

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:23,210

2

00:00:23,210 --> 00:00:25,670

My name is Dr. Sidney  
Langer, and I'm

3

00:00:25,670 --> 00:00:27,980

the director of the  
Oral History Project

4

00:00:27,980 --> 00:00:29,750

and the Holocaust  
Studies Resource Center

5

00:00:29,750 --> 00:00:32,090

at Kean College of New Jersey.

6

00:00:32,090 --> 00:00:36,200

I'm very pleased that Mr. Mayer  
Lief, who presently resides

7

00:00:36,200 --> 00:00:39,410

in Elizabeth, New Jersey,  
has come to the college today

8

00:00:39,410 --> 00:00:41,900

to discuss some  
of his experiences

9

00:00:41,900 --> 00:00:42,960

during the Holocaust.

10

00:00:42,960 --> 00:00:46,700

Mr. Lief, I want to thank you  
very much for coming today

11

00:00:46,700 --> 00:00:49,790

to the college to talk to me.

12

00:00:49,790 --> 00:00:53,300

Can you tell me, first,  
when you were born?

13  
00:00:53,300 --> 00:00:59,210  
The month, day, year, the  
town that you were born in,

14  
00:00:59,210 --> 00:01:03,710  
the country, and a little bit  
about life in the town that you

15  
00:01:03,710 --> 00:01:06,730  
grew up in?

16  
00:01:06,730 --> 00:01:08,990  
I was born in Lemberg.

17  
00:01:08,990 --> 00:01:10,220  
Lemberg?

18  
00:01:10,220 --> 00:01:20,200  
In 1908, August 18th.

19  
00:01:20,200 --> 00:01:21,340  
Lemberg was a big town?

20  
00:01:21,340 --> 00:01:23,140  
Lemberg was a large town, yeah.

21  
00:01:23,140 --> 00:01:26,080  
There was about a quarter  
of a million people.

22  
00:01:26,080 --> 00:01:27,560  
Quarter of a million people?

23  
00:01:27,560 --> 00:01:28,060  
Many people.

24  
00:01:28,060 --> 00:01:31,772  
There was a big percentage  
of Jewish people.

25  
00:01:31,772 --> 00:01:32,980  
But what percentage was that?

26  
00:01:32,980 --> 00:01:38,530  
I would say it was about  
30, over 30% Jewish people.

27  
00:01:38,530 --> 00:01:41,990

28  
00:01:41,990 --> 00:01:44,120  
Did you come from  
a large family?

29  
00:01:44,120 --> 00:01:46,850  
Yeah, a large family.

30  
00:01:46,850 --> 00:01:52,940  
My father, we were  
seven brothers.

31  
00:01:52,940 --> 00:01:54,210  
Seven brothers?

32  
00:01:54,210 --> 00:01:56,100  
We were seven brothers.

33  
00:01:56,100 --> 00:01:57,235  
No sisters.

34  
00:01:57,235 --> 00:01:58,690  
No sisters.

35  
00:01:58,690 --> 00:02:00,860  
No.

36  
00:02:00,860 --> 00:02:02,676  
And --

37  
00:02:02,676 --> 00:02:04,590

Yeah, seven brothers.

38

00:02:04,590 --> 00:02:11,430

And so far, I mean,  
now I'm only one left.

39

00:02:11,430 --> 00:02:13,430

That's another thing.

40

00:02:13,430 --> 00:02:19,310

And one of my brothers  
was also in this country.

41

00:02:19,310 --> 00:02:21,290

And--

42

00:02:21,290 --> 00:02:22,610

What brother were you?

43

00:02:22,610 --> 00:02:23,690

One, two, three?

44

00:02:23,690 --> 00:02:25,340

I was number three.

45

00:02:25,340 --> 00:02:28,178

You were number three.

46

00:02:28,178 --> 00:02:29,660

OK.

47

00:02:29,660 --> 00:02:32,570

What did your father  
do in Lemberg?

48

00:02:32,570 --> 00:02:33,740

And your mother?

49

00:02:33,740 --> 00:02:39,350

My father had a, you would  
compare here, like a creamery.

50

00:02:39,350 --> 00:02:42,650

Like a milk dairy business.

51

00:02:42,650 --> 00:02:52,440

And we used to ship all the  
products from around the town,

52

00:02:52,440 --> 00:02:55,840

from the distance,  
even by train,

53

00:02:55,840 --> 00:03:00,310

it was 50, 60 miles, kilometers.

54

00:03:00,310 --> 00:03:03,990

It would come in the  
product, come into the train.

55

00:03:03,990 --> 00:03:06,680

They used to-- people  
would pick it up.

56

00:03:06,680 --> 00:03:10,820

And we had a creamery we  
used to whey processing.

57

00:03:10,820 --> 00:03:14,240

Make it from the milk,  
cheese, and cream.

58

00:03:14,240 --> 00:03:18,130

That was the business  
of my father.

59

00:03:18,130 --> 00:03:20,270

And then we have,  
also, a retail store,

60

00:03:20,270 --> 00:03:24,350

and it was a pretty  
big operation.

61

00:03:24,350 --> 00:03:26,180

Did your brothers  
work in the business?

62

00:03:26,180 --> 00:03:26,340

Did you?

63

00:03:26,340 --> 00:03:26,840

Yeah.

64

00:03:26,840 --> 00:03:28,910

My brother worked  
in the business,

65

00:03:28,910 --> 00:03:32,450

and I was learning a trade.

66

00:03:32,450 --> 00:03:37,910

My other brothers, I  
was learning locksmith.

67

00:03:37,910 --> 00:03:38,840

Let me go back--

68

00:03:38,840 --> 00:03:43,767

This actually helped me, just  
by the surviving, that trade.

69

00:03:43,767 --> 00:03:44,850

That you were a locksmith?

70

00:03:44,850 --> 00:03:50,790

It was very useful, because  
it happened that the Germans

71

00:03:50,790 --> 00:03:52,890

or whatever-- even the Russian--

72

00:03:52,890 --> 00:03:56,120

they was needed  
in mine specialty.

73

00:03:56,120 --> 00:04:01,970

And they was privileging me  
and giving me chances to--

74

00:04:01,970 --> 00:04:03,440

Because you had skills?

75

00:04:03,440 --> 00:04:04,190

I was skilled.

76

00:04:04,190 --> 00:04:09,080

I was happened by the Germans,  
I was very privileged,

77

00:04:09,080 --> 00:04:12,980

because they taken  
Jews from all over.

78

00:04:12,980 --> 00:04:18,649

And I had a pass  
signed by the SS,

79

00:04:18,649 --> 00:04:22,886

and as a needed  
unembellished Jew.

80

00:04:22,886 --> 00:04:26,840

I was needed for their thing,  
and nobody should touch me,

81

00:04:26,840 --> 00:04:30,590

and I was going around from  
one place to the other, freely.

82

00:04:30,590 --> 00:04:35,490

And I see what's going on,  
what was going on at the time.

83

00:04:35,490 --> 00:04:39,710

But you know how they catch  
people, how they shipping,

84

00:04:39,710 --> 00:04:41,510

how they did everything.

85

00:04:41,510 --> 00:04:46,880

And in fact, one time I  
was going from one place

86

00:04:46,880 --> 00:04:48,350

to another.

87

00:04:48,350 --> 00:04:53,425

I met a rabbi with the name of  
one of the sons of our rabbi

88

00:04:53,425 --> 00:04:55,210

in Lemberg.

89

00:04:55,210 --> 00:04:59,560

And one of his sons was Luza.

90

00:04:59,560 --> 00:05:00,950

Luza.

91

00:05:00,950 --> 00:05:06,080

And he was going with his wife,  
and with also his four or five

92

00:05:06,080 --> 00:05:07,380

children.

93

00:05:07,380 --> 00:05:13,800

They was driving to the train.

94

00:05:13,800 --> 00:05:17,720

There was going  
thousands of people.

95

00:05:17,720 --> 00:05:18,800

They didn't ship them.

96

00:05:18,800 --> 00:05:20,960

They would lock up  
certain streets.



97  
00:05:20,960 --> 00:05:24,230  
They just opened the way  
to the train station.

98  
00:05:24,230 --> 00:05:29,390  
And I met him about five  
blocks away from the station,

99  
00:05:29,390 --> 00:05:35,400  
and I talked to him, he  
says he's going to work.

100  
00:05:35,400 --> 00:05:37,300  
You never know what happen.

101  
00:05:37,300 --> 00:05:42,980  
And he hope that he's  
going to be all right.

102  
00:05:42,980 --> 00:05:47,540  
And he went to his death freely  
with his wife and children.

103  
00:05:47,540 --> 00:05:50,750  
Till the station,  
I walked with him.

104  
00:05:50,750 --> 00:05:51,650  
Till the train.

105  
00:05:51,650 --> 00:05:54,620  
And when the train, I just  
didn't go in the train,

106  
00:05:54,620 --> 00:05:57,740  
because I had first thing,  
I had to go to my job.

107  
00:05:57,740 --> 00:05:58,910  
And then they let me out.

108

00:05:58,910 --> 00:06:00,650

And they wouldn't  
let me out, then

109

00:06:00,650 --> 00:06:02,840

I would been just the same  
one, like any other Jew.

110

00:06:02,840 --> 00:06:04,800

What year was this?

111

00:06:04,800 --> 00:06:07,230

That was in 1942.

112

00:06:07,230 --> 00:06:08,460

The beginning of 1942.

113

00:06:08,460 --> 00:06:08,960

OK.

114

00:06:08,960 --> 00:06:11,240

I want to just bring  
you back, and then we'll

115

00:06:11,240 --> 00:06:12,650

come back to the  
story over here.

116

00:06:12,650 --> 00:06:14,900

I want you to tell me, if  
you don't mind, a little bit

117

00:06:14,900 --> 00:06:17,870

about growing up in Lemberg.

118

00:06:17,870 --> 00:06:20,780

What kind of school you  
went to, whether you

119

00:06:20,780 --> 00:06:23,810

were active in any Jewish  
organizations, Jewish youth

120

00:06:23,810 --> 00:06:24,740  
groups.

121

00:06:24,740 --> 00:06:26,430  
Did you go to public school?

122

00:06:26,430 --> 00:06:27,920  
Did you go to  
yeshiva in Lemberg?

123

00:06:27,920 --> 00:06:31,060  
I was going to the  
public school in Lemberg.

124

00:06:31,060 --> 00:06:37,490  
And we also go to, after school  
we used to go to a cheder,

125

00:06:37,490 --> 00:06:40,790  
like a Talmud Torah,  
you know, to learn.

126

00:06:40,790 --> 00:06:50,090  
And you learn Jewish necessary  
thing, like [Hebrew] and then.

127

00:06:50,090 --> 00:06:52,310  
Then we start to learn [Hebrew].

128

00:06:52,310 --> 00:06:58,172  
And then, well, I  
became 13 years old,

129

00:06:58,172 --> 00:07:01,620  
and then I went to  
learn the trade.

130

00:07:01,620 --> 00:07:04,160  
That day that actually--

131

00:07:04,160 --> 00:07:08,670  
I could say that that

trade helped me to survive.

132

00:07:08,670 --> 00:07:12,500  
And what was the relationship  
between the Jewish community

133

00:07:12,500 --> 00:07:14,210  
in Lemberg and the  
non-Jewish community?

134

00:07:14,210 --> 00:07:16,970  
When you were growing  
up, as a young boy.

135

00:07:16,970 --> 00:07:19,100  
When you're in public  
school, six years old, seven,

136

00:07:19,100 --> 00:07:20,970  
good relationship?

137

00:07:20,970 --> 00:07:26,090  
There was always anti-Semitism,  
in Poland, you know,

138

00:07:26,090 --> 00:07:27,350  
against the Jewish.

139

00:07:27,350 --> 00:07:31,340  
But it was pretty decent.

140

00:07:31,340 --> 00:07:36,800  
You lived comfortable,  
and we had

141

00:07:36,800 --> 00:07:39,930  
Polish people working for us.

142

00:07:39,930 --> 00:07:45,680  
And was the relationship,  
well, was not [INAUDIBLE],,

143

00:07:45,680 --> 00:07:48,640  
but it was not bad.

144  
00:07:48,640 --> 00:07:52,690  
It depended with whom  
you was in touch.

145  
00:07:52,690 --> 00:07:55,250  
And then it was all right  
when we were grown up.

146  
00:07:55,250 --> 00:08:01,610  
And it was also time, in Poland,  
it was time like the Senate,

147  
00:08:01,610 --> 00:08:05,600  
and there was Pristerowa,  
one of the senators.

148  
00:08:05,600 --> 00:08:09,200  
And she was very  
much anti-Semitic.

149  
00:08:09,200 --> 00:08:09,950  
You know?

150  
00:08:09,950 --> 00:08:10,760  
And they--

151  
00:08:10,760 --> 00:08:12,680  
What year was this?

152  
00:08:12,680 --> 00:08:15,640  
That was in the '30s.

153  
00:08:15,640 --> 00:08:23,140  
That was when PiÅsudski used to  
hold that thinking, that level,

154  
00:08:23,140 --> 00:08:26,030  
to be the leader of  
the Polish people.

155

00:08:26,030 --> 00:08:28,290  
And they were Jozef PiÅsudski.

156

00:08:28,290 --> 00:08:30,820  
He took over Poland.

157

00:08:30,820 --> 00:08:32,400  
The Jewish had pretty good.

158

00:08:32,400 --> 00:08:37,440  
He was Hasidic, and the Belgian  
Hasidic was his believers,

159

00:08:37,440 --> 00:08:38,799  
and he protect them.

160

00:08:38,799 --> 00:08:42,909  
It was very, pretty  
good relationship.

161

00:08:42,909 --> 00:08:49,310  
Well, when he passed  
away, that was in 19--

162

00:08:49,310 --> 00:08:53,660  
maybe '34 or '35  
when he passed away.

163

00:08:53,660 --> 00:08:56,200  
I don't remember the exact year.

164

00:08:56,200 --> 00:09:01,640  
And they came in, his assistant,  
Rydz-Åmigly And he hasn't got

165

00:09:01,640 --> 00:09:08,120  
no more, you know, the  
friendship, this feeling,

166

00:09:08,120 --> 00:09:09,380  
like this.

167

00:09:09,380 --> 00:09:12,420

And they start being  
more into submitting,

168

00:09:12,420 --> 00:09:14,440

and with the schools.

169

00:09:14,440 --> 00:09:16,100

The index, they called it.

170

00:09:16,100 --> 00:09:17,960

The college, they called.

171

00:09:17,960 --> 00:09:23,363

They used to go around on the  
streets and hit Jewish people.

172

00:09:23,363 --> 00:09:24,530

This is already in the mid--

173

00:09:24,530 --> 00:09:27,060

That was already,  
we're talking in--

174

00:09:27,060 --> 00:09:28,540

The mid-1930s?

175

00:09:28,540 --> 00:09:29,830

The '30s.

176

00:09:29,830 --> 00:09:34,900

After PiÅ¸sudski's death,  
that thing happened.

177

00:09:34,900 --> 00:09:38,790

OK Let me, again, I'm  
going to come back.

178

00:09:38,790 --> 00:09:40,760

We're going to come  
back to that time.

179

00:09:40,760 --> 00:09:43,040

I want to go back, so  
a little bit further.

180

00:09:43,040 --> 00:09:44,930

Your family was an  
orthodox family?

181

00:09:44,930 --> 00:09:47,330

An orthodox family, yeah.

182

00:09:47,330 --> 00:09:49,620

We lived in the  
center of the city

183

00:09:49,620 --> 00:09:52,280

in Lemberg, in [Place Name].

184

00:09:52,280 --> 00:09:54,400

And the number was 31.

185

00:09:54,400 --> 00:09:57,500

And we also have the  
business in that street.

186

00:09:57,500 --> 00:10:03,660

And with our business was  
very known almost in Lemberg.

187

00:10:03,660 --> 00:10:08,300

The business, my mother's  
name was Kensche.

188

00:10:08,300 --> 00:10:11,350

And her name, the business  
was known Kensche.

189

00:10:11,350 --> 00:10:15,710

Everybody in the city,  
if anybody says Kensche,

190

00:10:15,710 --> 00:10:18,890



they know that this  
is a kosher place.

191  
00:10:18,890 --> 00:10:22,940  
They could buy a kosher milk,  
a kosher butter, kosher cheese.

192  
00:10:22,940 --> 00:10:26,260  
That was the reputation.

193  
00:10:26,260 --> 00:10:30,190  
And right next to us  
was Blachoska street.

194  
00:10:30,190 --> 00:10:32,660  
Named Blachoska There  
had been [INAUDIBLE]

195  
00:10:32,660 --> 00:10:39,090  
there, and now a rabbi  
Lemberg, was Rabbi Ziff.

196  
00:10:39,090 --> 00:10:39,800  
Ziff?

197  
00:10:39,800 --> 00:10:40,360  
Ziff.

198  
00:10:40,360 --> 00:10:44,390  
And he had a son, a  
doctor, also his assistant.

199  
00:10:44,390 --> 00:10:48,440  
A very highly orthodox rabbi.

200  
00:10:48,440 --> 00:10:56,330  
And it was a very  
big orthodox dayananim.

201  
00:10:56,330 --> 00:10:57,440  
Judges?

202

00:10:57,440 --> 00:10:58,210  
The judges.

203  
00:10:58,210 --> 00:11:00,502  
There were [Personal Name],  
the family [Personal name].

204  
00:11:00,502 --> 00:11:03,300  
There was a man,  
at that time, must

205  
00:11:03,300 --> 00:11:07,540  
have been 70, 80 years old.

206  
00:11:07,540 --> 00:11:08,450  
He had sons.

207  
00:11:08,450 --> 00:11:09,740  
He got four or five sons.

208  
00:11:09,740 --> 00:11:11,540  
There was very high.

209  
00:11:11,540 --> 00:11:14,720  
There was the dayanim  
and the beth din,

210  
00:11:14,720 --> 00:11:16,190  
you know, by Rabbi Ziff.

211  
00:11:16,190 --> 00:11:18,040  
The judges in the  
Jewish court of law?

212  
00:11:18,040 --> 00:11:19,600  
The judges in the Jewish court.

213  
00:11:19,600 --> 00:11:23,750  
And right around, in our  
neighborhood, was shuls.

214  
00:11:23,750 --> 00:11:26,150

There was a shul, a  
very historical shul.

215  
00:11:26,150 --> 00:11:31,490  
They call the golden shul.

216  
00:11:31,490 --> 00:11:34,240

217  
00:11:34,240 --> 00:11:37,540  
[NON-ENGLISH].

218  
00:11:37,540 --> 00:11:38,270  
That means--

219  
00:11:38,270 --> 00:11:40,910  
The gold Torah.

220  
00:11:40,910 --> 00:11:41,950  
The golden Torah.

221  
00:11:41,950 --> 00:11:44,260  
But that was the  
name of the shul.

222  
00:11:44,260 --> 00:11:45,790  
Who was the rabbi  
of at that shul?

223  
00:11:45,790 --> 00:11:46,730  
Rabbi Ziff.

224  
00:11:46,730 --> 00:11:49,470  
So he was also the rabbi.

225  
00:11:49,470 --> 00:11:51,020  
It was not that here, the rabbi.

226  
00:11:51,020 --> 00:11:53,980  
Well, the rabbi, he was a rabbi  
for the whole city, you know.

227

00:11:53,980 --> 00:11:54,790

He was not--

228

00:11:54,790 --> 00:11:56,580

How do you spell, do you  
know how to spell his name?

229

00:11:56,580 --> 00:11:57,080

Ziff?

230

00:11:57,080 --> 00:11:57,920

Ziff?

231

00:11:57,920 --> 00:12:04,020

Z-I-F-F.

232

00:12:04,020 --> 00:12:05,720

Rabbi Ziff.

233

00:12:05,720 --> 00:12:06,380

OK.

234

00:12:06,380 --> 00:12:09,860

Did you belong to any  
youth organizations

235

00:12:09,860 --> 00:12:11,940

when you were  
growing up in Poland?

236

00:12:11,940 --> 00:12:18,100

When we were growing  
up, we belonged

237

00:12:18,100 --> 00:12:21,980

to Zionist organizations.

238

00:12:21,980 --> 00:12:23,510

Zionist organizations?

239

00:12:23,510 --> 00:12:28,070

We had it and, that was  
right on our street.

240  
00:12:28,070 --> 00:12:30,410  
Also on [Place name].

241  
00:12:30,410 --> 00:12:38,960  
Number 50 was a Zionist  
organization where we belonged.

242  
00:12:38,960 --> 00:12:44,620  
What age were you when  
you joined this group?

243  
00:12:44,620 --> 00:12:47,000  
Maybe 18?

244  
00:12:47,000 --> 00:12:48,560  
18, 19?

245  
00:12:48,560 --> 00:12:50,260  
There was a few years, you know.

246  
00:12:50,260 --> 00:12:53,060  
Till I entered the army, and  
then I came back from the army.

247  
00:12:53,060 --> 00:12:54,500  
OK.

248  
00:12:54,500 --> 00:12:56,462  
I'm going to bring  
you back again.

249  
00:12:56,462 --> 00:12:58,920  
You started trade school, you  
said, when you were about 13?

250  
00:12:58,920 --> 00:13:00,060  
About 13, yeah.

251  
00:13:00,060 --> 00:13:00,920

OK.

252

00:13:00,920 --> 00:13:02,890

And you went to trade  
school and you learned--

253

00:13:02,890 --> 00:13:04,050

I learned--

254

00:13:04,050 --> 00:13:05,260

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

255

00:13:05,260 --> 00:13:06,750

This was a locksmith.

256

00:13:06,750 --> 00:13:08,890

They called him a locksmith.

257

00:13:08,890 --> 00:13:16,220

He did all kinds of work,  
all construction work, gates,

258

00:13:16,220 --> 00:13:19,850

cellar doors, sliding doors.

259

00:13:19,850 --> 00:13:20,740

All kind of work.

260

00:13:20,740 --> 00:13:25,600

But also specialize in locks.

261

00:13:25,600 --> 00:13:30,380

They call [INAUDIBLE].

262

00:13:30,380 --> 00:13:35,935

In German, the [INAUDIBLE],,  
like [POLISH] Polish.

263

00:13:35,935 --> 00:13:39,890

264

00:13:39,890 --> 00:13:44,150

And then, that was  
the thing when I--

265

00:13:44,150 --> 00:13:45,100

That saved you later?

266

00:13:45,100 --> 00:13:49,330

I have to be thankful,  
because maybe this helped

267

00:13:49,330 --> 00:13:50,590

me to survive.

268

00:13:50,590 --> 00:13:55,660

Because who knows why I survived  
more than any other one.

269

00:13:55,660 --> 00:13:58,000

You went to vocational  
school from what ages?

270

00:13:58,000 --> 00:13:59,440

From 13-year-old to--

271

00:13:59,440 --> 00:14:02,340

13, four years  
was we had to work

272

00:14:02,340 --> 00:14:05,347

without paying for four years.

273

00:14:05,347 --> 00:14:06,680

Your parents had to support you.

274

00:14:06,680 --> 00:14:08,500

You were going to school and  
working at the same time?

275

00:14:08,500 --> 00:14:09,310

That's not school.

276

00:14:09,310 --> 00:14:10,180  
That's a trade.

277  
00:14:10,180 --> 00:14:12,840  
Yeah, well, a vocation.

278  
00:14:12,840 --> 00:14:17,350  
We work full day work,  
and then, in the evening,

279  
00:14:17,350 --> 00:14:22,040  
you go into school  
for the details.

280  
00:14:22,040 --> 00:14:27,660  
But during the day, you work  
just like a worker in the shop.

281  
00:14:27,660 --> 00:14:32,680  
So when you were 13 years old,  
you were working in the shop?

282  
00:14:32,680 --> 00:14:34,710  
Working and learning the trade.

283  
00:14:34,710 --> 00:14:36,700  
You do everything.

284  
00:14:36,700 --> 00:14:37,540  
OK.

285  
00:14:37,540 --> 00:14:41,170  
Now you said something  
about going to the army.

286  
00:14:41,170 --> 00:14:45,260  
And then, when I  
was 20 years old,

287  
00:14:45,260 --> 00:14:49,890  
I was going to pass  
the examination.



288

00:14:49,890 --> 00:14:53,140

And I hoped I wouldn't  
pass, but I did pass.

289

00:14:53,140 --> 00:14:56,360

And I went to the  
army, and I was 19.

290

00:14:56,360 --> 00:14:57,700

Did you have to go to the army?

291

00:14:57,700 --> 00:14:59,810

You have to go to the army.

292

00:14:59,810 --> 00:15:02,110

I was not volunteering.

293

00:15:02,110 --> 00:15:04,630

You have to go.

294

00:15:04,630 --> 00:15:05,810

You went to the Polish army?

295

00:15:05,810 --> 00:15:12,910

I went to the Polish army and  
I was in the city Kolomea.

296

00:15:12,910 --> 00:15:14,820

I was there for two years.

297

00:15:14,820 --> 00:15:17,740

298

00:15:17,740 --> 00:15:24,880

In 1929.

299

00:15:24,880 --> 00:15:27,670

In '30, I was in the army.

300

00:15:27,670 --> 00:15:29,050

What was the name of that city?

301  
00:15:29,050 --> 00:15:35,583  
Kolomea This is not far  
from the Romanian border.

302  
00:15:35,583 --> 00:15:37,750  
What were you doing in the  
army for those two years?

303  
00:15:37,750 --> 00:15:43,240  
In the army I was, training  
for just the regular things.

304  
00:15:43,240 --> 00:15:47,180  
I also would ski  
in the ski brigade.

305  
00:15:47,180 --> 00:15:51,040  
And I was picked  
at the ski brigade.

306  
00:15:51,040 --> 00:16:03,630  
And then I also was working  
fixing the tools for the army.

307  
00:16:03,630 --> 00:16:06,090  
Like the carbine how would  
you call it, the machine --

308  
00:16:06,090 --> 00:16:06,780  
you know.

309  
00:16:06,780 --> 00:16:07,420  
Machine gun.

310  
00:16:07,420 --> 00:16:08,230  
Machine guns.

311  
00:16:08,230 --> 00:16:12,210  
And it was working and  
this called [INAUDIBLE]..

312

00:16:12,210 --> 00:16:18,460  
This means the name of it is  
whatever the army needs to be

313  
00:16:18,460 --> 00:16:21,500  
repaired, or whatever happen.

314  
00:16:21,500 --> 00:16:22,900  
I also was for that.

315  
00:16:22,900 --> 00:16:25,470

316  
00:16:25,470 --> 00:16:28,620  
So most of it has  
to do with my trade.

317  
00:16:28,620 --> 00:16:31,630  
Were there many Jewish men  
in the Polish army with you?

318  
00:16:31,630 --> 00:16:32,540  
In the Polish army?

319  
00:16:32,540 --> 00:16:33,040  
Yeah.

320  
00:16:33,040 --> 00:16:34,430  
Many Jewish people.

321  
00:16:34,430 --> 00:16:36,210  
A lot of Jewish people.

322  
00:16:36,210 --> 00:16:41,580  
In my company was  
at least 12 Jewish.

323  
00:16:41,580 --> 00:16:51,400  
A company was how  
was about 150 men.

324  
00:16:51,400 --> 00:16:52,190

Platoon.

325

00:16:52,190 --> 00:16:55,240

A platoon had 12 people, and  
it was about 12 platoons.

326

00:16:55,240 --> 00:16:59,960

327

00:16:59,960 --> 00:17:07,410

I had boys from Krakow with  
the name Lefkovitz, one

328

00:17:07,410 --> 00:17:15,339

and there was from Tarnow, near  
Krakow, with name of Spiro.

329

00:17:15,339 --> 00:17:19,435

There was and then  
was [Personal Name].

330

00:17:19,435 --> 00:17:22,189

This is [Personal Name].

331

00:17:22,189 --> 00:17:25,319

There was all kind, and they was  
from the nearby Lemberg, also,

332

00:17:25,319 --> 00:17:28,390

was lots of people, Jewish boys.

333

00:17:28,390 --> 00:17:31,120

Was there a good  
relationship in the army

334

00:17:31,120 --> 00:17:34,790

between the Jewish soldiers  
and the non-Jewish soldiers?

335

00:17:34,790 --> 00:17:36,160

Was good relations.

336

00:17:36,160 --> 00:17:36,970  
Was no problem.

337  
00:17:36,970 --> 00:17:43,690  
Only one thing, it was  
Sunday when the Polish people

338  
00:17:43,690 --> 00:17:45,160  
went to church.

339  
00:17:45,160 --> 00:17:48,520  
So they used to pick  
up the Jewish people

340  
00:17:48,520 --> 00:17:50,830  
to clean whatever  
has to be cleaned.

341  
00:17:50,830 --> 00:17:51,600  
you know.

342  
00:17:51,600 --> 00:17:54,460  
Well, were you able on  
Saturday to have any services?

343  
00:17:54,460 --> 00:17:58,887  
Saturday, Friday night, they  
sent you to the synagogue.

344  
00:17:58,887 --> 00:17:59,470  
They sent you.

345  
00:17:59,470 --> 00:18:02,860  
They organized for  
the whole company.

346  
00:18:02,860 --> 00:18:04,470  
Even if you want,  
if you don't want.

347  
00:18:04,470 --> 00:18:09,060  
Was picked up Friday to  
go to service to the city.

348  
00:18:09,060 --> 00:18:11,480  
So even if you didn't want  
to go to the synagogue--

349  
00:18:11,480 --> 00:18:15,970  
Some people that  
was Jewish, you get

350  
00:18:15,970 --> 00:18:22,340  
to get all the Jewish  
people, all the officers

351  
00:18:22,340 --> 00:18:24,730  
would bring them down, and  
then later bring them back

352  
00:18:24,730 --> 00:18:26,770  
after the service.

353  
00:18:26,770 --> 00:18:29,410  
And Saturday, the same thing.

354  
00:18:29,410 --> 00:18:30,410  
That's very interesting.

355  
00:18:30,410 --> 00:18:34,280  
They was very decent.

356  
00:18:34,280 --> 00:18:35,330  
Yeah.

357  
00:18:35,330 --> 00:18:36,950  
What year did you  
get out of the army?

358  
00:18:36,950 --> 00:18:39,470  
1931 or '30?

359  
00:18:39,470 --> 00:18:43,440  
Must have been 1931.

360

00:18:43,440 --> 00:18:44,732  
1931.

361

00:18:44,732 --> 00:18:46,690  
OK, what happened when  
you got out of the army?

362

00:18:46,690 --> 00:18:48,500  
You went back to Lemberg?

363

00:18:48,500 --> 00:18:50,050  
I went back.

364

00:18:50,050 --> 00:18:51,070  
I went back to home.

365

00:18:51,070 --> 00:18:52,480  
To home?

366

00:18:52,480 --> 00:18:53,260  
To home.

367

00:18:53,260 --> 00:18:58,550  
And then I was working  
in the business.

368

00:18:58,550 --> 00:19:06,880  
I was with my mother  
and my father working.

369

00:19:06,880 --> 00:19:11,160  
And like I said, we had  
many people working.

370

00:19:11,160 --> 00:19:13,810  
A very big operation.

371

00:19:13,810 --> 00:19:18,250  
Because we had all those  
farmers, what they send

372

00:19:18,250 --> 00:19:19,690  
us is their milk.

373  
00:19:19,690 --> 00:19:23,320  
And every farm,  
we kept a man who

374  
00:19:23,320 --> 00:19:28,090  
worked for us to watch that  
the milk is going straight

375  
00:19:28,090 --> 00:19:35,080  
from the milking place to the  
cooler under the supervisor

376  
00:19:35,080 --> 00:19:40,480  
from that man what he was  
picked by us as a [INAUDIBLE]..

377  
00:19:40,480 --> 00:19:42,010  
As a supervisor.

378  
00:19:42,010 --> 00:19:45,520  
And every place where  
we got the milk,

379  
00:19:45,520 --> 00:19:49,990  
we had Jewish men to  
supervise the kashrut.

380  
00:19:49,990 --> 00:19:53,420

381  
00:19:53,420 --> 00:19:55,960  
And they used to be shipped.

382  
00:19:55,960 --> 00:19:59,080  
Everything shipped then  
under the [INAUDIBLE]..

383  
00:19:59,080 --> 00:20:01,610



384

00:20:01,610 --> 00:20:04,860

We really had and  
everything was approved.

385

00:20:04,860 --> 00:20:12,370

Definitely, our place  
was, anybody that

386

00:20:12,370 --> 00:20:15,450

was a very religious people.

387

00:20:15,450 --> 00:20:17,590

And there was a lot  
of religious people.

388

00:20:17,590 --> 00:20:27,970

The rabbi, and those judges,  
they was buying both.

389

00:20:27,970 --> 00:20:31,330

And a fellow named Haberstatter.

390

00:20:31,330 --> 00:20:31,940

Very big.

391

00:20:31,940 --> 00:20:33,520

They still have two sons.

392

00:20:33,520 --> 00:20:36,880

I think one is in America  
and one is in Belgium.

393

00:20:36,880 --> 00:20:40,480

They used to buy  
both definitely.

394

00:20:40,480 --> 00:20:42,490

From far away, they lived.

395

00:20:42,490 --> 00:20:49,540

They came down to shop with  
the milk and the products.

396  
00:20:49,540 --> 00:20:58,190  
Now Hitler came  
to power in 1933.

397  
00:20:58,190 --> 00:21:00,470  
No, no, but he didn't--

398  
00:21:00,470 --> 00:21:02,420  
No, I know.

399  
00:21:02,420 --> 00:21:06,000  
Still, our business  
was going on till 1939.

400  
00:21:06,000 --> 00:21:06,500  
OK.

401  
00:21:06,500 --> 00:21:13,640  
Did anything happen, though, any  
changes between 1933 and 1939?

402  
00:21:13,640 --> 00:21:16,130  
Were there any  
changes in your town?

403  
00:21:16,130 --> 00:21:21,720  
Any changes in the relationship  
between your family,

404  
00:21:21,720 --> 00:21:24,370  
your friends the  
rest of the town?

405  
00:21:24,370 --> 00:21:26,000  
Were there any changes in laws?

406  
00:21:26,000 --> 00:21:30,170  
You were telling me before  
about Piel, the Polish leader.

407  
00:21:30,170 --> 00:21:31,810

The Polish leader, PiÅsudski.

408

00:21:31,810 --> 00:21:33,570

OK.

409

00:21:33,570 --> 00:21:36,397

So when PiÅsudski died--

410

00:21:36,397 --> 00:21:37,730

He died in what year, you think?

411

00:21:37,730 --> 00:21:45,130

I think that he must  
have died in 1934.

412

00:21:45,130 --> 00:21:49,550

But then so long  
he was living, was

413

00:21:49,550 --> 00:21:52,740

and later, after  
Hitler came into power,

414

00:21:52,740 --> 00:21:56,830

start the bigger  
anti-Semitism in Poland.

415

00:21:56,830 --> 00:21:57,580

In your town?

416

00:21:57,580 --> 00:21:58,160

In the town.

417

00:21:58,160 --> 00:22:01,820

That was the attacking  
day, the college students

418

00:22:01,820 --> 00:22:05,440

start to get organized  
against Jewish.

419

00:22:05,440 --> 00:22:09,450

And there was even a going -- if  
a Jew was going on the street.

420  
00:22:09,450 --> 00:22:10,790  
He was attacked.

421  
00:22:10,790 --> 00:22:12,180  
What year did this start?

422  
00:22:12,180 --> 00:22:15,230  
This start after  
Hitler come to power.

423  
00:22:15,230 --> 00:22:16,850  
So it started '34?

424  
00:22:16,850 --> 00:22:19,150  
'34, '35, '36.

425  
00:22:19,150 --> 00:22:26,030  
It was going on till 1939,  
Hitler started the war

426  
00:22:26,030 --> 00:22:27,620  
and the Russians came in.

427  
00:22:27,620 --> 00:22:32,330  
When Hitler started the war,  
he didn't come in exactly

428  
00:22:32,330 --> 00:22:33,530  
to Lemberg.

429  
00:22:33,530 --> 00:22:37,040  
He made a deal  
with the Russians.

430  
00:22:37,040 --> 00:22:40,100  
The Russians walked into  
Lemberg without war.

431  
00:22:40,100 --> 00:22:43,110

OK, I'm going to stop  
you again for one second.

432  
00:22:43,110 --> 00:22:43,610  
OK?

433  
00:22:43,610 --> 00:22:47,680  
Before 1939, so there are  
changes taking place in town.

434  
00:22:47,680 --> 00:22:50,110  
You were saying in the  
college, for example?

435  
00:22:50,110 --> 00:22:51,490  
And again, the streets.

436  
00:22:51,490 --> 00:22:53,020  
It was not sure.

437  
00:22:53,020 --> 00:22:55,080  
It was a boycott.

438  
00:22:55,080 --> 00:23:00,290  
They agitated,  
don't buy by Jews.

439  
00:23:00,290 --> 00:23:03,150  
It was start very--

440  
00:23:03,150 --> 00:23:06,640  
Did any Jews leave Lemberg?

441  
00:23:06,640 --> 00:23:08,330  
No.

442  
00:23:08,330 --> 00:23:09,830  
I wouldn't say so.

443  
00:23:09,830 --> 00:23:12,830  
Just to halutzim In  
fact, my brother left.

444  
00:23:12,830 --> 00:23:13,700  
[INAUDIBLE]?

445  
00:23:13,700 --> 00:23:17,570  
My brother left in 1936.

446  
00:23:17,570 --> 00:23:19,418  
My brother left to Israel.

447  
00:23:19,418 --> 00:23:20,210  
One of my brothers.

448  
00:23:20,210 --> 00:23:23,150  
So he was part of the  
Zionist movement in 1936?

449  
00:23:23,150 --> 00:23:25,190  
'36, he went to Israel.

450  
00:23:25,190 --> 00:23:30,080  
And he was there  
working, whatever he did.

451  
00:23:30,080 --> 00:23:33,170  
And he's supposed to,  
already, my mother

452  
00:23:33,170 --> 00:23:38,450  
was here in this country,  
because it was 1938.

453  
00:23:38,450 --> 00:23:40,610  
She came here to visit.

454  
00:23:40,610 --> 00:23:41,540  
You have this already.

455  
00:23:41,540 --> 00:23:43,700  
I told that already.

456

00:23:43,700 --> 00:23:46,470  
And then she went to bring  
him from Israel here.

457  
00:23:46,470 --> 00:23:46,970  
Yes.

458  
00:23:46,970 --> 00:23:47,960  
Your mother came.

459  
00:23:47,960 --> 00:23:49,140  
You have to repeat it again.

460  
00:23:49,140 --> 00:23:50,740  
In 1938.

461  
00:23:50,740 --> 00:23:51,990  
She came to the United States?

462  
00:23:51,990 --> 00:23:52,550  
For a visit.

463  
00:23:52,550 --> 00:23:55,370  
For a year visit.

464  
00:23:55,370 --> 00:23:57,840  
She had no difficulty getting  
out of Poland at the time?

465  
00:23:57,840 --> 00:23:59,210  
No, no, she had no difficulty.

466  
00:23:59,210 --> 00:24:00,040  
She got papers.

467  
00:24:00,040 --> 00:24:01,730  
She had no difficulty  
to get out.

468  
00:24:01,730 --> 00:24:06,740  
Anybody could get out,  
especially in 1939.

469

00:24:06,740 --> 00:24:09,230

Everybody could go.

470

00:24:09,230 --> 00:24:16,035

Whoever want to go, because here  
was the World's Fair in 1939.

471

00:24:16,035 --> 00:24:16,910

There was, I'm sorry?

472

00:24:16,910 --> 00:24:18,290

The World's Fair was here.

473

00:24:18,290 --> 00:24:19,850

The World's Fair.

474

00:24:19,850 --> 00:24:22,250

And everybody who  
want to go, who

475

00:24:22,250 --> 00:24:27,140

has only some security there  
in Poland, a house, whatever,

476

00:24:27,140 --> 00:24:29,120

could go to this country.

477

00:24:29,120 --> 00:24:32,770

And our friends did go  
here, to this country.

478

00:24:32,770 --> 00:24:37,460

Like was a family, Fish  
who lived, our neighbors.

479

00:24:37,460 --> 00:24:40,800

She went to visit the World's  
Fair, here to this country.

480

00:24:40,800 --> 00:24:44,300

She left there the husband



and the three children.

481  
00:24:44,300 --> 00:24:49,780  
She left her son a doctor,  
and two grown up girls.

482  
00:24:49,780 --> 00:24:52,400  
And they all disappeared.

483  
00:24:52,400 --> 00:24:53,360  
She survived here.

484  
00:24:53,360 --> 00:24:56,900  
When I came to this country,  
I still saw here here.

485  
00:24:56,900 --> 00:24:57,788  
I visit her.

486  
00:24:57,788 --> 00:25:04,070

487  
00:25:04,070 --> 00:25:05,590  
Yeah, she went in 1939.

488  
00:25:05,590 --> 00:25:07,120  
For the World's Fair.

489  
00:25:07,120 --> 00:25:10,410  
And then I came here in 1945.

490  
00:25:10,410 --> 00:25:11,720  
Let me stop you again.

491  
00:25:11,720 --> 00:25:12,787  
I'm sorry.

492  
00:25:12,787 --> 00:25:14,370  
You're not getting  
mad at me, are you?

493

00:25:14,370 --> 00:25:16,430  
No.

494  
00:25:16,430 --> 00:25:18,700  
Whatever is necessary, you know.

495  
00:25:18,700 --> 00:25:22,590  
I'm here [? to get ?]  
out the right thing.

496  
00:25:22,590 --> 00:25:23,760  
Let me ask you something.

497  
00:25:23,760 --> 00:25:25,790  
Here there is a World's Fair.

498  
00:25:25,790 --> 00:25:28,250  
So a lot of people are  
coming to the United States.

499  
00:25:28,250 --> 00:25:29,730  
It's easy to get out of Poland.

500  
00:25:29,730 --> 00:25:32,540  
Did anybody-- obviously  
some people did--

501  
00:25:32,540 --> 00:25:34,280  
I mean, you were,  
at the time, you

502  
00:25:34,280 --> 00:25:39,020  
were probably around 30  
years old, 31 years old.

503  
00:25:39,020 --> 00:25:40,070  
Was there any discussion?

504  
00:25:40,070 --> 00:25:43,130  
Did you have any discussions  
that, well, we see

505

00:25:43,130 --> 00:25:45,080  
what's happening in Germany.

506  
00:25:45,080 --> 00:25:46,575  
This could happen in Poland.

507  
00:25:46,575 --> 00:25:48,450  
After all, there were  
some changes in Poland.

508  
00:25:48,450 --> 00:25:50,630  
Maybe we should go  
to the United States.

509  
00:25:50,630 --> 00:25:53,920  
Maybe we should go to the  
World's Fair and not come back.

510  
00:25:53,920 --> 00:25:56,440  
We didn't think about  
the World's Fair.

511  
00:25:56,440 --> 00:26:02,510  
But we did had already passports  
made for the whole family.

512  
00:26:02,510 --> 00:26:04,750  
The reason is that  
we was waiting

513  
00:26:04,750 --> 00:26:09,160  
to go is only there  
was a Polish quota.

514  
00:26:09,160 --> 00:26:11,890  
And the Polish quota was slow.

515  
00:26:11,890 --> 00:26:13,930  
And we was waiting  
for our things.

516  
00:26:13,930 --> 00:26:18,310  
We had every one of us

had prepared papers.

517

00:26:18,310 --> 00:26:21,320

If we would knew that  
this is going to happen,

518

00:26:21,320 --> 00:26:25,070

we could go to the World's  
Fair and remain here.

519

00:26:25,070 --> 00:26:26,500

I mean, whatever would happen.

520

00:26:26,500 --> 00:26:30,290

But we just hoped  
we're going to go legal

521

00:26:30,290 --> 00:26:34,160

with the regular immigration.

522

00:26:34,160 --> 00:26:36,970

With immigration you're  
allowed to take certain things,

523

00:26:36,970 --> 00:26:38,590

you could shipping,  
whatever it is.

524

00:26:38,590 --> 00:26:40,120

But if you go to  
World's Fair, you

525

00:26:40,120 --> 00:26:44,320

could go only with  
your hand baggage.

526

00:26:44,320 --> 00:26:49,210

And we were only waiting  
for the time to go ahead.

527

00:26:49,210 --> 00:26:51,100

To tell us to go ahead.

528

00:26:51,100 --> 00:26:53,590

Everything was in  
the American consul.

529

00:26:53,590 --> 00:26:54,340

Reported.

530

00:26:54,340 --> 00:26:58,090

Our family was there,  
already on the list.

531

00:26:58,090 --> 00:27:02,000

But the American had the  
quota for the Polish Jew,

532

00:27:02,000 --> 00:27:04,660

it was slow.

533

00:27:04,660 --> 00:27:10,660

German Jews had  
more speedy quota.

534

00:27:10,660 --> 00:27:14,070

An amount they let in.

535

00:27:14,070 --> 00:27:19,030

So and our was mislead because  
the quota don't let us go over.

536

00:27:19,030 --> 00:27:23,777

We did had plans to  
move to the country.

537

00:27:23,777 --> 00:27:24,610

Now, let me ask you.

538

00:27:24,610 --> 00:27:27,100

Did you have those  
plans to move here

539

00:27:27,100 --> 00:27:30,160

because you thought that

what was happening in Germany

540

00:27:30,160 --> 00:27:31,610

might happen in Poland?

541

00:27:31,610 --> 00:27:34,780

We had this in mind.

542

00:27:34,780 --> 00:27:37,630

Plus, we had here

a large family.

543

00:27:37,630 --> 00:27:41,140

We had here a brother,

and then my mother

544

00:27:41,140 --> 00:27:43,440

had a brother and a sister here.

545

00:27:43,440 --> 00:27:46,790

546

00:27:46,790 --> 00:27:50,110

And then the situation

started changing,

547

00:27:50,110 --> 00:27:53,310

and we did think about it.

548

00:27:53,310 --> 00:27:54,650

But it was too slow.

549

00:27:54,650 --> 00:28:00,440

And we just didn't make it.

550

00:28:00,440 --> 00:28:01,540

OK.

551

00:28:01,540 --> 00:28:06,900

In 1939, you said that the

Russians came into your town.

552

00:28:06,900 --> 00:28:07,960

Do you remember the date?

553

00:28:07,960 --> 00:28:08,460

Yeah.

554

00:28:08,460 --> 00:28:13,390

555

00:28:13,390 --> 00:28:16,550

The war started September 1st.

556

00:28:16,550 --> 00:28:23,680

They must have come in, I  
think, at least a month later.

557

00:28:23,680 --> 00:28:29,350

I would say in  
October, probably.

558

00:28:29,350 --> 00:28:34,260

Still was not winter, but they  
came in peacefully, you know.

559

00:28:34,260 --> 00:28:37,360

The German had already  
did the whole job,

560

00:28:37,360 --> 00:28:42,070

and they just walked  
in without that shot.

561

00:28:42,070 --> 00:28:44,850

OK, what do you mean the Germans  
already did the whole job?

562

00:28:44,850 --> 00:28:47,620

The Germans fight with Poland.

563

00:28:47,620 --> 00:28:50,530

And they made a deal  
with the Russians,

564  
00:28:50,530 --> 00:28:55,660  
and the Russians gradually  
occupied that territory.

565  
00:28:55,660 --> 00:28:57,210  
Still our city.

566  
00:28:57,210 --> 00:28:58,750  
It was more than  
our city, you know.

567  
00:28:58,750 --> 00:29:03,440  
They came all the way  
down the whole Ukraine.

568  
00:29:03,440 --> 00:29:05,320  
They come down the Tarnow.

569  
00:29:05,320 --> 00:29:06,760  
They come down from Russia.

570  
00:29:06,760 --> 00:29:10,510

571  
00:29:10,510 --> 00:29:12,850  
They took away  
the whole Galicia.

572  
00:29:12,850 --> 00:29:14,770  
They took it over.

573  
00:29:14,770 --> 00:29:17,680  
Without the war, the  
German exchange them,

574  
00:29:17,680 --> 00:29:23,460  
the Germans gave them,  
peacefully, Poland, till 1941.

575  
00:29:23,460 --> 00:29:23,960  
OK.



576  
00:29:23,960 --> 00:29:26,590  
But before 1941,  
we have two years.

577  
00:29:26,590 --> 00:29:28,040  
'39 to '41.

578  
00:29:28,040 --> 00:29:30,370  
So we lived with  
the Russian people.

579  
00:29:30,370 --> 00:29:31,240  
Right.

580  
00:29:31,240 --> 00:29:34,480  
What changes took place  
in those two years?

581  
00:29:34,480 --> 00:29:35,680  
Any changes?

582  
00:29:35,680 --> 00:29:37,460  
Your family still  
had the business?

583  
00:29:37,460 --> 00:29:39,540  
No.

584  
00:29:39,540 --> 00:29:45,610  
We tried to run the business,  
but we finally, luckily,

585  
00:29:45,610 --> 00:29:46,600  
get out of it.

586  
00:29:46,600 --> 00:29:52,000  
Because as a business, the  
Russians are against you.

587  
00:29:52,000 --> 00:29:54,850  
If you are worker,

they're with you.

588

00:29:54,850 --> 00:29:58,060

But if you own a business,  
they are against you.

589

00:29:58,060 --> 00:30:02,490

And they have also a Jewish man,  
a leader in the tax department.

590

00:30:02,490 --> 00:30:05,540

His name was Chaikin.

591

00:30:05,540 --> 00:30:08,770

As a guy from Russia, he  
was one of the occupants.

592

00:30:08,770 --> 00:30:13,230

And through a friend, we  
get in touch with him.

593

00:30:13,230 --> 00:30:16,840

And he says, if you save your  
life, you better get out.

594

00:30:16,840 --> 00:30:21,400

Because the taxes, where  
they put it on a business,

595

00:30:21,400 --> 00:30:25,570

was three, four times as much  
as the business you made.

596

00:30:25,570 --> 00:30:26,550

Right.

597

00:30:26,550 --> 00:30:31,700

But that was their system  
to get you out of business.

598

00:30:31,700 --> 00:30:35,770

We was in business maybe  
another two months,

599

00:30:35,770 --> 00:30:38,200

but it was impossible.

600

00:30:38,200 --> 00:30:40,420

Every month you have  
to pay so much that you

601

00:30:40,420 --> 00:30:42,920

didn't get in this much money.

602

00:30:42,920 --> 00:30:45,790

So we liquidated it  
and we closed it up.

603

00:30:45,790 --> 00:30:49,310

So what did you then until '41?

604

00:30:49,310 --> 00:30:51,680

I was working for the Russians.

605

00:30:51,680 --> 00:30:54,280

I did the same thing.

606

00:30:54,280 --> 00:30:58,490

They need me just as  
the Germans need me.

607

00:30:58,490 --> 00:31:00,530

They gave me work to do.

608

00:31:00,530 --> 00:31:02,480

I was working for them.

609

00:31:02,480 --> 00:31:04,470

Also my trade.

610

00:31:04,470 --> 00:31:06,770

Safes and this and that.

611

00:31:06,770 --> 00:31:09,470

I had a very decent living.

612

00:31:09,470 --> 00:31:13,280

The Russians didn't set up any  
ghetto or anything in Lemberg?

613

00:31:13,280 --> 00:31:13,970

No, no, no.

614

00:31:13,970 --> 00:31:15,800

The Russians didn't  
set up no ghetto.

615

00:31:15,800 --> 00:31:20,310

Was free life, except  
business people.

616

00:31:20,310 --> 00:31:22,850

They're after them.

617

00:31:22,850 --> 00:31:27,770

And then if somebody revealed  
to somebody that he was rich,

618

00:31:27,770 --> 00:31:32,960

they just take him away, but  
nobody knows where or when.

619

00:31:32,960 --> 00:31:37,070

Everything that happened,  
happened during the night.

620

00:31:37,070 --> 00:31:40,760

Everybody disappeared  
never during the day.

621

00:31:40,760 --> 00:31:42,980

During the night, you  
get all the information

622

00:31:42,980 --> 00:31:44,920

from those people.

623

00:31:44,920 --> 00:31:49,110

In the night, they came down  
and they clean away families.

624

00:31:49,110 --> 00:31:49,860

Who?

625

00:31:49,860 --> 00:31:50,450

The Russians.

626

00:31:50,450 --> 00:31:57,560

They take away everybody  
who was reported as rich.

627

00:31:57,560 --> 00:31:58,900

Jewish and non-Jewish?

628

00:31:58,900 --> 00:32:00,050

Jewish and non-Jewish.

629

00:32:00,050 --> 00:32:01,960

Makes no difference.

630

00:32:01,960 --> 00:32:06,030

There was a factory for  
chocolate in Lemberg.

631

00:32:06,030 --> 00:32:06,670

It was Baranka.

632

00:32:06,670 --> 00:32:11,270

Was very big chocolate factory,  
no on, maybe, in all the world.

633

00:32:11,270 --> 00:32:13,180

And they took away the owner.

634

00:32:13,180 --> 00:32:14,810

And they took away,  
from the beginning,

635

00:32:14,810 --> 00:32:16,120  
they let them be there.

636  
00:32:16,120 --> 00:32:19,490  
Like to take it all, eventually.

637  
00:32:19,490 --> 00:32:24,670  
Once they took it over on their  
own way, then they took away,

638  
00:32:24,670 --> 00:32:27,980  
didn't know where he went.

639  
00:32:27,980 --> 00:32:28,690  
One night.

640  
00:32:28,690 --> 00:32:30,710  
Not in the daytime.

641  
00:32:30,710 --> 00:32:34,260  
Did anybody during those  
years, between '39 and '41,

642  
00:32:34,260 --> 00:32:36,230  
did people try to  
escape from Lemberg?

643  
00:32:36,230 --> 00:32:38,460  
Was it possible?

644  
00:32:38,460 --> 00:32:40,790  
It was possible.

645  
00:32:40,790 --> 00:32:47,420  
I knew people, rich people,  
like one of our suppliers

646  
00:32:47,420 --> 00:32:49,720  
who they had farms.

647  
00:32:49,720 --> 00:32:53,410  
She had a few farms.

648  
00:32:53,410 --> 00:32:59,030  
She was, they call it a  
graf in Jewish, you know.

649  
00:32:59,030 --> 00:33:08,080  
Nahos --, The name was Nahoska  
and she went through Finland,

650  
00:33:08,080 --> 00:33:11,990  
and somehow she came  
to the United States.

651  
00:33:11,990 --> 00:33:16,580  
During the Russian occupation.

652  
00:33:16,580 --> 00:33:18,740  
Somehow, you know,  
smuggling things.

653  
00:33:18,740 --> 00:33:25,610  
Not legally, but she did arrive,  
and she visited my mother here.

654  
00:33:25,610 --> 00:33:29,480  
We gave her the address for  
My mother, she did see mother.

655  
00:33:29,480 --> 00:33:32,370  
She did arrive in  
this country safely.

656  
00:33:32,370 --> 00:33:36,060  
I mean, she was not  
straight, but she did it.

657  
00:33:36,060 --> 00:33:38,060  
There was ways.

658  
00:33:38,060 --> 00:33:44,190  
If anybody would take a  
chance, was a way to, also

659

00:33:44,190 --> 00:33:47,090  
through smuggling.

660

00:33:47,090 --> 00:33:50,334  
Did you think about  
leaving, yourself?

661

00:33:50,334 --> 00:33:53,050  
No, we didn't.

662

00:33:53,050 --> 00:33:55,210  
We didn't think about leaving.

663

00:33:55,210 --> 00:33:57,620  
You figure, all right,  
they let you live,

664

00:33:57,620 --> 00:33:58,990  
so what's going to happen?

665

00:33:58,990 --> 00:34:01,760  
We never know that Hitler was  
going to come in the 1940s.

666

00:34:01,760 --> 00:34:03,880  
But then, you could live.

667

00:34:03,880 --> 00:34:09,610  
Once you start working, and the  
people, that they work for us,

668

00:34:09,610 --> 00:34:15,790  
they have to help us to say  
that he was good to them.

669

00:34:15,790 --> 00:34:19,840  
And then they accept  
you as a worker.

670

00:34:19,840 --> 00:34:21,920  
Then you was all right already.



671

00:34:21,920 --> 00:34:24,040

When they accept  
you as a worker,

672

00:34:24,040 --> 00:34:26,380

you was already protected.

673

00:34:26,380 --> 00:34:30,310

They make you a  
member of their party,

674

00:34:30,310 --> 00:34:35,429

and you could live  
very all right.

675

00:34:35,429 --> 00:34:40,719

And not exactly from only  
what you got from them,

676

00:34:40,719 --> 00:34:43,239

but you had a way to  
live very comfortable,

677

00:34:43,239 --> 00:34:46,100

and where everything  
was available.

678

00:34:46,100 --> 00:34:50,659

No difficulty getting anything.

679

00:34:50,659 --> 00:34:53,770

So you didn't feel,  
in particular, danger

680

00:34:53,770 --> 00:34:55,000

during those years?

681

00:34:55,000 --> 00:34:56,500

No, not in the Russian's time.

682

00:34:56,500 --> 00:34:58,830

No.

683  
00:34:58,830 --> 00:35:01,780  
And you didn't  
feel, there was no--

684  
00:35:01,780 --> 00:35:04,930  
A lot of very friendly  
and nice, especially

685  
00:35:04,930 --> 00:35:09,550  
if I was working for the  
leaders, for the big guys.

686  
00:35:09,550 --> 00:35:12,760  
you know like -- was  
there, those safes.

687  
00:35:12,760 --> 00:35:14,580  
Only those big  
institutions had it.

688  
00:35:14,580 --> 00:35:18,850  
Private people don't  
need no safes in Russia.

689  
00:35:18,850 --> 00:35:21,490  
If they save something, they  
couldn't save in the safe.

690  
00:35:21,490 --> 00:35:23,860  
They had to save on  
the ground some place.

691  
00:35:23,860 --> 00:35:27,820  
So those people  
treat me very well.

692  
00:35:27,820 --> 00:35:29,160  
Food there was in the town?

693  
00:35:29,160 --> 00:35:30,940  
Food was for everybody.

694

00:35:30,940 --> 00:35:37,450

One thing was when the Russians  
came into this country,

695

00:35:37,450 --> 00:35:43,480

we had stores, warehouses,  
loaded with manufacturing,

696

00:35:43,480 --> 00:35:45,050

with anything you  
want to think of.

697

00:35:45,050 --> 00:35:45,670

With food.

698

00:35:45,670 --> 00:35:49,060

699

00:35:49,060 --> 00:35:52,360

Anything you want to know,  
everything was filled up.

700

00:35:52,360 --> 00:35:57,310

And within two weeks,  
everything was empty.

701

00:35:57,310 --> 00:35:59,378

Was nothing available.

702

00:35:59,378 --> 00:36:01,420

You want something, you  
have to stay in the line.

703

00:36:01,420 --> 00:36:04,060

Bread, you have to  
stay in the line.

704

00:36:04,060 --> 00:36:06,652

When?

705

00:36:06,652 --> 00:36:12,850

After two, three weeks the

Russians occupied our city.

706

00:36:12,850 --> 00:36:15,950

You know what a black  
market [INAUDIBLE]??

707

00:36:15,950 --> 00:36:16,450

Yeah.

708

00:36:16,450 --> 00:36:17,867

You said there was  
plenty of food.

709

00:36:17,867 --> 00:36:19,140

Was plenty of food, yeah.

710

00:36:19,140 --> 00:36:21,570

On the black market.

711

00:36:21,570 --> 00:36:24,010

And they also have  
food in the stores,

712

00:36:24,010 --> 00:36:28,690

but somehow, Poland  
never saw a line.

713

00:36:28,690 --> 00:36:35,380

But when they came in,  
immediately, they make magic.

714

00:36:35,380 --> 00:36:38,680

The lines for them,  
they're specialists.

715

00:36:38,680 --> 00:36:40,110

They make lines.

716

00:36:40,110 --> 00:36:42,100

And now, I think  
everything was in a line.

717

00:36:42,100 --> 00:36:49,000  
And then there also was people  
that used to buy in the line

718  
00:36:49,000 --> 00:36:51,110  
and sell it in the black market.

719  
00:36:51,110 --> 00:36:54,200  
Everything was enough, but  
you could go through them.

720  
00:36:54,200 --> 00:36:58,990  
Was no problem with  
food, especially

721  
00:36:58,990 --> 00:37:02,260  
if somebody could help himself.

722  
00:37:02,260 --> 00:37:06,520  
Now, when did the Germans  
come into your town?

723  
00:37:06,520 --> 00:37:15,420  
The Germans crossed in  
the 22nd of June, 1941.

724  
00:37:15,420 --> 00:37:17,550  
Did you have any warning  
that they were coming?

725  
00:37:17,550 --> 00:37:19,830  
No, we were at war.

726  
00:37:19,830 --> 00:37:20,370  
I know that.

727  
00:37:20,370 --> 00:37:23,370  
But I mean--

728  
00:37:23,370 --> 00:37:28,860  
We saw that the Russian  
was attacked unexpectedly.

729

00:37:28,860 --> 00:37:32,840

They hadn't got the chance  
even to, a lot of them

730

00:37:32,840 --> 00:37:36,720

was caught because they  
went with the blitzkrieg.

731

00:37:36,720 --> 00:37:38,580

They went above them.

732

00:37:38,580 --> 00:37:41,338

They have hard time  
even to escape.

733

00:37:41,338 --> 00:37:43,130

You weren't married at  
this time, were you?

734

00:37:43,130 --> 00:37:44,400

No, no.

735

00:37:44,400 --> 00:37:49,110

One of my brothers was working  
for the Russians in a creamery,

736

00:37:49,110 --> 00:37:50,430

because he was a creamer.

737

00:37:50,430 --> 00:37:53,280

He was working as a director.

738

00:37:53,280 --> 00:37:55,260

He escaped.

739

00:37:55,260 --> 00:38:01,340

Two of my brothers escaped  
their offices to Russia.

740

00:38:01,340 --> 00:38:07,000

And one brother got  
returned in 1945

741  
00:38:07,000 --> 00:38:11,080  
when the war was over,  
and one brother he

742  
00:38:11,080 --> 00:38:13,800  
was killed during the Russia.

743  
00:38:13,800 --> 00:38:14,580  
He was working.

744  
00:38:14,580 --> 00:38:19,140  
He also was a tradesman,  
and he was working in a shop

745  
00:38:19,140 --> 00:38:24,480  
and was bombed by two in  
Russia, and he got killed.

746  
00:38:24,480 --> 00:38:26,730  
One of my brothers.

747  
00:38:26,730 --> 00:38:30,940  
So I lost one brother in  
Russia, and that brother,

748  
00:38:30,940 --> 00:38:37,050  
when he went in 1936 to Israel.

749  
00:38:37,050 --> 00:38:40,800  
Also not legal, but he  
went down with the tour,

750  
00:38:40,800 --> 00:38:43,920  
with a tourist group to Egypt.

751  
00:38:43,920 --> 00:38:49,745  
And he died in 1941 by sickness.

752  
00:38:49,745 --> 00:38:50,245  
Malaria.

753

00:38:50,245 --> 00:38:53,000

754

00:38:53,000 --> 00:38:57,118

June 22nd, 1941, the  
Germans come into your town.

755

00:38:57,118 --> 00:38:58,910

Do you remember what  
happened the first day

756

00:38:58,910 --> 00:38:59,940

they came into the town?

757

00:38:59,940 --> 00:39:04,950

When it happened the first time,  
they catch me the first day.

758

00:39:04,950 --> 00:39:05,600

First day.

759

00:39:05,600 --> 00:39:06,120

First day.

760

00:39:06,120 --> 00:39:09,840

We was in the place  
where we were working,

761

00:39:09,840 --> 00:39:12,650

all kind was an organization.

762

00:39:12,650 --> 00:39:14,940

And that time we  
was working in--

763

00:39:14,940 --> 00:39:20,390

764

00:39:20,390 --> 00:39:31,520

the Russians provide the people,  
the specialists, the actors,



765

00:39:31,520 --> 00:39:34,130

somebody was  
playing in theaters,

766

00:39:34,130 --> 00:39:39,550

so they had a place to eat.

767

00:39:39,550 --> 00:39:43,820

But a private restaurant  
was impossible to exist.

768

00:39:43,820 --> 00:39:46,850

But they provide  
every institution

769

00:39:46,850 --> 00:39:53,860

with a place to go in and have  
dinner on their own price,

770

00:39:53,860 --> 00:39:56,270

not on the black market.

771

00:39:56,270 --> 00:39:59,700

And I was working  
in that restaurant.

772

00:39:59,700 --> 00:40:03,530

So when I the Germans came  
in, so they went every day

773

00:40:03,530 --> 00:40:08,570

to the restaurant, and then  
those Ukrainian soldiers

774

00:40:08,570 --> 00:40:14,680

come up and picked up whoever  
was Jewish in that place.

775

00:40:14,680 --> 00:40:16,570

And the Ukrainian soldiers  
were told by the--

776

00:40:16,570 --> 00:40:18,720  
They knew, the patrollers.

777  
00:40:18,720 --> 00:40:20,630  
They came down to check out.

778  
00:40:20,630 --> 00:40:23,360  
They were told by  
my other friends.

779  
00:40:23,360 --> 00:40:28,160  
You know, there was a crime, but  
the city was a lot of enemies.

780  
00:40:28,160 --> 00:40:30,050  
You know, they tell  
you to go over there,

781  
00:40:30,050 --> 00:40:33,860  
and they took me  
down from that place

782  
00:40:33,860 --> 00:40:37,180  
and they took me  
straight to that place

783  
00:40:37,180 --> 00:40:44,090  
where they dig out those people  
that the Russians left dead,

784  
00:40:44,090 --> 00:40:47,060  
plus what they was killing.

785  
00:40:47,060 --> 00:40:52,650  
They were killing people  
that they just like--

786  
00:40:52,650 --> 00:40:55,040  
and I don't know how to say it.

787  
00:40:55,040 --> 00:40:58,540  
Not like animals,  
but just like, who

788  
00:40:58,540 --> 00:41:00,750  
should they put it  
in a death spot,

789  
00:41:00,750 --> 00:41:03,870  
they're sending in people,  
they was killing them,

790  
00:41:03,870 --> 00:41:07,160  
which had guns that  
fire from the distance.

791  
00:41:07,160 --> 00:41:11,270  
And then the roof, they  
got the cameras set up,

792  
00:41:11,270 --> 00:41:17,660  
and they made film, because  
they announced later

793  
00:41:17,660 --> 00:41:23,180  
that the Russians did that,  
but that was their job.

794  
00:41:23,180 --> 00:41:27,650  
Plus, the Russians left a lot  
of dead people in the jail.

795  
00:41:27,650 --> 00:41:31,310

796  
00:41:31,310 --> 00:41:34,880  
Locked up with bricks, you know.

797  
00:41:34,880 --> 00:41:37,440  
They was closed up.

798  
00:41:37,440 --> 00:41:39,350  
Rooms with dead people.

799  
00:41:39,350 --> 00:41:41,330

And all those people--

800  
00:41:41,330 --> 00:41:43,220  
The Russians killed  
a number of people

801  
00:41:43,220 --> 00:41:44,710  
just before they were defeated?

802  
00:41:44,710 --> 00:41:46,260  
They were defeated.

803  
00:41:46,260 --> 00:41:51,305  
That must have been  
maybe weeks before they--

804  
00:41:51,305 --> 00:41:52,610  
Who did the Russians kill?

805  
00:41:52,610 --> 00:41:56,570  
The Russians, they brought  
in from their country, here.

806  
00:41:56,570 --> 00:41:57,800  
Like Mongolians.

807  
00:41:57,800 --> 00:41:59,920  
There was a lot of  
Mongolian people there.

808  
00:41:59,920 --> 00:42:03,470  
They didn't kill  
anybody from Lemberg?

809  
00:42:03,470 --> 00:42:05,300  
Lemberg, they take away there.

810  
00:42:05,300 --> 00:42:08,030  
And the other one they brought  
here, and tested their system

811  
00:42:08,030 --> 00:42:09,250

like this.

812

00:42:09,250 --> 00:42:12,860

If they took away somebody from  
Lemberg, or they killed them,

813

00:42:12,860 --> 00:42:15,607

they don't kill  
them off officially.

814

00:42:15,607 --> 00:42:17,190

They take them away  
and they kill them

815

00:42:17,190 --> 00:42:18,920

where nobody should see it.

816

00:42:18,920 --> 00:42:22,742

The same thing, those  
people from their country.

817

00:42:22,742 --> 00:42:24,700

They brought him here  
and they killed him here.

818

00:42:24,700 --> 00:42:26,780

And that's the way they--

819

00:42:26,780 --> 00:42:30,445

So the Russians brought  
people from Russia?

820

00:42:30,445 --> 00:42:32,957

Brought them to outside  
the town, let's say?

821

00:42:32,957 --> 00:42:34,040

They brought them outside.

822

00:42:34,040 --> 00:42:37,100

Even to the occupied  
country, like to us.

823

00:42:37,100 --> 00:42:40,200  
To Lemberg, from Russia, and  
Mongolia is thousands of miles

824

00:42:40,200 --> 00:42:40,700  
away.

825

00:42:40,700 --> 00:42:41,580  
Killed people?

826

00:42:41,580 --> 00:42:45,590  
They killed their people and  
they locked up with bricks.

827

00:42:45,590 --> 00:42:47,570  
Filled up the rooms.

828

00:42:47,570 --> 00:42:50,590  
And to kill those  
people there, they

829

00:42:50,590 --> 00:42:53,340  
must have sent them  
in there alive.

830

00:42:53,340 --> 00:42:57,170  
Because it's impossible  
that they should been that

831

00:42:57,170 --> 00:43:01,550  
sealed up, all the way  
down to the ceiling.

832

00:43:01,550 --> 00:43:03,620  
They couldn't storage  
them this way.

833

00:43:03,620 --> 00:43:09,560  
They have to walk in on their  
own, by terror, or by hitting,

834

00:43:09,560 --> 00:43:10,480

whatever they did.

835

00:43:10,480 --> 00:43:13,190

836

00:43:13,190 --> 00:43:15,760

They had the same system  
like the Germans had.

837

00:43:15,760 --> 00:43:22,250

When the Germans were shipping  
people to the death camps,

838

00:43:22,250 --> 00:43:27,440

they had people opened  
the door from the train,

839

00:43:27,440 --> 00:43:30,710

and they put the board  
over to walk over.

840

00:43:30,710 --> 00:43:34,490

And whoever walks lower, they  
got dogs biting and hitting,

841

00:43:34,490 --> 00:43:38,810

and they should go.

842

00:43:38,810 --> 00:43:40,590

They had the same system.

843

00:43:40,590 --> 00:43:42,590

The Russians had the same  
system as the Germans.

844

00:43:42,590 --> 00:43:45,440

845

00:43:45,440 --> 00:43:50,300

They must to do this way,  
because those people were so

846

00:43:50,300 --> 00:43:50,892  
filled up--

847  
00:43:50,892 --> 00:43:52,850  
It's no way they could  
have filled up the area?

848  
00:43:52,850 --> 00:43:56,540  
It's only possible that somebody  
should bring them in there.

849  
00:43:56,540 --> 00:43:59,690  
Accept they're alive,  
they have to go in there,

850  
00:43:59,690 --> 00:44:02,830  
and they probably, whenever  
they kill, they kill them.

851  
00:44:02,830 --> 00:44:04,540  
But I don't see anybody.

852  
00:44:04,540 --> 00:44:07,270  
Even, was no shotguns.

853  
00:44:07,270 --> 00:44:10,610  
When we pulled them  
out, we didn't see no--

854  
00:44:10,610 --> 00:44:13,720  
they must be just dead by--

855  
00:44:13,720 --> 00:44:16,390  
Now, you say the Germans came.

856  
00:44:16,390 --> 00:44:19,960  
They shot a number of  
people that first day.

857  
00:44:19,960 --> 00:44:21,490  
They had cameras.

858



00:44:21,490 --> 00:44:24,310

They got the cameras  
over the roof.

859

00:44:24,310 --> 00:44:29,080

And they have the people  
sending in, like I said,

860

00:44:29,080 --> 00:44:30,350

like three rows.

861

00:44:30,350 --> 00:44:31,210

Who did they shoot?

862

00:44:31,210 --> 00:44:32,502

The Germans, when they came in?

863

00:44:32,502 --> 00:44:34,570

Anybody who was in the street.

864

00:44:34,570 --> 00:44:36,550

Anybody was in the street.

865

00:44:36,550 --> 00:44:39,820

They took about 100  
people able to work

866

00:44:39,820 --> 00:44:43,240

on that work, and the  
rest, whoever they catch,

867

00:44:43,240 --> 00:44:45,740

whatever was on the street,  
and they brought them

868

00:44:45,740 --> 00:44:47,270

in to that spot.

869

00:44:47,270 --> 00:44:49,960

And they showed them, used to  
make cameras, to make films,

870

00:44:49,960 --> 00:44:52,990  
and they put those dead people  
who they killed together

871  
00:44:52,990 --> 00:44:53,722  
those people--

872  
00:44:53,722 --> 00:44:54,930  
That the Russians had killed?

873  
00:44:54,930 --> 00:44:56,930  
--that the Russians had  
killed, and shipped them

874  
00:44:56,930 --> 00:45:01,630  
all down to the cemetery  
that was digging mass graves.

875  
00:45:01,630 --> 00:45:05,830  
And they had a group  
of people where they

876  
00:45:05,830 --> 00:45:08,170  
catch them to dig those graves.

877  
00:45:08,170 --> 00:45:12,940  
And I was one of them, first  
in here to dig them out,

878  
00:45:12,940 --> 00:45:14,610  
and then later to  
dig the graves.

879  
00:45:14,610 --> 00:45:19,180  
And I, that day, was working  
until 11 o'clock at night.

880  
00:45:19,180 --> 00:45:22,220  
And then they brought  
us back to the city,

881  
00:45:22,220 --> 00:45:25,230  
to the center of the city,

and they gave us the password

882  
00:45:25,230 --> 00:45:27,820  
that we should be  
able to go home.

883  
00:45:27,820 --> 00:45:29,230  
Because there was a curfew.

884  
00:45:29,230 --> 00:45:33,650  
It was wartime, and they  
just occupied the country.

885  
00:45:33,650 --> 00:45:38,130  
So with a password, we were  
able to arrive back home.

886  
00:45:38,130 --> 00:45:40,210  
And they also say,  
tomorrow, all of you

887  
00:45:40,210 --> 00:45:44,330  
should report back to the place.

888  
00:45:44,330 --> 00:45:46,150  
But whoever report,  
I don't know.

889  
00:45:46,150 --> 00:45:47,800  
I didn't go.

890  
00:45:47,800 --> 00:45:51,960  
I didn't went back  
that second day.

891  
00:45:51,960 --> 00:45:55,610  
We was hiding.

892  
00:45:55,610 --> 00:45:56,110  
All right.

893  
00:45:56,110 --> 00:45:58,930

So the second day,  
everybody was told--

894  
00:45:58,930 --> 00:46:02,070  
To come back to the same thing  
that they did the first day.

895  
00:46:02,070 --> 00:46:05,970  
So I had enough the first  
day, so I decided not to go.

896  
00:46:05,970 --> 00:46:07,510  
OK.

897  
00:46:07,510 --> 00:46:11,570  
But whoever went, probably  
a lot that did go.

898  
00:46:11,570 --> 00:46:13,327  
In if they didn't  
go, they catch.

899  
00:46:13,327 --> 00:46:14,410  
They got enough, you know?

900  
00:46:14,410 --> 00:46:18,490  
They used to pick up people.

901  
00:46:18,490 --> 00:46:19,580  
They had no problem.

902  
00:46:19,580 --> 00:46:21,580  
How many people, when  
the Germans came in,

903  
00:46:21,580 --> 00:46:23,436  
were living in Lemberg?

904  
00:46:23,436 --> 00:46:26,200  
Was it still a few  
hundred thousand people?

905

00:46:26,200 --> 00:46:31,250  
I would say it was at least  
maybe 150,000 to 200,000 people

906  
00:46:31,250 --> 00:46:31,760  
in Lemberg.

907  
00:46:31,760 --> 00:46:37,320

908  
00:46:37,320 --> 00:46:37,820  
All right.

909  
00:46:37,820 --> 00:46:41,255  
So that first day, where  
did they pick you up?

910  
00:46:41,255 --> 00:46:42,630  
You were walking  
down the street?

911  
00:46:42,630 --> 00:46:43,130  
No, no.

912  
00:46:43,130 --> 00:46:45,860  
First night, they picked  
me up from that place,

913  
00:46:45,860 --> 00:46:47,120  
from that restaurant.

914  
00:46:47,120 --> 00:46:48,080  
Oh, that's right.

915  
00:46:48,080 --> 00:46:48,960  
I'm sorry.

916  
00:46:48,960 --> 00:46:49,740  
OK.

917  
00:46:49,740 --> 00:46:50,240  
All right.

918  
00:46:50,240 --> 00:46:51,980  
They picked me up  
from the restaurant,

919  
00:46:51,980 --> 00:46:55,840  
and the street was so  
organized, locked up,

920  
00:46:55,840 --> 00:47:00,420  
that you had to go only to  
the direction to that jail.

921  
00:47:00,420 --> 00:47:02,776  
And that's where  
I went, and more

922  
00:47:02,776 --> 00:47:05,780  
of us, whoever didn't  
expect the first day

923  
00:47:05,780 --> 00:47:09,050  
is going to be such a  
tragedy to hide yourself.

924  
00:47:09,050 --> 00:47:13,940  
And they got hundreds, hundreds  
of people killed that day,

925  
00:47:13,940 --> 00:47:17,420  
and hundreds working  
to dig those graves

926  
00:47:17,420 --> 00:47:21,020  
and take out those dead  
people, shipping in trucks.

927  
00:47:21,020 --> 00:47:25,300  
They load up trucks, big trucks,  
and bring them to the cemetery.

928  
00:47:25,300 --> 00:47:28,550  
Oh they cleaned out the

rooms from the Russian,

929

00:47:28,550 --> 00:47:32,593

and plus their own with  
fresh additional people.

930

00:47:32,593 --> 00:47:34,760

Now, you said the second  
day, you were told to come,

931

00:47:34,760 --> 00:47:36,670

but you went to hiding?

932

00:47:36,670 --> 00:47:37,820

No, I didn't go up there.

933

00:47:37,820 --> 00:47:39,380

Where did you hide?

934

00:47:39,380 --> 00:47:44,100

Oh, we was hiding that time,  
in the first day, in the house.

935

00:47:44,100 --> 00:47:46,560

There was a cellar.

936

00:47:46,560 --> 00:47:49,260

We were locked up  
from the outside.

937

00:47:49,260 --> 00:47:52,790

But the women they didn't  
bother yet the first day.

938

00:47:52,790 --> 00:48:00,640

So I was living with my  
sister-in-law and my brothers,

939

00:48:00,640 --> 00:48:05,270

two children, and we were  
locked up in the cellar.

940

00:48:05,270 --> 00:48:09,230

There still was  
another man with me.

941

00:48:09,230 --> 00:48:15,200

And I took him to our house,  
and we was all day long sitting

942

00:48:15,200 --> 00:48:20,370

and then night they let us  
out to hear what is it so far.

943

00:48:20,370 --> 00:48:27,200

Till soon enough, I  
would find out for them

944

00:48:27,200 --> 00:48:32,090

to, as a needed person,  
somebody tell them

945

00:48:32,090 --> 00:48:33,590

somebody is available.

946

00:48:33,590 --> 00:48:35,990

You know, people would know me.

947

00:48:35,990 --> 00:48:38,480

They also were working there.

948

00:48:38,480 --> 00:48:40,990

Even not Jewish knew.

949

00:48:40,990 --> 00:48:42,815

And they told them about me.

950

00:48:42,815 --> 00:48:45,450

951

00:48:45,450 --> 00:48:48,470

They gave me that job.

952

00:48:48,470 --> 00:48:52,610



Did they set up a  
ghetto right away?

953  
00:48:52,610 --> 00:48:57,860  
No, they set up a  
ghetto in November.

954  
00:48:57,860 --> 00:49:01,610  
But they made it  
a special ghetto.

955  
00:49:01,610 --> 00:49:05,240  
There was a whole  
section was a city.

956  
00:49:05,240 --> 00:49:09,980  
Our city was a bridge.

957  
00:49:09,980 --> 00:49:11,630  
They called it the dead bridge.

958  
00:49:11,630 --> 00:49:13,750  
You have to go to that ghetto.

959  
00:49:13,750 --> 00:49:15,990  
You have to go  
under that bridge,

960  
00:49:15,990 --> 00:49:20,500  
they called Beltevna  
the street was Beltevna.

961  
00:49:20,500 --> 00:49:23,270  
And that street, you  
have to pass that gate

962  
00:49:23,270 --> 00:49:24,290  
to go to the ghetto.

963  
00:49:24,290 --> 00:49:26,480  
They give order to  
go to the ghetto.

964

00:49:26,480 --> 00:49:31,340

And everybody who went  
was screened before.

965

00:49:31,340 --> 00:49:35,300

And when they went over the  
bridge, on the other side,

966

00:49:35,300 --> 00:49:37,580

they were selecting immediately.

967

00:49:37,580 --> 00:49:38,670

Well, what was happening--

968

00:49:38,670 --> 00:49:41,050

I'm sorry, I jumped  
a little bit--

969

00:49:41,050 --> 00:49:46,330

between June and November,  
between, what was happening?

970

00:49:46,330 --> 00:49:52,320

Gradually, they  
give order to where

971

00:49:52,320 --> 00:49:57,110

armed mens to walk  
around and Jewish

972

00:49:57,110 --> 00:50:00,640

would have the Jewish star.

973

00:50:00,640 --> 00:50:04,610

They would have to have the  
Jewish star on your left arm.

974

00:50:04,610 --> 00:50:10,820

Were there actions, [INAUDIBLE],,  
that were taking place?

975

00:50:10,820 --> 00:50:13,590

And then, as a Jew, you worked.

976

00:50:13,590 --> 00:50:18,020

And wherever you worked,  
and they feel they want you,

977

00:50:18,020 --> 00:50:19,730

they know you are a Jew.

978

00:50:19,730 --> 00:50:25,440

And they gradually take  
you all to work or to kill,

979

00:50:25,440 --> 00:50:28,945

whatever they do that  
then they make groups.

980

00:50:28,945 --> 00:50:32,140

981

00:50:32,140 --> 00:50:36,925

Like 500 people should report.

982

00:50:36,925 --> 00:50:39,110

They make up.

983

00:50:39,110 --> 00:50:40,970

And that was their way.

984

00:50:40,970 --> 00:50:44,750

Gradually, automatically,  
they had a system.

985

00:50:44,750 --> 00:50:48,560

986

00:50:48,560 --> 00:50:51,060

Every day, somebody  
lost somebody.

987

00:50:51,060 --> 00:50:55,180

Till they organize the

ghetto, there was already

988

00:50:55,180 --> 00:50:59,160  
a lot of casualties.

989

00:50:59,160 --> 00:51:01,890  
And then by the ghetto,  
to go into the ghetto,

990

00:51:01,890 --> 00:51:05,310  
they made thousands not to pass.

991

00:51:05,310 --> 00:51:09,640  
Because whoever they have  
to walk into the ghetto,

992

00:51:09,640 --> 00:51:13,170  
the whole ghetto  
alone was very big.

993

00:51:13,170 --> 00:51:16,200  
Because it was a lot  
of people to fit in.

994

00:51:16,200 --> 00:51:18,720  
And then they make it  
smaller and smaller,

995

00:51:18,720 --> 00:51:23,760  
and then the ghetto  
was gradually cut down.

996

00:51:23,760 --> 00:51:27,000  
That seat was taken away,  
that seat was taken away.

997

00:51:27,000 --> 00:51:29,730  
Till they make it very small.

998

00:51:29,730 --> 00:51:33,090  
And then in the end, they  
liquidate the ghetto.

999

00:51:33,090 --> 00:51:34,440  
How long were you in the ghetto?

1000

00:51:34,440 --> 00:51:37,780  
I was in the ghetto--

1001

00:51:37,780 --> 00:51:42,480  
they give us our  
room in the ghetto.

1002

00:51:42,480 --> 00:51:48,050  
And it was me, my brother  
went to the Russian army,

1003

00:51:48,050 --> 00:51:53,700  
and he got in the German  
prison as a prisoner,

1004

00:51:53,700 --> 00:51:56,350  
and he never came back.

1005

00:51:56,350 --> 00:51:58,740  
And I was me and  
my sister-in-law

1006

00:51:58,740 --> 00:52:03,880  
and two children,  
and her mother.

1007

00:52:03,880 --> 00:52:08,400  
We got a room in  
ghetto to live there.

1008

00:52:08,400 --> 00:52:09,340  
Your father?

1009

00:52:09,340 --> 00:52:12,870  
Well, my father was already--

1010

00:52:12,870 --> 00:52:16,050  
my mother was America,  
and before my mother

1011  
00:52:16,050 --> 00:52:18,330  
was in America, my  
father passed away.

1012  
00:52:18,330 --> 00:52:19,154  
Natural?

1013  
00:52:19,154 --> 00:52:19,980  
Natural.

1014  
00:52:19,980 --> 00:52:22,580  
Natural death.

1015  
00:52:22,580 --> 00:52:23,985  
Was he old when he passed away?

1016  
00:52:23,985 --> 00:52:24,485  
No.

1017  
00:52:24,485 --> 00:52:27,730

1018  
00:52:27,730 --> 00:52:29,540  
He had a problem.

1019  
00:52:29,540 --> 00:52:31,370  
An accident.

1020  
00:52:31,370 --> 00:52:36,605  
But he was passed away,  
he was already in his 60s.

1021  
00:52:36,605 --> 00:52:39,570

1022  
00:52:39,570 --> 00:52:40,070  
All right.

1023  
00:52:40,070 --> 00:52:46,250  
Now you were in the ghetto

from, let's say, November 1941?

1024

00:52:46,250 --> 00:52:50,287

First, we were still free living  
in the city till the ghetto.

1025

00:52:50,287 --> 00:52:51,620

Then we're moving in the ghetto.

1026

00:52:51,620 --> 00:52:58,780

And then the place what I was  
working, the army provide us

1027

00:52:58,780 --> 00:53:05,510

a living space that  
we should stay.

1028

00:53:05,510 --> 00:53:08,250

We had the room in the  
ghetto for the family,

1029

00:53:08,250 --> 00:53:14,450

and they kept us  
like [INAUDIBLE]..

1030

00:53:14,450 --> 00:53:18,680

So later I was  
working for the army,

1031

00:53:18,680 --> 00:53:24,495

and they gave us rooms to live  
there, and they feed us also.

1032

00:53:24,495 --> 00:53:25,370

There was a Judenrat.

1033

00:53:25,370 --> 00:53:26,010

In the ghetto?

1034

00:53:26,010 --> 00:53:26,910

No, no, no.

1035

00:53:26,910 --> 00:53:29,300

In the ghetto,  
there's a Judenrat.

1036

00:53:29,300 --> 00:53:30,050

Jewish police?

1037

00:53:30,050 --> 00:53:34,160

The Jewish police,  
everything, everything Jewish.

1038

00:53:34,160 --> 00:53:36,770

Jewish, they organized.

1039

00:53:36,770 --> 00:53:41,930

If they want so many people,  
the Jewish supply them.

1040

00:53:41,930 --> 00:53:43,300

The Jewish police supplied them.

1041

00:53:43,300 --> 00:53:46,790

They want today 500  
and whatever that

1042

00:53:46,790 --> 00:53:51,140

is, so that's why the ghetto  
became smaller, gradually.

1043

00:53:51,140 --> 00:53:57,620

They milked out the people.

1044

00:53:57,620 --> 00:54:00,140

And you were able to survive  
during this time because

1045

00:54:00,140 --> 00:54:02,270

of your profession?

1046

00:54:02,270 --> 00:54:05,270

I was able to survive,  
because I was allowed also



1047

00:54:05,270 --> 00:54:11,420  
to go to the ghetto, also  
without permission when I had--

1048

00:54:11,420 --> 00:54:12,490  
To go outside the ghetto?

1049

00:54:12,490 --> 00:54:13,520  
Outside the ghetto.

1050

00:54:13,520 --> 00:54:16,210  
I was allowed to walk  
around, like I told you.

1051

00:54:16,210 --> 00:54:19,660

1052

00:54:19,660 --> 00:54:23,690  
I was going from one  
place to the other freely,

1053

00:54:23,690 --> 00:54:29,920  
because one place was here,  
one place was a twenty streets

1054

00:54:29,920 --> 00:54:33,360  
away, you know.

1055

00:54:33,360 --> 00:54:39,255  
They used to lend me out,  
one institution to the other.

1056

00:54:39,255 --> 00:54:40,630  
What were you  
doing specifically?

1057

00:54:40,630 --> 00:54:42,047  
I understand you  
were a locksmith.

1058

00:54:42,047 --> 00:54:42,640  
Yeah.

1059

00:54:42,640 --> 00:54:50,570

What I was doing is they had the  
Russian left safes locked up.

1060

00:54:50,570 --> 00:54:57,110

I was able to open them, and to  
set up keys back to function.

1061

00:54:57,110 --> 00:55:04,020

That was my most  
privileged profession.

1062

00:55:04,020 --> 00:55:04,813

They liked it.

1063

00:55:04,813 --> 00:55:06,230

You could have  
been a bank robber.

1064

00:55:06,230 --> 00:55:11,180

Yeah, I was maybe a bank robber.

1065

00:55:11,180 --> 00:55:14,310

They used to rob banks  
in a different way.

1066

00:55:14,310 --> 00:55:16,640

It takes quite a lot  
of time to open a lock,

1067

00:55:16,640 --> 00:55:19,220

and not to damage  
too much the safe.

1068

00:55:19,220 --> 00:55:22,090

A bank robber is  
another way to do it,

1069

00:55:22,090 --> 00:55:27,690

and don't care for a  
rebuilding back to work.

1070

00:55:27,690 --> 00:55:31,180

How long did you  
live in the ghetto?

1071

00:55:31,180 --> 00:55:34,150

I told you, I was living  
outside the ghetto.

1072

00:55:34,150 --> 00:55:41,150

I was living in the  
facilities from the army.

1073

00:55:41,150 --> 00:55:41,850

Oh, I'm sorry.

1074

00:55:41,850 --> 00:55:44,080

I thought you were going  
in and out, in an out.

1075

00:55:44,080 --> 00:55:44,580

No.

1076

00:55:44,580 --> 00:55:50,900

I could go in and out, but I  
was living in the facilities

1077

00:55:50,900 --> 00:55:53,270

from the [INAUDIBLE].

1078

00:55:53,270 --> 00:55:56,670

When I was there, they  
treated me very well.

1079

00:55:56,670 --> 00:55:59,360

I was very decent conditions.

1080

00:55:59,360 --> 00:56:00,830

And how long were  
you living here?

1081

00:56:00,830 --> 00:56:07,030

I was there till about June '43.

1082  
00:56:07,030 --> 00:56:07,758  
Really?

1083  
00:56:07,758 --> 00:56:09,050  
That's about a year and a half.

1084  
00:56:09,050 --> 00:56:11,890  
And that's because  
later, they came out

1085  
00:56:11,890 --> 00:56:17,030  
a rule that they're not allowed  
to keep no more people out.

1086  
00:56:17,030 --> 00:56:21,890  
They made it unified.

1087  
00:56:21,890 --> 00:56:26,110  
So they shipped us off.

1088  
00:56:26,110 --> 00:56:30,650  
So you were living  
from 1941 November

1089  
00:56:30,650 --> 00:56:32,690  
to June 1943 in the German--

1090  
00:56:32,690 --> 00:56:38,420  
The first thing I lived,  
till November '40,

1091  
00:56:38,420 --> 00:56:40,890  
they allowed us to  
live in our home.

1092  
00:56:40,890 --> 00:56:41,530  
No, I know.

1093  
00:56:41,530 --> 00:56:45,740  
Then time from  
the ghetto, then I

1094  
00:56:45,740 --> 00:56:48,250  
moved into the ghetto  
whenever we did,

1095  
00:56:48,250 --> 00:56:50,530  
and the rest I went  
later when they give us

1096  
00:56:50,530 --> 00:56:57,800  
privileged to live in the  
quarters from the [INAUDIBLE]..

1097  
00:56:57,800 --> 00:57:00,785  
How many people were  
privileged like you to live--

1098  
00:57:00,785 --> 00:57:04,360

1099  
00:57:04,360 --> 00:57:10,370  
They had a group of 35 people  
for all kinds of services

1100  
00:57:10,370 --> 00:57:11,720  
they need.

1101  
00:57:11,720 --> 00:57:16,970  
To put up signs and which  
way the army should go,

1102  
00:57:16,970 --> 00:57:19,830  
and fixing up in the place.

1103  
00:57:19,830 --> 00:57:25,700  
They got about 30 people  
cleaning up the premises.

1104  
00:57:25,700 --> 00:57:27,700  
They give about 30 people.

1105  
00:57:27,700 --> 00:57:31,030

They had 35 people.

1106  
00:57:31,030 --> 00:57:33,440  
They got their privileges.

1107  
00:57:33,440 --> 00:57:36,550  
Except I was the one  
that I could walk freely.

1108  
00:57:36,550 --> 00:57:39,820  
And whatever they  
want to do, they

1109  
00:57:39,820 --> 00:57:42,610  
was under escort to go out.

1110  
00:57:42,610 --> 00:57:45,850  
And you knew at this time  
that, as you mentioned before,

1111  
00:57:45,850 --> 00:57:48,292  
that the ghetto was  
slowly but surely--

1112  
00:57:48,292 --> 00:57:49,000  
I saw everything.

1113  
00:57:49,000 --> 00:57:50,740  
I was going.

1114  
00:57:50,740 --> 00:57:57,480  
I was in the ghetto at least  
every week, weekend, whatever.

1115  
00:57:57,480 --> 00:57:59,470  
I was going to  
see what happened.

1116  
00:57:59,470 --> 00:58:01,600  
There was a lot of people.

1117  
00:58:01,600 --> 00:58:06,760

1118  
00:58:06,760 --> 00:58:07,260  
OK.

1119  
00:58:07,260 --> 00:58:17,320  
June 1943, the Germans  
made the ghetto unified.

1120  
00:58:17,320 --> 00:58:23,840  
They don't allow no more to  
keep the army the Jewish workers

1121  
00:58:23,840 --> 00:58:25,280  
by then.

1122  
00:58:25,280 --> 00:58:28,570  
They kept the worst and --

1123  
00:58:28,570 --> 00:58:31,700  
They send them to  
the no more ghetto.

1124  
00:58:31,700 --> 00:58:35,830  
They send them to the  
Janowska lager in Janowska.

1125  
00:58:35,830 --> 00:58:38,590  
Where did everybody  
go from the ghetto?

1126  
00:58:38,590 --> 00:58:39,340  
Nobody goes.

1127  
00:58:39,340 --> 00:58:40,780  
They took them.

1128  
00:58:40,780 --> 00:58:44,170  
Took everybody from the ghetto,  
and they liquidate the ghetto.

1129  
00:58:44,170 --> 00:58:45,240

In June of '43?

1130  
00:58:45,240 --> 00:58:48,190  
In June of '43.

1131  
00:58:48,190 --> 00:58:49,820  
They start gradually.

1132  
00:58:49,820 --> 00:58:51,660  
They didn't do in one day.

1133  
00:58:51,660 --> 00:58:54,490  
They do that for weeks.

1134  
00:58:54,490 --> 00:59:01,860  
They brought the people from  
the ghetto to the Janowska camp.

1135  
00:59:01,860 --> 00:59:05,730  
There was a concentration camp,  
remember, they called Janowska.

1136  
00:59:05,730 --> 00:59:06,890  
Y-A--

1137  
00:59:06,890 --> 00:59:15,540  
Like the street,  
J-A-N-O-W-S-K-Y. Janowsk--

1138  
00:59:15,540 --> 00:59:18,530

1139  
00:59:18,530 --> 00:59:19,490  
oh, I said the y.

1140  
00:59:19,490 --> 00:59:19,990  
A.

1141  
00:59:19,990 --> 00:59:20,950  
A. Janowska.

1142



00:59:20,950 --> 00:59:21,450  
Janowska.

1143  
00:59:21,450 --> 00:59:22,790  
This was a street.

1144  
00:59:22,790 --> 00:59:25,740  
There was fields  
above the thing.

1145  
00:59:25,740 --> 00:59:29,340  
There was acres of land  
in the concentration camp.

1146  
00:59:29,340 --> 00:59:30,940  
There were barracks  
there, where they

1147  
00:59:30,940 --> 00:59:35,150  
got 36,000 people on premises.

1148  
00:59:35,150 --> 00:59:37,500  
And this was the  
concentration camp of Lemberg?

1149  
00:59:37,500 --> 00:59:39,760  
I think they called the  
concentration camp of Lemberg.

1150  
00:59:39,760 --> 00:59:45,070  
And they brought people to  
that camp from all over.

1151  
00:59:45,070 --> 00:59:47,380  
From Czechoslovakia.

1152  
00:59:47,380 --> 00:59:48,850  
From France.

1153  
00:59:48,850 --> 00:59:51,970  
From Belgium.

1154

00:59:51,970 --> 00:59:56,830  
And they wired around about  
five or six acres of land

1155  
00:59:56,830 --> 01:00:00,790  
with barbed wires, and  
whatever transport abroad,

1156  
01:00:00,790 --> 01:00:04,140  
they used to bring  
them into that field.

1157  
01:00:04,140 --> 01:00:12,700  
And they was there with no  
food, with no substance to live.

1158  
01:00:12,700 --> 01:00:16,150  
They were there for  
two, three days.

1159  
01:00:16,150 --> 01:00:20,750  
Then they made the  
an Aktion inside.

1160  
01:00:20,750 --> 01:00:24,070  
And the rest was people  
who arrived there.

1161  
01:00:24,070 --> 01:00:29,840  
A group of 100, and they  
have to walk to the field

1162  
01:00:29,840 --> 01:00:31,090  
where they used to shoot them.

1163  
01:00:31,090 --> 01:00:34,620  
It was like valleys.

1164  
01:00:34,620 --> 01:00:40,270  
And those people, they filled  
out the valleys in Janowska.

1165  
01:00:40,270 --> 01:00:43,120

I wouldn't even be able  
to go and to the places

1166  
01:00:43,120 --> 01:00:44,380  
where they filled them up.

1167  
01:00:44,380 --> 01:00:46,260  
Let me make sure  
I understand this.

1168  
01:00:46,260 --> 01:00:50,990  
The field was directly--

1169  
01:00:50,990 --> 01:00:53,990  
They put barbed wire, they  
brought him into that field,

1170  
01:00:53,990 --> 01:00:57,410  
and later, everybody had  
to get undressed complete.

1171  
01:00:57,410 --> 01:00:57,970  
In the field?

1172  
01:00:57,970 --> 01:01:00,840  
Naked, in that wired field.

1173  
01:01:00,840 --> 01:01:02,260  
By walking out.

1174  
01:01:02,260 --> 01:01:04,930  
Everything was there,  
and then their clothes.

1175  
01:01:04,930 --> 01:01:08,320  
Was a group of  
people from the camp,

1176  
01:01:08,320 --> 01:01:11,905  
every clothes was searched.

1177  
01:01:11,905 --> 01:01:13,480

[INAUDIBLE]

1178

01:01:13,480 --> 01:01:15,310

They took into the  
clothes, and everything

1179

01:01:15,310 --> 01:01:20,690

they find gold, whatever  
anybody had in his clothes.

1180

01:01:20,690 --> 01:01:24,080

And if they have actually they  
have to take off everything.

1181

01:01:24,080 --> 01:01:29,650

There was a pile, and there  
was a special brigade for that,

1182

01:01:29,650 --> 01:01:31,900

to search that clothes.

1183

01:01:31,900 --> 01:01:38,120

And those people had to walk  
to that, about at least a mile,

1184

01:01:38,120 --> 01:01:39,440

to the valleys.

1185

01:01:39,440 --> 01:01:42,340

And they were shoving in,  
they were putting them

1186

01:01:42,340 --> 01:01:46,870

on the edge like a  
group of [INAUDIBLE]..

1187

01:01:46,870 --> 01:01:50,570

Whenever they make 12 a row, and  
whenever they walked this way,

1188

01:01:50,570 --> 01:01:54,390

and every time a row stepped  
up and they shot them,

1189  
01:01:54,390 --> 01:01:56,380  
they fell down, just like here.

1190  
01:01:56,380 --> 01:01:58,840  
They filled up that valleys.

1191  
01:01:58,840 --> 01:02:00,833  
How did they decide who  
they were going to kill

1192  
01:02:00,833 --> 01:02:02,000  
and who they were going to--

1193  
01:02:02,000 --> 01:02:03,880  
No, they didn't,  
they'd kill everybody.

1194  
01:02:03,880 --> 01:02:06,430  
Everybody was in  
that barbed wire.

1195  
01:02:06,430 --> 01:02:09,740  
Everybody was accumulate  
when they brought them.

1196  
01:02:09,740 --> 01:02:12,370  
It was people from  
all over the country.

1197  
01:02:12,370 --> 01:02:15,100  
I'm sorry, I thought  
you said that--

1198  
01:02:15,100 --> 01:02:20,500  
I told you that barbed wire was  
from people from the ghetto,

1199  
01:02:20,500 --> 01:02:23,800  
and people that they brought  
in from all other countries.

1200

01:02:23,800 --> 01:02:28,260

There was thousands,  
hundreds of thousands.

1201

01:02:28,260 --> 01:02:30,000