

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:13,190

2  
00:00:13,190 --> 00:00:16,129  
Continue, Mr. Nachtigall.

3  
00:00:16,129 --> 00:00:19,260  
I had asked Mae Salmond  
if she would write down

4  
00:00:19,260 --> 00:00:26,010  
her memories of the  
time that I arrived,

5  
00:00:26,010 --> 00:00:29,560  
what was going on in her  
mind and her family's mind,

6  
00:00:29,560 --> 00:00:33,820  
and she wrote this  
rather lengthy letter.

7  
00:00:33,820 --> 00:00:38,010  
And I'd like to just  
read a few paragraphs

8  
00:00:38,010 --> 00:00:43,860  
that I think is clearly her  
viewpoint, her expression

9  
00:00:43,860 --> 00:00:45,690  
of what happened at that time.

10  
00:00:45,690 --> 00:00:48,660  
I think you'll be able  
to put it all together

11  
00:00:48,660 --> 00:00:52,590  
in the light of what I had told  
you of the events leading up

12

00:00:52,590 --> 00:00:54,550  
to my being there.

13  
00:00:54,550 --> 00:00:58,470  
It started out to a week  
and then a extended period.

14  
00:00:58,470 --> 00:01:03,170

15  
00:01:03,170 --> 00:01:06,890  
"When the matron explained that  
you were only eight years old,

16  
00:01:06,890 --> 00:01:09,860  
taken away from your  
family and had no one apart

17  
00:01:09,860 --> 00:01:13,760  
from your sister, but they  
didn't know where she was,

18  
00:01:13,760 --> 00:01:17,420  
both dad and mom said,  
bring the little boy to us.

19  
00:01:17,420 --> 00:01:19,940  
We will look after him.

20  
00:01:19,940 --> 00:01:23,540  
"The following day, you  
came to the Salmond home.

21  
00:01:23,540 --> 00:01:26,750  
You were a frightened,  
sad little boy.

22  
00:01:26,750 --> 00:01:28,610  
We didn't have a  
lot of money, but we

23  
00:01:28,610 --> 00:01:32,420  
had a good comfortable

happy home with good food

24

00:01:32,420 --> 00:01:34,280  
and well-clothed.

25

00:01:34,280 --> 00:01:39,410  
But above all, we were brought  
up with love, lots of love.

26

00:01:39,410 --> 00:01:42,580  
"Dad and mom explained  
to Bill and me

27

00:01:42,580 --> 00:01:45,890  
how you were far  
from your mom and dad

28

00:01:45,890 --> 00:01:48,470  
and we were to look after  
you while you were here

29

00:01:48,470 --> 00:01:50,690  
for a holiday.

30

00:01:50,690 --> 00:01:55,130  
At the end of your week when you  
due do to go back to Edinburgh,

31

00:01:55,130 --> 00:01:58,910  
you asked if you could  
stay another week.

32

00:01:58,910 --> 00:02:01,430  
"Mom phoned the doctor  
and his wife and asked.

33

00:02:01,430 --> 00:02:04,130  
They said, yes, it  
would be all right.

34

00:02:04,130 --> 00:02:06,860  
At the end of your second week  
when, again, it was time to go,

35  
00:02:06,860 --> 00:02:10,400  
you asked, please, can I  
just stay one more week then

36  
00:02:10,400 --> 00:02:11,720  
I will go?

37  
00:02:11,720 --> 00:02:13,310  
Mom phoned Edinburgh.

38  
00:02:13,310 --> 00:02:14,300  
Yes, it was all right.

39  
00:02:14,300 --> 00:02:17,120

40  
00:02:17,120 --> 00:02:18,990  
"Bill and I thought  
this was great.

41  
00:02:18,990 --> 00:02:21,500  
We had a little brother.

42  
00:02:21,500 --> 00:02:24,200  
He was special because  
he had come a long way

43  
00:02:24,200 --> 00:02:26,420  
to stay with us.

44  
00:02:26,420 --> 00:02:30,200  
Dad and mom had such a lot  
of love to give and more

45  
00:02:30,200 --> 00:02:32,270  
for three of us.

46  
00:02:32,270 --> 00:02:35,900  
They told us how lucky  
we were, we had so much,

47

00:02:35,900 --> 00:02:38,600  
and we were to love Walter.

48

00:02:38,600 --> 00:02:40,770  
"Mom took you to school.

49

00:02:40,770 --> 00:02:43,970  
Miss. [? Duncan, ?] your  
teacher, was very good with you

50

00:02:43,970 --> 00:02:46,010  
and so kind to you.

51

00:02:46,010 --> 00:02:49,850  
The kids all thought  
you were great.

52

00:02:49,850 --> 00:02:54,020  
"You kept following dad around  
saying he was marvelous.

53

00:02:54,020 --> 00:02:57,560  
Mom said, why is  
Jimmy so marvelous?

54

00:02:57,560 --> 00:03:00,470  
You said because he's so big.

55

00:03:00,470 --> 00:03:02,780  
He could fight Hitler.

56

00:03:02,780 --> 00:03:05,330  
My Papa was small and  
couldn't fight him.

57

00:03:05,330 --> 00:03:08,890

58

00:03:08,890 --> 00:03:11,140  
"At night, we would  
sit around the fire

59

00:03:11,140 --> 00:03:12,790  
talking and playing games.

60

00:03:12,790 --> 00:03:18,250  
Sometimes you would say, Isa,  
I'm just going to have a cry.

61

00:03:18,250 --> 00:03:20,710  
I'm thinking about  
my mama and Papa.

62

00:03:20,710 --> 00:03:21,790  
But don't you cry.

63

00:03:21,790 --> 00:03:22,630  
You Can't help it.

64

00:03:22,630 --> 00:03:25,580

65

00:03:25,580 --> 00:03:29,000  
So there we were all  
sitting together crying.

66

00:03:29,000 --> 00:03:31,040  
"Sometimes Lord Haw-Haw--

67

00:03:31,040 --> 00:03:33,710  
He was a German propagandist.

68

00:03:33,710 --> 00:03:36,170  
"--would speak on the radio  
with German propaganda.

69

00:03:36,170 --> 00:03:39,200  
You would translate in  
English and say, Jimmy, he

70

00:03:39,200 --> 00:03:41,810  
said the Germans are  
coming over here.

71

00:03:41,810 --> 00:03:43,160

You would sit on dad's knee.

72

00:03:43,160 --> 00:03:45,930

And he told you, no,  
they will never get here.

73

00:03:45,930 --> 00:03:48,620

"Dysart being such a  
small, close-knit village,

74

00:03:48,620 --> 00:03:51,000

everybody knew each other.

75

00:03:51,000 --> 00:03:52,430

They all took you  
to their hearts.

76

00:03:52,430 --> 00:03:54,860

You sure were a celebrity.

77

00:03:54,860 --> 00:03:58,370

"At Christmas, most kids hang  
up a stocking for Santa to fill.

78

00:03:58,370 --> 00:04:02,150

But Bill and I being spoiled,  
we hung up a pillowcase,

79

00:04:02,150 --> 00:04:04,580

and of course, showed  
you what to do.

80

00:04:04,580 --> 00:04:07,700

I can still see the look on  
your face on Christmas morning,

81

00:04:07,700 --> 00:04:10,670

you not knowing anything  
about Christmas.

82

00:04:10,670 --> 00:04:13,640

I think all of Dysart  
gave you a present.

83  
00:04:13,640 --> 00:04:26,930

84  
00:04:26,930 --> 00:04:31,370  
"One Sunday, you were out  
playing and came in crying.

85  
00:04:31,370 --> 00:04:34,880  
Dad and mom wondered  
what was wrong.

86  
00:04:34,880 --> 00:04:38,780  
You said to Jimmy, who told  
Hitler that I was here?

87  
00:04:38,780 --> 00:04:41,240  
He has come for me.

88  
00:04:41,240 --> 00:04:45,020  
Dad held you and told you  
that Hitler wasn't here

89  
00:04:45,020 --> 00:04:48,440  
and would never come and  
take you away from him.

90  
00:04:48,440 --> 00:04:50,270  
"You took him  
outside to show him

91  
00:04:50,270 --> 00:04:55,140  
the little red van like the  
one which took your dad away.

92  
00:04:55,140 --> 00:04:57,803  
But it was our male  
van collecting the mail

93  
00:04:57,803 --> 00:04:58,595  
at the post office.



94  
00:04:58,595 --> 00:05:01,840

95  
00:05:01,840 --> 00:05:05,950  
We had read in the papers and  
heard on the radio about Hitler

96  
00:05:05,950 --> 00:05:08,800  
and what he has done  
to the Jewish people.

97  
00:05:08,800 --> 00:05:11,290  
But I guess because  
Germany was so far away,

98  
00:05:11,290 --> 00:05:13,600  
we didn't know  
any of the people.

99  
00:05:13,600 --> 00:05:15,760  
It didn't get home to us.

100  
00:05:15,760 --> 00:05:19,030  
"But after you came  
to stay with us,

101  
00:05:19,030 --> 00:05:21,490  
here was an eight-year-old  
so involved with all

102  
00:05:21,490 --> 00:05:23,490  
that horrific brutality.

103  
00:05:23,490 --> 00:05:27,040  
We paid more attention  
to the happenings.

104  
00:05:27,040 --> 00:05:29,530  
Dad and mom thought you had  
suffered more than enough

105

00:05:29,530 --> 00:05:31,150  
in your young life.

106  
00:05:31,150 --> 00:05:32,890  
So they were going  
to do their best

107  
00:05:32,890 --> 00:05:35,860  
to give you love and  
security till you met up

108  
00:05:35,860 --> 00:05:37,960  
with your parents.

109  
00:05:37,960 --> 00:05:42,130  
"I remember mom saying  
those poor Jewish families.

110  
00:05:42,130 --> 00:05:44,500  
They are all God's people.

111  
00:05:44,500 --> 00:05:48,490  
She could never understand  
how it could happen.

112  
00:05:48,490 --> 00:05:50,830  
Dysart's people then  
realized the sufferings

113  
00:05:50,830 --> 00:05:54,500  
and the tragedy which was  
put upon the Jewish people.

114  
00:05:54,500 --> 00:05:55,000  
"And.

115  
00:05:55,000 --> 00:05:59,320  
I would say, yes, emotions were  
high because you were Jewish.

116  
00:05:59,320 --> 00:06:02,920  
And the feelings were very  
strong for your parents.

117

00:06:02,920 --> 00:06:05,440

The torture they went through  
plus having their children

118

00:06:05,440 --> 00:06:09,230

taken from them, not knowing  
where they were going,

119

00:06:09,230 --> 00:06:11,950

what kind of people they  
would be staying with,

120

00:06:11,950 --> 00:06:14,800

and would they ever  
see you all again,

121

00:06:14,800 --> 00:06:17,230

it must have been traumatic,  
the end of the world.

122

00:06:17,230 --> 00:06:25,130

123

00:06:25,130 --> 00:06:26,875

"In many ways, it  
was a sad time.

124

00:06:26,875 --> 00:06:29,490

125

00:06:29,490 --> 00:06:32,960

But we all had happy times too.

126

00:06:32,960 --> 00:06:36,010

Dad and mom loved  
you as their own.

127

00:06:36,010 --> 00:06:38,870

Bill and I loved  
you as a brother.

128

00:06:38,870 --> 00:06:41,265

The love you had for the  
Salmond's was the richest

129

00:06:41,265 --> 00:06:41,765

payment.

130

00:06:41,765 --> 00:06:47,670

131

00:06:47,670 --> 00:06:51,000

"Not only are you a part  
of the Salmond family,

132

00:06:51,000 --> 00:06:53,040

but part of Dysart.

133

00:06:53,040 --> 00:06:56,580

People still ask for  
you and your family.

134

00:06:56,580 --> 00:07:00,770

You came as a small Jewish boy  
to a small village of Dysart

135

00:07:00,770 --> 00:07:03,960

and made us all aware of the sad  
plight of the Jewish people."

136

00:07:03,960 --> 00:07:11,490

137

00:07:11,490 --> 00:07:17,935

The love that I have for  
this family knows no bounds.

138

00:07:17,935 --> 00:07:22,420

139

00:07:22,420 --> 00:07:26,170

Nothing ever-- There's nothing  
that I could ever do or say

140

00:07:26,170 --> 00:07:32,650

that comes even close  
to what they did for me.

141

00:07:32,650 --> 00:07:37,730

142

00:07:37,730 --> 00:07:41,120

Mr. Nachtigall, I want to  
thank you for being here today

143

00:07:41,120 --> 00:07:44,127

and sharing your story with us.

144

00:07:44,127 --> 00:07:44,960

Thank you very much.

145

00:07:44,960 --> 00:07:56,884

146

00:07:56,884 --> 00:07:58,660

I'm sorry for--

147

00:07:58,660 --> 00:08:03,920

No I don't know  
if they heard us.

148

00:08:03,920 --> 00:08:13,000