- 1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:23,580
- 2 00:00:23,580 --> 00:00:24,490 Welcome.
- 3 00:00:24,490 --> 00:00:30,810 I am Joseph Preil, co-director of the Holocaust Resource
- 4 00:00:30,810 --> 00:00:34,650 Center here at Kean College of New Jersey.
- 5 00:00:34,650 --> 00:00:39,320 Today is Friday, November 13, 1992.
- 6 00:00:39,320 --> 00:00:43,650 And we are privileged to have with us as our guest Mr. Teddy
- 7 00:00:43,650 --> 00:00:47,100 Zweig, who resides in Brooklyn, and who
- 8 00:00:47,100 --> 00:00:51,150 has a son, Martin Zweig, who lives in south Brunswick.
- 9 00:00:51,150 --> 00:00:56,730 And Mr. Zweig will relate to us some of his experiences
- 10 00:00:56,730 --> 00:01:01,500 during the war, during World War II during the Holocaust,
- 11 00:01:01,500 --> 00:01:03,990 and his experiences there.
- 12 00:01:03,990 --> 00:01:07,650 Mr. Zweig, let us begin by your telling us

13 00:01:07,650 --> 00:01:10,075 where and when you were born.

00:01:10,075 --> 00:01:13,602 I'm born March 2, 1923.

15

00:01:13,602 --> 00:01:14,750 And where were you born?

16

00:01:14,750 --> 00:01:16,020 Opatów, Poland.

17

00:01:16,020 --> 00:01:17,430 Where is Opatów?

00:01:17,430 --> 00:01:21,560 It's middle Poland.

19

00:01:21,560 --> 00:01:27,570 It's between Kielce-- probably a famous place now known,

20 00:01:27,570 --> 00:01:31,380 which was the pogram after the war--

21 00:01:31,380 --> 00:01:36,000 and Czestochowa, which is a very, very

22

00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:40,660 religious Catholic town.

23

00:01:40,660 --> 00:01:44,040 In Opatów, what was the general population?

00:01:44,040 --> 00:01:46,860 And what was the Jewish population?

00:01:46,860 --> 00:01:49,900 I don't know exactly the population.

26 00:01:49,900 --> 00:01:52,710 But it was mostly Jewish--

27 00:01:52,710 --> 00:02:01,960 culture Jewish, Zionist Jewish, and religious town.

28 00:02:01,960 --> 00:02:04,300 What do you mean by culture Jewish?

29 00:02:04,300 --> 00:02:08,560 We had a lot of theaters coming from outside.

30 00:02:08,560 --> 00:02:11,871 Mostly, youth belong to Zionist organization.

31 00:02:11,871 --> 00:02:14,460

32 00:02:14,460 --> 00:02:16,950 You were 16 when the war broke out.

33 00:02:16,950 --> 00:02:18,210 Yes.

34 00:02:18,210 --> 00:02:21,360 Can you tell us something about your education until then?

35 00:02:21,360 --> 00:02:24,210 I went to school.

36 00:02:24,210 --> 00:02:28,770 I went to Hebrew school, to Mizrahi.

37 00:02:28,770 --> 00:02:33,750 I come from very, very poor home, which one--

00:02:33,750 --> 00:02:36,570 only a mother, no father.

39

00:02:36,570 --> 00:02:37,578 And my father--

40

00:02:37,578 --> 00:02:38,620 When did your father die?

41

00:02:38,620 --> 00:02:40,890 When my father died, I don't know, because my name

42

00:02:40,890 --> 00:02:42,330 is after my father.

43

00:02:42,330 --> 00:02:43,960 Oh, so he died before--

44

00:02:43,960 --> 00:02:44,820 He died before.

45

00:02:44,820 --> 00:02:45,570 --you were born.

46

00:02:45,570 --> 00:02:48,270 Which I know, from history, that he was here

47

00:02:48,270 --> 00:02:50,570 in the United States.

48

00:02:50,570 --> 00:02:55,410 And he left, because he didn't want working Shabbat.

49

00:02:55,410 --> 00:02:59,190 And then he went back, and the first war broke out.

50

00:02:59,190 --> 00:03:02,970 And that's it, what I know for my father. 51 00:03:02,970 --> 00:03:04,500 As a child, I was one that--

52

00:03:04,500 --> 00:03:06,050 I was playing in the garden.

53 00:03:06,050 --> 00:03:09,070 And the horse and buggy went over me and broke my back.

54 00:03:09,070 --> 00:03:13,870 And I suffer a lot in my back because of this.

55 00:03:13,870 --> 00:03:15,225 How old were you at that time?

00:03:15,225 --> 00:03:18,660 A baby, maybe one, a year.

57 00:03:18,660 --> 00:03:21,240

58 00:03:21,240 --> 00:03:23,940 How large was your family?

59 00:03:23,940 --> 00:03:27,550 I had three brothers, two and me--

60 00:03:27,550 --> 00:03:28,560 I mean, two more--

61 00:03:28,560 --> 00:03:30,360 and a sister.

62 00:03:30,360 --> 00:03:32,283 So there were three boys and one girl--

63 00:03:32,283 --> 00:03:32,950 One girl, right. 00:03:32,950 --> 00:03:33,420 --in the family.

65

00:03:33,420 --> 00:03:35,003 And you, obviously, were the youngest.

66 00:03:35,003 --> 00:03:36,180 I'm the youngest.

67 00:03:36,180 --> 00:03:40,170 And when the war broke out, there were the four of you,

68 00:03:40,170 --> 00:03:42,450 plus your mother, five.

69 00:03:42,450 --> 00:03:44,880 When the war broke up, the two brothers

70 00:03:44,880 --> 00:03:48,370 and my sister and my mother was living in the town.

71 00:03:48,370 --> 00:03:52,220 But my brother, the other one-of course, we both are poor.

72 00:03:52,220 --> 00:03:54,600 And they went to Łódź.

73 00:03:54,600 --> 00:03:59,270 He was working in Łódź, which I saw him maybe--

74 00:03:59,270 --> 00:04:02,700 in my life in Poland, I saw him all my life

75 00:04:02,700 --> 00:04:05,460 maybe two or three times when he came for Passover home.

76 00:04:05,460 --> 00:04:07,900 That's all I saw my brother.

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77
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00:04:07,900 --> 00:04:09,108 So that's the oldest brother.

78

00:04:09,108 --> 00:04:09,608

79

00:04:09,608 --> 00:04:10,200 All right.

80

00:04:10,200 --> 00:04:17,630 Now, what happened to the family as a result of the war?

81

00:04:17,630 --> 00:04:20,110 As a result of the war, three brothers--

82

00:04:20,110 --> 00:04:21,399 we are three brothers.

83

00:04:21,399 --> 00:04:22,290 We are alive.

84

00:04:22,290 --> 00:04:27,180 Two live in Israel, and one here.

85

00:04:27,180 --> 00:04:30,810 And my sister and my brother--

86

00:04:30,810 --> 00:04:32,170 And your mother.

Ω7

00:04:32,170 --> 00:04:32,670 I'm sorry.

88

00:04:32,670 --> 00:04:34,767 My sister and my mother were shot.

89

00:04:34,767 --> 00:04:36,350

Your sister and your

mother were shot.

90 00:04:36,350 --> 00:04:40,142 Shot in Poland in Opatów, which I'm glad I know what happened,

91 00:04:40,142 --> 00:04:41,100 where they were buried.

92 00:04:41,100 --> 00:04:41,683 What happened?

93 00:04:41,683 --> 00:04:45,890

94 00:04:45,890 --> 00:04:49,970 Now came-- in [INAUDIBLE],, they got [? the girl. ?]

95 00:04:49,970 --> 00:04:52,650 But it was a time where they needed people

96 00:04:52,650 --> 00:04:56,600 to work in labor camps.

97 00:04:56,600 --> 00:04:59,787 And they took out young--

98 00:04:59,787 --> 00:05:05,900 [INHALES] they took out young kids.

99 00:05:05,900 --> 00:05:12,440 We were sitting on a field to go on trucks to ship us out

100 00:05:12,440 --> 00:05:16,050 to the factories or the camps.

101 00:05:16,050 --> 00:05:18,350 And I was lucky.

102 00:05:18,350 --> 00:05:19,630 I had a brother.

103

00:05:19,630 --> 00:05:20,390 He was a--

104

00:05:20,390 --> 00:05:22,380 I mean, I'm sorry, a cousin.

105

00:05:22,380 --> 00:05:33,660 He was policeman in the ghetto and told me and my brother

106

00:05:33,660 --> 00:05:37,890 that my sister and my mother--

107

00:05:37,890 --> 00:05:39,780 and my sister was hiding, but she didn't

108

00:05:39,780 --> 00:05:41,510 want to leave my mother alone.

109

00:05:41,510 --> 00:05:44,170 She was hiding in the basement.

110

00:05:44,170 --> 00:05:46,390 And somebody went out.

111

00:05:46,390 --> 00:05:48,260 It was 59 people in the basement.

112

00:05:48,260 --> 00:05:54,030

113

00:05:54,030 --> 00:05:56,726 Somebody had to go out for air.

114

00:05:56,726 --> 00:06:00,200

115

00:06:00,200 --> 00:06:08,460 A Polack called the SS, and they came. 116 00:06:08,460 --> 00:06:12,840 And they took all the 59 people on the spot.

117

00:06:12,840 --> 00:06:15,520 They gunned them down.

118

00:06:15,520 --> 00:06:16,480 They killed them all.

119

00:06:16,480 --> 00:06:19,380 Killed them all.

120

00:06:19,380 --> 00:06:21,850 And why did the Pole do that to them?

121

00:06:21,850 --> 00:06:23,100 Was there some sort of reward?

122

00:06:23,100 --> 00:06:25,410 Probably they wanted--they got rewards, yes.

123

00:06:25,410 --> 00:06:26,440 Yes, they got rewards.

124

00:06:26,440 --> 00:06:28,860 There was a lot of cases like that.

125

00:06:28,860 --> 00:06:30,870 You've heard from others about this?

126

00:06:30,870 --> 00:06:31,650 I heard about.

127

00:06:31,650 --> 00:06:33,540 But I didn't hear--

128

00:06:33,540 --> 00:06:35,175 later on, this was

a lot of places,

129

00:06:35,175 --> 00:06:36,300 after they took the people.

130

00:06:36,300 --> 00:06:37,670 When did this take place?

131

00:06:37,670 --> 00:06:39,270 Do you know the date?

132

00:06:39,270 --> 00:06:40,948 It's hard for me to know the date.

133

00:06:40,948 --> 00:06:42,740 Was this right at the beginning of the war,

134

00:06:42,740 --> 00:06:44,850 or at the beginning of the war?

135

00:06:44,850 --> 00:06:47,130 My brother would know the date more.

136

00:06:47,130 --> 00:06:51,810 But I think-- they have yiskor in Israel, and the same thing.

137

00:06:51,810 --> 00:06:55,290 I think it was in November for the date.

138

00:06:55,290 --> 00:06:56,675 I think, that, I know.

139

00:06:56,675 --> 00:06:57,490 Of what year?

140

00:06:57,490 --> 00:06:58,800 Do you know?

141

00:06:58,800 --> 00:06:59,940

The year '42.

142

00:06:59,940 --> 00:07:00,790 Oh, this was '42.

143

00:07:00,790 --> 00:07:01,290

144

00:07:01,290 --> 00:07:03,970

145

00:07:03,970 --> 00:07:07,560 Now, your part of Poland--

146

00:07:07,560 --> 00:07:11,880 between '39 and '41, was your part of Poland German Poland

147

00:07:11,880 --> 00:07:12,930 or Russian Poland?

148

00:07:12,930 --> 00:07:14,670 No, Polish, Poland-- German.

149

00:07:14,670 --> 00:07:16,432 I mean German, occupied by the Germans.

150

00:07:16,432 --> 00:07:17,140 It was occupied--

151

00:07:17,140 --> 00:07:18,610 So you were always under the Germans.

152

00:07:18,610 --> 00:07:19,110 Yeah.

153

00:07:19,110 --> 00:07:24,210 At that time, the Russian wasn't in war with the German.

154

00:07:24,210 --> 00:07:29,760 Now, what happened after the

war broke out in your town?

155 00:07:29,760 --> 00:07:33,200 After it broke out, it was winter time.

156

00:07:33,200 --> 00:07:36,630 It was 1939.

157

00:07:36,630 --> 00:07:40,920 Little by little, it was like somebody plans,

158

00:07:40,920 --> 00:07:44,220 German plans a war.

159

00:07:44,220 --> 00:07:46,530 It was everything planning.

160

00:07:46,530 --> 00:07:48,520 And they start to put out--

161

00:07:48,520 --> 00:07:50,090 to make smaller and smaller, they

162

00:07:50,090 --> 00:07:52,910 put out-- these older people, the Jewish,

163

00:07:52,910 --> 00:07:55,140 was living all around the town.

164

00:07:55,140 --> 00:08:02,380 So they put us together, little by little, and made a circle.

165

00:08:02,380 --> 00:08:03,710 Would you call it a ghetto?

166

00:08:03,710 --> 00:08:06,310 A circle, a ghetto.

167

00:08:06,310 --> 00:08:11,020

And they took us to work in the town.

168

00:08:11,020 --> 00:08:14,100

It was a town, a

factory, where they make

169

00:08:14,100 --> 00:08:17,810 brushes to clean the horses.

170

00:08:17,810 --> 00:08:21,640 And a lot of people were working in that places,

171

00:08:21,640 --> 00:08:23,350 because they need them.

172

00:08:23,350 --> 00:08:27,760 And they need the brushes to clean the horses.

173

00:08:27,760 --> 00:08:30,640 And there it was a lot of work to do.

174

00:08:30,640 --> 00:08:31,750 There was a lot of snows.

175

00:08:31,750 --> 00:08:32,580 The army came in.

176

00:08:32,580 --> 00:08:35,870 They had to clean the snow from the horse.

177

00:08:35,870 --> 00:08:39,159 And you had to get so much and so much,

178

00:08:39,159 --> 00:08:42,740 enough time, how much to clean up.

179

00:08:42,740 --> 00:08:44,800

If we couldn't do,

we got beating.

180 00:08:44,800 --> 00:08:48,610 Or they would undress you naked to do that work.

181 00:08:48,610 --> 00:08:49,270 To work naked.

182 00:08:49,270 --> 00:08:49,770 Yeah.

183 00:08:49,770 --> 00:08:53,340

184 00:08:53,340 --> 00:08:58,250 Now, this was in 1939 going into 1940.

185 00:08:58,250 --> 00:09:01,490 Yeah, this wasn't--'39, it wasn't, so '40.

186 00:09:01,490 --> 00:09:02,460 Us, later, they got--

187 00:09:02,460 --> 00:09:03,730 like I said, it was made.

188 00:09:03,730 --> 00:09:05,960 It was planned, like soldier, like the Germans.

189 00:09:05,960 --> 00:09:06,310 It was planned.

190 00:09:06,310 --> 00:09:08,050 Every time, it got a little bit tougher, and tougher,

191 00:09:08,050 --> 00:09:08,560 and tougher.

192 00:09:08,560 --> 00:09:11,310 It wasn't right away just bad.

193

00:09:11,310 --> 00:09:14,640

So how long did the work continue?

194

00:09:14,640 --> 00:09:16,460

How long did you continue to work?

195

00:09:16,460 --> 00:09:16,960

In the city?

196

00:09:16,960 --> 00:09:17,660

In Opatów.

197

00:09:17,660 --> 00:09:20,940

198

00:09:20,940 --> 00:09:25,800

For three years, till

1939, till they took us,

199

00:09:25,800 --> 00:09:27,940

till they shipped us away.

200

00:09:27,940 --> 00:09:28,500

Oh.

201

00:09:28,500 --> 00:09:33,260

So you were living in your own quarters?

202

00:09:33,260 --> 00:09:33,890

Own quarter.

203

00:09:33,890 --> 00:09:35,500

We was working for

the -- for the--

204

00:09:35,500 --> 00:09:37,520

It was like you had

your own apartment?

205

00:09:37,520 --> 00:09:39,840 Yeah, we had one room.

206

00:09:39,840 --> 00:09:42,790 We were sleeping in one room, four people in a room.

207

00:09:42,790 --> 00:09:48,550 Were you ever in a labor camp or in a concentration camp?

208

00:09:48,550 --> 00:09:54,050 Yes, after 1942, since they took us away.

209

00:09:54,050 --> 00:09:54,690 In '42.

210

00:09:54,690 --> 00:09:55,650 In '41 or '42.

211

00:09:55,650 --> 00:09:56,630 So '41, '42.

212

00:09:56,630 --> 00:09:57,130 Right.

213

00:09:57,130 --> 00:09:57,330 Oh.

214

00:09:57,330 --> 00:09:59,250 In other words, when you were in the ghetto,

215

00:09:59,250 --> 00:10:02,190 you call that a camp.

216

00:10:02,190 --> 00:10:03,423 The ghetto was a ghetto.

217

00:10:03,423 --> 00:10:04,590 We was living in the ghetto.

218

00:10:04,590 --> 00:10:08,310

Let's say, like people living in Harlem, all the Black people

219

00:10:08,310 --> 00:10:09,210 living in Harlem.

220

00:10:09,210 --> 00:10:11,090 All the Jews were going to there.and living.

221

00:10:11,090 --> 00:10:12,130 And that's it.

222

00:10:12,130 --> 00:10:14,405 But after, they take us away to a labor camp.

223

00:10:14,405 --> 00:10:15,780 There was already something else.

224

00:10:15,780 --> 00:10:18,240 They was working in factories.

225

00:10:18,240 --> 00:10:20,970 So how long were you in the ghetto?

226

00:10:20,970 --> 00:10:25,680 And when did you go into the labor camp?

227

00:10:25,680 --> 00:10:28,230 End of '41, and beginning of '42.

228

00:10:28,230 --> 00:10:31,140 This when they took us on the trucks, they shipped us out.

229

00:10:31,140 --> 00:10:32,643 Where did they ship you to?

230

00:10:32,643 --> 00:10:34,560

They shipped me-- at

that time, the first camp

231

00:10:34,560 --> 00:10:38,550 was Skarzysko, an ammunition factory.

232

00:10:38,550 --> 00:10:40,960 And this was about '41, '42.

233

00:10:40,960 --> 00:10:41,535 Yeah, end of.

234

00:10:41,535 --> 00:10:42,035 Yeah.

235

00:10:42,035 --> 00:10:43,260 And how long were you there?

236

00:10:43,260 --> 00:10:46,230

237

00:10:46,230 --> 00:10:48,295 Till about '44.

238

00:10:48,295 --> 00:10:49,170 We were shipped out--

239

00:10:49,170 --> 00:10:50,590 So in other words, you were there about four years.

240

00:10:50,590 --> 00:10:51,270 A long time.

241

00:10:51,270 --> 00:10:51,770 Yes.

242

00:10:51,770 --> 00:10:52,500 Yes.

243

00:10:52,500 --> 00:10:54,510

And you were in the same camp, in Skarzysko.

00:10:54,510 --> 00:10:55,680 The same camp.

245

00:10:55,680 --> 00:10:58,220 That was near Opatów?

246

00:10:58,220 --> 00:11:01,270 About 50 miles, 50 kilometer away.

247

00:11:01,270 --> 00:11:01,980 Can you tell us--

248

00:11:01,980 --> 00:11:02,480 Yes.

249

00:11:02,480 --> 00:11:03,930 Can you tell us the routine that you--

250

00:11:03,930 --> 00:11:04,430 OK.

251

00:11:04,430 --> 00:11:05,180 --went through?

252

00:11:05,180 --> 00:11:08,190 When we came to camp, to labor camps,

253

00:11:08,190 --> 00:11:12,810 they took us in a big hall.

254

00:11:12,810 --> 00:11:16,950 We must be, at that time, maybe 600, 700 people.

255

00:11:16,950 --> 00:11:19,290 It was built like bunkers, like shelves,

256

00:11:19,290 --> 00:11:22,276 like they go in a factory.

00:11:22,276 --> 00:11:24,035 Then we had to live like--

258

00:11:24,035 --> 00:11:28,890 we had to sleep like sardines, like you open up sardines,

259

00:11:28,890 --> 00:11:32,360 head to feet, head to feet.

260

00:11:32,360 --> 00:11:35,270 We got fed.

261

00:11:35,270 --> 00:11:37,540 And from there-- OK.

262

00:11:37,540 --> 00:11:39,660 And there was nothing--

263

00:11:39,660 --> 00:11:42,770 on wood, on straw.

264

00:11:42,770 --> 00:11:45,960 People was living on the lice.

265

00:11:45,960 --> 00:11:47,940 And then we, ourself, threw out the straw,

266

00:11:47,940 --> 00:11:51,300 there was living on the wood, on the bunker.

267

00:11:51,300 --> 00:11:53,320 We call them bunker.

268

00:11:53,320 --> 00:11:56,460 We were sleeping on the wood.

269

00:11:56,460 --> 00:11:58,800 And we got to eat in the morning.

270

00:11:58,800 --> 00:12:02,100 Every day, they took us out to count.

271

00:12:02,100 --> 00:12:05,700 And then we had a lot of lice.

272

00:12:05,700 --> 00:12:08,280 And the kapos-- we called them kapos--

273

00:12:08,280 --> 00:12:13,310 they gave out bread, slices bread, portions.

274

00:12:13,310 --> 00:12:16,058 And lots of times, the kapo want to eat their own bread,

275

00:12:16,058 --> 00:12:16,850 the slice of bread.

276

00:12:16,850 --> 00:12:18,670 But people was laying dead.

277

00:12:18,670 --> 00:12:22,200 They didn't report it, because sometimes they

278

00:12:22,200 --> 00:12:24,120 count the people every day.

279

00:12:24,120 --> 00:12:25,350 Sometime, every two days.

280

00:12:25,350 --> 00:12:29,450 Sometime, every three days, and sometime twice a day,

281

00:12:29,450 --> 00:12:32,510 to see how many people there are in the camp

282

00:12:32,510 --> 00:12:35,220 till they finded out

there is less people, less

283

00:12:35,220 --> 00:12:37,620 portions bread, you got it.

284

00:12:37,620 --> 00:12:42,180 And I saw people laying, ate at the eyes, from the eyes

285

00:12:42,180 --> 00:12:45,960 from the rats, the flesh, because the people was

286

00:12:45,960 --> 00:12:49,400 laying dead till they took them out and buried them.

287

00:12:49,400 --> 00:12:52,450 Every day, it was two shifts to go to work,

288

00:12:52,450 --> 00:12:53,470 work in the factory.

289

00:12:53,470 --> 00:12:57,440 There was a morning shift and a night shift.

290

00:12:57,440 --> 00:12:59,460 The factory was across the--

291

00:12:59,460 --> 00:13:04,890 I mean, the camp was across the street from the factory.

292

00:13:04,890 --> 00:13:09,990 They count us going out from the camp.

293

00:13:09,990 --> 00:13:13,635 And they count us coming in to see if we--

294

00:13:13,635 --> 00:13:17,320

295 00:13:17,320 --> 00:13:19,050 nobody is missing.

296

00:13:19,050 --> 00:13:21,090 In the camp, there was freedom.

297

00:13:21,090 --> 00:13:25,000 You could walk around from one barrack to the other one.

298

00:13:25,000 --> 00:13:26,090 They didn't stop you.

299

00:13:26,090 --> 00:13:27,390 You could walk around.

300

00:13:27,390 --> 00:13:30,090 You could do anything you want til you went to work.

301

00:13:30,090 --> 00:13:34,110 You said that, when you came and they counted you, or something

302

00:13:34,110 --> 00:13:36,327 like that, there were about 600 or 700 of you.

303

00:13:36,327 --> 00:13:38,160 Yeah, something like that, I said, because--

304

00:13:38,160 --> 00:13:40,620 That was the number of people who came that day?

305

 $00:13:40,620 \longrightarrow 00:13:41,130$  That day.

306

00:13:41,130 --> 00:13:41,700 That day.

307

00:13:41,700 --> 00:13:42,854

That day.

308 00:13:42,854 --> 00:13:45,870 About how many people were in the camp?

309

00:13:45,870 --> 00:13:46,630 Before?

310

00:13:46,630 --> 00:13:49,230 Altogether, would you say?

311

00:13:49,230 --> 00:13:50,040 I can't say.

312

00:13:50,040 --> 00:13:51,540 Was it a large camp of 2,000 people?

313

00:13:51,540 --> 00:13:52,332 It's a large, yeah.

314

00:13:52,332 --> 00:13:53,350 Yeah, it's large, large.

315

00:13:53,350 --> 00:13:55,170 They didn't came only from our town.

316

00:13:55,170 --> 00:13:57,030 They came from all over.

317

00:13:57,030 --> 00:13:58,190 Men and women?

**31** Q

00:13:58,190 --> 00:13:58,690 Yes.

319

00:13:58,690 --> 00:14:01,280 Men were living on one side, and women

320

00:14:01,280 --> 00:14:02,520 was living on the other side.

321 00:14:02,520 --> 00:14:04,680 Any children? 322 00:14:04,680 --> 00:14:05,920 323 00:14:05,920 --> 00:14:06,780 No. 324 00:14:06,780 --> 00:14:08,280 You could go to the women's side. 325 00:14:08,280 --> 00:14:10,220 But you couldn't sleep very nice there. 326 00:14:10,220 --> 00:14:13,540 Now, I would assume, if there were men and women, 327 00:14:13,540 --> 00:14:16,200 there were husbands and wives, too. 328 00:14:16,200 --> 00:14:16,700 Probably. 329 00:14:16,700 --> 00:14:17,240 There were families. 330 00:14:17,240 --> 00:14:17,910 Probably. 331 00:14:17,910 --> 00:14:18,710 Probably.

332 00:14:18,710 --> 00:14:19,350 Probably.

333 00:14:19,350 --> 00:14:21,210 Did they have children?

00:14:21,210 --> 00:14:22,330 I didn't see no children.

335

00:14:22,330 --> 00:14:22,830 No.

336

00:14:22,830 --> 00:14:25,377 But did they have

children outside the camp?

337

00:14:25,377 --> 00:14:25,960

Did you talk--

338

00:14:25,960 --> 00:14:26,530

We couldn't go out.

339

00:14:26,530 --> 00:14:27,322

We was living all--

340

00:14:27,322 --> 00:14:28,980

--to each other?

341

00:14:28,980 --> 00:14:31,720

When you work in the camp, you could

342

00:14:31,720 --> 00:14:32,970

talk to the other, each other.

343

00:14:32,970 --> 00:14:34,090

Sure.

344

00:14:34,090 --> 00:14:36,460

So were you aware--

345

00:14:36,460 --> 00:14:37,920

now, for instance,

you were single.

346

00:14:37,920 --> 00:14:38,630

Yes.

347

00:14:38,630 --> 00:14:40,050

You weren't married at the time.

348

00:14:40,050 --> 00:14:40,550 Yes.

349

00:14:40,550 --> 00:14:42,450 But others could have been married.

350

00:14:42,450 --> 00:14:44,533 If they were married, they might have been married

351

00:14:44,533 --> 00:14:46,460 and have had children who were not in camp.

352

00:14:46,460 --> 00:14:46,960 Maybe.

353

00:14:46,960 --> 00:14:47,313 T--

354

00:14:47,313 --> 00:14:47,938 You don't know.

355

00:14:47,938 --> 00:14:48,480 I don't know.

356

00:14:48,480 --> 00:14:49,390 I can't tell you.

357

00:14:49,390 --> 00:14:51,950 I know from people what I know.

358

00:14:51,950 --> 00:14:54,330 Those people, who I know from my town--

359

00:14:54,330 --> 00:14:55,060 I don't know.

360

00:14:55,060 --> 00:14:57,000 I was living all the time.

00:14:57,000 --> 00:15:00,210

I know, who is close to me, nobody had children.

362

00:15:00,210 --> 00:15:02,590

And nobody was married.

363

00:15:02,590 --> 00:15:03,090

Oh.

364

00:15:03,090 --> 00:15:04,580

They were all single, your--

365

00:15:04,580 --> 00:15:05,110

Yeah, right.

366

00:15:05,110 --> 00:15:07,760

367

00:15:07,760 --> 00:15:12,390

And you were there for three years.

368

00:15:12,390 --> 00:15:12,890

Yes.

369

00:15:12,890 --> 00:15:14,720

Every day was the same routine.

370

00:15:14,720 --> 00:15:17,137

Every day was the same routine, no day off.

371

00:15:17,137 --> 00:15:17,720

We just went--

372

00:15:17,720 --> 00:15:19,370

And no changes.

373

00:15:19,370 --> 00:15:21,020

No changes.

374

00:15:21,020 --> 00:15:22,790 What do you mean by changes?

375

00:15:22,790 --> 00:15:23,720 Nothing changed.

376

00:15:23,720 --> 00:15:26,390 There was 365 days a year.

377

00:15:26,390 --> 00:15:26,930

378

00:15:26,930 --> 00:15:28,110 You woke up in the morning.

379

00:15:28,110 --> 00:15:28,790 You go to work.

380

00:15:28,790 --> 00:15:29,380 Or you're night shift.

381

00:15:29,380 --> 00:15:29,680 You get counted.

382

00:15:29,680 --> 00:15:30,888 You went night shift to work.

383

00:15:30,888 --> 00:15:31,790 You get counted.

384

00:15:31,790 --> 00:15:33,660 You had your food.

385

00:15:33,660 --> 00:15:36,290 Then-- but only one thing, we got it.

386

00:15:36,290 --> 00:15:41,140 Every time when came a new group,

387

00:15:41,140 --> 00:15:44,570 we got new clothing, good clothing.

388 00:15:44,570 --> 00:15:45,230 Really? 389 00:15:45,230 --> 00:15:47,550 Good clothing-- I mean, not new. 00:15:47,550 --> 00:15:48,945 I mean new for myself. 391 00:15:48,945 --> 00:15:49,670 You understand? 392 00:15:49,670 --> 00:15:51,430 But I don't say new from the factory. 393 00:15:51,430 --> 00:15:54,500 Looks like from somebody, people, from other people. 394 00:15:54,500 --> 00:15:55,400 We got shoes. 395 00:15:55,400 --> 00:15:57,170 We got clothing. 396 00:15:57,170 --> 00:15:57,950 This sounds--397 00:15:57,950 --> 00:15:58,550 [INAUDIBLE] 398 00:15:58,550 --> 00:16:01,340 In terms of what you hear about the camps, this sounds--399 00:16:01,340 --> 00:16:02,030 Yeah.

00:16:02,030 --> 00:16:04,680

But from where did they get this clothing?

400

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.

401 00:16:04,680 --> 00:16:06,230 From the other people. 402 00:16:06,230 --> 00:16:07,440 I don't know from where.

403 00:16:07,440 --> 00:16:09,440 But from where did they get the clothing?

404 00:16:09,440 --> 00:16:09,940 Well, wait.

405 00:16:09,940 --> 00:16:11,990 We didn't work in this clothing.

406 00:16:11,990 --> 00:16:14,480 They gave the other clothing, good clothing--

407 00:16:14,480 --> 00:16:15,803 nice pants, good pants.

408 00:16:15,803 --> 00:16:17,720 And the same thing, like you go into the army,

409 00:16:17,720 --> 00:16:20,560 they give you new uniform, that's it.

410 00:16:20,560 --> 00:16:21,590 civilian clothing.

411 00:16:21,590 --> 00:16:24,410 This sounds much better than what

412 00:16:24,410 --> 00:16:25,922 you hear from the other camps.

413 00:16:25,922 --> 00:16:26,630 Yes, that's true.

00:16:26,630 --> 00:16:29,810 There's some better camps, and some not such a good camps.

## 415

00:16:29,810 --> 00:16:31,550 Did you realize at the time that this

## 416

00:16:31,550 --> 00:16:34,100 was what would be considered a better camp?

#### 417

00:16:34,100 --> 00:16:36,055 No, I realized it was a labor camp.

#### 418

00:16:36,055 --> 00:16:36,680 They needed me.

## 419

00:16:36,680 --> 00:16:37,910 I was working there.

## 420

00:16:37,910 --> 00:16:39,260 They needed.

#### 421

00:16:39,260 --> 00:16:43,790 When new people came in, a new transport came in,

#### 422

00:16:43,790 --> 00:16:44,650 they shipped--

# 423

00:16:44,650 --> 00:16:47,150 the ship went out from the old people.

#### 424

00:16:47,150 --> 00:16:50,090 What were the thoughts of the people, day by day,

# 425

00:16:50,090 --> 00:16:51,590 as they were having this experience?

426

00:16:51,590 --> 00:16:52,548 We didn't know nothing.

427

00:16:52,548 --> 00:16:53,270

We came to work.

428

00:16:53,270 --> 00:16:56,840 Look, I had my portion bread.

429

00:16:56,840 --> 00:16:57,650 I had my soup.

430

00:16:57,650 --> 00:16:58,713 And we came to work.

431

00:16:58,713 --> 00:16:59,380 What can you do?

432

00:16:59,380 --> 00:17:00,290 We had to go.

433

00:17:00,290 --> 00:17:01,780 What can you do?

434

00:17:01,780 --> 00:17:02,900 We came to work.

435

00:17:02,900 --> 00:17:03,572 What do we know?

436

00:17:03,572 --> 00:17:04,280 What can we know?

437

00:17:04,280 --> 00:17:05,960 Did you feel you had enough to eat?

438

00:17:05,960 --> 00:17:07,599 Not enough to eat.

439

00:17:07,599 --> 00:17:09,670 So this is why people got sick, and they died.

00:17:09,670 --> 00:17:12,270

441

00:17:12,270 --> 00:17:17,099 Was that a common occurrence, that a lot of people died?

442

00:17:17,099 --> 00:17:17,640 Yes.

443

00:17:17,640 --> 00:17:18,329

444

00:17:18,329 --> 00:17:20,829 Yes.

445

00:17:20,829 --> 00:17:23,430 What was the difference between people that died

446

00:17:23,430 --> 00:17:25,560 and the people who lived?

447

00:17:25,560 --> 00:17:26,678 Who got sick?

448

00:17:26,678 --> 00:17:28,220 A lot of people got the typhus, sick.

449

00:17:28,220 --> 00:17:29,170 There was no doctors.

450

00:17:29,170 --> 00:17:31,410 You couldn't tell the doctor you're sick.

451

00:17:31,410 --> 00:17:33,050 You couldn't say you got--

452

00:17:33,050 --> 00:17:36,120 they buried you, or they shot you.

00:17:36,120 --> 00:17:37,470 Anybody who was sick got shot?

454

00:17:37,470 --> 00:17:37,710 Right.

455

00:17:37,710 --> 00:17:39,240 If they went in that, they got shot.

456

00:17:39,240 --> 00:17:44,190 And if you got typhus, sooner or later, you have to die.

457

00:17:44,190 --> 00:17:45,150 But let me make clear.

458

00:17:45,150 --> 00:17:48,780 It's different between a concentration camp and a labor

459

00:17:48,780 --> 00:17:49,500 camp.

460

00:17:49,500 --> 00:17:50,820 A labor camp, they needed you.

461

00:17:50,820 --> 00:17:52,800 They need people to work.

462

00:17:52,800 --> 00:17:55,140 They need ammunition.

463

00:17:55,140 --> 00:17:59,900 A labor camp is just waiting for the death.

464

00:17:59,900 --> 00:18:01,990 In other words, they let you work.

465

00:18:01,990 --> 00:18:04,300 For us as you're healthy, as you're healthy.

466 00:18:04,300 --> 00:18:06,330 When you're healthy, they ship you away.

467 00:18:06,330 --> 00:18:08,410 Where they ship you, we don't know.

468 00:18:08,410 --> 00:18:10,532 I don't know.

469 00:18:10,532 --> 00:18:11,740 How many people were shipped?

470 00:18:11,740 --> 00:18:15,030 Were large groups shipped away, or small groups?

471 00:18:15,030 --> 00:18:19,080 No, when they came into 1,000, they took 2,000.

472 00:18:19,080 --> 00:18:20,350 They were going to make an--

473 00:18:20,350 --> 00:18:22,210 they called them an appell.

474 00:18:22,210 --> 00:18:24,980 Then you say, you are, you are, you are, you are.

475 00:18:24,980 --> 00:18:26,720 Then they went out and That's it.

476 00:18:26,720 --> 00:18:28,180 And they put them in trucks.

477 00:18:28,180 --> 00:18:30,520 They took them someplace else.

478 00:18:30,520 --> 00:18:33,220

## Did you ever understand how they selected

479

00:18:33,220 --> 00:18:36,070 the ones who were called out from the appell and shipped--

480

00:18:36,070 --> 00:18:38,250 No. --away and those who were allowed to remain?

481

00:18:38,250 --> 00:18:39,370 They just looked at you.

482

00:18:39,370 --> 00:18:41,020 That's it.

483

00:18:41,020 --> 00:18:43,340 In other words, you went through this for three years.

484

00:18:43,340 --> 00:18:43,770 Yeah, we went through.

485

00:18:43,770 --> 00:18:44,070 Sure.

486

00:18:44,070 --> 00:18:44,768 You stood there.

487

00:18:44,768 --> 00:18:46,810 And for three years, you were not asked to leave.

488

00:18:46,810 --> 00:18:50,330 Well, you passed by.

489

00:18:50,330 --> 00:18:52,540 He didn't like your face, or something like that.

490

00:18:52,540 --> 00:18:53,670 And that's it.

491

00:18:53,670 --> 00:18:55,950 And matter of fact, the head from the camp

492

00:18:55,950 --> 00:19:01,910 was a cripple, a hunchback guy with a dog all the time.

493

00:19:01,910 --> 00:19:02,410 A German.

494

00:19:02,410 --> 00:19:03,910 Yeah, sure.

495

00:19:03,910 --> 00:19:05,160 He was the head from the camp.

496

00:19:05,160 --> 00:19:05,660 Yeah.

497

00:19:05,660 --> 00:19:08,440 And then, the other ones was Jewish inside.

498

00:19:08,440 --> 00:19:13,050 All those things were Jews.

499

00:19:13,050 --> 00:19:15,360 He walked around the whole day with a dog.

500

00:19:15,360 --> 00:19:17,678 And what do they call this?

501

00:19:17,678 --> 00:19:20,220 What they have on the horses, what they're hitting the horse.

502

00:19:20,220 --> 00:19:20,720 A whip?

503

00:19:20,720 --> 00:19:21,235 Whip.

504

00:19:21,235 --> 00:19:22,250 Sorry.

505

00:19:22,250 --> 00:19:23,628 And what did he do with the--

506

00:19:23,628 --> 00:19:24,670 He wanted it, he hit you.

507

00:19:24,670 --> 00:19:25,230 He hit you.

508

00:19:25,230 --> 00:19:26,600 He wanted to tell you, lay down.

509

00:19:26,600 --> 00:19:27,100 He hit you.

510

00:19:27,100 --> 00:19:28,350 He hit you.

511

00:19:28,350 --> 00:19:29,550 He did it a lot of people?

512

00:19:29,550 --> 00:19:30,840 He did it.

513

00:19:30,840 --> 00:19:31,930 For what reasons?

514

00:19:31,930 --> 00:19:32,450 Nothing.

515

00:19:32,450 --> 00:19:32,950 Pleasure.

516

00:19:32,950 --> 00:19:36,220

517

00:19:36,220 --> 00:19:36,720 Crazy.

518

00:19:36,720 --> 00:19:37,850

Did he ever hit you?

519

00:19:37,850 --> 00:19:38,880

520

00:19:38,880 --> 00:19:40,340 For some reason, you were--

521

00:19:40,340 --> 00:19:41,640 That's it.

522

00:19:41,640 --> 00:19:44,010 No, he just-- who take it -- make it .

523

00:19:44,010 --> 00:19:44,910 He got crazy.

524

00:19:44,910 --> 00:19:47,370 He said, today, now an appell.

525

00:19:47,370 --> 00:19:48,940 This is people where they live, where

526

00:19:48,940 --> 00:19:51,511 they was working night time.

527

00:19:51,511 --> 00:19:53,850 Of course, when people was working,

528

00:19:53,850 --> 00:19:56,612 he didn't do that, because people would work night time.

529

00:19:56,612 --> 00:19:59,873 To make an appell, he called to the Jewish kommandant.

530

00:19:59,873 --> 00:20:01,290 To make an appell, he went around.

531

00:20:01,290 --> 00:20:02,520 He said, you are, you are.

532

00:20:02,520 --> 00:20:04,830

If he want to hit you, he hit you

533

00:20:04,830 --> 00:20:07,410 25, 30 times on your behind.

534

00:20:07,410 --> 00:20:08,796

That's it.

535

00:20:08,796 --> 00:20:10,782 Were you nervous there?

536

00:20:10,782 --> 00:20:11,490

If I was nervous?

537

00:20:11,490 --> 00:20:12,420

Were you nervous?

538

00:20:12,420 --> 00:20:16,470

I was, over there,

healthier than any place--

539

00:20:16,470 --> 00:20:18,170 no headache, nothing.

540

00:20:18,170 --> 00:20:21,495 After I came here, right away, I had to eat tranquilizers.

541

00:20:21,495 --> 00:20:24,580 I had six tranquilizers a day all the time.

542

00:20:24,580 --> 00:20:25,830 I live on tranquilizers.

543

00:20:25,830 --> 00:20:27,800

Now.

00:20:27,800 --> 00:20:28,300

But the--

545

00:20:28,300 --> 00:20:29,100 Aspirins.

546

00:20:29,100 --> 00:20:30,630 But then you were able to--

547

00:20:30,630 --> 00:20:32,370 No pains, nothing at all.

548

00:20:32,370 --> 00:20:33,180 No pains.

549

00:20:33,180 --> 00:20:34,600 Do you understand that?

550

00:20:34,600 --> 00:20:36,250 I don't.

551

00:20:36,250 --> 00:20:38,930 No pains at all.

552

00:20:38,930 --> 00:20:43,710 But who got sick, then got sick more so with typhus.

553

00:20:43,710 --> 00:20:45,860 Typhus, this was the main sick.

554

00:20:45,860 --> 00:20:47,680 But I can tell you, for the whole,

555

00:20:47,680 --> 00:20:51,010 it was so many hundreds or thousands of people.

556

00:20:51,010 --> 00:20:52,120 Maybe that one was sick.

557

00:20:52,120 --> 00:20:53,990 I wasn't sick.

558

00:20:53,990 --> 00:20:55,510

And that saved you.

559

00:20:55,510 --> 00:20:59,483

Saved me to work in the camp, so far.

560

00:20:59,483 --> 00:21:01,150

In other words, if you try to understand

561

00:21:01,150 --> 00:21:03,160

how is it that you were able to survive

562

00:21:03,160 --> 00:21:05,200

three years of this treatment, it

563

00:21:05,200 --> 00:21:07,390 was your fortune of good health.

564

00:21:07,390 --> 00:21:09,798

565

00:21:09,798 --> 00:21:10,340

I don't know.

566

00:21:10,340 --> 00:21:12,350

Should I call it

good health or luck?

567

00:21:12,350 --> 00:21:15,920

It depends what you believe.

568

00:21:15,920 --> 00:21:19,100

If you believe in luck, then it's luck.

00:21:19,100 --> 00:21:23,130

If-- look, people are going to work, right?

00:21:23,130 --> 00:21:26,330

Well, it's common one get killed,

571

00:21:26,330 --> 00:21:28,510

but another one, he doesn't hurt them.

572

00:21:28,510 --> 00:21:31,875

So this went on for

about three solid years.

573

00:21:31,875 --> 00:21:33,320

Three solid years.

574

00:21:33,320 --> 00:21:35,060

And you were in the

camp the whole time.

575

00:21:35,060 --> 00:21:36,240

And your brother was

in the camp the--

576

00:21:36,240 --> 00:21:36,380

Yes.

577

00:21:36,380 --> 00:21:37,140

--the whole time?

578

00:21:37,140 --> 00:21:37,690

Same brother.

579

00:21:37,690 --> 00:21:39,230

And he also managed to--

580

00:21:39,230 --> 00:21:39,800

Yeah.

581

00:21:39,800 --> 00:21:40,940

--be there the whole time.

582

00:21:40,940 --> 00:21:43,430

He was sick on typhus.

583

00:21:43,430 --> 00:21:44,450

How did he--

584

00:21:44,450 --> 00:21:45,890 But he didn't go to typhus.

585

00:21:45,890 --> 00:21:48,322 He sweated through by himself and was all right.

586

00:21:48,322 --> 00:21:49,280 He didn't tell anybody.

587

00:21:49,280 --> 00:21:50,720 Nothing.

588

00:21:50,720 --> 00:21:52,580 I mean, some of the prisoners knew.

589

00:21:52,580 --> 00:21:53,900 But they didn't say anything.

590

00:21:53,900 --> 00:21:55,480 Yeah, I know it.

591

00:21:55,480 --> 00:21:56,720 His friends knew it.

592

00:21:56,720 --> 00:21:57,903 The other one didn't know.

593

00:21:57,903 --> 00:21:59,070 And they covered up for him.

594

00:21:59,070 --> 00:22:01,400 They covered up.

595

00:22:01,400 --> 00:22:03,880 So this was until '44.

596

00:22:03,880 --> 00:22:07,120 This was till '44.

597

00:22:07,120 --> 00:22:12,470 Then the Russians start to come closer to this town.

598

00:22:12,470 --> 00:22:15,670 Then they shipped from one place to the other.

599

00:22:15,670 --> 00:22:18,770 And then they shipped me to another camp,

600

00:22:18,770 --> 00:22:20,180 working camp, labor camp--

601

00:22:20,180 --> 00:22:22,530 not concentration camp, a labor camp.

602

00:22:22,530 --> 00:22:24,290 They shipped you to another camp?

603

00:22:24,290 --> 00:22:25,500 Czestochowa was another.

604

00:22:25,500 --> 00:22:26,000 Yeah.

605

00:22:26,000 --> 00:22:27,420 They shipped you to Czestochowa.

606

00:22:27,420 --> 00:22:27,920 Czestochowa.

607

00:22:27,920 --> 00:22:29,470 It was another camp.

608

00:22:29,470 --> 00:22:33,260 This was-- in what

609

part of 1944 do

00:22:33,260 --> 00:22:35,090 you think that this happened?

610 00:22:35,090 --> 00:22:38,630 I think it was almost the end of '44, almost the end, 611 00:22:38,630 --> 00:22:39,410 maybe the middle. 612 00:22:39,410 --> 00:22:47,610 613 00:22:47,610 --> 00:22:50,820 In Skarzysko, you were about three years. 614 00:22:50,820 --> 00:22:51,530 Yes. 615 00:22:51,530 --> 00:22:53,250 In Czestochowa--616 00:22:53,250 --> 00:22:54,510 Czestochowa. 617 00:22:54,510 --> 00:22:55,745 --you were how long? 618 00:22:55,745 --> 00:22:57,060 A few months. 619 00:22:57,060 --> 00:22:58,930 A few months in 1944. 620 00:22:58,930 --> 00:22:59,520 Yes. 621 00:22:59,520 --> 00:23:02,730 So you went in in one part of 1944, 622 00:23:02,730 --> 00:23:04,020 and you went out another part.

00:23:04,020 --> 00:23:04,050

Yeah.

624

00:23:04,050 --> 00:23:05,040 Let me make clear.

625

00:23:05,040 --> 00:23:07,030 I'm not going exactly to the dates.

626

00:23:07,030 --> 00:23:10,590 It's so many years ago, which I can give you no dates.

627

00:23:10,590 --> 00:23:12,710 But approximately, this was a time.

628

00:23:12,710 --> 00:23:13,320 All right.

629

00:23:13,320 --> 00:23:17,310 So you were there for a few months in 1944.

630

00:23:17,310 --> 00:23:18,690 And then they shipped us to--

631

00:23:18,690 --> 00:23:20,760 Was it-- it was either the beginning of 1944,

632

00:23:20,760 --> 00:23:22,220 or the second half of 1944.

633

00:23:22,220 --> 00:23:22,720 Yes.

634

00:23:22,720 --> 00:23:23,160 Yes.

635 00:23:23,160 --> 00:23:23,660 Yes.

636

00:23:23,660 --> 00:23:24,420

Which one was it?

637

00:23:24,420 --> 00:23:26,160 I think it was in the middle.

638

00:23:26,160 --> 00:23:26,660

639

00:23:26,660 --> 00:23:28,200 In the middle.

640

00:23:28,200 --> 00:23:30,170 Is it so important, the month or the date?

641

00:23:30,170 --> 00:23:30,750

642

00:23:30,750 --> 00:23:32,820 I'm just trying to get the picture for myself

643

00:23:32,820 --> 00:23:34,970 to understand what happened.

00:23:34,970 --> 00:23:39,600 And then, later on in 1944, you left Czestochowa.

645

00:23:39,600 --> 00:23:40,980 They shipped us to Buchenwald.

646

00:23:40,980 --> 00:23:41,770 And then you went to Buchenwald.

00:23:41,770 --> 00:23:42,270 Yes.

648

00:23:42,270 --> 00:23:43,560 And in Buchenwald, you were--

649

00:23:43,560 --> 00:23:44,060

I was--

650 00:23:44,060 --> 00:23:44,560 --liberated. 651 00:23:44,560 --> 00:23:45,900 --liberated by the third--652 00:23:45,900 --> 00:23:52,515 653 00:23:52,515 --> 00:23:53,450 The Third Army? 654 00:23:53,450 --> 00:23:54,033 --army. 655 00:23:54,033 --> 00:23:54,950 That's General Patton. 656 00:23:54,950 --> 00:23:55,590 Tank. 657 00:23:55,590 --> 00:23:57,465 Yeah, Third, tank division. 658 00:23:57,465 --> 00:23:58,170 All right. 659 00:23:58,170 --> 00:24:04,740 Now, the number of months that you were in Czestochowa--660 00:24:04,740 --> 00:24:06,900 let's say you were there about a half a year. 661 00:24:06,900 --> 00:24:09,140 What did you do there? 00:24:09,140 --> 00:24:10,650 We wasn't working

too much no more,

00:24:10,650 --> 00:24:13,290

because it was a smaller factory.

664

00:24:13,290 --> 00:24:16,830 We were just waiting, hang around, sitting around.

665

00:24:16,830 --> 00:24:18,600 That's all.

666

00:24:18,600 --> 00:24:20,016 I wasn't working.

667

00:24:20,016 --> 00:24:22,030 A lot of people was working, because it

668

00:24:22,030 --> 00:24:24,430 was smaller factories.

669

00:24:24,430 --> 00:24:26,910 And they didn't produce so much bullets no more,

670

00:24:26,910 --> 00:24:28,740 because it was almost ended, the war.

671

00:24:28,740 --> 00:24:31,110 The Russian wasn't far away.

672

00:24:31,110 --> 00:24:35,182 See, as the Germans ran away from the Russian side,

673

00:24:35,182 --> 00:24:36,140 they took us with them.

674

00:24:36,140 --> 00:24:39,300 They didn't let us stay.

675

00:24:39,300 --> 00:24:41,528

Let's say they came here, close to here. 676 00:24:41,528 --> 00:24:43,320 They took the whole thing to put them here.

677 00:24:43,320 --> 00:24:44,710 They came here, they put them here.

678 00:24:44,710 --> 00:24:45,590 And this is the way.

679 00:24:45,590 --> 00:24:47,730 This is the way it was.

680 00:24:47,730 --> 00:24:49,830 You were transported from one to the other.

681 00:24:49,830 --> 00:24:51,440 Correct.

682 00:24:51,440 --> 00:24:52,225 And--

683 00:24:52,225 --> 00:24:56,320 On trains from the men, and trucks.

684 00:24:56,320 --> 00:24:59,700 The trains was closed up like cattles.

685 00:24:59,700 --> 00:25:02,308 And the food in the second camp, in Czestochowa,

686 00:25:02,308 --> 00:25:04,350 was the same like the first camp, like Skarzysko?

687 00:25:04,350 --> 00:25:04,800 Same thing.

688 00:25:04,800 --> 00:25:05,300 Even less.

689

00:25:05,300 --> 00:25:05,820 Even less.

690

00:25:05,820 --> 00:25:06,450

691

00:25:06,450 --> 00:25:07,650 Yes.

692

00:25:07,650 --> 00:25:08,707 It can't be less.

693

00:25:08,707 --> 00:25:10,290 We got only two slices of bread a day.

694

00:25:10,290 --> 00:25:12,000 But even less, we got.

695

00:25:12,000 --> 00:25:17,860

696

00:25:17,860 --> 00:25:21,670 How do you go through a whole day with having nothing to do?

697

00:25:21,670 --> 00:25:23,470 I mean, everybody was going around.

698

00:25:23,470 --> 00:25:24,040 You wake up.

699

00:25:24,040 --> 00:25:25,000 And what do you--

700

00:25:25,000 --> 00:25:26,020 how does the day go by?

701

00:25:26,020 --> 00:25:27,772 Look, it's not like here.

702

00:25:27,772 --> 00:25:28,480

You're going out.

703

00:25:28,480 --> 00:25:29,260

You have nothing to do.

704

00:25:29,260 --> 00:25:30,635

You're going out

for the Germans.

705

00:25:30,635 --> 00:25:32,230

You miss-- you get bored.

706

00:25:32,230 --> 00:25:33,040

You do get bored.

707

00:25:33,040 --> 00:25:35,790

Just went around, and walked

around, and that's it.

708

00:25:35,790 --> 00:25:36,860

And you spoke to people.

709

00:25:36,860 --> 00:25:38,968

We spoke.

710

00:25:38,968 --> 00:25:39,710

They let you.

711

00:25:39,710 --> 00:25:41,930

Inside, they let you

do anything you want.

712

00:25:41,930 --> 00:25:44,240

And what did you discuss?

713

00:25:44,240 --> 00:25:47,390

Do you remember?

714

00:25:47,390 --> 00:25:49,350

You knew nothing about the war.

715

00:25:49,350 --> 00:25:51,490

No.

716 00:25:51,490 --> 00:25:53,050 What did you understand?

717 00:25:53,050 --> 00:25:58,202 Why were you being shipped from Skarzysko to Czestochowa?

718 00:25:58,202 --> 00:25:59,910 Did you understand that, that something's

719 00:25:59,910 --> 00:26:00,760 going on in the war?

720 00:26:00,760 --> 00:26:01,300 Yeah, we heard it.

721 00:26:01,300 --> 00:26:01,950 We heard.

722 00:26:01,950 --> 00:26:04,385 We heard it, that the Russian coming close.

723 00:26:04,385 --> 00:26:05,640 We heard it.

724 00:26:05,640 --> 00:26:07,610 So the feeling in the camp must have been--

725 00:26:07,610 --> 00:26:08,110 Yeah.

726 00:26:08,110 --> 00:26:09,310 That they're closer--

727 00:26:09,310 --> 00:26:10,170 --that was good.

728 00:26:10,170 --> 00:26:10,400 Yeah. 729

00:26:10,400 --> 00:26:10,983 That was good.

730

00:26:10,983 --> 00:26:13,420 Sure, it was good.

731

00:26:13,420 --> 00:26:15,180 Was that the first good news you heard?

732

00:26:15,180 --> 00:26:18,610 And we was praying every day that the airplanes

733

00:26:18,610 --> 00:26:20,760 should come to bomb the camp.

734

00:26:20,760 --> 00:26:22,690 Would you say that was the first good news you

735

00:26:22,690 --> 00:26:25,210 heard in the few years of the war, that the Russians were--

736

00:26:25,210 --> 00:26:26,460 Yeah, the Russians were near--

737

00:26:26,460 --> 00:26:26,960 --coming?

738

00:26:26,960 --> 00:26:29,680 --because it would be better, because we

739

00:26:29,680 --> 00:26:30,820 knew that they're running.

740

00:26:30,820 --> 00:26:31,870 If not, they wouldn't ship us.

741

00:26:31,870 --> 00:26:32,870 Why do they ship us out?

742

00:26:32,870 --> 00:26:34,580

Must be some reason.

743

00:26:34,580 --> 00:26:35,080

But you--

744

00:26:35,080 --> 00:26:35,510

But we know [INAUDIBLE].

745

00:26:35,510 --> 00:26:36,800

--you received no reports.

746

00:26:36,800 --> 00:26:37,300

No.

747

00:26:37,300 --> 00:26:37,520

No.

748

00:26:37,520 --> 00:26:38,020

No.

749

00:26:38,020 --> 00:26:39,586

You were sealed

off from the world.

750

00:26:39,586 --> 00:26:40,086

Right.

751

00:26:40,086 --> 00:26:41,870

Right.

752

00:26:41,870 --> 00:26:46,800

And then you went from

Czestochowa to Buchenwald.

753

00:26:46,800 --> 00:26:48,590

See, it could be some people--

754

00:26:48,590 --> 00:26:49,990

I don't know.

755

00:26:49,990 --> 00:26:51,760

I just talking for myself.

756

00:26:51,760 --> 00:26:53,938 We was waiting between Polacks.

757

00:26:53,938 --> 00:26:55,480 Polish people was waiting there, too.

758

00:26:55,480 --> 00:26:57,820 Maybe some people knew it from the Polish people

759

00:26:57,820 --> 00:26:58,870 what's going outside.

760

00:26:58,870 --> 00:27:00,710 I don't know.

761

00:27:00,710 --> 00:27:03,160 I don't know.

762

00:27:03,160 --> 00:27:09,880 Did anything of significance, any events, any happenings

763

00:27:09,880 --> 00:27:13,690 take place in any of the camps that you recall very vividly?

764

00:27:13,690 --> 00:27:16,280

765

00:27:16,280 --> 00:27:17,490 Except killing?

766

00:27:17,490 --> 00:27:19,490 What kind of killing are you talking about?

767

00:27:19,490 --> 00:27:21,550 Shooting people or hang them?

768

00:27:21,550 --> 00:27:23,640

They shot people in all the camps?

769

00:27:23,640 --> 00:27:25,095 Sure, everybody.

770

00:27:25,095 --> 00:27:26,720 If you didn't do it, they took you out.

771

00:27:26,720 --> 00:27:29,457 Not in front of you, but we knew they took them out

772

00:27:29,457 --> 00:27:31,040 to the woods, or we took this guy out.

773

00:27:31,040 --> 00:27:33,400 We know this one took five people out.

774

00:27:33,400 --> 00:27:34,370 He took six people out.

775

00:27:34,370 --> 00:27:36,680 And they're shot in the woods.

776

00:27:36,680 --> 00:27:37,970 Every camp was in the woods.

777

00:27:37,970 --> 00:27:40,830

778

00:27:40,830 --> 00:27:42,350 And this was going on all the time?

779

00:27:42,350 --> 00:27:42,900 All the time.

780

00:27:42,900 --> 00:27:46,470

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00:27:46,470 --> 00:27:48,630 Could you ever figure out why certain people

782

00:27:48,630 --> 00:27:50,130 were being pulled out?

783

00:27:50,130 --> 00:27:51,540 Some people would run away.

784

00:27:51,540 --> 00:27:56,820 Some people went close to the wires.

785

00:27:56,820 --> 00:27:57,945 Just for going close to it.

786

00:27:57,945 --> 00:27:58,820 They didn't touch it.

787

00:27:58,820 --> 00:27:59,400 No.

788

00:27:59,400 --> 00:28:00,210 Just going close.

789

00:28:00,210 --> 00:28:01,530 You had to go be away.

790

00:28:01,530 --> 00:28:04,560 If you went close, right away, they shot you.

791

00:28:04,560 --> 00:28:05,180 On the spot.

792

00:28:05,180 --> 00:28:06,060 On the spot.

793

00:28:06,060 --> 00:28:08,880

794

00:28:08,880 --> 00:28:10,530 And this was a daily occurrence.

795 00:28:10,530 --> 00:28:11,930 Daily occurrence. 796 00:28:11,930 --> 00:28:15,430 Sometime two, sometime nothing, sometime three, and sometime 797 00:28:15,430 --> 00:28:15,930 four. 798 00:28:15,930 --> 00:28:19,010 But we heard it, that somebody got shot. 00:28:19,010 --> 00:28:20,645 You heard it, or you saw it yourself? 800 00:28:20,645 --> 00:28:21,360 No, we heard it. 801 We heard it. 802

00:28:21,360 --> 00:28:23,310

00:28:23,310 --> 00:28:24,560 They took us out.

803 00:28:24,560 --> 00:28:26,080 They took them out in the woods.

804 00:28:26,080 --> 00:28:27,080 And then we heard shots.

805 00:28:27,080 --> 00:28:31,190

806 00:28:31,190 --> 00:28:34,150 But they didn't kill anybody in front of you--

807 00:28:34,150 --> 00:28:35,060 No.

808 00:28:35,060 --> 00:28:36,170 --as an example? 00:28:36,170 --> 00:28:37,830 No. 810 00:28:37,830 --> 00:28:38,330 811 00:28:38,330 --> 00:28:38,990 I didn't see. 812 00:28:38,990 --> 00:28:39,980 In other words, they never announced 813 00:28:39,980 --> 00:28:40,850 that they were doing this. 814 00:28:40,850 --> 00:28:41,150 No. 815 00:28:41,150 --> 00:28:41,390 No. 816 00:28:41,390 --> 00:28:41,590 No. 817 00:28:41,590 --> 00:28:42,090 No. 818 00:28:42,090 --> 00:28:42,620 No. 819 00:28:42,620 --> 00:28:47,000 They announced, if you go into the wire, you'll be shot. 820 00:28:47,000 --> 00:28:48,410 They knew that.

If you don't stay in the line

00:28:48,410 --> 00:28:53,810

821

good when you get your portion,

822

00:28:53,810 --> 00:28:56,200 or something like this, you'll be shot.

823

00:28:56,200 --> 00:28:57,200 They pull you right out.

824

00:28:57,200 --> 00:28:57,783 They pull you.

825

00:28:57,783 --> 00:28:59,120 Right.

826

00:28:59,120 --> 00:29:01,347 If you're going-- we had to go across a street.

827

00:29:01,347 --> 00:29:02,930 If you don't stay in line, if you just

828

00:29:02,930 --> 00:29:06,020 move a little bit like you want to run away, you'll be shot.

829

00:29:06,020 --> 00:29:08,720 That's what I said.

830

00:29:08,720 --> 00:29:10,620 But I never-- I heard people got shot.

831

00:29:10,620 --> 00:29:11,840 I heard bullets.

832

00:29:11,840 --> 00:29:13,110 But I never saw any shot.

833

00:29:13,110 --> 00:29:16,070

834

00:29:16,070 --> 00:29:19,310

And this was a daily--

835

00:29:19,310 --> 00:29:21,470 you could say a daily occurrence.

836

00:29:21,470 --> 00:29:22,370 Daily.

837

00:29:22,370 --> 00:29:25,130 Daily doesn't mean it had to be every day.

838

00:29:25,130 --> 00:29:26,670 But I heard it.

839

00:29:26,670 --> 00:29:28,370 And sometimes there were more than--

840

00:29:28,370 --> 00:29:28,700 More, of course.

841

00:29:28,700 --> 00:29:29,100 --just the two.

842

00:29:29,100 --> 00:29:29,600 Is that--

843

00:29:29,600 --> 00:29:30,680 Of course.

844

00:29:30,680 --> 00:29:31,430 It can be a group.

845

00:29:31,430 --> 00:29:32,870 It can be four, five, six.

846

00:29:32,870 --> 00:29:37,070 And this is true for all three camps.

847

00:29:37,070 --> 00:29:39,590 This is just in the two camps.

848

00:29:39,590 --> 00:29:40,390 The two camps.

849

00:29:40,390 --> 00:29:40,970 But--

850

00:29:40,970 --> 00:29:42,167 That means in Starzysko--

851

00:29:42,167 --> 00:29:43,750 --in Buchenwald was a different story.

852

00:29:43,750 --> 00:29:44,100 OK.

853

00:29:44,100 --> 00:29:45,475 Buchenwald was a different story.

854

00:29:45,475 --> 00:29:47,690 So you described what it was like to be

855

00:29:47,690 --> 00:29:49,400 in Skarzysko and Czestochowa.

856

00:29:49,400 --> 00:29:50,290 If they gave--

857

00:29:50,290 --> 00:29:51,373 And they were labor camps.

858

00:29:51,373 --> 00:29:53,260 Not Buchenwald.

859

00:29:53,260 --> 00:29:55,377 In the labor camp, you had a quota

860

00:29:55,377 --> 00:29:57,710 to make so much and so much bullets, and something like.

861 00:29:57,710 --> 00:30:00,920 I didn't have no quota, because I was a electrician.

862

00:30:00,920 --> 00:30:03,710 I went around fixing machines.

863

00:30:03,710 --> 00:30:06,410 If they didn't have it, they took you,

864

00:30:06,410 --> 00:30:08,720 and they gave you a beating.

865

00:30:08,720 --> 00:30:10,582 If you didn't get it two or three times,

866

00:30:10,582 --> 00:30:11,540 then they took you out.

867

00:30:11,540 --> 00:30:15,160 And they'd kill you if you didn't make the quota.

868

00:30:15,160 --> 00:30:18,240

869

00:30:18,240 --> 00:30:18,790 All right.

870

00:30:18,790 --> 00:30:21,150 Now, what about Buchenwald?

871

00:30:21,150 --> 00:30:21,650 OK.

872

00:30:21,650 --> 00:30:26,885 In Buchenwald, we came in, like I say, end of 1944.

873

00:30:26,885 --> 00:30:28,640 It was two camps.

874

00:30:28,640 --> 00:30:31,030 One, they call a large camp.

875

00:30:31,030 --> 00:30:32,640 And one, they would call a small camp.

876

00:30:32,640 --> 00:30:34,520 So if you count the end of 1944, you

877

00:30:34,520 --> 00:30:35,940 were there about a half year--

878

00:30:35,940 --> 00:30:36,440 Yeah.

879

00:30:36,440 --> 00:30:37,020 --until liberation.

880

00:30:37,020 --> 00:30:37,520 Right.

001

00:30:37,520 --> 00:30:38,600 All right.

882

00:30:38,600 --> 00:30:41,630 So what was your life like that half year?

883

00:30:41,630 --> 00:30:44,490 In the big camps, the large camps,

884

00:30:44,490 --> 00:30:47,840 they had all nationalities.

885

00:30:47,840 --> 00:30:48,770 They had Communists.

886

00:30:48,770 --> 00:30:50,930

They had Americans.

887

00:30:50,930 --> 00:30:51,890

In the small camp--

888

00:30:51,890 --> 00:30:52,790

Prisoners of war.

889

00:30:52,790 --> 00:30:54,350

Yes.

890

00:30:54,350 --> 00:31:00,550

In small camp-- the big camps was builded

891

00:31:00,550 --> 00:31:04,420

not shacks, nice buildings.

892

00:31:04,420 --> 00:31:07,760

It's with bricks.

893

00:31:07,760 --> 00:31:11,750

In the small was

shacks, wooden shacks.

894

00:31:11,750 --> 00:31:13,820

And they took out--

it was separate,

895

00:31:13,820 --> 00:31:15,780

with wires, with live wires.

896

00:31:15,780 --> 00:31:17,730

And then, we were sitting.

897

00:31:17,730 --> 00:31:19,480

They took us also to work.

898

00:31:19,480 --> 00:31:20,960

So who was in the small camp?

899

00:31:20,960 --> 00:31:21,520

Me.

900

00:31:21,520 --> 00:31:22,310

Jews.

901

00:31:22,310 --> 00:31:22,810 Only Jews.

902

00:31:22,810 --> 00:31:24,760 Only Jews in my barrack.

903

00:31:24,760 --> 00:31:29,000 You don't know how many were in one as compared with the other.

904

00:31:29,000 --> 00:31:30,600 You don't know anything about numbers.

905

00:31:30,600 --> 00:31:31,545 No.

906

00:31:31,545 --> 00:31:33,920 It's just it was called the big camp, and the small camp.

907

00:31:33,920 --> 00:31:34,420 Small camp.

908

00:31:34,420 --> 00:31:35,320 Right.

909

00:31:35,320 --> 00:31:37,762 Or I would call international camp and Jewish camp.

910

00:31:37,762 --> 00:31:38,970 Oh, international and Jewish.

911

00:31:38,970 --> 00:31:40,700 We called them big camp and small.

912

00:31:40,700 --> 00:31:42,410 And we was in small camp.

913

00:31:42,410 --> 00:31:44,800

They took us, lots of times, to the town.

914

00:31:44,800 --> 00:31:48,770 There was a town-- it was Weimar, not far away--

915

00:31:48,770 --> 00:31:50,510 to clean up the houses, the burnt

916

00:31:50,510 --> 00:31:53,840 houses, to clean up the bricks, to clean up the streets.

917

00:31:53,840 --> 00:31:56,420 And they brought us back--

918

00:31:56,420 --> 00:31:58,820 not every day, but sometime.

919

00:31:58,820 --> 00:32:00,440 But the people--

920

00:32:00,440 --> 00:32:01,760 I had been a couple of times.

921

00:32:01,760 --> 00:32:04,130 People who went outside there was lucky,

922

00:32:04,130 --> 00:32:08,150 because sometimes we saw on the ground a tomato or something.

923

00:32:08,150 --> 00:32:11,320 We picked it up to eat, because we didn't have what to eat.

924

00:32:11,320 --> 00:32:14,570 We just had one slice of bread and water at that time.

925

00:32:14,570 --> 00:32:17,440 There was nobody watching you at that time?

926

00:32:17,440 --> 00:32:18,160 Yeah, sure.

927

00:32:18,160 --> 00:32:19,170 With soldiers, all the time soldiers.

928

00:32:19,170 --> 00:32:19,940 So they watched you.

929

00:32:19,940 --> 00:32:21,670 When you picked up a tomato, they didn't say anything.

930

00:32:21,670 --> 00:32:22,520 They didn't say nothing.

931

00:32:22,520 --> 00:32:23,520 They didn't say nothing.

932

00:32:23,520 --> 00:32:25,130 They didn't say.

933

00:32:25,130 --> 00:32:28,160 But I was so skinny, like a fish--

934

00:32:28,160 --> 00:32:30,935 you know, when you clean up the whiskers.

935

00:32:30,935 --> 00:32:36,620 And if I wiped like this, the whiskers came off.

936

00:32:36,620 --> 00:32:41,510 We was skinny like my arm.

937

00:32:41,510 --> 00:32:44,770 And they took us almost every day--

938

00:32:44,770 --> 00:32:49,270 every morning, cold or hot, they took us again out.

939

00:32:49,270 --> 00:32:51,590 Or they came in with water hose.

940

00:32:51,590 --> 00:32:53,660 They hosed us down, in the winter,

941

00:32:53,660 --> 00:32:57,860 we should go outside to count.

942

00:32:57,860 --> 00:32:59,720 We went out to count.

943

00:32:59,720 --> 00:33:01,490 In the morning, they came around,

944

00:33:01,490 --> 00:33:03,110 everybody from the camp.

945

00:33:03,110 --> 00:33:06,470 And they had-- kapos, or something.

946

00:33:06,470 --> 00:33:12,380 They had to throw out the dead people before the barrack.

94/

00:33:12,380 --> 00:33:14,523 And then they came with the wagon to take away.

948

00:33:14,523 --> 00:33:16,940 Sometimes, the dead people could lay a week, or two weeks,

949

00:33:16,940 --> 00:33:20,360 or three weeks before they took them away.

950

00:33:20,360 --> 00:33:22,850

And if not, they didn't take them out,

951

00:33:22,850 --> 00:33:25,343 they was laying in the bunk, or something like that.

952

00:33:25,343 --> 00:33:29,050

953

00:33:29,050 --> 00:33:32,647 I would assume this was getting towards the end of the war.

954

00:33:32,647 --> 00:33:33,230 Yes, this was.

955

00:33:33,230 --> 00:33:35,745 So the Germans probably weren't as well organized

956

00:33:35,745 --> 00:33:36,620 as they were earlier.

957

00:33:36,620 --> 00:33:38,960 Right, it wasn't.

958

00:33:38,960 --> 00:33:41,310 It was SS around the camp all the time.

959

00:33:41,310 --> 00:33:44,380

960

00:33:44,380 --> 00:33:46,000 Once a while, we heard shooting.

961

00:33:46,000 --> 00:33:50,660 But we didn't know what kind of shooting, who was shooting.

962

00:33:50,660 --> 00:33:52,120 We saw a lot of airplanes.

00:33:52,120 --> 00:33:57,380 And then the few B-5 was not too far away.

964

00:33:57,380 --> 00:33:58,185 You know, the bomb.

965

00:33:58,185 --> 00:33:58,685 The rockets.

966

00:33:58,685 --> 00:34:01,000 Right, not too far away from camp.

967

00:34:01,000 --> 00:34:04,523 It was airplanes, they had planes came to bomb.

968

00:34:04,523 --> 00:34:06,190 Planes would throw bombs up in the camp.

969

00:34:06,190 --> 00:34:09,179 But didn't throw in the camps, but only on the-- it

970

00:34:09,179 --> 00:34:12,148 was plain we were not.

971

00:34:12,148 --> 00:34:14,400 You knew whose planes they were.

972

00:34:14,400 --> 00:34:15,880 Of course.

973

00:34:15,880 --> 00:34:17,840 How did you feel about that?

974

00:34:17,840 --> 00:34:22,120 As I said, it was plain that they should bomb our camp.

975

00:34:22,120 --> 00:34:24,909

00:34:24,909 --> 00:34:26,650 And if they would

bomb the camp--

977

00:34:26,650 --> 00:34:28,929

So you died before.

978

00:34:28,929 --> 00:34:30,889 But they can't have a camp.

979

00:34:30,889 --> 00:34:32,139 You would have been satisfied.

980

00:34:32,139 --> 00:34:32,580

Yes.

981

00:34:32,580 --> 00:34:34,288

If we died before, what's the difference?

982

00:34:34,288 --> 00:34:35,260

You die only once.

983

00:34:35,260 --> 00:34:37,004

[INAUDIBLE] it's over.

984

00:34:37,004 --> 00:34:41,120

985

00:34:41,120 --> 00:34:44,400

So in Buchenwald,

sometimes there was work,

986

00:34:44,400 --> 00:34:45,655

sometimes there wasn't work.

987

00:34:45,655 --> 00:34:47,530

No, we're just hanging around, and that's it.

988

00:34:47,530 --> 00:34:51,045

And when they took you into

Weimar to clean up the houses--

00:34:51,045 --> 00:34:52,139 Houses, yeah.

990

00:34:52,139 --> 00:34:53,540 --that was from the bombing?

991

00:34:53,540 --> 00:34:54,889 From the bombing, yes.

992

00:34:54,889 --> 00:34:57,060 Yes, from the bombing.

993

00:34:57,060 --> 00:35:00,360 They didn't have Germans to do that who lived there?

994

00:35:00,360 --> 00:35:05,220 Why should the German do that if they can get people for nothing

995

00:35:05,220 --> 00:35:05,850 do that?

996

00:35:05,850 --> 00:35:07,470 Yeah.

997

00:35:07,470 --> 00:35:14,217 Now, can you describe-- do you remember the day of liberation,

998

00:35:14,217 --> 00:35:14,800 what happened?

999

00:35:14,800 --> 00:35:16,550 Yes.

1000

00:35:16,550 --> 00:35:18,970 We heard a lot of shooting.

1001

00:35:18,970 --> 00:35:22,350 And the barracks stood not on the ground,

Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

00:35:22,350 --> 00:35:24,760 but foundation, wooden foundation

1003

00:35:24,760 --> 00:35:27,170 you could hide behind.

1004

00:35:27,170 --> 00:35:28,200 We was hiding behind.

1005

00:35:28,200 --> 00:35:31,360

1006

00:35:31,360 --> 00:35:35,340 And then, all of a sudden, we saw tanks coming around.

1007

00:35:35,340 --> 00:35:38,860 And the tanks, right away, went around the whole camp.

1008

00:35:38,860 --> 00:35:42,770 I don't know if there was at the other camp, in the small camp.

1009

00:35:42,770 --> 00:35:44,670 And right away, soldiers went out.

1010

00:35:44,670 --> 00:35:45,550 And they came in.

1011

00:35:45,550 --> 00:35:46,940 Not-- didn't came in to us.

1012

00:35:46,940 --> 00:35:48,857 They came in first in the front, and then they

1013

00:35:48,857 --> 00:35:50,900 walk in, because the first was the big camp.

1014

00:35:50,900 --> 00:35:52,700 And then it was behind.

00:35:52,700 --> 00:35:54,420 And then they came in.

1016

00:35:54,420 --> 00:35:58,000 And a lot of people start to run round.

1017

00:35:58,000 --> 00:36:00,170 They didn't let them go out.

1018

00:36:00,170 --> 00:36:01,130 The soldiers.

1019

00:36:01,130 --> 00:36:02,120 We couldn't get out.

1020

00:36:02,120 --> 00:36:04,110 But a lot of people--

1021

00:36:04,110 --> 00:36:06,680 mostly, the Jews didn't run.

1022

00:36:06,680 --> 00:36:08,420 They stood in one place, mostly.

1023

00:36:08,420 --> 00:36:12,530 The Ukrainian went out, because they was afraid, probably,

1024

00:36:12,530 --> 00:36:15,880 because they was the kapos that did the dirty work--

1025

00:36:15,880 --> 00:36:18,920 Lithuanian.

1026

00:36:18,920 --> 00:36:22,820 And the way I see it, they was the first people.

1027

00:36:22,820 --> 00:36:27,760 I forgive more the Germans than them, because the Germans,

00:36:27,760 --> 00:36:29,840 it was taught them to do that.

1029

00:36:29,840 --> 00:36:30,400 They did it.

1030

00:36:30,400 --> 00:36:31,730 They had to do it.

1031

00:36:31,730 --> 00:36:33,920 But then they did it because they was anti-Semitic,

1032

00:36:33,920 --> 00:36:36,260 anti-Jewish.

1033

00:36:36,260 --> 00:36:37,480 They did the most.

1034

00:36:37,480 --> 00:36:41,450 They do the dirty work for them.

1035

00:36:41,450 --> 00:36:42,830 They gave the orders and--

1036

00:36:42,830 --> 00:36:43,977 That's it.

1037

00:36:43,977 --> 00:36:44,810 -- gave the beatings.

1038

00:36:44,810 --> 00:36:45,980 And then they run around.

1039

00:36:45,980 --> 00:36:48,170 Later on, they caught them.

1040

00:36:48,170 --> 00:36:49,665 But no Jewish people--

1041

00:36:49,665 --> 00:36:51,790 I don't know any Jewish,

because they couldn't run.

1042

00:36:51,790 --> 00:36:54,050 They were sick, anyway.

1043

00:36:54,050 --> 00:36:55,160 Then they came in.

1044

00:36:55,160 --> 00:36:57,710 A lot of people died in the camp, a lot of people

1045

00:36:57,710 --> 00:37:03,730 with the American, because they gave us soup, meat too fat.

1046

00:37:03,730 --> 00:37:04,897 And people got [INAUDIBLE]--

1047

00:37:04,897 --> 00:37:05,522 They couldn't--

1048

00:37:05,522 --> 00:37:06,290 --a lot of people.

1049

00:37:06,290 --> 00:37:06,820 --digest it.

1050

00:37:06,820 --> 00:37:12,030 A lot of people died, a lot of people.

1051

00:37:12,030 --> 00:37:15,530 So what happened after liberation?

1052

00:37:15,530 --> 00:37:17,180 We stood there.

1053

00:37:17,180 --> 00:37:18,790 And then the Russian--

1054

00:37:18,790 --> 00:37:20,000 I think I heard about that.

00:37:20,000 --> 00:37:22,800

The Russians come into Buchenwald.

1056

00:37:22,800 --> 00:37:28,190 So the American asked us, what do you want to do?

1057

00:37:28,190 --> 00:37:31,190 The Polish people went back to Poland.

1058

00:37:31,190 --> 00:37:33,470 The Polacks came, put them on the trucks.

1059

00:37:33,470 --> 00:37:34,610 The Polish Jews?

1060

00:37:34,610 --> 00:37:35,600 No, Polish.

1061

00:37:35,600 --> 00:37:36,500 Polish.

1062

00:37:36,500 --> 00:37:37,460 Me?

1063

00:37:37,460 --> 00:37:38,540 I have nobody there.

1064

00:37:38,540 --> 00:37:41,160 I haven't got.

1065

00:37:41,160 --> 00:37:42,800 They asked me, where you want to go?

1066

00:37:42,800 --> 00:37:44,930 I said, where you going?

1067

00:37:44,930 --> 00:37:47,120

Take me any place.

00:37:47,120 --> 00:37:49,050

So they took me here.

1069

00:37:49,050 --> 00:37:50,810 They took me to Frankfurt.

1070

00:37:50,810 --> 00:37:52,910 In Frankfurt, this was Germany.

1071

00:37:52,910 --> 00:37:58,400 I was there from '45 to '49.

1072

00:37:58,400 --> 00:38:00,290 Then I came here.

1073

00:38:00,290 --> 00:38:02,120 Where did you live in Frankfurt?

1074

00:38:02,120 --> 00:38:03,997 On Hamburg.

1075

00:38:03,997 --> 00:38:04,580 No, I'm just--

1076

00:38:04,580 --> 00:38:05,165 Oh, I'm sorry.

1077

00:38:05,165 --> 00:38:06,790 I want to know, what was the situation,

1078

00:38:06,790 --> 00:38:08,590 in a private apartment?

1079

00:38:08,590 --> 00:38:10,400 A little bit was a little private.

1080

00:38:10,400 --> 00:38:14,150 And a little bit, they put us up in hotels.

00:38:14,150 --> 00:38:17,030 But they had a camp not far from Frankfurt.

1082

00:38:17,030 --> 00:38:20,210 I don't want to go to camp no more, not at a DP camp.

1083

00:38:20,210 --> 00:38:21,140 A DP camp.

1084

00:38:21,140 --> 00:38:21,650 Yes.

1085

00:38:21,650 --> 00:38:24,830 But I was working for the American army.

1086

00:38:24,830 --> 00:38:26,210 What kind of work did you do?

1087

00:38:26,210 --> 00:38:27,470 Kitchen.

1088

00:38:27,470 --> 00:38:28,160 Kitchen?

1089

00:38:28,160 --> 00:38:29,180 Yeah.

1090

00:38:29,180 --> 00:38:30,830 You were an electrician, to begin with.

1091

00:38:30,830 --> 00:38:31,820 Yes.

1092

00:38:31,820 --> 00:38:33,170 And now you were doing kitchen.

1093

00:38:33,170 --> 00:38:34,902 Yeah, it was-- I didn't go look for work.

00:38:34,902 --> 00:38:36,110 I said, I don't need no work.

1095

00:38:36,110 --> 00:38:36,810 I have nobody.

1096

00:38:36,810 --> 00:38:38,120 I don't need no money.

1097

00:38:38,120 --> 00:38:39,460 I don't want nobody.

1098

00:38:39,460 --> 00:38:40,250 I am satisfied.

1099

00:38:40,250 --> 00:38:42,710 I get my soup here, and work in the army.

1100

00:38:42,710 --> 00:38:43,460 And that's it.

1101

00:38:43,460 --> 00:38:46,591 Sooner or later, we'll have to go someplace.

1102

00:38:46,591 --> 00:38:49,690 Now, how did you--

1103

00:38:49,690 --> 00:38:53,690 you were hoping to come to the United States?

1104

00:38:53,690 --> 00:38:55,610 Any place, I would go.

1105

00:38:55,610 --> 00:38:57,560 About four years, it took.

1106

00:38:57,560 --> 00:38:59,900 Yeah.

1107

00:38:59,900 --> 00:39:03,200 And were you trying to do

# something in those four years

1108

00:39:03,200 --> 00:39:05,030 to get out?

1109

00:39:05,030 --> 00:39:06,190 Yeah, I had an uncle.

1110

00:39:06,190 --> 00:39:07,730 And he was working on it.

1111

00:39:07,730 --> 00:39:08,960 You had an uncle in America.

1112

00:39:08,960 --> 00:39:09,830 Yeah.

1113

00:39:09,830 --> 00:39:11,450 And that's how you were able to come?

1114

00:39:11,450 --> 00:39:13,580 That's how I came here.

1115

00:39:13,580 --> 00:39:15,320 Where did your uncle live?

1116

00:39:15,320 --> 00:39:16,550 In Brooklyn.

1117

00:39:16,550 --> 00:39:18,620 And when you came here, you went to his house?

1118

00:39:18,620 --> 00:39:21,620 Yes, I was living in Brooklyn about two years.

1119

00:39:21,620 --> 00:39:23,690 And what happened after two years?

1120

00:39:23,690 --> 00:39:25,550 He had a bakery I was working for him.

# 1121

00:39:25,550 --> 00:39:27,110 And then I got married.

### 1122

00:39:27,110 --> 00:39:29,100 I tried to get a little business for myself.

### 1123

00:39:29,100 --> 00:39:32,270 I was working hard, seven days a week,

### 1124

00:39:32,270 --> 00:39:35,030 six and a half days, 14, 15 hours a day

### 1125

00:39:35,030 --> 00:39:37,310 till I wake myself up and open another business.

### 1126

00:39:37,310 --> 00:39:39,830

### 1127

00:39:39,830 --> 00:39:45,020 And you have one son that I know of.

### 1128

00:39:45,020 --> 00:39:45,850 Yes, one son.

#### 1129

00:39:45,850 --> 00:39:47,110 That's--

### 1130

00:39:47,110 --> 00:39:48,230 Yeah, he works.

### 1131

00:39:48,230 --> 00:39:50,850 And what does he do?

### 1132

00:39:50,850 --> 00:39:56,120 He works for the United States Park department, policeman.

00:39:56,120 --> 00:39:57,960 And he lives here in New Jersey.

1134

00:39:57,960 --> 00:39:58,872 New Jersey.

1135

00:39:58,872 --> 00:40:01,610

1136

00:40:01,610 --> 00:40:02,420 All right.

1137

00:40:02,420 --> 00:40:07,370 So that tells us the story from the beginning of birth--

1138

00:40:07,370 --> 00:40:07,940 Yes.

1139

00:40:07,940 --> 00:40:10,580 --until you came here, and you became

1140

00:40:10,580 --> 00:40:12,000 a father, and a grandfather.

1141

00:40:12,000 --> 00:40:17,020 It's much more different than I explained, much worse.

1142

00:40:17,020 --> 00:40:19,310 And like you saw before, I broke down before.

1143

00:40:19,310 --> 00:40:21,530 I thought I'll never be able to talk to you.

1144

00:40:21,530 --> 00:40:24,040 But it looks like I'm strong now,

1145

00:40:24,040 --> 00:40:28,280 because it's not even a half, not even what I can tell you.

00:40:28,280 --> 00:40:33,155 But I can't tell you everything, just except the details.

1147

00:40:33,155 --> 00:40:35,790

1148

00:40:35,790 --> 00:40:37,740 When you say you can't tell everything,

1149

00:40:37,740 --> 00:40:39,660 about what happened in the camps, you're talking about?

1150

00:40:39,660 --> 00:40:40,160 Yeah.

1151

00:40:40,160 --> 00:40:43,170

1152

00:40:43,170 --> 00:40:44,730 All right.

1153

00:40:44,730 --> 00:40:47,670 I have a few questions to conclude with.

1154

00:40:47,670 --> 00:40:50,280 When did you start talking about the Holocaust,

1155

00:40:50,280 --> 00:40:53,310 and with whom did you talk?

1156

00:40:53,310 --> 00:40:55,050 When I came here--

1157

00:40:55,050 --> 00:40:58,410 we was talking, mostly, since I came out from the camp.

1158

00:40:58,410 --> 00:41:00,750

Of course, I didn't have to talk with the people

1159

00:41:00,750 --> 00:41:03,330 when I was in camp, because they went through.

1160

00:41:03,330 --> 00:41:07,050 And since I came here, I always try to talk in the camp.

1161

00:41:07,050 --> 00:41:08,190 I sleep with the camp.

1162

00:41:08,190 --> 00:41:09,170 I dream with the camp.

1163

00:41:09,170 --> 00:41:11,320 I always talk about the camp.

1164

00:41:11,320 --> 00:41:13,860 In one way, I can never forget.

1165

00:41:13,860 --> 00:41:15,390 I tried to forget.

1166

00:41:15,390 --> 00:41:18,180 I can never forget.

1167

00:41:18,180 --> 00:41:21,500 I was living on tranquilizers since I came here,

1168

00:41:21,500 --> 00:41:26,640 six tranquilizers a day, 5 milligram, headaches every day.

1169

00:41:26,640 --> 00:41:28,910 And I think-- even now.

1170

00:41:28,910 --> 00:41:32,730 And I think that it probably comes from this.

00:41:32,730 --> 00:41:36,660

1172

00:41:36,660 --> 00:41:37,380

I'm a crier.

1173

00:41:37,380 --> 00:41:38,550

I always cry.

1174

00:41:38,550 --> 00:41:41,370

I don't laugh.

1175

00:41:41,370 --> 00:41:44,340

I like to be alone.

1176

00:41:44,340 --> 00:41:46,050

That doesn't bother me.

1177

00:41:46,050 --> 00:41:47,340

I can see hundreds of dead.

1178

00:41:47,340 --> 00:41:49,163

I wouldn't cry.

1179

00:41:49,163 --> 00:41:50,080

It wouldn't bother me.

1180

00:41:50,080 --> 00:41:51,960

You die only once.

1181

00:41:51,960 --> 00:41:55,200

But if I see a

story on television,

1182

00:41:55,200 --> 00:41:58,860

or something that's horrid, or something like this on movies,

1183

00:41:58,860 --> 00:42:01,380

or read something in

the paper, I crack down.

1184

00:42:01,380 --> 00:42:02,610

I can't control myself.

# 1185 00:42:02,610 --> 00:42:05,340 And when you see something-you're talking about that's

1186 00:42:05,340 --> 00:42:06,470 related to the Holocaust?

1187 00:42:06,470 --> 00:42:07,390 No, anything.

1188 00:42:07,390 --> 00:42:08,230 Anything.

1189 00:42:08,230 --> 00:42:11,450 Yeah, but that doesn't bother me.

1190 00:42:11,450 --> 00:42:13,290 In the Holocaust, if I'm going someplace--

1191 00:42:13,290 --> 00:42:15,420 I belong to a lot of organizations--

1192 00:42:15,420 --> 00:42:16,170 I crack down.

1193 00:42:16,170 --> 00:42:17,662 I can't talk.

1194 00:42:17,662 --> 00:42:20,120 But otherwise, somebody-- oh, this one died, this one died,

1195 00:42:20,120 --> 00:42:22,105 three dead, somebody got shot--

1196 00:42:22,105 --> 00:42:22,980 doesn't move me.

1197 00:42:22,980 --> 00:42:26,450 1198 00:42:26,450 --> 00:42:30,330 So it's had a very interesting impact on you.

1199

00:42:30,330 --> 00:42:33,730 Otherwise, I'm very soft.

1200

00:42:33,730 --> 00:42:36,730 How has the Holocaust affected your outlook

1201

00:42:36,730 --> 00:42:40,150 on life and your understanding of human nature?

1202

00:42:40,150 --> 00:42:45,710

1203

00:42:45,710 --> 00:42:47,390 I don't get excited.

1204

00:42:47,390 --> 00:42:50,400 I'm not a happy man.

1205

00:42:50,400 --> 00:42:53,960 I don't care I live I go today.

1206

00:42:53,960 --> 00:42:57,260 I don't [? care ?] if I go, if I don't go, if I sleep,

1207

00:42:57,260 --> 00:42:59,330 I don't sleep.

1208

00:42:59,330 --> 00:43:01,610 I'm not excited.

1209

00:43:01,610 --> 00:43:07,480 The first time I went to see my brother after he went

1210

00:43:07,480 --> 00:43:09,410 to Germany when he was

# in Germany from Israel,

1211

00:43:09,410 --> 00:43:11,640 he was in a kibbutz.

1212

00:43:11,640 --> 00:43:14,606 I hadn't seen him for 25 years.

1213

00:43:14,606 --> 00:43:15,930 I never--

1214

00:43:15,930 --> 00:43:16,730 I went to see him.

1215

00:43:16,730 --> 00:43:18,172 I wasn't excited.

1216

00:43:18,172 --> 00:43:18,880 I didn't hug him.

1217

00:43:18,880 --> 00:43:21,320 I didn't kiss him.

1218

00:43:21,320 --> 00:43:24,430 Like I say, it doesn't excite me.

1219

00:43:24,430 --> 00:43:26,820 That is all my life.

1220

00:43:26,820 --> 00:43:31,020 I don't know if this is from that, but I don't know.

1221

00:43:31,020 --> 00:43:32,840 That's how you're saying it might

1222

00:43:32,840 --> 00:43:34,430 have affected your outlook now.

1223

00:43:34,430 --> 00:43:34,930 Right.

00:43:34,930 --> 00:43:37,220

What about how you view human nature?

1225

00:43:37,220 --> 00:43:40,820 That human beings did what they did during the Holocaust--

1226

00:43:40,820 --> 00:43:41,810 how do you view that?

1227

00:43:41,810 --> 00:43:42,560

They're not human.

1228

00:43:42,560 --> 00:43:45,120

1229

00:43:45,120 --> 00:43:45,870

They're not human.

1230

00:43:45,870 --> 00:43:48,710

1231

00:43:48,710 --> 00:43:49,610

It's a beast.

1232

00:43:49,610 --> 00:43:51,115

It's a tiger.

1233

00:43:51,115 --> 00:43:54,070

If they're hungry,

they eat you up.

1234

00:43:54,070 --> 00:43:56,300

But why?

1235

00:43:56,300 --> 00:43:57,950

I didn't belong that.

1236

00:43:57,950 --> 00:43:59,870 I didn't belong to their party.

1237

00:43:59,870 --> 00:44:03,770

My mother was very religious, was a very religious person.

### 1238

00:44:03,770 --> 00:44:06,470 She went to shul every day in the morning, every day.

#### 1239

00:44:06,470 --> 00:44:07,560 She didn't hurt nobody.

### 1240

00:44:07,560 --> 00:44:08,768 My sister didn't hurt nobody.

### 1241

00:44:08,768 --> 00:44:09,980 I didn't hurt nobody.

#### 1242

00:44:09,980 --> 00:44:11,910 I didn't do nothing.

### 1243

00:44:11,910 --> 00:44:14,510 So how people could do it is something you can't understand.

#### 1244

00:44:14,510 --> 00:44:15,302 I can't understand.

### 1245

00:44:15,302 --> 00:44:21,020 I saw people was hit and they're killed.

#### 1246

00:44:21,020 --> 00:44:23,130 [? Two-- ?] I don't know if he's a rabbi or not.

### 1247

00:44:23,130 --> 00:44:25,250 Here, everybody with a beard is a rabbi.

### 1248

00:44:25,250 --> 00:44:28,601 But over there, everybody orthodox.

### 1249

00:44:28,601 --> 00:44:34,090 And he told them to take off the pants and take a shit.

00:44:34,090 --> 00:44:34,770 He took a shit.

1251

00:44:34,770 --> 00:44:38,710 And then take the shit, and put it on his face.

1252

00:44:38,710 --> 00:44:41,540 So how can you believe about human being?

1253

00:44:41,540 --> 00:44:45,010 How can you believe about the religion?

1254

00:44:45,010 --> 00:44:47,360 And he said, where is your God, and took out the pistol

1255

00:44:47,360 --> 00:44:48,890 and shot him.

1256

00:44:48,890 --> 00:44:50,300 After that, they shot this--

1257

00:44:50,300 --> 00:44:50,800 Yes.

1258

00:44:50,800 --> 00:44:51,780 --this rabbi?

1259

00:44:51,780 --> 00:44:53,570 So how would you believe?

1260

00:44:53,570 --> 00:44:56,550 How would you want to live?

1261

00:44:56,550 --> 00:44:57,050 For what?

1262

00:44:57,050 --> 00:44:59,870

00:44:59,870 --> 00:45:00,860 That's some story.

1264

00:45:00,860 --> 00:45:04,997 How can you believe in a human being?

1265

00:45:04,997 --> 00:45:06,580 And that happened to many communities.

1266

00:45:06,580 --> 00:45:07,760 Human being is like a rat.

1267

00:45:07,760 --> 00:45:13,920 If you let him loose, he's going to bite you, anybody.

1268

00:45:13,920 --> 00:45:17,750 So you have very little faith in human beings.

1269

00:45:17,750 --> 00:45:23,320 Only, only, only, only if the government is with you.

1270

00:45:23,320 --> 00:45:27,450 If the government wants you tomorrow,

1271

00:45:27,450 --> 00:45:29,010 to do the same thing, what they did,

1272

00:45:29,010 --> 00:45:34,170 to you, or the Spanish Inquisition or other pogroms,

1273

00:45:34,170 --> 00:45:38,070 the government change can happen anyplace and everything,

1274

00:45:38,070 --> 00:45:39,000 anyplace.

00:45:39,000 --> 00:45:41,130 In other words, it's not only Germany or Poland.

### 1276

00:45:41,130 --> 00:45:43,210 No, anyplace.

### 1277

00:45:43,210 --> 00:45:48,360 When I was in Poland, I was a citizen.

#### 1278

00:45:48,360 --> 00:45:53,570 They didn't kill my mother because she wasn't a citizen.

### 1279

00:45:53,570 --> 00:45:54,550 That didn't help.

### 1280

00:45:54,550 --> 00:45:56,950 She was Jewish.

### 1281

00:45:56,950 --> 00:45:58,030 I went to school.

### 1282

00:45:58,030 --> 00:46:03,100 They came out, and they threw rocks at me, or snow.

### 1283

00:46:03,100 --> 00:46:07,360 And they say-- what do you call them?

### 1284

00:46:07,360 --> 00:46:09,610 I don't know how to call name in English.

### 1285

00:46:09,610 --> 00:46:14,530 When you got lice, and you had to-- when you get the crust.

### 1286

00:46:14,530 --> 00:46:16,052 Jews have everything like that.

# 1287

00:46:16,052 --> 00:46:17,635

Or they have signs, don't buy by Jews.

1288

00:46:17,635 --> 00:46:22,270

1289

00:46:22,270 --> 00:46:24,370 So what's the difference for you?

1290

00:46:24,370 --> 00:46:27,840 What was the difference between the Spanish Inquisition?

1291

00:46:27,840 --> 00:46:33,350 What was the difference between the Russian by the [? Czar? ?]

1292

00:46:33,350 --> 00:46:36,470 Only human, every human.

1293

00:46:36,470 --> 00:46:40,390 Depends, everything, on the government.

1294

00:46:40,390 --> 00:46:42,040 People have nothing to say.

1295

00:46:42,040 --> 00:46:44,350 It's the government.

1296

00:46:44,350 --> 00:46:47,110 They can throw you out, even how good you are.

1297

00:46:47,110 --> 00:46:49,390 This is the way I feel.

1298

00:46:49,390 --> 00:46:52,150 What should be taught to your grandchildren

1299

00:46:52,150 --> 00:46:54,580 and to American students about the Holocaust?

1300 00:46:54,580 --> 00:46:55,480 OK.

1301

00:46:55,480 --> 00:47:04,250 Special the Jews-- fight. don't sit and do nothing.

1302

00:47:04,250 --> 00:47:05,780 Don't cover up.

1303

00:47:05,780 --> 00:47:06,920 Don't sit on the--

1304

00:47:06,920 --> 00:47:09,740 don't put everything under the carpet.

1305

00:47:09,740 --> 00:47:13,640 Be quiet, everything straighten out, everything be OK.

1306

00:47:13,640 --> 00:47:14,140 No.

1307

00:47:14,140 --> 00:47:16,960 It gets only worse, if you do, right away.

1308

00:47:16,960 --> 00:47:19,480

1309

00:47:19,480 --> 00:47:24,470 But soon, you say, don't shovel the boat.

1310

00:47:24,470 --> 00:47:26,210 You're licked.

1311

00:47:26,210 --> 00:47:27,150 You're licked.

1312

00:47:27,150 --> 00:47:29,540 Not now, maybe not you-- 1313 00:47:29,540 --> 00:47:31,510 your grandchildren, your great-grandchildren,

1314 00:47:31,510 --> 00:47:34,770 because it can happen, and probably will.

1315 00:47:34,770 --> 00:47:37,320

1316 00:47:37,320 --> 00:47:40,335 Look what's going on now.

1317 00:47:40,335 --> 00:47:42,990 Look what's going on here in Germany now.

1318 00:47:42,990 --> 00:47:45,270 50 years ago, and they're living that good life,

1319 00:47:45,270 --> 00:47:47,130 and everything was quiet.

1320 00:47:47,130 --> 00:47:48,060 Soon, they don't live.

1321 00:47:48,060 --> 00:47:50,480 Why do they have an excuse?

1322 00:47:50,480 --> 00:47:51,090 Even here.

1323 00:47:51,090 --> 00:47:53,590

1324 00:47:53,590 --> 00:47:54,090 Even here.

1325 00:47:54,090 --> 00:47:57,510 1326 00:47:57,510 --> 00:47:59,720 You have, all the time, people that work.

1327

00:47:59,720 --> 00:48:01,310 So what's my fault if he doesn't work?

1328

00:48:01,310 --> 00:48:02,435 I don't give them the work.

1329

00:48:02,435 --> 00:48:03,470 I'm nothing.

1330

00:48:03,470 --> 00:48:04,600 I'm nothing.

1331

00:48:04,600 --> 00:48:07,520 So what's my fault?

1332

00:48:07,520 --> 00:48:08,360 Did I do something?

1333

00:48:08,360 --> 00:48:09,460 Did I go rob them?

1334

00:48:09,460 --> 00:48:10,225 Did I kill them?

1335

00:48:10,225 --> 00:48:12,980 Did I take their money from them?

1336

00:48:12,980 --> 00:48:13,850 So what's our fault?

1337

00:48:13,850 --> 00:48:17,010

1338

00:48:17,010 --> 00:48:20,680 Has the Holocaust affected your faith and religious observance?

00:48:20,680 --> 00:48:22,460 Yes.

1340

00:48:22,460 --> 00:48:23,840 Yes.

1341

00:48:23,840 --> 00:48:25,190 Yes, very, very much.

1342

00:48:25,190 --> 00:48:27,790

1343

00:48:27,790 --> 00:48:28,930 You felt that at the time.

1344

00:48:28,930 --> 00:48:33,560 I give charity to [INAUDIBLE],, even I don't go.

1345

00:48:33,560 --> 00:48:34,595 I belong to a a temple.

1346

00:48:34,595 --> 00:48:37,280 But I never go, because if I don't do,

1347

00:48:37,280 --> 00:48:38,290 somebody else will do.

1348

00:48:38,290 --> 00:48:40,450 If not, the faith will die out.

1349

00:48:40,450 --> 00:48:44,250 And this, I don't want to.

1350

00:48:44,250 --> 00:48:50,036 I'm more that the Jews should be nationalistic than religious.

1351

00:48:50,036 --> 00:48:52,105 We get weak because your religion.

1352

00:48:52,105 --> 00:48:53,605

But nationalistic, you'll be strong.

1353

00:48:53,605 --> 00:48:58,460

1354

00:48:58,460 --> 00:49:01,540 Do you have anything you can remember

1355

00:49:01,540 --> 00:49:03,760 of particular significance that you'd like

1356

00:49:03,760 --> 00:49:06,420 to describe before we conclude?

1357

00:49:06,420 --> 00:49:08,332 Describe what?

1358

00:49:08,332 --> 00:49:08,832 [SNEEZES]

1359

00:49:08,832 --> 00:49:09,760 Bless you.

1360

00:49:09,760 --> 00:49:12,180 Excuse me.

1361

00:49:12,180 --> 00:49:16,450 As we are finishing this interview,

1362

00:49:16,450 --> 00:49:19,450 is there something that perhaps you

1363

00:49:19,450 --> 00:49:21,820 didn't tell us about that you want to make

1364

00:49:21,820 --> 00:49:23,180 sure you say it at this time?

00:49:23,180 --> 00:49:26,803

1366

00:49:26,803 --> 00:49:27,970 I don't want to say nothing.

1367

00:49:27,970 --> 00:49:30,630 But I'm going to say, I'm really surprised that I

1368

00:49:30,630 --> 00:49:31,700 didn't break down now.

1369

00:49:31,700 --> 00:49:33,250 I don't know what happened to me.

1370

00:49:33,250 --> 00:49:35,710 When you came in over there, you saw me on the side.

1371

00:49:35,710 --> 00:49:38,060 I thought that I couldn't do it.

1372

00:49:38,060 --> 00:49:38,930 I couldn't do it.

1373

00:49:38,930 --> 00:49:40,090 Well, you did it very well.

1374

00:49:40,090 --> 00:49:42,550 But I was really surprised.

1375

00:49:42,550 --> 00:49:44,140 And then what I have to tell you-- you

1376

00:49:44,140 --> 00:49:45,940 know history, just the same thing, like me.

1377

00:49:45,940 --> 00:49:49,150 Even you didn't see it, but you saw-- maybe

00:49:49,150 --> 00:49:50,830 you didn't see so much.

1379

00:49:50,830 --> 00:49:53,128 You should judge what has to be done.

1380

00:49:53,128 --> 00:49:53,920 You are the leader.

1381

00:49:53,920 --> 00:49:56,850

1382

00:49:56,850 --> 00:49:58,020 And you shouldn't be--

1383

00:49:58,020 --> 00:50:00,859 the first thing, you shouldn't be a part of establishment.

1384

00:50:00,859 --> 00:50:06,610

1385

00:50:06,610 --> 00:50:09,100 And the part of establishment was at that time there Rabbi

1386

00:50:09,100 --> 00:50:11,420 Wise.

1387

00:50:11,420 --> 00:50:12,780 You mean during the World War--

1388

00:50:12,780 --> 00:50:17,137 And maybe people be so active, like the Jews now, they don't--

1389

00:50:17,137 --> 00:50:18,720 Which Rabbi Wise, today's Rabbi Weiss?

1390

00:50:18,720 --> 00:50:19,280

No.

00:50:19,280 --> 00:50:19,520 No.

1392

00:50:19,520 --> 00:50:20,600 The one-- Stephen Wise.

1393

00:50:20,600 --> 00:50:21,240 Stephen Wise.

1394

00:50:21,240 --> 00:50:22,240 During the World War II.

1395

00:50:22,240 --> 00:50:23,460 Right.

1396

00:50:23,460 --> 00:50:28,115 Maybe the people would be so active in our group

1397

00:50:28,115 --> 00:50:30,240 president, which I heard about-- the best president

1398

00:50:30,240 --> 00:50:31,890 in the world.

1399

00:50:31,890 --> 00:50:33,210 You heard about that in Europe.

1400

00:50:33,210 --> 00:50:35,170 No, I heard about it here.

1401

00:50:35,170 --> 00:50:35,670 No.

1402

00:50:35,670 --> 00:50:38,530 Over there, you knew that we had a good president.

1403

00:50:38,530 --> 00:50:39,040 Is that it?

1404

00:50:39,040 --> 00:50:39,660

Yes.

1405

00:50:39,660 --> 00:50:41,085 No, I heard about it here.

1406

00:50:41,085 --> 00:50:41,850 But I was not--

1407

00:50:41,850 --> 00:50:43,950 I didn't mix, that time, in politics.

1408

00:50:43,950 --> 00:50:47,130 But at that time, we had the best president.

1409

00:50:47,130 --> 00:50:48,990 Right?

1410

00:50:48,990 --> 00:50:50,730 A lot of people thought so.

1411

00:50:50,730 --> 00:50:54,160 He came here a ship, with how many people?

1412

00:50:54,160 --> 00:50:56,640 300 people, 400 people, I don't know.

1413

00:50:56,640 --> 00:51:02,740 When I came to this country, I was so patriotic.

1414

00:51:02,740 --> 00:51:06,490 I could kiss every stone on the walk,

1415

00:51:06,490 --> 00:51:09,280 because I didn't know what was going on here.

1416

00:51:09,280 --> 00:51:10,350 It was the best.

00:51:10,350 --> 00:51:12,302 I knew we're going to America.

### 1418

00:51:12,302 --> 00:51:14,650 And when I came here--

### 1419

00:51:14,650 --> 00:51:16,930 and then, when I was working, I didn't have no time.

### 1420

00:51:16,930 --> 00:51:20,710 But when I retired, I belonged to a Jewish center.

### 1421

00:51:20,710 --> 00:51:22,300 And they talked all the time.

### 1422

00:51:22,300 --> 00:51:26,540 We talk now all the time politics, all these things.

### 1423

00:51:26,540 --> 00:51:30,020 And I finded out, came a ship--

### 1424

00:51:30,020 --> 00:51:31,920 few people, old people.

# 1425

00:51:31,920 --> 00:51:34,670 Why are they afraid, spies?

#### 1426

00:51:34,670 --> 00:51:36,140 What are they afraid?

### 1427

00:51:36,140 --> 00:51:37,090 They sent them back.

### 1428

00:51:37,090 --> 00:51:39,430 Why did they send them back?

### 1429

00:51:39,430 --> 00:51:43,350 So where is this--where is the excuse?

00:51:43,350 --> 00:51:46,420 Where is the excuse for those kind of people to come on up

1431

00:51:46,420 --> 00:51:47,920 and say this like that?

1432

00:51:47,920 --> 00:51:48,945 Where is the excuse?

1433

00:51:48,945 --> 00:51:53,010

1434

00:51:53,010 --> 00:51:55,350 Why was it?

1435

00:51:55,350 --> 00:51:56,820 Why was it?

1436

00:51:56,820 --> 00:51:59,700 Maybe he was promising at that time

1437

00:51:59,700 --> 00:52:03,380 they came from Saudi Arabia because of the oil.

1438

00:52:03,380 --> 00:52:05,170 They sent back all the Jews for to move

1439

00:52:05,170 --> 00:52:08,280 to the ghetto to Germany.

1440

00:52:08,280 --> 00:52:09,510 If not, then I'll not BP oil.

1441

00:52:09,510 --> 00:52:10,380 Why was you afraid?

1442

00:52:10,380 --> 00:52:12,930

1443

00:52:12,930 --> 00:52:14,650

Did he make that deal with them?

#### 1444

00:52:14,650 --> 00:52:16,890 So you've taken us from the war time years,

### 1445

00:52:16,890 --> 00:52:18,840 to the postwar years, till today.

### 1446

00:52:18,840 --> 00:52:20,130 Yes.

# 1447

00:52:20,130 --> 00:52:21,720 And with that, we'll--

#### 1448

00:52:21,720 --> 00:52:25,830 Because I'm still a patriot from this country,

### 1449

00:52:25,830 --> 00:52:28,765 because it's the best thing I had, thank God.

### 1450

00:52:28,765 --> 00:52:29,890 I shouldn't say, thank God.

### 1451

00:52:29,890 --> 00:52:32,304 I take it back.

### 1452

00:52:32,304 --> 00:52:34,310 I take it back.

# 1453

00:52:34,310 --> 00:52:34,970 I live nice.

### 1454

00:52:34,970 --> 00:52:40,070 I have a nice family, a middle class.

### 1455

00:52:40,070 --> 00:52:46,070 But on the other part, there's a different side to me,

00:52:46,070 --> 00:52:49,070 because money is not everything.

1457

00:52:49,070 --> 00:52:50,970 Money is not everything.

1458

00:52:50,970 --> 00:52:52,310 You have to live.

1459

00:52:52,310 --> 00:52:55,002 But you don't have to sell your self for money.

1460

00:52:55,002 --> 00:52:58,980 Well, obviously, you've lived through a great deal.

1461

00:52:58,980 --> 00:53:02,270 And you have very strong feelings.

1462

00:53:02,270 --> 00:53:04,380 And you're doing a lot of thinking.

1463

00:53:04,380 --> 00:53:05,270 And the main thing--

1464

00:53:05,270 --> 00:53:06,562 And you've expressed that here.

1465

00:53:06,562 --> 00:53:11,960 The main thing-- you always have to talk about it.

1466

00:53:11,960 --> 00:53:15,110 If you talk about it, you'll remember.

1467

00:53:15,110 --> 00:53:18,440 If you remember your pains--

1468

00:53:18,440 --> 00:53:19,980

if you remember the pains, you'll 1469 00:53:19,980 --> 00:53:23,560 remember you know you have to take a pill.

1470

00:53:23,560 --> 00:53:28,300 And the pill will help you, will do something to it.

1471

00:53:28,300 --> 00:53:31,490 Well, we are trying over here, in a little way,

1472

00:53:31,490 --> 00:53:32,750 to get this recorded--

1473

00:53:32,750 --> 00:53:33,680 And the pill means--

1474

00:53:33,680 --> 00:53:34,680 --and get the reactions.

1475

00:53:34,680 --> 00:53:37,100 --give the young people the pill.

1476

00:53:37,100 --> 00:53:39,980 And this is what we're doing by interviewing you.

1477

00:53:39,980 --> 00:53:41,870 And we want to thank you for being with us.

1478

00:53:41,870 --> 00:53:42,410 OK.

1479

00:53:42,410 --> 00:53:43,922 And we'll share this--

1480

00:53:43,922 --> 00:53:44,880 I'm glad that I could--

1481

00:53:44,880 --> 00:53:46,255

--with your family and with ours.

1482

00:53:46,255 --> 00:53:48,685 I'm glad I went through, I didn't break down.

1483

00:53:48,685 --> 00:53:49,185 I'm very--

1484

00:53:49,185 --> 00:53:49,470 Very good.

1485

00:53:49,470 --> 00:53:50,180 I'm very happy.

1486

00:53:50,180 --> 00:53:52,270 Thank you very much.

1487

00:53:52,270 --> 00:54:01,000