

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:33,040

2

00:00:33,040 --> 00:00:34,990

We were talking
before about when

3

00:00:34,990 --> 00:00:38,800

you left the village in 1943.

4

00:00:38,800 --> 00:00:39,530

I left my town.

5

00:00:39,530 --> 00:00:40,780

Your town, excuse me, in 1943.

6

00:00:40,780 --> 00:00:41,510

Not a village.

7

00:00:41,510 --> 00:00:42,130

Yes.

8

00:00:42,130 --> 00:00:46,180

We were very proud because there
was a Tluste town and Tluste

9

00:00:46,180 --> 00:00:49,630

village, and I am from the town.

10

00:00:49,630 --> 00:00:55,010

Anyway, right after
the big Aktion,

11

00:00:55,010 --> 00:01:03,280

we called it, Thursday Aktion,
May 27, 1943, we tried to go

12

00:01:03,280 --> 00:01:05,290

to the villages, where--

13

00:01:05,290 --> 00:01:07,330

I don't know if this
is already on record.

14

00:01:07,330 --> 00:01:12,410

They said the Germans
needed the rubber.

15

00:01:12,410 --> 00:01:15,430

They tried to raise
rubber plants.

16

00:01:15,430 --> 00:01:17,590

And of course they
needed food for the army.

17

00:01:17,590 --> 00:01:22,950

And we worked those plantations.

18

00:01:22,950 --> 00:01:26,760

So I went with my
mother and sister.

19

00:01:26,760 --> 00:01:28,260

My brother still was alive.

20

00:01:28,260 --> 00:01:34,920

We went to Holovchyntsi which
is 5 kilometers from Tluste.

21

00:01:34,920 --> 00:01:39,330

And while I was in that camp
some of the village people

22

00:01:39,330 --> 00:01:42,810

would take me in
to knit sweaters.

23

00:01:42,810 --> 00:01:47,010

They had wool, and I
was knitting sweaters

24

00:01:47,010 --> 00:01:50,200

for all kind of families.

25

00:01:50,200 --> 00:01:52,770

And of course they
would feed me and let

26

00:01:52,770 --> 00:01:57,210

me sleep in the stable, which
was a little safer than being

27

00:01:57,210 --> 00:01:59,790

all the time in that camp
where we were all-- they

28

00:01:59,790 --> 00:02:03,040

could surround us any minute.

29

00:02:03,040 --> 00:02:07,230

So the people were
pretty decent to me

30

00:02:07,230 --> 00:02:10,590

just because they respected
my father very much.

31

00:02:10,590 --> 00:02:16,530

But still now there were
the young people that--

32

00:02:16,530 --> 00:02:20,040

they were stupid, some of them.

33

00:02:20,040 --> 00:02:25,620

And just seeing the way
the world treats us,

34

00:02:25,620 --> 00:02:29,070

they thought that our
lives didn't mean anything.

35

00:02:29,070 --> 00:02:31,130

And the story I
want to tell you--

36
00:02:31,130 --> 00:02:32,040
just one incident.

37
00:02:32,040 --> 00:02:34,900
There were a few,
but this incident

38
00:02:34,900 --> 00:02:39,750
is a story which I call
the story of my dress.

39
00:02:39,750 --> 00:02:44,700
Before I left the
last time my home,

40
00:02:44,700 --> 00:02:46,960
you grabbed the best
thing you had to wear.

41
00:02:46,960 --> 00:02:50,420
So I had-- it was a
dusty rose wool dress.

42
00:02:50,420 --> 00:02:53,070
It was a beautiful dress
from before the war,

43
00:02:53,070 --> 00:02:55,600
before the Russians came.

44
00:02:55,600 --> 00:02:57,450
And a pair of good shoes.

45
00:02:57,450 --> 00:03:00,360
That's the only thing I owned.

46
00:03:00,360 --> 00:03:05,550
So that family had a
daughter about my age,

47
00:03:05,550 --> 00:03:09,540

and she probably liked
the dress very much.

48
00:03:09,540 --> 00:03:11,450
So she wanted it.

49
00:03:11,450 --> 00:03:15,750
So in order to get it,
she put up a scheme.

50
00:03:15,750 --> 00:03:18,600
She was going to
ask a girlfriend

51
00:03:18,600 --> 00:03:20,970
to foretell my future.

52
00:03:20,970 --> 00:03:23,610
I did not want to
know my future.

53
00:03:23,610 --> 00:03:26,280
You didn't have to be a genius
to foretell a Jewish girl's

54
00:03:26,280 --> 00:03:28,100
future at that time.

55
00:03:28,100 --> 00:03:33,270
But nevertheless, she told a
girlfriend to tell my future,

56
00:03:33,270 --> 00:03:38,690
and of course she told me that
in two weeks I'll be killed.

57
00:03:38,690 --> 00:03:41,610
So I said well, I'll be killed.

58
00:03:41,610 --> 00:03:44,370
What can I do, I mean?

59

00:03:44,370 --> 00:03:49,750

So after a while, she
comes in with an old dress

60

00:03:49,750 --> 00:03:54,570

of hers, a rag, and she
tells me why don't we trade?

61

00:03:54,570 --> 00:03:56,970

I said, why should I trade?

62

00:03:56,970 --> 00:04:01,080

And she says I want your dress,
and what do you need it for?

63

00:04:01,080 --> 00:04:04,540

In two weeks, you'll
be dead anyway.

64

00:04:04,540 --> 00:04:08,705

So I said, well, so in two
weeks you'll have my dress.

65

00:04:08,705 --> 00:04:11,520

She goes well, but that
will be full of blood.

66

00:04:11,520 --> 00:04:12,120

It's a pity.

67

00:04:12,120 --> 00:04:14,650

Such a pretty dress.

68

00:04:14,650 --> 00:04:19,680

So I looked at her, and I
figured she has the right

69

00:04:19,680 --> 00:04:21,589

to have the dress and her life.

70

00:04:21,589 --> 00:04:24,870

71

00:04:24,870 --> 00:04:25,830

That was one incident.

72

00:04:25,830 --> 00:04:29,950

Then there's another
incident also.

73

00:04:29,950 --> 00:04:30,700

I don't know.

74

00:04:30,700 --> 00:04:36,290

It seems that the older
people, maybe they were older.

75

00:04:36,290 --> 00:04:40,210

They knew life better,
and maybe they understood.

76

00:04:40,210 --> 00:04:43,540

And once they wanted to
take me into their home,

77

00:04:43,540 --> 00:04:45,380

they were really good.

78

00:04:45,380 --> 00:04:48,980

I mean, not everybody did it.

79

00:04:48,980 --> 00:04:51,460

So I don't know if I told you.

80

00:04:51,460 --> 00:04:53,740

The Jewish people were
killed by the Poles

81

00:04:53,740 --> 00:04:56,760

and the Ukrainians were
shipped to Germany to work.

82

00:04:56,760 --> 00:04:58,060

Right.

83

00:04:58,060 --> 00:05:01,660

So there were very
few able-bodied men

84

00:05:01,660 --> 00:05:03,430

to work the fields.

85

00:05:03,430 --> 00:05:05,980

So who came from--

86

00:05:05,980 --> 00:05:09,280

Just like you have
hillbillies in America,

87

00:05:09,280 --> 00:05:13,150

they had [NON-ENGLISH],, and
they lived in the mountains,

88

00:05:13,150 --> 00:05:15,770

and they were very poor.

89

00:05:15,770 --> 00:05:23,760

So they used come down to work
in that breadbasket of ours.

90

00:05:23,760 --> 00:05:25,780

And from there they were
sent to Germany too.

91

00:05:25,780 --> 00:05:28,660

So a young boy from
the hillbillies came.

92

00:05:28,660 --> 00:05:32,290

He worked for one of
the families there.

93

00:05:32,290 --> 00:05:35,400

And I used to sit at the light.

94

00:05:35,400 --> 00:05:39,130

We had electricity, but

it would come on at dusk,

95

00:05:39,130 --> 00:05:41,230
and till then it was dark.

96

00:05:41,230 --> 00:05:47,320
So one day I was
sitting and it was dark,

97

00:05:47,320 --> 00:05:51,580
and the son of the family
that I was knitting for

98

00:05:51,580 --> 00:05:54,130
came back from town.

99

00:05:54,130 --> 00:05:59,500
And in town there
was Ukrainian police.

100

00:05:59,500 --> 00:06:01,941
There were some of
them who remained, too.

101

00:06:01,941 --> 00:06:07,030
I know one girl survived
because in that Thursday Aktion

102

00:06:07,030 --> 00:06:08,110
he caught her.

103

00:06:08,110 --> 00:06:09,320
She was a little girl.

104

00:06:09,320 --> 00:06:12,430
She was maybe six years old.

105

00:06:12,430 --> 00:06:15,310
And he was going
with her with the--

106

00:06:15,310 --> 00:06:18,010

107
00:06:18,010 --> 00:06:18,910
Bayonet?

108
00:06:18,910 --> 00:06:23,020
--bayonet and going and
taking her out of town.

109
00:06:23,020 --> 00:06:24,630
He said run, child.

110
00:06:24,630 --> 00:06:26,390
And she survived.

111
00:06:26,390 --> 00:06:32,515
He could-- He was a human
being, so he took this child

112
00:06:32,515 --> 00:06:33,890
and took her out
of town and told

113
00:06:33,890 --> 00:06:36,640
her to run to save her life.

114
00:06:36,640 --> 00:06:38,080
And then there was another one.

115
00:06:38,080 --> 00:06:40,390
Schab was his name,
[NON-ENGLISH]..

116
00:06:40,390 --> 00:06:42,960
He could not eat breakfast
till he killed a Jew that day.

117
00:06:42,960 --> 00:06:46,120

118
00:06:46,120 --> 00:06:51,310
And that son of the family

I worked came in from town,

119

00:06:51,310 --> 00:06:52,510
and it was dark.

120

00:06:52,510 --> 00:06:53,918
The lights weren't on yet.

121

00:06:53,918 --> 00:06:55,960
And I was sitting in the
corner, and he comes in.

122

00:06:55,960 --> 00:07:00,700
He says to his mother
I saw this Schab,

123

00:07:00,700 --> 00:07:04,150
and he said that he's
going to Lisowce.

124

00:07:04,150 --> 00:07:09,400
That was the village where
my future husband was--

125

00:07:09,400 --> 00:07:11,310
to make an Aktion.

126

00:07:11,310 --> 00:07:12,580
And he didn't see me.

127

00:07:12,580 --> 00:07:14,350
He was a nice boy.

128

00:07:14,350 --> 00:07:16,210
He didn't see me in the dark.

129

00:07:16,210 --> 00:07:18,230
When I heard that,
I start crying.

130

00:07:18,230 --> 00:07:20,650
And he says now, don't you know?

131
00:07:20,650 --> 00:07:25,660
And he tried to calm me down,
and the mother, and they all

132
00:07:25,660 --> 00:07:27,100
tried to calm me down.

133
00:07:27,100 --> 00:07:28,550
Of course I was very upset.

134
00:07:28,550 --> 00:07:31,180
So that night,
instead of sitting--

135
00:07:31,180 --> 00:07:33,940
The people, the neighbors
would get together, play cards.

136
00:07:33,940 --> 00:07:35,780
I mean, life was going on.

137
00:07:35,780 --> 00:07:37,330
We were just being killed.

138
00:07:37,330 --> 00:07:40,960
They were sitting drinking
tea and playing cards,

139
00:07:40,960 --> 00:07:43,540
and I would sit and knit
when the light was on.

140
00:07:43,540 --> 00:07:46,000
It was in the winter.

141
00:07:46,000 --> 00:07:51,305
That night I didn't feel like
knitting because my boyfriend

142
00:07:51,305 --> 00:07:54,060
probably is dead already.

143
00:07:54,060 --> 00:07:58,500
So I was sitting in the corner
and not knitting, like sleeping

144
00:07:58,500 --> 00:07:59,740
[INAUDIBLE].

145
00:07:59,740 --> 00:08:03,597
That young hillbilly
Herzl comes in and says,

146
00:08:03,597 --> 00:08:04,930
hey, what's the matter with her?

147
00:08:04,930 --> 00:08:07,090
She's not knitting tonight.

148
00:08:07,090 --> 00:08:09,640
So they said, oh,
leave her alone.

149
00:08:09,640 --> 00:08:13,050
And they tell him the
story that the guy I knew--

150
00:08:13,050 --> 00:08:15,370
Ivan, whatever-- came back
from town and said that--

151
00:08:15,370 --> 00:08:17,920

152
00:08:17,920 --> 00:08:19,770
So she is worried.

153
00:08:19,770 --> 00:08:21,730
Oh, he says.

154
00:08:21,730 --> 00:08:23,770
I hope they don't
kill [INAUDIBLE]..

155
00:08:23,770 --> 00:08:24,357
Sorry.

156
00:08:24,357 --> 00:08:25,732
All the time he
used to bother me

157
00:08:25,732 --> 00:08:27,930
I should make gloves for him.

158
00:08:27,930 --> 00:08:31,615
I said as soon as I finish this
sweater I'll knit you gloves.

159
00:08:31,615 --> 00:08:35,260
So he says I hope
they won't kill her

160
00:08:35,260 --> 00:08:38,950
till she makes my gloves.

161
00:08:38,950 --> 00:08:40,570
I have to give
credit to the people.

162
00:08:40,570 --> 00:08:43,620
They started yelling
at him and telling him

163
00:08:43,620 --> 00:08:49,143
that he's not a human being,
and I'm a young child.

164
00:08:49,143 --> 00:08:55,690
So I'm not older than he is, and
he should not talk like that.

165
00:08:55,690 --> 00:08:59,935
But I should live just long
enough to make his gloves.

166

00:08:59,935 --> 00:09:02,600

167

00:09:02,600 --> 00:09:10,660

So things like that were all
going on till the Vlasov,

168

00:09:10,660 --> 00:09:12,850

the army, Vlasov's army.

169

00:09:12,850 --> 00:09:18,790

These were Ukrainians that
worked with the Nazis.

170

00:09:18,790 --> 00:09:20,910

And they were going already.

171

00:09:20,910 --> 00:09:28,030

I mean, Stalingrad was already
taken, and there was the--

172

00:09:28,030 --> 00:09:30,250

How do you say
Rus'skizhug in English?

173

00:09:30,250 --> 00:09:31,930

Which word?

174

00:09:31,930 --> 00:09:33,100

When the armies are--

175

00:09:33,100 --> 00:09:34,540

Surrounded?

176

00:09:34,540 --> 00:09:35,130

No, no.

177

00:09:35,130 --> 00:09:36,150

Not surrounded.

178

00:09:36,150 --> 00:09:39,810

Rus'skizhug is when the German

army was slowly retreating.

179

00:09:39,810 --> 00:09:40,860

Retreating.

180

00:09:40,860 --> 00:09:44,307

Well, my English-- sometimes

I think in one language--

181

00:09:44,307 --> 00:09:44,890

No, it's fine.

182

00:09:44,890 --> 00:09:46,720

--and it comes out in the other.

183

00:09:46,720 --> 00:09:49,030

When the German

army was retreating,

184

00:09:49,030 --> 00:09:55,300

and the Vlasov's army was going

with the Germans of course.

185

00:09:55,300 --> 00:10:00,470

And that's when things got

very bad in the village

186

00:10:00,470 --> 00:10:02,560

that I was in.

187

00:10:02,560 --> 00:10:08,890

My future husband was in that

Lisowce and there we had--

188

00:10:08,890 --> 00:10:15,040

The story of our survival is

first the Ukrainian priest that

189

00:10:15,040 --> 00:10:20,020

helped, and then we were

lucky that in town there

190

00:10:20,020 --> 00:10:23,950
was a German, from
[PLACE NAME] who

191
00:10:23,950 --> 00:10:28,600
was a wonderful human
being, and he tried his best

192
00:10:28,600 --> 00:10:32,440
to protect the few Jews
that still survived.

193
00:10:32,440 --> 00:10:35,640

194
00:10:35,640 --> 00:10:40,770
And in the other village
where my future husband was,

195
00:10:40,770 --> 00:10:47,088
Lisowce there was
the Oberleitter--

196
00:10:47,088 --> 00:10:48,380
don't remember the first name--

197
00:10:48,380 --> 00:10:50,560
also, by name of Frank.

198
00:10:50,560 --> 00:10:54,190
He was a cousin of the
governor of Poland.

199
00:10:54,190 --> 00:10:57,550
And he was a wonderful
man, not like his cousin.

200
00:10:57,550 --> 00:11:01,300
But being a cousin of the
governor, he had a big pull.

201
00:11:01,300 --> 00:11:07,810
So he tried also to protect the

few people that worked for him.

202

00:11:07,810 --> 00:11:13,100

And Juris, who was
to become my husband,

203

00:11:13,100 --> 00:11:16,680

came once and told me
I should come there

204

00:11:16,680 --> 00:11:21,410

because I have a better
chance to survive with him

205

00:11:21,410 --> 00:11:24,160

in that Lisowce than
being in Holovchyntsi

206

00:11:24,160 --> 00:11:27,150

where the Vlasovs
have free hand.

207

00:11:27,150 --> 00:11:29,810

208

00:11:29,810 --> 00:11:35,420

My mother and I went to
Lisowce by the fields.

209

00:11:35,420 --> 00:11:37,780

I got dressed as a peasant girl.

210

00:11:37,780 --> 00:11:39,680

I remember that we have friends.

211

00:11:39,680 --> 00:11:41,960

They live now in Elizabeth.

212

00:11:41,960 --> 00:11:44,780

She was from [? Yahilnytsya ?],,
a different town.

213

00:11:44,780 --> 00:11:49,610
I told you that our town had
people from all over Europe.

214
00:11:49,610 --> 00:11:50,780
We had from Hungary.

215
00:11:50,780 --> 00:11:54,040
We had from Germany people.

216
00:11:54,040 --> 00:11:57,830
So when she saw me coming
to the village speaking

217
00:11:57,830 --> 00:12:00,500
with my husband dressed as
a peasant girl, she said oh,

218
00:12:00,500 --> 00:12:01,600
what a lucky fellow.

219
00:12:01,600 --> 00:12:04,250
Look, a nice
Christian girl came.

220
00:12:04,250 --> 00:12:06,120
And she was going to hide him.

221
00:12:06,120 --> 00:12:08,890
And so then she told--

222
00:12:08,890 --> 00:12:10,940
my other girlfriend
that's from my town,

223
00:12:10,940 --> 00:12:12,750
she says, a nice Christian girl?

224
00:12:12,750 --> 00:12:14,060
This is Ulka.

225
00:12:14,060 --> 00:12:15,360

She's not a Christian girl.

226

00:12:15,360 --> 00:12:16,580

This is a girl from--

227

00:12:16,580 --> 00:12:18,050

She's Jewish.

228

00:12:18,050 --> 00:12:23,180

And that's the way I and my
mother, we came to Lisowce.

229

00:12:23,180 --> 00:12:30,110

And Lisowce was that Frank,
the Oberleitter Frank.

230

00:12:30,110 --> 00:12:33,800

And whenever the Gestapo
would want to come and make

231

00:12:33,800 --> 00:12:38,030

an Aktion, he would say
that please let them

232

00:12:38,030 --> 00:12:41,030

stay till after the harvest.

233

00:12:41,030 --> 00:12:47,640

I have to send food to the
German army, to the Wehrmacht.

234

00:12:47,640 --> 00:12:52,400

And if you take away the Poles
and the Ukrainians in Germany,

235

00:12:52,400 --> 00:12:55,640

I need a workforce.

236

00:12:55,640 --> 00:13:04,310

So that way they always
would try to save us.

237

00:13:04,310 --> 00:13:07,160

But that didn't stop
the Gestapo to find out

238

00:13:07,160 --> 00:13:10,100

that once in a while he
would be on vacation,

239

00:13:10,100 --> 00:13:13,550

and they would come.

240

00:13:13,550 --> 00:13:19,290

And one incident was my
mother was very sick.

241

00:13:19,290 --> 00:13:21,500

She suffered from asthma.

242

00:13:21,500 --> 00:13:25,460

Of course the conditions
we lived were terrible.

243

00:13:25,460 --> 00:13:31,430

In a room maybe 12 by 20
there were 40 people living,

244

00:13:31,430 --> 00:13:35,530

and the air was not something
that a person suffering

245

00:13:35,530 --> 00:13:37,950

from asthma could live with.

246

00:13:37,950 --> 00:13:39,080

So she was very sick.

247

00:13:39,080 --> 00:13:44,600

And that day I had
the [NON-ENGLISH]..

248

00:13:44,600 --> 00:13:48,920

I was the one that was taking
care of the sick people.

249
00:13:48,920 --> 00:13:50,610
Help me out, professor.

250
00:13:50,610 --> 00:13:52,280
You were taking care
of the infirmary.

251
00:13:52,280 --> 00:13:53,987
Yes, I was taking--

252
00:13:53,987 --> 00:13:55,070
There wasn't an infirmary.

253
00:13:55,070 --> 00:13:56,790
That's where we all lived.

254
00:13:56,790 --> 00:14:03,510
Anyway, and there were a few
cases of typhoid there too.

255
00:14:03,510 --> 00:14:05,640
I went through the--

256
00:14:05,640 --> 00:14:08,260
I had typhoid when
I was in Tluste,

257
00:14:08,260 --> 00:14:13,320
so I was already immune to the
sickness, and so was my mother.

258
00:14:13,320 --> 00:14:16,620
But she was very weak and sick.

259
00:14:16,620 --> 00:14:19,020
She died two weeks after that.

260
00:14:19,020 --> 00:14:26,300
And when I heard shots,
I dressed my mother,

261

00:14:26,300 --> 00:14:29,600
and my mother was urging me
to run away, to hide myself,

262

00:14:29,600 --> 00:14:31,640
to save myself.

263

00:14:31,640 --> 00:14:34,950
She said she was sick
and old, and that's it.

264

00:14:34,950 --> 00:14:37,330
But I just couldn't leave her.

265

00:14:37,330 --> 00:14:42,230
I remember walking with her from
that house and shots ringing

266

00:14:42,230 --> 00:14:46,951
all over me, falling left
and right and over me.

267

00:14:46,951 --> 00:14:51,170
And we were not killed,
which, as I told you,

268

00:14:51,170 --> 00:14:56,030
I'm grateful that I don't
have to live with the feeling

269

00:14:56,030 --> 00:14:59,270
that I abandoned my mother
the last days of her life.

270

00:14:59,270 --> 00:15:03,770

271

00:15:03,770 --> 00:15:08,780
That was February 1944.

272

00:15:08,780 --> 00:15:11,280
My mother died.

273
00:15:11,280 --> 00:15:14,510
Think it was February 17.

274
00:15:14,510 --> 00:15:18,290
So it was like the
first days of February.

275
00:15:18,290 --> 00:15:20,210
My sister wasn't alive anymore.

276
00:15:20,210 --> 00:15:23,270
I heard that she was
shot with her child,

277
00:15:23,270 --> 00:15:29,180
and my brother-in-law was shot
a couple weeks after that.

278
00:15:29,180 --> 00:15:30,930
I never discussed
it with my mother.

279
00:15:30,930 --> 00:15:34,550
She just kept
telling me hold on.

280
00:15:34,550 --> 00:15:37,280
The [NON-ENGLISH] is coming.

281
00:15:37,280 --> 00:15:39,860
You'll be liberated soon.

282
00:15:39,860 --> 00:15:48,025
She died two weeks before we
were liberated, -- three weeks.

283
00:15:48,025 --> 00:15:55,250

284
00:15:55,250 --> 00:16:03,350
Now the Vlasovs,

the Ukrainian army

285

00:16:03,350 --> 00:16:07,260

that fought with the
Germans, was going all

286

00:16:07,260 --> 00:16:13,850

through the villages,
and Oberleitter Frank

287

00:16:13,850 --> 00:16:15,300

was afraid to stay.

288

00:16:15,300 --> 00:16:21,170

Already the Russian
army was advancing.

289

00:16:21,170 --> 00:16:26,565

So he was going to
Tluste to fighting

290

00:16:26,565 --> 00:16:29,690

And he told us oh,
don't stay here

291

00:16:29,690 --> 00:16:35,280

by yourself, because the
villagers will kill you.

292

00:16:35,280 --> 00:16:38,090

So he was protecting us.

293

00:16:38,090 --> 00:16:40,550

That's irony.

294

00:16:40,550 --> 00:16:44,480

We went with the German,
with our Oberleitter,

295

00:16:44,480 --> 00:16:47,290

to [PLACE NAME] to Tluste.

296

00:16:47,290 --> 00:16:51,200
And in Tluste, back to our
town, and from all the villages,

297
00:16:51,200 --> 00:16:54,010
the few people
that survived were

298
00:16:54,010 --> 00:16:58,245
afraid to stay in the villages,
and we all came together there.

299
00:16:58,245 --> 00:17:00,530
And how many people were
now together at this point?

300
00:17:00,530 --> 00:17:01,470
500 people.

301
00:17:01,470 --> 00:17:01,970
500.

302
00:17:01,970 --> 00:17:06,410
500 people came together
to Tluste and [PLACE NAME]..

303
00:17:06,410 --> 00:17:10,080
And they gave us food.

304
00:17:10,080 --> 00:17:13,460

305
00:17:13,460 --> 00:17:18,230
All of a sudden, I
remember like today.

306
00:17:18,230 --> 00:17:20,000
I was standing--
And I was always

307
00:17:20,000 --> 00:17:23,380
trying to get dressed
as a peasant girl.

308
00:17:23,380 --> 00:17:25,560
With my nose, I could.

309
00:17:25,560 --> 00:17:29,660
So I walked out of the camp.

310
00:17:29,660 --> 00:17:34,340
I went to our maid, and she
gave me a better jacket yet,

311
00:17:34,340 --> 00:17:37,340
something to get dressed.

312
00:17:37,340 --> 00:17:40,570
All of a sudden, overheard
Ukrainian Vlasovs.

313
00:17:40,570 --> 00:17:43,180

314
00:17:43,180 --> 00:17:46,010
So one said that
you know that those

315
00:17:46,010 --> 00:17:47,570
are Jews here in that town.

316
00:17:47,570 --> 00:17:48,890
Let's go.

317
00:17:48,890 --> 00:17:54,510
So I went and I told the woman
that used to be a cook from

318
00:17:54,510 --> 00:17:59,390
[PLACE NAME],, the
Jewish girl [INAUDIBLE]..

319
00:17:59,390 --> 00:18:03,620
Sent out the German soldiers
came, the Wehrmacht.

320
00:18:03,620 --> 00:18:06,670
It was Nazis.

321
00:18:06,670 --> 00:18:11,640
The German soldiers
chased away the Vlasovs

322
00:18:11,640 --> 00:18:13,910
because they would
have massacred

323
00:18:13,910 --> 00:18:15,500
all the Jews that were there.

324
00:18:15,500 --> 00:18:20,360

325
00:18:20,360 --> 00:18:25,950
I remember my husband's
mother was very sick.

326
00:18:25,950 --> 00:18:29,150
She had typhoid, and after
typhoid, I don't know,

327
00:18:29,150 --> 00:18:31,070
some kind of complications.

328
00:18:31,070 --> 00:18:35,694
And German field doctors
were giving her medicine.

329
00:18:35,694 --> 00:18:40,110

330
00:18:40,110 --> 00:18:48,270
And then March 23,
1944 the Russians came.

331
00:18:48,270 --> 00:18:54,240
And there were 500

people in the main--

332

00:18:54,240 --> 00:18:57,490

like the plantation, where
the big landowner lived,

333

00:18:57,490 --> 00:19:00,270

and there were
barracks made, wooden

334

00:19:00,270 --> 00:19:04,040

barracks, where all
those workers lived.

335

00:19:04,040 --> 00:19:09,060

That was like the camp.

336

00:19:09,060 --> 00:19:12,570

As I told you, I
still was dressed.

337

00:19:12,570 --> 00:19:14,550

I had a pair of shoes yet.

338

00:19:14,550 --> 00:19:15,640

I was still home.

339

00:19:15,640 --> 00:19:18,660

The people-- the
villagers helped me out,

340

00:19:18,660 --> 00:19:23,170

and the maid would come
and give me something.

341

00:19:23,170 --> 00:19:26,650

So when we saw the
Russian tanks coming,

342

00:19:26,650 --> 00:19:33,210

my husband and I ran out
to greet the Russians,

343

00:19:33,210 --> 00:19:38,310
and we ran from one tank to the
other till we came out of town.

344

00:19:38,310 --> 00:19:46,160
Meantime, German planes
came to bomb the Russians,

345

00:19:46,160 --> 00:19:48,710
but they didn't
see the Russians.

346

00:19:48,710 --> 00:19:52,635
Those 500 people were
running around that compound.

347

00:19:52,635 --> 00:19:55,460

348

00:19:55,460 --> 00:19:59,720
I'm sure that they did not see
those are Jews or civilians.

349

00:19:59,720 --> 00:20:03,340
And they bombed those barracks.

350

00:20:03,340 --> 00:20:09,900
150 people died that day
that we were liberated.

351

00:20:09,900 --> 00:20:15,170
My best girlfriend,
she always kept

352

00:20:15,170 --> 00:20:18,110
saying I wish to see
again the Russians,

353

00:20:18,110 --> 00:20:20,540
and then I don't care
what happens to me.

354

00:20:20,540 --> 00:20:22,250
She burned.

355
00:20:22,250 --> 00:20:23,890
I could never find anything.

356
00:20:23,890 --> 00:20:28,380
She and her little
sister burned to ashes.

357
00:20:28,380 --> 00:20:31,420
I am the one that [INAUDIBLE]
for her, but nobody--

358
00:20:31,420 --> 00:20:35,880

359
00:20:35,880 --> 00:20:44,720
That was the day that we were
liberated by the Russians.

360
00:20:44,720 --> 00:20:48,300
When we came in 1939,
the first speech

361
00:20:48,300 --> 00:20:50,940
the Russians gave-- "we
came to liberate you."

362
00:20:50,940 --> 00:20:55,193
So they liberated us from our
homes, from our everything.

363
00:20:55,193 --> 00:20:56,610
So what did they
come to liberate?

364
00:20:56,610 --> 00:21:01,740
But when they came March
23, 1944, they really--

365
00:21:01,740 --> 00:21:04,920
those few people who survived--

366
00:21:04,920 --> 00:21:07,350
So you're approximately
then about 350 people

367
00:21:07,350 --> 00:21:08,120
who had survived.

368
00:21:08,120 --> 00:21:08,800
Yes.

369
00:21:08,800 --> 00:21:10,500
Yes.

370
00:21:10,500 --> 00:21:11,940
Not all from Tluste.

371
00:21:11,940 --> 00:21:12,930
Correct.

372
00:21:12,930 --> 00:21:14,690
They're not all Tluste people--

373
00:21:14,690 --> 00:21:15,190
Understand.

374
00:21:15,190 --> 00:21:16,350
--but in Tluste.

375
00:21:16,350 --> 00:21:19,780

376
00:21:19,780 --> 00:21:23,150
Well, if you are
now in that area,

377
00:21:23,150 --> 00:21:27,620
I don't know of any other
town that that many survived.

378
00:21:27,620 --> 00:21:31,805

I have Milowce, [PLACE NAME],
CzortkÃ³w, Hungary.

379

00:21:31,805 --> 00:21:34,410

380

00:21:34,410 --> 00:21:38,840

What town is
[PERSONAL NAME] from?

381

00:21:38,840 --> 00:21:41,090

PrsemyÅ--?

382

00:21:41,090 --> 00:21:42,140

We have from Warsaw.

383

00:21:42,140 --> 00:21:46,030

We had people from all
over in that little town.

384

00:21:46,030 --> 00:21:53,263

385

00:21:53,263 --> 00:21:54,930

What were you feeling,
as you've already

386

00:21:54,930 --> 00:21:59,620

described it a little bit,
when the Russians came?

387

00:21:59,620 --> 00:22:04,940

I can tell you such tragedies
on that day, because I told you

388

00:22:04,940 --> 00:22:06,710

about my girlfriend.

389

00:22:06,710 --> 00:22:11,150

I'll tell you another
couple, that they

390

00:22:11,150 --> 00:22:14,800
had a son about my age.

391
00:22:14,800 --> 00:22:17,120
Of course he was killed.

392
00:22:17,120 --> 00:22:21,980
And the father was a pharmacist.

393
00:22:21,980 --> 00:22:27,320
He had some poison
always with him

394
00:22:27,320 --> 00:22:31,550
in case they come and kill
him, he'll take first.

395
00:22:31,550 --> 00:22:32,215
He survived.

396
00:22:32,215 --> 00:22:35,090
On that day, he and his
wife committed suicide.

397
00:22:35,090 --> 00:22:52,880

398
00:22:52,880 --> 00:22:55,450
The will to live was so great.

399
00:22:55,450 --> 00:22:57,766
But when you survived
that and looked around,

400
00:22:57,766 --> 00:23:00,280
no family, nobody.

401
00:23:00,280 --> 00:23:04,736

402
00:23:04,736 --> 00:23:12,100
We were numb all the time,

expecting that any minute

403

00:23:12,100 --> 00:23:13,340
you'll be killed.

404

00:23:13,340 --> 00:23:16,110
I remember now this
little woman that

405

00:23:16,110 --> 00:23:21,720
came also from a different
town along with two babies.

406

00:23:21,720 --> 00:23:24,480
She lived at a neighbor's house.

407

00:23:24,480 --> 00:23:26,070
And she had just--

408

00:23:26,070 --> 00:23:29,290
I don't know how
much money she had.

409

00:23:29,290 --> 00:23:31,670
So she figured out--

410

00:23:31,670 --> 00:23:33,520
All the time there were rumors.

411

00:23:33,520 --> 00:23:34,770
There's going to be an Aktion.

412

00:23:34,770 --> 00:23:37,830
There won't be an Aktion.

413

00:23:37,830 --> 00:23:41,010
So there was a rumor
once that in two weeks

414

00:23:41,010 --> 00:23:43,200
there's going to be an Aktion.

415

00:23:43,200 --> 00:23:49,180

So this woman had figured out
she has two weeks to live,

416

00:23:49,180 --> 00:23:51,180

and she spent her money.

417

00:23:51,180 --> 00:23:52,900

Two weeks came and
there was no Aktion.

418

00:23:52,900 --> 00:23:57,200

And she said, they
promised me Aktion.

419

00:23:57,200 --> 00:24:03,040

So it's things that you
cannot comprehend now.

420

00:24:03,040 --> 00:24:05,030

And she said if
I would've known,

421

00:24:05,030 --> 00:24:06,850

I would've stretched
a little longer.

422

00:24:06,850 --> 00:24:16,380

423

00:24:16,380 --> 00:24:19,300

After the Russians
came in, how soon after

424

00:24:19,300 --> 00:24:22,050

were you put into a DP camp?

425

00:24:22,050 --> 00:24:23,578

I was not put in a DP camp.

426

00:24:23,578 --> 00:24:24,120

You were not.

427

00:24:24,120 --> 00:24:26,750

No, the Russians did
not put me in a DP camp.

428

00:24:26,750 --> 00:24:27,827

No, not the Russians.

429

00:24:27,827 --> 00:24:29,160

What happened immediately after?

430

00:24:29,160 --> 00:24:29,940

No.

431

00:24:29,940 --> 00:24:36,860

Immediate after that,
when I came out,

432

00:24:36,860 --> 00:24:43,330

the maid dressed me from top to
bottom with whatever she had.

433

00:24:43,330 --> 00:24:45,680

She tried to help me.

434

00:24:45,680 --> 00:24:49,650

And then my husband--

435

00:24:49,650 --> 00:24:50,760

I mean, not husband.

436

00:24:50,760 --> 00:24:52,930

We were separated He were --

437

00:24:52,930 --> 00:24:56,890

They took him away to work.

438

00:24:56,890 --> 00:24:59,850

So I was on my own.

439

00:24:59,850 --> 00:25:02,590

And if I would not work--

440

00:25:02,590 --> 00:25:07,730
in Russia, if you don't
work, you're a vagrant.

441

00:25:07,730 --> 00:25:10,130
So they would have
taken me on the Donbas.

442

00:25:10,130 --> 00:25:11,630
If you're hear about
the Donbas, you

443

00:25:11,630 --> 00:25:14,480
know these are the
coal mines on the Don.

444

00:25:14,480 --> 00:25:17,140
And that's all I had to--

445

00:25:17,140 --> 00:25:18,950
Well, I was alone.

446

00:25:18,950 --> 00:25:23,560
Somebody that survived with a
mother, older sisters, this --

447

00:25:23,560 --> 00:25:28,940
And being a girl
alone, it's never good.

448

00:25:28,940 --> 00:25:34,200
So I had to get a job.

449

00:25:34,200 --> 00:25:39,440
So a friend of my
father's, who was--

450

00:25:39,440 --> 00:25:41,960
The borders now were altered.

451

00:25:41,960 --> 00:25:44,720
There was no Romanian border,
because the part that was

452
00:25:44,720 --> 00:25:47,090
Romania was also under Russia.

453
00:25:47,090 --> 00:25:50,120
Did you hear of our town
Czernivitsi, Czernowitz?

454
00:25:50,120 --> 00:25:51,170
Czernowitz.

455
00:25:51,170 --> 00:25:52,010
Yes.

456
00:25:52,010 --> 00:25:56,750
So one of these
friends of my father's

457
00:25:56,750 --> 00:26:05,480
became the brewer of the
brewery, head of all breweries

458
00:26:05,480 --> 00:26:06,730
on the Romanian side.

459
00:26:06,730 --> 00:26:08,960
And he said if
I'll come and work

460
00:26:08,960 --> 00:26:11,090
there I would be protected.

461
00:26:11,090 --> 00:26:12,480
I'll get a job.

462
00:26:12,480 --> 00:26:14,760
So I became a bookkeeper
in the brewery.

463

00:26:14,760 --> 00:26:19,050

464

00:26:19,050 --> 00:26:25,190

To describe you how I kept
books there, this is Russia.

465

00:26:25,190 --> 00:26:30,730

Of course it was wartime,
but it was Russia.

466

00:26:30,730 --> 00:26:32,300

We had no paper to write on.

467

00:26:32,300 --> 00:26:38,160

So on old Pravdas with
a crayon, a red crayon.

468

00:26:38,160 --> 00:26:41,930

That way I kept books,
because I had no paper.

469

00:26:41,930 --> 00:26:44,000

So I worked in the brewery.

470

00:26:44,000 --> 00:26:46,940

Some people were
nice Jewish people.

471

00:26:46,940 --> 00:26:48,020

This is a difference.

472

00:26:48,020 --> 00:26:50,615

473

00:26:50,615 --> 00:26:54,530

And all the time, I waited for
my husband, my future husband,

474

00:26:54,530 --> 00:26:57,140

to come back.

475

00:26:57,140 --> 00:27:01,760

And I just wanted to
go be a Polish citizen.

476

00:27:01,760 --> 00:27:03,230

I was born in Poland.

477

00:27:03,230 --> 00:27:08,010

I had the right to
emigrate to Poland.

478

00:27:08,010 --> 00:27:12,130

So when in 19--

479

00:27:12,130 --> 00:27:13,720

it was Sukkot time--

480

00:27:13,720 --> 00:27:15,890

1945.

481

00:27:15,890 --> 00:27:21,200

I mean, the war
ended in May of '45.

482

00:27:21,200 --> 00:27:27,510

At Sukkot time '45, we came to
Poland-- on the Polish side,

483

00:27:27,510 --> 00:27:28,350

what's in Pol--

484

00:27:28,350 --> 00:27:30,680

Katowice, you know?

485

00:27:30,680 --> 00:27:32,720

And from there, of
course, I didn't

486

00:27:32,720 --> 00:27:35,840

want to stay in Poland, either.

487

00:27:35,840 --> 00:27:40,400

I had enough of Poles,
Ukrainians, Russians.

488
00:27:40,400 --> 00:27:46,280
So who went to Austria,
and from Austria,

489
00:27:46,280 --> 00:27:52,850
to Germany, from
Austria DP camp.

490
00:27:52,850 --> 00:27:58,560
Speaking of DP camps,
I was in Austria.

491
00:27:58,560 --> 00:28:01,230
We were in the
[INAUDIBLE] Kaserne.

492
00:28:01,230 --> 00:28:05,010
This is where the
soldiers used to live.

493
00:28:05,010 --> 00:28:08,290
There were maybe 3,000
Jews in this Kaserne.

494
00:28:08,290 --> 00:28:14,600
The Austrian government
wanted the Kaserne back.

495
00:28:14,600 --> 00:28:20,035
And the American army slammed us
with tanks, and told us to go.

496
00:28:20,035 --> 00:28:20,910
We didn't want to go.

497
00:28:20,910 --> 00:28:24,570

498
00:28:24,570 --> 00:28:27,735
People that had small

children had to--

499

00:28:27,735 --> 00:28:28,860

we went on a hunger strike.

500

00:28:28,860 --> 00:28:31,890

501

00:28:31,890 --> 00:28:32,960

I don't know.

502

00:28:32,960 --> 00:28:34,890

But it's after the war.

503

00:28:34,890 --> 00:28:39,006

This is adding insult to injury.

504

00:28:39,006 --> 00:28:41,670

But we went through.

505

00:28:41,670 --> 00:28:43,600

So the Austrians wanted the--

506

00:28:43,600 --> 00:28:49,952

507

00:28:49,952 --> 00:28:51,660

what do you call, what
the soldiers live.

508

00:28:51,660 --> 00:28:52,860

They don't live in barracks.

509

00:28:52,860 --> 00:28:56,250

They live in those big houses.

510

00:28:56,250 --> 00:28:58,650

And those who have
a small child had

511

00:28:58,650 --> 00:29:02,970

to smuggle in a little
milk for the babies.

512
00:29:02,970 --> 00:29:07,260
And if you think that we won
by the hunger strike, no.

513
00:29:07,260 --> 00:29:09,980
We were put into barracks.

514
00:29:09,980 --> 00:29:14,140
The rats were that big.

515
00:29:14,140 --> 00:29:19,030
Every night, somebody else's
baby was bitten in the ear.

516
00:29:19,030 --> 00:29:24,490
From there, my cousin,
who's not alive anymore,

517
00:29:24,490 --> 00:29:29,320
he was in Ulm on the Donau.

518
00:29:29,320 --> 00:29:30,440
He survived, in Russia.

519
00:29:30,440 --> 00:29:32,970

520
00:29:32,970 --> 00:29:37,400
I had only one cousin
that survived the war.

521
00:29:37,400 --> 00:29:40,690
He was of the age that the
Russians took him to the army

522
00:29:40,690 --> 00:29:42,620
in 1939.

523
00:29:42,620 --> 00:29:43,495

He was in the Russia.

524

00:29:43,495 --> 00:29:45,790

That was the way he survived.

525

00:29:45,790 --> 00:29:49,320

He spoke English,
before the war started.

526

00:29:49,320 --> 00:29:56,110

So when he came to Germany,
in the American zone,

527

00:29:56,110 --> 00:29:58,130

and they spoke
English, of course,

528

00:29:58,130 --> 00:30:01,690

they gave the job, as being
the director of the DP camp.

529

00:30:01,690 --> 00:30:05,050

So he wrote to me to come there.

530

00:30:05,050 --> 00:30:11,710

So I came to Ulm from
there, because to live

531

00:30:11,710 --> 00:30:13,120

in those barracks--

532

00:30:13,120 --> 00:30:18,160

and I was expecting my twins.

533

00:30:18,160 --> 00:30:21,600

So we came to Ulm.

534

00:30:21,600 --> 00:30:24,740

In Ulm, we lived in
those big barracks.

535

00:30:24,740 --> 00:30:26,410

We did stay in the barracks.

536

00:30:26,410 --> 00:30:34,060

And from there, I was
there 3, or something.

537

00:30:34,060 --> 00:30:39,340

Then the Germans wanted
their barracks back.

538

00:30:39,340 --> 00:30:41,670

So we were sent to Fohrenwald.

539

00:30:41,670 --> 00:30:44,710

And there we live
in the little houses

540

00:30:44,710 --> 00:30:48,480

that Hitler built
for his workers.

541

00:30:48,480 --> 00:30:49,900

And from there--

542

00:30:49,900 --> 00:30:53,970

I mean, five years, so we
were got one place, there.

543

00:30:53,970 --> 00:30:55,020

First I was in Ebensee.

544

00:30:55,020 --> 00:31:00,460

I mean, I cannot tell you how
many stops I made in those five

545

00:31:00,460 --> 00:31:04,460

years living with rats,
and dead, and living.

546

00:31:04,460 --> 00:31:07,510

And calories-- I
remembered, from school,

547

00:31:07,510 --> 00:31:08,620

what a calorie was.

548

00:31:08,620 --> 00:31:11,360

549

00:31:11,360 --> 00:31:16,120

But when I came to

DP camps, I found out

550

00:31:16,120 --> 00:31:19,180

that this spaghetti

has a lot of calories.

551

00:31:19,180 --> 00:31:21,492

I could not connect

one with the other.

552

00:31:21,492 --> 00:31:23,950

Did you have any help from any

of the Jewish organizations,

553

00:31:23,950 --> 00:31:24,790

at the time?

554

00:31:24,790 --> 00:31:28,660

The Jewish organizations,

at the time,

555

00:31:28,660 --> 00:31:35,530

the Joint was active,

too, in Germany.

556

00:31:35,530 --> 00:31:37,350

I mean, we came to

the United States.

557

00:31:37,350 --> 00:31:41,700

The Joint brought us over.

558

00:31:41,700 --> 00:31:42,250

They came.

559

00:31:42,250 --> 00:31:45,930

They sent entertainers,
which was good.

560

00:31:45,930 --> 00:31:49,150

But we need-- instead
of entertainers,

561

00:31:49,150 --> 00:31:53,265

we need a visa, or
papers, to come.

562

00:31:53,265 --> 00:31:55,230

But I'm sure it
wasn't their fault.

563

00:31:55,230 --> 00:31:57,730

Yeah, I was to ask you what
your feelings were, at the time.

564

00:31:57,730 --> 00:31:59,886

I-- we were better.

565

00:31:59,886 --> 00:32:04,480

I couldn't wait to
have my own corner,

566

00:32:04,480 --> 00:32:10,080

and to be put a productive
human being, again.

567

00:32:10,080 --> 00:32:12,930

The only things I
wanted was my own corner

568

00:32:12,930 --> 00:32:16,972

with a place for my children.

569

00:32:16,972 --> 00:32:18,930

And my children should
be able to go to school.

570

00:32:18,930 --> 00:32:20,930

And I should be able-- my
husband-- to go to work.

571

00:32:20,930 --> 00:32:21,430

That's all.

572

00:32:21,430 --> 00:32:23,130

The children born in what year?

573

00:32:23,130 --> 00:32:24,510

In '47.

574

00:32:24,510 --> 00:32:26,460

In '47.

575

00:32:26,460 --> 00:32:27,580

In Ulm.

576

00:32:27,580 --> 00:32:30,400

577

00:32:30,400 --> 00:32:33,515

So that's all I wanted.

578

00:32:33,515 --> 00:32:34,390

I didn't want to sit.

579

00:32:34,390 --> 00:32:37,270

I didn't want to be given.

580

00:32:37,270 --> 00:32:41,260

I was given spaghetti,
and some beans,

581

00:32:41,260 --> 00:32:45,380

and butter, they would
give me, and whatever.

582

00:32:45,380 --> 00:32:46,480

We were four people.

583
00:32:46,480 --> 00:32:47,670
I had twins right away.

584
00:32:47,670 --> 00:32:49,545
So we were four people,
they give you a chunk

585
00:32:49,545 --> 00:32:51,970
of butter, no refrigeration.

586
00:32:51,970 --> 00:32:54,180
I became an expert baker.

587
00:32:54,180 --> 00:32:57,820
I made cookies, because--

588
00:32:57,820 --> 00:33:00,260
But that wasn't my
[INAUDIBLE] life.

589
00:33:00,260 --> 00:33:03,450
I want to live a normal life.

590
00:33:03,450 --> 00:33:07,720
After you had been liberated,
to spend so many years moving

591
00:33:07,720 --> 00:33:08,915
from place to place?

592
00:33:08,915 --> 00:33:12,665

593
00:33:12,665 --> 00:33:17,660
We always thought, once we
were liberated, I'll be--

594
00:33:17,660 --> 00:33:18,300
Free.

595

00:33:18,300 --> 00:33:19,430
I'll be free.

596
00:33:19,430 --> 00:33:22,100
I could have been, if I
would have stayed in Russia.

597
00:33:22,100 --> 00:33:23,360
I didn't want that.

598
00:33:23,360 --> 00:33:27,290
I'd had enough of that, too.

599
00:33:27,290 --> 00:33:31,700
I didn't want to live,
seeing the places.

600
00:33:31,700 --> 00:33:33,440
Now, I have second thoughts.

601
00:33:33,440 --> 00:33:36,060
Maybe my children would
like to see where I am from.

602
00:33:36,060 --> 00:33:40,070
They would like to go, now,
especially that Sam came back

603
00:33:40,070 --> 00:33:43,770
from our hometown.

604
00:33:43,770 --> 00:33:47,960
But to be five
years [INAUDIBLE]..

605
00:33:47,960 --> 00:33:49,850
Sure.

606
00:33:49,850 --> 00:33:51,920
But let's take a break
here, just one second.

607

00:33:51,920 --> 00:34:13,929

608

00:34:13,929 --> 00:34:15,679

Yeah, I wanted to go
on for a few minutes.

609

00:34:15,679 --> 00:34:16,110

I'm sorry.

610

00:34:16,110 --> 00:34:17,277

I was trying to convey that.

611

00:34:17,277 --> 00:34:18,420

What time is it?

612

00:34:18,420 --> 00:34:20,846

5:08.

613

00:34:20,846 --> 00:34:24,300

Have we been talking
for 45 minutes?

614

00:34:24,300 --> 00:34:28,900

615

00:34:28,900 --> 00:34:30,150

Can we have 10 more minutes?

616

00:34:30,150 --> 00:34:32,219

Yeah.

617

00:34:32,219 --> 00:34:32,850

Are you sure?

618

00:34:32,850 --> 00:34:34,710

Do you mind.

619

00:34:34,710 --> 00:34:35,429

I'm sorry.

620

00:34:35,429 --> 00:34:38,060
They were giving me the signal.

621
00:34:38,060 --> 00:34:38,889
OK.

622
00:34:38,889 --> 00:34:39,389
OK.

623
00:34:39,389 --> 00:34:39,840
I'm sorry.

624
00:34:39,840 --> 00:34:40,798
I saw the signal, but--

625
00:34:40,798 --> 00:34:48,570

626
00:34:48,570 --> 00:34:49,945
So as you were
saying, there must

627
00:34:49,945 --> 00:34:51,778
have been a tremendous
amount of bitterness,

628
00:34:51,778 --> 00:34:55,949
after being liberated, and then
having to spend five years.

629
00:34:55,949 --> 00:34:59,730
What were the circumstances
for which you actually

630
00:34:59,730 --> 00:35:01,260
came to the United States?

631
00:35:01,260 --> 00:35:05,310
The circumstances were,
the truth is, my husband,

632
00:35:05,310 --> 00:35:10,080

and in the beginning, I
wanted to go to Israel.

633
00:35:10,080 --> 00:35:12,560
I was raised with
the love for Israel.

634
00:35:12,560 --> 00:35:16,140
And we devote our
lives, now, for Israel.

635
00:35:16,140 --> 00:35:17,930
My daughter is, now, in Israel.

636
00:35:17,930 --> 00:35:21,880
But the war for liberation
started in Israel.

637
00:35:21,880 --> 00:35:22,850
I had twins there.

638
00:35:22,850 --> 00:35:24,960
My children were born in '47.

639
00:35:24,960 --> 00:35:26,880
I was all alone in the world.

640
00:35:26,880 --> 00:35:28,950
And I knew, the minute
we stepped down,

641
00:35:28,950 --> 00:35:32,060
my husband was a soldier again.

642
00:35:32,060 --> 00:35:37,855
And that as long as I had
to just fend for myself,

643
00:35:37,855 --> 00:35:41,416
to took care of myself, mainly.

644
00:35:41,416 --> 00:35:47,340

Two babies, all alone in
the world, I couldn't go.

645
00:35:47,340 --> 00:35:49,900
And I wouldn't let him go.

646
00:35:49,900 --> 00:35:54,000
So then, we registered to
go to the United States.

647
00:35:54,000 --> 00:35:55,530
And because we did not have--

648
00:35:55,530 --> 00:35:59,610
I did have family, but I had an
uncle, who was paralyzed, here.

649
00:35:59,610 --> 00:36:01,920
And the children were young
were [? my ?] age, so they

650
00:36:01,920 --> 00:36:03,360
couldn't help me.

651
00:36:03,360 --> 00:36:04,560
So that's the reason.

652
00:36:04,560 --> 00:36:11,350
Whoever had family here, of
course, came over much sooner.

653
00:36:11,350 --> 00:36:15,690
And we had to wait for the
quota and all kind of things

654
00:36:15,690 --> 00:36:17,220
like that.

655
00:36:17,220 --> 00:36:19,340
I have no regrets.

656
00:36:19,340 --> 00:36:20,220

We came here.

657

00:36:20,220 --> 00:36:22,770

The country was very good to me.

658

00:36:22,770 --> 00:36:24,210

We were eager to work.

659

00:36:24,210 --> 00:36:26,760

We started working, from
the minute we came here.

660

00:36:26,760 --> 00:36:27,930

My husband worked nights.

661

00:36:27,930 --> 00:36:28,680

And I worked days.

662

00:36:28,680 --> 00:36:31,920

663

00:36:31,920 --> 00:36:35,400

A lot of times, we saw each
other at the doorsteps,

664

00:36:35,400 --> 00:36:37,047

because the children.

665

00:36:37,047 --> 00:36:38,505

Somebody had to
watch the children.

666

00:36:38,505 --> 00:36:41,020

That's the reason we made that.

667

00:36:41,020 --> 00:36:47,377

But it took us to March 13,
1951, that we came here.

668

00:36:47,377 --> 00:36:48,960

At any time, were
you ever questioned,

669

00:36:48,960 --> 00:36:52,980
by any of the Allied officials,
about your experiences

670

00:36:52,980 --> 00:36:54,380
in Europe, at all?

671

00:36:54,380 --> 00:36:55,890
No, no, I wasn't.

672

00:36:55,890 --> 00:36:59,220
I could tell you a cute story.

673

00:36:59,220 --> 00:37:01,380
We were investigated,
of course, before we

674

00:37:01,380 --> 00:37:03,300
came to the United States.

675

00:37:03,300 --> 00:37:10,020
And in Poland, we live in
the town of Breslau, Breslau.

676

00:37:10,020 --> 00:37:17,320
So when I was interviewed, where
did you live, and this way.

677

00:37:17,320 --> 00:37:20,180
So I said I lived in Breslau.

678

00:37:20,180 --> 00:37:22,140
So he says, yes, you live.

679

00:37:22,140 --> 00:37:26,140
What is the name of the
chief of police of Breslau?

680

00:37:26,140 --> 00:37:27,640
You know, I was what I say?

681

00:37:27,640 --> 00:37:28,890

What kind of business
do I have with the chief

682

00:37:28,890 --> 00:37:29,850

of police in Breslau?

683

00:37:29,850 --> 00:37:30,760

[INAUDIBLE]

684

00:37:30,760 --> 00:37:32,720

Ask me for the baker.

685

00:37:32,720 --> 00:37:34,596

So he says, you're cute.

686

00:37:34,596 --> 00:37:35,770

He says, you're cute.

687

00:37:35,770 --> 00:37:38,010

You're the only one that--

688

00:37:38,010 --> 00:37:40,705

I said, look!

689

00:37:40,705 --> 00:37:42,330

Then, when I came to
the United States,

690

00:37:42,330 --> 00:37:43,872

and you listen to
the radio, and they

691

00:37:43,872 --> 00:37:46,370

talk about the chief
of police, his question

692

00:37:46,370 --> 00:37:48,810

wasn't that inappropriate.

693

00:37:48,810 --> 00:37:51,480

694
00:37:51,480 --> 00:37:53,160
[INAUDIBLE]

695
00:37:53,160 --> 00:37:59,400
So have we were investigated,
screened, till they let us in.

696
00:37:59,400 --> 00:38:06,325
Believe me, like a car,
to let in, from Cuba.

697
00:38:06,325 --> 00:38:08,190
We were screened.

698
00:38:08,190 --> 00:38:12,060
There was a screening
process, my God.

699
00:38:12,060 --> 00:38:14,748
How did you happen to
come to New Jersey?

700
00:38:14,748 --> 00:38:15,290
I don't know.

701
00:38:15,290 --> 00:38:16,415
Did you come to New Jersey?

702
00:38:16,415 --> 00:38:17,160
No, no, no.

703
00:38:17,160 --> 00:38:18,285
First we came--

704
00:38:18,285 --> 00:38:21,030
Certainly, I know you
came to New York, first.

705
00:38:21,030 --> 00:38:21,900
Flushing.

706

00:38:21,900 --> 00:38:24,820

Came from Flushing to Brooklyn,
from Brooklyn to [PLACE NAME],,

707

00:38:24,820 --> 00:38:27,030

and then to Elizabeth.

708

00:38:27,030 --> 00:38:29,760

709

00:38:29,760 --> 00:38:33,660

Everything is-- but thank God.

710

00:38:33,660 --> 00:38:35,310

I'm not complaining.

711

00:38:35,310 --> 00:38:39,440

I just pray for good health,
and peace in the world, somehow.

712

00:38:39,440 --> 00:38:45,438

If I survived Hitler and
Stalin, I'll survive anything.

713

00:38:45,438 --> 00:38:46,980

You had said something,
before, where

714

00:38:46,980 --> 00:38:52,170

we were talking privately, about
the fact that your husband was

715

00:38:52,170 --> 00:38:56,830

very bitter, didn't want to talk
about what happened in Europe.

716

00:38:56,830 --> 00:39:02,340

He thought, now, you know, when
we came to the United States,

717

00:39:02,340 --> 00:39:05,900

and after we met
somebody like Bielski.

718
00:39:05,900 --> 00:39:08,850
You know Bielski.

719
00:39:08,850 --> 00:39:13,970
He had the brains,
and the courage.

720
00:39:13,970 --> 00:39:16,310
What he did, went
into the woods,

721
00:39:16,310 --> 00:39:18,530
and saved so many people.

722
00:39:18,530 --> 00:39:22,000
And he scared the
villages, not to.

723
00:39:22,000 --> 00:39:24,600
They would not dare.

724
00:39:24,600 --> 00:39:26,440
You know what Bielski did?

725
00:39:26,440 --> 00:39:31,610
His wife-- his first wife
was killed, and then--

726
00:39:31,610 --> 00:39:34,660
my husband is bitter.

727
00:39:34,660 --> 00:39:40,610
And he brought the protection
of those deep woods,

728
00:39:40,610 --> 00:39:49,280
of [PLACE NAME] in Lithuania,
where they come from.

729

00:39:49,280 --> 00:39:52,760
Armies get lost in those woods.

730
00:39:52,760 --> 00:39:54,360
He had that protection.

731
00:39:54,360 --> 00:39:57,950
We lived in a plateau.

732
00:39:57,950 --> 00:40:00,610
It was a few trees.

733
00:40:00,610 --> 00:40:03,140
It was called a woods.

734
00:40:03,140 --> 00:40:04,430
So we didn't have that.

735
00:40:04,430 --> 00:40:09,530
And we didn't-- we did not
have-- we were gentle people.

736
00:40:09,530 --> 00:40:10,850
We were gentle people.

737
00:40:10,850 --> 00:40:15,920
And maybe he was, a
little bit, a strong guy.

738
00:40:15,920 --> 00:40:19,660
I don't want to say, he was a
little bit of the rough people.

739
00:40:19,660 --> 00:40:23,180
In our town, everybody
minding his own business.

740
00:40:23,180 --> 00:40:32,860

741
00:40:32,860 --> 00:40:36,710
If you heard that somebody's

son smoked a cigarette in shops,

742

00:40:36,710 --> 00:40:39,020

it was a big tragedy.

743

00:40:39,020 --> 00:40:42,830

Who was there to
organize resistance?

744

00:40:42,830 --> 00:40:45,860

And then, if you heard
it in another town,

745

00:40:45,860 --> 00:40:50,570

they were killing, because
one boy had hit the German.

746

00:40:50,570 --> 00:40:53,240

So if I go, and
I hit the German,

747

00:40:53,240 --> 00:40:56,270

or a young boy hits
the German, then they

748

00:40:56,270 --> 00:41:00,530

will come and kill his family,
kill every other, 10 Jew.

749

00:41:00,530 --> 00:41:04,960

So we were killed anyway.

750

00:41:04,960 --> 00:41:09,750

But you should have killed, at
least, a few Germans, with us.

751

00:41:09,750 --> 00:41:11,090

[NON-ENGLISH SPEECH].

752

00:41:11,090 --> 00:41:13,890

753

00:41:13,890 --> 00:41:14,840
There was not.

754
00:41:14,840 --> 00:41:20,420
And now, the after-thoughts,
seeing what other people

755
00:41:20,420 --> 00:41:25,622
do, to bring their causes.

756
00:41:25,622 --> 00:41:27,830
My husband thinks that we
should have been organized,

757
00:41:27,830 --> 00:41:30,760
to have something to
do to the Germans,

758
00:41:30,760 --> 00:41:36,860
or to the population that was
copulating with the Germans.

759
00:41:36,860 --> 00:41:39,800
This is only an afterthought.

760
00:41:39,800 --> 00:41:44,170
But, one thing I can tell,
that my husband is right,

761
00:41:44,170 --> 00:41:48,740
that the story should
be told, and people

762
00:41:48,740 --> 00:41:54,952
should know how to protect
themselves, that we were naive.

763
00:41:54,952 --> 00:41:57,440
we were peaceful people.

764
00:41:57,440 --> 00:42:01,250
The only thing we wanted
was to live daily life,

765
00:42:01,250 --> 00:42:06,320
and be able to go to
synagogue, and the children

766
00:42:06,320 --> 00:42:09,080
went to school, and a date--

767
00:42:09,080 --> 00:42:12,068
normal people, not
violent people.

768
00:42:12,068 --> 00:42:13,235
The Jews were never violent.

769
00:42:13,235 --> 00:42:16,000

770
00:42:16,000 --> 00:42:21,470
We were accused
of being cowards.

771
00:42:21,470 --> 00:42:23,560
Turned out for the Israeli Army.

772
00:42:23,560 --> 00:42:27,210
No, one calls us
any more cowards.

773
00:42:27,210 --> 00:42:32,150
And you could not ask,
in the first world war,

774
00:42:32,150 --> 00:42:35,630
if one Jew fell on the
kaiser side, and the other

775
00:42:35,630 --> 00:42:38,390
on the tsar's side, he
had to kill his brother,

776
00:42:38,390 --> 00:42:42,050

because he lived
across the border.

777
00:42:42,050 --> 00:42:47,600
So who was there to
organize, as I told you.

778
00:42:47,600 --> 00:42:50,100
First that took the
intelligentsia away.

779
00:42:50,100 --> 00:42:54,470

780
00:42:54,470 --> 00:42:58,760
But we were bitter
and busy, very busy.

781
00:42:58,760 --> 00:43:04,040
We came with the shirts on our
backs, with two small babies.

782
00:43:04,040 --> 00:43:08,450
I remember my aunt seeing
me with two babies,

783
00:43:08,450 --> 00:43:12,530
and she says to me,
you have two millions,

784
00:43:12,530 --> 00:43:15,685
because I have two girls,
they are so better than boys.

785
00:43:15,685 --> 00:43:17,060
So, i said, but
in the mean time,

786
00:43:17,060 --> 00:43:20,990
those millions have to be fed.

787
00:43:20,990 --> 00:43:23,460
So we were very

busy, and too bitter

788

00:43:23,460 --> 00:43:26,515

to write into the
book, our memories.

789

00:43:26,515 --> 00:43:30,310

790

00:43:30,310 --> 00:43:35,320

But I see that the older people
had more sechel than we did.

791

00:43:35,320 --> 00:43:40,475

And they did record a lot,
which I am grateful for.

792

00:43:40,475 --> 00:43:43,748

What were your attitudes
toward the Jewish community

793

00:43:43,748 --> 00:43:45,790

in the United States, for
example, when you came?

794

00:43:45,790 --> 00:43:49,160

Was there a sense of
bitterness, or outrage?

795

00:43:49,160 --> 00:43:52,897

Or the feeling that the Jewish
community in the United States

796

00:43:52,897 --> 00:43:53,980

could have done something?

797

00:43:53,980 --> 00:43:57,680

They were saying Kaddish for us.

798

00:43:57,680 --> 00:44:01,190

That was something, because
we did not need Kaddish.

799

00:44:01,190 --> 00:44:03,540

We needed support.

800

00:44:03,540 --> 00:44:05,870

And, I think, now, that they
live in the United States,

801

00:44:05,870 --> 00:44:11,810

they see that these people here
could have gone to Washington,

802

00:44:11,810 --> 00:44:15,930

and yell, and scream, and tell
Roosevelt to do something,

803

00:44:15,930 --> 00:44:17,295

not to give lip service.

804

00:44:17,295 --> 00:44:19,950

805

00:44:19,950 --> 00:44:27,110

But things came out
later, and promises.

806

00:44:27,110 --> 00:44:30,490

We were hoping that the
American Jewry would save us.

807

00:44:30,490 --> 00:44:32,740

I told you, we were
waiting for Entebbe.

808

00:44:32,740 --> 00:44:35,620

We didn't call it Entebbe,
but we were thinking,

809

00:44:35,620 --> 00:44:40,480

maybe they'll come through
Romania, and they will save us.

810

00:44:40,480 --> 00:44:44,020

Now, the Jews of Romania fared
better than we in Poland.

811
00:44:44,020 --> 00:44:47,130
And the Romanians were known
of being bigger anti-Semites

812
00:44:47,130 --> 00:44:50,620
than the Poles.

813
00:44:50,620 --> 00:44:55,380
But it seems that people that
did work with the Germans

814
00:44:55,380 --> 00:45:01,330
still didn't want to dirty
their hands with Jewish blood.

815
00:45:01,330 --> 00:45:03,980
So the Romanian Jews survived.

816
00:45:03,980 --> 00:45:09,580
They send them to
Transnistria to work in camps.

817
00:45:09,580 --> 00:45:11,590
They didn't want
to have businesses

818
00:45:11,590 --> 00:45:15,130
together, with Jewish people.

819
00:45:15,130 --> 00:45:20,980
But the Romanian partner
kept the business,

820
00:45:20,980 --> 00:45:24,070
and he still was giving them.

821
00:45:24,070 --> 00:45:27,095
The Polish Jews fared the worst.

822

00:45:27,095 --> 00:45:29,200
You will come to Yad Vashem.

823
00:45:29,200 --> 00:45:31,690
You see the chart.

824
00:45:31,690 --> 00:45:32,190
You see.

825
00:45:32,190 --> 00:45:35,540

826
00:45:35,540 --> 00:45:38,385
As I tell you this, our
town in comparison--

827
00:45:38,385 --> 00:45:42,610

828
00:45:42,610 --> 00:45:45,590
now, to go to hide
with a family,

829
00:45:45,590 --> 00:45:48,245
you had to give the
money to go feed you.

830
00:45:48,245 --> 00:45:49,870
We didn't have the
money, because, when

831
00:45:49,870 --> 00:45:54,400
the Russians came, right away,
they took care of our house.

832
00:45:54,400 --> 00:46:03,490
So if your father was in
the clothing business,

833
00:46:03,490 --> 00:46:06,940
so if you put a few suits,
a few rolls of material,

834

00:46:06,940 --> 00:46:09,140
and you had something to work.

835

00:46:09,140 --> 00:46:14,290
You have a lumber yard, how
many birds can you save?

836

00:46:14,290 --> 00:46:17,950
How many bricks can
you save, you know.

837

00:46:17,950 --> 00:46:20,500

838

00:46:20,500 --> 00:46:23,200
So we were, like,
wiped out, right away.

839

00:46:23,200 --> 00:46:25,960
So we just-- they
could give us--

840

00:46:25,960 --> 00:46:28,000
they owed us money.

841

00:46:28,000 --> 00:46:30,920
So they gave us a sack of
potatoes, or something,

842

00:46:30,920 --> 00:46:32,890
so that the way we survive.

843

00:46:32,890 --> 00:46:36,390
So the people, they did have
something more substantial,

844

00:46:36,390 --> 00:46:38,110
shoes.

845

00:46:38,110 --> 00:46:40,570
So they would go, and
take them into hiding.

846
00:46:40,570 --> 00:46:44,480
I told you, if they were
really god fearing people,

847
00:46:44,480 --> 00:46:45,930
they kept them,
and they survived,

848
00:46:45,930 --> 00:46:49,150
or they killed them for
the bread, themselves.

849
00:46:49,150 --> 00:46:53,920

850
00:46:53,920 --> 00:46:59,020
What do you think the
lesson to be learned?

851
00:46:59,020 --> 00:47:02,050
The lesson to be learned is--

852
00:47:02,050 --> 00:47:06,320
I'm sad to say, but
I was told, in Yad

853
00:47:06,320 --> 00:47:10,500
Vashem by an American girl that
works, lives now in Israel--

854
00:47:10,500 --> 00:47:16,820
that I still live in the 1940s.

855
00:47:16,820 --> 00:47:22,105
And I told her that I'll
never forget the 40s.

856
00:47:22,105 --> 00:47:25,160
The lesson is that you have
to look out for yourself.

857

00:47:25,160 --> 00:47:27,880

858

00:47:27,880 --> 00:47:31,520

Nobody cares for you, only you.

859

00:47:31,520 --> 00:47:32,630

I mean the Jewish people.

860

00:47:32,630 --> 00:47:35,370

861

00:47:35,370 --> 00:47:38,400

There are some good
people in the world.

862

00:47:38,400 --> 00:47:41,950

But everybody cares for himself.

863

00:47:41,950 --> 00:47:44,580

And if we don't
care for ourselves,

864

00:47:44,580 --> 00:47:46,910

and take care of
ourselves, and of Israel--

865

00:47:46,910 --> 00:47:55,780

866

00:47:55,780 --> 00:48:00,970

I think that Israel
is our life line.

867

00:48:00,970 --> 00:48:08,240

868

00:48:08,240 --> 00:48:18,410

I'm sorry that a lot of American
Jews are so ignorant of it.

869

00:48:18,410 --> 00:48:20,350

I come from the hotels.

870
00:48:20,350 --> 00:48:22,580
We sit at the same table.

871
00:48:22,580 --> 00:48:25,250
And maybe I have an accent.

872
00:48:25,250 --> 00:48:30,470
Maybe my English is
not as good as theirs.

873
00:48:30,470 --> 00:48:31,880
But they're so ignorant.

874
00:48:31,880 --> 00:48:35,090

875
00:48:35,090 --> 00:48:39,220
Not all of them,
but some of them.

876
00:48:39,220 --> 00:48:42,130
To them-- they know
so much about Israel,

877
00:48:42,130 --> 00:48:43,980
I know about Cambodia.

878
00:48:43,980 --> 00:48:45,815
Maybe I know more
about Cambodia.

879
00:48:45,815 --> 00:48:48,610

880
00:48:48,610 --> 00:48:54,820
Then a process of education
is certainly required,

881
00:48:54,820 --> 00:48:56,220
about Israel.

882
00:48:56,220 --> 00:49:00,210
It has much importance for
them, and for their children.

883
00:49:00,210 --> 00:49:04,030

884
00:49:04,030 --> 00:49:06,322
Do you attend the annual
meetings of the Holocaust?

885
00:49:06,322 --> 00:49:07,280
Were you in Washington?

886
00:49:07,280 --> 00:49:09,530
Yes, I was in Washington,
I was in Israel.

887
00:49:09,530 --> 00:49:12,610
Two years ago.

888
00:49:12,610 --> 00:49:14,770
And the thing that--

889
00:49:14,770 --> 00:49:18,380
first of all, the children--

890
00:49:18,380 --> 00:49:20,440
I had more time for myself.

891
00:49:20,440 --> 00:49:23,740
Turned out, I had
the means, also.

892
00:49:23,740 --> 00:49:26,840
Let's face it, you
cannot go places,

893
00:49:26,840 --> 00:49:28,970
if you don't have the means.

894

00:49:28,970 --> 00:49:34,790

And I feel that I have
to tell, and share--

895

00:49:34,790 --> 00:49:37,600

tell about the
bad, and the good.

896

00:49:37,600 --> 00:49:40,270

I have a lot of bad things.

897

00:49:40,270 --> 00:49:48,540

But the place, in out town,
God bless their memory,

898

00:49:48,540 --> 00:49:49,950

they are not alive anymore.

899

00:49:49,950 --> 00:49:53,500

I wrote, now, and I ask if--

900

00:49:53,500 --> 00:49:57,260

what they did, and
if every place,

901

00:49:57,260 --> 00:50:00,610

and the public,
and the high, would

902

00:50:00,610 --> 00:50:02,510

have sent out this message.

903

00:50:02,510 --> 00:50:08,200

What those two
people did, do you

904

00:50:08,200 --> 00:50:12,580

know how many people
would have been saved?

905

00:50:12,580 --> 00:50:15,160

He was not afraid to

speak out to his people.

906
00:50:15,160 --> 00:50:19,700
He spoke to his
people with parables.

907
00:50:19,700 --> 00:50:21,670
Why do I know the parables?

908
00:50:21,670 --> 00:50:25,530
Because the maids used
to come, with a chicken,

909
00:50:25,530 --> 00:50:28,350
with a little chicken.

910
00:50:28,350 --> 00:50:31,546
And it worked.

911
00:50:31,546 --> 00:50:39,400
They weren't made of a better
material than the village

912
00:50:39,400 --> 00:50:42,440
Ukrainians.

913
00:50:42,440 --> 00:50:46,588
It's only if a spiritual
leader, or a Denmark.

914
00:50:46,588 --> 00:50:55,350

915
00:50:55,350 --> 00:51:00,900
You needed a leader to tell
them how to conduct themselves.

916
00:51:00,900 --> 00:51:07,475

917
00:51:07,475 --> 00:51:08,870
I know you know the Kramers.

918
00:51:08,870 --> 00:51:10,905
Clara Kramer?

919
00:51:10,905 --> 00:51:11,810
Not personally, no.

920
00:51:11,810 --> 00:51:13,510
Not Sol Kramer, no?

921
00:51:13,510 --> 00:51:17,670
Well she survived, 18 people
survived in a basement.

922
00:51:17,670 --> 00:51:20,400

923
00:51:20,400 --> 00:51:29,172
No, in a hole in the basement.

924
00:51:29,172 --> 00:51:30,020
Volksdeutsche.

925
00:51:30,020 --> 00:51:32,590

926
00:51:32,590 --> 00:51:34,840
You know what the
Volksdeutsche is?

927
00:51:34,840 --> 00:51:38,080
He was a Pole, but
all of a sudden,

928
00:51:38,080 --> 00:51:41,350
he became a [INAUDIBLE]
was Germans.

929
00:51:41,350 --> 00:51:43,990
He saved 18 Jews.

930

00:51:43,990 --> 00:51:48,130
He kept Germans living on
top, so he was very kosher.

931
00:51:48,130 --> 00:51:51,040
And he saved the Jews.

932
00:51:51,040 --> 00:51:53,602
He used to say, I hate Jews.

933
00:51:53,602 --> 00:51:58,000
I hate Jews, but
not to kill them.

934
00:51:58,000 --> 00:51:59,520
And he saved 18 people.

935
00:51:59,520 --> 00:52:02,500

936
00:52:02,500 --> 00:52:04,402
There's something--
This material.

937
00:52:04,402 --> 00:52:06,850
I would rather have --

938
00:52:06,850 --> 00:52:09,670
But to kill?

939
00:52:09,670 --> 00:52:11,410
To kill infants?

940
00:52:11,410 --> 00:52:14,980
Take the baby, give it to a
German women that cannot have

941
00:52:14,980 --> 00:52:16,620
babies.

942
00:52:16,620 --> 00:52:19,300
Let the German woman

raise that baby as a Nazi.

943

00:52:19,300 --> 00:52:28,450

944

00:52:28,450 --> 00:52:31,940

I hope that history will
never repeat its self.

945

00:52:31,940 --> 00:52:33,840

But if we won't
be vigilant, if we

946

00:52:33,840 --> 00:52:36,590

won't tell the story, and
people don't want to hear it.

947

00:52:36,590 --> 00:52:39,810

948

00:52:39,810 --> 00:52:41,340

People have to hear this.

949

00:52:41,340 --> 00:52:45,400

I'm very happy that
I'm around to answer

950

00:52:45,400 --> 00:52:48,990

my little granddaughter
the questions.

951

00:52:48,990 --> 00:52:53,030

And I'm glad that
she wants to know,

952

00:52:53,030 --> 00:52:54,500

that she's mature
enough to ask me.

953

00:52:54,500 --> 00:52:56,660

She asked me already,
two years ago,

954

00:52:56,660 --> 00:53:02,070

she was delivered, now,
four years, in Israel.

955

00:53:02,070 --> 00:53:03,805

So she eight when she left.

956

00:53:03,805 --> 00:53:05,180

Before she left,
she read already

957

00:53:05,180 --> 00:53:06,890

the Diary of Anne Frank.

958

00:53:06,890 --> 00:53:10,300

959

00:53:10,300 --> 00:53:11,150

Anne Frank.

960

00:53:11,150 --> 00:53:16,280

So that's the reason I'm here.

961

00:53:16,280 --> 00:53:18,770

I'm not an actress.

962

00:53:18,770 --> 00:53:25,175

I'm not into interviews,
because that's--

963

00:53:25,175 --> 00:53:27,170

In closing, what you
had told me before,

964

00:53:27,170 --> 00:53:30,770

in a private conversation,
about your children

965

00:53:30,770 --> 00:53:32,410

asking about grandparents.

966

00:53:32,410 --> 00:53:33,586
Yes.

967
00:53:33,586 --> 00:53:35,320
If you just wanted to mention.

968
00:53:35,320 --> 00:53:38,420
Yeah, when we came to the
United States, in 1951,

969
00:53:38,420 --> 00:53:41,610
they were four years old.

970
00:53:41,610 --> 00:53:44,930
And of course, we came
with the shirt on our back

971
00:53:44,930 --> 00:53:46,242
and that's it.

972
00:53:46,242 --> 00:53:49,330
Our aunt got us some
kind of apartment.

973
00:53:49,330 --> 00:53:51,560
At that time, it was very
hard to get an apartment.

974
00:53:51,560 --> 00:53:55,820
In 1951, everybody was
coming from the war.

975
00:53:55,820 --> 00:53:59,420
So of course, we didn't
have a television.

976
00:53:59,420 --> 00:54:03,760
So the neighbors would take
them in to watch Howdy Doody.

977
00:54:03,760 --> 00:54:06,720
And they would go, how come
I don't have a television.

978
00:54:06,720 --> 00:54:08,620
So I said, aunt Susie has.

979
00:54:08,620 --> 00:54:11,010
I said Susie's
mother was born here.

980
00:54:11,010 --> 00:54:12,780
So they have already money.

981
00:54:12,780 --> 00:54:13,680
We'll work hard.

982
00:54:13,680 --> 00:54:17,750
We'll buy She said, why
weren't you born here?

983
00:54:17,750 --> 00:54:20,840
So, of course, I have
no answer for that.

984
00:54:20,840 --> 00:54:23,330
But they were
raised in a DP camp.

985
00:54:23,330 --> 00:54:27,950
In a DP camp, there were very
few old people, grandparents.

986
00:54:27,950 --> 00:54:30,470
Mostly there were
people our age.

987
00:54:30,470 --> 00:54:32,330
There were no young people.

988
00:54:32,330 --> 00:54:34,490
There were no children
and teenagers.

989
00:54:34,490 --> 00:54:37,280

There were young
couples and babies.

990
00:54:37,280 --> 00:54:39,140
So there were no grandparents.

991
00:54:39,140 --> 00:54:42,180
All of a sudden, to come
to the United States,

992
00:54:42,180 --> 00:54:43,470
and every child--

993
00:54:43,470 --> 00:54:45,050
and we lived in a house.

994
00:54:45,050 --> 00:54:48,080
There were no other refugees.

995
00:54:48,080 --> 00:54:52,140
Every child had grandparents.

996
00:54:52,140 --> 00:54:57,200
So they came up with
another question.

997
00:54:57,200 --> 00:55:00,080
How come we don't
have grandparents?

998
00:55:00,080 --> 00:55:04,250
I knew the answer
for a television.

999
00:55:04,250 --> 00:55:07,490
I had no answer
for grandparents.

1000
00:55:07,490 --> 00:55:09,410
They know.

1001
00:55:09,410 --> 00:55:12,800

When they got older, from
conversation, of course.

1002
00:55:12,800 --> 00:55:16,160
I did not sit down and
explain to four-year-olds

1003
00:55:16,160 --> 00:55:17,180
what happened to us.

1004
00:55:17,180 --> 00:55:21,560

1005
00:55:21,560 --> 00:55:23,660
I want to thank you very much.

1006
00:55:23,660 --> 00:55:24,630
You're welcome.

1007
00:55:24,630 --> 00:55:26,970
As I told you, it's my duty.

1008
00:55:26,970 --> 00:55:29,630
As you know, we all go
around with a feeling

1009
00:55:29,630 --> 00:55:32,960
of guilt. Why did I survive?

1010
00:55:32,960 --> 00:55:38,810
If I survive, that can help, for
future generations understand

1011
00:55:38,810 --> 00:55:41,990
what happened to us,
and prevent things.

1012
00:55:41,990 --> 00:55:47,050
Any time you come, I'll
come, and I'll tell.

1013
00:55:47,050 --> 00:55:55,000

Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection