

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:36,580

2
00:00:36,580 --> 00:00:37,690
Mm-hmm.

3
00:00:37,690 --> 00:00:42,080
I'm going to stop a couple times
[INAUDIBLE] the noise and the--

4
00:00:42,080 --> 00:00:42,660
OK, guys.

5
00:00:42,660 --> 00:00:43,040
[INAUDIBLE]

6
00:00:43,040 --> 00:00:43,623
Tell us when--

7
00:00:43,623 --> 00:00:44,222
Tape speed.

8
00:00:44,222 --> 00:00:44,930
You've got speed?

9
00:00:44,930 --> 00:00:45,430
Yes.

10
00:00:45,430 --> 00:00:46,352
One second.

11
00:00:46,352 --> 00:00:49,670

12
00:00:49,670 --> 00:00:51,735
Can you go ahead and
just talk for a second?

13
00:00:51,735 --> 00:00:54,190
Oh, he needs a volume check.

14
00:00:54,190 --> 00:00:55,185
Voice?

15
00:00:55,185 --> 00:00:55,785
Yes, please.

16
00:00:55,785 --> 00:00:56,490
One, two, three.

17
00:00:56,490 --> 00:00:57,420
One, two, three.

18
00:00:57,420 --> 00:00:58,080
Little more.

19
00:00:58,080 --> 00:00:59,675
Testing, testing, testing.

20
00:00:59,675 --> 00:01:00,175
Thank you.

21
00:01:00,175 --> 00:01:00,675
Thank you.

22
00:01:00,675 --> 00:01:01,625
Any time.

23
00:01:01,625 --> 00:01:05,525
How extensive was the
Polish underground?

24
00:01:05,525 --> 00:01:10,280
It was very extensive because,
in addition to people who were

25
00:01:10,280 --> 00:01:14,130
organized-- and I believe
people who were organized were

26
00:01:14,130 --> 00:01:17,330

probably no more than 400,000--

27

00:01:17,330 --> 00:01:19,490

there was a
hinterland, the people

28

00:01:19,490 --> 00:01:24,800

who were supporting
by offering hiding

29

00:01:24,800 --> 00:01:29,600

places or any kind of
help so that, frankly, we

30

00:01:29,600 --> 00:01:33,440

could operate, mainly
because of this kind

31

00:01:33,440 --> 00:01:36,650

of spontaneous
assistance from people

32

00:01:36,650 --> 00:01:39,200

who are not
themselves organized,

33

00:01:39,200 --> 00:01:43,385

but were ready to accept
risks and to help.

34

00:01:43,385 --> 00:01:47,960

Had this whole state
essentially gone underground?

35

00:01:47,960 --> 00:01:49,700

And what kind of services were--

36

00:01:49,700 --> 00:01:53,390

Well, it was really
an underground state.

37

00:01:53,390 --> 00:01:58,610

They were called underground

courts, underground justice.

38

00:01:58,610 --> 00:02:03,020

And there were
underground universities.

39

00:02:03,020 --> 00:02:05,540

There was a whole
underground life, really.

40

00:02:05,540 --> 00:02:08,310

41

00:02:08,310 --> 00:02:12,540

And it complies with the
entire society, really.

42

00:02:12,540 --> 00:02:17,300

So Jan Karski called his book
published in United States

43

00:02:17,300 --> 00:02:20,270

during the war The Story
of the Underground State.

44

00:02:20,270 --> 00:02:23,500

And it was the
underground state.

45

00:02:23,500 --> 00:02:26,825

Who was getting prosecuted
in those courts?

46

00:02:26,825 --> 00:02:31,160

Oh, the traitors,
collaborators with the Germans.

47

00:02:31,160 --> 00:02:36,830

This was the court to
sentence the people who

48

00:02:36,830 --> 00:02:39,290

were guilty of collaboration

with the enemy.

49

00:02:39,290 --> 00:02:43,490

Also, the people who were
voices denouncing Jews

50

00:02:43,490 --> 00:02:47,450

were also put before
this court and executed--

51

00:02:47,450 --> 00:02:52,640

but Gestapo people,
particularly cruel Germans.

52

00:02:52,640 --> 00:02:56,570

And it was also a kind
of psychological warfare,

53

00:02:56,570 --> 00:02:59,150

because the man
who was sentenced

54

00:02:59,150 --> 00:03:01,816

would first get the sentence.

55

00:03:01,816 --> 00:03:03,810

And then he would be killed.

56

00:03:03,810 --> 00:03:06,480

Or he would get a
warning that he's

57

00:03:06,480 --> 00:03:11,010

going to be put before
this underground court.

58

00:03:11,010 --> 00:03:14,860

But this was a regular
court with attorneys.

59

00:03:14,860 --> 00:03:20,600

They were mostly professional
judges or professional lawyers.

60
00:03:20,600 --> 00:03:21,980
So they were regular courts.

61
00:03:21,980 --> 00:03:26,360
And they were using
the Polish Penal Code.

62
00:03:26,360 --> 00:03:29,990
And all these
spontaneous organizations

63
00:03:29,990 --> 00:03:31,550
and pre-war political
organizations,

64
00:03:31,550 --> 00:03:35,310
they all came together and
supported this unified system.

65
00:03:35,310 --> 00:03:35,810
Correct.

66
00:03:35,810 --> 00:03:38,470

67
00:03:38,470 --> 00:03:42,070
There were some groups
that did not belong to it.

68
00:03:42,070 --> 00:03:46,840
Extreme right-wing
groups did not

69
00:03:46,840 --> 00:03:52,030
belong to this underground
state, and communists.

70
00:03:52,030 --> 00:03:59,200
Otherwise, there were people
of all possible outlooks.

71

00:03:59,200 --> 00:04:00,310
They were nationalists.

72
00:04:00,310 --> 00:04:01,810
They were social Democrats.

73
00:04:01,810 --> 00:04:05,880
They were Catholics,
all kind of groups--

74
00:04:05,880 --> 00:04:11,590
peasants, the whole
spectrum of political views,

75
00:04:11,590 --> 00:04:17,845
with the exception of extreme
rightists and communists.

76
00:04:17,845 --> 00:04:19,585
Were they a problem?

77
00:04:19,585 --> 00:04:21,730
They were a problem,
particularly communists.

78
00:04:21,730 --> 00:04:24,145
But also, the extreme
right wing were problems.

79
00:04:24,145 --> 00:04:27,785

80
00:04:27,785 --> 00:04:29,990
How did you get your supplies?

81
00:04:29,990 --> 00:04:34,222
And what supplies were
especially important to you?

82
00:04:34,222 --> 00:04:34,722
What?

83

00:04:34,722 --> 00:04:38,765
How did you get the supplies
the Underground needed?

84

00:04:38,765 --> 00:04:46,730
Well, the money and weapons
did come from London.

85

00:04:46,730 --> 00:04:47,900
They were parachuted.

86

00:04:47,900 --> 00:04:50,460

87

00:04:50,460 --> 00:04:53,580
There were some weapons that
were bought from Germans.

88

00:04:53,580 --> 00:05:01,080
Or we simply attacked the German
units and took the weapons.

89

00:05:01,080 --> 00:05:08,420
But supply of money would come
mainly from Paris and London,

90

00:05:08,420 --> 00:05:10,220
from outside.

91

00:05:10,220 --> 00:05:14,187
What other supplies were
really crucial to your efforts?

92

00:05:14,187 --> 00:05:16,880
Mostly weapons,
but money as well,

93

00:05:16,880 --> 00:05:19,910
because people had to
live from something.

94

00:05:19,910 --> 00:05:24,530
If somebody lost

his legal life-- so

95

00:05:24,530 --> 00:05:28,640
say he had to live with forged
documents-- he couldn't work.

96

00:05:28,640 --> 00:05:32,280
So he had to be
put on the payroll.

97

00:05:32,280 --> 00:05:37,080
So money was extremely
important under growing pressure

98

00:05:37,080 --> 00:05:37,990
to buy papers.

99

00:05:37,990 --> 00:05:42,050

100

00:05:42,050 --> 00:05:43,910
So if you had the
money, you could get any

101

00:05:43,910 --> 00:05:45,875
of the other things you needed.

102

00:05:45,875 --> 00:05:47,660
Yes, including even weapons.

103

00:05:47,660 --> 00:05:53,330
But one could buy weapons from
some German soldiers, weapons

104

00:05:53,330 --> 00:05:56,015
and ammunition.

105

00:05:56,015 --> 00:06:01,160
What sort of risk
did you-- did you

106

00:06:01,160 --> 00:06:05,285

have to personally undertake
a lot of high risk?

107
00:06:05,285 --> 00:06:08,060
Oh, yes.

108
00:06:08,060 --> 00:06:11,480
I had to risk my
life very often.

109
00:06:11,480 --> 00:06:15,470
Any crossing of the border
with forged documents

110
00:06:15,470 --> 00:06:20,570
and with compromising
material was very risky.

111
00:06:20,570 --> 00:06:25,460
Moving around in
Germany, being a Pole,

112
00:06:25,460 --> 00:06:28,490
was very risky, even
considering that I

113
00:06:28,490 --> 00:06:31,490
didn't speak good German.

114
00:06:31,490 --> 00:06:34,940
Crossing from
Warsaw to Stockholm

115
00:06:34,940 --> 00:06:37,700
was not an easy matter.

116
00:06:37,700 --> 00:06:40,520
I don't want to
advertise myself,

117
00:06:40,520 --> 00:06:43,580
but people were taking
considerable risks.

118
00:06:43,580 --> 00:06:45,200
Many people died.

119
00:06:45,200 --> 00:06:47,520
Many people were
arrested and died.

120
00:06:47,520 --> 00:06:49,885
I was very lucky.

121
00:06:49,885 --> 00:06:55,270
How afraid were you at
the time, or you just--

122
00:06:55,270 --> 00:06:59,380
I really had probably
no imagination because,

123
00:06:59,380 --> 00:07:02,980
as I told you before, I
was once scared to death

124
00:07:02,980 --> 00:07:08,290
when a Jewish girl with very
characteristic Jewish features

125
00:07:08,290 --> 00:07:09,880
asked me that I--

126
00:07:09,880 --> 00:07:11,920
that she should
take me on the arm

127
00:07:11,920 --> 00:07:16,150
to cross the so-called
[GERMAN] sperre

128
00:07:16,150 --> 00:07:19,300
where Germans were checking.

129
00:07:19,300 --> 00:07:22,480

I knew that if they
would arrest her,

130
00:07:22,480 --> 00:07:24,680
I would be executed as well.

131
00:07:24,680 --> 00:07:25,600
So I was afraid.

132
00:07:25,600 --> 00:07:30,830
I was very much afraid before
the parachute training.

133
00:07:30,830 --> 00:07:33,220
It was a kind of
a suicide, really,

134
00:07:33,220 --> 00:07:35,050
to jump out of the plane.

135
00:07:35,050 --> 00:07:35,890
It was a--

136
00:07:35,890 --> 00:07:38,500
But otherwise, I got used to it.

137
00:07:38,500 --> 00:07:42,100
I never thought about
dangers and risks.

138
00:07:42,100 --> 00:07:44,470
And I was not very
much afraid, simply

139
00:07:44,470 --> 00:07:48,280
because I was not thinking
about what may happen.

140
00:07:48,280 --> 00:07:51,605
This was the best thing to do.

141
00:07:51,605 --> 00:07:56,160

How much initiative did you
have to take versus systems

142
00:07:56,160 --> 00:07:59,017
that were in place for you?

143
00:07:59,017 --> 00:08:00,690
Every day, every step.

144
00:08:00,690 --> 00:08:03,420
It all depended
on my initiative,

145
00:08:03,420 --> 00:08:06,120
on my concepts, my ideas--

146
00:08:06,120 --> 00:08:10,380
how to act, what to do,
how to avoid dangers,

147
00:08:10,380 --> 00:08:13,620
how to find the
people who can help.

148
00:08:13,620 --> 00:08:17,770
You are left to your
own resources, mostly.

149
00:08:17,770 --> 00:08:19,662
What prepared you for this?

150
00:08:19,662 --> 00:08:20,162
What?

151
00:08:20,162 --> 00:08:24,257
What do you think prepared
you for this kind of activity?

152
00:08:24,257 --> 00:08:25,490
Motivation, I think.

153
00:08:25,490 --> 00:08:29,260

I did want to serve
my country and to help

154
00:08:29,260 --> 00:08:33,565
to defeat the Germans.

155
00:08:33,565 --> 00:08:40,250

156
00:08:40,250 --> 00:08:44,089
Tell me a little bit more
about the propaganda campaign,

157
00:08:44,089 --> 00:08:46,235
its actual end.

158
00:08:46,235 --> 00:08:50,180
Well, it was
psychological warfare.

159
00:08:50,180 --> 00:08:54,440
The main purpose was to
demoralize the Germans

160
00:08:54,440 --> 00:08:58,130
by all kind of tricks.

161
00:08:58,130 --> 00:09:07,130
For instance, instruction,
how to behave to avoid frost

162
00:09:07,130 --> 00:09:11,480
at the East Front, which was
so terrible-- the instructions,

163
00:09:11,480 --> 00:09:17,270
to frighten anybody going to
the East Front, to Russia.

164
00:09:17,270 --> 00:09:19,130
That's just one example.

165

00:09:19,130 --> 00:09:23,810
For instance, the
Germans in Warsaw

166
00:09:23,810 --> 00:09:30,140
would get secret
instructions that the gas

167
00:09:30,140 --> 00:09:34,580
attack, chemical weapon
attack by Russians,

168
00:09:34,580 --> 00:09:37,130
is expected in
Warsaw and that they

169
00:09:37,130 --> 00:09:43,700
should go to the such-and-such
office to collect gas mask.

170
00:09:43,700 --> 00:09:44,960
You see?

171
00:09:44,960 --> 00:09:47,870
But they are not allowed
to tell Poles about it,

172
00:09:47,870 --> 00:09:50,740
because there are
not enough gas masks.

173
00:09:50,740 --> 00:09:54,180
We knew there were
no gas masks at all.

174
00:09:54,180 --> 00:09:58,390
And so these Germans would make
use, would come for gas masks.

175
00:09:58,390 --> 00:10:02,150
They were told, we don't have
any gas masks for you, which

176

00:10:02,150 --> 00:10:05,250
would spread panic, of course.

177
00:10:05,250 --> 00:10:08,690
For instance, we would send
the secret instructions--

178
00:10:08,690 --> 00:10:11,900
no, not secret, open
instructions-- that there

179
00:10:11,900 --> 00:10:15,260
is such-and-such anniversary
in the Nazi movement,

180
00:10:15,260 --> 00:10:17,030
and the day is free from work.

181
00:10:17,030 --> 00:10:18,630
It was not.

182
00:10:18,630 --> 00:10:23,720
But if every worker and every
engineer in a big factory

183
00:10:23,720 --> 00:10:25,730
producing weapons--

184
00:10:25,730 --> 00:10:27,200
they would not come to work.

185
00:10:27,200 --> 00:10:31,190
And it would be a terrific
waste of manpower.

186
00:10:31,190 --> 00:10:32,510
You see?

187
00:10:32,510 --> 00:10:41,510
We were forging secret forms
of all kind of Nazi documents.

188

00:10:41,510 --> 00:10:49,320
And all kind of managers,
directors, important people

189
00:10:49,320 --> 00:10:52,080
would get an order.

190
00:10:52,080 --> 00:10:56,310
For instance, the important
engineer in Munich

191
00:10:56,310 --> 00:11:01,530
would get an order to go to
the party meeting in Hamburg.

192
00:11:01,530 --> 00:11:04,860
So he would put his
SA uniform on him

193
00:11:04,860 --> 00:11:09,720
to go to Hamburg to say that
you are a victim of a joke.

194
00:11:09,720 --> 00:11:12,150
But he would not be at work.

195
00:11:12,150 --> 00:11:16,500
It would inflict considerable
damage to work machinery.

196
00:11:16,500 --> 00:11:21,850
And so it was a kind of
psychological sabotage,

197
00:11:21,850 --> 00:11:25,050
which was extremely effective.

198
00:11:25,050 --> 00:11:29,580
And above all, to give the
Germans the impression that

199
00:11:29,580 --> 00:11:33,280
there is an anti-Nazi resistance

movement which, in fact,

200
00:11:33,280 --> 00:11:35,130
did not exist--

201
00:11:35,130 --> 00:11:39,240
that there is a
anti-Hitler plot.

202
00:11:39,240 --> 00:11:41,970
All this had certain
psychological impact

203
00:11:41,970 --> 00:11:44,090
on Germans.

204
00:11:44,090 --> 00:11:47,810
And I think we were
pretty effective in this.

205
00:11:47,810 --> 00:11:50,550
Were you thinking up a
lot of these schemes?

206
00:11:50,550 --> 00:11:51,050
No.

207
00:11:51,050 --> 00:11:55,730
My job was really to organize
the network and distribution.

208
00:11:55,730 --> 00:12:01,940
And the others were thinking
about finding the ideas

209
00:12:01,940 --> 00:12:03,790
how to do it.

210
00:12:03,790 --> 00:12:07,820
Did you have any sense
of how effective it was?

211

00:12:07,820 --> 00:12:12,350
We did, because we did have all
kind of secret German documents

212
00:12:12,350 --> 00:12:15,290
how to fight it.

213
00:12:15,290 --> 00:12:17,630
And Germans were
out of their way

214
00:12:17,630 --> 00:12:21,150
to try to find us, to
arrest us, and so on.

215
00:12:21,150 --> 00:12:25,780
And then we had a report
from the British Intelligence

216
00:12:25,780 --> 00:12:30,330
Service, which found that
this is a very effective job.

217
00:12:30,330 --> 00:12:32,850
We got a lot of praise
from the British

218
00:12:32,850 --> 00:12:34,590
for this kind of propaganda.

219
00:12:34,590 --> 00:12:39,030
They did have their
own black propaganda.

220
00:12:39,030 --> 00:12:41,460
And we were trying
my-- one of my jobs

221
00:12:41,460 --> 00:12:45,810
was to establish cooperation
between British black

222
00:12:45,810 --> 00:12:55,230

propaganda, which
was mostly by radio,

223

00:12:55,230 --> 00:12:59,670
but radio which were posing as
the German underground radios.

224

00:12:59,670 --> 00:13:01,560
And the man who
was conducting it

225

00:13:01,560 --> 00:13:05,130
was a genius by the
name of Sefton Delmer.

226

00:13:05,130 --> 00:13:05,970
I met him.

227

00:13:05,970 --> 00:13:08,130
And he praised our
effort very highly.

228

00:13:08,130 --> 00:13:11,145
He respected what we were doing.

229

00:13:11,145 --> 00:13:14,190
What was your biggest challenge
in setting up this distribution

230

00:13:14,190 --> 00:13:16,110
network?

231

00:13:16,110 --> 00:13:18,870
Well, to travel-- travel
with forged documents,

232

00:13:18,870 --> 00:13:24,930
with compromising material, and
with the uniform of a railway

233

00:13:24,930 --> 00:13:28,110
man without good
knowledge of German.

234
00:13:28,110 --> 00:13:30,630

235
00:13:30,630 --> 00:13:34,190
There was a
considerable risk in it.

236
00:13:34,190 --> 00:13:37,570
But it was fun.

237
00:13:37,570 --> 00:13:44,050
I consider it to be the most
fascinating part of my life.

238
00:13:44,050 --> 00:13:46,465
Was it easy to recruit
people for this?

239
00:13:46,465 --> 00:13:47,380
It was easy.

240
00:13:47,380 --> 00:13:49,040
Too many people were--

241
00:13:49,040 --> 00:13:50,470
there were too many volunteers.

242
00:13:50,470 --> 00:13:53,170
You had to be very selective.

243
00:13:53,170 --> 00:13:57,040
But people did want
to go to work for us

244
00:13:57,040 --> 00:14:02,980
and were really contemptuous
of the risk of life.

245
00:14:02,980 --> 00:14:07,555

246

00:14:07,555 --> 00:14:13,420
Now, when you were in London,
you were there doing what?

247

00:14:13,420 --> 00:14:19,110
Well, I arrived right
after the Teheran

248

00:14:19,110 --> 00:14:23,270
on 11th of December, '43.

249

00:14:23,270 --> 00:14:31,570
And I left on, I believe, 14th
of July, or maybe-- no, maybe

250

00:14:31,570 --> 00:14:33,835
on the 11th of July, '44.

251

00:14:33,835 --> 00:14:36,840

252

00:14:36,840 --> 00:14:40,720
And I was in [? Riche ?]
Poland on 25th of July,

253

00:14:40,720 --> 00:14:43,800
just before the Warsaw uprising.

254

00:14:43,800 --> 00:14:49,620
And I was sent there after the
collapse of the uprising back.

255

00:14:49,620 --> 00:14:53,770
And we reached-- it
was a long journey.

256

00:14:53,770 --> 00:14:58,140
We reached London on
22nd of January, '45.

257

00:14:58,140 --> 00:14:59,910
This was the last trip.

258
00:14:59,910 --> 00:15:01,440
Your first trip to London--

259
00:15:01,440 --> 00:15:02,900
why were you sent there?

260
00:15:02,900 --> 00:15:03,720
What was your role?

261
00:15:03,720 --> 00:15:04,928
What was your responsibility?

262
00:15:04,928 --> 00:15:10,380
Emissary-- the men who were
bringing some very important

263
00:15:10,380 --> 00:15:14,860
messages, oral briefing.

264
00:15:14,860 --> 00:15:16,180
I had a mission.

265
00:15:16,180 --> 00:15:20,770
And also, of course, I
had my microfilms with me.

266
00:15:20,770 --> 00:15:26,320
But they were important
reports from the commander

267
00:15:26,320 --> 00:15:34,300
in chief in Poland to the Polish
commander in chief in London

268
00:15:34,300 --> 00:15:35,830
and to the Polish government.

269
00:15:35,830 --> 00:15:40,480
And my main mission was to
brief and to tell people.

270

00:15:40,480 --> 00:15:43,810

I met Anthony Eden.

271

00:15:43,810 --> 00:15:49,240

I met at least five other
members of the war cabinet.

272

00:15:49,240 --> 00:15:52,990

It was Ernest Bevin,
Archibald Sinclair

273

00:15:52,990 --> 00:15:56,350

who was the minister
of the airforce.

274

00:15:56,350 --> 00:16:00,010

Lord Selbourne,
psychological warfare--

275

00:16:00,010 --> 00:16:04,930

Morrison, Ernest
Bevin was labor.

276

00:16:04,930 --> 00:16:06,580

And at the end, I met Churchill.

277

00:16:06,580 --> 00:16:09,310

This was my last meeting.

278

00:16:09,310 --> 00:16:14,780

I met many parliamentarians,
many journalists.

279

00:16:14,780 --> 00:16:19,115

What kind of information
were you taking to London?

280

00:16:19,115 --> 00:16:21,350

About the underground
activities,

281

00:16:21,350 --> 00:16:27,050

about the situation there,
about our plans of action.

282
00:16:27,050 --> 00:16:30,860
And above all, we were
trying to really get

283
00:16:30,860 --> 00:16:37,400
support in view of the coming
danger from the Soviets.

284
00:16:37,400 --> 00:16:40,460
It was not only a fight
against the Germans.

285
00:16:40,460 --> 00:16:45,080
We were then already facing
great danger of the Russians,

286
00:16:45,080 --> 00:16:46,820
of the Soviets.

287
00:16:46,820 --> 00:16:49,070
And my mission was
really to convince

288
00:16:49,070 --> 00:16:53,810
the British and the Americans
that they should, in some way,

289
00:16:53,810 --> 00:17:02,740
help us to resist Soviet
designs to subjugate Poland

290
00:17:02,740 --> 00:17:05,300
and the rest of the area.

291
00:17:05,300 --> 00:17:07,609
This was one of my most
important missions.

292
00:17:07,609 --> 00:17:11,230
And one of my mission

was also to report

293
00:17:11,230 --> 00:17:13,300
about genocide of Jews.

294
00:17:13,300 --> 00:17:16,990
This was a
high-priority mission.

295
00:17:16,990 --> 00:17:19,810
I got instructions
to go to the--

296
00:17:19,810 --> 00:17:22,880
very high priority.

297
00:17:22,880 --> 00:17:29,890
Now, when you met
with Mr. Eden and some

298
00:17:29,890 --> 00:17:34,510
of these other ministers,
what kind of response

299
00:17:34,510 --> 00:17:37,080
did you get from them?

300
00:17:37,080 --> 00:17:41,440
Well, it was friendly.

301
00:17:41,440 --> 00:17:43,480
There was interest,
because it was

302
00:17:43,480 --> 00:17:48,130
unusual to have an emissary
from occupied country.

303
00:17:48,130 --> 00:17:51,880
And at the same thing they're
like, what can we do for you?

304

00:17:51,880 --> 00:17:56,395
Do you want us to make a war
with Russia to defend Poland?

305
00:17:56,395 --> 00:17:59,070
How can we help you?

306
00:17:59,070 --> 00:18:03,150
I was right in the middle
of the game between Joseph

307
00:18:03,150 --> 00:18:08,670
Stalin, Churchill, and Roosevelt
with Poland in the middle.

308
00:18:08,670 --> 00:18:11,880
And I was trying to
use this influence.

309
00:18:11,880 --> 00:18:17,250
I also was telling everybody
I could about the genocide,

310
00:18:17,250 --> 00:18:18,550
about the Holocaust.

311
00:18:18,550 --> 00:18:26,650
And I met with disbelief
when I talk to the Jews

312
00:18:26,650 --> 00:18:31,710
from Joint organization with
some rabbi from New York.

313
00:18:31,710 --> 00:18:34,470
I was in the presence
of Schwartzbart,

314
00:18:34,470 --> 00:18:40,380
who was a Polish Zionist, an
important political figure.

315
00:18:40,380 --> 00:18:43,350

I sensed that they
don't believe me.

316
00:18:43,350 --> 00:18:49,500
And only one high-level
British intelligence officer

317
00:18:49,500 --> 00:18:53,190
was really moved by my
story about the Jews.

318
00:18:53,190 --> 00:18:56,340
And he told me-- and the same
way was told the same story

319
00:18:56,340 --> 00:18:58,200
by Ignacy Schwartzbart--

320
00:18:58,200 --> 00:19:01,960
don't tell people the 2.5
million Jews were killed.

321
00:19:01,960 --> 00:19:03,450
Nobody is going to believe you.

322
00:19:03,450 --> 00:19:06,030
It's something
beyond imagination.

323
00:19:06,030 --> 00:19:07,920
They will say you exaggerate.

324
00:19:07,920 --> 00:19:09,840
Tell the individual stories.

325
00:19:09,840 --> 00:19:12,390
Tell what you saw.

326
00:19:12,390 --> 00:19:13,740
Use examples.

327
00:19:13,740 --> 00:19:18,150

But don't use statistics,
because they will not

328
00:19:18,150 --> 00:19:19,590
believe you.

329
00:19:19,590 --> 00:19:22,380
And I was trying to use it.

330
00:19:22,380 --> 00:19:26,880
But when I and my wife
went-- after the war

331
00:19:26,880 --> 00:19:31,800
in '76, when I was
writing my war memoirs,

332
00:19:31,800 --> 00:19:36,150
we both went to London
to the archives,

333
00:19:36,150 --> 00:19:39,570
to Her Majesty's records office.

334
00:19:39,570 --> 00:19:43,650
Plenty of documents were
already declassified.

335
00:19:43,650 --> 00:19:46,200
And I found a lot of
documents concerning

336
00:19:46,200 --> 00:19:52,110
myself the reporter Anthony
Eden wrote, after meeting me,

337
00:19:52,110 --> 00:19:54,780
addressed to Churchill.

338
00:19:54,780 --> 00:19:56,490
In all these reports--

339

00:19:56,490 --> 00:20:02,040
nothing about what I said
about the Jews, not one word.

340
00:20:02,040 --> 00:20:05,340
I spoke to the
intelligence officers.

341
00:20:05,340 --> 00:20:09,700
I spoke to Eden, to others.

342
00:20:09,700 --> 00:20:14,530
In all the reporting,
any reference to the Jews

343
00:20:14,530 --> 00:20:16,630
were not repeated.

344
00:20:16,630 --> 00:20:19,240
And then I was
interested to find

345
00:20:19,240 --> 00:20:21,940
if the same story was
with Jan Karski, who

346
00:20:21,940 --> 00:20:23,620
was one year before me.

347
00:20:23,620 --> 00:20:27,910
And I found a report of Anthony
Eden on his conversation

348
00:20:27,910 --> 00:20:32,290
with Karski in the documents
of the British War Cabinet.

349
00:20:32,290 --> 00:20:35,350
It was printed and distributed--

350
00:20:35,350 --> 00:20:36,920
not one word about the Jews.

351

00:20:36,920 --> 00:20:39,410

So I sent it to Karski.

352

00:20:39,410 --> 00:20:42,890

And he wrote me
back saying, look,

353

00:20:42,890 --> 00:20:46,680

I told Eden when
I was describing

354

00:20:46,680 --> 00:20:47,810

the situation in Poland.

355

00:20:47,810 --> 00:20:51,140

I told you about what's
going on with the Jews--

356

00:20:51,140 --> 00:20:55,240

not one word, not one word.

357

00:20:55,240 --> 00:20:56,290

And the main reason--

358

00:20:56,290 --> 00:20:59,200

I think you had to
differentiate between two

359

00:20:59,200 --> 00:21:01,750

categories of people.

360

00:21:01,750 --> 00:21:03,760

There were people who
simply didn't believe,

361

00:21:03,760 --> 00:21:07,610

because this was something
beyond their imagination.

362

00:21:07,610 --> 00:21:08,410

There were Jews.

363

00:21:08,410 --> 00:21:13,390
Jews from United States I talked
to, and British Jews, simply

364

00:21:13,390 --> 00:21:14,260
didn't believe.

365

00:21:14,260 --> 00:21:19,210
They didn't believe that
there is a possibility of mass

366

00:21:19,210 --> 00:21:26,440
killing in a conveyor belt
method, like in a factory,

367

00:21:26,440 --> 00:21:27,580
or in a butchery.

368

00:21:27,580 --> 00:21:31,170
You just mechanically kill
people, one after the other.

369

00:21:31,170 --> 00:21:33,820
They didn't believe it.

370

00:21:33,820 --> 00:21:38,710
And they were suspecting me of
some kind of ulterior motives.

371

00:21:38,710 --> 00:21:43,900
They said, well, why a
Pole should exaggerate?

372

00:21:43,900 --> 00:21:46,840
Well, because he's
anti-German, and he

373

00:21:46,840 --> 00:21:51,130
would like to have as harsh
terms imposed on the Germans

374

00:21:51,130 --> 00:21:53,720

after their defeat as possible.

375

00:21:53,720 --> 00:21:55,390

That's why he's exaggerating.

376

00:21:55,390 --> 00:21:58,000

377

00:21:58,000 --> 00:22:01,480

But as far as such people
as Eden is concerned,

378

00:22:01,480 --> 00:22:04,840

or members of the cabinet,
they were very well informed,

379

00:22:04,840 --> 00:22:08,350

because they discovered
it after the war.

380

00:22:08,350 --> 00:22:13,460

For instance, a very
high level Nazi official

381

00:22:13,460 --> 00:22:19,740

whose name is known was passing
to a Polish intelligence

382

00:22:19,740 --> 00:22:23,550

officer in Berne, in
Switzerland, information

383

00:22:23,550 --> 00:22:26,610

about the plans
of final solution

384

00:22:26,610 --> 00:22:33,010

well before they
started to implement it.

385

00:22:33,010 --> 00:22:36,280

And I know that this report
was passed on to British

386
00:22:36,280 --> 00:22:37,990
and to Americans.

387
00:22:37,990 --> 00:22:40,840
They knew, but they didn't--

388
00:22:40,840 --> 00:22:46,450
they were afraid that, if this
war become known publicly,

389
00:22:46,450 --> 00:22:51,880
it will generate the pressure
from the Jewish communities

390
00:22:51,880 --> 00:22:56,440
and general public
for some action that

391
00:22:56,440 --> 00:23:00,820
would divert limited
military resources

392
00:23:00,820 --> 00:23:04,630
from the military targets
to the targets that

393
00:23:04,630 --> 00:23:08,140
are, in their view, irrelevant
from the military point

394
00:23:08,140 --> 00:23:09,190
of view.

395
00:23:09,190 --> 00:23:11,290
And that may prolong the war.

396
00:23:11,290 --> 00:23:14,710
I don't remember if
it was Eden or Devin--

397
00:23:14,710 --> 00:23:17,050

Bevin, rather, Ernest Bevin--

398
00:23:17,050 --> 00:23:19,960
who said, well, the only way
we can really save the Jews

399
00:23:19,960 --> 00:23:22,330
is to win the war.

400
00:23:22,330 --> 00:23:27,690
And the more we can focus
on military targets,

401
00:23:27,690 --> 00:23:31,750
strategic military target,
the better to the Jews.

402
00:23:31,750 --> 00:23:35,278
I think they refused to bomb
the railway track to Auschwitz

403
00:23:35,278 --> 00:23:36,820
because they believed
that they would

404
00:23:36,820 --> 00:23:40,690
be repaired in a matter
of days or hours,

405
00:23:40,690 --> 00:23:43,480
but the planes may be lost.

406
00:23:43,480 --> 00:23:46,630
The planes, which
could be used to bomb

407
00:23:46,630 --> 00:23:49,570
the important target
in Germany, would

408
00:23:49,570 --> 00:23:51,910
be diverted from the target.

409

00:23:51,910 --> 00:23:55,780

And they were wrong, because
the greatest tragedy of Jews

410

00:23:55,780 --> 00:23:58,150

was not just their deaths--

411

00:23:58,150 --> 00:24:01,630

indifference of the world.

412

00:24:01,630 --> 00:24:06,370

They were absolutely lonely
in the face of the death.

413

00:24:06,370 --> 00:24:08,830

It was in the--
they realized, well,

414

00:24:08,830 --> 00:24:12,250

the world doesn't
care about the methods

415

00:24:12,250 --> 00:24:16,030

we are killed, about this
dimension of the crime.

416

00:24:16,030 --> 00:24:18,190

We are lonely.

417

00:24:18,190 --> 00:24:18,850

You see?

418

00:24:18,850 --> 00:24:22,960

And this was-- in my
view, it was a crime

419

00:24:22,960 --> 00:24:25,090

not to do something.

420

00:24:25,090 --> 00:24:28,440

It's a kind of a moral relief--

421
00:24:28,440 --> 00:24:31,050
that we tried to do
something to save you.

422
00:24:31,050 --> 00:24:34,715

423
00:24:34,715 --> 00:24:40,580
What was your impression
of Eden and Churchill?

424
00:24:40,580 --> 00:24:44,600
Well, Churchill was
not very friendly.

425
00:24:44,600 --> 00:24:46,790
I had only 10 minutes.

426
00:24:46,790 --> 00:24:54,650
And I was so intimidated by
his appearance and some kind

427
00:24:54,650 --> 00:24:59,360
of impression-- well,
why really this young man

428
00:24:59,360 --> 00:25:04,200
is taking my time, this kind of
attitude-- that I lost myself.

429
00:25:04,200 --> 00:25:05,250
I was not good.

430
00:25:05,250 --> 00:25:09,300
My performance was not good,
because I was so nervous

431
00:25:09,300 --> 00:25:10,770
that I didn't perform well.

432
00:25:10,770 --> 00:25:12,060
It was tragic.

433
00:25:12,060 --> 00:25:15,490
But with Eden, I
was pretty lucid.

434
00:25:15,490 --> 00:25:19,560
And as I said, he was
very, very friendly.

435
00:25:19,560 --> 00:25:22,590
When I showed him the
photographs of Warsaw

436
00:25:22,590 --> 00:25:26,490
with some underground
descriptions

437
00:25:26,490 --> 00:25:29,460
of the war on the
walls and all that,

438
00:25:29,460 --> 00:25:33,690
he said to himself, poor Warsaw.

439
00:25:33,690 --> 00:25:37,830
But there was the
attitude, well,

440
00:25:37,830 --> 00:25:40,200
we cannot do anything for you.

441
00:25:40,200 --> 00:25:44,650
You have to accommodate
yourself with the Russians.

442
00:25:44,650 --> 00:25:45,770
We cannot save you.

443
00:25:45,770 --> 00:25:48,670
We cannot save Poland.

444
00:25:48,670 --> 00:25:51,660

You have to make
your war effort,

445
00:25:51,660 --> 00:25:55,420
to contribute,
and to try to find

446
00:25:55,420 --> 00:25:57,760
some compromise with Stalin.

447
00:25:57,760 --> 00:26:00,295
That was the message, basically.

448
00:26:00,295 --> 00:26:01,457
Discouraging.

449
00:26:01,457 --> 00:26:02,110
Discouraging.

450
00:26:02,110 --> 00:26:05,190
It was the worst time
of my whole life--

451
00:26:05,190 --> 00:26:07,508
appeasement, total appeasement.

452
00:26:07,508 --> 00:26:11,795

453
00:26:11,795 --> 00:26:15,750
When you returned to Warsaw--

454
00:26:15,750 --> 00:26:16,970
I'm watching the clock also--

455
00:26:16,970 --> 00:26:20,200

456
00:26:20,200 --> 00:26:24,050
was right before the
uprising, the Polish uprising.

457

00:26:24,050 --> 00:26:24,550

Yes.

458

00:26:24,550 --> 00:26:28,990

What were you doing
during the uprising?

459

00:26:28,990 --> 00:26:32,830

I was in charge of the
insurgent radio station called

460

00:26:32,830 --> 00:26:37,390

Blyskawica, Lightning, which
was broadcasting literally

461

00:26:37,390 --> 00:26:41,380

from the front line,
because we were trying

462

00:26:41,380 --> 00:26:46,000

to be as close to the Germans
as possible, because then they

463

00:26:46,000 --> 00:26:50,830

couldn't bomb us from fear they
would hit their own soldiers.

464

00:26:50,830 --> 00:26:52,840

And we were broadcasting.

465

00:26:52,840 --> 00:26:56,260

I was in charge of
broadcasting in English.

466

00:26:56,260 --> 00:27:01,310

My own English was not
good enough at that time.

467

00:27:01,310 --> 00:27:04,510

And I had a man
who was bilingual.

468

00:27:04,510 --> 00:27:07,210
He was half British,
half Polish.

469
00:27:07,210 --> 00:27:08,260
I wrote.

470
00:27:08,260 --> 00:27:09,910
He would translate it.

471
00:27:09,910 --> 00:27:12,130
And he was the announcer.

472
00:27:12,130 --> 00:27:16,780
And we knew we were
monitored by extremely

473
00:27:16,780 --> 00:27:21,610
sophisticated equipment
in Caversham, in London.

474
00:27:21,610 --> 00:27:25,810
And monitoring
bulletins would land

475
00:27:25,810 --> 00:27:30,520
on the desks of all high-level
people, decision-making people,

476
00:27:30,520 --> 00:27:32,500
editorial offices.

477
00:27:32,500 --> 00:27:35,690
So it was an effort worthwhile.

478
00:27:35,690 --> 00:27:39,800
Even now, the old quote
that we are saying

479
00:27:39,800 --> 00:27:42,800
would get through in
German and all that--

480

00:27:42,800 --> 00:27:44,210
is still there on the record.

481

00:27:44,210 --> 00:27:47,650

482

00:27:47,650 --> 00:27:49,600
During the uprising,
did the home army

483

00:27:49,600 --> 00:27:54,800
have the support of or
instructions from London?

484

00:27:54,800 --> 00:27:55,300
No.

485

00:27:55,300 --> 00:28:02,155
We had some parachute--

486

00:28:02,155 --> 00:28:06,640
some weapons, and ammunition,
and food parachuted.

487

00:28:06,640 --> 00:28:07,920
It was not enough.

488

00:28:07,920 --> 00:28:10,330
But even without
this kind of help,

489

00:28:10,330 --> 00:28:14,260
the uprising would
not last 63 days.

490

00:28:14,260 --> 00:28:19,450
Then we had one at the very
end when the uprising was

491

00:28:19,450 --> 00:28:26,350
in its agony on the
18th of September,

492
00:28:26,350 --> 00:28:29,410
there was a mass
daylight raid by

493
00:28:29,410 --> 00:28:33,820
American so-called
fortresses so that the sky

494
00:28:33,820 --> 00:28:37,030
was covered by American planes.

495
00:28:37,030 --> 00:28:41,140
And they dropped
thousands of parachutes

496
00:28:41,140 --> 00:28:44,570
with weapons,
ammunition, and food.

497
00:28:44,570 --> 00:28:47,110
But these were the last
days of the uprising.

498
00:28:47,110 --> 00:28:50,330
We were holding a very
small part of the city.

499
00:28:50,330 --> 00:28:53,500
So most of it went
into the German hands,

500
00:28:53,500 --> 00:28:58,960
because they couldn't hit
the small areas we were still

501
00:28:58,960 --> 00:29:01,105
holding.

502
00:29:01,105 --> 00:29:03,025
Was there Russian support
during the uprising?

503

00:29:03,025 --> 00:29:06,220

Ah, only appearances of it.

504

00:29:06,220 --> 00:29:09,160

No, they wanted us--

505

00:29:09,160 --> 00:29:12,160

they wanted Germans
to finish us.

506

00:29:12,160 --> 00:29:16,645

I could see them with my eyes
on the other side of the river.

507

00:29:16,645 --> 00:29:21,400

The city is separated by the--
divided by the River Vistula.

508

00:29:21,400 --> 00:29:24,700

They were on the other side
waiting until Hitler finish us.

509

00:29:24,700 --> 00:29:32,725

510

00:29:32,725 --> 00:29:36,400

Was London supportive of what
you were doing at this point?

511

00:29:36,400 --> 00:29:37,015

Who?

512

00:29:37,015 --> 00:29:38,605

Your London government.

513

00:29:38,605 --> 00:29:39,670

Of course.

514

00:29:39,670 --> 00:29:40,990

They were supporting.

515

00:29:40,990 --> 00:29:43,120
But they were helpless.

516
00:29:43,120 --> 00:29:45,790
It was a government in exile.

517
00:29:45,790 --> 00:29:49,810
All they could do was to back
British and the Americans

518
00:29:49,810 --> 00:29:55,985
to send us ammunition, weapons,
food, medical supplies.

519
00:29:55,985 --> 00:29:57,965
How organized was the uprising?

520
00:29:57,965 --> 00:30:00,230
It was well organized.

521
00:30:00,230 --> 00:30:03,830
Otherwise, we would
not hold for 63 days.

522
00:30:03,830 --> 00:30:11,450
Again, it was a liberated city,
really, with its own life.

523
00:30:11,450 --> 00:30:14,360
But communication was
very well organized.

524
00:30:14,360 --> 00:30:17,000
For instance, we
were using sewers,

525
00:30:17,000 --> 00:30:20,840
because the areas of
the city were isolated.

526
00:30:20,840 --> 00:30:24,920
And communication between
the areas we were holding

527

00:30:24,920 --> 00:30:26,360
were mostly through the sewers.

528

00:30:26,360 --> 00:30:32,585

529

00:30:32,585 --> 00:30:36,275
What kind of messages were
you sending to London?

530

00:30:36,275 --> 00:30:40,295
Well, information about the
fighting, about our needs.

531

00:30:40,295 --> 00:30:43,810

532

00:30:43,810 --> 00:30:49,340
This was our daily report of
what was going on in the city.

533

00:30:49,340 --> 00:30:52,640
Were you in your radio
tower when the under--

534

00:30:52,640 --> 00:30:53,540
[INAUDIBLE]

535

00:30:53,540 --> 00:30:54,530
No.

536

00:30:54,530 --> 00:30:55,697
--when the uprising started?

537

00:30:55,697 --> 00:30:59,540
The studio was on this very--

538

00:30:59,540 --> 00:31:03,440
either in the underground in the
cellars, or on the first floor.

539

00:31:03,440 --> 00:31:05,040
We moved from place to place.

540

00:31:05,040 --> 00:31:08,720
We couldn't be in the
same place all the time.

541

00:31:08,720 --> 00:31:13,850
And the normal
transmitter was outside.

542

00:31:13,850 --> 00:31:15,710
But you weren't
really in the streets

543

00:31:15,710 --> 00:31:18,200
when all of this activity--

544

00:31:18,200 --> 00:31:20,810
Well, we had to move
through the streets.

545

00:31:20,810 --> 00:31:22,285
What was happening?

546

00:31:22,285 --> 00:31:27,770
We were under the bombs,
under fire all the time.

547

00:31:27,770 --> 00:31:31,250
We had a kind of tunnels.

548

00:31:31,250 --> 00:31:38,240
Or we were-- to avoid the
streets, which were under fire,

549

00:31:38,240 --> 00:31:40,280
there were corridors.

550

00:31:40,280 --> 00:31:49,650
The walls were so that you could
travel from cellars to cellars

551
00:31:49,650 --> 00:31:53,200
under the houses to
avoid the streets.

552
00:31:53,200 --> 00:31:57,420
It's the whole underground
labyrinth of communication.

553
00:31:57,420 --> 00:32:02,050

554
00:32:02,050 --> 00:32:05,080
Did everything happen in
a synchronized fashion?

555
00:32:05,080 --> 00:32:09,566
All of a sudden, one day, at
an appointed hour, the city--

556
00:32:09,566 --> 00:32:10,430
Well, yes.

557
00:32:10,430 --> 00:32:16,280
This was 5:00 PM, August 1.

558
00:32:16,280 --> 00:32:21,725
There was so-called zero
hour when it did start.

559
00:32:21,725 --> 00:32:22,685
Yeah.

560
00:32:22,685 --> 00:32:23,755
You have 13 minutes.

561
00:32:23,755 --> 00:32:24,255
OK.

562
00:32:24,255 --> 00:32:29,720

563

00:32:29,720 --> 00:32:32,720

I don't think I really told you
all about the Jewish aspects,

564

00:32:32,720 --> 00:32:34,310

because you are
mainly interested

565

00:32:34,310 --> 00:32:36,020

in non-Jewish aspects.

566

00:32:36,020 --> 00:32:38,457

But if this is the
Holocaust Museum--

567

00:32:38,457 --> 00:32:39,230

What else can I--

568

00:32:39,230 --> 00:32:41,968

What kind of-- depends
on you, what questions.

569

00:32:41,968 --> 00:32:44,010

I feel like I've asked
you a number of questions.

570

00:32:44,010 --> 00:32:49,350

And I think you have talked
about your relationship

571

00:32:49,350 --> 00:32:52,260

with the Jewish people,
your obligation to--

572

00:32:52,260 --> 00:32:55,320

your mission to go
tell London about what

573

00:32:55,320 --> 00:32:57,090

was happening to the Jews.

574

00:32:57,090 --> 00:33:00,720

If there are areas that you
feel I haven't asked you

575
00:33:00,720 --> 00:33:03,730
about because I maybe
don't know to, please.

576
00:33:03,730 --> 00:33:04,230
Uh-huh.

577
00:33:04,230 --> 00:33:07,800
Well, only my
personal experiences,

578
00:33:07,800 --> 00:33:09,450
which I described in my book.

579
00:33:09,450 --> 00:33:13,470
For instance, when
I was going to--

580
00:33:13,470 --> 00:33:19,020
it was the time of
the agony of ghetto

581
00:33:19,020 --> 00:33:21,930
when, really, people
were starving.

582
00:33:21,930 --> 00:33:27,240
And although it meant a
sentence of death for any Jew

583
00:33:27,240 --> 00:33:31,320
to go outside the
ghetto, because he

584
00:33:31,320 --> 00:33:35,100
would be killed on the
spot by any German patrol,

585
00:33:35,100 --> 00:33:39,900
people were so made so

desperate by starvation

586
00:33:39,900 --> 00:33:43,380
that they would take
any risk to go outside

587
00:33:43,380 --> 00:33:47,920
through their own means and ways
to beg for food, or for money,

588
00:33:47,920 --> 00:33:49,650
buy food.

589
00:33:49,650 --> 00:33:54,000
And this is something that I
will never forget in my life--

590
00:33:54,000 --> 00:34:01,850
when I was going to a town
hall to do some business there.

591
00:34:01,850 --> 00:34:09,124
And this was probably the spring
of '43, or maybe earlier--

592
00:34:09,124 --> 00:34:10,820
earlier.

593
00:34:10,820 --> 00:34:17,630
And I saw a young
Jew who was sitting

594
00:34:17,630 --> 00:34:21,710
on the pavement with
his back on the wall.

595
00:34:21,710 --> 00:34:25,489
And his head was just on--

596
00:34:25,489 --> 00:34:27,620
like this, you know.

597

00:34:27,620 --> 00:34:31,790
And there was a cap on
the payment full of money.

598
00:34:31,790 --> 00:34:36,080
People were dropping some
notes and some money.

599
00:34:36,080 --> 00:34:37,400
And he was just sitting there.

600
00:34:37,400 --> 00:34:38,480
So I came.

601
00:34:38,480 --> 00:34:45,239
Look, if you will sit here,
the first patrol will kill you.

602
00:34:45,239 --> 00:34:49,639
Take your money, buy your
bread, and disappear.

603
00:34:49,639 --> 00:34:53,400
And I remember he
just raised his head

604
00:34:53,400 --> 00:34:58,690
and look at me very intensely.

605
00:34:58,690 --> 00:35:01,840
And he was really
a living skeleton,

606
00:35:01,840 --> 00:35:05,860
but he had beautiful black eyes.

607
00:35:05,860 --> 00:35:09,230
The boy was no more
than 16, maybe 17.

608
00:35:09,230 --> 00:35:14,390
And I saw that he wants
to tell me something.

609
00:35:14,390 --> 00:35:16,080
He couldn't.

610
00:35:16,080 --> 00:35:20,420
So I said to him, look, I have
to leave, but I will be back.

611
00:35:20,420 --> 00:35:21,740
Go to this church.

612
00:35:21,740 --> 00:35:23,750
There was a church nearby.

613
00:35:23,750 --> 00:35:25,250
Go inside to wait for me.

614
00:35:25,250 --> 00:35:27,710
I'll be back.

615
00:35:27,710 --> 00:35:29,770
And I left him.

616
00:35:29,770 --> 00:35:32,570
20 minutes later,
I left the office

617
00:35:32,570 --> 00:35:35,360
where I had some business.

618
00:35:35,360 --> 00:35:39,355
And I saw a small crowd
around this place.

619
00:35:39,355 --> 00:35:40,480
So I came there.

620
00:35:40,480 --> 00:35:47,460
And the boy was still there
with his head like this,

621

00:35:47,460 --> 00:35:51,130
sitting in the same
position, but he was dead.

622
00:35:51,130 --> 00:35:59,490
He had no force to really stood,
go, buy something, and escape.

623
00:35:59,490 --> 00:36:01,890
He didn't want to
tell me, probably,

624
00:36:01,890 --> 00:36:04,920
that I wish I could
follow your advice,

625
00:36:04,920 --> 00:36:12,040
but I have no strength to go.

626
00:36:12,040 --> 00:36:18,830
So I will remember it always,
this intense looking and these

627
00:36:18,830 --> 00:36:24,050
black eyes of the young fellow
who just wanted to me tell

628
00:36:24,050 --> 00:36:26,090
something he couldn't.

629
00:36:26,090 --> 00:36:29,360
And also, I remember--

630
00:36:29,360 --> 00:36:32,090
and I just described it.

631
00:36:32,090 --> 00:36:36,350
When I went to a court--

632
00:36:36,350 --> 00:36:40,490
and this was some
problem in my civil life.

633

00:36:40,490 --> 00:36:47,520

I was a manager of a house
and collector of rent.

634

00:36:47,520 --> 00:36:50,580

And I had some question.

635

00:36:50,580 --> 00:36:51,950

I had to go to court.

636

00:36:51,950 --> 00:36:53,730

Now, the building
of the courts--

637

00:36:53,730 --> 00:36:56,460

638

00:36:56,460 --> 00:37:02,060

some windows were to the Aryan
side, to the Christian side,

639

00:37:02,060 --> 00:37:05,280

the other to the ghetto.

640

00:37:05,280 --> 00:37:10,940

And this was probably
the beginning of '43

641

00:37:10,940 --> 00:37:18,680

when there were only 70,000 Jews
left in the Jewish district.

642

00:37:18,680 --> 00:37:26,580

And on that day, the Germans
started again the transports

643

00:37:26,580 --> 00:37:29,350

to the death camps.

644

00:37:29,350 --> 00:37:33,520

And I was in the courtroom.

645

00:37:33,520 --> 00:37:38,460

There was some trivial
case against somebody

646

00:37:38,460 --> 00:37:48,480

who probably stole
a sack with wheat

647

00:37:48,480 --> 00:37:52,980

or something, trivial problem.

648

00:37:52,980 --> 00:38:00,120

And outside on the street, there
was this terrible drama of Jews

649

00:38:00,120 --> 00:38:02,310

who were herded.

650

00:38:02,310 --> 00:38:06,450

And they were running
towards this place

651

00:38:06,450 --> 00:38:09,460

where they were
boarded on the train.

652

00:38:09,460 --> 00:38:10,620

There were children.

653

00:38:10,620 --> 00:38:12,900

There were women.

654

00:38:12,900 --> 00:38:16,890

There were mens.

655

00:38:16,890 --> 00:38:22,770

I remember somebody was pushing
a cart with the sick Jews

656

00:38:22,770 --> 00:38:24,480

who were limping.

657

00:38:24,480 --> 00:38:28,500
There were almost dying people.

658

00:38:28,500 --> 00:38:34,600
And these Germans who
were drunk with their

659

00:38:34,600 --> 00:38:38,380
whips, beating these
people, and pushing them--

660

00:38:38,380 --> 00:38:43,660
[SPEAKING GERMAN] quicker,
quicker, quicker, and all that.

661

00:38:43,660 --> 00:38:51,320
And there was some lady
who was well dressed.

662

00:38:51,320 --> 00:38:56,990
And she was holding
money in her hands

663

00:38:56,990 --> 00:38:59,840
and had a child, small child.

664

00:38:59,840 --> 00:39:05,180
And she probably wanted
to bribe her way out.

665

00:39:05,180 --> 00:39:11,150
So she stretched this money
towards the Gestapo man.

666

00:39:11,150 --> 00:39:19,310
And he just beat her with her
whip so that she lost balance.

667

00:39:19,310 --> 00:39:22,520
And the child was
dropped on the pavement.

668

00:39:22,520 --> 00:39:27,050
And there was an
old Jewish woman

669
00:39:27,050 --> 00:39:30,560
who was so desperate
that she stretched

670
00:39:30,560 --> 00:39:34,250
her hands toward this
guy and said, Hitler,

671
00:39:34,250 --> 00:39:38,370
the grass should--

672
00:39:38,370 --> 00:39:39,800
how did she say this?

673
00:39:39,800 --> 00:39:46,460
The grass should
cover your house,

674
00:39:46,460 --> 00:39:48,240
or something of that sort.

675
00:39:48,240 --> 00:39:55,780
And I was told later this
was a old Jewish saying.

676
00:39:55,780 --> 00:39:59,570
And I didn't want to
see what would happen.

677
00:39:59,570 --> 00:40:02,650
I knew that she would be
shoot or killed in some way.

678
00:40:02,650 --> 00:40:05,530
So I turned from the window.

679
00:40:05,530 --> 00:40:07,630
There was a silence
in the courtroom.

680
00:40:07,630 --> 00:40:10,280
The judge was speechless.

681
00:40:10,280 --> 00:40:14,020
He was just--
couldn't concentrate

682
00:40:14,020 --> 00:40:19,750
because of these terrible shouts
from outside and all that.

683
00:40:19,750 --> 00:40:22,770

684
00:40:22,770 --> 00:40:27,150
I remember that, years later,
I was stationed in Munich

685
00:40:27,150 --> 00:40:31,110
as the director of the Polish
service of radio free Europe.

686
00:40:31,110 --> 00:40:34,810
And my wife and I
went to Berchtesgaden

687
00:40:34,810 --> 00:40:39,280
and looked at the
house of Hitler, which

688
00:40:39,280 --> 00:40:42,190
was blown up by Americans.

689
00:40:42,190 --> 00:40:49,030
And believe it or not, in these
ruins, there was bathroom.

690
00:40:49,030 --> 00:40:53,470
And grass was everywhere
between this--

691

00:40:53,470 --> 00:40:56,500

692

00:40:56,500 --> 00:40:57,370

how you call it?

693

00:40:57,370 --> 00:41:01,440

Between bricks or [? tilts ?]

everywhere was grass.

694

00:41:01,440 --> 00:41:10,420

So this terrible shouting

that grass cover your house

695

00:41:10,420 --> 00:41:11,230

became true.

696

00:41:11,230 --> 00:41:15,980

697

00:41:15,980 --> 00:41:17,540

Anything else you want to say?

698

00:41:17,540 --> 00:41:19,995

Well, that's more or less all.

699

00:41:19,995 --> 00:41:20,790

OK.

700

00:41:20,790 --> 00:41:21,590

More or less all.

701

00:41:21,590 --> 00:41:29,290

It was unspeakable

misery of human beings.

702

00:41:29,290 --> 00:41:34,440

And I didn't care whether they
were Poles, Jews, or Gypsies.

703

00:41:34,440 --> 00:41:38,430

It was unspeakable tragedy.

704
00:41:38,430 --> 00:41:43,940
And no words can really convey.

705
00:41:43,940 --> 00:41:47,135
People who were condemned
to death only for one kind,

706
00:41:47,135 --> 00:41:49,900
and they were alive.

707
00:41:49,900 --> 00:41:53,600
And total destruction of
people-- of their race,

708
00:41:53,600 --> 00:41:56,800
their religion, their heritage.

709
00:41:56,800 --> 00:42:01,060
And above all this,
this process of wives

710
00:42:01,060 --> 00:42:05,680
who were losing first their
husband, then their children

711
00:42:05,680 --> 00:42:08,620
and, in the end,
they were killed.

712
00:42:08,620 --> 00:42:14,270
This was unspeakable
tragedy with no precedent.

713
00:42:14,270 --> 00:42:15,710
I mean, Poles suffered.

714
00:42:15,710 --> 00:42:18,140
They were martyrs.

715
00:42:18,140 --> 00:42:22,470
There was not one single Polish

family without some victims.

716
00:42:22,470 --> 00:42:26,780
But a Pole had a
chance to survive.

717
00:42:26,780 --> 00:42:29,600
Jews had no hope, no chance.

718
00:42:29,600 --> 00:42:31,410
It was a miracle if
you would survive.

719
00:42:31,410 --> 00:42:33,940

720
00:42:33,940 --> 00:42:35,020
Yeah.

721
00:42:35,020 --> 00:42:35,627
OK.

722
00:42:35,627 --> 00:42:36,325
Yes, Thank you.

723
00:42:36,325 --> 00:42:36,860
That's all.

724
00:42:36,860 --> 00:42:37,660
Thank you.

725
00:42:37,660 --> 00:42:38,910
[INAUDIBLE]

726
00:42:38,910 --> 00:43:10,000