

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:24,960

2

00:00:24,960 --> 00:00:27,540

Good afternoon, I'm
Bernard Weinstein,

3

00:00:27,540 --> 00:00:30,720

director of the Kean College
Oral Testimonies Project

4

00:00:30,720 --> 00:00:33,330

at the Holocaust
Resource Center.

5

00:00:33,330 --> 00:00:37,050

Sharing the interview with
me is Dan [? Gober. ?]

6

00:00:37,050 --> 00:00:40,080

We welcome Aaron Rosenblum.

7

00:00:40,080 --> 00:00:43,290

Mr. Rosenblum, thank
you for coming here.

8

00:00:43,290 --> 00:00:46,080

And would you
begin by telling us

9

00:00:46,080 --> 00:00:49,210

a little bit about
your early life?

10

00:00:49,210 --> 00:00:50,628

Thank you.

11

00:00:50,628 --> 00:01:00,404

When this 1939, September the
1st, I was living in Pabianice.

12

00:01:00,404 --> 00:01:04,825

In the evening we find
out that war broke out.

13

00:01:04,825 --> 00:01:11,290

There was no radios, no
television, no newspapers.

14

00:01:11,290 --> 00:01:13,570

How old were you when
the war broke out?

15

00:01:13,570 --> 00:01:16,450

16

00:01:16,450 --> 00:01:17,500

24 years.

17

00:01:17,500 --> 00:01:25,430

18

00:01:25,430 --> 00:01:31,160

And the next day, this
was Saturday morning.

19

00:01:31,160 --> 00:01:33,410

Hundreds of people,
thousands of people

20

00:01:33,410 --> 00:01:39,080

came to Pabianice with wagons.

21

00:01:39,080 --> 00:01:43,350

A lot of them they
walk, hijacked.

22

00:01:43,350 --> 00:01:47,600

And they tell us the
story of what's happened.

23

00:01:47,600 --> 00:01:51,350

Like 5:00 in the morning
Friday, September 1st, the war

24
00:01:51,350 --> 00:01:53,150
broke out.

25
00:01:53,150 --> 00:01:55,820
After a half an hour,
an hour, half the town

26
00:01:55,820 --> 00:01:59,700
was liquidated with bombs.

27
00:01:59,700 --> 00:02:01,695
People got killed,
laying in the street.

28
00:02:01,695 --> 00:02:05,630

29
00:02:05,630 --> 00:02:09,720
So people start running, and
everybody wherever they could.

30
00:02:09,720 --> 00:02:11,660
Some of them went
to Czestochowa,

31
00:02:11,660 --> 00:02:13,220
was other little towns.

32
00:02:13,220 --> 00:02:16,480
Mostly came, but everybody
wants to go to Lodz.

33
00:02:16,480 --> 00:02:18,530
It's a Jewish
community, a big one,

34
00:02:18,530 --> 00:02:22,070
and they figure out maybe
the war is not there.

35
00:02:22,070 --> 00:02:24,890

Nobody know what's happened.

36

00:02:24,890 --> 00:02:30,890

After this was Saturday,
Sunday, Monday the Germans

37

00:02:30,890 --> 00:02:33,410

was already in Pabianice, too.

38

00:02:33,410 --> 00:02:36,830

But we don't see them in
the city the other way.

39

00:02:36,830 --> 00:02:40,310

Monday morning they
started picking up people

40

00:02:40,310 --> 00:02:42,470

to work, the Germans.

41

00:02:42,470 --> 00:02:44,750

They catch people in the street.

42

00:02:44,750 --> 00:02:46,540

They went into the houses.

43

00:02:46,540 --> 00:02:47,930

They broke open the doors.

44

00:02:47,930 --> 00:02:50,600

They didn't knock on the
doors, they just came in.

45

00:02:50,600 --> 00:02:54,050

Were these just Jews they
were picking or Poles also?

46

00:02:54,050 --> 00:02:55,320

No, only Jews.

47

00:02:55,320 --> 00:02:55,820

Only Jews.

48
00:02:55,820 --> 00:02:59,000
The problem was
the Polish people

49
00:02:59,000 --> 00:03:02,390
showed where the Jews live.

50
00:03:02,390 --> 00:03:05,870
The Germans didn't know who
was a Jew, who was not a Jew.

51
00:03:05,870 --> 00:03:07,510
See, that's why I
said, Polish people

52
00:03:07,510 --> 00:03:10,190
are the worst with the Germans.

53
00:03:10,190 --> 00:03:14,510
They show even in the fact
that we have in Pabianice

54
00:03:14,510 --> 00:03:21,290
the same Polish people work
with us, came in and start--

55
00:03:21,290 --> 00:03:22,700
how they call it--

56
00:03:22,700 --> 00:03:26,720
stealing and taking
whatever they could.

57
00:03:26,720 --> 00:03:28,370
The Jews have no business.

58
00:03:28,370 --> 00:03:31,870
After three days was
no Jewish business.

59
00:03:31,870 --> 00:03:33,370

They took it over
the Volksdeutsche,

60
00:03:33,370 --> 00:03:35,320
they call them Volksdeutsche.

61
00:03:35,320 --> 00:03:39,790
It was a mixture like
Polaks with Germans,

62
00:03:39,790 --> 00:03:42,310
with the marriage and
inter-marriage, whatever it is.

63
00:03:42,310 --> 00:03:47,380
Or maybe their father was a
German, he was a lucky guy.

64
00:03:47,380 --> 00:03:50,200
Because he was a Volksdeutsche,
they call him Volksdeutsche.

65
00:03:50,200 --> 00:03:52,610
I don't know if you
understand what I mean.

66
00:03:52,610 --> 00:03:54,490
He comes from Germans.

67
00:03:54,490 --> 00:03:55,720
He came from German stock?

68
00:03:55,720 --> 00:03:56,410
That's it.

69
00:03:56,410 --> 00:03:59,260

70
00:03:59,260 --> 00:04:04,240
They came another way and
took over the Jewish business.

71

00:04:04,240 --> 00:04:06,325
The Germans needed to work.

72
00:04:06,325 --> 00:04:11,230
It was a lot of destruction
in Pabianice, too.

73
00:04:11,230 --> 00:04:13,180
They throw bombs, too.

74
00:04:13,180 --> 00:04:14,740
We have to clean this.

75
00:04:14,740 --> 00:04:17,615
So they took the
Jewish people to clean.

76
00:04:17,615 --> 00:04:20,440
There was a lot of dead
horses because Poland

77
00:04:20,440 --> 00:04:24,306
didn't have trucks with tanks
too many, whatever it was.

78
00:04:24,306 --> 00:04:27,560
It was a lot of the
buildings was destroyed,

79
00:04:27,560 --> 00:04:29,830
the Jewish people have to clean.

80
00:04:29,830 --> 00:04:34,270
This was going on constantly,
day after day after day.

81
00:04:34,270 --> 00:04:37,340
Was no food, was no bakeries.

82
00:04:37,340 --> 00:04:42,430
Yes was, you're lucky you
find a piece of bread.

83

00:04:42,430 --> 00:04:47,260

But after a few weeks start
to straighten up a little bit.

84

00:04:47,260 --> 00:04:51,730

The Germans opened
up some bakeries,

85

00:04:51,730 --> 00:04:53,770

they open up some groceries.

86

00:04:53,770 --> 00:04:57,580

By mean groceries, you could go
and buy if you have the money.

87

00:04:57,580 --> 00:05:00,910

It was mostly a black market.

88

00:05:00,910 --> 00:05:03,760

People starved.

89

00:05:03,760 --> 00:05:07,030

No schools, especially
for Jews was no schools.

90

00:05:07,030 --> 00:05:09,970

There was no public school
for Jews, there was no cheder,

91

00:05:09,970 --> 00:05:11,230

there was nothing.

92

00:05:11,230 --> 00:05:13,930

If you want to make a cheder
you have to do it in a house,

93

00:05:13,930 --> 00:05:17,630

like you take together in
a few houses the children.

94

00:05:17,630 --> 00:05:20,530

There was a lot

of kids in Poland

95

00:05:20,530 --> 00:05:22,420

Jewish people have
a lot of children.

96

00:05:22,420 --> 00:05:24,250

Excuse me, at the time
the war broke out,

97

00:05:24,250 --> 00:05:25,780

what was your occupation?

98

00:05:25,780 --> 00:05:27,820

I told you, we have
a manufacturing

99

00:05:27,820 --> 00:05:31,000

in Pabianice in the city.

100

00:05:31,000 --> 00:05:32,110

Manufacturing what?

101

00:05:32,110 --> 00:05:32,920

Clothing.

102

00:05:32,920 --> 00:05:33,430

Clothing.

103

00:05:33,430 --> 00:05:34,810

Yeah, the material.

104

00:05:34,810 --> 00:05:37,340

105

00:05:37,340 --> 00:05:40,230

I was working there
in this factory.

106

00:05:40,230 --> 00:05:45,260

We have maybe about
80 people working.

107
00:05:45,260 --> 00:05:46,910
It was some Jewish
people, mostly

108
00:05:46,910 --> 00:05:48,650
it was non-Jewish people.

109
00:05:48,650 --> 00:05:50,900
When the Jewish people have--

110
00:05:50,900 --> 00:05:54,350
when somebody has
a factory in Europe

111
00:05:54,350 --> 00:05:59,210
he has a lot of Gentiles
working, because it

112
00:05:59,210 --> 00:06:01,340
was more of a Gentile for this.

113
00:06:01,340 --> 00:06:05,840
And it was a nice living,
they make a nice living.

114
00:06:05,840 --> 00:06:09,350
And when after the war broke out
you didn't open up the factory

115
00:06:09,350 --> 00:06:09,970
no more.

116
00:06:09,970 --> 00:06:11,800
It was finished.

117
00:06:11,800 --> 00:06:15,500
A week later, somebody
was dead already.

118
00:06:15,500 --> 00:06:18,590
Volksdeutsche on a

German and took it over.

119

00:06:18,590 --> 00:06:21,290

You couldn't go near that.

120

00:06:21,290 --> 00:06:23,730

You have nothing to say.

121

00:06:23,730 --> 00:06:26,270

So what's happened, even
the rich people the next day

122

00:06:26,270 --> 00:06:29,560

was a poor guy.

123

00:06:29,560 --> 00:06:32,620

He has to sell the people
who sold the clothes,

124

00:06:32,620 --> 00:06:35,530

people sold the diamonds,
whatever they have,

125

00:06:35,530 --> 00:06:39,340

some valuable stuff to go
to buy in the black market

126

00:06:39,340 --> 00:06:41,480

piece of bread or
whatever or potatoes.

127

00:06:41,480 --> 00:06:44,320

128

00:06:44,320 --> 00:06:46,020

And this was going on.

129

00:06:46,020 --> 00:06:50,370

And the worst problem was they
took every day Jewish people

130

00:06:50,370 --> 00:06:52,800

to work.

131

00:06:52,800 --> 00:06:56,730

Beating you, hitting you
over the head, no food.

132

00:06:56,730 --> 00:06:59,250

You didn't get a
sandwich on the job.

133

00:06:59,250 --> 00:07:02,490

You worked 12, 14
hours, you dead tired

134

00:07:02,490 --> 00:07:07,990

and then you have to
go home with a group.

135

00:07:07,990 --> 00:07:11,080

You want to walk,
after a month too you

136

00:07:11,080 --> 00:07:13,240

have to wear a swastika.

137

00:07:13,240 --> 00:07:16,730

They called-- not a swastika,
I mean, a Magen David.

138

00:07:16,730 --> 00:07:18,280

The Jewish star.

139

00:07:18,280 --> 00:07:24,670

Star or some of them got it
on their arm, a white band.

140

00:07:24,670 --> 00:07:28,660

Evening was a curfew,
you couldn't go out

141

00:07:28,660 --> 00:07:30,340

no more til 5:00, 6:00.

142

00:07:30,340 --> 00:07:33,810

At night you have
to be in the house.

143

00:07:33,810 --> 00:07:38,230

This was going on
and on until they

144

00:07:38,230 --> 00:07:42,400

started to liquidate Pabianice.

145

00:07:42,400 --> 00:07:45,250

How long did it take before
they started liquidating?

146

00:07:45,250 --> 00:07:51,100

Pabianice was lucky, it was
1939, 1940, end of 1940,

147

00:07:51,100 --> 00:07:55,120

'41 they liquidate Pabianice.

148

00:07:55,120 --> 00:07:58,360

They liquidate every day
a different little town.

149

00:07:58,360 --> 00:08:03,910

There was a lot of towns was
only living 500 Jews, 300 Jews.

150

00:08:03,910 --> 00:08:06,190

There was the worst
things happened.

151

00:08:06,190 --> 00:08:09,310

And how were you yourself
getting along during this time?

152

00:08:09,310 --> 00:08:10,850

How were you--

153

00:08:10,850 --> 00:08:12,220

Well I was--

154

00:08:12,220 --> 00:08:13,540

Just--

155

00:08:13,540 --> 00:08:17,110

I went-- I tried to hide
myself not to go to work.

156

00:08:17,110 --> 00:08:19,270

You asking hiding?

157

00:08:19,270 --> 00:08:20,530

There was no name.

158

00:08:20,530 --> 00:08:21,910

We have no names.

159

00:08:21,910 --> 00:08:23,080

Just the number?

160

00:08:23,080 --> 00:08:24,730

Well, numbers was later.

161

00:08:24,730 --> 00:08:28,600

But they come in, they
usually the Volksdeutsche.

162

00:08:28,600 --> 00:08:32,590

The Polish people, they
come from the Germans thing,

163

00:08:32,590 --> 00:08:34,480

they show where Jews living.

164

00:08:34,480 --> 00:08:37,450

The German didn't know that
you live here a Jewish guy.

165

00:08:37,450 --> 00:08:40,840

He just came yesterday,
before yesterday.

166

00:08:40,840 --> 00:08:44,350

So the Polish people showed
where the Jews living.

167

00:08:44,350 --> 00:08:49,360

And mostly was the victim the
rich Jews, they was the victim.

168

00:08:49,360 --> 00:08:53,770

After a month they
come with trucks

169

00:08:53,770 --> 00:08:55,720

and they took out
everything from your house.

170

00:08:55,720 --> 00:09:00,070

If you have a store they
took everything out.

171

00:09:00,070 --> 00:09:03,672

If you have a
silver candelabras,

172

00:09:03,672 --> 00:09:07,030

or you have jewelry
you have to give them.

173

00:09:07,030 --> 00:09:09,620

174

00:09:09,620 --> 00:09:11,000

You have to give them.

175

00:09:11,000 --> 00:09:13,040

See, in large what
they did, they

176

00:09:13,040 --> 00:09:19,450

open up a special office
they're calling the [GERMAN]..

177

00:09:19,450 --> 00:09:22,130

This was a German
word, [GERMAN]..

178

00:09:22,130 --> 00:09:25,070

This is the [GERMAN].

179

00:09:25,070 --> 00:09:30,680

This was a special place where
they find out who was rich,

180

00:09:30,680 --> 00:09:33,980

they picked them up in
the middle of the night

181

00:09:33,980 --> 00:09:40,040

or in the morning, and they
took them to this place.

182

00:09:40,040 --> 00:09:43,040

Before he walked into the
place they beat him up,

183

00:09:43,040 --> 00:09:46,880

and they knocked his
teeth out or his eyes out.

184

00:09:46,880 --> 00:09:50,960

And then they told him
where is your jewelry?

185

00:09:50,960 --> 00:09:53,030

Where is your fur coat?

186

00:09:53,030 --> 00:09:54,530

Where is this?

187

00:09:54,530 --> 00:09:56,120

Some people didn't have.

188

00:09:56,120 --> 00:09:58,040

They beat them until death.

189
00:09:58,040 --> 00:09:59,600
I was in the [GERMAN].

190
00:09:59,600 --> 00:10:01,730
I got beaten up.

191
00:10:01,730 --> 00:10:06,920
You ask me how I come out
alive, I was almost half dead.

192
00:10:06,920 --> 00:10:08,180
I gave them what I have.

193
00:10:08,180 --> 00:10:11,090
I have nothing, and
I give him nothing.

194
00:10:11,090 --> 00:10:16,010
When they liquidate the cities
you couldn't take with you

195
00:10:16,010 --> 00:10:19,340
nothing, just what you wear.

196
00:10:19,340 --> 00:10:22,040
I survive.

197
00:10:22,040 --> 00:10:27,820
Then from Lodz I
couldn't stay long.

198
00:10:27,820 --> 00:10:30,550
I signed myself up I
want to go to work.

199
00:10:30,550 --> 00:10:32,060
There was no food.

200
00:10:32,060 --> 00:10:34,480
There was nothing.

201

00:10:34,480 --> 00:10:37,640

I went to work in a little--

202

00:10:37,640 --> 00:10:42,120

was like a little factory there.

203

00:10:42,120 --> 00:10:48,470

They call it Dombrowa,
between Lodz and Pabianice.

204

00:10:48,470 --> 00:10:50,150

And this was
nothing, it was just

205

00:10:50,150 --> 00:10:54,875

an empty building where
they brought us 180 people.

206

00:10:54,875 --> 00:10:59,570

There was no dishes, was
no food, was nothing.

207

00:10:59,570 --> 00:11:04,130

They say you have to
make yourself beds

208

00:11:04,130 --> 00:11:06,485

and build a stove to cook.

209

00:11:06,485 --> 00:11:10,940

And they say the next day we
bring you something to eat.

210

00:11:10,940 --> 00:11:14,450

They brought something
to eat, from the clothes.

211

00:11:14,450 --> 00:11:16,940

What came in while they
brought the beginning

212

00:11:16,940 --> 00:11:21,590

something from Lodz, like a
piece of bread, they make soup.

213
00:11:21,590 --> 00:11:24,680
They make soup from
leaves and hot water.

214
00:11:24,680 --> 00:11:25,760
This was the soup.

215
00:11:25,760 --> 00:11:30,500

216
00:11:30,500 --> 00:11:36,110
After five, six days they
start to come in trucks.

217
00:11:36,110 --> 00:11:39,470
After we build up
ourselves beds, from wood.

218
00:11:39,470 --> 00:11:44,570
We make ourselves
two by fours, and we

219
00:11:44,570 --> 00:11:46,860
make ourselves to lay down.

220
00:11:46,860 --> 00:11:50,840
We work very hard to put
together this for nothing,

221
00:11:50,840 --> 00:11:51,650
like a desert.

222
00:11:51,650 --> 00:11:55,650
They was coming in
trucks, and they

223
00:11:55,650 --> 00:11:58,070
tell us to unload the trucks.

224

00:11:58,070 --> 00:12:01,130

The trucks was
packed in packages,

225

00:12:01,130 --> 00:12:05,000

I told you, like
little packages.

226

00:12:05,000 --> 00:12:11,017

We could see there was people
was gassed in the automobiles,

227

00:12:11,017 --> 00:12:12,350

and they-- how do you call them?

228

00:12:12,350 --> 00:12:12,910

The mobiles.

229

00:12:12,910 --> 00:12:13,410

Vans.

230

00:12:13,410 --> 00:12:18,100

The van, it was mostly
was scared the smell

231

00:12:18,100 --> 00:12:21,620

from the gas burned.

232

00:12:21,620 --> 00:12:27,590

And we have to unpack this,
and looking for jewelry.

233

00:12:27,590 --> 00:12:29,060

Well, we find it there.

234

00:12:29,060 --> 00:12:32,030

We find it there, diamond
rings, we find watches.

235

00:12:32,030 --> 00:12:39,280

We find it and something,
bracelets, behind silver,

236

00:12:39,280 --> 00:12:40,910
something, people over there.

237

00:12:40,910 --> 00:12:43,880
When they went to the
vent when they gassed them

238

00:12:43,880 --> 00:12:48,710
some people took with them
like he has a silver watch

239

00:12:48,710 --> 00:12:50,960
or whatever it is.

240

00:12:50,960 --> 00:12:52,710
And we start unpacking this.

241

00:12:52,710 --> 00:12:55,270
We find food in
the packages, too.

242

00:12:55,270 --> 00:12:59,785
People didn't know this
they're going to be gassed.

243

00:12:59,785 --> 00:13:02,150
The food even was gassed.

244

00:13:02,150 --> 00:13:04,210
We ate this.

245

00:13:04,210 --> 00:13:05,870
It was hungry.

246

00:13:05,870 --> 00:13:09,020
The bread was like
toast, the bread

247

00:13:09,020 --> 00:13:11,330
was toast, let's put this way.

248

00:13:11,330 --> 00:13:13,520

Did they allow you
to eat this food?

249

00:13:13,520 --> 00:13:14,640

They didn't care.

250

00:13:14,640 --> 00:13:16,520

It was what they
took, they didn't

251

00:13:16,520 --> 00:13:20,360

care what we did, couldn't care
if we eat the dirt so long they

252

00:13:20,360 --> 00:13:21,410

don't have to give us.

253

00:13:21,410 --> 00:13:26,790

We have to take every jacket,
every pants, and take it apart.

254

00:13:26,790 --> 00:13:31,430

We take off, usually we find a
lot of money in the shoulders.

255

00:13:31,430 --> 00:13:33,950

And the packages
inside, and they pack it

256

00:13:33,950 --> 00:13:36,470

inside the clothes.

257

00:13:36,470 --> 00:13:37,790

We find in shoes.

258

00:13:37,790 --> 00:13:41,090

We have to break each shoe,
we have to rip in pieces.

259

00:13:41,090 --> 00:13:43,078

We find in the sole--

260

00:13:43,078 --> 00:13:44,120

how they're calling this?

261

00:13:44,120 --> 00:13:44,620

Heel?

262

00:13:44,620 --> 00:13:49,550

In the heels, we find

jewelry, we find dollars.

263

00:13:49,550 --> 00:13:52,610

We find different kind of money.

264

00:13:52,610 --> 00:13:55,610

This was-- we was working,

and this was coming

265

00:13:55,610 --> 00:13:57,830

every day, a lot of trucks.

266

00:13:57,830 --> 00:14:02,540

It was piled up to

the sky, the clothing.

267

00:14:02,540 --> 00:14:06,830

We couldn't open up so fast

how the trucks was coming in.

268

00:14:06,830 --> 00:14:09,680

Was there somebody that you

had to hand this over to?

269

00:14:09,680 --> 00:14:10,850

The jewels and the--

270

00:14:10,850 --> 00:14:11,690

Yes.

271

00:14:11,690 --> 00:14:16,910

They make us put a pail,

each group, they make us.

272

00:14:16,910 --> 00:14:19,430

Each group was
sitting 10 people.

273

00:14:19,430 --> 00:14:25,800

They make us sitting around
10 people on the deck outside.

274

00:14:25,800 --> 00:14:28,350

It was a big-- lots of land.

275

00:14:28,350 --> 00:14:32,730

When it was raining
we didn't work.

276

00:14:32,730 --> 00:14:34,990

We have to do something else.

277

00:14:34,990 --> 00:14:40,710

But mostly because the SS
was wire around all over.

278

00:14:40,710 --> 00:14:45,690

The SS was going around
like they was watching us.

279

00:14:45,690 --> 00:14:49,620

And every couple
hours if the pail

280

00:14:49,620 --> 00:14:53,130

was full with the
jewelry, whatever we have,

281

00:14:53,130 --> 00:14:56,400

we have to bring in it was
an office there with a Nazi

282

00:14:56,400 --> 00:14:58,380

sitting there.

283

00:14:58,380 --> 00:15:03,660

I remember his name, Mayer.

284

00:15:03,660 --> 00:15:06,480

Mayer, this was his
name, M-A-Y-E-R, a Nazi.

285

00:15:06,480 --> 00:15:09,010

286

00:15:09,010 --> 00:15:11,610

He was beaten us to death.

287

00:15:11,610 --> 00:15:14,790

Even if you bring in the
jewelry, he beating you.

288

00:15:14,790 --> 00:15:17,565

This was their trick,
to scare us the death.

289

00:15:17,565 --> 00:15:20,197

See, we were all was behind us.

290

00:15:20,197 --> 00:15:21,280

You know what's behind me?

291

00:15:21,280 --> 00:15:22,620

We don't know what's going on.

292

00:15:22,620 --> 00:15:24,780

Everybody lost their mind.

293

00:15:24,780 --> 00:15:31,560

After doing with us all of a
sudden, nobody was a human.

294

00:15:31,560 --> 00:15:35,820

They never worked in
you, nobody was human.

295

00:15:35,820 --> 00:15:37,950

You say you were

surrounded by wire.

296

00:15:37,950 --> 00:15:39,570

Was this wire electrified?

297

00:15:39,570 --> 00:15:42,960

No, there was wire
around the whole factory.

298

00:15:42,960 --> 00:15:43,650

The building.

299

00:15:43,650 --> 00:15:44,430

Barbed wire?

300

00:15:44,430 --> 00:15:45,780

Barbed wire.

301

00:15:45,780 --> 00:15:51,900

And the Germans was going around
maybe five, six all the time.

302

00:15:51,900 --> 00:15:53,670

You couldn't do it
anyway with the money

303

00:15:53,670 --> 00:15:57,930

because you didn't go up.

304

00:15:57,930 --> 00:16:02,640

I tried to do it, I buried a lot
of the jewelry in the ground.

305

00:16:02,640 --> 00:16:04,740

Well, everybody did.

306

00:16:04,740 --> 00:16:07,680

We never find it because
we never went back.

307

00:16:07,680 --> 00:16:11,880

We tried to destroy what we can

just the Germans doesn't get.

308
00:16:11,880 --> 00:16:15,810
You couldn't buy nothing
with the money anyway.

309
00:16:15,810 --> 00:16:18,570
You couldn't go out.

310
00:16:18,570 --> 00:16:21,630
Every two weeks they
took us for that shower.

311
00:16:21,630 --> 00:16:28,890
We went from this, we
went back behind Pabianice

312
00:16:28,890 --> 00:16:33,230
because it between Lodz and
Pabianice, every two weeks.

313
00:16:33,230 --> 00:16:36,270
We had that, everybody
head full of lice.

314
00:16:36,270 --> 00:16:39,760

315
00:16:39,760 --> 00:16:43,390
Took us for a shower, and
they took us for a steam.

316
00:16:43,390 --> 00:16:47,500
So what's happened, we
took out the clothes.

317
00:16:47,500 --> 00:16:52,510
We have to put the clothes
in hot steam, dry steam,

318
00:16:52,510 --> 00:16:54,010
and we went in for the showers.

319

00:16:54,010 --> 00:16:58,630

When we came back,
so the germs--

320

00:16:58,630 --> 00:17:01,060

the bugs was killed.

321

00:17:01,060 --> 00:17:04,089

And they took us back
home every two weeks.

322

00:17:04,089 --> 00:17:05,380

They didn't do it for us.

323

00:17:05,380 --> 00:17:08,589

They was afraid they're
going to get typhus and sick.

324

00:17:08,589 --> 00:17:12,010

They tried to protect them.

325

00:17:12,010 --> 00:17:15,579

What longer was staying there,
more food we have to eat.

326

00:17:15,579 --> 00:17:17,470

We have a lot of food.

327

00:17:17,470 --> 00:17:21,459

And the food was coming from
the dead people, what they have

328

00:17:21,459 --> 00:17:23,920

in their packages, and we ate.

329

00:17:23,920 --> 00:17:27,490

330

00:17:27,490 --> 00:17:33,400

Then they start to bring in
from as later on they got happy.

331

00:17:33,400 --> 00:17:37,930

After a year they've
got a 400 kilo

332

00:17:37,930 --> 00:17:42,160

gold from us, 400 kilo gold.

333

00:17:42,160 --> 00:17:44,800

That means 800 pounds of gold.

334

00:17:44,800 --> 00:17:47,170

How you know we find out?

335

00:17:47,170 --> 00:17:52,220

This gold went to
Lodz, a special place.

336

00:17:52,220 --> 00:17:54,760

The Germans stole runaway.

337

00:17:54,760 --> 00:17:57,430

Every day they took in
they package, the diamonds,

338

00:17:57,430 --> 00:17:59,840

the gold, whatever they could.

339

00:17:59,840 --> 00:18:04,300

What they have it was once
a week was coming a truck

340

00:18:04,300 --> 00:18:07,180

with food for us.

341

00:18:07,180 --> 00:18:13,730

Some meat, some whatever soap,
the canned dry soup, and they

342

00:18:13,730 --> 00:18:14,980

make us soup.

343

00:18:14,980 --> 00:18:19,540
We have a kitchen, we built
everything from nothing.

344
00:18:19,540 --> 00:18:22,180
We find and we come back
to Lodz after I told you

345
00:18:22,180 --> 00:18:23,970
we liquidate half--

346
00:18:23,970 --> 00:18:25,390
the liquidation Dombrowa.

347
00:18:25,390 --> 00:18:31,480
Half went to the gas
chamber, and the other half

348
00:18:31,480 --> 00:18:35,980
we stay another few days, and
they took us back to Lodz.

349
00:18:35,980 --> 00:18:41,170
When I come back to
Lodz I want to work.

350
00:18:41,170 --> 00:18:43,450
Well, no work in
Lodz, is no food.

351
00:18:43,450 --> 00:18:47,390
You don't work, you
didn't get food.

352
00:18:47,390 --> 00:18:49,885
So I was a fireman.

353
00:18:49,885 --> 00:18:52,630
I want to be a fireman--
whatever they told me,

354
00:18:52,630 --> 00:18:53,800
I want to be a fireman.

355
00:18:53,800 --> 00:18:55,480
Why a fireman?

356
00:18:55,480 --> 00:18:58,920
I was young, and
they looked you up.

357
00:18:58,920 --> 00:19:00,550
They don't just give you a job.

358
00:19:00,550 --> 00:19:02,380
They looked how
you look, if you're

359
00:19:02,380 --> 00:19:07,660
good to go in a straw sort they
calling like, working with--

360
00:19:07,660 --> 00:19:11,530
see, in Lodz they're
making shoes, the big boots

361
00:19:11,530 --> 00:19:14,340
for the Germans and straw.

362
00:19:14,340 --> 00:19:18,160
Or they make from clothes
they make the hats.

363
00:19:18,160 --> 00:19:22,420
And some people attended there,
only the people can work.

364
00:19:22,420 --> 00:19:23,740
But you didn't work long.

365
00:19:23,740 --> 00:19:27,820
After a few weeks working the
factory in Lodz you got sick.

366
00:19:27,820 --> 00:19:29,680

Well, they don't feed you.

367

00:19:29,680 --> 00:19:30,970

You have no food.

368

00:19:30,970 --> 00:19:35,132

You get a small piece of
bread, one soup a day.

369

00:19:35,132 --> 00:19:38,465

A young man, how
long can you live?

370

00:19:38,465 --> 00:19:41,000

What was your physical
condition like at this time?

371

00:19:41,000 --> 00:19:41,510

Hmm?

372

00:19:41,510 --> 00:19:43,052

What was your own
physical condition?

373

00:19:43,052 --> 00:19:44,280

Very good.

374

00:19:44,280 --> 00:19:48,800

Matter of fact in Dombrowa
we have food to eat.

375

00:19:48,800 --> 00:19:53,900

So long you have food and
was young, you survive.

376

00:19:53,900 --> 00:20:00,380

We didn't got the special
food, the food what came in.

377

00:20:00,380 --> 00:20:02,750

Why I went to be a straw--

378

00:20:02,750 --> 00:20:05,300

I'm going to tell a
fireman, I explain.

379

00:20:05,300 --> 00:20:08,330

A fireman got two soups a day.

380

00:20:08,330 --> 00:20:12,780

A worker got only one soup a
day, and that means survival.

381

00:20:12,780 --> 00:20:15,300

382

00:20:15,300 --> 00:20:17,000

With two soup, the soup was--

383

00:20:17,000 --> 00:20:18,620

I told you what the soup was.

384

00:20:18,620 --> 00:20:20,480

You find two
potatoes in the soup,

385

00:20:20,480 --> 00:20:23,630

and the rest was water,
and maybe a little grease,

386

00:20:23,630 --> 00:20:26,270

whatever it is.

387

00:20:26,270 --> 00:20:31,280

And I was in Lodz and working
at the firemans, I was lucky.

388

00:20:31,280 --> 00:20:34,110

I'm talking for myself.

389

00:20:34,110 --> 00:20:35,960

I was watching
everybody fireman,

390

00:20:35,960 --> 00:20:41,060
two fireman has to
watch a factory.

391
00:20:41,060 --> 00:20:43,820
Because mostly Jewish people
worked in the factory.

392
00:20:43,820 --> 00:20:46,080
This is now the fireman's at.

393
00:20:46,080 --> 00:20:49,820
In this factory
where I was watching,

394
00:20:49,820 --> 00:20:54,740
was coming in the
clothes after we already

395
00:20:54,740 --> 00:20:57,740
cleaned up in Dombrowa.

396
00:20:57,740 --> 00:21:00,500
See, the clothes from
Dombrowa went to Lodz,

397
00:21:00,500 --> 00:21:05,450
and in Lodz they put it in
machines, they stripped it.

398
00:21:05,450 --> 00:21:08,540
They make something, you
know what I'm talking?

399
00:21:08,540 --> 00:21:11,300
They make mattresses
from the clothes,

400
00:21:11,300 --> 00:21:15,800
and they make whatever
they could, good stuff.

401
00:21:15,800 --> 00:21:18,080

They make blankets,
it was a lot of stuff.

402
00:21:18,080 --> 00:21:20,180
It was not just clothing.

403
00:21:20,180 --> 00:21:25,310
There was a pillowcases, there
was blankets, all the clothes

404
00:21:25,310 --> 00:21:27,830
what the Jews have.

405
00:21:27,830 --> 00:21:31,490
Whatever they took with
him, before he got killed,

406
00:21:31,490 --> 00:21:34,160
everything went back come to us.

407
00:21:34,160 --> 00:21:36,590
And then after we find
all the money out--

408
00:21:36,590 --> 00:21:40,250
our specialist was to
find money, that's all.

409
00:21:40,250 --> 00:21:42,380
We didn't do no buildings.

410
00:21:42,380 --> 00:21:47,060
Find the money, find good stuff,
and put it in the packages

411
00:21:47,060 --> 00:21:49,070
or in bags.

412
00:21:49,070 --> 00:21:52,490
And these bags we have
to load up every day.

413

00:21:52,490 --> 00:21:56,420
There was so much, 180 people
working, and it was working.

414
00:21:56,420 --> 00:21:58,780
We worked 12 hours a day.

415
00:21:58,780 --> 00:22:03,560
It was a lot jewelry,
a lot of good stuff.

416
00:22:03,560 --> 00:22:08,660
We went back to the trucks,
and the trucks took it to Lodz.

417
00:22:08,660 --> 00:22:13,660
And Lodz they took it
to the manufacturing.

418
00:22:13,660 --> 00:22:14,840
Then the people work.

419
00:22:14,840 --> 00:22:17,810
They still find it
after we looked through

420
00:22:17,810 --> 00:22:21,890
to find the money, they
still find it in Lodz, too.

421
00:22:21,890 --> 00:22:24,740
Because you couldn't find
every-- some people hide it

422
00:22:24,740 --> 00:22:27,920
so like you have
whatever they can.

423
00:22:27,920 --> 00:22:32,780
You find it even
gold in the sheitel.

424
00:22:32,780 --> 00:22:34,280

You know what a sheitel mean?

425

00:22:34,280 --> 00:22:34,860

A kerchief.

426

00:22:34,860 --> 00:22:36,818

Because in Europe was a
lot of religious women.

427

00:22:36,818 --> 00:22:37,318

Wig, yeah.

428

00:22:37,318 --> 00:22:38,400

And they wear sheitels.

429

00:22:38,400 --> 00:22:44,270

We throw that away,
but they didn't let us.

430

00:22:44,270 --> 00:22:47,240

The sheitels with the
hair went to Lodz, too.

431

00:22:47,240 --> 00:22:49,160

And this went after
they cleaned it up,

432

00:22:49,160 --> 00:22:51,980

and this went to Germany.

433

00:22:51,980 --> 00:22:55,040

Everything from Lodz,
what went there from Lodz

434

00:22:55,040 --> 00:22:59,090

went back to Germany, and
they got a lot of stuff.

435

00:22:59,090 --> 00:23:04,820

All the new stuff, too, what
the people left in the cities.

436

00:23:04,820 --> 00:23:06,050
They come to us, too.

437
00:23:06,050 --> 00:23:08,120
It was clothing, good clothing.

438
00:23:08,120 --> 00:23:09,965
It was fur coats.

439
00:23:09,965 --> 00:23:14,240
It was new stuff, too.

440
00:23:14,240 --> 00:23:16,100
But this stuff we
didn't take it apart.

441
00:23:16,100 --> 00:23:20,270
This stuff they told us
to pack in big suitcases,

442
00:23:20,270 --> 00:23:22,190
we close it up.

443
00:23:22,190 --> 00:23:26,600
And this went to Lodz, and from
Lodz this went back to Germany.

444
00:23:26,600 --> 00:23:31,220
And I was working, when I
was watching firemen in Lodz,

445
00:23:31,220 --> 00:23:34,530
so this factory when I
was working, I was lucky.

446
00:23:34,530 --> 00:23:40,520
I find a friend my town.

447
00:23:40,520 --> 00:23:43,820
He was already,
how they calling,

448

00:23:43,820 --> 00:23:45,680
he has a good position.

449
00:23:45,680 --> 00:23:46,760
What's my good position?

450
00:23:46,760 --> 00:23:47,720
He didn't have to work.

451
00:23:47,720 --> 00:23:49,910
He watch everybody else.

452
00:23:49,910 --> 00:23:51,860
Mostly, you have
lucky if you find

453
00:23:51,860 --> 00:23:57,322
somebody that works in a
kitchen, or works in a bakery.

454
00:23:57,322 --> 00:23:58,920
For money you
couldn't do nothing.

455
00:23:58,920 --> 00:24:01,470
You only have to have a help.

456
00:24:01,470 --> 00:24:03,600
So I was watching
there, and once in a

457
00:24:03,600 --> 00:24:08,910
while I got an extra soup
or an extra piece of bread.

458
00:24:08,910 --> 00:24:10,280
I needed to eat.

459
00:24:10,280 --> 00:24:12,040
I was a young man.

460
00:24:12,040 --> 00:24:13,680

I would eat stones.

461

00:24:13,680 --> 00:24:15,520

If I could buy it,
I would eat stones.

462

00:24:15,520 --> 00:24:18,480

Everybody was hungry.

463

00:24:18,480 --> 00:24:28,440

This was going on until we
liquidate in August 28, 1944.

464

00:24:28,440 --> 00:24:32,150

They start liquidating
Lodz actually before.

465

00:24:32,150 --> 00:24:35,940

It was every day
they catch people,

466

00:24:35,940 --> 00:24:39,540

and put them on a transport,
and they say go to work.

467

00:24:39,540 --> 00:24:45,670

Lodz was 600,000 people the
time when it was a ghetto.

468

00:24:45,670 --> 00:24:48,190

600 people has no
place to stay in Lodz

469

00:24:48,190 --> 00:24:49,900

because it was a ghetto.

470

00:24:49,900 --> 00:24:52,740

At this time were any members
of your family with you in Lodz,

471

00:24:52,740 --> 00:24:53,740

or were you by yourself?

472

00:24:53,740 --> 00:24:54,745

Yes, my brother.

473

00:24:54,745 --> 00:24:57,640

The rest was already
gone some places.

474

00:24:57,640 --> 00:24:59,170

We didn't know where.

475

00:24:59,170 --> 00:25:02,620

Well, I'll find
out later anyway.

476

00:25:02,620 --> 00:25:04,580

Was the brother you were
with younger or older?

477

00:25:04,580 --> 00:25:06,850

The younger, he was
in Lodz with me.

478

00:25:06,850 --> 00:25:09,422

Yeah, he was living in Lodz.

479

00:25:09,422 --> 00:25:10,630

When I started they already--

480

00:25:10,630 --> 00:25:13,820

481

00:25:13,820 --> 00:25:15,070

everybody looked for survival.

482

00:25:15,070 --> 00:25:17,790

483

00:25:17,790 --> 00:25:20,220

The [? column ?] I
thought when I was in Lodz

484

00:25:20,220 --> 00:25:26,860
and I was making
whatever I can, so they

485
00:25:26,860 --> 00:25:29,020
start liquidating people.

486
00:25:29,020 --> 00:25:33,100
They didn't took fireman,
they didn't took the police.

487
00:25:33,100 --> 00:25:37,990
They only took the poor people,
the children and the women.

488
00:25:37,990 --> 00:25:41,770
First went the children without
mothers, without fathers.

489
00:25:41,770 --> 00:25:44,560

490
00:25:44,560 --> 00:25:46,150
People know this
what's happened.

491
00:25:46,150 --> 00:25:49,615
How can you take a two week
old child and send to work?

492
00:25:49,615 --> 00:25:51,630
They called it
they're going to work.

493
00:25:51,630 --> 00:25:53,830
Biebow, maybe you
heard the name Biebow.

494
00:25:53,830 --> 00:25:55,030
You heard the name Biebow?

495
00:25:55,030 --> 00:25:55,610
Yes.

496
00:25:55,610 --> 00:26:00,640
Yeah, Biebow was
staying in one place,

497
00:26:00,640 --> 00:26:06,445
and he swore about his life
that's everybody goes to work.

498
00:26:06,445 --> 00:26:09,040

499
00:26:09,040 --> 00:26:12,610
They tried to get the
people without killing them.

500
00:26:12,610 --> 00:26:17,420
There was a couple of times
people start to making,

501
00:26:17,420 --> 00:26:19,150
because there was
no food, people

502
00:26:19,150 --> 00:26:20,560
couldn't work in the factories.

503
00:26:20,560 --> 00:26:22,450
There was no food.

504
00:26:22,450 --> 00:26:26,410
They gave you how they're
calling this, like a vegetable,

505
00:26:26,410 --> 00:26:28,540
frozen vegetable.

506
00:26:28,540 --> 00:26:33,430
They give you like five
pounds every two weeks.

507
00:26:33,430 --> 00:26:36,130

You need it for one day.

508

00:26:36,130 --> 00:26:38,050

The children was
dying like flies.

509

00:26:38,050 --> 00:26:41,530

There was no milk, forget it.

510

00:26:41,530 --> 00:26:43,000

Was no meat.

511

00:26:43,000 --> 00:26:46,660

If they gave you a meat once
in a week you got horse meat.

512

00:26:46,660 --> 00:26:50,719

513

00:26:50,719 --> 00:26:53,760

It was terrible.

514

00:26:53,760 --> 00:26:58,260

I survived, I ate something,
and I could hold on.

515

00:26:58,260 --> 00:27:03,300

I didn't got no disease
in Lodz, and I survive.

516

00:27:03,300 --> 00:27:09,150

The 28th of August
this was my time.

517

00:27:09,150 --> 00:27:13,170

It already was 75%
Lodz liquidated,

518

00:27:13,170 --> 00:27:18,260

then they started taking
the firemen and the police.

519

00:27:18,260 --> 00:27:20,840
The [INAUDIBLE] went the first.

520
00:27:20,840 --> 00:27:24,830
People in the hospitals,
the hospital was liquidated.

521
00:27:24,830 --> 00:27:29,030
It was started in
July, a month before.

522
00:27:29,030 --> 00:27:32,120
I see it with my
own eyes they took

523
00:27:32,120 --> 00:27:34,940
with they called an ambulance.

524
00:27:34,940 --> 00:27:41,390
That took them in wagons
and load them up on trains.

525
00:27:41,390 --> 00:27:46,576
100 to 120 people in a train
till they come to Auschwitz.

526
00:27:46,576 --> 00:27:47,780
[INAUDIBLE] their life.

527
00:27:47,780 --> 00:27:50,820

528
00:27:50,820 --> 00:27:52,910
I went to Auschwitz.

529
00:27:52,910 --> 00:28:02,600
We left Auschwitz, we went
left Lodz like 12:00 noon.

530
00:28:02,600 --> 00:28:07,650
Took a long time to
load up 70, 80 trains.

531

00:28:07,650 --> 00:28:15,960

And the Nazis were staying
with the machine guns and dogs.

532

00:28:15,960 --> 00:28:20,610

We went overnight, 30 kilometer.

533

00:28:20,610 --> 00:28:23,640

Took us to go maybe 15 hours.

534

00:28:23,640 --> 00:28:27,960

It was between 100 and
120 people in a train,

535

00:28:27,960 --> 00:28:31,168

in one wagon--

536

00:28:31,168 --> 00:28:33,620

in each one.

537

00:28:33,620 --> 00:28:36,405

Excuse me, you needed
to go to the bathroom.

538

00:28:36,405 --> 00:28:38,576

They put it in our--

539

00:28:38,576 --> 00:28:42,970

how do you call it-- a drum.

540

00:28:42,970 --> 00:28:45,150

In each wagon was a drum.

541

00:28:45,150 --> 00:28:48,830

542

00:28:48,830 --> 00:28:54,570

When we come to Auschwitz,
we're coming to Auschwitz

543

00:28:54,570 --> 00:28:57,150

I think it was 12:00 noon.

544

00:28:57,150 --> 00:28:58,480

We see a light.

545

00:28:58,480 --> 00:29:00,570

First of all, the trains
were so close, dark,

546

00:29:00,570 --> 00:29:01,830

you couldn't see nothing.

547

00:29:01,830 --> 00:29:04,200

For cattle, a cattle train.

548

00:29:04,200 --> 00:29:06,850

How long were you in the train?

549

00:29:06,850 --> 00:29:08,760

How many hours or how many days?

550

00:29:08,760 --> 00:29:14,980

Not days, I was in Auschwitz
maybe about 15 hours.

551

00:29:14,980 --> 00:29:17,970

It should take an hour--

552

00:29:17,970 --> 00:29:19,350

15 hours.

553

00:29:19,350 --> 00:29:22,830

When every train--
soon they open,

554

00:29:22,830 --> 00:29:26,760

the trains was
locked from outside.

555

00:29:26,760 --> 00:29:30,870

When the train stopped
they start to open up.

556

00:29:30,870 --> 00:29:34,590

You didn't know from the
other wagons what's going on.

557

00:29:34,590 --> 00:29:36,930

It was sealed up.

558

00:29:36,930 --> 00:29:40,170

When it comes to mine-- when
they was coming to my train,

559

00:29:40,170 --> 00:29:44,520

to my wagon, I see
what's going on.

560

00:29:44,520 --> 00:29:48,030

People is already laying
dead in the train.

561

00:29:48,030 --> 00:29:51,480

They opened up the wagon, you
see the dead people laying.

562

00:29:51,480 --> 00:29:53,025

One body was
sleeping-- everybody

563

00:29:53,025 --> 00:29:54,150

was sleeping on each other.

564

00:29:54,150 --> 00:29:57,270

565

00:29:57,270 --> 00:30:00,390

Went out, you hardly
could walk out.

566

00:30:00,390 --> 00:30:03,810

They stand, they beating
you, they screaming.

567

00:30:03,810 --> 00:30:06,150
I walk out.

568
00:30:06,150 --> 00:30:10,380
And we went through after
staying the line to go through

569
00:30:10,380 --> 00:30:13,020
[NON-ENGLISH] Mengele.

570
00:30:13,020 --> 00:30:15,150
I went through him.

571
00:30:15,150 --> 00:30:18,210
And he showed you a really--

572
00:30:18,210 --> 00:30:20,490
he didn't talk.

573
00:30:20,490 --> 00:30:25,885
And around him was
maybe 25 Germans, Nazis.

574
00:30:25,885 --> 00:30:28,750

575
00:30:28,750 --> 00:30:29,950
You couldn't move fast.

576
00:30:29,950 --> 00:30:31,900
He kick you, hit you.

577
00:30:31,900 --> 00:30:38,260
And there was some children
with us, too, alive.

578
00:30:38,260 --> 00:30:40,600
Where people hiding
the kids in Lodz

579
00:30:40,600 --> 00:30:46,950
they don't want to send

them to send them to work.

580

00:30:46,950 --> 00:30:48,580

That's what they're saying.

581

00:30:48,580 --> 00:30:52,930

The kids was started ripping
them out from the hand.

582

00:30:52,930 --> 00:30:55,390

Some mothers went
with the children.

583

00:30:55,390 --> 00:30:57,970

They wanted to see a young
mother with her child.

584

00:30:57,970 --> 00:30:59,450

They want to take
the child away,

585

00:30:59,450 --> 00:31:01,790

and the mother go to work.

586

00:31:01,790 --> 00:31:04,360

That's what was the whole trick.

587

00:31:04,360 --> 00:31:05,650

She don't want to leave the--

588

00:31:05,650 --> 00:31:07,240

she don't want to
give up the child.

589

00:31:07,240 --> 00:31:11,200

Did the people seem to know
what left and right meant?

590

00:31:11,200 --> 00:31:13,030

What the motions meant?

591

00:31:13,030 --> 00:31:14,890

Yes, we know already.

592

00:31:14,890 --> 00:31:21,250

Because we see the left was
all the people, crippled,

593

00:31:21,250 --> 00:31:23,140

hardly walk.

594

00:31:23,140 --> 00:31:26,860

And on the right side
was younger people.

595

00:31:26,860 --> 00:31:29,290

Like a father and a son went.

596

00:31:29,290 --> 00:31:31,990

Was a lot of people have
children with 14 years,

597

00:31:31,990 --> 00:31:36,000

13 years old, that if the
son has to go on the left.

598

00:31:36,000 --> 00:31:39,940

It was a very maybe
between 10,000 people

599

00:31:39,940 --> 00:31:44,320

you could smuggle through, a
boy from 14 years or 15 years

600

00:31:44,320 --> 00:31:45,940

if you look tall.

601

00:31:45,940 --> 00:31:49,180

If he was little, forget it.

602

00:31:49,180 --> 00:31:51,340

So some mothers didn't
want to give up the kids.

603

00:31:51,340 --> 00:31:53,110
She hold it on their hand.

604
00:31:53,110 --> 00:31:56,230
They tried to hit
her and beaten her.

605
00:31:56,230 --> 00:31:59,830
She said no, so they pushed
her together with the child,

606
00:31:59,830 --> 00:32:03,320
and she went into
the gas chamber.

607
00:32:03,320 --> 00:32:06,590
And I was staying there
after it was liquidated,

608
00:32:06,590 --> 00:32:08,690
the train was staying there.

609
00:32:08,690 --> 00:32:11,960
It was taken us maybe
six, seven hours

610
00:32:11,960 --> 00:32:16,130
to go through the whole thing.

611
00:32:16,130 --> 00:32:18,670

612
00:32:18,670 --> 00:32:21,190
So it was getting dark.

613
00:32:21,190 --> 00:32:24,580
We saw the crematorium.

614
00:32:24,580 --> 00:32:26,290
They pushed us in
a separate place,

615

00:32:26,290 --> 00:32:29,890
the people they want
to still be alive.

616
00:32:29,890 --> 00:32:32,800
And we heard the screaming.

617
00:32:32,800 --> 00:32:35,830
That's still in my head.

618
00:32:35,830 --> 00:32:39,310
The screaming and the
crying was going on.

619
00:32:39,310 --> 00:32:42,310
We were staying a whole
day-- from afternoon

620
00:32:42,310 --> 00:32:46,800
till the next morning,
a whole night.

621
00:32:46,800 --> 00:32:53,980
Us, the people can work, we hear
the screaming till the morning.

622
00:32:53,980 --> 00:32:56,500
When everything was
dead, liquidated,

623
00:32:56,500 --> 00:33:00,590
there couldn't burn-- they're
burning 20,000 people a day.

624
00:33:00,590 --> 00:33:01,510
It takes time.

625
00:33:01,510 --> 00:33:04,850

626
00:33:04,850 --> 00:33:10,600
We saw a lot of Polish
people working there.

627
00:33:10,600 --> 00:33:15,130
They carried the
wood, because the wood

628
00:33:15,130 --> 00:33:17,300
was going into the crematorium.

629
00:33:17,300 --> 00:33:20,680
See, they make like
they put it in the wood,

630
00:33:20,680 --> 00:33:22,930
then they put it
in the dead people,

631
00:33:22,930 --> 00:33:25,030
then they put the
wood on the top.

632
00:33:25,030 --> 00:33:28,830
That's what's keep
burning one after another.

633
00:33:28,830 --> 00:33:31,960
The next morning, everybody
didn't care if you're alive,

634
00:33:31,960 --> 00:33:33,220
you're dead.

635
00:33:33,220 --> 00:33:35,305
We staying there a whole night.

636
00:33:35,305 --> 00:33:41,190
In morning, already like 6:00
in the morning, they call us.

637
00:33:41,190 --> 00:33:45,030
We see-- they didn't call us, we
see people getting less people,

638

00:33:45,030 --> 00:33:49,470
because it was a line maybe
3,000 young people still

639
00:33:49,470 --> 00:33:50,180
strong.

640
00:33:50,180 --> 00:33:53,160
You don't see what the front is.

641
00:33:53,160 --> 00:33:57,480
And they took us
still in a barrack.

642
00:33:57,480 --> 00:34:03,240
Each barrack was between
1,500 and 1,800 people.

643
00:34:03,240 --> 00:34:06,540
They pushed us in.

644
00:34:06,540 --> 00:34:08,699
Without beating they
didn't go through.

645
00:34:08,699 --> 00:34:10,860
Everybody got hit.

646
00:34:10,860 --> 00:34:12,810
Everybody was bleeding.

647
00:34:12,810 --> 00:34:16,409
I got hit a couple
of times my head.

648
00:34:16,409 --> 00:34:22,260
And that was the trick,
to make you numb.

649
00:34:22,260 --> 00:34:24,150
With what did they beat you?

650

00:34:24,150 --> 00:34:26,080

Because to make that
you can do nothing.

651

00:34:26,080 --> 00:34:27,184

With what kind of--

652

00:34:27,184 --> 00:34:29,309

Oh, they have a how they
calling-- with the handle?

653

00:34:29,309 --> 00:34:29,820

The rubber--

654

00:34:29,820 --> 00:34:31,080

A truncheon?

655

00:34:31,080 --> 00:34:32,550

Yes.

656

00:34:32,550 --> 00:34:33,540

Oh, this hurts.

657

00:34:33,540 --> 00:34:36,120

Yeah.

658

00:34:36,120 --> 00:34:37,570

I have such a swollen eye.

659

00:34:37,570 --> 00:34:39,946

I was thinking I lost one eye.

660

00:34:39,946 --> 00:34:43,679

For a few days I couldn't see.

661

00:34:43,679 --> 00:34:47,654

So we were staying there for
two days in this barrack.

662

00:34:47,654 --> 00:34:50,380

663

00:34:50,380 --> 00:34:52,980

And after two days
they start coming out,

664

00:34:52,980 --> 00:34:55,659

the people start
to take people out.

665

00:34:55,659 --> 00:34:57,420

We have no names.

666

00:34:57,420 --> 00:34:59,903

They're coming out
and start to give them

667

00:34:59,903 --> 00:35:00,820

numbers on their hand.

668

00:35:00,820 --> 00:35:04,780

669

00:35:04,780 --> 00:35:08,910

I was there with a cousin,
cousin was mine, too.

670

00:35:08,910 --> 00:35:11,170

We both have the same--

671

00:35:11,170 --> 00:35:13,810

he has one number less.

672

00:35:13,810 --> 00:35:21,010

I have 8990, he has 8989.

673

00:35:21,010 --> 00:35:23,650

So I was happy to
take me to work.

674

00:35:23,650 --> 00:35:24,450

We didn't care--

675

00:35:24,450 --> 00:35:26,500
I didn't care if I die.

676
00:35:26,500 --> 00:35:29,330
I didn't know my name no more.

677
00:35:29,330 --> 00:35:32,870
Emotionally, I was dead.

678
00:35:32,870 --> 00:35:33,820
But I want to live.

679
00:35:33,820 --> 00:35:36,880

680
00:35:36,880 --> 00:35:39,660
They took us maybe--

681
00:35:39,660 --> 00:35:40,770
still we didn't have food.

682
00:35:40,770 --> 00:35:42,510
We didn't eat the
day before, and we

683
00:35:42,510 --> 00:35:45,150
didn't eat the same day either.

684
00:35:45,150 --> 00:35:49,140
Took us till 5:00 evening.

685
00:35:49,140 --> 00:35:53,220
And every time they have like
40 people, got the numbers,

686
00:35:53,220 --> 00:35:57,720
come a truck, and
put you on the truck.

687
00:35:57,720 --> 00:35:59,190
And then I went to Birkenau.

688

00:35:59,190 --> 00:36:02,690

689

00:36:02,690 --> 00:36:04,165

I went to Birkenau.

690

00:36:04,165 --> 00:36:07,910

It was nine kilometers
from Auschwitz to Birkenau.

691

00:36:07,910 --> 00:36:15,520

I came into Birkenau, they
change us the clothes.

692

00:36:15,520 --> 00:36:18,010

We have to take a shower again.

693

00:36:18,010 --> 00:36:18,940

Who needed showers?

694

00:36:18,940 --> 00:36:21,550

We need food.

695

00:36:21,550 --> 00:36:24,340

And they put me in a barrack.

696

00:36:24,340 --> 00:36:26,050

It was looking legitimate.

697

00:36:26,050 --> 00:36:30,648

Two people's living, two
people could sleep on the--

698

00:36:30,648 --> 00:36:31,690

how they're calling this?

699

00:36:31,690 --> 00:36:35,170

You know like from
wood and straw?

700

00:36:35,170 --> 00:36:36,280

Two people can live.

701

00:36:36,280 --> 00:36:39,010

It was three stories.

702

00:36:39,010 --> 00:36:42,340

Bottom, the middle,
and the third place.

703

00:36:42,340 --> 00:36:44,650

That means six
people living in one.

704

00:36:44,650 --> 00:36:48,330

705

00:36:48,330 --> 00:36:54,000

And over there I
was one day rest.

706

00:36:54,000 --> 00:36:59,185

They give us soup and
coffee and a piece of bread.

707

00:36:59,185 --> 00:37:02,860

Well, they didn't give us, we
have to stay in the line again.

708

00:37:02,860 --> 00:37:04,910

They didn't gave
you in your hand.

709

00:37:04,910 --> 00:37:09,040

After they called an
appell we went outside.

710

00:37:09,040 --> 00:37:13,060

Without beating-- nothing
went without beating.

711

00:37:13,060 --> 00:37:22,060

And they gave us a dish,
a metal with a spoon.

712
00:37:22,060 --> 00:37:24,620
And this I have to
hold all my life.

713
00:37:24,620 --> 00:37:28,200
This is mine stuff I can--

714
00:37:28,200 --> 00:37:32,120
this is my dish what I am
going to eat all the time.

715
00:37:32,120 --> 00:37:33,470
And I have to watch it.

716
00:37:33,470 --> 00:37:36,400
If I lose it, you get no food.

717
00:37:36,400 --> 00:37:38,200
And I stay in the
line, and finally we

718
00:37:38,200 --> 00:37:41,500
got the soup and
a piece of bread

719
00:37:41,500 --> 00:37:43,186
and a small piece of margarine.

720
00:37:43,186 --> 00:37:45,640
No knife to put it on.

721
00:37:45,640 --> 00:37:49,900
Just a piece of margarine on
the bread and black coffee.

722
00:37:49,900 --> 00:37:52,240
I went in.

723
00:37:52,240 --> 00:37:53,920
I sit on my place already.

724

00:37:53,920 --> 00:37:57,310

We have no chairs, we
was sitting on the bed.

725

00:37:57,310 --> 00:38:00,130

And I ate.

726

00:38:00,130 --> 00:38:05,140

And they told us right away 4:00
in the morning is an appell.

727

00:38:05,140 --> 00:38:11,230

Appell, they're calling like in
German I think it's an appell.

728

00:38:11,230 --> 00:38:12,550

A roll call.

729

00:38:12,550 --> 00:38:13,450

They call you.

730

00:38:13,450 --> 00:38:17,915

It was something ringing,
and the 4:00 in the morning

731

00:38:17,915 --> 00:38:18,790

you have to be ready.

732

00:38:18,790 --> 00:38:21,040

That rings like a
quarter to 4:00.

733

00:38:21,040 --> 00:38:25,420

And 4:00 you have
to be on your feet.

734

00:38:25,420 --> 00:38:26,710

And that's what's happened.

735

00:38:26,710 --> 00:38:28,690

We have nothing
to-- what we have?

736
00:38:28,690 --> 00:38:31,605
We have a shirt, and they're
calling the [NON-ENGLISH]..

737
00:38:31,605 --> 00:38:38,950
They're calling what the-- a
special stripe, what I have.

738
00:38:38,950 --> 00:38:43,270
The pants and the jacket
was striped, no pocket.

739
00:38:43,270 --> 00:38:47,110
Was no pocket in the pants,
no pockets in the jacket.

740
00:38:47,110 --> 00:38:49,060
Did they give you shoes?

741
00:38:49,060 --> 00:38:49,840
Shoes, yes.

742
00:38:49,840 --> 00:38:51,670
They gave me shoes.

743
00:38:51,670 --> 00:38:53,440
Did the shoes fit?

744
00:38:53,440 --> 00:38:54,610
I was lucky fit.

745
00:38:54,610 --> 00:38:57,625
Some of them got it, some
people got some old shoes

746
00:38:57,625 --> 00:38:59,950
with big feet.

747
00:38:59,950 --> 00:39:03,730
I'm going to tell, I'll come
to later with this story again.

748
00:39:03,730 --> 00:39:09,520
So there was shoes, and they
gave us-- and they have no shoe

749
00:39:09,520 --> 00:39:10,870
laces.

750
00:39:10,870 --> 00:39:14,620
I got a piece of wire,
and I put it around wire.

751
00:39:14,620 --> 00:39:17,140

752
00:39:17,140 --> 00:39:21,040
We went appell 4:00, we have
to walk out to the place.

753
00:39:21,040 --> 00:39:24,950
It was an empty place like
a football place, let's say.

754
00:39:24,950 --> 00:39:25,960
It was a place.

755
00:39:25,960 --> 00:39:28,090
Everybody came together.

756
00:39:28,090 --> 00:39:33,150
We have 10,000 people in our
camp, 10,000 in Birkenau.

757
00:39:33,150 --> 00:39:37,750
It was 10,000 prisoners.

758
00:39:37,750 --> 00:39:40,660
And there was lines every kapo--

759
00:39:40,660 --> 00:39:41,920
you know what a kapo mean?

760

00:39:41,920 --> 00:39:43,590

Yes.

761

00:39:43,590 --> 00:39:47,800

Every kapo got his own people.

762

00:39:47,800 --> 00:39:53,980

Because it was so
organized you couldn't--

763

00:39:53,980 --> 00:39:56,207

when we stay on appell
you could hear a--

764

00:39:56,207 --> 00:39:58,540

if you would throw a nickel
on the floor you would hear.

765

00:39:58,540 --> 00:39:59,590

So quiet was.

766

00:39:59,590 --> 00:40:01,750

How many people were
assigned to each kapo?

767

00:40:01,750 --> 00:40:05,690

768

00:40:05,690 --> 00:40:13,200

In mine was maybe about 30.

769

00:40:13,200 --> 00:40:14,790

But we went in groups.

770

00:40:14,790 --> 00:40:16,320

You have more kapos.

771

00:40:16,320 --> 00:40:18,240

We went, let's say, to the work.

772

00:40:18,240 --> 00:40:25,423

I was working, and the
GA, the Krupps factory?

773
00:40:25,423 --> 00:40:26,170
Yes.

774
00:40:26,170 --> 00:40:29,040
I was working there.

775
00:40:29,040 --> 00:40:31,685
So over there was working
thousands of people.

776
00:40:31,685 --> 00:40:34,560
It was a lot of kapos.

777
00:40:34,560 --> 00:40:38,295
I work in mostly in the
cement and the bricks.

778
00:40:38,295 --> 00:40:43,440
Carry the brick up and
then mixing the cement.

779
00:40:43,440 --> 00:40:47,435
So from the beginning
it was suicide.

780
00:40:47,435 --> 00:40:50,420
We staying from
4:00 in the morning

781
00:40:50,420 --> 00:40:56,960
till 7:00 in the morning
every day, winter and summer.

782
00:40:56,960 --> 00:41:01,470
Wintertime sometime my foot
was freezing to the ground.

783
00:41:01,470 --> 00:41:05,660
Some people didn't have good
shoes, they never went to work.

784
00:41:05,660 --> 00:41:07,385
They freezed to death.

785
00:41:07,385 --> 00:41:10,250
It was like five
below zero, or zero.

786
00:41:10,250 --> 00:41:13,000

787
00:41:13,000 --> 00:41:20,320
A shirt, no sweater,
no jacket, no pocket.

788
00:41:20,320 --> 00:41:27,050
With your hand you had it
shivering like the wind blows.

789
00:41:27,050 --> 00:41:30,350
It was going tremendous.

790
00:41:30,350 --> 00:41:33,910
And we went to work.

791
00:41:33,910 --> 00:41:37,940
We was walking a
half an hour to work.

792
00:41:37,940 --> 00:41:40,870
We didn't go with the
buses or with the trucks.

793
00:41:40,870 --> 00:41:46,780
From Birkenau to Buna,
we walk every day.

794
00:41:46,780 --> 00:41:48,910
Buna was where the
Krupp factory was?

795
00:41:48,910 --> 00:41:49,410

What?

796

00:41:49,410 --> 00:41:51,100

Buna was where the
Krupp factory was?

797

00:41:51,100 --> 00:41:53,520

Correct.

798

00:41:53,520 --> 00:41:58,620

Every day walking seven,
eight miles with the shoes.

799

00:41:58,620 --> 00:42:03,540

In wintertime the snow was
so high you have to walk.

800

00:42:03,540 --> 00:42:07,110

If you fall down you couldn't
wait, you couldn't stand up.

801

00:42:07,110 --> 00:42:08,610

They bear you until you dead.

802

00:42:08,610 --> 00:42:11,850

803

00:42:11,850 --> 00:42:14,970

I was working in
this factory, and I

804

00:42:14,970 --> 00:42:20,130

have to carry bricks
maybe on the second floor

805

00:42:20,130 --> 00:42:23,850

or the 10th floor on a ladder.

806

00:42:23,850 --> 00:42:25,350

So they make you
from two by fours,

807

00:42:25,350 --> 00:42:31,240
they was made from two by fours,
like make two pieces together.

808
00:42:31,240 --> 00:42:34,010
And then at the bottom
they put a little Y there,

809
00:42:34,010 --> 00:42:35,400
just the bricks come.

810
00:42:35,400 --> 00:42:37,590
I would make you what it looks.

811
00:42:37,590 --> 00:42:39,780
Look like a ladder, too.

812
00:42:39,780 --> 00:42:43,350
But here it was sticking out,
it lays on your shoulder.

813
00:42:43,350 --> 00:42:47,310
So the minimum you
have to take 30 bricks.

814
00:42:47,310 --> 00:42:51,750
If you couldn't take 30
bricks, well they beat you,

815
00:42:51,750 --> 00:42:53,970
or they throw you
to another job.

816
00:42:53,970 --> 00:43:00,250
I was working a few weeks and
walking with 30 bricks up,

817
00:43:00,250 --> 00:43:02,290
up and down, up and down.

818
00:43:02,290 --> 00:43:06,305
The Polaks usually, Polish
people didn't work so hard.

819

00:43:06,305 --> 00:43:08,930

There was Polish prisoners, too,
there was Ukrainian prisoners.

820

00:43:08,930 --> 00:43:12,220

There was from other nations.

821

00:43:12,220 --> 00:43:13,540

They have the easy work.

822

00:43:13,540 --> 00:43:16,260

We did it the most
horrible work.

823

00:43:16,260 --> 00:43:19,410

824

00:43:19,410 --> 00:43:22,440

We came home, you have no
water to wash your face.

825

00:43:22,440 --> 00:43:25,560

You are working with
cement, with bricks.

826

00:43:25,560 --> 00:43:29,686

You have no water to wash
your hands or wash your face.

827

00:43:29,686 --> 00:43:36,120

When I got my coffee I used
half coffee to wash my face.

828

00:43:36,120 --> 00:43:38,580

Coffee, what was the coffee?

829

00:43:38,580 --> 00:43:44,250

From some wheat, burned wheat,
and they put hot water in.

830

00:43:44,250 --> 00:43:46,110

This was the coffee.

831
00:43:46,110 --> 00:43:48,510
I washed my-- I
couldn't see my eyes.

832
00:43:48,510 --> 00:43:52,290
It was full with
dust, with cement.

833
00:43:52,290 --> 00:43:57,690
I used half to wash my
eyes and my face a little.

834
00:43:57,690 --> 00:44:00,150
And the rest I drink.

835
00:44:00,150 --> 00:44:02,340
We have no good water to drink.

836
00:44:02,340 --> 00:44:06,350
The water was contaminated.

837
00:44:06,350 --> 00:44:10,300
Some people drink water,
got typhus and die.

838
00:44:10,300 --> 00:44:14,580
Matter of fact, I got by
the end, I got the typhus.

839
00:44:14,580 --> 00:44:21,110
As this was going
on, until 14 January.

840
00:44:21,110 --> 00:44:24,640
No, I work a different
job after this, too.

841
00:44:24,640 --> 00:44:28,150
I was lucky a couple
times they needed

842

00:44:28,150 --> 00:44:31,780
to work on cement, the plaster.

843

00:44:31,780 --> 00:44:34,940
I was very handy
when I was young.

844

00:44:34,940 --> 00:44:37,390
I was lucky, it was handy.

845

00:44:37,390 --> 00:44:39,295
I could make a platform.

846

00:44:39,295 --> 00:44:42,220

847

00:44:42,220 --> 00:44:46,420
So I was working couple
times, and other-- they

848

00:44:46,420 --> 00:44:48,650
needed people of other jobs.

849

00:44:48,650 --> 00:44:52,480
So they pick up you, you--

850

00:44:52,480 --> 00:44:55,000
we have no name.

851

00:44:55,000 --> 00:44:57,430
Took us, and pushed
us on the truck,

852

00:44:57,430 --> 00:45:00,040
and they took us on another job.

853

00:45:00,040 --> 00:45:04,700
No, they was doing,
who can work on cement?

854

00:45:04,700 --> 00:45:05,930

I said me.

855

00:45:05,930 --> 00:45:07,390

I know I can do it.

856

00:45:07,390 --> 00:45:10,660

I don't know if I would do it,

I want to get away from them.

857

00:45:10,660 --> 00:45:13,480

We tried to run from one

place to another place.

858

00:45:13,480 --> 00:45:14,800

And we was thinking--

859

00:45:14,800 --> 00:45:17,500

I was thinking maybe

over there is better.

860

00:45:17,500 --> 00:45:20,450

861

00:45:20,450 --> 00:45:24,320

I come in a place

and it was outside.

862

00:45:24,320 --> 00:45:26,650

It was summertime.

863

00:45:26,650 --> 00:45:28,840

And they gave me

the job to do it.

864

00:45:28,840 --> 00:45:34,000

They gave me sand and cement

to mix, and to make a little--

865

00:45:34,000 --> 00:45:38,080

like a need a foundation to make

a platform, to throw in cement.

866

00:45:38,080 --> 00:45:41,560

I was there and a couple
of other people, too.

867

00:45:41,560 --> 00:45:45,730

The same like I am,
same people for me.

868

00:45:45,730 --> 00:45:48,550

There was a guy who
didn't know how to do it.

869

00:45:48,550 --> 00:45:49,960

I teach him, I showed him.

870

00:45:49,960 --> 00:45:51,670

I said keep working.

871

00:45:51,670 --> 00:45:54,140

Because if not, they
was watching you.

872

00:45:54,140 --> 00:45:57,430

You can't breathe a second.

873

00:45:57,430 --> 00:45:59,230

He worked.

874

00:45:59,230 --> 00:46:03,983

So the next day they sent
me back to the same job.

875

00:46:03,983 --> 00:46:05,900

They didn't go no more
with the bricks laying,

876

00:46:05,900 --> 00:46:07,480

they send me to the same job.

877

00:46:07,480 --> 00:46:09,310

Because the job wasn't finished.

878

00:46:09,310 --> 00:46:11,786

It was taking a
long time to do it.

879

00:46:11,786 --> 00:46:14,440

So I was there a couple.

880

00:46:14,440 --> 00:46:16,255

They calling a Vorarbeiter.

881

00:46:16,255 --> 00:46:19,110

See, I can more
explain in German.

882

00:46:19,110 --> 00:46:24,500

Vorarbeiter mean a manager
from us is watching the job.

883

00:46:24,500 --> 00:46:25,510

A foreman.

884

00:46:25,510 --> 00:46:30,010

Foreman, and he liked my work.

885

00:46:30,010 --> 00:46:34,390

He said you-- he was a
German, but he was a--

886

00:46:34,390 --> 00:46:35,390

he wasn't a Nazi.

887

00:46:35,390 --> 00:46:38,170

He was a criminal--
a German criminal.

888

00:46:38,170 --> 00:46:41,560

What reason he was
there, I don't know.

889

00:46:41,560 --> 00:46:44,620

He was from Berlin.

890

00:46:44,620 --> 00:46:52,590

And he said you,
[GERMAN],, to me he said.

891

00:46:52,590 --> 00:46:56,050

892

00:46:56,050 --> 00:46:59,920

So the next day he-- because
they got a lot of power.

893

00:46:59,920 --> 00:47:03,040

If he said to the Nazi,
he's a good worker,

894

00:47:03,040 --> 00:47:06,970

and especially he's not a
Jew, he's a German himself.

895

00:47:06,970 --> 00:47:08,260

So they let me--

896

00:47:08,260 --> 00:47:09,925

they took me out
from this kommando

897

00:47:09,925 --> 00:47:12,370

in the Buna Kommando
and they send me they

898

00:47:12,370 --> 00:47:15,910

calling outside
kommando, outside work--

899

00:47:15,910 --> 00:47:18,600

field work.

900

00:47:18,600 --> 00:47:22,200

And then I see a little life.

901

00:47:22,200 --> 00:47:27,570

They was making fires every
day with the potatoes.

902
00:47:27,570 --> 00:47:30,750
They've got potatoes
from the field.

903
00:47:30,750 --> 00:47:37,110
They brought themselves
potatoes, all kind of stuff.

904
00:47:37,110 --> 00:47:39,810
And they make
fires and they ate.

905
00:47:39,810 --> 00:47:43,370
The kapos didn't have too
much to eat inside either.

906
00:47:43,370 --> 00:47:45,270
But they were stealing.

907
00:47:45,270 --> 00:47:47,040
They were stealing
from somebody else.

908
00:47:47,040 --> 00:47:51,940
Somebody else has
to be a victim.

909
00:47:51,940 --> 00:47:55,560
So I got a little like
a dog, you throw a bone

910
00:47:55,560 --> 00:48:00,990
under the table, a potato extra.

911
00:48:00,990 --> 00:48:09,390
Until I worked with him almost
until January the 14, 1945.

912
00:48:09,390 --> 00:48:14,040
When the Russians started
going, taking Poland,

913

00:48:14,040 --> 00:48:18,620
then liquidated Buna.

914

00:48:18,620 --> 00:48:23,260
They liquidated us, and
they send us further--

915

00:48:23,260 --> 00:48:27,430
more to how they call
more near to Germany.

916

00:48:27,430 --> 00:48:28,270
To the west?

917

00:48:28,270 --> 00:48:29,820
Yeah.

918

00:48:29,820 --> 00:48:31,470
They took us to Buchenwald.

919

00:48:31,470 --> 00:48:33,936
I was in Buchenwald--

920

00:48:33,936 --> 00:48:35,640
Weimar Buchenwald.

921

00:48:35,640 --> 00:48:39,020

922

00:48:39,020 --> 00:48:41,270
But that was terrible.

923

00:48:41,270 --> 00:48:44,540
They took us 10,000 people out.

924

00:48:44,540 --> 00:48:47,190
They save us 9,500 people.

925

00:48:47,190 --> 00:48:52,580
That was January 14, 1945,
the snow was so high.

926
00:48:52,580 --> 00:48:56,540
We walked 70 miles.

927
00:48:56,540 --> 00:49:01,670
On the way they was
killing like dogs.

928
00:49:01,670 --> 00:49:03,200
Who couldn't walk,
they would kill.

929
00:49:03,200 --> 00:49:06,110
The whole road was
filled dead people

930
00:49:06,110 --> 00:49:08,335
till we come to Buchenwald.

931
00:49:08,335 --> 00:49:09,710
Were you wearing
the same clothes

932
00:49:09,710 --> 00:49:12,050
you were wearing in
September and October?

933
00:49:12,050 --> 00:49:14,150
Yes, same clothes.

934
00:49:14,150 --> 00:49:16,470
They never gave
you other clothes.

935
00:49:16,470 --> 00:49:19,400
They gave you beginning
in Buna, they gave you

936
00:49:19,400 --> 00:49:23,600
every two weeks a shirt.

937
00:49:23,600 --> 00:49:29,330

But you have to-- no, you
have to wash your own shirt.

938
00:49:29,330 --> 00:49:31,580
We have no water to wash.

939
00:49:31,580 --> 00:49:33,410
So we wash with snow.

940
00:49:33,410 --> 00:49:35,930
In summertime it was terrible.

941
00:49:35,930 --> 00:49:40,990
You can imagine
what was on my body.

942
00:49:40,990 --> 00:49:44,941
So my shirt fall apart.

943
00:49:44,941 --> 00:49:48,250
I wear from that
cement, in a cement bag,

944
00:49:48,250 --> 00:49:51,930
I make myself a shirt.

945
00:49:51,930 --> 00:49:55,930
It was good news
and was bad news.

946
00:49:55,930 --> 00:50:00,570
The good news was, you
couldn't get bugs on your body.

947
00:50:00,570 --> 00:50:02,160
And the bad news was cold.

948
00:50:02,160 --> 00:50:06,370

949
00:50:06,370 --> 00:50:08,905
So I survive, I

come to Buchenwald.

950

00:50:08,905 --> 00:50:12,100

Buchenwald I was there not long.

951

00:50:12,100 --> 00:50:14,590

The Russians started
coming closer.

952

00:50:14,590 --> 00:50:16,910

They took us back
from Buchenwald.

953

00:50:16,910 --> 00:50:19,150

I didn't work no
more, we have no work.

954

00:50:19,150 --> 00:50:22,690

We only went in one
transport to the next one,

955

00:50:22,690 --> 00:50:24,790

there was no more work.

956

00:50:24,790 --> 00:50:27,484

Because the Russian
took them around.

957

00:50:27,484 --> 00:50:33,160

But this was the worst part,
the transportation, no food.

958

00:50:33,160 --> 00:50:35,650

We came in from Buchenwald.

959

00:50:35,650 --> 00:50:37,480

They took us from
Buchenwald to Dachau.

960

00:50:37,480 --> 00:50:40,080

961

00:50:40,080 --> 00:50:43,830

On the way I was with
a lot of Russians

962

00:50:43,830 --> 00:50:45,315

and a lot of other
nationalities.

963

00:50:45,315 --> 00:50:47,280

It was not many Jews left.

964

00:50:47,280 --> 00:50:49,435

And we don't know who's
a Jew and not a Jew.

965

00:50:49,435 --> 00:50:52,515

Everybody looks
ugly-- beards, dirty.

966

00:50:52,515 --> 00:50:55,410

967

00:50:55,410 --> 00:50:58,560

Every three days,
it took us 21 days

968

00:50:58,560 --> 00:51:02,730

to go from Buchenwald
to Dachau--

969

00:51:02,730 --> 00:51:04,470

21 days.

970

00:51:04,470 --> 00:51:07,440

You couldn't go, because
it was we had shooting,

971

00:51:07,440 --> 00:51:09,240

we had everything.

972

00:51:09,240 --> 00:51:12,990

Every three, four days
the train stopped.

973
00:51:12,990 --> 00:51:16,320
We took out the dead people.

974
00:51:16,320 --> 00:51:20,580
I saw my own eyes, people cut
off meat from the dead people

975
00:51:20,580 --> 00:51:21,500
and ate.

976
00:51:21,500 --> 00:51:24,580

977
00:51:24,580 --> 00:51:27,280
People drink the urine
in somebody else.

978
00:51:27,280 --> 00:51:39,770

979
00:51:39,770 --> 00:51:49,870
So finally, we went from
March till April the 29th--

980
00:51:49,870 --> 00:51:52,900
till April 28th.

981
00:51:52,900 --> 00:51:58,160
Took us three weeks to go
from Buchenwald to Dachau.

982
00:51:58,160 --> 00:52:05,030
And I come into Dachau,
I was already sick.

983
00:52:05,030 --> 00:52:06,440
I didn't know what my name is.

984
00:52:06,440 --> 00:52:07,790
I didn't know nothing.

985

00:52:07,790 --> 00:52:08,690

I couldn't walk.

986

00:52:08,690 --> 00:52:11,220

987

00:52:11,220 --> 00:52:13,250

In Dachau there
was no more Nazis.

988

00:52:13,250 --> 00:52:18,560

It was only the watch people,
the civil, German and civil,

989

00:52:18,560 --> 00:52:20,120

no more uniform.

990

00:52:20,120 --> 00:52:24,260

They open up the trains,
nobody could walk.

991

00:52:24,260 --> 00:52:28,080

992

00:52:28,080 --> 00:52:32,880

The American was there
already, but we didn't know.

993

00:52:32,880 --> 00:52:36,480

They took us on
[INAUDIBLE] and something,

994

00:52:36,480 --> 00:52:41,490

they took us to a place and
laid us down on the ground.

995

00:52:41,490 --> 00:52:42,565

And some of them inside.

996

00:52:42,565 --> 00:52:46,260

It was April, it
was pretty chilly.

997
00:52:46,260 --> 00:52:47,820
But I don't feel nothing anyway.

998
00:52:47,820 --> 00:52:51,480
I was seeing good my
eyes, I could talk.

999
00:52:51,480 --> 00:52:53,835
I couldn't walk no more.

1000
00:52:53,835 --> 00:52:59,070
So they took us in
to one room together.

1001
00:52:59,070 --> 00:53:00,530
We want to drink water.

1002
00:53:00,530 --> 00:53:03,570
This was a disaster what we did.

1003
00:53:03,570 --> 00:53:07,520
We drink water, the
water was contaminated.

1004
00:53:07,520 --> 00:53:13,640
And people got diarrhea,
typhoid, all kinds of stuff.

1005
00:53:13,640 --> 00:53:15,220
I drank water, too.

1006
00:53:15,220 --> 00:53:18,530
The only thing I could eat,
I couldn't eat no more.

1007
00:53:18,530 --> 00:53:23,430
You could give me bread,
butter, I couldn't eat.

1008
00:53:23,430 --> 00:53:27,340
21 days, no food.

1009

00:53:27,340 --> 00:53:31,540

So I was there laying there,
and I drank a little water.

1010

00:53:31,540 --> 00:53:37,330

And maybe three hours later come
we see the American coming in.

1011

00:53:37,330 --> 00:53:40,480

And they us, the
American soldiers came.

1012

00:53:40,480 --> 00:53:46,180

Ambulances, American, you see
MP, you see a lot of things.

1013

00:53:46,180 --> 00:53:50,290

And they looked on
us, they got enough.

1014

00:53:50,290 --> 00:53:52,930

They took us to the hospitals.

1015

00:53:52,930 --> 00:53:55,810

They took me-- that's when
they told me where I am.

1016

00:53:55,810 --> 00:53:59,890

They took me to
the SS hospitals.

1017

00:53:59,890 --> 00:54:03,550

Threw out all the clothes,
and took out from us,

1018

00:54:03,550 --> 00:54:05,200

and they wash us.

1019

00:54:05,200 --> 00:54:06,220

They clean us.

1020

00:54:06,220 --> 00:54:11,750

It was the German nurses
that was doing this.

1021

00:54:11,750 --> 00:54:13,220

And they put me in a bed.

1022

00:54:13,220 --> 00:54:15,990

1023

00:54:15,990 --> 00:54:21,650

After this, I didn't know
for 10 days what's happened.

1024

00:54:21,650 --> 00:54:27,383

That's what the nurse told
me after I start to talk.

1025

00:54:27,383 --> 00:54:28,175

You were delirious?

1026

00:54:28,175 --> 00:54:30,420

Or you were in a comatose?

1027

00:54:30,420 --> 00:54:33,530

What was your condition
during that time?

1028

00:54:33,530 --> 00:54:38,450

I must have maybe 105
fever all the time.

1029

00:54:38,450 --> 00:54:40,520

So I didn't talk.

1030

00:54:40,520 --> 00:54:43,340

I was burning like a fire, but
I didn't know what was burning.

1031

00:54:43,340 --> 00:54:45,380

I got no body on me.

1032

00:54:45,380 --> 00:54:50,210
I was skinny like a bone, 80
pounds I weigh, 80 pounds--

1033
00:54:50,210 --> 00:54:51,200
79 pound.

1034
00:54:51,200 --> 00:54:53,840

1035
00:54:53,840 --> 00:54:56,210
So they gave me medications.

1036
00:54:56,210 --> 00:54:58,310
That's what the nurse told me.

1037
00:54:58,310 --> 00:55:01,220
They gave me all kind of
vitamins, all medication,

1038
00:55:01,220 --> 00:55:05,280
and then I was a
bottle hanging liquid.

1039
00:55:05,280 --> 00:55:11,030
It was 10 days, nine
days, I was laying.

1040
00:55:11,030 --> 00:55:13,430
Was this an American
field hospital?

1041
00:55:13,430 --> 00:55:15,980
This used to be
the Nazi hospital.

1042
00:55:15,980 --> 00:55:16,820
The Nazi hospital.

1043
00:55:16,820 --> 00:55:22,880
But for the better Nazis,
it was a big hospital.

1044

00:55:22,880 --> 00:55:27,470

It was all kind of
doctors, a lot of things.

1045

00:55:27,470 --> 00:55:29,540

And they start to
give me-- after 10

1046

00:55:29,540 --> 00:55:33,023

days they start to give me
vitamins, to swallow vitamins.

1047

00:55:33,023 --> 00:55:33,815

I couldn't swallow.

1048

00:55:33,815 --> 00:55:36,590

1049

00:55:36,590 --> 00:55:43,710

My mouth was-- but I
started coming to myself.

1050

00:55:43,710 --> 00:55:49,190

And I saw they brought food in
the morning and I didn't eat.

1051

00:55:49,190 --> 00:55:51,750

They brought like a white
bread, was American food.

1052

00:55:51,750 --> 00:55:57,480

White bread and
milk, I didn't eat.

1053

00:55:57,480 --> 00:56:00,960

After 10, 11 days I
started feeling better.

1054

00:56:00,960 --> 00:56:02,550

It looks like this
was helping me.

1055

00:56:02,550 --> 00:56:06,030

They feed me, how they
calling, intravenous.

1056

00:56:06,030 --> 00:56:09,060

This was helping me.

1057

00:56:09,060 --> 00:56:10,338

And I start to talk.

1058

00:56:10,338 --> 00:56:11,880

Excuse me, Mr.

Rosenblum, we're going

1059

00:56:11,880 --> 00:56:14,140

to pause for just a moment.

1060

00:56:14,140 --> 00:56:17,210

We just have to

put on a new tape.

1061

00:56:17,210 --> 00:56:23,000