

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:33,710

2

00:00:33,710 --> 00:00:36,350

My name is Dr.  
Sidney Langer And I

3

00:00:36,350 --> 00:00:38,360

am the director of  
the Oral History

4

00:00:38,360 --> 00:00:43,460

Project of the Holocaust Center  
at Kean College of New Jersey.

5

00:00:43,460 --> 00:00:47,660

I'm very pleased that Mrs.  
Rae Kushner has consented

6

00:00:47,660 --> 00:00:51,230

to come to Kean College today  
and discuss with me some

7

00:00:51,230 --> 00:00:53,870

of her insights and  
memories into the years

8

00:00:53,870 --> 00:00:55,220

of the Holocaust.

9

00:00:55,220 --> 00:00:59,330

Mrs. Kushner, thank you very  
much for coming [INAUDIBLE]..

10

00:00:59,330 --> 00:01:03,170

Could you tell me a little  
bit about when you were born,

11

00:01:03,170 --> 00:01:05,340

the town that you  
were born in Europe,

12

00:01:05,340 --> 00:01:08,270

and a little bit about the  
nature of life in the town

13

00:01:08,270 --> 00:01:10,250

that you come from?

14

00:01:10,250 --> 00:01:17,698

I was born at North  
Poland, Novogradok

15

00:01:17,698 --> 00:01:21,588

We had 25,000 population.

16

00:01:21,588 --> 00:01:22,130

Total number.

17

00:01:22,130 --> 00:01:23,070

Total.

18

00:01:23,070 --> 00:01:27,320

Six towns for Jews.

19

00:01:27,320 --> 00:01:32,270

We lived a comfortable  
life, a quiet life.

20

00:01:32,270 --> 00:01:34,930

Mostly, the Jews were religious.

21

00:01:34,930 --> 00:01:36,740

There was Shabbat.

22

00:01:36,740 --> 00:01:39,200

They used to close the stores.

23

00:01:39,200 --> 00:01:41,600

They used to go  
to the synagogue.

24

00:01:41,600 --> 00:01:47,510

We had private schools  
like for Hebrew.

25  
00:01:47,510 --> 00:01:51,560  
To learn, we had a yeshiva.

26  
00:01:51,560 --> 00:01:53,240  
We had a nice cultural life.

27  
00:01:53,240 --> 00:01:56,110

28  
00:01:56,110 --> 00:02:01,920  
Twenty six thousand Jews  
when the war broke out.

29  
00:02:01,920 --> 00:02:09,120  
They brought in 24,000 Jews  
more from all the small towns.

30  
00:02:09,120 --> 00:02:16,820  
And all the small town Jews,  
they gathered in our town.

31  
00:02:16,820 --> 00:02:18,590  
What year were you born in?

32  
00:02:18,590 --> 00:02:20,670  
I was born in 1923.

33  
00:02:20,670 --> 00:02:21,720  
1923.

34  
00:02:21,720 --> 00:02:22,430  
Yeah.

35  
00:02:22,430 --> 00:02:23,750  
We had our orphanage.

36  
00:02:23,750 --> 00:02:27,305  
We had hospital, Jewish  
home for the aged.

37  
00:02:27,305 --> 00:02:29,860

38  
00:02:29,860 --> 00:02:32,800  
How large was your family?

39  
00:02:32,800 --> 00:02:38,920  
Our family was a father, mother,  
and four kids, three daughters,

40  
00:02:38,920 --> 00:02:40,990  
and one son.

41  
00:02:40,990 --> 00:02:44,170  
The whole family was  
maybe 200 people.

42  
00:02:44,170 --> 00:02:49,120  
Like, my father had seven  
sisters, one brother.

43  
00:02:49,120 --> 00:02:52,630  
My mother was born  
from four children.

44  
00:02:52,630 --> 00:02:54,610  
Unfortunately, nobody  
was left from them.

45  
00:02:54,610 --> 00:02:57,930

46  
00:02:57,930 --> 00:03:02,730  
I have just two cousins  
right after the war.

47  
00:03:02,730 --> 00:03:04,980  
But we lived.

48  
00:03:04,980 --> 00:03:11,550  
And I-- We felt a little bit

antisemitism, like the Polish,

49

00:03:11,550 --> 00:03:15,540

there were Germans,  
and the Jews.

50

00:03:15,540 --> 00:03:18,810

But mostly, the small--

51

00:03:18,810 --> 00:03:22,610

the storekeeper  
were Jewish people.

52

00:03:22,610 --> 00:03:27,080

[? Without ?] we're the middle--  
we're the middle class people.

53

00:03:27,080 --> 00:03:28,100

We were not wealthy.

54

00:03:28,100 --> 00:03:30,750

The Jewish people  
were not wealthy.

55

00:03:30,750 --> 00:03:32,930

Some were poor.

56

00:03:32,930 --> 00:03:35,750

But the middle class,  
they're just --

57

00:03:35,750 --> 00:03:38,780

with the middle class people.

58

00:03:38,780 --> 00:03:41,360

And they were jealous  
when the Jewish people had

59

00:03:41,360 --> 00:03:44,540

a little store like the  
grocery, like the furrier,

60

00:03:44,540 --> 00:03:48,140  
like the shoemaker,  
like they used to sell

61  
00:03:48,140 --> 00:03:50,510  
pots and all kinds of things.

62  
00:03:50,510 --> 00:03:53,900  
But we were just in connection  
with the middle class,

63  
00:03:53,900 --> 00:03:55,640  
not with the high society.

64  
00:03:55,640 --> 00:03:58,080  
What did your father.  
do for a living?

65  
00:03:58,080 --> 00:04:01,580  
My father had two fur stores.

66  
00:04:01,580 --> 00:04:07,020  
And he used to sell  
hats, men's hats.

67  
00:04:07,020 --> 00:04:10,330  
And we lived comfortable.

68  
00:04:10,330 --> 00:04:12,120  
We lived comfortable.

69  
00:04:12,120 --> 00:04:15,420  
The kids went to school,  
to private schools.

70  
00:04:15,420 --> 00:04:16,920  
I had an older sister.

71  
00:04:16,920 --> 00:04:21,029  
But she finished college,  
like university here.

72

00:04:21,029 --> 00:04:24,340

I was too young to  
step into college.

73

00:04:24,340 --> 00:04:26,280

But I went, too, to  
a private school.

74

00:04:26,280 --> 00:04:29,130

Your sister went to  
university in the town?

75

00:04:29,130 --> 00:04:31,170

In the town.

76

00:04:31,170 --> 00:04:33,330

They sent her to out of town.

77

00:04:33,330 --> 00:04:36,400

Later they sent me  
to a different town,

78

00:04:36,400 --> 00:04:41,380

when I got older, to Krak<sup>3</sup>w,  
the Bais Yaakov seminary.

79

00:04:41,380 --> 00:04:44,380

Did you have a Bais Yaakov  
seminary in your town?

80

00:04:44,380 --> 00:04:44,920

No.

81

00:04:44,920 --> 00:04:48,070

We didn't have a  
Bais Yaakov seminary.

82

00:04:48,070 --> 00:04:49,210

They had a Tarbut.

83

00:04:49,210 --> 00:04:51,520

This is an elementary school.

84

00:04:51,520 --> 00:04:53,200

And they had a yeshiva.

85

00:04:53,200 --> 00:04:55,170

So the Tarbut was  
for girls only?

86

00:04:55,170 --> 00:05:00,143

For the children  
till the 12th grade.

87

00:05:00,143 --> 00:05:01,810

From the kindergarten  
through 12th grade

88

00:05:01,810 --> 00:05:03,070

12th grade.

89

00:05:03,070 --> 00:05:03,930

For girls only?

90

00:05:03,930 --> 00:05:04,430

Yeah.

91

00:05:04,430 --> 00:05:04,930

No.

92

00:05:04,930 --> 00:05:05,560

Boys and girls.

93

00:05:05,560 --> 00:05:06,430

Boys and girls.

94

00:05:06,430 --> 00:05:07,270

Yes.

95

00:05:07,270 --> 00:05:11,350

After 12th grade, some  
people went to high school

96

00:05:11,350 --> 00:05:12,820



or to college.

97

00:05:12,820 --> 00:05:18,610

And some went out of town  
to different schools.

98

00:05:18,610 --> 00:05:21,180

You say your brother  
went to a yeshiva.

99

00:05:21,180 --> 00:05:23,500

My brother, no, he was younger.

100

00:05:23,500 --> 00:05:24,940

He was young.

101

00:05:24,940 --> 00:05:29,850

And my sister, my older  
sister, went to college

102

00:05:29,850 --> 00:05:33,100

and started college  
when war broke out.

103

00:05:33,100 --> 00:05:34,900

I had an only brother.

104

00:05:34,900 --> 00:05:36,550

He was younger for me.

105

00:05:36,550 --> 00:05:38,920

And he was then but f5.

106

00:05:38,920 --> 00:05:41,200

When the war broke out, 16.

107

00:05:41,200 --> 00:05:43,510

But he was going to  
go to a local cheder.

108

00:05:43,510 --> 00:05:44,830

He went to a cheder.

109  
00:05:44,830 --> 00:05:46,397  
and later, he went  
to the Tarbut.

110  
00:05:46,397 --> 00:05:47,230  
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

111  
00:05:47,230 --> 00:05:48,940  
For the school, yeah.

112  
00:05:48,940 --> 00:05:52,900  
It was a coed school  
for Jewish kids.

113  
00:05:52,900 --> 00:05:54,470  
How many children  
were in the school?

114  
00:05:54,470 --> 00:05:55,670  
Do you remember?

115  
00:05:55,670 --> 00:05:58,300  
The school, I think it  
was about 200 children.

116  
00:05:58,300 --> 00:05:59,800  
There were 200 children.

117  
00:05:59,800 --> 00:06:02,170  
Two hundred children, yes.

118  
00:06:02,170 --> 00:06:10,360  
And the whole problem started.

119  
00:06:10,360 --> 00:06:14,210  
In 1939, the war broke out.

120  
00:06:14,210 --> 00:06:17,970  
And Russia came to us.

121

00:06:17,970 --> 00:06:20,430  
We were not too happy.

122  
00:06:20,430 --> 00:06:24,690  
But they took away everything.

123  
00:06:24,690 --> 00:06:28,860  
They nationalized  
all the stores.

124  
00:06:28,860 --> 00:06:34,065  
And the richer people,  
they took out to Siberia.

125  
00:06:34,065 --> 00:06:36,620

126  
00:06:36,620 --> 00:06:39,860  
And this was a  
tragedy that time.

127  
00:06:39,860 --> 00:06:43,040  
I knew everybody was  
afraid to go there.

128  
00:06:43,040 --> 00:06:47,120  
Luckily, these people whom  
they took away to Siberia,

129  
00:06:47,120 --> 00:06:48,440  
they are still alive.

130  
00:06:48,440 --> 00:06:50,780  
And they came.

131  
00:06:50,780 --> 00:06:54,570  
We were wealthy, and they  
wanted to take us away.

132  
00:06:54,570 --> 00:06:59,885  
But someone gave a hint to my  
mother that Saturday night,

133

00:06:59,885 --> 00:07:03,610

they are going to come  
and take us to Siberia.

134

00:07:03,610 --> 00:07:06,880

So my mother took all  
the four children.

135

00:07:06,880 --> 00:07:12,470

And she hide us in different  
houses for poor people.

136

00:07:12,470 --> 00:07:15,070

They should not get us.

137

00:07:15,070 --> 00:07:17,470

And then came Saturday night.

138

00:07:17,470 --> 00:07:19,040

Nobody was home.

139

00:07:19,040 --> 00:07:21,778

They took, they put in  
the people in wagons.

140

00:07:21,778 --> 00:07:28,060

And like, no in wagons like  
in the subway, in the train.

141

00:07:28,060 --> 00:07:31,780

And they took out the  
people and took them

142

00:07:31,780 --> 00:07:35,580

to Siberia, the rich  
and the wealthy people.

143

00:07:35,580 --> 00:07:38,640

The poor people, they  
left in the town.

144

00:07:38,640 --> 00:07:44,170

Now I wished they should take  
us to Russia after everything,

145  
00:07:44,170 --> 00:07:46,810  
the agony, the whole war.

146  
00:07:46,810 --> 00:07:50,850  
The people that they took  
away to Russia were lucky.

147  
00:07:50,850 --> 00:07:53,360  
But who knew there was  
going to come Germany.

148  
00:07:53,360 --> 00:07:55,810  
And it's going to  
be so bitter for us.

149  
00:07:55,810 --> 00:07:57,640  
How old were you in 1939?

150  
00:07:57,640 --> 00:07:59,905  
In 1939, I was 15.

151  
00:07:59,905 --> 00:08:01,180  
You were 15 years old.

152  
00:08:01,180 --> 00:08:03,280  
15 years old.

153  
00:08:03,280 --> 00:08:05,410  
Were you aware of what  
was happening, you know--

154  
00:08:05,410 --> 00:08:05,910  
Yes

155  
00:08:05,910 --> 00:08:08,800  
In Europe, in Germany  
prior to 1939,

156  
00:08:08,800 --> 00:08:12,460

when Hitler rose to power,  
before the actual beginning

157  
00:08:12,460 --> 00:08:13,850  
of the invasion of Poland?

158  
00:08:13,850 --> 00:08:15,145  
We didn't knew so much.

159  
00:08:15,145 --> 00:08:17,710

160  
00:08:17,710 --> 00:08:19,930  
Later, we find out from them.

161  
00:08:19,930 --> 00:08:22,630  
We knew that there's  
antisemitism.

162  
00:08:22,630 --> 00:08:24,410  
They used to come at holiday.

163  
00:08:24,410 --> 00:08:28,270  
They used to say,  
Jews go to Palestine.

164  
00:08:28,270 --> 00:08:30,070  
You don't have a place here.

165  
00:08:30,070 --> 00:08:32,919  
But we didn't pay attention.

166  
00:08:32,919 --> 00:08:35,530  
Violence was a small element.

167  
00:08:35,530 --> 00:08:39,490  
Like, the first of  
the holi -- first May.

168  
00:08:39,490 --> 00:08:42,549  
May the 3rd is a holiday  
for the communists,

169  
00:08:42,549 --> 00:08:43,960  
for the Polish went.

170  
00:08:43,960 --> 00:08:46,780  
And they say, what  
are you doing here?

171  
00:08:46,780 --> 00:08:49,250  
Go to Palestine.

172  
00:08:49,250 --> 00:08:50,800  
It's not your country.

173  
00:08:50,800 --> 00:08:52,463  
But nobody paid attention.

174  
00:08:52,463 --> 00:08:54,880  
Do you know remember what year  
that-- when did that start?

175  
00:08:54,880 --> 00:08:58,380  
This was in 1935.

176  
00:08:58,380 --> 00:08:59,020  
1935.

177  
00:08:59,020 --> 00:09:01,630  
About 1936.

178  
00:09:01,630 --> 00:09:07,960  
And in 1937, a few Jews, friends  
of my father, they had stores,

179  
00:09:07,960 --> 00:09:11,590  
they had a wholesale grocery.

180  
00:09:11,590 --> 00:09:12,700  
He left everything.

181  
00:09:12,700 --> 00:09:16,270

He sold, and he said,  
I'm going to Palestine.

182  
00:09:16,270 --> 00:09:18,160  
I'm not going to sit here.

183  
00:09:18,160 --> 00:09:21,280  
And he said to my  
father and mother,

184  
00:09:21,280 --> 00:09:23,410  
sell everything and run.

185  
00:09:23,410 --> 00:09:24,520  
But we had a problem.

186  
00:09:24,520 --> 00:09:26,500  
We didn't know where to run.

187  
00:09:26,500 --> 00:09:28,930  
It was not Israel like today.

188  
00:09:28,930 --> 00:09:30,730  
The doors weren't open.

189  
00:09:30,730 --> 00:09:34,150  
It's not where the place, but  
you could legally sit down

190  
00:09:34,150 --> 00:09:35,860  
and make papers and go.

191  
00:09:35,860 --> 00:09:43,430  
First of all, it was very hard  
to get a visa to United States.

192  
00:09:43,430 --> 00:09:45,940  
It used to take  
months and years.

193  
00:09:45,940 --> 00:09:49,420  
And with their families, with



small kids to pick himself up,

194  
00:09:49,420 --> 00:09:50,650  
it was very hard.

195  
00:09:50,650 --> 00:09:53,230  
But they left to Palestine.

196  
00:09:53,230 --> 00:09:55,000  
And they are all alive.

197  
00:09:55,000 --> 00:09:57,490  
He just died recently.

198  
00:09:57,490 --> 00:09:58,420  
And she just died.

199  
00:09:58,420 --> 00:10:00,120  
She was 95.

200  
00:10:00,120 --> 00:10:03,280  
They went through very  
hard times there too.

201  
00:10:03,280 --> 00:10:04,660  
She was shot once.

202  
00:10:04,660 --> 00:10:06,190  
He was shot, you know.

203  
00:10:06,190 --> 00:10:09,220  
It was not like today, Israel.

204  
00:10:09,220 --> 00:10:11,450  
But they felt the antisemitism.

205  
00:10:11,450 --> 00:10:14,110  
We felt that it's  
coming, something.

206  
00:10:14,110 --> 00:10:16,960

But we couldn't help ourselves.

207

00:10:16,960 --> 00:10:19,090

The door was closed that time.

208

00:10:19,090 --> 00:10:24,100

You know how hard it was to  
get that visa to Israel to go.

209

00:10:24,100 --> 00:10:27,460

Young girls and boys used to sit  
in a kibbutz for three or four

210

00:10:27,460 --> 00:10:31,870

years, till one used  
to go to Palestine.

211

00:10:31,870 --> 00:10:34,090

To America, very hard.

212

00:10:34,090 --> 00:10:36,040

You send papers.

213

00:10:36,040 --> 00:10:38,290

You need to wait for  
two or three years til

214

00:10:38,290 --> 00:10:39,760

you get the visa at that time.

215

00:10:39,760 --> 00:10:42,130

So your family, your  
father, actually

216

00:10:42,130 --> 00:10:44,860

was making attempts in 1935, '36

217

00:10:44,860 --> 00:10:45,360

'36.

218

00:10:45,360 --> 00:10:46,150

Yes.

219  
00:10:46,150 --> 00:10:50,410  
He had a sister here in  
United States, my father.

220  
00:10:50,410 --> 00:10:57,580  
And he tried very hard, the  
times, this could be felt.

221  
00:10:57,580 --> 00:11:00,990  
But they couldn't do nothing.

222  
00:11:00,990 --> 00:11:10,400  
Later in 1941, beginning of  
1941, Germany took over us.

223  
00:11:10,400 --> 00:11:12,940  
And the people were confused.

224  
00:11:12,940 --> 00:11:15,440  
But I still remember.

225  
00:11:15,440 --> 00:11:19,820  
Some people came from South  
Poland for the German about

226  
00:11:19,820 --> 00:11:23,120  
[INAUDIBLE] from 1939.

227  
00:11:23,120 --> 00:11:25,400  
And they told us stories.

228  
00:11:25,400 --> 00:11:29,070  
They told that  
they're killing Jews.

229  
00:11:29,070 --> 00:11:30,950  
We didn't believe them.

230  
00:11:30,950 --> 00:11:33,920  
We said what kind of  
people was he telling.

231  
00:11:33,920 --> 00:11:39,050  
He told a story that the  
Jews open a grave, made

232  
00:11:39,050 --> 00:11:41,240  
them to open a grave.

233  
00:11:41,240 --> 00:11:43,910  
And later they put them  
in the grave alive,

234  
00:11:43,910 --> 00:11:46,700  
and they killed them.

235  
00:11:46,700 --> 00:11:47,990  
People were confused.

236  
00:11:47,990 --> 00:11:50,510  
And they wanted  
to run to Russia.

237  
00:11:50,510 --> 00:11:53,160  
But you couldn't run  
the time already.

238  
00:11:53,160 --> 00:11:57,020  
The bombs went on  
you, airplanes.

239  
00:11:57,020 --> 00:12:00,380  
And the war started.

240  
00:12:00,380 --> 00:12:04,040  
And the city went on fire.

241  
00:12:04,040 --> 00:12:10,460  
And we saw already dead people  
lying on electrical wires

242  
00:12:10,460 --> 00:12:16,400  
and this became the little --

run in the suburb of the town.

243

00:12:16,400 --> 00:12:19,670

And then German came.

244

00:12:19,670 --> 00:12:24,830

The [? terror ?] plans, I  
think it was like spies.

245

00:12:24,830 --> 00:12:26,600

And they said, don't be afraid.

246

00:12:26,600 --> 00:12:28,280

You're going to be safe.

247

00:12:28,280 --> 00:12:30,710

And they are good to you.

248

00:12:30,710 --> 00:12:37,640

And all the Jews will run in the  
suburb of town, five miles away

249

00:12:37,640 --> 00:12:39,540

from the town, six miles.

250

00:12:39,540 --> 00:12:42,060

The farmers used to live there.

251

00:12:42,060 --> 00:12:46,220

And we were sitting  
there for a while.

252

00:12:46,220 --> 00:12:50,690

Later came announcement  
on the radios

253

00:12:50,690 --> 00:12:54,020

that all the Jews should  
come back to the city

254

00:12:54,020 --> 00:12:57,900

They stop bombing

already to their homes.

255

00:12:57,900 --> 00:12:59,390

This is in 1941?

256

00:12:59,390 --> 00:13:01,180

1941.

257

00:13:01,180 --> 00:13:04,400

And everybody should go to work.

258

00:13:04,400 --> 00:13:08,510

So all the Jews came back to  
their homes, who had run .

259

00:13:08,510 --> 00:13:12,530

Who didn't had their home,  
came into the orders.

260

00:13:12,530 --> 00:13:14,570

And we settled down.

261

00:13:14,570 --> 00:13:18,815

After four or five weeks,  
they announce that we

262

00:13:18,815 --> 00:13:22,235

need to wear the yellow sign.

263

00:13:22,235 --> 00:13:25,090

264

00:13:25,090 --> 00:13:27,790

So we put it on, and  
they give us orders.

265

00:13:27,790 --> 00:13:30,040

You were seven 17  
years old then.

266

00:13:30,040 --> 00:13:31,030

16 then.

267  
00:13:31,030 --> 00:13:32,050  
16.

268  
00:13:32,050 --> 00:13:36,370  
And he put in the orders  
to put on the yellow sign

269  
00:13:36,370 --> 00:13:37,870  
that we are Jewish.

270  
00:13:37,870 --> 00:13:42,830  
We are Jews, that we are not  
allowed to go on the sidewalk.

271  
00:13:42,830 --> 00:13:44,740  
We should go in the  
middle of the street.

272  
00:13:44,740 --> 00:13:47,710

273  
00:13:47,710 --> 00:13:49,300  
Didn't bother at this.

274  
00:13:49,300 --> 00:13:51,880  
And we went to work.

275  
00:13:51,880 --> 00:13:53,170  
After a while--

276  
00:13:53,170 --> 00:13:55,410  
Was there any discussion  
in your family?

277  
00:13:55,410 --> 00:13:57,400  
There were discussion.

278  
00:13:57,400 --> 00:14:00,100  
We couldn't go no place.

279

00:14:00,100 --> 00:14:03,520  
To Russia, to run, a lot  
of people were killed.

280  
00:14:03,520 --> 00:14:06,340  
My younger brother  
took the bike.

281  
00:14:06,340 --> 00:14:09,430  
And he wanted to run to Russia.

282  
00:14:09,430 --> 00:14:11,560  
Then my mother started to cry.

283  
00:14:11,560 --> 00:14:16,540  
But she heard that our friends,  
some got killed on the way.

284  
00:14:16,540 --> 00:14:19,210  
The other friends got  
all the -- the son got --

285  
00:14:19,210 --> 00:14:21,220  
She didn't let him run.

286  
00:14:21,220 --> 00:14:23,065  
And they were confused.

287  
00:14:23,065 --> 00:14:25,570  
But what's the problem with us.

288  
00:14:25,570 --> 00:14:30,100  
The people remember the  
Germans from the first war.

289  
00:14:30,100 --> 00:14:31,870  
And they were good to them.

290  
00:14:31,870 --> 00:14:34,330  
They made a living.

291  
00:14:34,330 --> 00:14:35,980



And they didn't touch nobody.

292

00:14:35,980 --> 00:14:38,800

Who could understand?

293

00:14:38,800 --> 00:14:42,370

Who can think but such a  
thing, would happen to us?

294

00:14:42,370 --> 00:14:47,800

Nobody imagined that  
people should be like this.

295

00:14:47,800 --> 00:14:51,250

So we came back from  
the suburb to our house.

296

00:14:51,250 --> 00:14:53,830

Our house was done on fire.

297

00:14:53,830 --> 00:14:56,320

But we went out of the house.

298

00:14:56,320 --> 00:14:57,940

And we settled down.

299

00:14:57,940 --> 00:14:59,893

Your family was together  
for the entire time

300

00:14:59,893 --> 00:15:01,060

when you were in the suburb.

301

00:15:01,060 --> 00:15:04,640

All together, Yes, all together.

302

00:15:04,640 --> 00:15:12,970

And after a month later,  
we heard that all the Jews

303

00:15:12,970 --> 00:15:15,910

should get in one place.

304

00:15:15,910 --> 00:15:20,060

They should take something with  
them, how much they can carry.

305

00:15:20,060 --> 00:15:22,870

306

00:15:22,870 --> 00:15:28,170

And this was a Saturday.

307

00:15:28,170 --> 00:15:31,180

And therefore, what  
can you take with you

308

00:15:31,180 --> 00:15:36,010

with all the belongings  
in your house?

309

00:15:36,010 --> 00:15:37,830

My mother lit a candle--

310

00:15:37,830 --> 00:15:39,940

lit candles Friday night.

311

00:15:39,940 --> 00:15:42,310

And I remember she  
was very crying.

312

00:15:42,310 --> 00:15:46,170

A burned candle went out.

313

00:15:46,170 --> 00:15:50,090

So she said, oh god,  
that's a bad sign.

314

00:15:50,090 --> 00:15:52,830

And Saturday morning,  
we packed all.

315

00:15:52,830 --> 00:15:57,630

And we went to one

gathering for all the Jews.

316  
00:15:57,630 --> 00:16:01,230  
And then, they brought  
over all the Jews

317  
00:16:01,230 --> 00:16:03,660  
from all the small towns.

318  
00:16:03,660 --> 00:16:06,435  
About I think, 10 miles  
from us was a little town

319  
00:16:06,435 --> 00:16:12,480  
Karelchy 20 miles was  
Dvoritz, Jettel, that's

320  
00:16:12,480 --> 00:16:14,220  
all little towns.

321  
00:16:14,220 --> 00:16:19,560  
So he gathered from 6,000 Jews,  
he brought in 24,000 Jews.

322  
00:16:19,560 --> 00:16:23,390  
So we became 30,000 Jews.

323  
00:16:23,390 --> 00:16:28,610  
He gathered us in one suburb  
where families used to live--

324  
00:16:28,610 --> 00:16:30,930  
When you say he--

325  
00:16:30,930 --> 00:16:31,430  
The Germans.

326  
00:16:31,430 --> 00:16:32,330  
The Germans.

327  
00:16:32,330 --> 00:16:37,250  
The Germans, they announced that

we were settle in one place.

328

00:16:37,250 --> 00:16:40,370

And there was a  
suburb with the--

329

00:16:40,370 --> 00:16:44,900

like a [? farmer ?]  
suburb, under the town.

330

00:16:44,900 --> 00:16:51,040

And he puts them,  
all our people.

331

00:16:51,040 --> 00:16:57,380

One Saturday-- one Saturday,  
he came over to the Jews

332

00:16:57,380 --> 00:16:59,950

where we got gathered.

333

00:16:59,950 --> 00:17:02,150

And there was leaders  
from the Jewish people.

334

00:17:02,150 --> 00:17:05,829

They made Jewish  
people, some leaders,

335

00:17:05,829 --> 00:17:08,900

that they will send  
out the people to work.

336

00:17:08,900 --> 00:17:11,829

They will tell the  
people what to do.

337

00:17:11,829 --> 00:17:13,510

And we organized ourself.

338

00:17:13,510 --> 00:17:19,900

We lived twenty families in one  
house, one on top of the other.

339  
00:17:19,900 --> 00:17:24,460  
But we were happy  
that they are alive.

340  
00:17:24,460 --> 00:17:27,490  
And we couldn't realize  
what's going to happen next.

341  
00:17:27,490 --> 00:17:30,202  
When you say that there are a  
number of leaders in the town,

342  
00:17:30,202 --> 00:17:31,660  
are you talking  
about the Judenrat.

343  
00:17:31,660 --> 00:17:33,720  
The Judenrat.

344  
00:17:33,720 --> 00:17:38,920  
They made Judenrat people  
leaders, Jewish people leaders

345  
00:17:38,920 --> 00:17:40,930  
of all the Jews.

346  
00:17:40,930 --> 00:17:42,370  
Nobody want to belong there.

347  
00:17:42,370 --> 00:17:44,380  
But they didn't have the choice.

348  
00:17:44,380 --> 00:17:48,130  
But they had a tough job.

349  
00:17:48,130 --> 00:17:51,180  
Whenever they came  
new orders to them.

350  
00:17:51,180 --> 00:17:52,090  
And they used to --

351

00:17:52,090 --> 00:17:55,960

and they need to obey, they  
needed to obey this order.

352

00:17:55,960 --> 00:18:01,390

Like one Saturday they came,  
and they asked for 50 nicest

353

00:18:01,390 --> 00:18:03,730

looking girls, young girls.

354

00:18:03,730 --> 00:18:07,870

They needed fifty girls to work.

355

00:18:07,870 --> 00:18:10,303

And I was between  
them they send us out.

356

00:18:10,303 --> 00:18:11,470

All the mothers were crying.

357

00:18:11,470 --> 00:18:15,910

They didn't want to  
let the girls go.

358

00:18:15,910 --> 00:18:18,035

But it's a new [INAUDIBLE]  
send them [? general. ?]

359

00:18:18,035 --> 00:18:19,077

Do you remember the year?

360

00:18:19,077 --> 00:18:19,690

Was that 19--

361

00:18:19,690 --> 00:18:21,820

This was the end of 1941.

362

00:18:21,820 --> 00:18:22,810

At the end of '41.

363

00:18:22,810 --> 00:18:27,070

And he took us in the square.

364

00:18:27,070 --> 00:18:30,610

Every town had the square  
where the people used to walk

365

00:18:30,610 --> 00:18:34,420

Saturday, like on a walk.

366

00:18:34,420 --> 00:18:37,330

Thus Saturday night,  
all the Jewish people

367

00:18:37,330 --> 00:18:40,030

used to walk on the square.

368

00:18:40,030 --> 00:18:42,190

He took us on the square.

369

00:18:42,190 --> 00:18:46,300

And music was playing,  
a whole orchestra.

370

00:18:46,300 --> 00:18:50,980

And he took-- he gathered  
all the intelligent people

371

00:18:50,980 --> 00:18:57,340

like the doctors, professors,  
teachers, lawyers.

372

00:18:57,340 --> 00:19:01,570

He brought them,  
about 100, 150 people,

373

00:19:01,570 --> 00:19:06,730

and he shoot them by  
the music on the square.

374

00:19:06,730 --> 00:19:13,000

And the blood was running on

the square, on the stones.

375

00:19:13,000 --> 00:19:17,500

And we're supposed to  
wash the stones, the 50

376

00:19:17,500 --> 00:19:19,540

girls what he picked.

377

00:19:19,540 --> 00:19:24,310

And we helped to put on  
the bodies on the wagon,

378

00:19:24,310 --> 00:19:25,190

not on the car.

379

00:19:25,190 --> 00:19:25,690

No.

380

00:19:25,690 --> 00:19:28,720

On a wagon, you  
know, with horses.

381

00:19:28,720 --> 00:19:32,170

And their heads were hanging  
from the dead people.

382

00:19:32,170 --> 00:19:33,250

And we knew the people.

383

00:19:33,250 --> 00:19:36,510

384

00:19:36,510 --> 00:19:38,310

And the music was playing.

385

00:19:38,310 --> 00:19:41,520

And we washed the  
stones from the square.

386

00:19:41,520 --> 00:19:45,110

And later they had a ball.



387  
00:19:45,110 --> 00:19:49,210  
They were dancing in the square.

388  
00:19:49,210 --> 00:19:51,040  
Who shoot it?

389  
00:19:51,040 --> 00:19:52,220  
Nazis.

390  
00:19:52,220 --> 00:19:53,950  
I understand.

391  
00:19:53,950 --> 00:19:58,690  
The selection of these  
intelligent individuals

392  
00:19:58,690 --> 00:20:01,300  
that you identified, was  
the Judenrat involved

393  
00:20:01,300 --> 00:20:02,680  
in that selection process?

394  
00:20:02,680 --> 00:20:05,320  
They called out with names.

395  
00:20:05,320 --> 00:20:11,050  
They said, Mr. Gorwitz I  
want Mr. Gorwitz today.

396  
00:20:11,050 --> 00:20:13,720  
And once they knew  
who the lawyers are--

397  
00:20:13,720 --> 00:20:15,490  
The Judenrat.

398  
00:20:15,490 --> 00:20:17,080  
No the German.

399

00:20:17,080 --> 00:20:21,520  
Somebody told them who the  
intelligent, or Polish,

400  
00:20:21,520 --> 00:20:22,840  
or somebody.

401  
00:20:22,840 --> 00:20:24,760  
He came to the Judenrat.

402  
00:20:24,760 --> 00:20:28,477  
And asked for ten doctors,  
for twenty lawyers,

403  
00:20:28,477 --> 00:20:29,185  
for the teachers.

404  
00:20:29,185 --> 00:20:31,740

405  
00:20:31,740 --> 00:20:33,690  
He gave them an order.

406  
00:20:33,690 --> 00:20:35,080  
What could they do?

407  
00:20:35,080 --> 00:20:39,810  
And nobody respect--  
nobody expected

408  
00:20:39,810 --> 00:20:41,492  
for what they were thinking.

409  
00:20:41,492 --> 00:20:43,075  
Maybe they're going  
to give them jobs.

410  
00:20:43,075 --> 00:20:45,960

411  
00:20:45,960 --> 00:20:50,280  
Maybe they're going to try

to tell them what to do.

412  
00:20:50,280 --> 00:20:52,200  
Nobody knew.

413  
00:20:52,200 --> 00:20:58,560  
When the ghetto and the people  
find out what they did to them,

414  
00:20:58,560 --> 00:21:00,915  
people got very scary  
and very confused.

415  
00:21:00,915 --> 00:21:03,790

416  
00:21:03,790 --> 00:21:06,050  
We were sitting.

417  
00:21:06,050 --> 00:21:08,180  
But they took us every  
day out from the ghetto

418  
00:21:08,180 --> 00:21:12,530  
to work, the young people,  
They give us bread,

419  
00:21:12,530 --> 00:21:16,700  
they give us food, a  
little bit we smuggled in

420  
00:21:16,700 --> 00:21:17,840  
from the outside.

421  
00:21:17,840 --> 00:21:21,020  
And we lived like animals.

422  
00:21:21,020 --> 00:21:23,570  
But we lived.

423  
00:21:23,570 --> 00:21:26,960  
One day, he came.

424  
00:21:26,960 --> 00:21:31,430  
He said, I order the  
Judenrat that they

425  
00:21:31,430 --> 00:21:39,430  
need twenty handsome boys,  
the handsome boys, young boys,

426  
00:21:39,430 --> 00:21:41,650  
from the Jews.

427  
00:21:41,650 --> 00:21:44,930  
And this was New Year's Eve.

428  
00:21:44,930 --> 00:21:46,167  
Like, now Christmas nears.

429  
00:21:46,167 --> 00:21:52,790  
In our town , the pipes from  
the water used to freeze up

430  
00:21:52,790 --> 00:21:55,040  
sometimes.

431  
00:21:55,040 --> 00:22:02,480  
Though they had a ball in  
the governor's mansion.

432  
00:22:02,480 --> 00:22:06,410  
And the German--  
they were German.

433  
00:22:06,410 --> 00:22:09,860  
And they told-- give the order  
the boys would come and put

434  
00:22:09,860 --> 00:22:11,180  
on fire,

435  
00:22:11,180 --> 00:22:14,480  
Under the pipes, they

should have the water.

436

00:22:14,480 --> 00:22:21,560

They got drunk, they were  
dancing and fooling around.

437

00:22:21,560 --> 00:22:29,910

Later on, German said, between  
all the boys, my brother was,

438

00:22:29,910 --> 00:22:33,000

my only brother.

439

00:22:33,000 --> 00:22:36,960

And they were drunk.

440

00:22:36,960 --> 00:22:39,120

They went down and performed.

441

00:22:39,120 --> 00:22:40,950

He said, let's go down.

442

00:22:40,950 --> 00:22:43,086

Let's kill the 20  
Jews what are there.

443

00:22:43,086 --> 00:22:45,822

444

00:22:45,822 --> 00:22:50,090

In the middle of the  
night, about 12 o'clock,

445

00:22:50,090 --> 00:22:53,060

exactly the top of the  
governor's mansion,

446

00:22:53,060 --> 00:22:54,620

the Germans.

447

00:22:54,620 --> 00:22:57,860

And they say they went

down with the gun.

448

00:22:57,860 --> 00:23:00,110

And they shoot all  
the twenty boys.

449

00:23:00,110 --> 00:23:01,195

And they fell on fire.

450

00:23:01,195 --> 00:23:03,800

451

00:23:03,800 --> 00:23:09,740

When my mother found out that  
they shoot the twenty boys,

452

00:23:09,740 --> 00:23:12,050

then we ran out from the ghetto.

453

00:23:12,050 --> 00:23:14,510

We went to work.

454

00:23:14,510 --> 00:23:22,080

And she ran out to find  
out maybe someone is alive.

455

00:23:22,080 --> 00:23:23,900

And tomorrow morning--

456

00:23:23,900 --> 00:23:25,650

Do you remember who  
came back and told you

457

00:23:25,650 --> 00:23:26,608

that this had happened?

458

00:23:26,608 --> 00:23:28,770

The Judenrat knew this.

459

00:23:28,770 --> 00:23:33,480

And everybody knew that the  
boys already will not come back.

460

00:23:33,480 --> 00:23:35,580

That's why nobody want to come.

461

00:23:35,580 --> 00:23:40,680

The crying from the mothers and  
the crying from the fathers,

462

00:23:40,680 --> 00:23:42,390

don't take my son.

463

00:23:42,390 --> 00:23:43,720

He will never come back.

464

00:23:43,720 --> 00:23:47,220

We lived with that feeling  
that he will not come back.

465

00:23:47,220 --> 00:23:49,580

Anybody try to  
hide so that they.

466

00:23:49,580 --> 00:23:51,690

One, you couldn't.

467

00:23:51,690 --> 00:23:57,180

You hide but if it's an  
order, you cannot hide.

468

00:23:57,180 --> 00:23:59,940

They would kill all the Jews.

469

00:23:59,940 --> 00:24:01,020

It was risky.

470

00:24:01,020 --> 00:24:04,920

You know, if you don't  
give them what they want,

471

00:24:04,920 --> 00:24:07,970

at least, you felt [? trapped ?]  
and the rest of our life.

472  
00:24:07,970 --> 00:24:10,360  
If not, they're going to  
go in with machine guns.

473  
00:24:10,360 --> 00:24:11,860  
And they're going  
to kill everybody,

474  
00:24:11,860 --> 00:24:15,300  
that's going to be better?

475  
00:24:15,300 --> 00:24:19,650  
One -- my mother ran out from  
the ghetto with my father

476  
00:24:19,650 --> 00:24:21,790  
and run to the  
governor's mansion.

477  
00:24:21,790 --> 00:24:23,880  
She couldn't go out there.

478  
00:24:23,880 --> 00:24:27,270  
But they've been stranded  
in the center Gentile.

479  
00:24:27,270 --> 00:24:32,430  
And she said, don't go, while  
all the Jewish guys are dead.

480  
00:24:32,430 --> 00:24:38,540  
But she went and she  
searched in the empty houses,

481  
00:24:38,540 --> 00:24:43,830  
was beaten up by the  
bombs, by the airplanes.

482  
00:24:43,830 --> 00:24:47,920  
And all of a sudden,  
she heard like a boy,



483

00:24:47,920 --> 00:24:52,320

oh, oh, he's begging for help.

484

00:24:52,320 --> 00:24:56,520

And she goes over and  
there on our empty house

485

00:24:56,520 --> 00:25:05,460

was lying my brother, burned in  
the first degree from the fire.

486

00:25:05,460 --> 00:25:08,660

But he was alive.

487

00:25:08,660 --> 00:25:11,510

So she was running  
to the Judenrat

488

00:25:11,510 --> 00:25:15,860

And she took a garbage  
pail, garbage pail.

489

00:25:15,860 --> 00:25:17,840

And they put him on the straw.

490

00:25:17,840 --> 00:25:21,890

And they bought  
him in the ghetto.

491

00:25:21,890 --> 00:25:23,630

The people went to work.

492

00:25:23,630 --> 00:25:27,680

So they put him under  
straw and under papers.

493

00:25:27,680 --> 00:25:31,130

And they brought him  
in the ghetto alive.

494

00:25:31,130 --> 00:25:31,960

He was in pain.

495  
00:25:31,960 --> 00:25:35,070  
And they put them in the attic.

496  
00:25:35,070 --> 00:25:38,390  
Well, then two days  
later, they counted

497  
00:25:38,390 --> 00:25:43,450  
the bodies that were on  
fire, and one was missing.

498  
00:25:43,450 --> 00:25:45,710  
So they came to the ghetto.

499  
00:25:45,710 --> 00:25:48,045  
And they said, where is  
the Jew that was missing.

500  
00:25:48,045 --> 00:25:50,930

501  
00:25:50,930 --> 00:25:58,610  
Anyway, with our doctor's  
help and without nurses,

502  
00:25:58,610 --> 00:26:00,510  
he became healthy.

503  
00:26:00,510 --> 00:26:03,200  
And he start to work.

504  
00:26:03,200 --> 00:26:07,808  
And the end, I'll  
tell the end later,

505  
00:26:07,808 --> 00:26:08,975  
what happened to my brother.

506  
00:26:08,975 --> 00:26:11,630

507

00:26:11,630 --> 00:26:14,110

Were there any doctors who  
could have helped when he was--

508

00:26:14,110 --> 00:26:16,400

The doctors were  
[INAUDIBLE] in the ghetto.

509

00:26:16,400 --> 00:26:17,330

They were left.

510

00:26:17,330 --> 00:26:17,990

But left.

511

00:26:17,990 --> 00:26:26,070

How many doctors were left  
that Time And he was rescued.

512

00:26:26,070 --> 00:26:27,980

He was alive.

513

00:26:27,980 --> 00:26:30,568

And he mangled  
between everybody.

514

00:26:30,568 --> 00:26:33,110

When they-- when they came, the  
Germans, and they said, well,

515

00:26:33,110 --> 00:26:35,090

one Jewish boy was missing--

516

00:26:35,090 --> 00:26:37,670

They were looking  
around the ghetto.

517

00:26:37,670 --> 00:26:39,250

Oh, yes.

518

00:26:39,250 --> 00:26:40,670

They were storming.

519

00:26:40,670 --> 00:26:43,300

And they told the  
Judenrat that they're

520

00:26:43,300 --> 00:26:47,540

going to do something if they  
find out that he is there.

521

00:26:47,540 --> 00:26:49,730

They scared them, you know.

522

00:26:49,730 --> 00:26:51,230

But they were strong.

523

00:26:51,230 --> 00:26:53,750

And they said, we  
don't know where he is.

524

00:26:53,750 --> 00:26:57,890

And they looked around  
all the houses there.

525

00:26:57,890 --> 00:26:59,480

Maybe they could find him.

526

00:26:59,480 --> 00:27:03,330

The ambition of them, if  
all the numbers were killed,

527

00:27:03,330 --> 00:27:06,320

it's got to be  
that one was alive.

528

00:27:06,320 --> 00:27:09,395

Was the Judenrat afraid  
that if they didn't turn in,

529

00:27:09,395 --> 00:27:10,520

for example, your brother--

530

00:27:10,520 --> 00:27:11,600

They were very scared.

531  
00:27:11,600 --> 00:27:12,920  
They're very afraid.

532  
00:27:12,920 --> 00:27:16,040  
They took a little bit,  
our own responsibility.

533  
00:27:16,040 --> 00:27:21,470  
You know, they said that  
what's going to happen to us

534  
00:27:21,470 --> 00:27:23,750  
is going to happen.

535  
00:27:23,750 --> 00:27:30,710  
But he was alive that  
second time at the end was.

536  
00:27:30,710 --> 00:27:33,620  
They went to work  
for two months.

537  
00:27:33,620 --> 00:27:35,870  
They cleaned the bricks.

538  
00:27:35,870 --> 00:27:36,710  
Inside the ghetto.

539  
00:27:36,710 --> 00:27:37,580  
No.

540  
00:27:37,580 --> 00:27:40,070  
Out of the ghetto,  
the young ones.

541  
00:27:40,070 --> 00:27:43,670  
They used to come-- a couple  
of Germans used to come to us,

542  
00:27:43,670 --> 00:27:45,640  
pick us up.

543

00:27:45,640 --> 00:27:51,380

We used to go to the houses  
to put together the bricks,

544

00:27:51,380 --> 00:27:56,180

to put together the  
glass, to clean up the--

545

00:27:56,180 --> 00:28:00,750

everything what was from  
the [? prior ?] district.

546

00:28:00,750 --> 00:28:05,810

One morning when  
everybody was sleeping.

547

00:28:05,810 --> 00:28:09,140

They surrounded  
the whole ghetto.

548

00:28:09,140 --> 00:28:14,120

Like in the war, they're  
going against soldiers,

549

00:28:14,120 --> 00:28:16,730

against missiles.

550

00:28:16,730 --> 00:28:20,510

They surrounded us  
from all the sides.

551

00:28:20,510 --> 00:28:27,700

And they took out 4,000  
people, mostly the old,

552

00:28:27,700 --> 00:28:34,770

mostly the sick, mostly  
who they didn't like.

553

00:28:34,770 --> 00:28:38,436

And they took three  
miles away from town

554

00:28:38,436 --> 00:28:43,140  
and they tell them to make a  
grave, and they killed them.

555

00:28:43,140 --> 00:28:49,930  
They killed them with machine  
guns, with machine guns.

556

00:28:49,930 --> 00:28:53,530  
And 4,000 people were gone.

557

00:28:53,530 --> 00:28:57,660  
And then we became panicky.

558

00:28:57,660 --> 00:28:58,725  
Then they became panicky.

559

00:28:58,725 --> 00:29:02,630  
And they said what's  
going to happen to us.

560

00:29:02,630 --> 00:29:04,950  
But they were smart.

561

00:29:04,950 --> 00:29:07,710  
They knew how to take us.

562

00:29:07,710 --> 00:29:08,960  
They came one morning.

563

00:29:08,960 --> 00:29:10,650  
They made a gathering.

564

00:29:10,650 --> 00:29:14,010  
And they said, we  
killed the old people,

565

00:29:14,010 --> 00:29:18,600  
the people that cannot  
work, the young.

566

00:29:18,600 --> 00:29:20,800

But you are going  
to be protected.

567

00:29:20,800 --> 00:29:24,340

We need you to work.

568

00:29:24,340 --> 00:29:25,990

And we're going to  
give you everything

569

00:29:25,990 --> 00:29:29,350

while you are talented people.

570

00:29:29,350 --> 00:29:34,900

And really, he left  
like the furrier and the

571

00:29:34,900 --> 00:29:37,820

[? carpenter, ?] and  
the-- first of all,

572

00:29:37,820 --> 00:29:39,610

they cleaned up the  
intelligent people.

573

00:29:39,610 --> 00:29:44,360

But he was afraid they're  
going to organize something.

574

00:29:44,360 --> 00:29:47,050

And he said, we're going  
to move you from here,

575

00:29:47,050 --> 00:29:49,300

the people who are talented.

576

00:29:49,300 --> 00:29:54,130

And the people can be capable to  
work, we have a place for you.

577

00:29:54,130 --> 00:29:58,240



And then there, you're going  
to get double portion bread.

578  
00:29:58,240 --> 00:30:03,340  
You're going to get better  
food and everything.

579  
00:30:03,340 --> 00:30:04,200  
And we were happy.

580  
00:30:04,200 --> 00:30:06,830

581  
00:30:06,830 --> 00:30:07,970  
He took us all around.

582  
00:30:07,970 --> 00:30:11,540  
This was like a courthouse, like  
the courthouse in Elizabeth,

583  
00:30:11,540 --> 00:30:13,760  
a big courthouse.

584  
00:30:13,760 --> 00:30:16,430  
And this was new in our town.

585  
00:30:16,430 --> 00:30:19,530  
They built it before the war.

586  
00:30:19,530 --> 00:30:25,560  
And there was a big, big  
square near the courtyards.

587  
00:30:25,560 --> 00:30:30,230  
He brought us in the  
building, everybody.

588  
00:30:30,230 --> 00:30:32,360  
People were [? talking. ?]

589  
00:30:32,360 --> 00:30:33,920  
How many people?

590

00:30:33,920 --> 00:30:39,770

Oh, must be about 12,000 people.

591

00:30:39,770 --> 00:30:41,330

Were you together  
with your family?

592

00:30:41,330 --> 00:30:44,280

Together with my  
family, with my father,

593

00:30:44,280 --> 00:30:48,905

mother, the two  
sisters, and a brother.

594

00:30:48,905 --> 00:30:50,250

And we were staying.

595

00:30:50,250 --> 00:30:54,770

And then we came in the  
court in the building.

596

00:30:54,770 --> 00:31:00,020

And they surrounded  
us and the Germans

597

00:31:00,020 --> 00:31:06,880

were staying in white gloves,  
dressed, Handsome Nazis.

598

00:31:06,880 --> 00:31:09,670

599

00:31:09,670 --> 00:31:12,370

And they come in the building.

600

00:31:12,370 --> 00:31:18,270

And they made, you to the  
right, and you to the left.

601

00:31:18,270 --> 00:31:20,970

The right is to die--

602  
00:31:20,970 --> 00:31:21,750  
to live.

603  
00:31:21,750 --> 00:31:24,750  
And the left, it will die.

604  
00:31:24,750 --> 00:31:25,720  
Did you know that?

605  
00:31:25,720 --> 00:31:26,850  
We didn't know nothing.

606  
00:31:26,850 --> 00:31:28,230  
But it was already panicky.

607  
00:31:28,230 --> 00:31:33,250  
When he came, he said, you to  
the right and you to the left,

608  
00:31:33,250 --> 00:31:35,210  
I was a young girl.

609  
00:31:35,210 --> 00:31:38,010  
And I was staying  
with my father.

610  
00:31:38,010 --> 00:31:39,840  
And the whole family,  
people were already

611  
00:31:39,840 --> 00:31:42,780  
crying and screaming.

612  
00:31:42,780 --> 00:31:48,460  
And a German said  
you all to the right.

613  
00:31:48,460 --> 00:31:52,400  
So then my mother started  
screaming, crying.

614  
00:31:52,400 --> 00:31:57,370  
I went over to the German,  
and I said, I'm young.

615  
00:31:57,370 --> 00:31:58,690  
I want to live.

616  
00:31:58,690 --> 00:32:00,280  
I want to work.

617  
00:32:00,280 --> 00:32:02,800  
Leave us on the other side.

618  
00:32:02,800 --> 00:32:08,140  
He kicked me in the  
behind with his--

619  
00:32:08,140 --> 00:32:13,740  
with his boot that I  
went around the stairs.

620  
00:32:13,740 --> 00:32:19,440  
And this was the way that  
the court, the square was.

621  
00:32:19,440 --> 00:32:22,190  
And ten trucks were staying.

622  
00:32:22,190 --> 00:32:23,855  
And they loaded the  
people on trucks.

623  
00:32:23,855 --> 00:32:26,930

624  
00:32:26,930 --> 00:32:29,930  
And they took them two  
mile away from the square.

625  
00:32:29,930 --> 00:32:31,410  
Let me interrupt

just one second.

626  
00:32:31,410 --> 00:32:31,700  
Yeah.

627  
00:32:31,700 --> 00:32:33,500  
When you said that they were  
taking people to the right

628  
00:32:33,500 --> 00:32:34,260  
and to the left.

629  
00:32:34,260 --> 00:32:34,760  
Yes?

630  
00:32:34,760 --> 00:32:37,138  
Was there any pattern that  
you observed in the selection?

631  
00:32:37,138 --> 00:32:38,430  
And who was going to the right.

632  
00:32:38,430 --> 00:32:39,920  
He looked at you.

633  
00:32:39,920 --> 00:32:43,340  
If he looked at you,  
he looked at you.

634  
00:32:43,340 --> 00:32:45,200  
He took you to the left.

635  
00:32:45,200 --> 00:32:47,770  
If he didn't look at you,  
he took you to right.

636  
00:32:47,770 --> 00:32:50,270  
So it was clear to you  
that the one at the right--

637  
00:32:50,270 --> 00:32:53,480  
To the right is to stay alive.

638  
00:32:53,480 --> 00:32:55,760  
And to the left was dead

639  
00:32:55,760 --> 00:32:56,930  
That was clear.

640  
00:32:56,930 --> 00:33:00,260  
People knew already,  
people in our building.

641  
00:33:00,260 --> 00:33:01,410  
People were crying.

642  
00:33:01,410 --> 00:33:04,010  
We saw the trucks.

643  
00:33:04,010 --> 00:33:06,440  
And they're screaming  
on the trucks.

644  
00:33:06,440 --> 00:33:12,920  
And I went down to the square  
with my father, mother,

645  
00:33:12,920 --> 00:33:14,615  
and the whole families.

646  
00:33:14,615 --> 00:33:15,680  
We were staying.

647  
00:33:15,680 --> 00:33:18,230  
And the German were  
staying in front of us.

648  
00:33:18,230 --> 00:33:19,410  
Before we went down.

649  
00:33:19,410 --> 00:33:21,060  
He asked us for our ring.

650

00:33:21,060 --> 00:33:24,470  
He asked if we have  
belongings, money.

651  
00:33:24,470 --> 00:33:26,690  
And he was staying with a pot.

652  
00:33:26,690 --> 00:33:30,345  
And you threw everything in.

653  
00:33:30,345 --> 00:33:34,580  
Then we went down  
to the square .

654  
00:33:34,580 --> 00:33:38,600  
This is unbelievable  
to understand.

655  
00:33:38,600 --> 00:33:45,230  
That the rabbis, young woman  
with babies by the breast,

656  
00:33:45,230 --> 00:33:47,360  
and they're  
screaming, and they're

657  
00:33:47,360 --> 00:33:52,040  
praying to god to rescue  
them, Shema Israel.

658  
00:33:52,040 --> 00:33:54,780  
They was screaming  
all kind of prayers.

659  
00:33:54,780 --> 00:33:57,800  
They knew that the trucks  
are going to the graves.

660  
00:33:57,800 --> 00:34:01,760

661  
00:34:01,760 --> 00:34:06,140  
And he took three,

four miles, the people,

662

00:34:06,140 --> 00:34:08,719  
and he killed everybody.

663

00:34:08,719 --> 00:34:10,350  
Meanwhile, came a German.

664

00:34:10,350 --> 00:34:12,770  
We were next in line--

665

00:34:12,770 --> 00:34:16,340  
to go on the trucks took  
time, to load up the people

666

00:34:16,340 --> 00:34:20,070  
with so many screaming,  
with so many--

667

00:34:20,070 --> 00:34:22,610  
came a German.

668

00:34:22,610 --> 00:34:24,770  
And he said to the Judenrat.

669

00:34:24,770 --> 00:34:27,889  
One he lives now Israel.

670

00:34:27,889 --> 00:34:33,330  
He says, I need  
four Jews, four yes.

671

00:34:33,330 --> 00:34:35,880  
Give me their families.

672

00:34:35,880 --> 00:34:38,685  
And they picked out who  
was staying in front

673

00:34:38,685 --> 00:34:40,560  
They were furriers or  
they were not furriers.



674  
00:34:40,560 --> 00:34:43,659

675  
00:34:43,659 --> 00:34:46,380  
He couldn't cancel it in time.

676  
00:34:46,380 --> 00:34:50,159  
He was a young boy  
alone, but his friend, he

677  
00:34:50,159 --> 00:34:51,540  
was killed too later.

678  
00:34:51,540 --> 00:34:54,719  
He was in Judenrat They  
cleaned them up later too.

679  
00:34:54,719 --> 00:34:57,380

680  
00:34:57,380 --> 00:34:59,520  
And the German took us away.

681  
00:34:59,520 --> 00:35:03,320  
And brought us into the  
light in the building.

682  
00:35:03,320 --> 00:35:06,600  
Meanwhile, my mother  
was a very smart woman.

683  
00:35:06,600 --> 00:35:08,428  
And she said, kids run.

684  
00:35:08,428 --> 00:35:09,470  
You do not have a choice.

685  
00:35:09,470 --> 00:35:10,928  
You're going to be  
shot in the dark

686

00:35:10,928 --> 00:35:13,010

here, like to go to the grave.

687

00:35:13,010 --> 00:35:15,860

To my older sister,  
she says, run, run.

688

00:35:15,860 --> 00:35:17,930

They're going to be killed one.

689

00:35:17,930 --> 00:35:21,890

Maybe one from you  
is going to be alive.

690

00:35:21,890 --> 00:35:23,180

And she ran in the building.

691

00:35:23,180 --> 00:35:26,540

But the live people are , were.

692

00:35:26,540 --> 00:35:31,070

And then a Polish guy,  
he was whole big shot,

693

00:35:31,070 --> 00:35:33,470

became a whole big  
shot by the Germans.

694

00:35:33,470 --> 00:35:35,630

He was a poor boy.

695

00:35:35,630 --> 00:35:41,150

And he saw my sister running  
into the live people.

696

00:35:41,150 --> 00:35:42,830

So he went after her.

697

00:35:42,830 --> 00:35:47,060

He knew that she was a rich  
daughter from wealthy--

698

00:35:47,060 --> 00:35:50,150  
from a store keeper.

699

00:35:50,150 --> 00:35:52,400  
He went in.

700

00:35:52,400 --> 00:35:57,440  
And that time when he rescued  
us, the furriers, the couple

701

00:35:57,440 --> 00:36:03,320  
furriers, family of people,  
he ran in the building

702

00:36:03,320 --> 00:36:06,020  
and took out my sister.

703

00:36:06,020 --> 00:36:10,640  
And we saw her walking on  
the truck through the window.

704

00:36:10,640 --> 00:36:12,920  
And she was killed that time.

705

00:36:12,920 --> 00:36:17,960  
This was Thanksgiving,  
November 24th

706

00:36:17,960 --> 00:36:22,070  
They had yahrzeit the  
Memorial, after my sister.

707

00:36:22,070 --> 00:36:28,980  
And after the big, actually,  
the killing, the big killing,

708

00:36:28,980 --> 00:36:34,820  
all the people, they took  
away that time maybe 7,000

709

00:36:34,820 --> 00:36:41,900  
Jews, small babies, young.

710  
00:36:41,900 --> 00:36:42,640  
I had a friend.

711  
00:36:42,640 --> 00:36:45,680

712  
00:36:45,680 --> 00:36:49,160  
But she had two twins brother.

713  
00:36:49,160 --> 00:36:52,490  
And he told her to  
stay on the left side.

714  
00:36:52,490 --> 00:36:54,230  
She should be alive.

715  
00:36:54,230 --> 00:36:58,410  
And she says, I want to go with  
my mother, with my brother,

716  
00:36:58,410 --> 00:36:58,910  
she says.

717  
00:36:58,910 --> 00:37:01,940  
He said, go.

718  
00:37:01,940 --> 00:37:04,190  
Maybe she would be alive.

719  
00:37:04,190 --> 00:37:09,500  
But mostly, because they'd  
want to go with my family.

720  
00:37:09,500 --> 00:37:16,130  
And this was, for a while,  
maybe they would be rescued.

721  
00:37:16,130 --> 00:37:17,390  
He wiped out families.

722

00:37:17,390 --> 00:37:18,830  
But nobody's left.

723  
00:37:18,830 --> 00:37:22,600

724  
00:37:22,600 --> 00:37:25,090  
He took us back to work.

725  
00:37:25,090 --> 00:37:31,020  
And tomorrow, they promised us  
that now the bad Jews are away,

726  
00:37:31,020 --> 00:37:34,150  
we going to be alive.

727  
00:37:34,150 --> 00:37:37,567  
Do you have any idea how many  
Jews were left in the town

728  
00:37:37,567 --> 00:37:38,650  
after that particular day?

729  
00:37:38,650 --> 00:37:40,407  
It's not that [INAUDIBLE]

730  
00:37:40,407 --> 00:37:40,990  
In the ghetto.

731  
00:37:40,990 --> 00:37:42,430  
In the ghetto.

732  
00:37:42,430 --> 00:37:47,020  
In the ghetto, about maybe  
about 2,000 3,000 Jews.

733  
00:37:47,020 --> 00:37:49,040  
Out of the total of  
approximately 30,000.

734  
00:37:49,040 --> 00:37:52,440  
30,000.

735  
00:37:52,440 --> 00:37:58,350  
But the 3,000 Jews that  
were left, we were working.

736  
00:37:58,350 --> 00:38:00,090  
He made like a factory.

737  
00:38:00,090 --> 00:38:02,580  
We were sewing up pants.

738  
00:38:02,580 --> 00:38:06,170  
We were sewing up fur.

739  
00:38:06,170 --> 00:38:09,480  
We help with all  
kinds of things.

740  
00:38:09,480 --> 00:38:11,580  
They cooked.

741  
00:38:11,580 --> 00:38:13,620  
They gave us bread.

742  
00:38:13,620 --> 00:38:17,580  
And we were thinking  
we are the chosen.

743  
00:38:17,580 --> 00:38:22,740  
But for us, it's  
already going to be.

744  
00:38:22,740 --> 00:38:33,880  
Meanwhile, one day,  
the camp surrounded us.

745  
00:38:33,880 --> 00:38:37,510  
And they said they want  
all the small kids.

746  
00:38:37,510 --> 00:38:42,820  
I think this was more like

3,000 at the time, maybe 6,000.

747

00:38:42,820 --> 00:38:47,400

Family had yet more  
kids, you know, families.

748

00:38:47,400 --> 00:38:49,466

They surrounded us.

749

00:38:49,466 --> 00:38:55,740

They took around the whole  
ghetto, 4:00 in the morning

750

00:38:55,740 --> 00:39:00,070

when people are sleeping  
after a day's work.

751

00:39:00,070 --> 00:39:05,400

And they said that they're  
taking all the young kids

752

00:39:05,400 --> 00:39:07,280

to kindergarten.

753

00:39:07,280 --> 00:39:09,030

They have a school  
special for them.

754

00:39:09,030 --> 00:39:11,910

755

00:39:11,910 --> 00:39:16,200

You know, when you see a  
family of four or five kids,

756

00:39:16,200 --> 00:39:18,960

and they're taking  
away all the kids,

757

00:39:18,960 --> 00:39:22,920

we saw that the kids are  
not going to come back.

758

00:39:22,920 --> 00:39:28,583

You can never forget the picture  
from the mothers and fathers,

759

00:39:28,583 --> 00:39:33,780

they were begging, and  
kneeling on their hands.

760

00:39:33,780 --> 00:39:36,420

Then the German, with  
the white gloves.

761

00:39:36,420 --> 00:39:42,360

In the educated world,  
was staying and said, no,

762

00:39:42,360 --> 00:39:45,630

you cannot stay here one child.

763

00:39:45,630 --> 00:39:47,700

You're going to go with them.

764

00:39:47,700 --> 00:39:51,210

And the parents were kneeling.

765

00:39:51,210 --> 00:39:51,960

I had an uncle.

766

00:39:51,960 --> 00:39:55,110

He had two kids.

767

00:39:55,110 --> 00:39:58,860

And they knew that the kids  
were going first from everybody,

768

00:39:58,860 --> 00:40:01,920

you know, kids.

769

00:40:01,920 --> 00:40:08,182

We took-- we had a  
storage from newspapers.



770

00:40:08,182 --> 00:40:13,410

So we took ten small  
kids, and put away

771

00:40:13,410 --> 00:40:15,600

in the back of the paper.

772

00:40:15,600 --> 00:40:18,870

They were seven-year-old,  
10-year-old,

773

00:40:18,870 --> 00:40:21,480

with the baby who  
couldn't do nothing.

774

00:40:21,480 --> 00:40:23,410

But it was crying.

775

00:40:23,410 --> 00:40:26,730

And they put it in the  
back of the papers.

776

00:40:26,730 --> 00:40:29,230

And we told them to be quiet.

777

00:40:29,230 --> 00:40:33,390

And we kept them  
for a couple days.

778

00:40:33,390 --> 00:40:35,370

They took away all  
the small kids.

779

00:40:35,370 --> 00:40:38,310

And these 11 kids  
were left over.

780

00:40:38,310 --> 00:40:39,040

This is a year

781

00:40:39,040 --> 00:40:44,550

My uncle's two kids,

a daughter and a son--

782

00:40:44,550 --> 00:40:49,230

he was maybe 10, and  
she was maybe 8--

783

00:40:49,230 --> 00:40:53,340

and a few people, what's  
left of the kids behind.

784

00:40:53,340 --> 00:40:56,830

And they were not satisfied.

785

00:40:56,830 --> 00:41:00,600

They were not happy that  
all the kids are out.

786

00:41:00,600 --> 00:41:04,410

And three days later,  
they came, the Germans.

787

00:41:04,410 --> 00:41:06,450

They surrounded again.

788

00:41:06,450 --> 00:41:12,120

And they put in German  
shepherds, dogs.

789

00:41:12,120 --> 00:41:18,050

And these dogs got all the  
kids out from every corner

790

00:41:18,050 --> 00:41:19,980

where they hide.

791

00:41:19,980 --> 00:41:23,370

Some family hide a couple  
of kids in the attic.

792

00:41:23,370 --> 00:41:28,050

Or on a-- on a back room.

793

00:41:28,050 --> 00:41:33,490  
But they cleaned out,  
and not one kid was left.

794  
00:41:33,490 --> 00:41:37,320  
He didn't-- they didn't  
took them too far,

795  
00:41:37,320 --> 00:41:42,690  
one mile away like to  
[? Morris ?] Avenue.

796  
00:41:42,690 --> 00:41:45,040  
He didn't use bullets for them.

797  
00:41:45,040 --> 00:41:47,130  
It was too dear.

798  
00:41:47,130 --> 00:41:52,850  
They choked them  
with white powder.

799  
00:41:52,850 --> 00:41:56,928  
We were were staying, and  
screaming, and crying.

800  
00:41:56,928 --> 00:41:58,970  
We couldn't cry in the  
window but the [INAUDIBLE]

801  
00:41:58,970 --> 00:42:00,500  
should announce.

802  
00:42:00,500 --> 00:42:08,090  
But can you imagine the  
cry and the [? hurts ?]

803  
00:42:08,090 --> 00:42:12,440  
from the parents who  
were staying and looking.

804  
00:42:12,440 --> 00:42:15,680  
And this was-- they

clean out the Judenrein

805

00:42:15,680 --> 00:42:16,810  
for the Jewish children.

806

00:42:16,810 --> 00:42:20,290

807

00:42:20,290 --> 00:42:22,240  
Then they were left.

808

00:42:22,240 --> 00:42:24,460  
People got panicky.

809

00:42:24,460 --> 00:42:29,440  
And they start to  
think we run away.

810

00:42:29,440 --> 00:42:31,900  
The intelligent  
people what were left,

811

00:42:31,900 --> 00:42:34,690  
they had poison with themselves.

812

00:42:34,690 --> 00:42:39,860  
They had tablets in  
order to take their life.

813

00:42:39,860 --> 00:42:42,010  
I know a druggist.

814

00:42:42,010 --> 00:42:42,640  
who survived.

815

00:42:42,640 --> 00:42:45,070  
He had poison prepared.

816

00:42:45,070 --> 00:42:49,240  
To demand that the bullets  
in the [? bank ?] over there.

817

00:42:49,240 --> 00:42:53,950

But people start to run away  
a little bit from the ghetto.

818

00:42:53,950 --> 00:42:57,090

It wasn't easy.

819

00:42:57,090 --> 00:43:01,050

But it was surrounded  
with wires, high wires

820

00:43:01,050 --> 00:43:03,180

And the wires were electric--

821

00:43:03,180 --> 00:43:05,160

electric.

822

00:43:05,160 --> 00:43:08,893

Who touched just the wire  
was killed automatically.

823

00:43:08,893 --> 00:43:10,560

There's only one  
entrance to the ghetto.

824

00:43:10,560 --> 00:43:12,360

One entrance to the  
ghetto but there

825

00:43:12,360 --> 00:43:17,850

was an army [? mistake. ?]  
But we had a little connection

826

00:43:17,850 --> 00:43:19,730

with the gentile people.

827

00:43:19,730 --> 00:43:21,240

where we worked.

828

00:43:21,240 --> 00:43:24,780

And they came to pick up  
these things like the hats,

829  
00:43:24,780 --> 00:43:28,650  
like the shoes, like the fur.

830  
00:43:28,650 --> 00:43:31,580  
Those who used to come  
in and save for money,

831  
00:43:31,580 --> 00:43:36,930  
they used to bring you a piece  
of bread, onion, something

832  
00:43:36,930 --> 00:43:41,610  
you couldn't live, It  
went on like a gentle,

833  
00:43:41,610 --> 00:43:43,395  
you know, together,  
we made business.

834  
00:43:43,395 --> 00:43:47,990

835  
00:43:47,990 --> 00:43:53,422  
One girl, she has a sister  
in [Place name] river.

836  
00:43:53,422 --> 00:43:54,755  
This is a dentist, the daughter.

837  
00:43:54,755 --> 00:43:57,680

838  
00:43:57,680 --> 00:44:00,260  
The parents were killed.

839  
00:44:00,260 --> 00:44:04,190  
Her sister was so beautiful  
that Miss America,

840  
00:44:04,190 --> 00:44:09,260  
you cannot find such

beautiful girl, intelligent.

841

00:44:09,260 --> 00:44:14,450

She ran out from the  
ghetto, with a gentile.

842

00:44:14,450 --> 00:44:17,420

And they caught her right away.

843

00:44:17,420 --> 00:44:20,750

And they brought her  
back in the ghetto.

844

00:44:20,750 --> 00:44:25,280

And they hang her on a  
tree, this beautiful girl.

845

00:44:25,280 --> 00:44:29,540

They cut off her breast, naked.

846

00:44:29,540 --> 00:44:32,360

They pushed in a stick.

847

00:44:32,360 --> 00:44:34,940

I can't tell you where.

848

00:44:34,940 --> 00:44:39,260

And they made scared the  
other people to not to move.

849

00:44:39,260 --> 00:44:42,957

850

00:44:42,957 --> 00:44:44,290

Later they caught an other girl.

851

00:44:44,290 --> 00:44:46,840

But I saw her sister  
now in Israel.

852

00:44:46,840 --> 00:44:49,540

She was more beautiful girl.

853  
00:44:49,540 --> 00:44:53,560  
And we saw already that it's  
not going to be good for us too.

854  
00:44:53,560 --> 00:44:56,410  
But it's going to come  
to us the end too.

855  
00:44:56,410 --> 00:44:58,180  
They're going to kill us anyway.

856  
00:44:58,180 --> 00:45:00,480  
We lived with panicky.

857  
00:45:00,480 --> 00:45:03,100  
We lived day by day.

858  
00:45:03,100 --> 00:45:04,860  
One day, we organized ourself.

859  
00:45:04,860 --> 00:45:10,570  
And we were thinking maybe  
we'll just open the doors

860  
00:45:10,570 --> 00:45:13,930  
and kill the German and run.

861  
00:45:13,930 --> 00:45:16,670  
Who's going to be alive  
is going be alive.

862  
00:45:16,670 --> 00:45:20,850  
Who will not go alive  
will die anyway.

863  
00:45:20,850 --> 00:45:23,470  
Do you remember  
what date that was,

864  
00:45:23,470 --> 00:45:25,180  
not the exact date



but the month.

865  
00:45:25,180 --> 00:45:34,030  
This was like in 1940 end  
of 1942, beginning 1943.

866  
00:45:34,030 --> 00:45:35,632  
And--

867  
00:45:35,632 --> 00:45:37,590  
Was he in charge of  
getting everybody together?

868  
00:45:37,590 --> 00:45:38,330  
Yes.

869  
00:45:38,330 --> 00:45:38,830  
Yes.

870  
00:45:38,830 --> 00:45:42,850  
This was a couple of  
boys from the Judenrat

871  
00:45:42,850 --> 00:45:45,310  
And they were organized.

872  
00:45:45,310 --> 00:45:48,700  
So you know the mother  
from the one boy,

873  
00:45:48,700 --> 00:45:51,430  
but he was killed anyway.

874  
00:45:51,430 --> 00:45:52,870  
She started to cry.

875  
00:45:52,870 --> 00:45:55,660  
But you're going  
to open the doors.

876  
00:45:55,660 --> 00:46:00,850  
First you're going to kill my

son, that he organized this.

877

00:46:00,850 --> 00:46:03,190

Anyway, I don't know  
if they find out,

878

00:46:03,190 --> 00:46:04,970

if he had somebody  
to say, you know,

879

00:46:04,970 --> 00:46:08,720

every Jew wants to  
protect himself.

880

00:46:08,720 --> 00:46:11,750

So I think if I'm going  
to tell something,

881

00:46:11,750 --> 00:46:13,230

maybe I'm going to be alive.

882

00:46:13,230 --> 00:46:15,790

883

00:46:15,790 --> 00:46:20,000

You cannot blame  
nobody in that time.

884

00:46:20,000 --> 00:46:23,710

But it was not a  
normal time of life.

885

00:46:23,710 --> 00:46:28,120

Anyway one morning, the camp and  
the rest of all the Judenrat.

886

00:46:28,120 --> 00:46:30,490

I just want to-- you  
said there's a gathering.

887

00:46:30,490 --> 00:46:32,170

And people came  
together to discuss.

888  
00:46:32,170 --> 00:46:33,310  
Yes.

889  
00:46:33,310 --> 00:46:34,300  
No everybody.

890  
00:46:34,300 --> 00:46:36,185  
Not everybody, but  
the top leaders.

891  
00:46:36,185 --> 00:46:38,170  
The top leaders,  
They're the top leaders.

892  
00:46:38,170 --> 00:46:40,340  
Were you there or  
anybody from your family?

893  
00:46:40,340 --> 00:46:44,050  
My brother was there,  
the top young leaders.

894  
00:46:44,050 --> 00:46:45,930  
It's going to be, anyway--

895  
00:46:45,930 --> 00:46:49,780  
and to us, let's maybe  
try to open the door,

896  
00:46:49,780 --> 00:46:56,410  
to kill that German and to run,  
any way better dying running,

897  
00:46:56,410 --> 00:47:00,760  
like to take you with  
the bullets to the grave.

898  
00:47:00,760 --> 00:47:05,410  
The mother from this  
organizater, she was crying.

899

00:47:05,410 --> 00:47:08,080  
She's screaming, I'm going  
to go to the Germans.

900  
00:47:08,080 --> 00:47:11,890  
And I'll tell if you're  
going to try to do this.

901  
00:47:11,890 --> 00:47:14,710  
Anyway, they find out that  
there's something moving around

902  
00:47:14,710 --> 00:47:15,400  
in the ghetto.

903  
00:47:15,400 --> 00:47:18,420

904  
00:47:18,420 --> 00:47:25,800  
And they tried to build in the  
ghetto, like a hiding place,

905  
00:47:25,800 --> 00:47:30,390  
like the our room,  
we are ten families.

906  
00:47:30,390 --> 00:47:33,880  
They digged under  
the floor something,

907  
00:47:33,880 --> 00:47:36,900  
WE couldn't put away  
the dirt outside.

908  
00:47:36,900 --> 00:47:38,970  
They would find out.

909  
00:47:38,970 --> 00:47:42,960  
So we put away in double walls.

910  
00:47:42,960 --> 00:47:46,170  
If something will  
come, a killing,

911  
00:47:46,170 --> 00:47:48,540  
again, it's going  
to come, they'll

912  
00:47:48,540 --> 00:47:52,050  
run down to the hiding place.

913  
00:47:52,050 --> 00:47:53,970  
Who's going to be alive?

914  
00:47:53,970 --> 00:47:56,580  
Mostly, the mothers,  
the fathers.

915  
00:47:56,580 --> 00:47:59,160  
People were afraid not  
so much for the young

916  
00:47:59,160 --> 00:48:02,460  
for they can't work yet.

917  
00:48:02,460 --> 00:48:06,090  
But you can never expect this.

918  
00:48:06,090 --> 00:48:07,830  
You know why?

919  
00:48:07,830 --> 00:48:11,370  
Well, they came all of a  
sudden when you are sleeping,

920  
00:48:11,370 --> 00:48:14,760  
when you didn't expect him.

921  
00:48:14,760 --> 00:48:18,510  
And all of a sudden, 4  
o'clock in the morning.

922  
00:48:18,510 --> 00:48:21,840  
When everybody doesn't  
know what's going on.

923

00:48:21,840 --> 00:48:23,790

They're surrounding you.

924

00:48:23,790 --> 00:48:26,640

And they're telling  
everybody out.

925

00:48:26,640 --> 00:48:31,470

And they come in the rooms with  
the dogs, the German shepherd,

926

00:48:31,470 --> 00:48:33,360

and with the guns.

927

00:48:33,360 --> 00:48:36,840

And you're going out the  
back-- in the back yard.

928

00:48:36,840 --> 00:48:40,410

A girl, she saw outside toilet.

929

00:48:40,410 --> 00:48:44,220

She lives now here  
in the United States.

930

00:48:44,220 --> 00:48:48,450

So she ran in in the toilet.

931

00:48:48,450 --> 00:48:51,270

It was outside for the--

932

00:48:51,270 --> 00:48:54,360

not inside, in the toilet.

933

00:48:54,360 --> 00:48:57,180

And she went in the dirt there.

934

00:48:57,180 --> 00:49:00,000

And she was sitting there  
for two or three days.

935

00:49:00,000 --> 00:49:03,470

Later she went out.

936

00:49:03,470 --> 00:49:07,790

And then they cleaned us  
up, that there were just

937

00:49:07,790 --> 00:49:10,100

left maybe 300 people.

938

00:49:10,100 --> 00:49:14,530

939

00:49:14,530 --> 00:49:18,890

Another few people  
ran away to the woods.

940

00:49:18,890 --> 00:49:22,340

They heard that some people  
ran away to the woods.

941

00:49:22,340 --> 00:49:24,950

It was not easy.

942

00:49:24,950 --> 00:49:27,630

But if they caught,  
they shoot you.

943

00:49:27,630 --> 00:49:31,940

They didn't have so much a  
problem yet with the Germans.

944

00:49:31,940 --> 00:49:37,160

But our good Polish friends  
would not cooperate with us.

945

00:49:37,160 --> 00:49:40,250

Very little, a small percentage.

946

00:49:40,250 --> 00:49:44,030

If they would help us,  
a lot of Jewish people

947

00:49:44,030 --> 00:49:51,440  
would be left who had the money,  
maybe some took in 10 or 20.

948

00:49:51,440 --> 00:49:55,250

949

00:49:55,250 --> 00:49:59,690  
Like my husband, he ran  
away from the ghetto.

950

00:49:59,690 --> 00:50:05,720  
He just made a grave for  
himself, a grave for himself,

951

00:50:05,720 --> 00:50:08,910  
for his sister, for his  
brother, and all the family .

952

00:50:08,910 --> 00:50:12,830  
And he went through like  
this, the whole war.

953

00:50:12,830 --> 00:50:14,190  
When did he do it?

954

00:50:14,190 --> 00:50:16,280  
He did this in 1942.

955

00:50:16,280 --> 00:50:18,770  
He saw the first thing,  
then the killing.

956

00:50:18,770 --> 00:50:27,900  
He was a young boy, so he went  
in a little farm in the forest.

957

00:50:27,900 --> 00:50:28,910  
It was not easy.

958

00:50:28,910 --> 00:50:31,130



But you needed to go for food.

959

00:50:31,130 --> 00:50:34,970

And how could he live in  
that cave, in that grave?

960

00:50:34,970 --> 00:50:37,275

The grave was like these  
two families were hiding.

961

00:50:37,275 --> 00:50:42,530

962

00:50:42,530 --> 00:50:46,970

Then they were left  
300, 350 people.

963

00:50:46,970 --> 00:50:52,500

We heard that people are  
going away to the woods.

964

00:50:52,500 --> 00:50:53,580

They wanted to go.

965

00:50:53,580 --> 00:50:56,430

966

00:50:56,430 --> 00:50:57,750

I left too.

967

00:50:57,750 --> 00:50:59,650

One thing yet.

968

00:50:59,650 --> 00:51:02,070

The killings were  
maybe five, six times.

969

00:51:02,070 --> 00:51:03,870

Every time, they  
cleaned up a little bit.

970

00:51:03,870 --> 00:51:06,750

971

00:51:06,750 --> 00:51:11,430

And one morning when  
they came, I skipped one.

972

00:51:11,430 --> 00:51:14,910

And he said that  
you're going to be

973

00:51:14,910 --> 00:51:20,098

all right, you're going to work,  
you're going to live forever.

974

00:51:20,098 --> 00:51:21,390

They're not going to touch you.

975

00:51:21,390 --> 00:51:24,130

976

00:51:24,130 --> 00:51:26,110

And we worked.

977

00:51:26,110 --> 00:51:28,720

My mother, they made the hiding.

978

00:51:28,720 --> 00:51:29,740

She should go down.

979

00:51:29,740 --> 00:51:31,630

It's going to be something.

980

00:51:31,630 --> 00:51:35,110

She should go down  
underground, in the grave.

981

00:51:35,110 --> 00:51:38,320

But nobody had the time.

982

00:51:38,320 --> 00:51:41,050

He took out my mother.

983

00:51:41,050 --> 00:51:43,960

He made, again, right,  
left, right, left.

984

00:51:43,960 --> 00:51:48,010

Every time he made right,  
left, you couldn't be smart,

985

00:51:48,010 --> 00:51:50,800

you couldn't be  
intelligent, you couldn't

986

00:51:50,800 --> 00:51:54,918

think if you would  
have ten heads, what

987

00:51:54,918 --> 00:51:55,960

he is going to do to you.

988

00:51:55,960 --> 00:51:58,480

989

00:51:58,480 --> 00:52:01,420

One time they said, they  
came, and they said,

990

00:52:01,420 --> 00:52:04,370

listen you're all  
going to be alive.

991

00:52:04,370 --> 00:52:05,740

We're going to give you a--

992

00:52:05,740 --> 00:52:07,270

one is going to  
get a better work.

993

00:52:07,270 --> 00:52:09,550

You have two pieces of bread.

994

00:52:09,550 --> 00:52:12,710

And one is going to

be one piece of bread.

995

00:52:12,710 --> 00:52:14,110

Who could eat the bread?

996

00:52:14,110 --> 00:52:16,570

Who [? choked ?] the bread?

997

00:52:16,570 --> 00:52:18,100

Who needed the bread?

998

00:52:18,100 --> 00:52:22,330

But this was another sign that  
there's going to be something.

999

00:52:22,330 --> 00:52:23,020

And he came.

1000

00:52:23,020 --> 00:52:24,910

He says, you go to the left.

1001

00:52:24,910 --> 00:52:26,750

And you go to the right.

1002

00:52:26,750 --> 00:52:28,870

Everything with  
the white gloves,

1003

00:52:28,870 --> 00:52:37,770

everything with the  
manners, intelligent people,

1004

00:52:37,770 --> 00:52:39,835

learned people.

1005

00:52:39,835 --> 00:52:48,000