

Continue. When we came to Auschwitz, you probably are wondering, I want to mention this. Most of the girls 99%, of the girls, did not menstruate. Was it due to the malnutrition, or was it due to the food that we ate? I don't know. But there were a few who still menstruated. And of course, they didn't have any sanitary napkins to do with.

So what did they do? They used to take-- if they had a slip, used to cut a piece of the slip. And whoever from us girls had a light blouse or something, used to give it to them. They used to use it, wash it out, dry it out, and use it again. And the same thing, we didn't have any toilet paper. As long as we were working in the factory where we were sewing, we always had some fabrics that we used to use.

But in Birkenau, we didn't have anything. We used to get-- if we could find a leaf still on the ground, we used to use the leaf. And to wash it out and keep it. We used to get bread and margarine, a small piece of margarine. So whoever got the last piece of margarine got the wax paper that the margarine was wrapped.

So at the beginning, maybe there were four pieces of the-- four papers, wax papers. And we were about, I don't know, a couple hundred of girls. So we used to share the paper, used to wash it under the water, dry it out, and use it. And this was the-- this was in Birkenau that we had it. But I just wanted to mention that if you tell today people what we went through at this-- it's unbelievable to believe somebody. But at this-- it is a fact that it was-- it was like this.

In Auschwitz itself, for us, before we went to Auschwitz, we went to the showers. And they gave us fairly decent clothes to work. And we went out of the showers. Then Mengele came in. And he asked who can sew? And I raised my arm. My hand. I say, I can sew.

What's your number? I told him what my number was, because we had no names. He looked at me. And I was very foolish. I said, I have a sister. She's a seamstress. She sews very well. And she's right over there. And he said, what's her number? And he took her. He took her out from the group too. And we were assigned to work indoors.

The other girls said to me, Ida, you know you were so crazy. You know that you could have-- he could have just take you out from there and put you over there to the gas chamber for that. Because I was daring. From that on, we went over there, and we worked inside. And we were repairing other things for the German, population just for this. Not for the military, but for the--

Civilians.

All the-- there were quite a few women who were working. This was already January. They were working outside, and it was very cold. And they didn't have anything to put on their heads. So we used to steal material and make them kerchiefs or make underpants, longer underpants that they could work. And then we used to smuggle this through.

They didn't search us at that time. We used to smuggle out some-- things that they could-- a scarf, make a scarf. Just something that-- we used to make gloves from regular material, just to cover because they were working outside on the roads. And we were going to work. And it wasn't too bad.

But one night-- at night, what was unusual, they made an appeal-- Appell.

Appell.

Appell is something else. We had together all in the courtyard over there. We went over there, and we saw there were four girls that were hanged. Those girls were working in the ammunition factory not far from Auschwitz. And they were sabotaging whatever they did. And they hung four young girls.

And we had to stand over there and look. And whoever put down their head, the SS used to go and hit you. So you just-- it was evening, so they see. You just closed the eyes whoever-- not everybody wanted to see it. It was a terrible, terrible sight to see that. And we were-- they were young girls our age.

Well, this was-- once, next to our building, there was a building where this was the experimental building. Where they took in-- we know only the woman. They took in women over there, and they made experiments. They did some surgery. And of course without any anesthesia. And they feed them back. And they went back to you know. And they were holding over there.

Over there, they had it-- they had it good. Nobody should have it that good. But they had-- they feed them well. They had the movie. They showed them movies. And once the head from the barracks came in, would you like to go and see a movie? And we said, yes. We didn't see a movie for so many years.

And we didn't know where it was. And they took us to that building. And we didn't know what that building. We come over there, and we found out that this was the building where it was the hospital experiment building. And those girls told us what was-- what they went through. And we all got so frightened. We saw that they are going to take us over there. But we were very lucky. They just took us out. We never went back over there to see any more movies.

Well, this was the-- in Auschwitz. And in January, I think 18 or 19, one evening-- this was the evening? No, it was in the morning. There was a whistle blowing. And everybody went out on the place over there. And we are not going to go-- we are not going to work.

What happens, we don't know. They don't need us anymore to work. We walked. They took us out because the Russian army was about 20 kilometers, like less than 20 miles, from Auschwitz. And there were a few girls who were there in the infirmary. They were sick.

I went to my friend and I said, look, we are going out. You have to get out, because if you are not going to go out, they are going to kill you. Because this is what they used to do. Whoever couldn't walk, they used to kill. She went out. She was sick. We walked for a day to a station wagon to a station-- a railroad station.

We had to walk, I don't know how many kilometers it was, but it was quite a distance. And we had to walk quite fast. Whoever couldn't walk fast and was standing behind, they used to shoot right on the spot. My girlfriend, she could walk, but she was leaning on my arm. And somehow I said, you have to walk, but they always kill you.

We walked all day. It came in the evening. We stopped walking. And they told us they were-- this was in a village. They told wherever you can find a place, to go in and sleep. But there were barns on the--

Farms.

Farmers had barns. And we went over there at the barn. There was hay over there. And we're thinking, maybe we should hide. And then one said, you are going to hide, and they are going to come later with dogs. And this. So anyhow, we were all-- at night, we were staying there.

And not the day we were walking-- the second, next day, until we came to an available station. A lot of them were killed on the way because they couldn't walk anymore. We were loaded on open tracks-- the train tracks-- open tracks.

It started to snow. And we were a whole night-- we were going-- they shipped us to Germany, to Bergen-Belsen. We came to Bergen-Belsen. We went into like a warehouse. There was no bunk beds, nothing. There was just a wooden floor-- not a wooden, a cement floor.

And whoever was strong, big and strong, enough had a place to lay down. Whoever was weak, didn't even have a place to-- it was so crowded, that we didn't even have a place to lay down. We're sitting-- we're sitting in those barracks.

We went out in the morning and we looked around. And we were asking what was going on because we didn't know. They told us it was just people here who are dying. There was nothing, no work, no nothing. And there was already a typhoid epidemic.

And after five days, so after a week, we heard that they are looking for girls to go to Germany, further, to an

ammunition factory to work. About 150 girls-- we said, we are going to go to work because people are dying from the typhoid. There was no food. If you have any connections, you are starving.

And we volunteered to go to work. There was one woman who was my mother's friend, her daughters had connections. And she survived. And I went to her, I said, Mrs. Schreiber, I'm going. I volunteered to go to work for Germany.

She said, are you crazy? Don't you know that all the railroads are bombed? I said, I wish I would hear any bombings. I would know that the allies, the Americans or whoever, is coming near.

We went and we were on the train-- I don't know-- two days. And we came to a very small concentration camp. It was near Hamburg. I don't remember the place.

And we came over there. Unfortunately, we already had the virus. And we came and we had the typhoid in that camp. So we couldn't go to work. 99% girls got typhoid.

We had no water. We had no medicine. We had nothing. The Germans who were in charge, they came-- we had some broth we could drink with straw.

They took away the straw. They said they are going to because it has to be disinfected. They were afraid for themselves. They are going to bring us new straws. They didn't bring us any no straw.

And I remember that I was hallucinating. How do I remember? This is odd because this was the first time in my life that I experienced. I had a very high temperature.

And I was in three places at the one time. I know I was laying on the wooden boards. But I was sitting over there and talking to my girlfriend. And this third time, I would do something else.

And next, this was that this was the climax of the sickness. Two days later, I was getting better. And my friend said, you were talking, you were talking. And I somehow survived.

So we never had time to go back to work. And we did not want to go to work because we knew that we are going to go to the ammunition factory. They were bombing already. So we are going to be killed in the-- so somehow we still managed.

I still am sick. I still cannot go. And those who were in charge of the kitchen, the girls came in and he said, well, you can get soup for a week and bread if you will give us-- if you have some rings, or money-- dollars, of course, not German money-- if you have some valuables.

Because there were some who smuggled. My girlfriend smuggled her wedding band-- the gold wedding band and a \$5 bill. She smuggled too, the same thing that I did because we were very close friends.

And I said to my girlfriend, I said-- she know what I have. And I knew what she has. And I said to her, Helen, for one week food, it's not going to do us any good. If we will survive, we will survive without food.

And I'm not going to give this away. This is the only thing that's left from my family. You want to give your ring and your dollars, give it. And she didn't give it that way.

And we were there quite a few weeks. Suddenly, they were bombing not far from us. I don't know-- I think the English, the Britain's, were bombing because this was near Hamburg. And we were so glad to hear that the Germans were running to the bunkers. And we were glad to see to hear this.

Well, we were not so lucky too long. The British army was very close. So one day, they took us out from the-- we were very, very precious cargo, you know. They didn't want to leave us. They took us out and loaded us, again, in the trains.

They locked us. And we were going-- this was in Germany-- we were going all over Germany. Wherever they wanted to dispose of us, they couldn't because the allies were there. Finally, they took us all over Czechoslovakia. So that the Russians were over there.

We're two weeks in the closed cars. Once a day they opened the door because there were a lot of people were dying during a time. They used to take the dead people, throw them next to the tracks.

And we only survived thanks to the Czechoslovakian people. They heard that there was a transport with people who were starving. We have no food. They came and they gave us a piece of bread or whatever it is. If not for them, we would all have died in there.

And they took us for over two weeks. Finally, they didn't have anywhere to let us go. They took us to Austria, to Mauthausen. We came to Mauthausen, and we didn't know-- again, we didn't know what was going on.

We came over there. And we saw the men. They were walking skeletons. They told us that there's no work here anymore. This was already the end of April. I don't remember how close to May, but it was the end of April.

And he said, we are here a matter of time because we all are going to here be gassed or die. We came over there and he told us you are probably going to go down the hill where the people who are scheduled already to be gassed. And when you walk down the steps, watch out how you walk.

There was a quarry that the men-- there were only men over there before that. They made 180 steps going from down going up to the quarry. So the Jews, they were making steps. The steps were high and narrow. They used to carry the stones and building the steps.

This spot, we were told, those who-- if you tripped, they used to fall down. 180 steps is quite the hill. And we walk down the steps. And, you know, you were so dizzy walking down because you were hungry, you were tired, you were scared because they told us, already, what's going to go with us.

And we walk down-- I don't know how long it took us. But we finally made the steps down. And we came-- they loaded us up to the barracks. It was just-- this was the worst that we ever saw.

And we didn't have any luxuries. It was in the other camps. We came over there. And we walked around. And walked in the other-- and we saw people just dying-- just skeletons, that's all. Just skin and bone.

And they told us, we had to go to another barrack. And where we are going to go next-- this is going be next to the crematorium.

So we were always fighting. And we'd say, how can we fight? We hid over there, you know, wherever we could, for how long. But how long can you hide-- a day, two days.

Finally, they took us up from there. And took us to another part. And by the time we were over there, we were already very sick.

And there were bunk beds-- three layers. I couldn't walk anymore. So they put me on the top layer. I got this dysentery. Dysentery--

And those who were able to go out, they used to go. They still used to count how many are-- And somebody said that there are 500 bodies that were gassed already. And they are waiting to be gassed because they didn't have the-- they had only the gas chambers to gas, but they didn't have the crematoria to burn. So they burned them outside.

But because it was May already, we were supposed to have gone May the 5th or the 6th. They said, we are going to go over there. And they used to go, and we used to hear, every day there were less and less people who died.

One day-- to me, it was no different because I knew I was next to nothing. It was very quiet. We didn't hear them. When they counted the people, we could hear them counting or shouts. So you know what is going on.

They said the girls go out. It was that quiet. Something is going on. Somebody came in. The Germans, they left. There are only two or three left here. And I think they are packing, and they are going out.

About an hour later-- it was very quiet. And we didn't know. And an hour later, they said they are coming. We didn't know who was coming. The American army came in and liberated us.

When they came in, the soldiers-- I'll never forget it. They came in and we saw they were crying. And one soldier took me down. And he was holding me just like four-year-old girl.

And of course, I didn't speak English. And he didn't speak German. He looked at me, and I suppose he wanted to figure out if I was a girl or I was a woman. They took us down. And they gave us-- first, they disinfected us.

Was it an infection? Was it is it-- TNT or something? What is this that they put in a powder? Those who were walking, they went to one place. And those who are sick, they put us into a hospital. This was the hospital that was the German-- the German hospital.

They came in, and we had right away the doctors over there. The doctors fed the inmates who were political inmates, not the Jews. They were Gentiles. They were from Yugoslavia, from Italy, and from Holland.

Those ones, especially the men with the [INAUDIBLE], did a very foolish thing. Because the Americans used to bring food. The food was very rich. And people started to eat, and too much at one time, and for storage. And a lot of people died from it right after they ate.

I, myself, was in the hospital. I was very sick. And the doctor from Yugoslavia, he came in and he said, he thinks I should have a plasma because I could walk. And I said, I don't want to have that plasma.

I don't want because I was so skinny. I was always afraid for a needle. And I said I don't want to. I know that I am going to die anyhow. I had diarrhea.

Well, he couldn't force me. Once, he came and he said, well I am not going to listen to you. He just picked me up and took me to the laboratory, and gave me a plasma. And the needle-- he couldn't find a needle because my veins were so thin. So of course I didn't look at it.

He told me later, when he put the thinnest needle, that he could see the vein-- the needles through the vein. He gave them the plasma. And he was sitting in my room for four hours-- that man.

And I was getting better right after this. And I started-- the nurses were all the survivors who were working because there were no nurses over there. They didn't go right way home because they couldn't. There were no transportation.

So they took me down. And they taught me how to walk. And I started to walk again. I started to eat a little bit.

But I simply remembered they gave me peanut butter. And I took it. And I just couldn't eat it. Until now, I wouldn't eat it because it's-- it had such up bad after taste. I was not used to that rich thing. I just taste it. And I didn't eat it because I didn't like it.

Then, I was getting better. And I was starting to walk. Unfortunately, the American army was retreating and let the Russian take over Mauthausen. So the Americans came and said, whoever wants to go with us, we will take you on the tracks. And put you on the American zone with us.

I was sick. I couldn't even go to because you had to walk to the tracks. I don't know how far it was. I couldn't even walk. And I knew I wouldn't make it. So I remained in the hospital.

And the Russians came in. And I was over there a few more weeks. And then, there was-- they said that we can go back to Poland. There was already transportation.

And we went back to Poland. It took us quite a few days to go back to Poland. But I want to show you-- I want to show you when we were liberated from the American army, we got a certificate. It's in English and in German-- my name, my birthday, and the date I was liberated, and the stamp from the American army, and my finger print.

And this had the origin--

Could you hold that up so that-- this way. Turn it around facing us like that.

This way?

A little higher.

Or this way?

A little higher. Could you point to where your fingerprint is?

Here, the fingerprint. Here is my fingerprint. Here, are the stamps from the American army. This is the origin certificate that I was liberated from the American army. And still today, I'm always sending-- a few times a year, I'm sending to the American Blind Association or Wounded American, I'm sending a donation.

Was there a difference between the Russians who came in and the Americans?

It was a very big difference because the Russian army, we later found out-- when the Russian army came in and there were girls. They used to rape the girls. So I was lucky that I wasn't there.

They used to put on a sign on the doors, typhoid or something that say a disease. Because they used to rape-- they had no medical supplies for them. They didn't have themselves. So they couldn't give it--

And they were very mad because if the girls were running away, they said, we are liberated now. So you don't want even to go to us. They were blaming them. They used to kill them too after liberation.

Now, while I was laying in bed in the hospital, I knew how to sew. I couldn't walk, but I could do with my hands. My friend gave me-- this was a sheet from the German hospital.

She gave me a half a sheet. And I made that blouse. It was made all by hand.

It was all-- of course, the style wasn't-- I was-- then, it was short and white. But this, I used to wear it because I didn't have anything else. This is one thing.

Everything was made by hand. And it had the button holes. And here, you can still see-- later on, I made it on the machine. I wore it, I think, a year and a half later. But later on, I decided I didn't need it anymore. This is one thing.

And I didn't have underwear. So I made the underpants-- so from another sheet. I made this. And I didn't have any elastic.

So I asked my doctor, can I have the elastic from the plasma that I got. He said yes. So I put in the elastic. And I put it in.

And this is the origin elastic from the plasma that I got. That I don't dare to touch it because I don't want to rip it. Those are my underpants. This is the second.

Now, here, I got this scarf, a wool scarf, from a German soldier. They came and they gave us scarf. This was an oblong scarf.

I had no hair on my head because I had typhoid. So I needed something to cover my head. So I cut the oblong scarf. And I added here, in two places. And I match the lines.

And I made fringes. And I was wearing-- should I put it on? I was wearing this scarf like this. And this was-- those are the-- this is still, as you can see, made by hand. Those are three items that I had from Mauthausen. And this scarf, I was wearing quite a while until my hair grew up.

Now, I went through very fast because I could not do it in an hour or two hours what I went through in the almost six years. But I did it as much as I could. But if you will ask me some questions, then I could maybe answer.

So you want back-- Did you go back to Tarnow?

Yes, I went back to Tarnow. And I was already-- I was sick at that time. And my sisters girlfriend, the one that is not alive, that was killed, found out that I am-- I went to the Jewish community. They had a Jewish community.

And she brought a doctor. And I went to the hospital. I was in the hospital for about two weeks. I had the beginning of the TB, tuberculosis. And the doctors said that I should go to a resort in the mountains. That will help me.

And my sister's friend gave me money. I don't know where she got it. And I went to a resort in Poland. I was over there for five weeks. And I got better.

And I came back. And then she said, why did you come back? I said, I didn't have any more money. And at that resort, there were a lot of children that were hidden by the Polish people. And they took them out. They were all without parents.

And they were all in the one that sanatorium until the Jewish brigade, I think, took them out from Poland. And they went to Paris. From Paris, they all came to the United States.

And we used to go-- I used to go to eat only over there. I used to sleep in-- and I couldn't mix with them because I was sick. So I couldn't mix with them. When I came back the second time to my town, I met my friend. And I went to another town.

I had to have some money to live on. And so I could sew. Somebody, a woman who survived in hiding with two daughters, was looking for someone to make some dresses. So she took me to another town.

And I had-- the woman bought by her. So this was a first stop because I didn't have any money. And at that time, I was introduced by my friend to my husband. And we later on got married.

Was he from your same town?

When I came to my town-- the reason I went back to my town is not because maybe I could have somehow managed to go to the American zone. But my plans were to go back to my hometown because we had hidden a fortune on the attic in the apartment house where we lived.

We had one neighbor head over there. He had a shoe store and didn't want to give it away to the Germans. So my brothers found a hiding place. And he hid over there about 180 pairs of shoes. And quite a few-- 50 or 100 pounds of suede material for shoes, and the calf leather-- suede leather and calf leather.

And there were all the silver candelabra from our home, and the menorahs from my uncles, from my aunts, from the neighbors, from friends. Everything was hidden over there-- gold and fur coats from all the women because we didn't

want to give it away. We figured out that the world will end and we'll have--.

So my main plan was to go back because I was sick. And I will get those things, and I will set it, and have money. And I will go to Palestine to meet my sister.

What I forgot to tell you-- when I was in Mauthausen, in the hospital, the Jewish brigade came-- the soldiers from the Jewish brigade-- the Jewish brigade and the British army. And they said, if you have a relatives in Palatine, and you write a letter, we can deliver it fast because there was no transportation. And I said, yes, I have a sister who is in a kibbutz. And I remembered the name of the kibbutz.

And he said, well, write a letter. We are going to be next week here. And we'll take the letter. And I wrote a letter to my sister. And I wrote that I survive.

And then I said, I'm not going to send the letter because I know I'm dying. This was before I got the plasma. I am dying.

And if she gets my letter, and she finds out that I survived the war, and I died after the war, the pain will be greater than if-- she'd lost already three brothers and a sister, so she lost me too. And I didn't send the letter.

But my sister in Israel found my name on the list. The American's are very-- precision. They made their list because I think that the Jewish brigade told them. Or did it, maybe, for their own collection.

They made their list for all the survivors. And my sister was looking, and she found me on the list. She sent a telegram to my brother. My brother was in Russia. How did he survive in Russia? My brother-in-law's friend was the secondary secretary to the English embassy in Moscow. So she sent packages from Palestine to Moscow.

And they asked the assistant secretary send to Siberia to my brother the package. And he saw it and he survived on the packages from my sister. And when I came back to the Tarnow. There were two telegrams from my sister and my brother. And I was waiting until my brother had--

They had contacted each other too?

No, there was no contact at all. And she saw me. And I went-- and I was already got in Krakow, the largest city. This was the main Jewish population over there after the war. And by that time, this was 1946 already. I wrote them a letter that I lived in Krakow.

And I met-- in '45 I met my husband. And he got right away an affidavit to come to the United States because he has three uncles and an aunt. And the delegation from the joint came to Poland. And this was a doctor-- I forgot to put his name was. I've forgotten from the joint.

He brought my husband, already, an affidavit. Personally, he brought it, not with the mail. And my husband told him right away-- I wasn't married at that time-- but he said, I am married. Tell my uncles to send an affidavit for me too.

And when I had two telegrams, I waited for my brother to come from Russia. Because I had already the papers to go to the United States. But we couldn't go from Poland. You had to go to Germany.

But I was waiting for my brother to come. So my brother came to Poland. He came and he stayed in my apartment. We had two or three-- after the War, three families in one large apartment.

And there he got married. I waited until you got married. And I let two days after he got married.

I went to-- we had to go to Czechoslovakia, Austria, and then Germany.

How about the things that had been hidden? Did you find the things that had--

Nothing-- they had 2 and 1/2 years to go and look. I had two cousins who were-- one was-- she had papers as a Polish girl. She survived the Warsaw as a Christian. And she knew because we told everybody where these things are hidden in case-- we knew already, in case they come back so they will know where it is hidden.

So when I came and I wanted to go over there, I had to hire a Polish policeman and pay him to go to my apartment-- to my house, to go on the attic, to look for my things because there were cases where the people came back with their own houses and the Poles killed them. They got everything what was ours.

So I came over there. And I said, who has the key to the- because there were two addicts over there. One side of the house and the other side. Who are the key to the attic? So I got the key. And I went over there and then looked. And I looked up. It was very high. There was brick wall.

And I asked, can I have a ladder? She said, what for do you need a ladder? I said, well, I want to find this.

There is nothing, she said. Somebody came over here six months ago and took out everything. So I got in contact with my cousin. She is in Israel.

And when I was still over there, I got even a [INAUDIBLE]. And she said, I came over there. When I came, nothing was over there. They had 2 and 1/2 years to look around and take off everything.

So this is what I want to say. And while I was in Poland, I was waiting for my brother. My sister sent me \$20 from Palestine for me. Then she sent another \$20. So I didn't need-- because at the time I was married, I gave it to my brother.

My brother, he made still in Poland. And then we left for Germany. And I was in Germany. And my older son was born in Germany. My brother from Poland left to France. So he was just coming through Germany.

And he was going through, not our town, but next to our town. We took a train. And we went together with my brother, and sister-in-law, and their baby, to the French border. And we came back.

So my brother went to France. Then I came from Germany. We went to Paris to Czechoslovakia to Austria. We were in Austria-- we were about two weeks. And we had to-- how would you-- smuggle to go through to Germany.

There were the Jewish brigade from Palestine. They were working at that time. The Jews would go to Palestine. They took out all who wanted to go from Austria to Germany. From Germany, you could go no to Italy. From Italy, somehow it was closer to Palestine.

So were they smuggled us on trucks through the border. Of course, everything was paid. And we came to Germany. We came for Germany.

We went to a DP camp. My husband's cousin was in DP camp. We came over there. And they were living in the former military compound. What's it called? Barracks-- it's not barracks, but it was buildings. This was a brick buildings. Very large brick buildings. I don't know what's called--

Armory.

What?

Armory?

No, this was just the living space, the living quarters, for the American soldiers. This was before German soldiers. This was a probably a camp, a German camp.

And we came over there. And his cousin and another friend-- there were two in a home. So I said, where are we going to sleep? And they had bunk beds. So he said, he's going to sleep on the bottom and I, with my husband, slept on the bunk

bed.

And I said to my husband, I said I'm not going to stay over here. It was not easy to get right away to get a home to be over there. But the conditions were terrible over there.

The toilets-- the latrines-- were so awful. And two families had to live in one apartment. And I said, I'm not going to live with another couple. Not an apartment, one room mind you.

I'm not going to live in one room. I had enough camp-- enough this stuff. And we left the DP camp and we went to Heidelberg. And we went over there until we came to the United States.

Since you've lived in the United States, have you ever gone back to Poland? Have you ever visited?

My husband wanted last year to go back. Because after the war, I know my mother was buried in the cemetery. And she was lucky she still had a tombstone made in the war. And I went to the cemetery. And I couldn't find the tombstone because I was only once over there.

It was everything you do in the war. And my husband's brother and a cousin were in hiding for 2 and 1/2 years by a peasant. And another Polish man told the Polish policeman that the Jews are hiding over there. So they ran away.

And they were running to-- running away-- the cousin and the brother. And they were running to towards-- what's it called-- not mountains, but the forests. And they were about maybe 100 feet from the forest.

If they would have gone to the forest, they would not have gone after them because they were afraid they were partisans in the forest. They killed them about 100 feet before the coast, the brother and the cousin. And there were some Polish people that knew that they were buried over there. So my husband took them out from the grave and put them on the cemetery. And we make them a stone.

And the man that put on the stone for my brother, he came from Russia. And I knew him. I know him very well.

And I said, I know that your father and you'll put on this stone. I can't find my mother's grave. And he walked on the street. On the Main Street there was a beautiful park. And he found the stone because this was a fairly new stone.

They made rocks from the tombstone. He picked up that tombstone, and he mounted it back. And he know where my mother was buried. And he put on in a tombstone for my husband's brother and cousin.

So my husband wants to go back because he said the whole family was killed in Auschwitz. His whole family was killed in Auschwitz. I don't know where my sister was killed in [PLACE NAME]. My father was killed someplace else. And my brothers, I don't know where they were killed.

I was in Auschwitz. He wants to go to Auschwitz because his parents, the whole family, was killed over there. And he made already arrangements. But we couldn't go. But he wants to go over there.

And somebody from his town knew about us. And he sent us a newspaper about our town. And in that newspaper-- it's exactly when the slaughter was, what date-- because they have all the dates-- and how many Jews were killed.

And he asked me if I want to have some pictures. So I told him, if you can get the pictures from the town before the war, I was interested. But I'm not interested from the pictures after the war.

So he sent me the pictures that was made after the war. And the pictures that I look-- so I got it a few months ago, made such a-- upset me more than all the things that I went through now.

Why? Because I look at my hometown and I see how beautiful they made it now. And they put-- all the slaughter was in the marketplace. If every stone and every building could talk, they will say that the whole market was full of Jewish

blood.

And he sent the other pictures. And I'm not interested. But my husband wants to go. He wants to go once to that cemetery to see it.

So he still plans to go. But I am not so anxious to go.

What has it been like for you in terms of your children-- to talk about this? I talk with my children. I talk to them. And they know it.

And my daughter-in-laws-- they all know it. And every time we have a chance we tell them. And no matter how much you say, it's not enough. My granddaughter who is 8-years-old, she knows a little about the Holocaust.

When she was five she asked me, Bobby what you have here on your arm? I said, when you are going to be older, I will tell you. So now she goes to a Hebrew day school in Monsey, New York. And they teach them about it.

And my grandson, who is five, asked me questions already too because he hears from her sister. He says, Bobby, you were in the Holocaust. And what did they do to you? So my children know. And we always talk to them.

And at the time we have three tapes that are three hours long. And I made for all of them. And I said on the bottom of it that this is for a reminder. And this is for my children, and grandchildren, and their children's children to know what was going to happen.

And this is not a story. This is a true fact. And don't let anybody tell you that the Holocaust never exists.

Because we know now that there are some people who still want to deny it. I want to tell you that the German government was paying \$400 after the war for people to remove the numbers because they didn't want to have so much evidence.

But I said, there was no money that could pay me for that. And one thing that I want to say, and I always tell them, that we are lucky that the Germans were so sadistic that they took pictures. If they would not have taken pictures, nobody would believe us. They would think that we all are crazy.

Because it is unbelievable that a nation, like Germany was, could do a thing like this. This is what I said, we have to talk about it. And what hurts us is that they are professors. In California there is a professor who says that the Holocaust never--

How you at college or university keep a professor to teach it he denies that there was a Holocaust? How can anybody write books? How about the soldiers that liberated us? They came here to the United States. They were the first ones to say, and the administration, unfortunately, told them put it under the carpet. Keep quiet. Don't talk.

But now they [INAUDIBLE] the horizon that there was officers, that they liberated the concentration camp. And they say that there is-- I have an article from a nurse. I have to call her. She lives in Livingston-- some place past Livingston. I think she lives in Livingston.

That she came as a nurse to Mauthausen. And she saw the survivors. They were living skeletons. And she saw the horrors of that. It is indescribable.

I have to contact her because maybe she was over there. So I say now maybe people are coming forward. But for 25 years-- for 20 years, it was quiet. Unfortunately, this started a little bit too late to come after the Holocaust.

But the time is very short because the time is against us. We are coming to the third stage of our life. This is what I taught my children. It has to be told, and again, and it should not be forgotten. Because there are some people who would like to say that it was never happened.

Mrs. Schwartz, thank you for telling it.

Finished?

Go ahead, go ahead. Do you want to say one more thing?

I said the Germans were all sadistic? Did you know what they used to do with the pictures? On Saturday night they used to have a movie. They used to have a party. And used to watch the movie.

I have original-- it's a copy from pictures that were making-- I should have put them-- I have nine of them that the Poles made from the negatives, postcards how the Jews were killed. There's a picture where the children were sitting on the ground waiting to be killed. There is a picture when they were killed already.

There was a picture of naked men already going like this to be shot. And they make postcards, selling them. And it is written on the other side exactly where it was it is suppose Polish and in English.

Written where it was. And they were selling this as postal cards.

Thank you very much.

You're welcome.

I never heard of her before.