00:25:31,890  
It didn't have running  
water, but it had,

568  
00:25:31,890 --> 00:25:34,560  
they used to call it  
an English toilet.

569  
00:25:34,560 --> 00:25:38,130  
That toilet like you see here  
with you pull down the water.

570  
00:25:38,130 --> 00:25:38,630  
Right.

571  
00:25:38,630 --> 00:25:41,280  
But you filled it  
up from a cistern.

572  
00:25:41,280 --> 00:25:46,770  
In the attic was a cistern that



you filled up from the drinking

573

00:25:46,770 --> 00:25:50,730

water you had to bring from  
the well in the backyard.

574

00:25:50,730 --> 00:25:53,280

And he used to go with--

575

00:25:53,280 --> 00:25:55,350

he used to knock at this.

576

00:25:55,350 --> 00:25:58,320

Mr. [PERSONAL NAME  
used to go out.

577

00:25:58,320 --> 00:26:02,370

Somebody gave him the piles,  
and he went from the bedroom

578

00:26:02,370 --> 00:26:04,590

just through--

579

00:26:04,590 --> 00:26:06,030

here was the bathroom.

580

00:26:06,030 --> 00:26:06,980

There was a corridor.

581

00:26:06,980 --> 00:26:10,530

At the end of the  
corridor was the toilet.

582

00:26:10,530 --> 00:26:13,620

He just went out here from  
the bedroom to the toilet,

583

00:26:13,620 --> 00:26:18,120

spilled it, came  
back downstairs.

584

00:26:18,120 --> 00:26:24,600

And that was going on  
like for a year and a 1/2

585  
00:26:24,600 --> 00:26:28,350  
till once he almost got caught.

586  
00:26:28,350 --> 00:26:31,860  
And that's a different  
story because the Germans

587  
00:26:31,860 --> 00:26:33,600  
took over two rooms.

588  
00:26:33,600 --> 00:26:35,730  
So then we dug out and  
we did it downstairs.

589  
00:26:35,730 --> 00:26:38,290  
The Germans took over  
two rooms in the house?

590  
00:26:38,290 --> 00:26:38,790  
Yeah.

591  
00:26:38,790 --> 00:26:41,580  
So let me try to put it  
to you chronologically.

592  
00:26:41,580 --> 00:26:42,930  
First we were 10.

593  
00:26:42,930 --> 00:26:44,880  
Then one came, and another came.

594  
00:26:44,880 --> 00:26:48,360  
And only in the diary I  
can tell you the dates.

595  
00:26:48,360 --> 00:26:49,750  
This is not important.

596  
00:26:49,750 --> 00:26:53,190

Another came, and he was there.

597

00:26:53,190 --> 00:27:00,190

And in March of '43, they  
had an action in the ghetto.

598

00:27:00,190 --> 00:27:02,940

599

00:27:02,940 --> 00:27:06,540

And I don't remember how  
much, how many they killed.

600

00:27:06,540 --> 00:27:08,340

I probably wrote  
it in the diary,

601

00:27:08,340 --> 00:27:10,780

because Beck used to  
come from the ghetto.

602

00:27:10,780 --> 00:27:14,760

He was free to go anyplace  
with all the news.

603

00:27:14,760 --> 00:27:20,250

And then that was  
March, I think the 15th.

604

00:27:20,250 --> 00:27:21,950

I don't remember  
the date exactly.

605

00:27:21,950 --> 00:27:23,700

Gladys Harper will  
know now because that's

606

00:27:23,700 --> 00:27:25,720

when they killed her father.

607

00:27:25,720 --> 00:27:29,160

They killed the Judenrat  
there, too, at this Aktion.

608  
00:27:29,160 --> 00:27:32,670  
And then they left just 60  
people to clean the ghetto.

609  
00:27:32,670 --> 00:27:38,760

610  
00:27:38,760 --> 00:27:41,980  
April the 6th they  
made judenfrei.

611  
00:27:41,980 --> 00:27:44,840

612  
00:27:44,840 --> 00:27:50,000  
A few days later, Mrs. Beck  
or Mr. Beck, I don't remember,

613  
00:27:50,000 --> 00:27:51,710  
knocked at that floor.

614  
00:27:51,710 --> 00:27:53,900  
We opened this.

615  
00:27:53,900 --> 00:27:57,500  
"You know, they  
killed all the Jews?"

616  
00:27:57,500 --> 00:28:03,200  
But my mother's youngest  
sister and younger brother

617  
00:28:03,200 --> 00:28:05,210  
were still in the ghetto.

618  
00:28:05,210 --> 00:28:06,470  
Your mother's--

619  
00:28:06,470 --> 00:28:07,483  
Younger sister.

620

00:28:07,483 --> 00:28:08,150

She was a widow.

621

00:28:08,150 --> 00:28:09,800

Her husband got  
killed in the war.

622

00:28:09,800 --> 00:28:12,680

623

00:28:12,680 --> 00:28:18,860

My mother's brother was married,  
and he was also between the--

624

00:28:18,860 --> 00:28:23,090

his wife was with us in  
the bunker for a while.

625

00:28:23,090 --> 00:28:27,260

He had a child of one year,  
and he gave it to a Polack.

626

00:28:27,260 --> 00:28:29,450

And then she heard he has--

627

00:28:29,450 --> 00:28:33,590

then-- I'm jumping over my own.

628

00:28:33,590 --> 00:28:38,150

At one point before  
the March Aktion,

629

00:28:38,150 --> 00:28:42,050

and I have to tell this,  
because that's the only time

630

00:28:42,050 --> 00:28:43,310

I saw the ghetto.

631

00:28:43,310 --> 00:28:50,070

At one point, my aunt was  
there, my uncle's wife.

632  
00:28:50,070 --> 00:28:52,280  
Mrs. Beck comes from  
the ghetto, and she

633  
00:28:52,280 --> 00:28:54,890  
says that my mother's  
youngest sister,

634  
00:28:54,890 --> 00:28:59,440  
[? Uczka, ?] her name,  
Rachel, has typhus.

635  
00:28:59,440 --> 00:29:02,110  
My mother takes her in,  
gives her to Mr. Beck.

636  
00:29:02,110 --> 00:29:06,610  
He had a soft heart, and takes  
her to the ghetto at night.

637  
00:29:06,610 --> 00:29:10,310  
She lived-- this side of  
the street was the ghetto.

638  
00:29:10,310 --> 00:29:12,550  
This was the Polish side.

639  
00:29:12,550 --> 00:29:17,350  
So all you had to do when nobody  
looks, run through the road.

640  
00:29:17,350 --> 00:29:18,790  
My mother went to the ghetto.

641  
00:29:18,790 --> 00:29:22,390  
No sooner he took her  
there, he started telling,

642  
00:29:22,390 --> 00:29:23,560  
I wouldn't let her in.

643

00:29:23,560 --> 00:29:24,700  
She will bring typhus.

644  
00:29:24,700 --> 00:29:26,980  
I won't let her in.

645  
00:29:26,980 --> 00:29:30,490  
So now his daughter  
was 19 years old.

646  
00:29:30,490 --> 00:29:33,970  
I said-- I asked, if  
I can talk to her.

647  
00:29:33,970 --> 00:29:37,640  
I say, will you go with me to  
the ghetto to fetch my mother?

648  
00:29:37,640 --> 00:29:39,820  
She says I will.

649  
00:29:39,820 --> 00:29:43,600  
It was a night, full  
moon, everything white.

650  
00:29:43,600 --> 00:29:46,060  
It was winter.

651  
00:29:46,060 --> 00:29:48,580  
And I was scared.

652  
00:29:48,580 --> 00:29:54,180  
And she says to me, just walk,  
talk loud like two young girls

653  
00:29:54,180 --> 00:29:55,000  
do.

654  
00:29:55,000 --> 00:29:57,700  
And we had to go  
a mile for sure.

655

00:29:57,700 --> 00:29:59,530  
And from one end to another.

656  
00:29:59,530 --> 00:30:02,410  
And she stood across  
and I ran through.

657  
00:30:02,410 --> 00:30:04,330  
I came in.

658  
00:30:04,330 --> 00:30:05,350  
That was the only time.

659  
00:30:05,350 --> 00:30:08,500  
I saw maybe six, seven  
families together.

660  
00:30:08,500 --> 00:30:11,290  
Three people sick with  
typhus and my aunt.

661  
00:30:11,290 --> 00:30:13,510  
My mother didn't let me  
into the room where she was,

662  
00:30:13,510 --> 00:30:14,980  
because she--

663  
00:30:14,980 --> 00:30:19,450  
and my mother, I  
mean, she was yelling.

664  
00:30:19,450 --> 00:30:21,640  
You-- Manya was  
my younger sister.

665  
00:30:21,640 --> 00:30:25,030  
"If Manya would be sick,  
you would leave her, too?"

666  
00:30:25,030 --> 00:30:27,040  
All she-- later  
I understood, all



667  
00:30:27,040 --> 00:30:30,310  
she wanted me is to  
get me out of there.

668  
00:30:30,310 --> 00:30:31,720  
And we were raised this way.

669  
00:30:31,720 --> 00:30:34,090  
Mama yells, you  
do what she says.

670  
00:30:34,090 --> 00:30:36,640  
And I went back to the bunker.

671  
00:30:36,640 --> 00:30:41,990  
My aunt got--  
survived the typhus.

672  
00:30:41,990 --> 00:30:44,240  
And he himself went  
to fetch my mother.

673  
00:30:44,240 --> 00:30:45,850  
As I said, he was a softy.

674  
00:30:45,850 --> 00:30:46,600  
Mr. Beck?

675  
00:30:46,600 --> 00:30:47,440  
Mr. Beck.

676  
00:30:47,440 --> 00:30:49,330  
You see, he could go as  
he pleased because he

677  
00:30:49,330 --> 00:30:50,860  
was the Volksdeutsche.

678  
00:30:50,860 --> 00:30:54,040  
No but he went and  
brought my mother back.

679

00:30:54,040 --> 00:30:56,500

No sooner was my  
mother back, he came

680

00:30:56,500 --> 00:30:58,660

and says that my  
uncle has typhus,

681

00:30:58,660 --> 00:31:00,700

and his wife was in the bunker.

682

00:31:00,700 --> 00:31:02,920

And the child was by a Pole.

683

00:31:02,920 --> 00:31:04,600

She took off a diamond ring.

684

00:31:04,600 --> 00:31:08,230

She gave him, and he should  
take her to the ghetto.

685

00:31:08,230 --> 00:31:09,020

We begged her.

686

00:31:09,020 --> 00:31:10,690

We says he will get well.

687

00:31:10,690 --> 00:31:12,890

Now, his sister  
is in the ghetto,

688

00:31:12,890 --> 00:31:14,310

and she survived already typhus.

689

00:31:14,310 --> 00:31:15,268

She can't get it.

690

00:31:15,268 --> 00:31:16,060

And she went there.

691

00:31:16,060 --> 00:31:17,230  
Soon they live together.

692  
00:31:17,230 --> 00:31:18,520  
She's alive.

693  
00:31:18,520 --> 00:31:19,930  
She went to the ghetto.

694  
00:31:19,930 --> 00:31:26,500  
In the meantime was the Aktion  
March, and they killed her.

695  
00:31:26,500 --> 00:31:29,980  
He and my aunt stayed  
between the 60,

696  
00:31:29,980 --> 00:31:32,170  
my mother's brother  
and my mother's sister

697  
00:31:32,170 --> 00:31:33,610  
to clean the ghetto.

698  
00:31:33,610 --> 00:31:35,770  
Now, she had two children.

699  
00:31:35,770 --> 00:31:38,200  
Her little girl was  
only four years old.

700  
00:31:38,200 --> 00:31:40,850  
Her boy was eight years old.

701  
00:31:40,850 --> 00:31:42,250  
She had a lot of Polish friends.

702  
00:31:42,250 --> 00:31:46,390  
They said, get rid of the  
children, we will save you.

703  
00:31:46,390 --> 00:31:48,440

OK, what do you mean,  
get rid of the children?

704  
00:31:48,440 --> 00:31:50,320  
She tried to go.

705  
00:31:50,320 --> 00:31:51,670  
There was a woman who took her.

706  
00:31:51,670 --> 00:31:52,870  
So she cried day and night.

707  
00:31:52,870 --> 00:31:53,890  
She brought her back.

708  
00:31:53,890 --> 00:31:56,590

709  
00:31:56,590 --> 00:32:01,870  
So the children were  
hid in an attic.

710  
00:32:01,870 --> 00:32:08,780  
At night, she said I have to  
go and see to the children.

711  
00:32:08,780 --> 00:32:09,820  
So he's her brother.

712  
00:32:09,820 --> 00:32:12,340  
He wouldn't let  
her go by herself.

713  
00:32:12,340 --> 00:32:15,660  
15 minutes later they were--

714  
00:32:15,660 --> 00:32:20,000