1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:20,770

2 00:00:20,770 --> 00:00:22,340 Good afternoon.

- 3 00:00:22,340 --> 00:00:25,090 I'm Bernard Weinstein, director of the Kean College
- 4 00:00:25,090 --> 00:00:29,020 oral testimonies project of the Holocaust Resource Center.
- 5 00:00:29,020 --> 00:00:31,180 Assisting me is Sidney Kruger.
- 6 00:00:31,180 --> 00:00:33,445 We welcome Zygmunt Gottlieb.
- 7 00:00:33,445 --> 00:00:34,660 Mr Gottlieb.
- 8 00:00:34,660 --> 00:00:36,310 My name is Zygmunt Gottlieb.
- 00:00:36,310 --> 00:00:41,070 I come from Poland and I was born in a little Polish town
- 10 00:00:41,070 --> 00:00:43,480 which name is Kopyczynce.
- 11 00:00:43,480 --> 00:00:46,690 For me, it's very easy to pronounce but some people it's
- 12 00:00:46,690 --> 00:00:51,410 difficult. I was born in 1923.

00:00:51,410 --> 00:00:55,780 I lived there as a young man til 1939.

14 00:00:55,780 --> 00:00:57,760 I went to school.

15 00:00:57,760 --> 00:01:03,160 And in 1939-- end of '39 broke out

16 00:01:03,160 --> 00:01:12,910 the war between Poland and Russia, and Poland and Germany.

17 00:01:12,910 --> 00:01:17,350 Poland was divided in two parts.

18 00:01:17,350 --> 00:01:23,170 I lived in the parts where there was occupied by the Russians.

19 00:01:23,170 --> 00:01:28,390 For two years, 1941 broke out the war

20 00:01:28,390 --> 00:01:31,570 between Germany and Russia.

21 00:01:31,570 --> 00:01:34,360 Then the Germans occupied our town,

22 00:01:34,360 --> 00:01:36,550 and then the thing started.

23 00:01:36,550 --> 00:01:37,370 We came from a--

24 00:01:37,370 --> 00:01:37,870 Excuse me. 00:01:37,870 --> 00:01:39,340 Can I just backtrack a little bit?

26 00:01:39,340 --> 00:01:42,670 Can you tell us a little bit about the town itself.

27 00:01:42,670 --> 00:01:43,840 Were there many Jews there?

28 00:01:43,840 --> 00:01:44,340 Yes.

29 00:01:44,340 --> 00:01:44,860 Was it a--

30 00:01:44,860 --> 00:01:47,500 I come from a town--

31 00:01:47,500 --> 00:01:50,820 most of the center of town was occupied by Jews.

32 00:01:50,820 --> 00:01:56,080 The merchants, small merchants, they were very poor in general.

33 00:01:56,080 --> 00:01:59,210 The standard of living was so poor.

34 00:01:59,210 --> 00:02:02,410 If you really think about it, I don't know how people survived.

35 00:02:02,410 --> 00:02:05,330 We had no sewer, we had no running water.

36 00:02:05,330 --> 00:02:11,290 We had no heating, we had no garbage collections 37 00:02:11,290 --> 00:02:14,020 and all this.

38 00:02:14,020 --> 00:02:16,050 It's hard to believe that people survived.

39 00:02:16,050 --> 00:02:18,000 In the last few years we had electricity,

40 00:02:18,000 --> 00:02:20,340 it's the only thing what we had.

41 00:02:20,340 --> 00:02:23,350 And in 1941 the Germans came to us.

42 00:02:23,350 --> 00:02:25,710 And they came to us.

43 00:02:25,710 --> 00:02:28,840 And the first thing what they start doing, you all know,

44 00:02:28,840 --> 00:02:31,360 they start killing Jews.

45 00:02:31,360 --> 00:02:32,320 This was their purpose.

46 00:02:32,320 --> 00:02:35,380

47 00:02:35,380 --> 00:02:37,630 The first thing was they came in--

48 00:02:37,630 --> 00:02:40,920 49 00:02:40,920 --> 00:02:43,420 but I cannot recall things very well, you know.

50 00:02:43,420 --> 00:02:46,980 It happened 45 years ago.

51 00:02:46,980 --> 00:02:49,540 Main things I remember very well.

52 00:02:49,540 --> 00:02:52,270 When they came to us in 1941, the first thing

53 00:02:52,270 --> 00:02:53,712 were they took all the young men,

54 00:02:53,712 --> 00:02:55,420 and they took us to a concentration camp.

55 00:02:55,420 --> 00:03:01,190 There was a camp in Ternopol They took us by train--

56 00:03:01,190 --> 00:03:07,210 was beating before they load us up in those train cars.

57 00:03:07,210 --> 00:03:09,070 And we went to Ternopol.

58 00:03:09,070 --> 00:03:09,990 We came to Ternopol.

59 00:03:09,990 --> 00:03:10,910 It wasn't bad.

60 00:03:10,910 --> 00:03:14,180 We stayed there a few months and they let us go.

61 00:03:14,180 --> 00:03:15,740 We worked on the railroad station.

62 00:03:15,740 --> 00:03:18,090 That wasn't bad.

63 00:03:18,090 --> 00:03:22,190 And as we came home, it was in the middle of the summer,

64 00:03:22,190 --> 00:03:27,970 I don't remember the year quite well, the year was '42 or '43.

65 00:03:27,970 --> 00:03:29,500 And the winter came.

66 00:03:29,500 --> 00:03:35,020 The winter came, so they told us that we have to go and shovel

67 00:03:35,020 --> 00:03:39,670 snow on the roads which were going to the main roads,

68 00:03:39,670 --> 00:03:42,160 to shovel out the snow, to clean up the snow.

69 00:03:42,160 --> 00:03:45,440 As we came out there, they surrounded us all.

70 00:03:45,440 --> 00:03:49,570 They took us all the way to Chortkov,

71 00:03:49,570 --> 00:03:51,040 which was 15 kilometers away. 72 00:03:51,040 --> 00:03:52,900 This was a prison.

73 00:03:52,900 --> 00:03:55,870 From there they took us by train.

74 00:03:55,870 --> 00:03:58,600 They load us up like cattle, and they took us by train

75 00:03:58,600 --> 00:04:02,030 to a concentration camp the name of Kamionki.

76 00:04:02,030 --> 00:04:03,790 And there I spent quite a long time.

77 00:04:03,790 --> 00:04:07,780 I don't remember the exact time till I escaped--

78 00:04:07,780 --> 00:04:09,100 me and my friend, we escaped.

79 00:04:09,100 --> 00:04:13,480 Everyone which stayed in this camp to the end was liquidated.

80 00:04:13,480 --> 00:04:15,371 All the guys, we come from the town

81 00:04:15,371 --> 00:04:17,079 there were quite a few thousands of Jews,

82 00:04:17,079 --> 00:04:18,870 I would say 5, 6,000 Jews.

83 00:04:18,870 --> 00:04:20,649 They left 65.

84

00:04:20,649 --> 00:04:22,750 One of the 65 is me.

85

00:04:22,750 --> 00:04:24,730 And the rest of my friends which survived,

86

00:04:24,730 --> 00:04:26,950 they are mostly in this country here, or some of them

87

00:04:26,950 --> 00:04:27,550 died already.

88

 $00:04:27,550 \longrightarrow 00:04:33,717$ 

89

00:04:33,717 --> 00:04:35,050 You know, I am trying to think--

90

00:04:35,050 --> 00:04:39,000 I'm trying to go one after the other what actually happened.

91

00:04:39,000 --> 00:04:41,770 Zygmunt, what thoughts were going through your mind

92

00:04:41,770 --> 00:04:42,902 at this time?

93

00:04:42,902 --> 00:04:44,110 What were you thinking about?

94

00:04:44,110 --> 00:04:46,785 Did you understand what was happening?

95

00:04:46,785 --> 00:04:47,980 There was on a Wednesday--

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy.

96 00:04:47,980 --> 00:04:48,880 I never forget this--

97 00:04:48,880 --> 00:04:50,338 There was on a Wednesday afternoon,

98 00:04:50,338 --> 00:04:52,340 I listened to the radio.

99 00:04:52,340 --> 00:04:54,370 You know, in the market we had a radio--

100 00:04:54,370 --> 00:04:58,960 loudspeaker, and I heard over the loudspeaker

101 00:04:58,960 --> 00:05:02,060 the Jews had been killed and the Germans come in.

102 00:05:02,060 --> 00:05:03,892 They're killing Jews.

103 00:05:03,892 --> 00:05:05,600 I came home and I said this to my father.

104 00:05:05,600 --> 00:05:08,910 I said, listen father, just said over the radio

105 00:05:08,910 --> 00:05:09,935 they're coming in.

106 00:05:09,935 --> 00:05:11,825 Then my father told me, after all

107 00:05:11,825 --> 00:05:13,450

## I know the Germans from the First World

108

00:05:13,450 --> 00:05:15,280 War I wasn't a politician, why should I

109

00:05:15,280 --> 00:05:17,050 run, where should I go.

110

00:05:17,050 --> 00:05:18,610 He couldn't believe it.

111

00:05:18,610 --> 00:05:19,970 None of us could believe it.

112

00:05:19,970 --> 00:05:22,300 This was before they came to your part of Poland?

113

00:05:22,300 --> 00:05:24,170 Yes.

114

00:05:24,170 --> 00:05:26,743 When we lived in town which was 15 kilometers away

115

00:05:26,743 --> 00:05:28,660 they start killing Jews, we didn't believe it.

116

00:05:28,660 --> 00:05:30,460 We saw they did something wrong.

117

00:05:30,460 --> 00:05:32,330 The communication was so poor.

118

00:05:32,330 --> 00:05:34,340 We had no communication at all.

119

00:05:34,340 --> 00:05:36,555

Everything we saw there

was just a reason.

120

00:05:36,555 --> 00:05:37,930 What do you mean to kill someone?

121

00:05:37,930 --> 00:05:38,440 For what?

122

00:05:38,440 --> 00:05:41,350

123

00:05:41,350 --> 00:05:44,050 I come from a town, like I said before there were what

124

00:05:44,050 --> 00:05:46,030 5,000, 6,000 Jews.

125

00:05:46,030 --> 00:05:49,150 From the 5, 6,000, they left 65.

126

00:05:49,150 --> 00:05:52,650 All the guys, every other was killed.

127

00:05:52,650 --> 00:05:56,560 In 1900-- I'm catching one the other, in 1900--

128

00:05:56,560 --> 00:05:59,080 I forgot the year what it was.

129

00:05:59,080 --> 00:06:02,520 I was called into the embassy--

130

00:06:02,520 --> 00:06:09,420 to the German embassy in New York and they

131

00:06:09,420 --> 00:06:12,240 were discussing a man by

the name of Pal, P-A-L,

132

00:06:12,240 --> 00:06:15,290 this was the name.

133

00:06:15,290 --> 00:06:18,180 I remember this man very well, I still remember him today.

134

00:06:18,180 --> 00:06:19,950 When I came to the German embassy and they

135

00:06:19,950 --> 00:06:21,260 showed me the pictures--

136

00:06:21,260 --> 00:06:23,320 they showed me 10 different pictures,

137

00:06:23,320 --> 00:06:27,300 and they showed me the guy which I knew--

138

00:06:27,300 --> 00:06:30,210 I knew him as a military man in military clothes,

139

00:06:30,210 --> 00:06:32,950 they showed me a picture in civilian clothes.

140

00:06:32,950 --> 00:06:38,250 And when I pointed out the guy, the German ambassador walked in

141

00:06:38,250 --> 00:06:41,820 and he didn't know what happened.

142

00:06:41,820 --> 00:06:43,140

How could you tell?

143

00:06:43,140 --> 00:06:44,410 I said, how could I tell.

144

00:06:44,410 --> 00:06:45,660 How can you forget a murderer?

145

00:06:45,660 --> 00:06:47,060 How can you forget a gangster?

146

00:06:47,060 --> 00:06:50,720 And in about a year later, I went to Germany, to Mannheim,

147

00:06:50,720 --> 00:06:55,690 I testify in court for two days and naturally

148

00:06:55,690 --> 00:06:59,010 what happened to him, he later got a heart attack and he died.

149

00:06:59,010 --> 00:07:00,780 But he was actually a Romanian.

150

00:07:00,780 --> 00:07:01,980 I didn't even realize it.

151

00:07:01,980 --> 00:07:03,390 What had he done?

152

00:07:03,390 --> 00:07:04,770 I mean he killed--

153

00:07:04,770 --> 00:07:09,510 he was taking guns and killing Jews

154

00:07:09,510 --> 00:07:12,640 like you go on a hunting spree.

155

00:07:12,640 --> 00:07:13,880

That was what he did.

156 00:07:13,880 --> 00:07:15,190 This was in Kamionki.

157 00:07:15,190 --> 00:07:18,130 No, this was in Kopyczynce, where I come.

158 00:07:18,130 --> 00:07:19,050 Kopyczynce.

159 00:07:19,050 --> 00:07:20,010 I came from Kamionki.

160 00:07:20,010 --> 00:07:21,210 I came back to Kopyczynce.

161 00:07:21,210 --> 00:07:22,890 I'm catching one, the other.

162 00:07:22,890 --> 00:07:24,690 From Kamionki, I came back to Kopyczynce.

163 00:07:24,690 --> 00:07:25,740 And this thing started.

164 00:07:25,740 --> 00:07:27,440 Then they started those pogroms.

165 00:07:27,440 --> 00:07:28,560 What they used to do--

166 00:07:28,560 --> 00:07:32,040 the first pogrom in our town was like this.

167 00:07:32,040 --> 00:07:35,340 They surrounded the town, sometimes 168 00:07:35,340 --> 00:07:38,100 if you go hunting you will know what I'm talking about.

169 00:07:38,100 --> 00:07:39,420 The town was surrounded all.

170 00:07:39,420 --> 00:07:42,960 Who wanted to leave the town was shot on the spot.

171 00:07:42,960 --> 00:07:44,635 Then they surrounded the people there,

172 00:07:44,635 --> 00:07:46,200 and they put them in trains.

173 00:07:46,200 --> 00:07:49,440 It was the first, what we call it aktion.

174 00:07:49,440 --> 00:07:51,320 The Germans used to call it not pogroms.

175 00:07:51,320 --> 00:07:53,540 They give it a nice name, aktion.

176 00:07:53,540 --> 00:07:56,250 So they used to surround the town

177 00:07:56,250 --> 00:07:58,880 and whoever they caught on, they put everything on the train

178 00:07:58,880 --> 00:07:59,880 and they took them away.

179 00:07:59,880 --> 00:08:00,755 Where they took them?

180 00:08:00,755 --> 00:08:05,870 They took them to Belzec and then they died.

181 00:08:05,870 --> 00:08:09,510 Then later on they had no time to load them up in train.

182 00:08:09,510 --> 00:08:10,620 So what they did--

183 00:08:10,620 --> 00:08:11,480 I never forget this.

184 00:08:11,480 --> 00:08:12,855 One of my friends is still alive.

185 00:08:12,855 --> 00:08:15,370

186 00:08:15,370 --> 00:08:16,690 His name is Jack Berman.

187 00:08:16,690 --> 00:08:18,140 He lives in Germany now.

188 00:08:18,140 --> 00:08:21,990

189 00:08:21,990 --> 00:08:28,320 In the morning when this aktion started

190 00:08:28,320 --> 00:08:34,409 there was a hiding place, but somebody had to close him in.

191 00:08:34,409 --> 00:08:39,030 So what he did, his two brothers, his father,

192

00:08:39,030 --> 00:08:41,070

and his mother, he closed them all in.

193

00:08:41,070 --> 00:08:46,720

And he himself jumped in and went into the chimney.

194

00:08:46,720 --> 00:08:48,540

They caught him.

195

00:08:48,540 --> 00:08:50,610

They caught him in the chimney.

196

 $00:08:50,610 \longrightarrow 00:08:52,110$ 

The story what I'm

telling you now--

197

00:08:52,110 --> 00:08:54,600

I'm repeating his story.

198

00:08:54,600 --> 00:09:01,560

Him and about few about 20 or 30

young boys, they picked them up

199

00:09:01,560 --> 00:09:03,120

and they took them in the woods.

200

00:09:03,120 --> 00:09:05,460

And they told them

to dig graves.

201

00:09:05,460 --> 00:09:06,720

This was the first time.

202

00:09:06,720 --> 00:09:09,690

Usually before,

this never happened.

203

00:09:09,690 --> 00:09:12,240

He thought that he was taken to a concentration camp.

204

00:09:12,240 --> 00:09:13,230 But that was not so.

205

00:09:13,230 --> 00:09:15,660 They took him out to the woods and he was digging a grave.

206

00:09:15,660 --> 00:09:20,470 And once the grave was finished, they told him to undress.

207

00:09:20,470 --> 00:09:22,830 And it turns out that's when he knew that it was coming.

208

00:09:22,830 --> 00:09:24,840 What was coming, they were going to shoot him.

209

00:09:24,840 --> 00:09:27,570 So how many guys were there?

210

00:09:27,570 --> 00:09:28,920 Everyone was killed but him.

211

00:09:28,920 --> 00:09:30,210 He ran away.

212

00:09:30,210 --> 00:09:34,670 They all start running, all were killed.

213

00:09:34,670 --> 00:09:36,390 Just him, he survived.

214

00:09:36,390 --> 00:09:37,650 He's still alive.

215

00:09:37,650 --> 00:09:39,150

He and his two brothers.

216

00:09:39,150 --> 00:09:41,150 So when he came back in the morning to his--

217

00:09:41,150 --> 00:09:42,450 His brothers survived also?

218

00:09:42,450 --> 00:09:43,180 Yes.

219

00:09:43,180 --> 00:09:47,400 When he came back in the morning, back to the house,

220

00:09:47,400 --> 00:09:49,710 so his father was saying Kaddish already for him.

221

00:09:49,710 --> 00:09:51,880 He saw that the guy was killed.

222

00:09:51,880 --> 00:09:56,760 Anyway, he is here and he has two brothers.

223

00:09:56,760 --> 00:10:00,470 One of the brothers is--

224

00:10:00,470 --> 00:10:04,030 they're all together, they're all here.

225

00:10:04,030 --> 00:10:06,130 In some business, we are involved together.

226

00:10:06,130 --> 00:10:08,820 Zygmunt, what were you doing at this time, the time

00:10:08,820 --> 00:10:10,530 of this incident, for example?

228

00:10:10,530 --> 00:10:12,030 What was life like in your village

229

00:10:12,030 --> 00:10:13,260 when the program had begun?

230

00:10:13,260 --> 00:10:14,950 Was it just this one day?

231

00:10:14,950 --> 00:10:17,400 No.

232

00:10:17,400 --> 00:10:20,310 I gave you the story so far.

233

00:10:20,310 --> 00:10:22,980 So far the story is that it was the first program, and then

234

00:10:22,980 --> 00:10:26,392 the second program like I said they start picking up people

235

00:10:26,392 --> 00:10:28,100 and they start shooting them right there.

236

00:10:28,100 --> 00:10:29,910 And then they took them in the woods.

237

00:10:29,910 --> 00:10:32,070 And after this, what I told you the story what

238

00:10:32,070 --> 00:10:37,290 happened when they took them to the woods, they took all the--

239

00:10:37,290 --> 00:10:39,900 first of all, they took all the women.

240

00:10:39,900 --> 00:10:43,500 They had to tie each other, and they went out to the woods.

241

00:10:43,500 --> 00:10:45,450 They had to undress to jump in the grave

242

00:10:45,450 --> 00:10:46,770 and then they were killed.

243

00:10:46,770 --> 00:10:48,210 This was first the women.

244

00:10:48,210 --> 00:10:50,580 And then they took the men.

245

00:10:50,580 --> 00:10:53,070 Then you ask me my father and my uncle--

246

00:10:53,070 --> 00:10:54,390 I had an uncle.

247

00:10:54,390 --> 00:11:00,300 Both of them-- they worked for the road department.

248

00:11:00,300 --> 00:11:03,220 So the engineer for the road department

249

00:11:03,220 --> 00:11:10,880 gave him a W, in German, you call it a wichtige Juden.

250

00:11:10,880 --> 00:11:12,690 He was an important Jew.

251 00:11:12,690 --> 00:11:14,790 So when he came to be shot to the grave--

252 00:11:14,790 --> 00:11:17,500 my father when he was

my father when he was caught with my mother,

253 00:11:17,500 --> 00:11:20,390 this day when he was caught there--

254 00:11:20,390 --> 00:11:21,800 I'm catching one and the other.

255 00:11:21,800 --> 00:11:22,860 But I tell you the story.

256 00:11:22,860 --> 00:11:24,180 It was on a Wednesday after--

257 00:11:24,180 --> 00:11:24,440 OK--

258 00:11:24,440 --> 00:11:25,050 No, no.

259 00:11:25,050 --> 00:11:25,710 I have to go.

260 00:11:25,710 --> 00:11:27,420 I have to-- You see I forget.

261 00:11:27,420 --> 00:11:28,080 It's all right.

262 00:11:28,080 --> 00:11:31,190 It was on a Wednesday afternoon.

263 00:11:31,190 --> 00:11:32,600 We were in town.

264

00:11:32,600 --> 00:11:35,330

To surround the town, we heard shots.

265

00:11:35,330 --> 00:11:38,220

So when we heard shots,

we start running.

266

00:11:38,220 --> 00:11:39,060

So we start running.

267

 $00:11:39,060 \longrightarrow 00:11:42,510$ 

My father, my mother

was in the house,

268

00:11:42,510 --> 00:11:44,190

and I was the middle of town.

269

00:11:44,190 --> 00:11:45,270

Where we start running--

270

00:11:45,270 --> 00:11:46,650

so we had shots.

271

00:11:46,650 --> 00:11:49,303

They knew right away

they were killing Jews.

272

00:11:49,303 --> 00:11:50,220

So we started running.

273

00:11:50,220 --> 00:11:51,810

We ran out and we were lucky.

274

00:11:51,810 --> 00:11:54,860

As we were going out,

we want to run out

275

00:11:54,860 --> 00:11:59,820

from the town the Gentiles

were coming in from the church.

276

00:11:59,820 --> 00:12:02,920 And they won't let us through, they won't let us through.

277

00:12:02,920 --> 00:12:04,860 But there was one guy, was a husky guy,

278

00:12:04,860 --> 00:12:08,160 I remember them today how he looks like.

279

00:12:08,160 --> 00:12:09,660 He was the leader.

280

00:12:09,660 --> 00:12:12,090 You know it's very hard for me to explain.

281

00:12:12,090 --> 00:12:14,550 If you go out of town, the farm houses--

282

00:12:14,550 --> 00:12:17,220 each farm house had like a gate.

283

00:12:17,220 --> 00:12:20,220

284

00:12:20,220 --> 00:12:23,590 We didn't know what to do, but we followed him.

285

00:12:23,590 --> 00:12:25,380 He was a older guy.

286

00:12:25,380 --> 00:12:28,110 So he broke through a gate and we followed him.

00:12:28,110 --> 00:12:30,900 So one of the farmers caught me here by my hand,

288

00:12:30,900 --> 00:12:33,090 and I begged him, he should let me go.

289

00:12:33,090 --> 00:12:33,890 He won't.

290

00:12:33,890 --> 00:12:35,650 So I said to myself, this the end.

291

00:12:35,650 --> 00:12:37,830 In the last second, I don't know what happened.

292

00:12:37,830 --> 00:12:39,480 Immediately, he let me go.

293

00:12:39,480 --> 00:12:41,400 So in a minute then I ran away from him.

294

00:12:41,400 --> 00:12:42,990 I never forget this.

295

00:12:42,990 --> 00:12:44,340 I heard a shot.

296

00:12:44,340 --> 00:12:47,310 And the shot went next to my ear you know.

297

00:12:47,310 --> 00:12:50,310 From this I got so scared so I fell down.

298

00:12:50,310 --> 00:12:53,690 And I even looked back and I start running. 299 00:12:53,690 --> 00:12:55,980 And this was on a Wednesday afternoon,

300

00:12:55,980 --> 00:12:59,550 the day when they caught my mother and caught my father.

301

00:12:59,550 --> 00:13:01,030 My mother was killed in this day.

302

00:13:01,030 --> 00:13:05,640 Like I told you, she was taken out, my mother, my aunt.

303

00:13:05,640 --> 00:13:08,370 My aunt's boy, a little boy said to her--

304

00:13:08,370 --> 00:13:10,380 he was talking Ukrainian--

305

00:13:10,380 --> 00:13:14,310 so my father said, why would they want to kill me,

306

00:13:14,310 --> 00:13:15,750 I didn't do nothing wrong.

307

00:13:15,750 --> 00:13:19,930 I didn't do nothing bad, in Ukrainian.

308

00:13:19,930 --> 00:13:23,900 My father had this W, my uncle so the German asked him,

309

00:13:23,900 --> 00:13:26,260 then he came to the grave.

310

00:13:26,260 --> 00:13:27,080 What is this for?

311

00:13:27,080 --> 00:13:30,480 He said he is working for the road department.

312

00:13:30,480 --> 00:13:32,680 So he said to them, let those men go.

313

00:13:32,680 --> 00:13:35,300 When he let those men go, those two men

314

00:13:35,300 --> 00:13:39,380 were picking up the clothes, the people what they were undressed

315

00:13:39,380 --> 00:13:41,780 and jump in the grave they had to undress.

316

00:13:41,780 --> 00:13:43,790 And the clothes, they didn't waste there.

317

00:13:43,790 --> 00:13:46,370 Everything was done for a reason.

318

00:13:46,370 --> 00:13:48,930 They load it up, and I don't know they took it to Germany.

319

00:13:48,930 --> 00:13:51,920 Whatever they did with it, I don't know what they did.

320

00:13:51,920 --> 00:13:55,150 Anyway, my father did this and my father and my uncle 00:13:55,150 --> 00:13:55,760 was released.

322

00:13:55,760 --> 00:13:58,100 They let him go this time.

323

00:13:58,100 --> 00:14:00,450 The next day I met him and we ran away.

324

00:14:00,450 --> 00:14:02,630 Where do we spend time?

325

00:14:02,630 --> 00:14:06,710 I'm giving you just the rundown what happened.

326

00:14:06,710 --> 00:14:09,140 I cannot remember myself day by day what happened.

327

00:14:09,140 --> 00:14:11,250 This is before you went to Ternopol.

328

00:14:11,250 --> 00:14:12,590 No, no, no.

329

00:14:12,590 --> 00:14:14,165 This was after Kamionki.

330

00:14:14,165 --> 00:14:14,790 This was after.

331

00:14:14,790 --> 00:14:15,415 After Kamionki.

332

00:14:15,415 --> 00:14:17,960 This is when this thing started, when they start cleaning up,

333

00:14:17,960 --> 00:14:20,030

killing people.

334

00:14:20,030 --> 00:14:23,280 When we came we spent all summer in the fields.

335

00:14:23,280 --> 00:14:30,050 My uncle knew a farmer, he used to come at night,

336

00:14:30,050 --> 00:14:31,650 he gave us some food.

337

00:14:31,650 --> 00:14:33,470 He knew but he was scared.

338

00:14:33,470 --> 00:14:36,172 So he told us, stay in the field.

339

00:14:36,172 --> 00:14:37,880 And one day we were sitting in the field,

340

00:14:37,880 --> 00:14:39,650 and as we sit we see somebody coming.

341

00:14:39,650 --> 00:14:43,460 So we're scared to death, so we start running and we ran away.

342

00:14:43,460 --> 00:14:46,980 We came back to town, and the town was in the ghetto.

343

00:14:46,980 --> 00:14:48,290 Half the town was shot.

344

00:14:48,290 --> 00:14:53,060 There were very few people left in the ghetto. 345

00:14:53,060 --> 00:14:57,215 So when we came back and I looked at the whole thing here,

346

00:14:57,215 --> 00:15:01,070 I was scared, sitting in the ghetto.

347

00:15:01,070 --> 00:15:03,080 Sitting and waiting for death.

348

00:15:03,080 --> 00:15:04,890 And we ran away again.

349

00:15:04,890 --> 00:15:08,060 Another man knew another Gentile which

350

00:15:08,060 --> 00:15:10,940 used to be an officer on the Polish army.

351

00:15:10,940 --> 00:15:13,790 And this man kept us for a few months.

352

00:15:13,790 --> 00:15:17,700 He kept us, me, my uncle--

353

00:15:17,700 --> 00:15:20,650 I have another uncle, my aunt which is here,

354

00:15:20,650 --> 00:15:21,910 and another couple.

355

00:15:21,910 --> 00:15:25,130 We were sitting in the attic for a few months,

356

00:15:25,130 --> 00:15:26,860 till it came in the wintertime.

357 00:15:26,860 --> 00:15:31,020 In the winter time

somebody noticed

358

00:15:31,020 --> 00:15:33,400 that somebody is in the attic.

359

00:15:33,400 --> 00:15:34,880 So he told us we have to leave.

360

00:15:34,880 --> 00:15:36,220 So we left,

361

00:15:36,220 --> 00:15:37,340 Where we had to go.

362

00:15:37,340 --> 00:15:41,857 My father had-- before the war, had a farm

363

00:15:41,857 --> 00:15:43,190 and he had people working there.

364

00:15:43,190 --> 00:15:47,840

365

00:15:47,840 --> 00:15:49,710 He came over to my father--

366

00:15:49,710 --> 00:15:51,360 my uncle said, what do we have to lose.

367

00:15:51,360 --> 00:15:53,820 We go to him.

368

00:15:53,820 --> 00:15:54,800 We didn't want to go.

369

00:15:54,800 --> 00:15:57,608

We were scared of him, but we had no choice.

370

00:15:57,608 --> 00:15:59,150 We came early in the morning, I never

371

00:15:59,150 --> 00:16:01,910 forget this as long as I'm going to be alive.

372

00:16:01,910 --> 00:16:04,760 There was a road going to the woods and a road going to--

373

00:16:04,760 --> 00:16:07,220 we walked, we were going all night.

374

00:16:07,220 --> 00:16:09,440 We walked all night long.

375

00:16:09,440 --> 00:16:11,390 So one road was going to the woods,

376

00:16:11,390 --> 00:16:14,030 and one road was going to this man, to the farm.

377

00:16:14,030 --> 00:16:16,880 So my uncle said, let's spend the day in the woods

378

00:16:16,880 --> 00:16:18,740 and at night we go to this farmer.

379

00:16:18,740 --> 00:16:21,140 And my father said, no let's go to the farmer.

380

00:16:21,140 --> 00:16:23,360

If he would have gone to the woods,

381

00:16:23,360 --> 00:16:26,000 they had hunting during the day, they would have killed us.

382

00:16:26,000 --> 00:16:29,520 We went to the farmer, so we stayed there.

383

00:16:29,520 --> 00:16:33,140 We stayed by the farmer half of the winter.

384

00:16:33,140 --> 00:16:36,830 And all of a sudden his wife walks in one day to the barn

385

00:16:36,830 --> 00:16:38,720 and said-- in the barn was a cow.

386

00:16:38,720 --> 00:16:41,570 So one day his wife walks in and said--

387

00:16:41,570 --> 00:16:44,160 I never forget this, it was very cold--

388

00:16:44,160 --> 00:16:45,650 listen, she said, you have to die.

389

00:16:45,650 --> 00:16:47,210 Why should I die?

390

00:16:47,210 --> 00:16:48,560 I have a child.

391

00:16:48,560 --> 00:16:50,510 She was scared, and

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I don't blame her.

392

00:16:50,510 --> 00:16:52,370

And we had to leave.

393

00:16:52,370 --> 00:16:53,930

We went to another

farmer that we

394

00:16:53,930 --> 00:16:56,540

knew we couldn't stay

there even one day.

395

00:16:56,540 --> 00:16:58,050

So we had no choice.

396

00:16:58,050 --> 00:17:01,470

We went back to him and

he said you stay here.

397

 $00:17:01,470 \longrightarrow 00:17:04,250$ 

It was a miracle

that he told us this.

398

00:17:04,250 --> 00:17:05,470

She was scared.

399

00:17:05,470 --> 00:17:11,660

And we stayed there

till March 1944.

400

00:17:11,660 --> 00:17:13,040

We stayed in this barn.

401

00:17:13,040 --> 00:17:14,690

Then the Russians came in.

402

00:17:14,690 --> 00:17:16,190

And the Russians

came in, then I was

403

00:17:16,190 --> 00:17:17,990

drafted in the Russian army.

404

00:17:17.990 --> 00:17:27.109 And I had been in the Russian army all over from 1945 to '44

405

 $00:17:27,109 \longrightarrow 00:17:28,250$ to '45.

406

00:17:28,250 --> 00:17:30,390 I don't remember the exact dates.

407

00:17:30,390 --> 00:17:34,190 And from there they let go.

408

00:17:34,190 --> 00:17:37,120 What happened is a long story, but I try

409

 $00:17:37,120 \longrightarrow 00:17:40,430$ to tell you what the story was.

410

 $00:17:40,430 \longrightarrow 00:17:45,320$ I was born in 1923, what kind of teacher could I have been.

411

00:17:45,320 --> 00:17:48,590 Couldn't have been a teacher for the war, how old was I.

412

00:17:48,590 --> 00:17:51,760 But at this time it came out a decree that you can--

413

00:17:51,760 --> 00:17:56,900 a decree came out that you can be released from the army

414

00:17:56,900 --> 00:17:58,690

if you are--

415

00:17:58,690 --> 00:18:00,920 if you were a teacher before the war.

416

00:18:00,920 --> 00:18:02,840 I wrote a letter to my father.

417

00:18:02,840 --> 00:18:04,435 My father was in Poland.

418

00:18:04,435 --> 00:18:06,060 I wrote a letter to him and I told him,

419

00:18:06,060 --> 00:18:07,130 look I'm there and there.

420

00:18:07,130 --> 00:18:09,860 I was in [PLACE NAME] in Germany.

421

00:18:09,860 --> 00:18:12,320 The name of the town was [PLACE NAME]..

422

00:18:12,320 --> 00:18:15,170 And I said to him, come and see me.

423

00:18:15,170 --> 00:18:16,730 So he came.

424

00:18:16,730 --> 00:18:18,230 And then he came to see me, he said,

425

00:18:18,230 --> 00:18:20,080 you pick up and let's go home.

426

00:18:20,080 --> 00:18:21,430 I said, no, I'm not going.

427

00:18:21,430 --> 00:18:23,890 I went to war now I should run away from the army.

428

00:18:23,890 --> 00:18:26,680 If he should catch me, he should kill me.

429

00:18:26,680 --> 00:18:30,070 So he went back, and the mayor of the town

430

00:18:30,070 --> 00:18:33,080 gave him a letter that I was a teacher.

431

00:18:33,080 --> 00:18:35,440 And he put this letter--

432

00:18:35,440 --> 00:18:39,140 my best friends who were all those Russian officers.

433

00:18:39,140 --> 00:18:41,000 We were together all the war.

434

00:18:41,000 --> 00:18:43,870 And they released me.

435

00:18:43,870 --> 00:18:47,140 And I came back to Liegnitz which

436

00:18:47,140 --> 00:18:51,420 was important at this time.

437

00:18:51,420 --> 00:18:54,580 From Leibnitz I went to Vienna, and from Vienna I

438

00:18:54,580 --> 00:18:55,620 went to Munich.

00:18:55,620 --> 00:19:02,020 And then Munich, I lived for five years to 1900--

440

00:19:02,020 --> 00:19:07,420 in Munich I live to 1951, and then '51 I came to America.

441

00:19:07,420 --> 00:19:10,330 I lived here for five years to '56.

442

00:19:10,330 --> 00:19:13,570 And in '56 I went to Cuba, I met my wife,

443

00:19:13,570 --> 00:19:16,320 and I lived there five years, '61,

444

00:19:16,320 --> 00:19:18,160 and this is the longest time I'm here.

445

00:19:18,160 --> 00:19:21,790 So I have two sons--

446

00:19:21,790 --> 00:19:22,330 I'm sorry.

447

00:19:22,330 --> 00:19:22,830 Go on.

448

00:19:22,830 --> 00:19:23,700 No, I'm sorry.

449

00:19:23,700 --> 00:19:24,370 Finish, please.

450

00:19:24,370 --> 00:19:27,210

I have two sons.

00:19:27,210 --> 00:19:29,350 And I tell them this story what I told you.

452

00:19:29,350 --> 00:19:31,980 Maybe I told then maybe 10 different times.

453

00:19:31,980 --> 00:19:34,860 And I tried to tell them, I don't remember myself,

454

00:19:34,860 --> 00:19:37,870 but everything comes back to me.

455

00:19:37,870 --> 00:19:40,750 Depends where I am.

456

00:19:40,750 --> 00:19:42,250 How often I tell my wife.

457

00:19:42,250 --> 00:19:43,480 I lie in bed.

458

00:19:43,480 --> 00:19:44,472 All of a sudden--

459

00:19:44,472 --> 00:19:46,930 or we go somewhere then of the sudden, it comes back to me.

460

00:19:46,930 --> 00:19:49,960 How can you forget this?

461

00:19:49,960 --> 00:19:52,280 You know, I told you my story.

462

00:19:52,280 --> 00:19:54,040

This is not well--

463

00:19:54,040 --> 00:19:56,380

I'm not well prepared, but the only thing

464

00:19:56,380 --> 00:19:58,840 what I have to tell you, what I went through,

465

00:19:58,840 --> 00:20:00,820 I went through hell.

466

00:20:00,820 --> 00:20:03,420 If I'm normal today and I can tell you this story,

467

00:20:03,420 --> 00:20:04,045 it's a miracle.

468

00:20:04,045 --> 00:20:07,550

469

00:20:07,550 --> 00:20:10,300 You know, everyday has its own history.

470

00:20:10,300 --> 00:20:12,310 I don't remember it myself.

471

00:20:12,310 --> 00:20:14,160 Every day, we were sitting in this barn

472

00:20:14,160 --> 00:20:15,880 and sometimes you get a sentence.

473

00:20:15,880 --> 00:20:17,860 You sit the year in prison or two years.

474

00:20:17,860 --> 00:20:21,682 We were sitting and waiting for what?

 $00:20:21,682 \longrightarrow 00:20:23,210$ 

Where was it worse for you?

476

00:20:23,210 --> 00:20:26,290

Was it worse for you in a place like Kamionki

477

 $00:20:26,290 \longrightarrow 00:20:28,840$ 

or was it worse to be in his barn

478

00:20:28,840 --> 00:20:31,510

and in hiding not knowing--

479

 $00:20:31,510 \longrightarrow 00:20:36,750$ 

Listen, in Kamionki, I knew that I'm going to be killed any day.

480

00:20:36,750 --> 00:20:39,490

And in the barn was the same story, you know?

481

00:20:39,490 --> 00:20:43,060

Like this woman, this farmer's

wife, walked in one day

482

 $00:20:43,060 \longrightarrow 00:20:45,280$ 

and said to me,

"You have to die.

483

00:20:45,280 --> 00:20:46,700

Why should I die?"

484

00:20:46,700 --> 00:20:50,260

You know, sometimes you

sit waiting for what?

485

 $00:20:50,260 \longrightarrow 00:20:53,310$ 

Sometimes you wait for-- you

didn't even know when and what.

486

00:20:53,310 --> 00:20:55,240

How did you spend the day, I mean?

487 00:20:55,240 --> 00:20:55,750 Nothing.

488 00:20:55,750 --> 00:21:01,765 Sitting and-- now, my father had a few dollars.

489 00:21:01,765 --> 00:21:03,570 For this is they kept us there.

490 00:21:03,570 --> 00:21:06,310 So he used to give them the few dollars till the money-- one

491 00:21:06,310 --> 00:21:08,420 day, we saw the money's going to run out.

492 00:21:08,420 --> 00:21:11,050 What does he need us for?

493 00:21:11,050 --> 00:21:12,960 And one day, he made the remark, you see.

494 00:21:12,960 --> 00:21:14,020 I never forget this.

495 00:21:14,020 --> 00:21:15,680 Everything comes back.

496 00:21:15,680 --> 00:21:17,880 You know, we had a hiding place there,

497 00:21:17,880 --> 00:21:20,210 and the hiding place had to have air.

498

00:21:20,210 --> 00:21:22,490 It was dug out of the barn.

499

00:21:22,490 --> 00:21:24,820 So he said, when I wanted to kill you,

500

00:21:24,820 --> 00:21:27,070 it was very simple for me just to close up the air,

501

00:21:27,070 --> 00:21:27,730 and that's it.

502

00:21:27,730 --> 00:21:28,360 You would be finished.

503

00:21:28,360 --> 00:21:29,560 You were in an underground--

504

00:21:29,560 --> 00:21:30,520 Yes, sometimes we use to go-

505

00:21:30,520 --> 00:21:31,103 --like a hole.

506

00:21:31,103 --> 00:21:34,870 --when we scared, when something was going on in the village,

507

00:21:34,870 --> 00:21:36,370 so we went underground.

508

00:21:36,370 --> 00:21:37,958 Were you and your father together--

509

00:21:37,958 --> 00:21:38,500

All the time.

510

00:21:38,500 --> 00:21:39,208

--the whole time?

511 00:21:39,208 --> 00:21:39,970 All the time.

512

00:21:39,970 --> 00:21:42,650 The only thing my father was not in the concentration camp,

513 00:21:42,650 --> 00:21:44,380 and I was.

514 00:21:44,380 --> 00:21:47,620 And what about your uncle?

515 00:21:47,620 --> 00:21:48,890 I have two uncles.

516 00:21:48,890 --> 00:21:51,690 Which one are you talking about?

517 00:21:51,690 --> 00:21:55,553 The one uncle was hidden in the same village where I was.

518 00:21:55,553 --> 00:21:57,970 He didn't know about us, and we didn't-- well, he is dead.

519 00:21:57,970 --> 00:21:59,660 He died.

520 00:21:59,660 --> 00:22:01,120 And then I had another uncle which

521 00:22:01,120 --> 00:22:03,190 was survived together with us.

522 00:22:03,190 --> 00:22:05,570 He was traveling from one town to the other.

00:22:05,570 --> 00:22:08,910

It was after the Russians came in.

524

00:22:08,910 --> 00:22:09,760

And he disappeared.

525

00:22:09,760 --> 00:22:12,070

Till today you don't

know where he is.

526

00:22:12,070 --> 00:22:15,805

We had so many

underground organizations

527

00:22:15,805 --> 00:22:17,500

like the Ukrainians.

528

00:22:17,500 --> 00:22:19,925

They call it vendetta.

529

00:22:19,925 --> 00:22:22,958

We suppose that he

was killed by them.

530

00:22:22,958 --> 00:22:24,250

We don't even know where he is.

531

00:22:24,250 --> 00:22:29,080

How do you explain the Christian

farmer taking care of you

532

00:22:29,080 --> 00:22:31,420

and your father and your uncle?

533

00:22:31,420 --> 00:22:32,530

What was in it for them?

534

00:22:32,530 --> 00:22:33,400

Was there money?

535

00:22:33,400 --> 00:22:35,470 You mention your father had money.

536 00:22:35,470 --> 00:22:38,090 Were they just humanitarians and wanted to help?

537 00:22:38,090 --> 00:22:39,810 I have to be honest with you.

538 00:22:39,810 --> 00:22:42,100 No one would be--

539 00:22:42,100 --> 00:22:46,600 I have to admire those people that they did it.

540 00:22:46,600 --> 00:22:49,390 God forbid if they would have caught us.

541 00:22:49,390 --> 00:22:51,740 He is dying together with us.

542 00:22:51,740 --> 00:22:55,570 And I have to say there was more humanitarian than money.

543 00:22:55,570 --> 00:22:57,490 How many people survived like this?

544 00:22:57,490 --> 00:23:00,670 I never forget I was walking in the middle of the night--

545 00:23:00,670 --> 00:23:04,120 we were walking, and there was a light and were hungry.

546 00:23:04,120 --> 00:23:07,103 So you walked into a farmer, and we said to him,

### 547

00:23:07,103 --> 00:23:08,020 "Listen we are hungry.

### 548

00:23:08,020 --> 00:23:09,270 Could you give us some bread?"

# 549

00:23:09,270 --> 00:23:11,680 So he took out to give us some bread, and we left.

### 550

00:23:11,680 --> 00:23:17,350 On the way back, when we survived the whole thing there.

## 551

00:23:17,350 --> 00:23:19,205 On the way back, we remembered this farmer

# 552

00:23:19,205 --> 00:23:20,180 and we walked into him.

## 553

00:23:20,180 --> 00:23:22,750 And he said, you know, we are those, and we survived.

## 554

00:23:22,750 --> 00:23:26,890 We come to thank you for the bread you gave.

# 555

00:23:26,890 --> 00:23:30,550 I can't remember those things.

#### 556

00:23:30,550 --> 00:23:31,990 Every day was a different story.

#### 557

00:23:31,990 --> 00:23:34,570 Was there ever fear--

# 558

00:23:34,570 --> 00:23:36,940

well, there must be fear,

and I shouldn't say ever--

559 00:23:36,940 --> 00:23:40,270 fear of being discovered, or being disclosed,

560 00:23:40,270 --> 00:23:41,850 that somebody knew you were there,

561 00:23:41,850 --> 00:23:45,610 and that they might tell the Germans?

562 00:23:45,610 --> 00:23:47,430 We were afraid of anyone.

563 00:23:47,430 --> 00:23:48,985 We were not afraid of the Germans.

564 00:23:48,985 --> 00:23:50,110 We were afraid of everyone.

565 00:23:50,110 --> 00:23:52,270 Anyone would just point with their finger--

566 00:23:52,270 --> 00:23:53,500 the Jews are there--

567 00:23:53,500 --> 00:23:54,580 it's enough.

568 00:23:54,580 --> 00:23:56,770 How did you find your father, after?

569 00:23:56,770 --> 00:23:59,830

570 00:23:59,830 --> 00:24:04,430 We were hidden, altogether, all the time, together.

571

00:24:04,430 --> 00:24:07,730 But you said, he was not with you in Kamionki.

572

00:24:07,730 --> 00:24:10,330 I came back home from Kamionki.

573

00:24:10,330 --> 00:24:11,770 You came back to your own home?

574

00:24:11,770 --> 00:24:12,640 Yes.

575

00:24:12,640 --> 00:24:13,825 He was home.

576

00:24:13,825 --> 00:24:14,950 And then the thing started.

577

00:24:14,950 --> 00:24:15,580 Hiding?

578

00:24:15,580 --> 00:24:16,790 Hiding, right.

579

00:24:16,790 --> 00:24:18,370 Where was he hiding.

580

00:24:18,370 --> 00:24:20,920 We were hiding together, me and my father.

581

00:24:20,920 --> 00:24:24,700 Me and my father till this-right after this Wednesday--

582

00:24:24,700 --> 00:24:26,590 I told you, Wednesday afternoon.

00:24:26,590 --> 00:24:27,700

The next day we met.

584

00:24:27,700 --> 00:24:32,690

And then we ran away-- me, my

father, my uncle, all three

585

00:24:32,690 --> 00:24:33,640

of us.

586

00:24:33,640 --> 00:24:35,260

We survived, altogether.

587

00:24:35,260 --> 00:24:38,560

We were never separated.

588

00:24:38,560 --> 00:24:40,180

Let's go back a little bit.

589

 $00:24:40,180 \longrightarrow 00:24:45,350$ 

Before the war, how were the

Jews treated in your town,

590

00:24:45,350 --> 00:24:46,090

in your village?

591

 $00:24:46,090 \longrightarrow 00:24:47,255$ 

Was there animosity?

592

00:24:47,255 --> 00:24:48,880

I don't come, actually,

from a village.

593

 $00:24:48,880 \longrightarrow 00:24:49,960$ 

I come from a town.

594

 $00:24:49,960 \longrightarrow 00:24:50,737$ 

From a town.

595

 $00:24:50,737 \longrightarrow 00:24:51,820$ 

The town that you were in?

596 00:24:51,820 --> 00:24:53,260 Yes.

597

00:24:53,260 --> 00:25:01,050 You have to realize that the Pole hates the Jew, in general.

598

00:25:01,050 --> 00:25:03,570 The Pole, but I have to say, the only ones

599

00:25:03,570 --> 00:25:09,120 that helped us survive, is just the Poles, not the Ukrainians.

600

00:25:09,120 --> 00:25:09,870 We had the Poles.

601

00:25:09,870 --> 00:25:13,410 And we had Ukrainians.

602

00:25:13,410 --> 00:25:17,190 I mean, the majority were Poles, but part of it the Ukrainians,

603

00:25:17,190 --> 00:25:18,120 too.

604

00:25:18,120 --> 00:25:21,600 The Ukrainians, actually, together with the Germans,

605

00:25:21,600 --> 00:25:22,620 were killing the Jews.

606

00:25:22,620 --> 00:25:24,570 Were the Ukrainians part of the population?

607

00:25:24,570 --> 00:25:25,153

Or originally?

608 00:25:25,153 --> 00:25:27,050 Part of the population, right.

609 00:25:27,050 --> 00:25:29,420 So they were there, before even the Germans came.

610 00:25:29,420 --> 00:25:31,490 Right, sure.

611 00:25:31,490 --> 00:25:35,520 The population consisted of Poles, Ukrainians, and Jews.

612 00:25:35,520 --> 00:25:37,860 Yeah, so southern Ukrainians were more--

613 00:25:37,860 --> 00:25:39,240 They did the job, right

614 00:25:39,240 --> 00:25:40,320 --Hateful to the Jews.

615 00:25:40,320 --> 00:25:41,220 No doubt about it.

616 00:25:41,220 --> 00:25:43,350 There were Ukrainian Jews, were there not?

617 00:25:43,350 --> 00:25:44,310 Ukrainian Jews?

618 00:25:44,310 --> 00:25:46,190 What do you mean, Ukrainian Jews?

619 00:25:46,190 --> 00:25:48,367 Were there not Ukrainian Jews? 620 00:25:48,367 --> 00:25:49,200 Who live in Ukraine?

621 00:25:49,200 --> 00:25:50,100 I come from there.

622 00:25:50,100 --> 00:25:51,660 I'm one of them.

623 00:25:51,660 --> 00:25:52,260 He was in--

624 00:25:52,260 --> 00:25:54,930 This is Ukraine, today.

625 00:25:54,930 --> 00:25:56,270 When I was there, it was Poland.

626 00:25:56,270 --> 00:26:00,090 Today, if you look at a map, this is Ukraine.

627 00:26:00,090 --> 00:26:01,530 It's Russia, today.

628 00:26:01,530 --> 00:26:02,490 It's Ukraine.

629 00:26:02,490 --> 00:26:06,000 It's part of the Ukraine, where I come from.

630 00:26:06,000 --> 00:26:07,433 And I came to you--

631 00:26:07,433 --> 00:26:08,850 I'm catching one, the other-- when

632 00:26:08,850 --> 00:26:11,390 I came to Germany, as a Russian soldier,

633

00:26:11,390 --> 00:26:15,300 I came to Poland, which is in the North Sea.

634

00:26:15,300 --> 00:26:17,860 When I came there, I had a friend of mine,

635

00:26:17,860 --> 00:26:21,400 his name was [? Baker, ?] and he said to me in Russian, Zyg,

636

00:26:21,400 --> 00:26:23,110 he said, when--

637

00:26:23,110 --> 00:26:25,620 he said that workers lived here.

638

00:26:25,620 --> 00:26:27,800 He said that Russian sounds beautiful.

639

00:26:27,800 --> 00:26:31,530 He told me, I remember his exact words, what he said, tell me,

640

00:26:31,530 --> 00:26:35,660 where the workers live, in Poland, and in the North.

641

00:26:35,660 --> 00:26:38,100 When I came from Poland, I opened my eyes.

642

00:26:38,100 --> 00:26:39,890 I couldn't believe how people live.

643

00:26:39,890 --> 00:26:42,810 It's beautiful there--

beautiful homes,

00:26:42,810 --> 00:26:44,100 beautiful apartment buildings.

645

00:26:44,100 --> 00:26:46,610

We had nothing.

646

00:26:46,610 --> 00:26:48,030

And imagine where he comes from.

647

00:26:48,030 --> 00:26:48,990

He comes from Russia.

648

00:26:48,990 --> 00:26:51,270

Russia was 50 years backwards.

649

00:26:51,270 --> 00:26:56,060

When you come from our town, today, I'm

650

00:26:56,060 --> 00:26:58,420

thinking the country was,

who knows how many years,

651

00:26:58,420 --> 00:26:59,160

backwards.

652

00:26:59,160 --> 00:27:01,860

But if you came to

Russia, it's even further.

653

00:27:01,860 --> 00:27:04,140

The Russians came in 1939.

654

00:27:04,140 --> 00:27:06,630

The Jews had little stores.

655

00:27:06,630 --> 00:27:09,180

They couldn't sell this

merchandise, never in life.

656

00:27:09,180 --> 00:27:11,060 The Russians bought everything up.

657 00:27:11,060 --> 00:27:13,456 They ask him, tell me, everything?

658 00:27:13,456 --> 00:27:15,440 You have nothing in Russia?

659 00:27:15,440 --> 00:27:17,762 You're buying everything!

660 00:27:17,762 --> 00:27:20,220 They asked him another thing, but I don't want to say that.

661 00:27:20,220 --> 00:27:22,330 You were about 16 years old, when the war started?

662 00:27:22,330 --> 00:27:22,830 Yes.

663 00:27:22,830 --> 00:27:26,840 Where-- did you have any schooling, before that?

664 00:27:26,840 --> 00:27:29,590 Yes, I finished public schooling.

665 00:27:29,590 --> 00:27:30,590 I went to public school.

666 00:27:30,590 --> 00:27:32,790 Then I went to, you call it gymnasium.

667 00:27:32,790 --> 00:27:35,070 But I didn't finish. 668  $00:27:35,070 \longrightarrow 00:27:40,280$ Well, instead of this, the

Russians came in 1940 and '41,

669  $00:27:40,280 \longrightarrow 00:27:42,390$ and I went to Russian school.

670  $00:27:42,390 \longrightarrow 00:27:44,050$ What were you planning to study?

671 00:27:44,050 --> 00:27:45,980 What was interest?

672 00:27:45,980 --> 00:27:50,300 I have an uncle, which finished in Poland.

673  $00:27:50,300 \longrightarrow 00:27:53,670$ He finished higher education, what

674 00:27:53,670 --> 00:27:55,860 you consider here, college.

675  $00:27:55,860 \longrightarrow 00:27:57,110$ He wanted to go to university.

676 00:27:57,110 --> 00:27:57,790 He couldn't go.

677 00:27:57,790 --> 00:27:59,280 He was a Jew.

678  $00:27:59,280 \longrightarrow 00:28:01,530$ So he went to Brazil.

679  $00:28:01,530 \longrightarrow 00:28:02,990$ He went to Brazil.

680  $00:28:02,990 \longrightarrow 00:28:04,440$ And he wanted to study.

681 00:28:04,440 --> 00:28:07,620 In the meantime, he met, in Brazil, a Brazilian girl.

682 00:28:07,620 --> 00:28:11,000 So he got married, so forgot about studying.

683 00:28:11,000 --> 00:28:15,240 To be in Poland, a young man who wanted

684 00:28:15,240 --> 00:28:19,530 to study, it was very difficult. You needed a lot of money.

685 00:28:19,530 --> 00:28:21,210 People were very poor.

686 00:28:21,210 --> 00:28:26,890 I was asked once, in German court, I was asked, in Germany,

687 00:28:26,890 --> 00:28:30,090 he said to me, [NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING],,

688 00:28:30,090 --> 00:28:33,090 a lot of rich Jews, where you come from?

689 00:28:33,090 --> 00:28:36,660 I say, yes, the difference, I see, between the rich one

690 00:28:36,660 --> 00:28:39,630 and the poor one was this, the rich one had something to eat,

691 00:28:39,630 --> 00:28:41,130 and the poor one had nothing to eat. 692 00:28:41,130 --> 00:28:43,890 This was the difference, where I come from.

693 00:28:43,890 --> 00:28:45,590 Poor people are very poor.

694 00:28:45,590 --> 00:28:47,580 Poor is not enough.

695 00:28:47,580 --> 00:28:50,130 If you had a good friend, which lived in Americans,

696 00:28:50,130 --> 00:28:51,780 and you turned out \$10--

697 00:28:51,780 --> 00:28:53,970 I repeat again \$10--

698 00:28:53,970 --> 00:28:56,020 you lived on the \$10 all year.

699 00:28:56,020 --> 00:28:57,180 You lived very well.

700 00:28:57,180 --> 00:28:59,420 \$10-- why?

701 00:28:59,420 --> 00:29:02,050 In the shack that you live in, the house,

702 00:29:02,050 --> 00:29:03,870 there was nothing there.

703 00:29:03,870 --> 00:29:06,540 The menu, repeat words.

704 00:29:06,540 --> 00:29:10,930 The menu consists of bread and water, or water and bread,

705

00:29:10,930 --> 00:29:14,370 or the potatoes and water, potatoes and bread.

706

00:29:14,370 --> 00:29:16,870 This was the only thing that you had.

707

00:29:16,870 --> 00:29:18,450 We had very little.

708

00:29:18,450 --> 00:29:21,780 A man of 50 was just about finished.

709

00:29:21,780 --> 00:29:26,810 You know, the expectancy of life, people lived very little.

710

00:29:26,810 --> 00:29:28,430 And people had very little of life.

711

00:29:28,430 --> 00:29:31,760 What I had, if I think about it, for my grandparents, where

712

00:29:31,760 --> 00:29:33,570 they lived, they were well-off.

713

00:29:33,570 --> 00:29:37,350 My grandparents had a business in one side, the other side

714

00:29:37,350 --> 00:29:38,370 they were--

715

00:29:38,370 --> 00:29:40,850 the difference was, like I said, they had something to eat.

716 00:29:40,850 --> 00:29:42,420 They didn't have too much.

717 00:29:42,420 --> 00:29:46,533 My grandmother went to America, even before the war.

718 00:29:46,533 --> 00:29:47,700 Not many people could do it.

719 00:29:47,700 --> 00:29:49,620 She had a brother living in Brooklyn.

720 00:29:49,620 --> 00:29:50,590 So he sent that ticket.

721 00:29:50,590 --> 00:29:53,380 So she went for a trip to America.

722 00:29:53,380 --> 00:29:54,450 How many people did this?

723 00:29:54,450 --> 00:29:55,992 When you were still a very young boy,

724 00:29:55,992 --> 00:29:58,510 did you plan on leaving the town--

725 00:29:58,510 --> 00:30:00,810 I grew up with my grandparents.

726 00:30:00,810 --> 00:30:02,070 I didn't think about too much.

727 00:30:02,070 --> 00:30:05,460 You know, I tell you what we used to do.

00:30:05,460 --> 00:30:09,060 We used to go to public school from 8 o'clock in the morning,

729

00:30:09,060 --> 00:30:09,840 till one.

730

00:30:09,840 --> 00:30:11,875 At 3 o'clock, we went to Hebrew school.

731

00:30:11,875 --> 00:30:13,250 I used to speak Hebrew perfectly.

732

00:30:13,250 --> 00:30:14,880 I forgot.

733

00:30:14,880 --> 00:30:15,990 We used to go till six.

734

00:30:15,990 --> 00:30:18,240 And at 6 o'clock, we used to have a helper, which used

735

00:30:18,240 --> 00:30:20,300 to help us to public school.

736

00:30:20,300 --> 00:30:23,100 And Sunday morning, we had a Rabbi,

737

00:30:23,100 --> 00:30:26,850 who was teaching us Yiddish, because we had to know, too.

738

00:30:26,850 --> 00:30:30,870 The only time off, that we had, was Saturday afternoon,

739

 $00:30:30,870 \longrightarrow 00:30:32,262$ 

and Sunday afternoon.

740

00:30:32,262 --> 00:30:33,470 A full day, we never had off.

741

 $00:30:33,470 \longrightarrow 00:30:37,100$ 

742

00:30:37,100 --> 00:30:41,810 What was your religious education?

743

00:30:41,810 --> 00:30:43,940 Were you orthodox?

744

00:30:43,940 --> 00:30:47,260 You had to be orthodox, you know.

745

00:30:47,260 --> 00:30:49,400 Both of you ask me this question I

746

00:30:49,400 --> 00:30:52,190 used to get up in the morning.

747

00:30:52,190 --> 00:30:54,410 Friday morning, my grandmother used

748

00:30:54,410 --> 00:30:56,960 to bake all kinds of goodies, what you call

749

00:30:56,960 --> 00:30:58,855 knishes, all kind of stuff.

750

00:30:58,855 --> 00:30:59,980 She wouldn't give it to me.

751

00:30:59,980 --> 00:31:01,640 And I was the only grandson. 752 00:31:01,640 --> 00:31:04,190 I had to go to the temple, to pray.

753 00:31:04,190 --> 00:31:05,020 Then I came home.

754 00:31:05,020 --> 00:31:06,890 Then she gave it to me.

755 00:31:06,890 --> 00:31:10,280 This was the-- you couldn't be the other way.

756 00:31:10,280 --> 00:31:13,190 If a Jewish boy would go out in the street on Shabbos

757 00:31:13,190 --> 00:31:15,800 riding a bike, or smoking a cigarette,

758 00:31:15,800 --> 00:31:17,330 they would kill the guy.

759 00:31:17,330 --> 00:31:21,920 You couldn't do this, or you weren't halal.

760 00:31:21,920 --> 00:31:25,240 But you were brought up this way.

761 00:31:25,240 --> 00:31:28,310 Maybe some people didn't practice the religion.

762 00:31:28,310 --> 00:31:31,108 But outside, that's what you had to do. 00:31:31,108 --> 00:31:32,900 Did you have to dress in a traditional way?

764 00:31:32,900 --> 00:31:35,030 No, this I never did.

765 00:31:35,030 --> 00:31:37,220 Was it a mixed community?

766 00:31:37,220 --> 00:31:38,475 It was.

767 00:31:38,475 --> 00:31:39,642 And was there anti-Semitism?

768 00:31:39,642 --> 00:31:41,200 Oh, yes, all the time.

769 00:31:41,200 --> 00:31:42,720 It's a known story.

770 00:31:42,720 --> 00:31:44,750 Overt, or covert?

771 00:31:44,750 --> 00:31:46,460 Yeah, sure.

772 00:31:46,460 --> 00:31:48,680 Let me say to you now.

773 00:31:48,680 --> 00:31:55,400 If you went to public school, 99.9% were Jewish kids.

774 00:31:55,400 --> 00:31:58,040 Most Gentiles, they stayed at home.

775 00:31:58,040 --> 00:31:59,960 They didn't send their kids to school. 776 00:31:59,960 --> 00:32:03,650 But Jewish kids, they all went to school.

777

00:32:03,650 --> 00:32:06,820 This reminds me of the Mr. Eban was once on television.

778

00:32:06,820 --> 00:32:09,140 He came back from Latin America.

779

00:32:09,140 --> 00:32:10,040 Should I say it?

780

00:32:10,040 --> 00:32:10,920 Please.

781

00:32:10,920 --> 00:32:14,360 So I said to him, you know, the president--

782

00:32:14,360 --> 00:32:18,340 one of the presidents of Latin America asked me, tell me--

783

00:32:18,340 --> 00:32:20,710 they're talking about, Israel should be a power one day.

784

00:32:20,710 --> 00:32:22,710 He said, have you look at a map recently?

785

00:32:22,710 --> 00:32:25,310 He said, no.

786

00:32:25,310 --> 00:32:29,265 Israel will never be a power in the territory,

787

00:32:29,265 --> 00:32:31,160

but be a power in learning.

788

00:32:31,160 --> 00:32:32,532

I have two sons.

789

 $00:32:32,532 \longrightarrow 00:32:33,490$ 

I came to this country.

790

00:32:33,490 --> 00:32:34,880

And the first thing that I did--

791

00:32:34,880 --> 00:32:49,040

792

 $00:32:49,040 \longrightarrow 00:32:50,030$ 

Take your time.

793

00:32:50,030 --> 00:33:06,870

794

00:33:06,870 --> 00:33:09,140

Yeah, the first thing

that I want to do

795

00:33:09,140 --> 00:33:10,420

is to educate my sons.

796

00:33:10,420 --> 00:33:36,420

797

 $00:33:36,420 \longrightarrow 00:33:39,323$ 

My wife-- I can't talk.

798

00:33:39,323 --> 00:33:39,823

[CRYING]

799

00:33:39,823 --> 00:33:40,670

It's all right.

800

00:33:40,670 --> 00:33:41,686

You're doing fine.

801 00:33:41,686 --> 00:33:44,810 Take your time.

802 00:33:44,810 --> 00:33:46,105 Thank you, very much.

803 00:33:46,105 --> 00:33:54,180

804 00:33:54,180 --> 00:33:58,072 The only thing I had on my mind is to educate.

805 00:33:58,072 --> 00:33:59,030 My two sons should be--

806 00:33:59,030 --> 00:34:01,520 [CRYING]

807 00:34:01,520 --> 00:34:09,489

808 00:34:09,489 --> 00:34:11,310 Should be well educated.

809 00:34:11,310 --> 00:34:13,290 She always was made fun, she said--

810 00:34:13,290 --> 00:34:15,790 [CRYING]

811 00:34:15,790 --> 00:34:17,558

812 00:34:17,558 --> 00:34:19,350 They were born, here, in the United States?

813 00:34:19,350 --> 00:34:20,070

00:34:20,070 --> 00:34:20,880

One is a doctor.

815

00:34:20,880 --> 00:34:22,260

And one is a lawyer.

816

00:34:22,260 --> 00:34:24,100

Yeah.

817

00:34:24,100 --> 00:34:26,909

And my wife always made fun.

818

00:34:26,909 --> 00:34:28,340

What are you worried about?

819

00:34:28,340 --> 00:34:31,654

I said I'm worried--

820

00:34:31,654 --> 00:34:33,529

You wanted them to have

a sense of security--

821

00:34:33,529 --> 00:34:34,029

Right.

822

00:34:34,029 --> 00:34:35,725

-- And stability that

you didn't have.

823

00:34:35,725 --> 00:34:36,350

That's correct.

824

00:34:36,350 --> 00:34:41,580

825

00:34:41,580 --> 00:34:43,000

How old are they now?

826

00:34:43,000 --> 00:34:43,500

Sorry?

827

00:34:43,500 --> 00:34:44,530

How old are your sons?

828

00:34:44,530 --> 00:34:46,002

My son is 31.

829

00:34:46,002 --> 00:34:46,980

One is 31.

830

00:34:46,980 --> 00:34:48,838

One is 28.

831

 $00:34:48,838 \longrightarrow 00:34:50,710$ 

One is married.

832

00:34:50,710 --> 00:34:53,520

He lives in Framingham.

833

00:34:53,520 --> 00:34:57,900

And one is single and

lives in New York.

834

00:34:57,900 --> 00:34:58,650

Your grandfather?

835

00:34:58,650 --> 00:35:00,070

Ah, my grandfather.

836

00:35:00,070 --> 00:35:02,670

That's nice.

837

 $00:35:02,670 \longrightarrow 00:35:03,170$ 

Yeah.

838

00:35:03,170 --> 00:35:05,970

839

 $00:35:05,970 \longrightarrow 00:35:07,600$ 

So you accomplished

something for them.

840

00:35:07,600 --> 00:35:09,066

That's--

841

00:35:09,066 --> 00:35:10,670

I'm very proud.

842

00:35:10,670 --> 00:35:11,650

Of course.

843

 $00:35:11,650 \longrightarrow 00:35:13,220$ 

So just to go back

a little bit, you

844

00:35:13,220 --> 00:35:16,250

said you went to

the German embassy?

845

00:35:16,250 --> 00:35:17,510

In New York.

846

00:35:17,510 --> 00:35:18,950

How do they identify you?

847

00:35:18,950 --> 00:35:20,510

I don't know how they found me.

848

 $00:35:20,510 \longrightarrow 00:35:21,560$ 

They found me.

849

 $00:35:21,560 \longrightarrow 00:35:26,660$ 

They usually have-- in

Munich, if you came to Munich,

850

 $00:35:26,660 \longrightarrow 00:35:29,040$ 

you registered right away.

851

00:35:29,040 --> 00:35:30,290

All the Jews registered.

852

00:35:30,290 --> 00:35:32,480 It's the only thing I can think of.

853

00:35:32,480 --> 00:35:34,770 They knew where I am from.

854

00:35:34,770 --> 00:35:36,657 I was in Kamionki in the concentration camp.

855

00:35:36,657 --> 00:35:37,490 They didn't call me.

856

00:35:37,490 --> 00:35:38,990 They called another guy.

857

00:35:38,990 --> 00:35:40,400 The guy-- the reasons he died--

858

00:35:40,400 --> 00:35:44,400

859

00:35:44,400 --> 00:35:46,160 he had no family.

860

00:35:46,160 --> 00:35:47,483 He died.

861

00:35:47,483 --> 00:35:48,650 They called him to Kamionki.

862

00:35:48,650 --> 00:35:49,610 He was never there.

863

00:35:49,610 --> 00:35:51,237 I don't know how they found me.

864

00:35:51,237 --> 00:35:51,820

They found me.

865

866

00:35:55,640 --> 00:35:58,290 Based on your being in Kamionki.

867

00:35:58,290 --> 00:35:59,740 No, no, no.

868

00:35:59,740 --> 00:36:01,490 This gentleman is asking me how they found

869

00:36:01,490 --> 00:36:03,750 me to testify about this guy.

870

00:36:03,750 --> 00:36:04,610 Yeah.

871

00:36:04,610 --> 00:36:08,540 They look for a guy, from the town, where I come from.

872

00:36:08,540 --> 00:36:11,030 This was a guy-- there was a different story.

873

00:36:11,030 --> 00:36:15,260 There was a guy, which was from the Gestapo, which was

874

00:36:15,260 --> 00:36:19,880 killing Jews, Jews in our town.

875

00:36:19,880 --> 00:36:21,200 They looked for any survivors.

876

00:36:21,200 --> 00:36:22,035 And they found me.

877

00:36:22,035 --> 00:36:22,910

When was this, again?

878 00:36:22,910 --> 00:36:24,705 This was a few years ago, quite a few.

879

00:36:24,705 --> 00:36:25,580 What happened to him?

880

00:36:25,580 --> 00:36:26,270 Do you know?

Do you know

881

00:36:26,270 --> 00:36:28,647 He died.

882

00:36:28,647 --> 00:36:29,480 It's a funny thing--

883

00:36:29,480 --> 00:36:31,236 I came to my --.

884

00:36:31,236 --> 00:36:34,010 You know, you come to the courthouse.

885

00:36:34,010 --> 00:36:37,630 Usually courthouses have the same big hall.

886

00:36:37,630 --> 00:36:39,360 And I see the guy walking.

887

00:36:39,360 --> 00:36:41,037 You know, he had a certain walk.

888

00:36:41,037 --> 00:36:42,120 And I had a guard with me.

889

00:36:42,120 --> 00:36:43,370 I said, that's the man.

890

00:36:43,370 --> 00:36:46,340

I didn't see him for 20, or maybe 20, some years.

891

00:36:46,340 --> 00:36:48,940 But his certain walk, the way he walked--

892

00:36:48,940 --> 00:36:50,540 I said that's the guy.

893

00:36:50,540 --> 00:36:53,220 You imagined, they liked me so much, the prosecutor.

894

00:36:53,220 --> 00:36:57,580 If you come to a German court, it's a different procedure.

895

00:36:57,580 --> 00:37:03,170 You're facing about 10 jurors.

896

00:37:03,170 --> 00:37:06,620 Then you're facing three judges, and two prosecutors,

897

00:37:06,620 --> 00:37:08,990 and 20 some judges, from different courts,

898

00:37:08,990 --> 00:37:10,160 listening to the case.

899

00:37:10,160 --> 00:37:12,200 They can ask you questions.

900

00:37:12,200 --> 00:37:14,490 The moment you testify in a courthouse, especially

901

00:37:14,490 --> 00:37:16,770 the courthouse, if you--

902

00:37:16,770 --> 00:37:18,440 listen, can I forget my story?

903

00:37:18,440 --> 00:37:19,640 How can I forget it?

904

00:37:19,640 --> 00:37:22,040 I maybe, can be mixed up with the dates.

905

00:37:22,040 --> 00:37:23,150 And maybe I do.

906

00:37:23,150 --> 00:37:23,650 But I can't.

907

00:37:23,650 --> 00:37:25,550 How can I forget?

908

00:37:25,550 --> 00:37:27,890 So when he said to me--

909

00:37:27,890 --> 00:37:30,610 the two prosecutors took me out for lunch.

910

00:37:30,610 --> 00:37:32,600 And they said, you know, it's been a long time

911

00:37:32,600 --> 00:37:34,220 we've had a witness like you.

912

00:37:34,220 --> 00:37:36,920 Listen, I had nothing to lie to you, what I'm going tell you.

913

00:37:36,920 --> 00:37:37,800

If you want to lie?

914

00:37:37,800 --> 00:37:40,340

915 00:37:40,340 --> 00:37:42,280 What is there to tell?

916

00:37:42,280 --> 00:37:43,890 You tell them the truth.

917 00:37:43,890 --> 00:37:46,340 I couldn't-- there was nothing else to tell them.

918 00:37:46,340 --> 00:37:48,187 What could I tell them?

919 00:37:48,187 --> 00:37:49,770 How much time did you spend on those--

920 00:37:49,770 --> 00:37:52,040 Two days.

921 00:37:52,040 --> 00:37:54,950 Two days, in Mannheim.

922 00:37:54,950 --> 00:37:58,360 And later, I was told that the guy died.

923 00:37:58,360 --> 00:38:01,400 But the prosecutor asked me the question,

924 00:38:01,400 --> 00:38:03,820 sometime you pronounce the name Paul,

925 00:38:03,820 --> 00:38:06,160 sometimes you pronounce it a Paul.

926 00:38:06,160 --> 00:38:09,706 You see, in English, and in Polish, you have L,

927

00:38:09,706 --> 00:38:14,930 and you have L. It's two different things.

928

00:38:14,930 --> 00:38:18,910 But in English, you would never say Paul.

929

00:38:18,910 --> 00:38:19,810 That doesn't exist.

930

00:38:19,810 --> 00:38:21,770 You would say Paul.

931

00:38:21,770 --> 00:38:23,870 So when I said to him, I said to the prosecutor,

932

00:38:23,870 --> 00:38:27,020 my children was as pure as yours is, much purer.

933

00:38:27,020 --> 00:38:29,177 Yours is better than mine.

934

 $00:38:29,177 \longrightarrow 00:38:30,010$  That was the answer.

935

00:38:30,010 --> 00:38:33,640 What could I tell them?

936

00:38:33,640 --> 00:38:36,220 It was a real experience, you know,

937

00:38:36,220 --> 00:38:38,450 when I went to Mannheim to testify.

Manimenti to testify

938

00:38:38,450 --> 00:38:40,890

Very interesting, very interesting experience.

939

00:38:40,890 --> 00:38:42,560 Tell us a about that.

940

00:38:42,560 --> 00:38:43,520 I was sitting there.

941

00:38:43,520 --> 00:38:46,880 I was sitting, and facing so many judges,

942

00:38:46,880 --> 00:38:50,600 facing the whole court.

943

00:38:50,600 --> 00:38:54,350 They asked me the questions, like you're asked me now.

944

00:38:54,350 --> 00:38:55,460 What happened?

945

00:38:55,460 --> 00:38:57,660 How all the things happened?

946

00:38:57,660 --> 00:38:59,683 And I told them, listen, how can you remember,

947

00:38:59,683 --> 00:39:01,850 you told them the whole story, well, actually-- they

948

00:39:01,850 --> 00:39:05,330 knew right away to make sure that what I'm telling

949

00:39:05,330 --> 00:39:06,900 them is so.

950

00:39:06,900 --> 00:39:08,450

There's nothing here to hide.

951

00:39:08,450 --> 00:39:10,513

What is there to hide?

952

00:39:10,513 --> 00:39:11,930

The whole town,

where I come from,

953

00:39:11,930 --> 00:39:14,200

there were two streets there.

954

00:39:14,200 --> 00:39:17,105

You knew everyone-- what

the next guys is eating,

955

00:39:17,105 --> 00:39:18,230

what the next guy is doing.

956

00:39:18,230 --> 00:39:19,825

This is not-- did you get lost?

957

00:39:19,825 --> 00:39:21,200

If you live in

America, you don't

958

00:39:21,200 --> 00:39:24,653

know what the guys next door

is doing, where is he from,

959

00:39:24,653 --> 00:39:25,320

what does he do.

960

00:39:25,320 --> 00:39:26,600

You couldn't tell.

961

00:39:26,600 --> 00:39:30,500

Your people lived there,

all together, very close.

962

00:39:30,500 --> 00:39:32,570

I went, now, to Chile.

963 00:39:32,570 --> 00:39:33,830 I was in Santiago.

964 00:39:33,830 --> 00:39:40,610 And I remember a guy left our town, but before the war.

965 00:39:40,610 --> 00:39:43,310 I remember his first name.

966 00:39:43,310 --> 00:39:45,680 But his first name sounds different, here.

967 00:39:45,680 --> 00:39:48,020 It's all different in Santiago.

968 00:39:48,020 --> 00:39:49,160 But it was him.

969 00:39:49,160 --> 00:39:50,360 I called him up.

970 00:39:50,360 --> 00:39:52,170 And he came to visit me.

971 00:39:52,170 --> 00:39:54,080 After how many Years

972 00:39:54,080 --> 00:39:56,210 We're talking about 50 years.

973 00:39:56,210 --> 00:39:56,960 And you found him?

974 00:39:56,960 --> 00:39:58,890 By only his first name?

975 00:39:58,890 --> 00:39:59,900 No, his last name. 976 00:39:59,900 --> 00:40:02,650 But I knew his first name was different.

977 00:40:02,650 --> 00:40:05,270 But I looked at the telephone book.

978 00:40:05,270 --> 00:40:07,970 So somebody said, I bet you have to believe --

979 00:40:07,970 --> 00:40:09,550 is not a Jewish name.

980 00:40:09,550 --> 00:40:11,720 But his name was [? Gagnon, ?] They

981 00:40:11,720 --> 00:40:13,193 used to call him in Poland.

982 00:40:13,193 --> 00:40:14,360 I said, this the guy, I bet.

983 00:40:14,360 --> 00:40:15,430 And he came to visit me.

984 00:40:15,430 --> 00:40:16,970 It was him.

985 00:40:16,970 --> 00:40:20,830 I didn't see him probably for 50 years.

986 00:40:20,830 --> 00:40:23,570 Are others scattered around the world?

987 00:40:23,570 --> 00:40:24,950 There's one in Brazil. 988 00:40:24,950 --> 00:40:27,050 There's one in Brazil, which survived.

989

00:40:27,050 --> 00:40:35,000 I didn't see him since 1945.

990

00:40:35,000 --> 00:40:36,620 I didn't see him.

991

00:40:36,620 --> 00:40:37,845 Some people saw him.

992

00:40:37,845 --> 00:40:39,930 But the most, well they survived,

993

00:40:39,930 --> 00:40:45,060 were right here in New York-- from New York.

994

00:40:45,060 --> 00:40:47,060 How many survived?

995

00:40:47,060 --> 00:40:48,590 Some of them died.

996

00:40:48,590 --> 00:40:50,352 Some of them are still alive.

997

00:40:50,352 --> 00:40:52,310 Like those three brothers, one of the brothers,

998

00:40:52,310 --> 00:40:53,960 but I tell you the story.

999

00:40:53,960 --> 00:40:56,860 When his father was saying college. 1000

00:40:56,860 --> 00:40:57,740 He is alive.

1001

00:40:57,740 --> 00:40:59,910 He lives in Germany.

1002

00:40:59,910 --> 00:41:02,537 And you said your father is still living.

1003

00:41:02,537 --> 00:41:03,620 My father is still living.

1004

00:41:03,620 --> 00:41:06,260 Yeah, my father's 96 years old.

1005

00:41:06,260 --> 00:41:10,300 When we came here in 1951, people, the problem,

1006

00:41:10,300 --> 00:41:12,560 like I told you, my father always

1007

00:41:12,560 --> 00:41:16,620 say this, this fresh air, for this he is now alive.

1008

00:41:16,620 --> 00:41:19,900 He liked, so much, too--

1009

00:41:19,900 --> 00:41:23,110 how many people live to this age?

1010

00:41:23,110 --> 00:41:25,370 He is mentally OK.

1011

00:41:25,370 --> 00:41:28,830 The only thing what he is, physically though.

1012 00:41:28,830 --> 00:41:33,460 He hardly can walk,

but mentally, I wish--

1013 00:41:33,460 --> 00:41:35,130 if I'm alive, I should be with him.

1014 00:41:35,130 --> 00:41:37,930 [LAUGHTER]

1015 00:41:37,930 --> 00:41:40,990 Most of the people, that you knew from your town,

1016 00:41:40,990 --> 00:41:43,780 were with you, in Kamionki, the ones who were--

1017 00:41:43,780 --> 00:41:44,602 Yes.

1018 00:41:44,602 --> 00:41:45,560 What was it like there?

1019 00:41:45,560 --> 00:41:47,400 What can you remember?

1020 00:41:47,400 --> 00:41:47,980 I tell you.

1021 00:41:47,980 --> 00:41:49,660 I remember this very well.

1022 00:41:49,660 --> 00:41:51,490 There is nothing there now, you know.

1023 00:41:51,490 --> 00:41:52,758 My friend went back there.

1024

00:41:52,758 --> 00:41:55,050 And I asked him, the only thing that was left, he said,

1025

00:41:55,050 --> 00:41:56,590 the farmers were very nice.

1026

00:41:56,590 --> 00:41:58,010 They left the graves open.

1027

00:41:58,010 --> 00:41:59,290 [INAUDIBLE]

1028

00:41:59,290 --> 00:42:02,890 That's all what you can tell, is a grave, a mass grave.

1029

00:42:02,890 --> 00:42:04,070 What it was, I tell you.

1030

00:42:04,070 --> 00:42:06,230 It was on the top of the hill.

1031

00:42:06,230 --> 00:42:09,350 There was a farm.

1032

00:42:09,350 --> 00:42:11,960 And they made it from the camp.

1033

00:42:11,960 --> 00:42:15,790 Imagine, the only thing that they did, they built a kitchen.

1034

00:42:15,790 --> 00:42:17,210 They used to give us horse meat.

1035

00:42:17,210 --> 00:42:18,820 It was very good.

1036

00:42:18,820 --> 00:42:20,770

I liked horse meat.

1037

00:42:20,770 --> 00:42:25,150 This town was terrific, soup and horse meat, once a day.

1038

00:42:25,150 --> 00:42:29,290 That's what they used-- then, they build, like, a shower.

1039

00:42:29,290 --> 00:42:31,730 You know, they had typhus, though.

1040

00:42:31,730 --> 00:42:35,740 Everyone died.

1041

00:42:35,740 --> 00:42:36,930 Nothing left there.

1042

00:42:36,930 --> 00:42:38,200 And there's nothing there now.

1043

00:42:38,200 --> 00:42:42,128 The only thing that he saw, he went out back to see it.

1044

00:42:42,128 --> 00:42:44,170 And he said, you know, the farmers are very nice.

1045

00:42:44,170 --> 00:42:49,580 They left unplanted-- it is not planted, the grave.

1046

00:42:49,580 --> 00:42:51,550 They left it just open.

1047

00:42:51,550 --> 00:42:53,560 Then my mother is buried.

1048

00:42:53,560 --> 00:42:56,750

And there are a few thousand people buried.

1049 00:42:56,750 --> 00:42:57,830 It's a parking lot now.

1050 00:42:57,830 --> 00:42:59,830 They don't even know what it is.

1051 00:42:59,830 --> 00:43:01,410 But he told me, you better stay here.

1052 00:43:01,410 --> 00:43:02,890 Don't go there.

1053 00:43:02,890 --> 00:43:04,300 There's nothing to see.

1054 00:43:04,300 --> 00:43:06,610 There's nothing to look at.

1055 00:43:06,610 --> 00:43:10,720 I wanted to go to see my mother, and the kids,

1056 00:43:10,720 --> 00:43:12,760 everyone that's buried there.

1057 00:43:12,760 --> 00:43:14,870 He said, there's nothing to see there.

1058 00:43:14,870 --> 00:43:16,330 They made apartments out of it.

1059 00:43:16,330 --> 00:43:17,771 Go take a look at what's going on.

1060 00:43:17,771 --> 00:43:20,463 00:43:20,463 --> 00:43:22,130 Where they left the open grave, did they

1062 00:43:22,130 --> 00:43:23,930 put up any kind enough marker?

1063 00:43:23,930 --> 00:43:26,450 There is nothing there, just the grave.

1064 00:43:26,450 --> 00:43:28,250 But my wife my wife was in Russia.

1065 00:43:28,250 --> 00:43:31,820 She tells me, she went to Kiev.

1066 00:43:31,820 --> 00:43:33,290 I've been in Russian, in the war.

1067 00:43:33,290 --> 00:43:34,070 I won't go back.

1068 00:43:34,070 --> 00:43:36,017 I'm scared to be out of it.

1069 00:43:36,017 --> 00:43:37,100 You don't know the system.

1070 00:43:37,100 --> 00:43:39,830 I know the system better than you, better than my wife.

1071 00:43:39,830 --> 00:43:41,780 My wife still thinks that things change.

1072 00:43:41,780 --> 00:43:42,480 Maybe they did.

1073

00:43:42,480 --> 00:43:44,270 But I don't trust them.

1074

00:43:44,270 --> 00:43:46,520 You know, the system, it's very hard for me

1075

00:43:46,520 --> 00:43:49,070 to explain what system it is.

1076

00:43:49,070 --> 00:43:52,790 It was 19-- that I was there--

1077

00:43:52,790 --> 00:43:53,840 1945.

1078

00:43:53,840 --> 00:43:54,340 It's enough.

1079

00:43:54,340 --> 00:43:55,507 Somebody pointed the finger.

1080

00:43:55,507 --> 00:43:57,410 I knew there was enough.

1081

00:43:57,410 --> 00:44:00,500 This is hard to explain, the system that

1082

00:44:00,500 --> 00:44:01,938 used to be in Russia.

1083

00:44:01,938 --> 00:44:03,230 I mean, maybe it changed today.

1084

00:44:03,230 --> 00:44:04,810 I don't think that it will.

1085

00:44:04,810 --> 00:44:07,130 But my wife is claiming that it changed.

1086 00:44:07,130 --> 00:44:10,740 She was she went there with her son.

1087 00:44:10,740 --> 00:44:13,140 How is the system different in Poland,

1088 00:44:13,140 --> 00:44:14,610 when you lived under the Russians,

1089 00:44:14,610 --> 00:44:16,193 and when you lived under that Germans?

1090 00:44:16,193 --> 00:44:18,030 Yes, I lived, you have to realize,

1091 00:44:18,030 --> 00:44:20,100 I live with the Russians.

1092 00:44:20,100 --> 00:44:24,340 I knew that one system, just in 1941.

1093 00:44:24,340 --> 00:44:26,280 They came in '39.

1094 00:44:26,280 --> 00:44:31,050 In '39, two years, they came into us, the Russians.

1095 00:44:31,050 --> 00:44:33,330 Then I knew who I'm dealing--

1096 00:44:33,330 --> 00:44:35,430 to us, everything was strange.

1097 00:44:35,430 --> 00:44:40,060 In Poland, where I live, where I come from,

1098

00:44:40,060 --> 00:44:43,920 if you had a few dollars, like I said, here \$10 in your pocket,

1099

00:44:43,920 --> 00:44:44,975 and you lived all year.

1100

00:44:44,975 --> 00:44:47,100 When the Russians came in, there was nothing there.

1101

00:44:47,100 --> 00:44:48,960 We couldn't get nothing.

1102

00:44:48,960 --> 00:44:50,107 There was nothing.

1103

00:44:50,107 --> 00:44:51,690 Everything was sold out in the stores.

1104

00:44:51,690 --> 00:44:53,500 That was it.

1105

00:44:53,500 --> 00:44:56,040 You had to stand in line, if you needed some bread,

1106

00:44:56,040 --> 00:44:57,750 or whatever, any supplies.

1107

00:44:57,750 --> 00:44:58,770 Everything was limited.

1108

00:44:58,770 --> 00:44:59,520 There was nothing.

1109

00:44:59,520 --> 00:45:01,250 In Poland, there

was another problem.

1110 00:45:01,250 --> 00:45:03,750 Problem where they had no money, but they could get anything

1111 00:45:03,750 --> 00:45:04,250 he wants.

1112 00:45:04,250 --> 00:45:06,620

1113 00:45:06,620 --> 00:45:11,350 But your reluctance to go back to Russia, is it--

1114 00:45:11,350 --> 00:45:13,500 not fear of being identified, in any way--

1115 00:45:13,500 --> 00:45:14,000 is it--

1116 00:45:14,000 --> 00:45:14,210 Yes.

1117 00:45:14,210 --> 00:45:14,930 Really?

1118 00:45:14,930 --> 00:45:18,620 I always said to Lily, when I go back to Russia.

1119 00:45:18,620 --> 00:45:22,822 And what do I do tomorrow, when they say, I the guy left--

1120 00:45:22,822 --> 00:45:25,370 he was in the Russian army, and he left rationale.

1121 00:45:25,370 --> 00:45:26,600 For one reason, or another. 1122

00:45:26,600 --> 00:45:29,470 I was in Budapest, last year.

1123

00:45:29,470 --> 00:45:31,230 And I was sorry I went.

1124

00:45:31,230 --> 00:45:32,270 You know why?

1125

00:45:32,270 --> 00:45:34,838 I know the system well.

1126

00:45:34,838 --> 00:45:36,380 Sometimes, if you deal with a doctor,

1127

00:45:36,380 --> 00:45:38,600 and the doctor knows all the diseases, what

1128

00:45:38,600 --> 00:45:42,810 can happen, it's tough, you know, he knows about it.

1129

00:45:42,810 --> 00:45:44,540 I know the system so well.

1130

00:45:44,540 --> 00:45:45,830 I know the system, what was.

1131

00:45:45,830 --> 00:45:47,538 I don't know how the system works, today.

1132

00:45:47,538 --> 00:45:49,190 I know the system from before.

1133

00:45:49,190 --> 00:45:51,920 And you're playing with fire.

1134

00:45:51,920 --> 00:45:53,860 It's a very dangerous thing.

1135

00:45:53,860 --> 00:45:55,910 You're scared to death by-- maybe me.

1136

00:45:55,910 --> 00:45:57,532 Who knows what he has on his mind?

1137

00:45:57,532 --> 00:45:58,490 You're not scared here.

1138

00:45:58,490 --> 00:45:59,740 He can say anything he wanted.

1139

00:45:59,740 --> 00:46:02,360 And if you don't like it, you go to see a lawyer.

1140

00:46:02,360 --> 00:46:03,470 You can defend yourself.

1141

00:46:03,470 --> 00:46:04,580 There's something to do.

1142

00:46:04,580 --> 00:46:06,000 There's someone to talk to.

1143

00:46:06,000 --> 00:46:07,458 Who are you going to talk to there?

1144

00:46:07,458 --> 00:46:08,870 There's no one to talk to.

1145

00:46:08,870 --> 00:46:13,430 Once they put a mark on you, or yes or no, this is it.

1146

00:46:13,430 --> 00:46:14,780

Maybe things changed, maybe.

### 1147

00:46:14,780 --> 00:46:15,770 I don't believe so.

### 1148

00:46:15,770 --> 00:46:18,070 But maybe they are.

#### 1149

00:46:18,070 --> 00:46:20,340 In my times, no.

### 1150

00:46:20,340 --> 00:46:25,280 When I was there 1941, as a young man--

### 1151

00:46:25,280 --> 00:46:27,530 listen, nobody could tell me that there wasn't murder.

### 1152

00:46:27,530 --> 00:46:30,050 People disappeared overnight.

### 1153

00:46:30,050 --> 00:46:32,910 In other words-- you don't remember, there was a study,

### 1154

00:46:32,910 --> 00:46:35,190 you read about, by Jewish doctors

### 1155

00:46:35,190 --> 00:46:36,980 that were treating Stalin.

### 1156

00:46:36,980 --> 00:46:39,540 You talked about the top echelon there.

### 1157

00:46:39,540 --> 00:46:42,700 You know the lower you were, the better, you were, off.

### 1158

00:46:42,700 --> 00:46:46,070

We had in town, we had guys.

### 1159

00:46:46,070 --> 00:46:51,880 There was one Jewish man who stole four roles.

### 1160

00:46:51,880 --> 00:46:53,095 You know, he survived.

### 1161

00:46:53,095 --> 00:46:53,750 You know why?

### 1162

00:46:53,750 --> 00:46:56,450 For four roles, he got a few years in prison.

### 1163

00:46:56,450 --> 00:46:57,985 So they took him out of Russia.

### 1164

00:46:57,985 --> 00:46:59,860 So when the Germans came in, he wasn't there.

### 1165

00:46:59,860 --> 00:47:02,970 So he survived.

## 1166

00:47:02,970 --> 00:47:05,200 The punishments were tremendous.

### 1167

00:47:05,200 --> 00:47:06,450 You know, you have punishment.

### 1168

00:47:06,450 --> 00:47:08,490 You know, sometimes you put a man in jail,

### 1169

00:47:08,490 --> 00:47:12,370 like the one lady said, here, what do you think this is,

### 1170

00:47:12,370 --> 00:47:14,970 the paradise, to go to jail?

# 1171 00:47:14,970 --> 00:47:16,290 In Russia, yes.

1172

00:47:16,290 --> 00:47:18,960 If you go there, you know, they don't put you in an paradise.

1173

00:47:18,960 --> 00:47:20,160 They don't put you in jail.

1174

00:47:20,160 --> 00:47:22,400 They put you in all kind of camps, they have.

1175

00:47:22,400 --> 00:47:25,320 That's what they say.

1176

00:47:25,320 --> 00:47:26,430 They take everything out.

1177

00:47:26,430 --> 00:47:27,960 They don't feed you for nothing.

1178

00:47:27,960 --> 00:47:32,610 You have to earn what they feed you.

1179

00:47:32,610 --> 00:47:33,540 This was Russia.

1180

00:47:33,540 --> 00:47:34,650 But maybe things change.

1181

00:47:34,650 --> 00:47:36,760 Maybe things are different now.

1182

00:47:36,760 --> 00:47:38,775 What we hear is glasnost.

1183

00:47:38,775 --> 00:47:41,470

Yes, and perestroika, right.

1184 00:47:41,470 --> 00:47:41,970 Maybe--

1185

00:47:41,970 --> 00:47:44,670 Do you think that this is valid?

1186

00:47:44,670 --> 00:47:45,660 I don't believe them.

1187

00:47:45,660 --> 00:47:50,750 You know, let me say to you now, I went through--

1188

00:47:50,750 --> 00:47:59,090 the system, what they have, cannot exist under democracy.

1189

00:47:59,090 --> 00:48:01,040 I mean, anyone would say something of,

1190

00:48:01,040 --> 00:48:02,390 there has to be a dictatorship.

1191

00:48:02,390 --> 00:48:05,030 In my opinion, maybe I'm wrong.

1192

00:48:05,030 --> 00:48:07,490 But since, maybe change.

1193

00:48:07,490 --> 00:48:10,580 You know, the people, even, are used to it.

1194

00:48:10,580 --> 00:48:15,240 You have to realize, that the West has a double problem, now.

1195

00:48:15,240 --> 00:48:17,060 You know, the Russians, the young Russian,

1196 00:48:17,060 --> 00:48:19,460 there he's told all of them, look at here,

1197

00:48:19,460 --> 00:48:22,340 what the West did to us, look what the Germans did to us.

1198

00:48:22,340 --> 00:48:24,900 They did the horrible things, you have to realize.

1199

00:48:24,900 --> 00:48:27,440 You know, what they did, this is amazing.

1200

00:48:27,440 --> 00:48:30,700 And this helped them a lot.

1201

00:48:30,700 --> 00:48:34,820 It's very hard to convince the young people, in Russia,

1202

00:48:34,820 --> 00:48:36,110 in general.

1203

00:48:36,110 --> 00:48:37,750 I'm not talking about some--

1204

00:48:37,750 --> 00:48:41,180 that what's going on in the West, Hitler was not the West.

1205

00:48:41,180 --> 00:48:43,170 Hitler was just Hitler.

1206

00:48:43,170 --> 00:48:44,810 But there was a story.

1207

00:48:44,810 --> 00:48:46,120

You know, young people go.

1208 00:48:46,120 --> 00:48:48,870 They build all over the place, in Kiev.

1209 00:48:48,870 --> 00:48:52,345 Then my wife tells me, it's those beautiful monument.

1210 00:48:52,345 --> 00:48:54,470 When people get married, they're going right there.

1211 00:48:54,470 --> 00:48:56,262 The first thing, they're going right there.

1212 00:48:56,262 --> 00:48:57,090 You go to Babi Yar.

1213 00:48:57,090 --> 00:48:58,710 Babi Yar, they were killed, you know

1214 00:48:58,710 --> 00:49:01,860 how many hundreds of thousands of people there.

1215 00:49:01,860 --> 00:49:04,400 How can you-- He said, you see what they did to us?

1216 00:49:04,400 --> 00:49:06,777 Look at it here.

1217 00:49:06,777 --> 00:49:08,610 I never forget, it was the Russian soldier--

1218 00:49:08,610 --> 00:49:10,690 There's no reference to Jews at Babi Yar. 1219

00:49:10,690 --> 00:49:12,230 Oh, yes, I know.

1220

00:49:12,230 --> 00:49:13,580 I know.

1221

00:49:13,580 --> 00:49:14,615 I was a Russian soldier.

1222

00:49:14,615 --> 00:49:16,080 As long as I'm going to be alive,

1223

00:49:16,080 --> 00:49:17,290 I'm going to remember this.

1224

00:49:17,290 --> 00:49:19,330 We were near Smolensk.

1225

00:49:19,330 --> 00:49:20,240 Came in a driver.

1226

00:49:20,240 --> 00:49:21,407 You know what he said to me?

1227

00:49:21,407 --> 00:49:24,890 Look here-- you couldn't see a stone.

1228

00:49:24,890 --> 00:49:27,260 Everything was ripped apart.

1229

00:49:27,260 --> 00:49:28,737 People live underground.

1230

00:49:28,737 --> 00:49:29,570

Look what, he said--

1231

00:49:29,570 --> 00:49:32,460

I could repeat to you the

Russian word that he said.

1232

00:49:32,460 --> 00:49:35,690 The exact words, I remember, till today--

1233

00:49:35,690 --> 00:49:38,150 look who's going to be alive, who's going to survive.

1234

00:49:38,150 --> 00:49:40,670 He said, do this, what they did to us.

1235

00:49:40,670 --> 00:49:42,200 Take a look what they did to us.

1236

00:49:42,200 --> 00:49:44,420 I came through the first town, in Germany.

1237

00:49:44,420 --> 00:49:45,740 There were cannons.

1238

00:49:45,740 --> 00:49:47,860 This was near [INAUDIBLE].

1239

00:49:47,860 --> 00:49:48,860 Cannons.

1240

00:49:48,860 --> 00:49:51,710 There came a young soldier, Russian soldiers,

1241

00:49:51,710 --> 00:49:56,750 came over to the captain, to report that he caught 35 women

1242

00:49:56,750 --> 00:49:58,060 and children.

1243

00:49:58,060 --> 00:49:59,000

But he told them--

1244

00:49:59,000 --> 00:50:01,100

I'm trying to tell you who I am--

1245

 $00:50:01,100 \longrightarrow 00:50:04,430$ 

but he told them,

[NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING],,

1246

00:50:04,430 --> 00:50:06,180

let's clean them up.

1247

 $00:50:06,180 \longrightarrow 00:50:08,150$ 

It's Russian.

1248

00:50:08,150 --> 00:50:10,060

So I got called.

1249

00:50:10,060 --> 00:50:11,510

But this was cruel.

1250

00:50:11,510 --> 00:50:12,470

This is what I say.

1251

 $00:50:12,470 \longrightarrow 00:50:14,600$ 

They gave them eye for eye.

1252

00:50:14,600 --> 00:50:19,660

They came too-- this was a

town, but the first biggest town

1253

00:50:19,660 --> 00:50:20,390

was [PLACE NAME].

1254

 $00:50:20,390 \longrightarrow 00:50:21,848$ 

I wish you would

see what they did.

1255

00:50:21,848 --> 00:50:24,170

1256 00:50:24,170 --> 00:50:25,310 They really suffered.

1257 00:50:25,310 --> 00:50:27,710 You know, you can just do such things, if you suffer.

1258 00:50:27,710 --> 00:50:30,620 And they really suffered, a lot.

1259 00:50:30,620 --> 00:50:33,140 You know, the Americans didn't suffer this.

1260 00:50:33,140 --> 00:50:37,490 Even the French, if you came to the French,

1261 00:50:37,490 --> 00:50:40,860 and they saw quite a lot.

1262 00:50:40,860 --> 00:50:43,250 Eye for eye.

1263 00:50:43,250 --> 00:50:44,150 They pay them back.

1264 00:50:44,150 --> 00:50:44,890 Yes, they did.

1265 00:50:44,890 --> 00:50:47,970

1266 00:50:47,970 --> 00:50:49,740 The British and the Americans were nice.

1267 00:50:49,740 --> 00:50:52,130 [LAUGHTER] They didn't suffer.

1268 00:50:52,130 --> 00:50:56,010 1269 00:50:56,010 --> 00:50:58,860 Looking back at all this, I know you can't forget.

1270 00:50:58,860 --> 00:51:00,050 And it's hard for us.

1271 00:51:00,050 --> 00:51:02,015 I think we understand.

1272 00:51:02,015 --> 00:51:02,640 Are you bitter?

1273 00:51:02,640 --> 00:51:03,420 Are you angry?

1274 00:51:03,420 --> 00:51:04,560 No!

1275 00:51:04,560 --> 00:51:07,830 The only think, you know--

1276 00:51:07,830 --> 00:51:10,620 you know, I am trying to forget all this, what I'm telling.

1277 00:51:10,620 --> 00:51:12,910 I've been trying to forget for 50 years.

1278 00:51:12,910 --> 00:51:15,480 You know, sometimes I lie down, it comes from no where.

1279 00:51:15,480 --> 00:51:17,520 And I say to Lily, I say to my wife,

1280 00:51:17,520 --> 00:51:19,950 I don't know, listen, I just dreamed about it.

1281

00:51:19,950 --> 00:51:21,550

It's periods.

1282

 $00:51:21,550 \longrightarrow 00:51:23,070$ 

It comes back.

1283

00:51:23,070 --> 00:51:24,320

How can you forget this?

1284

00:51:24,320 --> 00:51:27,240

Like, the same thing with

this German ambassador,

1285

00:51:27,240 --> 00:51:28,140

who talked to me.

1286

00:51:28,140 --> 00:51:29,280

He said, how do you know?

1287

 $00:51:29,280 \longrightarrow 00:51:30,510$ 

How could you tell?

1288

 $00:51:30,510 \longrightarrow 00:51:32,220$ 

I say, how could I tell?

1289

00:51:32,220 --> 00:51:33,330

I pointed out.

1290

 $00:51:33,330 \longrightarrow 00:51:35,620$ 

You give me 10 guys,

an I point out the guy.

1291

 $00:51:35,620 \longrightarrow 00:51:37,080$ 

How can you forget a murderer?

1292

00:51:37,080 --> 00:51:39,840

How can you forget him,

his looks, his eyes?

1293

00:51:39,840 --> 00:51:41,660 How can you forget him?

1294

00:51:41,660 --> 00:51:43,140 How could you forget this?

1295

00:51:43,140 --> 00:51:47,130 I give you this story periods.

1296

00:51:47,130 --> 00:51:49,350 How can I forget this?

1297

00:51:49,350 --> 00:51:51,018 When you do remember these things,

1298

00:51:51,018 --> 00:51:52,185 is it triggered by anything?

1299

00:51:52,185 --> 00:51:53,520 No.

1300

00:51:53,520 --> 00:51:55,020 You know, sometimes I said to Lily,

1301

00:51:55,020 --> 00:51:56,550 I don't know where it comes from.

1302

00:51:56,550 --> 00:51:57,420 I just lie down.

1303

00:51:57,420 --> 00:51:58,998 And the whole thing comes back to me.

1304

00:51:58,998 --> 00:52:01,580

1305

00:52:01,580 --> 00:52:03,110

How can you forget it?

1306 00:52:03,110 --> 00:52:06,380 What the most vivid thing that comes back to you?

1307

00:52:06,380 --> 00:52:07,070 Everything.

1308

00:52:07,070 --> 00:52:08,330 The whole war.

1309

00:52:08,330 --> 00:52:13,270 Listen, I come from a town of about 6,000 Jews.

1310

00:52:13,270 --> 00:52:15,880 From 6,000 Jews, I left 65.

1311

00:52:15,880 --> 00:52:19,640 65 men, you can imagine what we went through.

1312

00:52:19,640 --> 00:52:20,960 This is a miracle.

1313

00:52:20,960 --> 00:52:23,830 This is the [INAUDIBLE].

1314

00:52:23,830 --> 00:52:27,110 Sitting sometimes and talking, it's hard to believe.

1315

00:52:27,110 --> 00:52:29,960 Every day had a different day.

1316

00:52:29,960 --> 00:52:32,300 Every hour was a different hour.

1317

 $00:52:32,300 \longrightarrow 00:52:34,160$ 

Did you ever think that you would survive?

1318 00:52:34,160 --> 00:52:35,840 Never.

1319

00:52:35,840 --> 00:52:38,660 But you know, human nature, I'm trying just to show you.

1320

00:52:38,660 --> 00:52:40,790 When I went to this farmer, and I

1321

00:52:40,790 --> 00:52:44,300 was sitting, waiting for work, sometimes you had the hope,

1322

00:52:44,300 --> 00:52:46,370 you're waiting for something.

1323

00:52:46,370 --> 00:52:48,917 How could you tell when this war was gonna end?

1324

00:52:48,917 --> 00:52:50,000 And how it's going to end?

1325

00:52:50,000 --> 00:52:52,470 Nobody knew who was going to be there.

1326

00:52:52,470 --> 00:52:55,750 Who give a damn, but media paid attention if Zyg is alive

1327

00:52:55,750 --> 00:52:56,250 or not.

1328

00:52:56,250 --> 00:52:59,150

1329

00:52:59,150 --> 00:53:00,830 How did you escape, in the first place, 1330 00:53:00,830 --> 00:53:05,150 to be able to get to where you-

1331 00:53:05,150 --> 00:53:08,240 Ah, so many escapes, you know, there's not one.

1332 00:53:08,240 --> 00:53:11,820 You know, this has happened, quite a few during the war.

1333 00:53:11,820 --> 00:53:15,560 Every day, here we were, and here we were.

1334 00:53:15,560 --> 00:53:17,447 One guy, then we went to another guy.

1335 00:53:17,447 --> 00:53:19,030 And we went here and we went one place

1336 00:53:19,030 --> 00:53:22,700 We didn't escape from the authorities.

1337 00:53:22,700 --> 00:53:25,520 We were escaping just from one farmer, to the other,

1338 00:53:25,520 --> 00:53:27,340 or from one guy, to the other.

1339 00:53:27,340 --> 00:53:31,010 I, mean when you ran away from Kamionki, did you run away?

1340 00:53:31,010 --> 00:53:32,430 Or was it an impulsive act? 00:53:32,430 --> 00:53:33,650 Or was it planned?

1342

00:53:33,650 --> 00:53:34,190

No!

1343

00:53:34,190 --> 00:53:37,190

But if you talk to this

[PERSONAL NAME],, he knows.

1344

00:53:37,190 --> 00:53:38,800

He was older.

1345

 $00:53:38,800 \longrightarrow 00:53:41,690$ 

I was a young fellow.

1346

 $00:53:41,690 \longrightarrow 00:53:43,110$ 

You know, Sam Halpern?

1347

00:53:43,110 --> 00:53:44,690

He survived.

1348

00:53:44,690 --> 00:53:46,550

You know how he survived?

1349

00:53:46,550 --> 00:53:47,940

He was a very neat guy.

1350

 $00:53:47,940 \longrightarrow 00:53:57,740$ 

And his job was to clean

everything for the captain

1351

00:53:57,740 --> 00:54:00,980

from that SS, the

captain from the camp.

1352

00:54:00.980 --> 00:54:02.520

He was doing work for him.

1353

00:54:02,520 --> 00:54:06,040

So he always slept

out of the camp.

1354 00:54:06,040 --> 00:54:06,580 He survived.

1355

00:54:06,580 --> 00:54:08,060 His brothers survived.

1356

00:54:08,060 --> 00:54:11,630 Everyone has a different story.

1357

00:54:11,630 --> 00:54:15,000 Like I said, again, if I don't remember it myself,

1358

00:54:15,000 --> 00:54:16,100 it comes to me.

1359

00:54:16,100 --> 00:54:17,630 It comes when I sit and talk.

1360

00:54:17,630 --> 00:54:20,350 All of a sudden this occurs to me, this occurs to me.

1361

00:54:20,350 --> 00:54:21,990 Every hour, it was something else.

1362

00:54:21,990 --> 00:54:24,290 Every day was something else.

1363

00:54:24,290 --> 00:54:27,500 We were in this concentration camp.

1364

00:54:27,500 --> 00:54:30,800 The head of the concentration camp was a German Jew.

1365

00:54:30,800 --> 00:54:32,900 Its name was [PERSONAL NAME].

1366 00:54:32,900 --> 00:54:35,510 I remember that he really spoke very well German.

1367 00:54:35,510 --> 00:54:39,740

1368

00:54:39,740 --> 00:54:44,690 There was another, his assistant was a ex Polish officer.

1369 00:54:44,690 --> 00:54:46,280 His name was Zuckerman.

1370 00:54:46,280 --> 00:54:50,180 One morning, we hear, this Zuckerman disappeared.

1371 00:54:50,180 --> 00:54:50,810 He was right.

1372 00:54:50,810 --> 00:54:52,258 He ran away.

1373 00:54:52,258 --> 00:54:54,050 And this [PERSONAL NAME],, in the old camp.

1374 00:54:54,050 --> 00:54:55,890 Later on, I was told the story.

1375 00:54:55,890 --> 00:54:57,800 And this whole camp was liquidated.

1376 00:54:57,800 --> 00:54:58,730 He was taken.

1377 00:54:58,730 --> 00:55:02,353 He was the last one to survive, so they took him, and took him 1378 00:55:02,353 --> 00:55:03,020 to another camp.

1379 00:55:03,020 --> 00:55:05,000 They kill him there, someplace else.

1380 00:55:05,000 --> 00:55:07,820 But they took him in a bus, on a truck.

1381 00:55:07,820 --> 00:55:10,120 And it took them to different camp.

1382 00:55:10,120 --> 00:55:12,350 But he was the last one to-- his name was called

1383 00:55:12,350 --> 00:55:13,450 [PERSONAL NAME].

1384 00:55:13,450 --> 00:55:15,770 Yeah, when you said he was the head of the camp,

1385 00:55:15,770 --> 00:55:17,870 you mean among the Jewish prisoners?

1386 00:55:17,870 --> 00:55:19,460 Right, right, right.

1387 00:55:19,460 --> 00:55:22,040 In other words, every morning, what

1388 00:55:22,040 --> 00:55:25,250 the camp consist Of-- every morning, the prisoners,

1389 00:55:25,250 --> 00:55:27,820 as you would see, the Jews, there was nothing there.

1390

00:55:27,820 --> 00:55:28,970 He was standing.

1391

00:55:28,970 --> 00:55:31,990 And he was reporting to the hauptsturmf $\tilde{A}^{1/4}$ hrer,

1392

00:55:31,990 --> 00:55:36,350 to the guy from the SS, so many people, prisoners are here,

1393

00:55:36,350 --> 00:55:37,240 this was his job.

1394

00:55:37,240 --> 00:55:43,120

1395

00:55:43,120 --> 00:55:46,840 When you talk about it, to your--

1396

00:55:46,840 --> 00:55:49,398 you said you talk about it to your sons.

1397

00:55:49,398 --> 00:55:50,690 They know the story quite well.

1398

00:55:50,690 --> 00:55:55,220 What do you recall the most?

1399

00:55:55,220 --> 00:55:57,742 I tell my son what I told you--

1400

00:55:57,742 --> 00:55:59,700 depends in the moment, what I'm thinking about.

1401

00:55:59,700 --> 00:56:00,970

But they know the story.

1402 00:56:00,970 --> 00:56:03,270 I tell them exactly what I told you.

1403

00:56:03,270 --> 00:56:05,070 The story is one, the same thing.

1404

00:56:05,070 --> 00:56:09,270 It may be better organized, or better--

1405

00:56:09,270 --> 00:56:10,480 how do you call it--

1406

00:56:10,480 --> 00:56:11,740 step by step.

1407

00:56:11,740 --> 00:56:13,530 Well, it's better done.

1408

00:56:13,530 --> 00:56:16,560 But I tell them episode by episode.

1409

00:56:16,560 --> 00:56:19,640 When I tell them, how can you forget it?

1410

00:56:19,640 --> 00:56:21,550 They've always wanted to know about it?

1411

00:56:21,550 --> 00:56:22,270 They better know.

1412

00:56:22,270 --> 00:56:22,950

Listen to me.

1413

00:56:22,950 --> 00:56:26,108

1414 00:56:26,108 --> 00:56:27,650 But I tell you the truth, I sometimes

1415

00:56:27,650 --> 00:56:31,290 wonder, myself, how can you remember all those things?

1416

00:56:31,290 --> 00:56:32,258 So many--

1417

00:56:32,258 --> 00:56:33,050

How can you forget?

1418

00:56:33,050 --> 00:56:34,210

How can you forget?

1419

00:56:34,210 --> 00:56:37,260

1420

00:56:37,260 --> 00:56:38,920 We just have a couple of more minutes.

1421

00:56:38,920 --> 00:56:39,590 It's OK.

1422

00:56:39,590 --> 00:56:42,890 Is there anything you would like to say?

1423

00:56:42,890 --> 00:56:48,110 The only thing that I'm bitter about, that I didn't do enough

1424

00:56:48,110 --> 00:56:50,710 for the guy which kept me.

1425

00:56:50,710 --> 00:56:54,260

The guy, I tried to

get him, get maybe,

1426

00:56:54,260 --> 00:56:57,070 his children there, to help him, and to do everything

1427

00:56:57,070 --> 00:56:57,800 that he did.

1428

00:56:57,800 --> 00:56:58,890 He did a terrific thing.

1429

00:56:58,890 --> 00:57:03,890

1430

00:57:03,890 --> 00:57:07,880 I don't know how to explain, but in one place where we stayed,

1431

00:57:07,880 --> 00:57:10,730 the daughter, he has a grown up daughter.

1432

00:57:10,730 --> 00:57:13,930 And I don't know how, she got in touch with my aunt.

1433

00:57:13,930 --> 00:57:15,380 So at least we can help her.

1434

00:57:15,380 --> 00:57:19,580 In Poland, \$200, \$300, you're talking about millions--

1435

00:57:19,580 --> 00:57:21,780 \$200, \$300.

1436

00:57:21,780 --> 00:57:22,950 So she bought a house, now.

1437

00:57:22,950 --> 00:57:26,570 And I wish I would find this guy, which I stayed, really,

1438

00:57:26,570 --> 00:57:27,460 in the barn.

1439

00:57:27,460 --> 00:57:28,460 I wish I could find him.

1440

00:57:28,460 --> 00:57:30,440 And I would find his--

1441

00:57:30,440 --> 00:57:31,887 Is his name in Yad Vashem?

1442

00:57:31,887 --> 00:57:33,220 Is there any recognition record?

1443

00:57:33,220 --> 00:57:34,617 No.

1444

00:57:34,617 --> 00:57:35,450 You know what I did?

1445

00:57:35,450 --> 00:57:39,040 Lily has a cousin, a doctor, a Jewish guy.

1446

00:57:39,040 --> 00:57:40,490 He lives in Poland.

1447

00:57:40,490 --> 00:57:41,300 And I backed him.

1448

00:57:41,300 --> 00:57:44,840 And he went back, and put it in the newspapers.

1449

00:57:44,840 --> 00:57:48,230 How can you find those guys, never read the Newspaper

1450

00:57:48,230 --> 00:57:50,240 I wish I could help him.

1451

00:57:50,240 --> 00:57:53,880 Sam Halpern is helping a lot of those guys.

1452

00:57:53,880 --> 00:57:55,880 I tell you what, there's no money in this world,

1453

00:57:55,880 --> 00:57:59,600 to do something with those guys.

1454

00:57:59,600 --> 00:58:01,940 They did they-- did that--

1455

00:58:01,940 --> 00:58:05,040 I cannot tell you.

1456

00:58:05,040 --> 00:58:07,860 I cannot describe what they did.

1457

00:58:07,860 --> 00:58:10,105 How many Jews would do-would have done this?

1458

00:58:10,105 --> 00:58:13,540 You know, they really risked their lives.

1459

00:58:13,540 --> 00:58:18,290 They gave everything that they had, even though those few--

1460

00:58:18,290 --> 00:58:23,510 how many did this job?

1461

00:58:23,510 --> 00:58:24,920 How many would do this job?

1462

00:58:24,920 --> 00:58:26,510

How could they do this job?

1463

00:58:26,510 --> 00:58:29,480 They were scared-- scared one day, two days, three days.

1464

00:58:29,480 --> 00:58:30,680 How can you live like this?

1465

00:58:30,680 --> 00:58:34,850 Like this woman walked in, and I'll never forget, was outside,

1466

00:58:34,850 --> 00:58:36,080 it was cold, and snowy.

1467

00:58:36,080 --> 00:58:39,630 She said, you have to die, but why should I die?

1468

00:58:39,630 --> 00:58:40,700 What should I tell her?

1469

00:58:40,700 --> 00:58:42,425 What could I say to her?

1470

00:58:42,425 --> 00:58:45,680

1471

00:58:45,680 --> 00:58:47,890 The fact that she could accept that you have to die.

1472

00:58:47,890 --> 00:58:48,500 Yes.

1473

00:58:48,500 --> 00:58:49,520 That's what she said.

1474

00:58:49,520 --> 00:58:50,960 I'll never forget her words.

1475 00:58:50,960 --> 00:58:53,735 She said in Ukrainian,

she said, you have to die,

1476  $00:58:53,735 \longrightarrow 00:58:54,610$ but why should I die?

1477 00:58:54,610 --> 00:58:57,218

1478  $00:58:57,218 \longrightarrow 00:58:58,760$ And yet, her husband called you back.

1479  $00:58:58,760 \longrightarrow 00:59:00,790$ The husband, the husband.

1480 00:59:00,790 --> 00:59:01,490 Beautiful story.

1481 00:59:01,490 --> 00:59:06,840 I wish -- as long as I want to be alive, the husband.

1482 00:59:06,840 --> 00:59:09,870 He said to her, you know, they have to survive.

1483  $00:59:09,870 \longrightarrow 00:59:11,370$ And he said to her this--

1484  $00:59:11,370 \longrightarrow 00:59:14,730$ you know, the winters are very cold.

1485 00:59:14,730 --> 00:59:17,520 It's very hard for me to describe.

1486 00:59:17,520 --> 00:59:20,190 A lot of snow, it's very cold.

1487

00:59:20,190 --> 00:59:20,690 Go.

1488

00:59:20,690 --> 00:59:22,400

Go where?

1489

00:59:22,400 --> 00:59:23,210

Go.

1490

00:59:23,210 --> 00:59:25,380

Where are you going to go?

1491

00:59:25,380 --> 00:59:27,180

But in summer, it wasn't so bad.

1492

00:59:27,180 --> 00:59:29,505

You go in the field, and

spend the time in the field.

1493

00:59:29,505 --> 00:59:31,047

They went, where

are you going to go?

1494

 $00:59:31,047 \longrightarrow 00:59:32,810$ 

Yeah.

1495

 $00:59:32,810 \longrightarrow 00:59:33,830$ 

Thank you, very much.

1496

00:59:33,830 --> 00:59:34,340

Thank you.

1497

00:59:34,340 --> 00:59:36,530

I'm sorry it wasn't

well organized.

1498

 $00:59:36,530 \longrightarrow 00:59:38,230$ 

But it wasn't--

1499

 $00:59:38,230 \longrightarrow 00:59:39,710$ 

You told us quite a bit.

1500 00:59:39,710 --> 00:59:41,320 But you know, I try to do my best.

1501 00:59:41,320 --> 00:59:44,030 [LAUGHTER] Thank you, very much.

1502 00:59:44,030 --> 00:59:45,850 Thank you.

1503 00:59:45,850 --> 00:59:49,000