

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:00,330
OK.

2
00:00:00,330 --> 00:00:00,870
Am I fine?

3
00:00:00,870 --> 00:00:01,370
We're good.

4
00:00:01,370 --> 00:00:02,610
We're rolling.

5
00:00:02,610 --> 00:00:03,480
OK.

6
00:00:03,480 --> 00:00:05,230
So let's talk about high school.

7
00:00:05,230 --> 00:00:08,520
What was high school like
in Scranton, Pennsylvania?

8
00:00:08,520 --> 00:00:13,110
Well, I have to say that
I was dedicated to go

9
00:00:13,110 --> 00:00:14,850
to a technical high school.

10
00:00:14,850 --> 00:00:18,750
I knew my family couldn't
afford to send me to college.

11
00:00:18,750 --> 00:00:21,030
I had never talked
about college.

12
00:00:21,030 --> 00:00:24,030
College was not a
subject in my family.

13

00:00:24,030 --> 00:00:26,130

So I went to a
technical high school.

14

00:00:26,130 --> 00:00:29,220

I got to learn everything
that you can possibly learn.

15

00:00:29,220 --> 00:00:33,750

I knew electrical work, and
I did machine shop work.

16

00:00:33,750 --> 00:00:36,060

I even did some welding.

17

00:00:36,060 --> 00:00:39,030

And I enjoyed all of this.

18

00:00:39,030 --> 00:00:41,970

I was not particularly good
in these fields, I must say,

19

00:00:41,970 --> 00:00:44,520

but I enjoyed doing that.

20

00:00:44,520 --> 00:00:46,470

So this wasn't college prep.

21

00:00:46,470 --> 00:00:47,640

This was not college prep.

22

00:00:47,640 --> 00:00:49,050

Not in the least.

23

00:00:49,050 --> 00:00:56,790

And after three years, my father
saw an ad in The New York Times

24

00:00:56,790 --> 00:01:00,420

for a position in
window dressing

25

00:01:00,420 --> 00:01:03,300

for a store in New
London, Connecticut.

26

00:01:03,300 --> 00:01:04,628

My father went to New London.

27

00:01:04,628 --> 00:01:06,420

He took one look at
the beach, and he said,

28

00:01:06,420 --> 00:01:08,587

that's where I want to live
for the rest of my life.

29

00:01:08,587 --> 00:01:11,700

[LAUGHS] He said, I don't
care what kind of work it is.

30

00:01:11,700 --> 00:01:12,600

And he did.

31

00:01:12,600 --> 00:01:14,160

He moved.

32

00:01:14,160 --> 00:01:16,230

And my mother immediately
started a studio.

33

00:01:16,230 --> 00:01:19,650

And she was, again,
very successful.

34

00:01:19,650 --> 00:01:28,200

And we lived very modestly,
but very comfortably.

35

00:01:28,200 --> 00:01:31,080

Because we had--
couldn't ask for more.

36

00:01:31,080 --> 00:01:34,290

We had a beautiful beach,
and we spent a good bit

37
00:01:34,290 --> 00:01:37,410
of time in the summer there.

38
00:01:37,410 --> 00:01:39,210
I'd like to interrupt
at that moment.

39
00:01:39,210 --> 00:01:40,770
Yes, please.

40
00:01:40,770 --> 00:01:43,980
I take it this must have
been during the war years.

41
00:01:43,980 --> 00:01:45,090
The war has already--

42
00:01:45,090 --> 00:01:46,500
The war had started.

43
00:01:46,500 --> 00:01:51,990
I was, by this time, when
Pearl Harbor, Pearl Harbor,

44
00:01:51,990 --> 00:01:53,160
I was still in Scranton.

45
00:01:53,160 --> 00:01:56,700

46
00:01:56,700 --> 00:02:01,290
And I had only one year in
New London for high school.

47
00:02:01,290 --> 00:02:04,650

48
00:02:04,650 --> 00:02:05,220
Excuse me.

49
00:02:05,220 --> 00:02:07,290
Before we go on there
again, the reason

50
00:02:07,290 --> 00:02:11,490
why I ask about the war years
is how did your family react?

51
00:02:11,490 --> 00:02:17,100
How did your parents
react when the US--

52
00:02:17,100 --> 00:02:18,758
when the war started in Europe.

53
00:02:18,758 --> 00:02:20,550
That is, the US hadn't
entered the war yet,

54
00:02:20,550 --> 00:02:22,830
but Germany attacked Poland.

55
00:02:22,830 --> 00:02:25,138
And what were the discussions
like in your house

56
00:02:25,138 --> 00:02:25,680
at that time?

57
00:02:25,680 --> 00:02:28,080
Well, it was a subject
of intense interest.

58
00:02:28,080 --> 00:02:30,720
I mean, I saved
newspaper clippings,

59
00:02:30,720 --> 00:02:33,870
and I had stacks of
stuff all about the war.

60

00:02:33,870 --> 00:02:37,800

The war was a center
of our interest.

61

00:02:37,800 --> 00:02:40,140

We knew a great deal about it.

62

00:02:40,140 --> 00:02:42,600

I'm not sure whether I was
aware that I would become

63

00:02:42,600 --> 00:02:45,300

a part of the war,
but even though I

64

00:02:45,300 --> 00:02:47,310

didn't know anything about--

65

00:02:47,310 --> 00:02:53,520

think about it, the war, it was
of major interest to all of us.

66

00:02:53,520 --> 00:02:56,430

Your parents said they felt
like they adjusted well

67

00:02:56,430 --> 00:02:59,580

in the United States.

68

00:02:59,580 --> 00:03:01,050

My mother certainly did.

69

00:03:01,050 --> 00:03:06,210

My father, because of
his language difficulties

70

00:03:06,210 --> 00:03:09,810

and his strong
attachment to Germany

71

00:03:09,810 --> 00:03:13,920

did interfere with
his full satisfaction

72
00:03:13,920 --> 00:03:17,340
with living in
the United States.

73
00:03:17,340 --> 00:03:19,500
But he adjusted.

74
00:03:19,500 --> 00:03:23,130
He continued his
stamp collection.

75
00:03:23,130 --> 00:03:29,340
And he was very
happy in New London.

76
00:03:29,340 --> 00:03:32,340
So I can't say that he
was unhappy, at least.

77
00:03:32,340 --> 00:03:35,220
I don't think he'd
move ever again if he

78
00:03:35,220 --> 00:03:38,190
had the opportunity,
because this was about as

79
00:03:38,190 --> 00:03:41,670
nice as it could get, both
for him and for my mother.

80
00:03:41,670 --> 00:03:43,050
So that's very nice.

81
00:03:43,050 --> 00:03:44,662
So you were finishing
your last year

82
00:03:44,662 --> 00:03:45,870
of high school in New London.

83

00:03:45,870 --> 00:03:47,640

I went, again, to a
technical high school.

84

00:03:47,640 --> 00:03:50,970

At this time, the
principal insisted

85

00:03:50,970 --> 00:03:56,220

that we have at least
some college preparation.

86

00:03:56,220 --> 00:03:59,680

I didn't have to worry
about a second language,

87

00:03:59,680 --> 00:04:04,345

but I did have several courses
that sort of led to college

88

00:04:04,345 --> 00:04:06,270

if that ever came up.

89

00:04:06,270 --> 00:04:09,540

When I was in school, it was
not so totally dedicated,

90

00:04:09,540 --> 00:04:14,490

as the first one, to
purely technical subjects.

91

00:04:14,490 --> 00:04:15,760

I became a good student.

92

00:04:15,760 --> 00:04:17,700

I was always near
the top of my class.

93

00:04:17,700 --> 00:04:21,105

And I was selected to be
one of the class speakers.

94

00:04:21,105 --> 00:04:24,200

95

00:04:24,200 --> 00:04:25,950

And since it was the
beginning of the war,

96

00:04:25,950 --> 00:04:29,160

we all knew we were
going to be drafted.

97

00:04:29,160 --> 00:04:32,910

My topic was one of great
patriotism and support

98

00:04:32,910 --> 00:04:35,610

of the war, all that.

99

00:04:35,610 --> 00:04:39,210

I was drafted.

100

00:04:39,210 --> 00:04:44,160

And within a week or
so after I graduated,

101

00:04:44,160 --> 00:04:47,460

before I even had a chance
to take my girlfriend,

102

00:04:47,460 --> 00:04:49,095

who I met on the beach--

103

00:04:49,095 --> 00:04:50,276

Well, tell us about that.

104

00:04:50,276 --> 00:04:50,740

--the year before.

105

00:04:50,740 --> 00:04:51,660

She actually met me.

106

00:04:51,660 --> 00:04:55,500

There's still an argument going

on as to who did what to whom.

107

00:04:55,500 --> 00:05:02,850

But she-- we became
good friends and dated.

108

00:05:02,850 --> 00:05:09,960

It was not-- it was a
very nice relationship,

109

00:05:09,960 --> 00:05:11,790

because her father
owned a motor boat.

110

00:05:11,790 --> 00:05:14,910

And again, I had my chance
to be on a boat, which

111

00:05:14,910 --> 00:05:16,650

helped a good deal.

112

00:05:16,650 --> 00:05:18,690

She knew a great
deal about boating.

113

00:05:18,690 --> 00:05:22,035

And we were very nicely matched.

114

00:05:22,035 --> 00:05:24,870

115

00:05:24,870 --> 00:05:29,280

So I was drafted, and I
found myself in the infantry.

116

00:05:29,280 --> 00:05:38,020

And my-- I was trained in
Camp Blanding, which is the--

117

00:05:38,020 --> 00:05:39,480

Where is that?

118

00:05:39,480 --> 00:05:50,420
Blanding is the
Connecticut State camp

119
00:05:50,420 --> 00:05:54,410
for training the Connecticut--

120
00:05:54,410 --> 00:05:55,940
what do they call?

121
00:05:55,940 --> 00:05:56,690
Draftees?

122
00:05:56,690 --> 00:05:57,410
Hmm?

123
00:05:57,410 --> 00:06:00,050
For training
Connecticut draftees?

124
00:06:00,050 --> 00:06:03,350
Well, it became that,
among other things, yes.

125
00:06:03,350 --> 00:06:04,820
It was a big camp.

126
00:06:04,820 --> 00:06:06,830
It was unbelievably hot.

127
00:06:06,830 --> 00:06:08,450
This was in the
middle of summer.

128
00:06:08,450 --> 00:06:09,890
We came by train.

129
00:06:09,890 --> 00:06:11,690
I couldn't believe
that any human being

130
00:06:11,690 --> 00:06:13,550

could exist in such heat.

131

00:06:13,550 --> 00:06:15,350

And I saw a man walking across.

132

00:06:15,350 --> 00:06:18,320

Well, I thought he was in the
air, because the heat that

133

00:06:18,320 --> 00:06:20,990

was coming up from
the asphalt made

134

00:06:20,990 --> 00:06:22,900

like he was working on air.

135

00:06:22,900 --> 00:06:26,330

It all was just an
unbelievable situation.

136

00:06:26,330 --> 00:06:29,150

But I got used to it.

137

00:06:29,150 --> 00:06:32,975

And I was trained to be
a machine gunner, which

138

00:06:32,975 --> 00:06:39,380

is kind of ironic, since my
father had the same [LAUGHS]

139

00:06:39,380 --> 00:06:42,020

military profession.

140

00:06:42,020 --> 00:06:46,820

And I was a--

141

00:06:46,820 --> 00:06:48,560

I mean, I survived very neatly.

142

00:06:48,560 --> 00:06:52,340

I mean, I did not

have any problems.

143

00:06:52,340 --> 00:06:55,250

Were your parents concerned
about you being in the army?

144

00:06:55,250 --> 00:06:57,660

Well, my father probably
more so than my mother.

145

00:06:57,660 --> 00:06:58,220

I'm not sure.

146

00:06:58,220 --> 00:07:00,380

But both were concerned,
of course they were.

147

00:07:00,380 --> 00:07:03,950

Because this was a time
of great casualties.

148

00:07:03,950 --> 00:07:08,870

D-Day was-- the landing
of the beaches in France

149

00:07:08,870 --> 00:07:12,230

was about that time.

150

00:07:12,230 --> 00:07:14,510

And we had enormous
casualties then.

151

00:07:14,510 --> 00:07:17,210

152

00:07:17,210 --> 00:07:24,940

And we-- I finished
my basic training

153

00:07:24,940 --> 00:07:28,370

at the end of the
summer and was then

154

00:07:28,370 --> 00:07:32,870
shipped out to Southern Italy.

155

00:07:32,870 --> 00:07:34,730
By this time, it
got to be very cold.

156

00:07:34,730 --> 00:07:36,710
And Italy was the
coldest place on Earth,

157

00:07:36,710 --> 00:07:38,205
as far as I could tell.

158

00:07:38,205 --> 00:07:40,040
And the army didn't
think so either,

159

00:07:40,040 --> 00:07:43,100
because they gave us all summer
uniforms and no blankets,

160

00:07:43,100 --> 00:07:44,330
no sweaters.

161

00:07:44,330 --> 00:07:46,160
And we were just
freezing all the time.

162

00:07:46,160 --> 00:07:47,615
It was the coldest I have ever--

163

00:07:47,615 --> 00:07:50,030
I think it was one of the
coldest winters Europe had ever

164

00:07:50,030 --> 00:07:51,200
experienced.

165

00:07:51,200 --> 00:07:53,720
And even Southern
Italy was not at all

166
00:07:53,720 --> 00:07:56,690
what they thought it would be.

167
00:07:56,690 --> 00:07:58,080
Would this have been '45?

168
00:07:58,080 --> 00:07:59,540
This was '44.

169
00:07:59,540 --> 00:08:00,110
'44.

170
00:08:00,110 --> 00:08:01,160
The winter of '44.

171
00:08:01,160 --> 00:08:04,520
Winter of '44, '45, yes.

172
00:08:04,520 --> 00:08:10,460
We marched constantly back and forth, waiting for someone to--

173
00:08:10,460 --> 00:08:13,775
I guess I was waiting for a machine gunner to die.

174
00:08:13,775 --> 00:08:15,400
And I was already told that when you're

175
00:08:15,400 --> 00:08:17,240
a machine gunner that opens up fire,

176
00:08:17,240 --> 00:08:19,590
he has about 30 seconds to live.

177
00:08:19,590 --> 00:08:23,420
It was one of those deadly weapons

178

00:08:23,420 --> 00:08:28,550

that everyone will focus
on to get out of the way.

179

00:08:28,550 --> 00:08:31,220

So my future was not
looking very bright.

180

00:08:31,220 --> 00:08:33,049

But I was a very
happy young guy,

181

00:08:33,049 --> 00:08:37,580

and I wasn't being bothered
by such silly things.

182

00:08:37,580 --> 00:08:40,130

So you hadn't seen
battle, though?

183

00:08:40,130 --> 00:08:41,330

You hadn't seen battle?

184

00:08:41,330 --> 00:08:42,620

No, I hadn't seen battle.

185

00:08:42,620 --> 00:08:43,520

This was--

186

00:08:43,520 --> 00:08:44,800

What did Italy look like?

187

00:08:44,800 --> 00:08:45,300

Hmm?

188

00:08:45,300 --> 00:08:47,190

What did Italy look like?

189

00:08:47,190 --> 00:08:50,660

Well, Italy was-- you know,
we were in the Southern part,

190

00:08:50,660 --> 00:08:53,000
and there were little villages.

191

00:08:53,000 --> 00:08:55,130
And most that I can
remember about them was they

192

00:08:55,130 --> 00:08:57,500
smelled god awful.

193

00:08:57,500 --> 00:09:00,890
They were making
wine, and they were

194

00:09:00,890 --> 00:09:04,580
pouring wine down the gutters
that wasn't used or couldn't

195

00:09:04,580 --> 00:09:05,720
be used.

196

00:09:05,720 --> 00:09:11,090
And that, in addition to
whatever cows left behind,

197

00:09:11,090 --> 00:09:13,280
was a combination
that was hard to beat.

198

00:09:13,280 --> 00:09:16,250
You could smell these
villages a mile away.

199

00:09:16,250 --> 00:09:19,580
And we were just trudging with
our guns and machine guns.

200

00:09:19,580 --> 00:09:25,610
And mortar was the other
weapon I was trained on.

201

00:09:25,610 --> 00:09:28,220

And I was just
waiting for the day

202
00:09:28,220 --> 00:09:31,490
that they would say,
OK, you're up next.

203
00:09:31,490 --> 00:09:36,050
One day, I was called
out of my tent.

204
00:09:36,050 --> 00:09:39,230
We were sleeping in eight-man
tents, 10-man tents,

205
00:09:39,230 --> 00:09:42,500
and they were drafty and
cold and just terrible.

206
00:09:42,500 --> 00:09:46,610
I was called out, and I was
told to put on my uniform.

207
00:09:46,610 --> 00:09:48,660
In those days, we had uniforms.

208
00:09:48,660 --> 00:09:50,750
We were not walking
along in fatigues,

209
00:09:50,750 --> 00:09:52,580
as the Army does today.

210
00:09:52,580 --> 00:09:53,660
We had nice uniforms.

211
00:09:53,660 --> 00:09:55,010
We put them on.

212
00:09:55,010 --> 00:09:59,450
I was taken to Caserta,
which was this little town

213

00:09:59,450 --> 00:10:01,430
north of Naples.

214

00:10:01,430 --> 00:10:04,077
And a guy came up
to me and says,

215

00:10:04,077 --> 00:10:05,660
do you want to jump
out of an airplane

216

00:10:05,660 --> 00:10:08,810
and kill Germans
behind the lines.

217

00:10:08,810 --> 00:10:10,883
Now, mathematically,
I was no genius,

218

00:10:10,883 --> 00:10:12,800
but I figured how it
takes longer to jump down

219

00:10:12,800 --> 00:10:17,240
from an airplane than it
does 30 seconds, which

220

00:10:17,240 --> 00:10:19,010
I had on the other job.

221

00:10:19,010 --> 00:10:24,920
So I was able to multiply my
life expectancy by a good bit.

222

00:10:24,920 --> 00:10:27,350
I'd never been in
an airplane before.

223

00:10:27,350 --> 00:10:29,090
The idea of jumping
out of an airplane

224

00:10:29,090 --> 00:10:31,550
was so horrible that I never
even gave second thoughts

225
00:10:31,550 --> 00:10:32,390
to it.

226
00:10:32,390 --> 00:10:35,630
I guess they'll have to push
me out if it comes to that.

227
00:10:35,630 --> 00:10:37,790
You had a minute to live
rather than 30 seconds.

228
00:10:37,790 --> 00:10:39,020
Exactly.

229
00:10:39,020 --> 00:10:41,960
We had the sites
all figured out.

230
00:10:41,960 --> 00:10:45,215
Before I knew it, I was moved
from a tent, which was drafty

231
00:10:45,215 --> 00:10:50,960
and dirty and poor, to
a villa on the Adriatic,

232
00:10:50,960 --> 00:10:57,200
with maids to make beds and a
chef to do fabulous cooking.

233
00:10:57,200 --> 00:11:00,410
I thought at that point that
I must have died and gone

234
00:11:00,410 --> 00:11:01,317
to heaven.

235
00:11:01,317 --> 00:11:02,600
[LAUGHS]

236
00:11:02,600 --> 00:11:05,570
We spent a good bit
of time on the beach.

237
00:11:05,570 --> 00:11:09,140
And the training was sort of--

238
00:11:09,140 --> 00:11:10,790
I would say it was
sort of mundane.

239
00:11:10,790 --> 00:11:15,488
They were not really eager to
make feisty guys out of us.

240
00:11:15,488 --> 00:11:17,030
I would think that
I should have been

241
00:11:17,030 --> 00:11:20,960
better trained to do the kind
of job they wanted me to do.

242
00:11:20,960 --> 00:11:23,270
They did teach me how to
jump out of an airplane

243
00:11:23,270 --> 00:11:26,450
by putting me on
top of a tree house

244
00:11:26,450 --> 00:11:28,820
that the guy who owned
the building, the villa,

245
00:11:28,820 --> 00:11:31,100
must have built for his kids.

246
00:11:31,100 --> 00:11:32,570
And it was just
high enough to make

247

00:11:32,570 --> 00:11:35,195
it a little bit of a challenge,
but not too much of a challenge

248

00:11:35,195 --> 00:11:36,170
to jump down.

249

00:11:36,170 --> 00:11:37,550
And that was the training?

250

00:11:37,550 --> 00:11:40,250
That, and they taught
me how to use knives.

251

00:11:40,250 --> 00:11:42,590
And I found out that when
you get in a knife fight,

252

00:11:42,590 --> 00:11:45,380
the best thing you can do is
turn around as fast as you can

253

00:11:45,380 --> 00:11:46,940
and get away from that.

254

00:11:46,940 --> 00:11:49,080
Because that's not
a good thing to do.

255

00:11:49,080 --> 00:11:52,970
And all kinds of other
methods which the US had

256

00:11:52,970 --> 00:11:57,470
devised to eliminate people.

257

00:11:57,470 --> 00:12:00,200
So you ended up in the OSS.

258

00:12:00,200 --> 00:12:02,120
It turned out to
be the OSS, yes.

259

00:12:02,120 --> 00:12:03,140

When did you find out?

260

00:12:03,140 --> 00:12:04,890

They didn't tell me
that at the beginning,

261

00:12:04,890 --> 00:12:06,365

but eventually, it came to me.

262

00:12:06,365 --> 00:12:08,990

But what I was most impressed by
was the people who were there.

263

00:12:08,990 --> 00:12:11,660

These were now, for the
first time in my life,

264

00:12:11,660 --> 00:12:15,830

I came across real
college graduates.

265

00:12:15,830 --> 00:12:18,830

I mean, these are people who
had gone to fine schools.

266

00:12:18,830 --> 00:12:20,420

They talked differently.

267

00:12:20,420 --> 00:12:23,720

They didn't use the same
language they did in my tent.

268

00:12:23,720 --> 00:12:26,030

Some of the adverbs
and adjectives

269

00:12:26,030 --> 00:12:28,730

never even existed
in their language.

270

00:12:28,730 --> 00:12:33,650
And I found them reading books,
and I became quite enchanted

271
00:12:33,650 --> 00:12:36,500
with this whole gang.

272
00:12:36,500 --> 00:12:38,450
Actually, this unit
I was in, which

273
00:12:38,450 --> 00:12:44,060
was called the Austria Unit,
had a fabulous operation, which

274
00:12:44,060 --> 00:12:48,050
is maybe a subject by itself.

275
00:12:48,050 --> 00:12:48,830
But they did--

276
00:12:48,830 --> 00:12:49,550
What did they do?

277
00:12:49,550 --> 00:12:50,540
Tell me.

278
00:12:50,540 --> 00:12:53,090
Well, they did-- as
a matter of fact,

279
00:12:53,090 --> 00:12:54,770
there were a good
number of refugees,

280
00:12:54,770 --> 00:12:59,180
like myself, who
spoke fluent German

281
00:12:59,180 --> 00:13:03,800
and who could mingle with the
population and get away with it

282

00:13:03,800 --> 00:13:05,510
and who went off
behind the lines.

283

00:13:05,510 --> 00:13:09,770
Many of those operations
ended up in a mountain

284

00:13:09,770 --> 00:13:15,330
and buried in snow, and nobody
ever got any further than that.

285

00:13:15,330 --> 00:13:20,270
But in one case, one of the
people who were in my unit was

286

00:13:20,270 --> 00:13:23,570
dispatched-- long before
I joined the unit--

287

00:13:23,570 --> 00:13:26,420

288

00:13:26,420 --> 00:13:31,115
to a location in Austria.

289

00:13:31,115 --> 00:13:35,630

290

00:13:35,630 --> 00:13:44,520
And he was able to
communicate with the Air Force

291

00:13:44,520 --> 00:13:49,010
through a device they gave
you, a big piece of equipment

292

00:13:49,010 --> 00:13:55,340
with which you can
contact headquarters.

293

00:13:55,340 --> 00:14:01,370

To direct the Air Force to
bomb German supply trains which

294

00:14:01,370 --> 00:14:05,210
came through the Brenner Pass
to Italy, where the fighting was

295

00:14:05,210 --> 00:14:07,230
still going very heavy.

296

00:14:07,230 --> 00:14:09,530
And he was able
to tell them where

297

00:14:09,530 --> 00:14:11,750
the trains were, because
there was no other way

298

00:14:11,750 --> 00:14:14,160
to find this out.

299

00:14:14,160 --> 00:14:16,900
And when they would
come out of the tunnel.

300

00:14:16,900 --> 00:14:19,110
It was a great piece of work.

301

00:14:19,110 --> 00:14:20,180
And so it was successful.

302

00:14:20,180 --> 00:14:20,680
They--

303

00:14:20,680 --> 00:14:21,500
Very successful.

304

00:14:21,500 --> 00:14:24,968
And he was eventually captured.

305

00:14:24,968 --> 00:14:32,300
And he was sorely

beaten by the Gestapo.

306
00:14:32,300 --> 00:14:40,100
This all from the report which
the captor, the SS guard,

307
00:14:40,100 --> 00:14:43,250
reported when we
took over Austria

308
00:14:43,250 --> 00:14:48,080
and interrogated him on what
he was doing to our man.

309
00:14:48,080 --> 00:14:51,560
And so we have it from
him, and we have it

310
00:14:51,560 --> 00:14:55,160
from the man himself.

311
00:14:55,160 --> 00:14:56,600
Terrible beatings.

312
00:14:56,600 --> 00:14:58,640
Tied him to chairs and
beat him and beat him.

313
00:14:58,640 --> 00:15:00,890
And he wouldn't
give up his team--

314
00:15:00,890 --> 00:15:04,760
his teammates were
still hiding somewhere--

315
00:15:04,760 --> 00:15:07,190
until he was sure
that they could be--

316
00:15:07,190 --> 00:15:11,960
could have found another
location to hide.

317
00:15:11,960 --> 00:15:14,090
He was then put into
a concentration camp,

318
00:15:14,090 --> 00:15:16,150
and he talked his way out
of the concentration--

319
00:15:16,150 --> 00:15:19,370
and this is all close
to the end of the war.

320
00:15:19,370 --> 00:15:22,400
Patton, with his tanks,
was not far away.

321
00:15:22,400 --> 00:15:24,380
And I could see where
it's possible to convince

322
00:15:24,380 --> 00:15:27,680
some people that they might be
better off if they help instead

323
00:15:27,680 --> 00:15:31,970
of continue this practice
of killing people.

324
00:15:31,970 --> 00:15:34,280
He was let go, and
he made his way

325
00:15:34,280 --> 00:15:37,100
to Innsbruck, which was
actually his hometown,

326
00:15:37,100 --> 00:15:40,070
I believe, somewhere
in that neighborhood.

327
00:15:40,070 --> 00:15:43,160
He met with the

mayor of the town

328
00:15:43,160 --> 00:15:49,050
and convinced him not
to fight the army.

329
00:15:49,050 --> 00:15:51,190
In other words, to give
himself up as a city.

330
00:15:51,190 --> 00:15:52,370
To open the city.

331
00:15:52,370 --> 00:15:54,230
To make a city an open city.

332
00:15:54,230 --> 00:15:55,260
And he succeeded.

333
00:15:55,260 --> 00:15:56,840
Well, that's almost
like a one-man--

334
00:15:56,840 --> 00:15:58,125
you know, a one-man show.

335
00:15:58,125 --> 00:16:00,890
One man captured the
entire town of Innsbruck.

336
00:16:00,890 --> 00:16:01,770
What was his name?

337
00:16:01,770 --> 00:16:02,437
Do you remember?

338
00:16:02,437 --> 00:16:05,660

339
00:16:05,660 --> 00:16:06,470
Mayer.

340

00:16:06,470 --> 00:16:07,340

His name was Mayer.

341

00:16:07,340 --> 00:16:10,260

I can't remember his first name.

342

00:16:10,260 --> 00:16:13,790

He became a good friend of
Dollard's who at that time

343

00:16:13,790 --> 00:16:16,790

was Chief of Station in Bern.

344

00:16:16,790 --> 00:16:22,460

And he became, I guess--

345

00:16:22,460 --> 00:16:26,900

I'm not sure he went any further
than that in the intelligence

346

00:16:26,900 --> 00:16:28,730

business.

347

00:16:28,730 --> 00:16:30,750

But he was a real--
in other words,

348

00:16:30,750 --> 00:16:34,280

the unit that I was in
actually did conduct some very

349

00:16:34,280 --> 00:16:36,230

successful operations.

350

00:16:36,230 --> 00:16:40,280

But as luck would have it, when
I was ready to be dispatched,

351

00:16:40,280 --> 00:16:41,870

the war was over.

352

00:16:41,870 --> 00:16:45,440
And we went on in
a Jeep to Austria.

353
00:16:45,440 --> 00:16:49,100
And from then on, I was
simply doing intelligence work

354
00:16:49,100 --> 00:16:55,520
in Austria, which was really
not terribly spectacular.

355
00:16:55,520 --> 00:16:57,080
Well, I want to step back a bit.

356
00:16:57,080 --> 00:16:58,730
Because all of this
sounds, in light

357
00:16:58,730 --> 00:17:02,540
of what you had said before, and
talking about your life before,

358
00:17:02,540 --> 00:17:04,490
it sounds a little
bit fantastic.

359
00:17:04,490 --> 00:17:05,119
You know?

360
00:17:05,119 --> 00:17:10,400
That one is plucked
from a regular army unit

361
00:17:10,400 --> 00:17:18,079
into another one, which doesn't
reveal itself originally,

362
00:17:18,079 --> 00:17:20,855
that has a rather nice life.

363
00:17:20,855 --> 00:17:23,119
If you have somebody

making great meals,

364

00:17:23,119 --> 00:17:26,359
and maids making your beds, and
being able to be on the beach,

365

00:17:26,359 --> 00:17:30,800
and training is from jumping
from a tree house and so on,

366

00:17:30,800 --> 00:17:33,170
how did they find you?

367

00:17:33,170 --> 00:17:34,520
Who made the connection?

368

00:17:34,520 --> 00:17:37,700
Well, it was clear
that I had a dossier.

369

00:17:37,700 --> 00:17:42,050
I had a file in which my
language qualifications

370

00:17:42,050 --> 00:17:43,760
were clearly spelled out.

371

00:17:43,760 --> 00:17:47,990
And I did speak native German,
even though it wasn't Austrian.

372

00:17:47,990 --> 00:17:50,502
And anyone would have known
where I came from, because--

373

00:17:50,502 --> 00:17:51,710
Did you have a Berlin accent?

374

00:17:51,710 --> 00:17:53,660
--Berliners have
a specific accent.

375

00:17:53,660 --> 00:17:55,850

They were known
as Piefkes, which

376

00:17:55,850 --> 00:17:57,830

was not an endearing term.

377

00:17:57,830 --> 00:18:02,090

[LAUGHS] And I was
just one of those.

378

00:18:02,090 --> 00:18:04,250

But they felt I could--

379

00:18:04,250 --> 00:18:07,280

I was trained for the job.

380

00:18:07,280 --> 00:18:09,350

I had weapons
training, and I had

381

00:18:09,350 --> 00:18:11,360

all kinds of other training.

382

00:18:11,360 --> 00:18:13,280

Did anyone ever
explain it to you,

383

00:18:13,280 --> 00:18:16,172

that this is why we found you,
and this is how we chose you.

384

00:18:16,172 --> 00:18:17,630

No, there was no
explanation given.

385

00:18:17,630 --> 00:18:19,640

I was simply--

386

00:18:19,640 --> 00:18:22,220

I didn't ask any questions,
and they didn't give me

387

00:18:22,220 --> 00:18:23,240
much information.

388

00:18:23,240 --> 00:18:27,170

389

00:18:27,170 --> 00:18:29,360
It certainly was
a different world.

390

00:18:29,360 --> 00:18:33,470
And from then on, I
was working in Austria.

391

00:18:33,470 --> 00:18:36,560

392

00:18:36,560 --> 00:18:40,250
And we ended up in Vienna.

393

00:18:40,250 --> 00:18:43,010
We opened up the
station in Vienna.

394

00:18:43,010 --> 00:18:44,790
And my boss was [PERSONAL NAME].

395

00:18:44,790 --> 00:18:47,730
And these were-- this was
not a regular army at all.

396

00:18:47,730 --> 00:18:50,210
We called each
other by first name.

397

00:18:50,210 --> 00:18:55,850
He was the commanding
commander in the Navy.

398

00:18:55,850 --> 00:18:59,300
We had these odd
people in the OSS.

399

00:18:59,300 --> 00:19:02,600

And yet nobody would ever
call him anything or salute.

400

00:19:02,600 --> 00:19:05,720

It was just, you know, I mean.

401

00:19:05,720 --> 00:19:11,270

We were-- our quarters
were in a hotel.

402

00:19:11,270 --> 00:19:13,760

And again, we had
these maids and cooks.

403

00:19:13,760 --> 00:19:16,890

[LAUGHS] And we lived well.

404

00:19:16,890 --> 00:19:19,890

I must say, Vienna, at that
time, was a very sad place.

405

00:19:19,890 --> 00:19:23,810

I mean, the Jewish
population in Vienna

406

00:19:23,810 --> 00:19:27,320

consisted mainly
of whoever escaped

407

00:19:27,320 --> 00:19:30,260

and was able to
get out of Germany

408

00:19:30,260 --> 00:19:33,230

and out of Austrian
Gestapo camps.

409

00:19:33,230 --> 00:19:35,750

410

00:19:35,750 --> 00:19:38,990
I remember being
at a service for--

411
00:19:38,990 --> 00:19:41,590

412
00:19:41,590 --> 00:19:43,520
I'm not sure.

413
00:19:43,520 --> 00:19:46,220
Probably a Seder.

414
00:19:46,220 --> 00:19:51,740
And there were these people
who wore old clothes that

415
00:19:51,740 --> 00:19:55,100
were given to them by
people who no longer could

416
00:19:55,100 --> 00:19:56,180
use these clothes.

417
00:19:56,180 --> 00:19:59,040
And it was a very
sad-looking people.

418
00:19:59,040 --> 00:20:04,400
The Viennese themselves
had little food.

419
00:20:04,400 --> 00:20:10,790
I remember some person who
was grateful to me for--

420
00:20:10,790 --> 00:20:15,910
an elderly woman whom I
gave I don't know what to.

421
00:20:15,910 --> 00:20:19,290
I had all this-- all these
cigarettes and all this liquor,

422
00:20:19,290 --> 00:20:21,350
and I just gave
it away to whoever

423
00:20:21,350 --> 00:20:26,210
I thought might be able to
make something out of it.

424
00:20:26,210 --> 00:20:29,690
And she made me a chocolate
pudding made out of beans.

425
00:20:29,690 --> 00:20:31,820
And I never to this
day could figure out

426
00:20:31,820 --> 00:20:34,070
exactly how she made that.

427
00:20:34,070 --> 00:20:35,315
But Viennese are cooks.

428
00:20:35,315 --> 00:20:37,070
[LAUGHS]

429
00:20:37,070 --> 00:20:39,750
Had you ever been to Austria
before when you were--

430
00:20:39,750 --> 00:20:40,250
No.

431
00:20:40,250 --> 00:20:40,670
I'd never been--

432
00:20:40,670 --> 00:20:43,160
So this was new-- it was German
speaking, but it was new.

433
00:20:43,160 --> 00:20:45,020
It was all new to me.

434
00:20:45,020 --> 00:20:47,460
Vienna was still
an exciting city.

435
00:20:47,460 --> 00:20:51,450
We went to-- the Soviets
occupied one quarter

436
00:20:51,450 --> 00:20:55,440
of the city, and we
occupied a third.

437
00:20:55,440 --> 00:20:58,320
The French a section, and
the British had a section,

438
00:20:58,320 --> 00:20:59,730
the Americans had a section.

439
00:20:59,730 --> 00:21:02,010
And the fourth quarter
was for the Soviets.

440
00:21:02,010 --> 00:21:03,870
They had most of it.

441
00:21:03,870 --> 00:21:10,530
And they insisted
that the Austrians

442
00:21:10,530 --> 00:21:13,980
start their cultural programs.

443
00:21:13,980 --> 00:21:17,730
They insisted that the
symphony will play again.

444
00:21:17,730 --> 00:21:20,700
And I was there
when it opened up.

445

00:21:20,700 --> 00:21:22,890
It was a very festive occasion.

446
00:21:22,890 --> 00:21:28,290
And the Russians were
honored for having

447
00:21:28,290 --> 00:21:34,650
been so active in getting the
culture of the city moving.

448
00:21:34,650 --> 00:21:38,940
Students had gone
back to school.

449
00:21:38,940 --> 00:21:43,710
And they had their students
balls and festivals,

450
00:21:43,710 --> 00:21:46,680
which I also was
invited to attend.

451
00:21:46,680 --> 00:21:50,010
So it was a city that
was just coming out

452
00:21:50,010 --> 00:21:56,580
of a very difficult time.

453
00:21:56,580 --> 00:21:59,520
Can you tell us a little bit
about some of the intelligence

454
00:21:59,520 --> 00:22:02,010
work that you did at that
moment, at that time?

455
00:22:02,010 --> 00:22:04,320
Well, in that moment, we
were interested in what

456
00:22:04,320 --> 00:22:05,370

Russia was doing.

457

00:22:05,370 --> 00:22:07,080

You know, we had no idea.

458

00:22:07,080 --> 00:22:08,400

There were no--

459

00:22:08,400 --> 00:22:09,660

So that was the focus?

460

00:22:09,660 --> 00:22:11,100

It was more-- that's the focus.

461

00:22:11,100 --> 00:22:13,800

We were figuring out what--

462

00:22:13,800 --> 00:22:17,380

how dangerous was
it, this Cold War.

463

00:22:17,380 --> 00:22:20,190

Well, was there any interest
in finding any ex-Nazis?

464

00:22:20,190 --> 00:22:20,700

In what?

465

00:22:20,700 --> 00:22:24,270

In hunt-- was there any
interest in finding ex-Nazis

466

00:22:24,270 --> 00:22:28,908

and the enemy that had just
recently been defeated?

467

00:22:28,908 --> 00:22:31,380

We-- that was another section.

468

00:22:31,380 --> 00:22:33,540

My section was just
concerned with that.

469

00:22:33,540 --> 00:22:42,420

And there was a tremendous
fear, actually, in the--

470

00:22:42,420 --> 00:22:46,230

at first as to why do they
have only Soviet troops.

471

00:22:46,230 --> 00:22:47,790

They never did go--

472

00:22:47,790 --> 00:22:48,810

they never went home.

473

00:22:48,810 --> 00:22:50,830

They never demobilized.

474

00:22:50,830 --> 00:22:53,670

Well, I mean, the Americans
couldn't demobilizes fast

475

00:22:53,670 --> 00:22:57,030

enough to get out of the army.

476

00:22:57,030 --> 00:23:04,260

And here were the Soviets' full
companies and still exercising.

477

00:23:04,260 --> 00:23:05,918

I mean, it became
clear eventually

478

00:23:05,918 --> 00:23:07,710

the reason they had
them there because they

479

00:23:07,710 --> 00:23:10,200

had no jobs for
them back in Russia.

480

00:23:10,200 --> 00:23:13,815

And obviously, it was
safer to keep them

481
00:23:13,815 --> 00:23:17,970
at bay in Austria and Germany
than to bring them home.

482
00:23:17,970 --> 00:23:20,470
That was probably one of the
main reasons they were there.

483
00:23:20,470 --> 00:23:22,680
They might have had
other ideas too.

484
00:23:22,680 --> 00:23:24,780
But the fact that they
would start another war

485
00:23:24,780 --> 00:23:26,610
seemed most unlikely.

486
00:23:26,610 --> 00:23:29,430

487
00:23:29,430 --> 00:23:30,390
It was a very--

488
00:23:30,390 --> 00:23:32,040
I mean, it was a very easy job.

489
00:23:32,040 --> 00:23:34,260
It was one job I
enjoyed thoroughly,

490
00:23:34,260 --> 00:23:36,690
because I, for the
first time, had

491
00:23:36,690 --> 00:23:41,490
my eyes opened to the
things which I would never

492

00:23:41,490 --> 00:23:43,380

find anywhere else.

493

00:23:43,380 --> 00:23:46,290

We went to numerous
theaters and concerts,

494

00:23:46,290 --> 00:23:49,770

and we really took full
advantage of whatever there

495

00:23:49,770 --> 00:23:52,020

was in Austria at the time.

496

00:23:52,020 --> 00:23:55,260

497

00:23:55,260 --> 00:23:56,460

But were there any--

498

00:23:56,460 --> 00:23:58,950

as you-- before
you got to Vienna,

499

00:23:58,950 --> 00:24:01,410

were there any places that--

500

00:24:01,410 --> 00:24:04,740

when you were coming into
Austria, where you did

501

00:24:04,740 --> 00:24:09,840

have to interrogate, let's
say, any former Nazis

502

00:24:09,840 --> 00:24:17,730

or any former enemy,
any combatants or people

503

00:24:17,730 --> 00:24:18,580

of that kind?

504

00:24:18,580 --> 00:24:21,330

Well, one of our duties--
before I came to Vienna,

505

00:24:21,330 --> 00:24:25,530

when we were involved with what
was actually an army project,

506

00:24:25,530 --> 00:24:28,680

we were then assisting,
I guess, which

507

00:24:28,680 --> 00:24:30,880

was to collect scientists.

508

00:24:30,880 --> 00:24:33,930

I mean, the army
immediately began looking--

509

00:24:33,930 --> 00:24:36,120

I mean, as soon as
they hit Germany,

510

00:24:36,120 --> 00:24:39,090

there was a special
detachment of the army which

511

00:24:39,090 --> 00:24:42,060

started looking for any
scientist who had anything

512

00:24:42,060 --> 00:24:43,720

to do with atomic work.

513

00:24:43,720 --> 00:24:44,220

OK.

514

00:24:44,220 --> 00:24:46,410

And there's a book
written about that,

515

00:24:46,410 --> 00:24:49,170

which is quite
interesting, the extent

516
00:24:49,170 --> 00:24:53,670
to which these people
had to dig to find people

517
00:24:53,670 --> 00:25:00,660
and to uncover the stolen
and hidden art pieces

518
00:25:00,660 --> 00:25:09,840
and other jewelry and
metal, anything of value

519
00:25:09,840 --> 00:25:13,530
that Hitler, and particularly
Goering, had stashed away

520
00:25:13,530 --> 00:25:16,800
in various caves in Germany.

521
00:25:16,800 --> 00:25:18,990
That was a special unit
that just did that.

522
00:25:18,990 --> 00:25:22,140
But we were looking
for scientists.

523
00:25:22,140 --> 00:25:23,940
And we didn't have to look hard.

524
00:25:23,940 --> 00:25:26,310
We simply said, we're
looking for scientists,

525
00:25:26,310 --> 00:25:28,540
and they came from all
corners of Germany.

526
00:25:28,540 --> 00:25:29,700
They came to find you?

527
00:25:29,700 --> 00:25:30,660
Oh yes.

528
00:25:30,660 --> 00:25:33,030
The idea that they might
go to the United States

529
00:25:33,030 --> 00:25:36,570
was enough of an attraction to--

530
00:25:36,570 --> 00:25:39,040
we practically had
to shoo them away.

531
00:25:39,040 --> 00:25:41,040
And eventually, we
had so many people

532
00:25:41,040 --> 00:25:45,060
who claimed to be scientists
and had really nothing to offer.

533
00:25:45,060 --> 00:25:47,818
But I did have one case which
I think was quite interesting.

534
00:25:47,818 --> 00:25:55,280
It's a woman appeared
who was very small.

535
00:25:55,280 --> 00:25:57,620
She was small in stature.

536
00:25:57,620 --> 00:26:02,720
And her name was
[PERSONAL NAME]..

537
00:26:02,720 --> 00:26:03,650
Who was she?

538
00:26:03,650 --> 00:26:11,060

She was a topmost
German test pilot.

539
00:26:11,060 --> 00:26:19,520
She actually flew their latest
developments in jet aircraft

540
00:26:19,520 --> 00:26:26,010
and was obviously very
valuable to our people.

541
00:26:26,010 --> 00:26:30,220
And for some reason,
she came to me,

542
00:26:30,220 --> 00:26:33,560
or I was assigned
to talk to her.

543
00:26:33,560 --> 00:26:35,180
And it was not an interrogation.

544
00:26:35,180 --> 00:26:37,910
These were discussions
we had with people.

545
00:26:37,910 --> 00:26:39,620
Because there was
neither the time

546
00:26:39,620 --> 00:26:44,490
nor the facilities for doing
anything more than that.

547
00:26:44,490 --> 00:26:47,960
And as I was talking
to her, she pulls out

548
00:26:47,960 --> 00:26:52,310
of her handbag,
whatever she had,

549
00:26:52,310 --> 00:26:57,860

a huge medal, which was
a swastika surrounded

550
00:26:57,860 --> 00:27:00,568
by diamonds.

551
00:27:00,568 --> 00:27:01,985
There was a whole
ring of diamonds

552
00:27:01,985 --> 00:27:05,900
around a huge swastika, which
itself was made of diamonds.

553
00:27:05,900 --> 00:27:09,500
It was just unbelievably heavy.

554
00:27:09,500 --> 00:27:11,048
She gave it to
me, and I held it.

555
00:27:11,048 --> 00:27:11,840
And I looked at it.

556
00:27:11,840 --> 00:27:12,590
And I said, I
don't want anything

557
00:27:12,590 --> 00:27:13,840
to do with this sort of stuff.

558
00:27:13,840 --> 00:27:15,350
And I gave it back to her.

559
00:27:15,350 --> 00:27:17,660
And to this day, I wonder
what she ever did with it,

560
00:27:17,660 --> 00:27:20,360
because she took it back.

561
00:27:20,360 --> 00:27:22,070

She ended up in
the United States.

562
00:27:22,070 --> 00:27:27,350
And she became a citizen,
and I think a good citizen.

563
00:27:27,350 --> 00:27:30,140
And obviously was
helpful to the aircraft

564
00:27:30,140 --> 00:27:31,610
people here in the States.

565
00:27:31,610 --> 00:27:34,370
But how did you feel when--

566
00:27:34,370 --> 00:27:38,180
it sounds as if, from
your telling, that there

567
00:27:38,180 --> 00:27:44,960
was no punitive interest
at all from the US

568
00:27:44,960 --> 00:27:48,440
military side and the OSS, at
least the arm that you were

569
00:27:48,440 --> 00:27:50,570
involved in, or the unit
you were involved in,

570
00:27:50,570 --> 00:27:52,340
in catching anybody
who would have--

571
00:27:52,340 --> 00:27:55,430

572
00:27:55,430 --> 00:27:57,770
the word is war
criminal, but who

573
00:27:57,770 --> 00:28:01,070
would have been
involved in, say,

574
00:28:01,070 --> 00:28:04,400
the persecution of
Jews, of civilians,

575
00:28:04,400 --> 00:28:05,317
or anything like that.

576
00:28:05,317 --> 00:28:05,817
No.

577
00:28:05,817 --> 00:28:07,580
You know, that's an
interesting question.

578
00:28:07,580 --> 00:28:10,030
Because I could never
find the answer to that.

579
00:28:10,030 --> 00:28:13,370
There were obviously
teams doing that.

580
00:28:13,370 --> 00:28:18,740
I mean, the army had far
more facilities and personnel

581
00:28:18,740 --> 00:28:20,600
to do that kind of
work than what we did.

582
00:28:20,600 --> 00:28:24,440
I mean, our work was so
specifically targeted

583
00:28:24,440 --> 00:28:27,800
against information
that we needed,

584

00:28:27,800 --> 00:28:33,170

that the idea that
these might be

585

00:28:33,170 --> 00:28:36,530

people who would be of
interest for other reasons,

586

00:28:36,530 --> 00:28:37,760

or Nazis of--

587

00:28:37,760 --> 00:28:40,290

588

00:28:40,290 --> 00:28:41,360

not in my unit.

589

00:28:41,360 --> 00:28:43,160

I don't want to
speak for the OSS,

590

00:28:43,160 --> 00:28:45,800

because it was just too
diverse, and there were too

591

00:28:45,800 --> 00:28:49,220

many different people doing too
many different things for me

592

00:28:49,220 --> 00:28:50,900

to say what OSS was doing.

593

00:28:50,900 --> 00:28:56,060

I can only say my unit
had this one task, which

594

00:28:56,060 --> 00:29:01,370

was to interrogate or at least
to get to know scientists

595

00:29:01,370 --> 00:29:05,930

well enough to make a judgment

whether it's worthwhile to send

596

00:29:05,930 --> 00:29:09,050

them on to somebody more
technically competent

597

00:29:09,050 --> 00:29:12,530

to do the interrogation,
and she obviously

598

00:29:12,530 --> 00:29:15,890

was one of those people.

599

00:29:15,890 --> 00:29:18,540

You didn't feel an internal
tension though because of this?

600

00:29:18,540 --> 00:29:19,040

I'm sorry?

601

00:29:19,040 --> 00:29:21,930

You didn't feel an internal
tension because of this?

602

00:29:21,930 --> 00:29:22,520

Not at all.

603

00:29:22,520 --> 00:29:23,087

No, no.

604

00:29:23,087 --> 00:29:24,170

I mean, these were people.

605

00:29:24,170 --> 00:29:27,950

[LAUGHS] And we
treat them as people.

606

00:29:27,950 --> 00:29:30,890

And whatever value
they had was because

607

00:29:30,890 --> 00:29:33,490

of their skills or
their profession

608
00:29:33,490 --> 00:29:35,540
or whatever they could offer us.

609
00:29:35,540 --> 00:29:39,140
And there was never
really any feeling

610
00:29:39,140 --> 00:29:41,270
of vengeance in any of--

611
00:29:41,270 --> 00:29:42,390
certainly not with me.

612
00:29:42,390 --> 00:29:45,317
I mean, I had no--

613
00:29:45,317 --> 00:29:47,150
Had you known by this
time what had happened

614
00:29:47,150 --> 00:29:48,680
to some of your family?

615
00:29:48,680 --> 00:29:49,940
We knew very little.

616
00:29:49,940 --> 00:29:51,800
I mean, we really
didn't know anything

617
00:29:51,800 --> 00:29:54,350
about concentration camps--

618
00:29:54,350 --> 00:29:56,270
Or Uncle Max or--

619
00:29:56,270 --> 00:29:57,800
We had no idea.

620

00:29:57,800 --> 00:29:58,790

I mean, I didn't.

621

00:29:58,790 --> 00:30:01,017

I don't think my unit did.

622

00:30:01,017 --> 00:30:02,600

This was something
we didn't get into.

623

00:30:02,600 --> 00:30:06,620

624

00:30:06,620 --> 00:30:09,110

I knew there were people
who were obviously

625

00:30:09,110 --> 00:30:14,150

in concentration camps, because
I met them, if no place else,

626

00:30:14,150 --> 00:30:16,730

in Vienna.

627

00:30:16,730 --> 00:30:19,190

But I could not relate.

628

00:30:19,190 --> 00:30:22,800

I mean, I couldn't go
much further than that.

629

00:30:22,800 --> 00:30:24,050

OK.

630

00:30:24,050 --> 00:30:26,900

Did you get back to Berlin?

631

00:30:26,900 --> 00:30:28,970

I did go back to Berlin.

632

00:30:28,970 --> 00:30:37,010

My-- the leader of my unit, the
head of it, called me one day.

633

00:30:37,010 --> 00:30:40,800
He said, you must have family in
Berlin, or do you have friends?

634

00:30:40,800 --> 00:30:41,720
I said, yes, I do.

635

00:30:41,720 --> 00:30:42,440
I believe I do.

636

00:30:42,440 --> 00:30:45,720
I sent my father a letter,
as a matter of fact.

637

00:30:45,720 --> 00:30:49,310
I said, is anyone still alive.

638

00:30:49,310 --> 00:30:55,960
And as it was, he had found
in a German Jewish newspaper--

639

00:30:55,960 --> 00:30:59,832

640

00:30:59,832 --> 00:31:03,000
what was it called?

641

00:31:03,000 --> 00:31:03,765
Aufbau.

642

00:31:03,765 --> 00:31:06,200
Aufbau.

643

00:31:06,200 --> 00:31:09,290
Which was read by every
Jewish refugee in Germany,

644

00:31:09,290 --> 00:31:12,290
because it had,

among other things,

645

00:31:12,290 --> 00:31:15,770

people searching for
contacts and relatives.

646

00:31:15,770 --> 00:31:20,690

And among them was Zuskind, the
man that I described before--

647

00:31:20,690 --> 00:31:23,780

Who was saved by that policeman
who had been his orderly.

648

00:31:23,780 --> 00:31:24,500

Yes.

649

00:31:24,500 --> 00:31:25,010

OK.

650

00:31:25,010 --> 00:31:29,000

And he was looking
for my father,

651

00:31:29,000 --> 00:31:30,230

who was his close friend.

652

00:31:30,230 --> 00:31:33,920

And then my father sent
me the address in Berlin.

653

00:31:33,920 --> 00:31:36,120

So I had a place to go to.

654

00:31:36,120 --> 00:31:37,640

And I was given--

655

00:31:37,640 --> 00:31:40,130

I got to Berlin.

656

00:31:40,130 --> 00:31:42,230

They made me a courier.

657
00:31:42,230 --> 00:31:46,046
And I was officially
flying on the--

658
00:31:46,046 --> 00:31:47,790
those planes which had no seats.

659
00:31:47,790 --> 00:31:48,530
They had buckets.

660
00:31:48,530 --> 00:31:51,440
You sort of sit
on the side and--

661
00:31:51,440 --> 00:31:53,270
The kind that you can
get pushed out of.

662
00:31:53,270 --> 00:31:54,790
Yes, you can get pushed out.

663
00:31:54,790 --> 00:31:58,260
And [LAUGHS] I-- that was
my first airplane ride.

664
00:31:58,260 --> 00:32:01,940
[LAUGHS] I wasn't sure
I was going to like it.

665
00:32:01,940 --> 00:32:03,050
But I enjoyed that too.

666
00:32:03,050 --> 00:32:09,030
But so we came to Berlin,
which was devastated.

667
00:32:09,030 --> 00:32:13,310
I mean, the city
was in total rubble.

668
00:32:13,310 --> 00:32:15,060

Could you recognize it?

669

00:32:15,060 --> 00:32:19,730

You could recognize it, only
because the facades were still

670

00:32:19,730 --> 00:32:23,480

there, but everything else
had sort of fallen apart.

671

00:32:23,480 --> 00:32:26,590

And I did find the address.

672

00:32:26,590 --> 00:32:28,820

So it was possible to
drive through the city

673

00:32:28,820 --> 00:32:32,240

and find a place,
because I did find them.

674

00:32:32,240 --> 00:32:34,460

They were living in what
was then still East Berlin.

675

00:32:34,460 --> 00:32:39,800

But the lines were not fixed,
as they are now or were then.

676

00:32:39,800 --> 00:32:40,640

Yes, afterwards.

677

00:32:40,640 --> 00:32:42,060

Mm-hmm.

678

00:32:42,060 --> 00:32:43,070

No, they're fine.

679

00:32:43,070 --> 00:32:44,960

[LAUGHS] No lines.

680

00:32:44,960 --> 00:32:50,270

But the borders were
not tightly controlled.

681
00:32:50,270 --> 00:32:54,520
And I met the same--

682
00:32:54,520 --> 00:32:58,790
I met George and his family,
which had now come together.

683
00:32:58,790 --> 00:33:02,300
We were living in the
house, very nicely.

684
00:33:02,300 --> 00:33:06,530
I bought him his
first box of cigars.

685
00:33:06,530 --> 00:33:12,560
And his daughter was sure
that I came to marry her.

686
00:33:12,560 --> 00:33:15,920
Now, how she got this
idea, I don't know.

687
00:33:15,920 --> 00:33:18,710
I certainly never
communicated with her.

688
00:33:18,710 --> 00:33:21,230
But my showing up
and her being there I

689
00:33:21,230 --> 00:33:23,360
guess put two and two together.

690
00:33:23,360 --> 00:33:25,220
And she had this.

691
00:33:25,220 --> 00:33:29,570
But I-- first of all, I had
a girlfriend in the States,

692
00:33:29,570 --> 00:33:31,910
and I was very faithful to her.

693
00:33:31,910 --> 00:33:34,970
And I didn't have
any interest anymore

694
00:33:34,970 --> 00:33:37,760
in marrying anybody anyhow.

695
00:33:37,760 --> 00:33:43,820
I knew that I had more to
do to get myself educated,

696
00:33:43,820 --> 00:33:47,080
if nothing else.

697
00:33:47,080 --> 00:33:47,720
So--

698
00:33:47,720 --> 00:33:50,510
What circumstances did
you find him in though?

699
00:33:50,510 --> 00:33:51,620
Did he have a job?

700
00:33:51,620 --> 00:33:53,265
Did he have some way of--

701
00:33:53,265 --> 00:33:54,050
I don't know.

702
00:33:54,050 --> 00:33:54,800
You don't know.

703
00:33:54,800 --> 00:33:57,410
I think he became quite active.

704
00:33:57,410 --> 00:33:57,980

I know that.

705

00:33:57,980 --> 00:34:00,440

He became quite active
in the Jewish community.

706

00:34:00,440 --> 00:34:02,720

Did he stay in the
eastern section of Berlin?

707

00:34:02,720 --> 00:34:07,140

He probably stayed there
until he eventually moved out,

708

00:34:07,140 --> 00:34:11,210

because I met him again many
years later, some years later.

709

00:34:11,210 --> 00:34:16,489

And he did move out of there,
but I don't remember when.

710

00:34:16,489 --> 00:34:18,440

He probably stayed
there for a long time.

711

00:34:18,440 --> 00:34:20,210

It was a very
comfortable place to be.

712

00:34:20,210 --> 00:34:21,590

I could tell that.

713

00:34:21,590 --> 00:34:24,620

Do you remember anything of the
conversation you had with him?

714

00:34:24,620 --> 00:34:27,110

Did he talk about what
had happened in Berlin

715

00:34:27,110 --> 00:34:28,850

after your family had left?

716
00:34:28,850 --> 00:34:29,690
I'm sorry.

717
00:34:29,690 --> 00:34:30,690
I don't know.

718
00:34:30,690 --> 00:34:34,280
I'm not sure I talked
with him about that.

719
00:34:34,280 --> 00:34:40,489
It was such an emotional
meeting that we simply

720
00:34:40,489 --> 00:34:43,670
wanted to be sure that we
are OK, and that he is OK.

721
00:34:43,670 --> 00:34:46,190
And that was the main
purpose of my going

722
00:34:46,190 --> 00:34:50,659
was just to make sure that
they were taken care of.

723
00:34:50,659 --> 00:34:52,830
And they were being taken
care of in some fashion.

724
00:34:52,830 --> 00:34:53,889
They lived fine.

725
00:34:53,889 --> 00:34:55,560
And given where
they were before,

726
00:34:55,560 --> 00:34:58,790
in hiding, and obviously
it would have been better.

727

00:34:58,790 --> 00:35:00,890
But they were living--

728
00:35:00,890 --> 00:35:04,910
what I could see was
a fairly normal life.

729
00:35:04,910 --> 00:35:06,590
Did you ever find
out what happened

730
00:35:06,590 --> 00:35:08,780
to the orderly who
became the policeman who

731
00:35:08,780 --> 00:35:10,970
became his protector?

732
00:35:10,970 --> 00:35:12,260
I am sure they still met.

733
00:35:12,260 --> 00:35:14,000
As a matter of fact,
he was mentioned.

734
00:35:14,000 --> 00:35:18,590
He was-- it was
Zuskind who, as I said,

735
00:35:18,590 --> 00:35:22,310
was a fairly very active
member of the Jewish community,

736
00:35:22,310 --> 00:35:25,370
had certain positions in that
community, which was just

737
00:35:25,370 --> 00:35:29,360
beginning to find its life.

738
00:35:29,360 --> 00:35:31,835
Recommended him
to be one of the--

739
00:35:31,835 --> 00:35:36,572

740
00:35:36,572 --> 00:35:37,700
what do they call it?

741
00:35:37,700 --> 00:35:44,100
Christian-- I can't
remember the--

742
00:35:44,100 --> 00:35:45,860
I'm sorry.

743
00:35:45,860 --> 00:35:46,910
Words escape me.

744
00:35:46,910 --> 00:35:49,970

745
00:35:49,970 --> 00:35:56,510
It was a special memorial
set aside in Yad Vashem,

746
00:35:56,510 --> 00:36:03,095
in Israel, to remember the
Christians who helped Jews.

747
00:36:03,095 --> 00:36:05,660

748
00:36:05,660 --> 00:36:07,220
There's a term for that.

749
00:36:07,220 --> 00:36:08,608
I can't remember.

750
00:36:08,608 --> 00:36:10,400
Oh, you mean the
righteous amongst nations.

751

00:36:10,400 --> 00:36:11,400
The righteous, yes.

752
00:36:11,400 --> 00:36:11,900
OK.

753
00:36:11,900 --> 00:36:13,770
And the policeman
was one of them.

754
00:36:13,770 --> 00:36:16,580
He did get him
into that category

755
00:36:16,580 --> 00:36:22,520
of people who actively helped,
certainly kept George alive.

756
00:36:22,520 --> 00:36:23,600
He may have done more.

757
00:36:23,600 --> 00:36:26,240

758
00:36:26,240 --> 00:36:26,930
OK.

759
00:36:26,930 --> 00:36:27,770
OK.

760
00:36:27,770 --> 00:36:31,290
What else did you-- did you
find your old home address?

761
00:36:31,290 --> 00:36:33,050
Well, I did that.

762
00:36:33,050 --> 00:36:34,130
I did two things.

763
00:36:34,130 --> 00:36:38,000
I went back to the neighborhood

in which I lived last.

764

00:36:38,000 --> 00:36:40,430

I went to both neighborhoods.

765

00:36:40,430 --> 00:36:46,910

The first one, where I was
born, was only exterior damage.

766

00:36:46,910 --> 00:36:50,450

People were living in the
street, in the buildings,

767

00:36:50,450 --> 00:36:54,890

but they were all pockmarked
with shells and shells.

768

00:36:54,890 --> 00:36:59,185

And the neighborhood to which
I had moved in [PLACE NAME],,

769

00:36:59,185 --> 00:37:04,160

in the [PLACE NAME]
neighborhood,

770

00:37:04,160 --> 00:37:05,240

was totally garbage.

771

00:37:05,240 --> 00:37:08,270

I mean, the house
had fallen into what

772

00:37:08,270 --> 00:37:11,390

looked like a personnel carrier
which seemed to have gotten

773

00:37:11,390 --> 00:37:13,520

its way into the entryway.

774

00:37:13,520 --> 00:37:16,830

The building had
collapsed on top of it.

775

00:37:16,830 --> 00:37:23,600

It was as badly damaged
as anything could be.

776

00:37:23,600 --> 00:37:26,180

Then I went to see
the synagogue, which

777

00:37:26,180 --> 00:37:28,610

was still the same as it
was, but it was burned.

778

00:37:28,610 --> 00:37:31,700

I had not seen it then,
but I saw it this time.

779

00:37:31,700 --> 00:37:36,650

And I could see this was not a
picture of that It was a shell.

780

00:37:36,650 --> 00:37:39,470

But every house in the
neighborhood was bombed.

781

00:37:39,470 --> 00:37:45,140

It was like somebody must
have watched a synagogue being

782

00:37:45,140 --> 00:37:49,430

burned, and all these houses
next to them being saved,

783

00:37:49,430 --> 00:37:54,401

but a stick of bombs must have
hit that whole neighborhood.

784

00:37:54,401 --> 00:37:57,170

785

00:37:57,170 --> 00:38:01,104

That was my main
experience, that--

786

00:38:01,104 --> 00:38:04,790

Were you feeling any
different than in Austria?

787

00:38:04,790 --> 00:38:07,200

Austria still was a
new territory for you.

788

00:38:07,200 --> 00:38:09,590

Austria was partly undamaged.

789

00:38:09,590 --> 00:38:10,160

Yes.

790

00:38:10,160 --> 00:38:13,640

But Berlin, going to
Berlin, was there--

791

00:38:13,640 --> 00:38:16,430

was your feeling different when
you were in Berlin than when

792

00:38:16,430 --> 00:38:18,560

you had come to Austria?

793

00:38:18,560 --> 00:38:20,180

Because Berlin is home.

794

00:38:20,180 --> 00:38:21,650

Berlin is where you came from.

795

00:38:21,650 --> 00:38:25,670

I did not have a home-like
attachment to Germany.

796

00:38:25,670 --> 00:38:26,180

OK.

797

00:38:26,180 --> 00:38:31,190

Germany was a phase in my
life that I guess I just--

798

00:38:31,190 --> 00:38:33,140
subjected.

799

00:38:33,140 --> 00:38:35,870
You didn't meet any former
neighbors or anybody like that?

800

00:38:35,870 --> 00:38:36,378
No, no one.

801

00:38:36,378 --> 00:38:37,670
I mean, there was nobody there.

802

00:38:37,670 --> 00:38:39,910
People didn't live in the
neighborhoods anymore.

803

00:38:39,910 --> 00:38:41,660
They couldn't live in
those neighborhoods,

804

00:38:41,660 --> 00:38:43,370
because it was too dangerous.

805

00:38:43,370 --> 00:38:48,470
These houses were
falling all the time.

806

00:38:48,470 --> 00:38:49,751
It was a--

807

00:38:49,751 --> 00:38:53,990

808

00:38:53,990 --> 00:38:58,250
I had absolutely no feelings
of anything about this.

809

00:38:58,250 --> 00:39:01,280
So it's-- I guess
I'm going after this

810

00:39:01,280 --> 00:39:04,820
because it's an unusual
circumstance that somebody who

811

00:39:04,820 --> 00:39:08,360
was born there, raised there,
lived there until their 13th

812

00:39:08,360 --> 00:39:11,390
year, is more or
less bootied out,

813

00:39:11,390 --> 00:39:15,380
or your choices at age
13 had been if I stay,

814

00:39:15,380 --> 00:39:17,190
I probably don't survive.

815

00:39:17,190 --> 00:39:19,160
And if I go, they're
going to make sure

816

00:39:19,160 --> 00:39:20,330
that they get everything.

817

00:39:20,330 --> 00:39:22,070
You go out with
only a few marks,

818

00:39:22,070 --> 00:39:27,320
and surprising that we got
our furniture, but that's it.

819

00:39:27,320 --> 00:39:32,570
And then you come back as part
of the winner, the winning

820

00:39:32,570 --> 00:39:36,560
force, and elite unit
of the winning force.

821

00:39:36,560 --> 00:39:38,180
There's a juxtaposition.

822
00:39:38,180 --> 00:39:38,870
You know?

823
00:39:38,870 --> 00:39:41,765
Leaving in one way and
returning in another.

824
00:39:41,765 --> 00:39:42,890
Well, I was certainly not--

825
00:39:42,890 --> 00:39:50,060
I had no feeling of being
in any danger at all,

826
00:39:50,060 --> 00:39:54,270
except when I went to
the Jewish cemetery.

827
00:39:54,270 --> 00:39:58,010
I bumped into a Soviet
soldier in uniform.

828
00:39:58,010 --> 00:40:01,160
I was in uniform too, so
there was no mistaking me.

829
00:40:01,160 --> 00:40:03,500
Was the cemetery in
the Soviet sector?

830
00:40:03,500 --> 00:40:04,490
In the Soviet sector.

831
00:40:04,490 --> 00:40:08,060
The Jewish community-- that
whole area of East Berlin

832
00:40:08,060 --> 00:40:11,530
was in the Soviet sector.

833

00:40:11,530 --> 00:40:14,540

He actually took his gun off
his shoulder, pointed it at me,

834

00:40:14,540 --> 00:40:15,980

and says, come.

835

00:40:15,980 --> 00:40:18,380

And I simply acted like I
didn't understand German

836

00:40:18,380 --> 00:40:19,490

and walked away.

837

00:40:19,490 --> 00:40:22,050

And to this day, I don't
know why he didn't shoot me.

838

00:40:22,050 --> 00:40:25,070

[LAUGHS] Because he seemed
to be ready to do so.

839

00:40:25,070 --> 00:40:29,390

And I don't know, somehow a good
conscience must have set in.

840

00:40:29,390 --> 00:40:33,095

But that was the closest I ever
came to being in actual danger.

841

00:40:33,095 --> 00:40:36,960

And to this day, I
remember, I was a lucky guy.

842

00:40:36,960 --> 00:40:40,115

The girl-- the girl who was
with me, her name was Eva.

843

00:40:40,115 --> 00:40:41,720

It was Eva Zuskind.

844

00:40:41,720 --> 00:40:42,230

Uh-huh.

845

00:40:42,230 --> 00:40:43,915

Who thought that you
were going to be her--

846

00:40:43,915 --> 00:40:45,665

Yes, she thought I was
going to marry her.

847

00:40:45,665 --> 00:40:48,770

But she married a guy who
took her to the States,

848

00:40:48,770 --> 00:40:54,770

actually, somewhere in the
Washington-Oregon area.

849

00:40:54,770 --> 00:41:01,040

She disliked it immediately
and went back to Berlin.

850

00:41:01,040 --> 00:41:03,440

And I may have known
this, but I certainly

851

00:41:03,440 --> 00:41:07,520

must have felt it, that she
was very close to her parents,

852

00:41:07,520 --> 00:41:10,160

and she was never leave--
would never leave her parents.

853

00:41:10,160 --> 00:41:14,810

And this idea that she
would come to the States

854

00:41:14,810 --> 00:41:16,770

would never work--
it didn't work out.

855

00:41:16,770 --> 00:41:21,470

She was just-- she stayed
there until her husband died.

856
00:41:21,470 --> 00:41:24,015
And-- she married
twice, actually.

857
00:41:24,015 --> 00:41:26,870
The second husband died.

858
00:41:26,870 --> 00:41:32,210
So it was-- it was
very interesting.

859
00:41:32,210 --> 00:41:37,610
I don't remember any real
emotional consequences

860
00:41:37,610 --> 00:41:38,330
from this.

861
00:41:38,330 --> 00:41:41,210
It certainly was,
in some fashion,

862
00:41:41,210 --> 00:41:43,910
to see your old
neighborhood again,

863
00:41:43,910 --> 00:41:46,670
to be able to recognize it.

864
00:41:46,670 --> 00:41:52,580
And but I did this
several times.

865
00:41:52,580 --> 00:41:55,610
I went back to Berlin
a number of times.

866
00:41:55,610 --> 00:41:57,530
The last time, I
took my whole family,

867
00:41:57,530 --> 00:42:00,080
all my kids and grandchildren.

868
00:42:00,080 --> 00:42:03,140
And I wanted to show
them where I lived.

869
00:42:03,140 --> 00:42:07,640
And by this time, Berlin, of
course, was perfectly rebuilt.

870
00:42:07,640 --> 00:42:13,250
And [LAUGHS] they rebuilt
my street, [PLACE NAME],,

871
00:42:13,250 --> 00:42:17,060
to where it was exactly
as it was before.

872
00:42:17,060 --> 00:42:19,370
They used the same plans.

873
00:42:19,370 --> 00:42:21,650
The number on my-- on
the house where I lived,

874
00:42:21,650 --> 00:42:25,190
30, was the same as it
was when I lived in it.

875
00:42:25,190 --> 00:42:27,830
Every inch of it looked
exactly the same way

876
00:42:27,830 --> 00:42:30,530
as it did when I lived there.

877
00:42:30,530 --> 00:42:33,710
And so much of the building has
actually been rebuilt that way.

878

00:42:33,710 --> 00:42:38,540
So the city still looks
like an old, well-kept--

879
00:42:38,540 --> 00:42:41,060
a well-kept city.

880
00:42:41,060 --> 00:42:43,310
The neighborhood
where I was born,

881
00:42:43,310 --> 00:42:51,980
where we played in the-- well,
the gardens, the little plaza

882
00:42:51,980 --> 00:42:52,760
is still there.

883
00:42:52,760 --> 00:42:58,370
The Justice Building
is still there.

884
00:42:58,370 --> 00:43:03,230
It became the headquarters
of the four-power Allies

885
00:43:03,230 --> 00:43:04,010
conference.

886
00:43:04,010 --> 00:43:06,050
They had their
meetings in that place.

887
00:43:06,050 --> 00:43:09,470
It was a very stately
building and certainly

888
00:43:09,470 --> 00:43:11,067
suitable for that purpose.

889
00:43:11,067 --> 00:43:12,650
And that was right
in my neighborhood.

890
00:43:12,650 --> 00:43:18,230
And that's where I saw
the Jewish lawyers being

891
00:43:18,230 --> 00:43:19,400
whisked away.

892
00:43:19,400 --> 00:43:20,600
So.

893
00:43:20,600 --> 00:43:22,100
In that same building?

894
00:43:22,100 --> 00:43:22,820
Hmm?

895
00:43:22,820 --> 00:43:24,260
In that same building?

896
00:43:24,260 --> 00:43:25,460
In that same building, yes.

897
00:43:25,460 --> 00:43:26,990
That was exactly
the same building.

898
00:43:26,990 --> 00:43:28,940
It was never really
much destroyed,

899
00:43:28,940 --> 00:43:32,000
because the Allies
moved into it as soon

900
00:43:32,000 --> 00:43:36,770
as they had got themselves
organized, because that

901
00:43:36,770 --> 00:43:38,460
became their headquarters.

902

00:43:38,460 --> 00:43:40,610

So it couldn't have
been bombed very badly.

903

00:43:40,610 --> 00:43:43,880

As a matter of-- my whole
street, [PLACE NAME],,

904

00:43:43,880 --> 00:43:45,797

was not that badly--

905

00:43:45,797 --> 00:43:47,505

That's your first
home, in [PLACE NAME]..

906

00:43:47,505 --> 00:43:49,760

That was by [PLACE NAME].

907

00:43:49,760 --> 00:43:51,990

What was the name of the
park that was next to your--

908

00:43:51,990 --> 00:43:52,730

Kleist Park.

909

00:43:52,730 --> 00:43:53,540

Kleist Park.

910

00:43:53,540 --> 00:43:54,220

Kleist Park.

911

00:43:54,220 --> 00:43:54,920

OK.

912

00:43:54,920 --> 00:43:58,730

And what is interesting
is when we lived there,

913

00:43:58,730 --> 00:44:04,994

it was sort of a lower middle
class neighborhood which had--

914

00:44:04,994 --> 00:44:07,745

the most attractive place
in it was the beer--

915

00:44:07,745 --> 00:44:14,690

916

00:44:14,690 --> 00:44:18,200

the [GERMAN] on the corner.

917

00:44:18,200 --> 00:44:23,750

It was just a real
workman's district.

918

00:44:23,750 --> 00:44:25,830

When we went back, which
was about two years ago,

919

00:44:25,830 --> 00:44:27,250

three years ago, my family--

920

00:44:27,250 --> 00:44:29,330

Do you mean 2009 or 2010?

921

00:44:29,330 --> 00:44:31,010

2010, yes, I guess
we went back there.

922

00:44:31,010 --> 00:44:33,920

923

00:44:33,920 --> 00:44:39,480

The street had become the
other side of the middle class.

924

00:44:39,480 --> 00:44:44,090

Now it became more like a
wealthy city, a wealthy street.

925

00:44:44,090 --> 00:44:46,040

Houses were repainted.

926

00:44:46,040 --> 00:44:47,540

They looked gorgeous.

927

00:44:47,540 --> 00:44:50,030

I'm sure they put elevators
in all of the buildings.

928

00:44:50,030 --> 00:44:54,680

[LAUGHS] And when I
looked at the placards

929

00:44:54,680 --> 00:44:58,910

outside the buildings, they
now were doctors and lawyers

930

00:44:58,910 --> 00:45:04,640

and professionals of all
sorts living in buildings

931

00:45:04,640 --> 00:45:10,220

that were really not suitable
for that kind of clientele.

932

00:45:10,220 --> 00:45:12,897

When you were there
the first time--

933

00:45:12,897 --> 00:45:14,480

so that's at the end
of the war-- that

934

00:45:14,480 --> 00:45:16,920

still would have been in 1945?

935

00:45:16,920 --> 00:45:17,420

Yes.

936

00:45:17,420 --> 00:45:23,330

I was-- about 1946,
actually, '45, '46.

937

00:45:23,330 --> 00:45:25,130

'45, '46.

938

00:45:25,130 --> 00:45:26,930

During that stint,
when you still

939

00:45:26,930 --> 00:45:29,450

were working with
the OSS in Austria,

940

00:45:29,450 --> 00:45:31,700

did you go back many times?

941

00:45:31,700 --> 00:45:33,920

Or was the many times
you were referred to

942

00:45:33,920 --> 00:45:36,990

throughout the whole
post-war years?

943

00:45:36,990 --> 00:45:37,490

No.

944

00:45:37,490 --> 00:45:43,320

There was-- Vienna was
my last stop in the OSS.

945

00:45:43,320 --> 00:45:43,820

OK.

946

00:45:43,820 --> 00:45:47,600

And so your trip to Berlin
while you were in the OSS

947

00:45:47,600 --> 00:45:49,090

was only the one time.

948

00:45:49,090 --> 00:45:49,590

Yes.

949

00:45:49,590 --> 00:45:51,230

Only one time.

950

00:45:51,230 --> 00:45:53,810

And everything I told
you is more or less what

951

00:45:53,810 --> 00:45:55,300

happened during that time.

952

00:45:55,300 --> 00:45:58,618

I don't remember anything much
more interesting than that.

953

00:45:58,618 --> 00:46:00,410

Did you have any feeling
about the Germans,

954

00:46:00,410 --> 00:46:05,083

even though you might not
have met any former neighbors?

955

00:46:05,083 --> 00:46:06,750

You know, I've been
asked that question.

956

00:46:06,750 --> 00:46:08,720

And I never have a
good answer for that.

957

00:46:08,720 --> 00:46:11,915

Because I cannot really say
honestly that I hated people.

958

00:46:11,915 --> 00:46:14,540

959

00:46:14,540 --> 00:46:17,000

My father and my mother
were totally different.

960

00:46:17,000 --> 00:46:18,980

They visited us
eventually in Berlin

961
00:46:18,980 --> 00:46:20,960
when I was stationed there.

962
00:46:20,960 --> 00:46:27,540
But they felt that every person
of a certain age was a Nazi

963
00:46:27,540 --> 00:46:29,770
and couldn't get
out of their heads

964
00:46:29,770 --> 00:46:34,610
that there was anybody
else in Germany.

965
00:46:34,610 --> 00:46:36,830
I didn't have that experience.

966
00:46:36,830 --> 00:46:37,790
My--

967
00:46:37,790 --> 00:46:39,310
Do you feel
defensive about that?

968
00:46:39,310 --> 00:46:39,810
Hmm?

969
00:46:39,810 --> 00:46:42,200
Do you feel defensive
about that, that you

970
00:46:42,200 --> 00:46:43,640
don't have such a feeling?

971
00:46:43,640 --> 00:46:46,430
Well, I don't feel
necessarily defensive.

972
00:46:46,430 --> 00:46:48,192
I--

973
00:46:48,192 --> 00:46:48,900
Or uncomfortable?

974
00:46:48,900 --> 00:46:51,230
It may be a normal
experience for people.

975
00:46:51,230 --> 00:46:55,430
I mean, you don't go
into a country you hate.

976
00:46:55,430 --> 00:46:59,360
There are refugees
or survivors who

977
00:46:59,360 --> 00:47:00,960
would never go back to Germany.

978
00:47:00,960 --> 00:47:04,220
And there are Jews who don't
ever go to Germany either,

979
00:47:04,220 --> 00:47:07,400
even though they had no
experience whatsoever.

980
00:47:07,400 --> 00:47:09,050
And I can understand that too.

981
00:47:09,050 --> 00:47:13,550
I mean, I would never see
that as a silly thing to do.

982
00:47:13,550 --> 00:47:16,970
But the Jewish community in
Berlin now is tremendous.

983
00:47:16,970 --> 00:47:20,570
I mean, I think probably larger
than it was when we left there.

984

00:47:20,570 --> 00:47:23,630

It-- the synagogues
are flourishing.

985

00:47:23,630 --> 00:47:25,880

I attended services
there with my wife,

986

00:47:25,880 --> 00:47:29,500

and every seat was taken.

987

00:47:29,500 --> 00:47:31,250

The only thing
that was different,

988

00:47:31,250 --> 00:47:35,980

I looked at my neighbor's
prayer book, and it was Russian.

989

00:47:35,980 --> 00:47:36,480

[LAUGHS]

990

00:47:36,480 --> 00:47:38,188

Well, that's what I
was going to ask you,

991

00:47:38,188 --> 00:47:39,740

is that it sounds
to-- it seems to me

992

00:47:39,740 --> 00:47:44,510

that post-war Berlin Jewish
community is basically not

993

00:47:44,510 --> 00:47:45,410

from Berlin.

994

00:47:45,410 --> 00:47:46,220

Not from Berlin.

995

00:47:46,220 --> 00:47:46,740

No, no.

996

00:47:46,740 --> 00:47:53,030

This is a whole new generation
of people who are doing well,

997

00:47:53,030 --> 00:47:57,320

but they're mostly
refugees from Russia.

998

00:47:57,320 --> 00:48:02,540

They were supposed to go from
Russia to Vienna and Vienna

999

00:48:02,540 --> 00:48:03,770

to Israel.

1000

00:48:03,770 --> 00:48:05,910

We're talking about the 1970s.

1001

00:48:05,910 --> 00:48:06,510

Yes.

1002

00:48:06,510 --> 00:48:07,670

Yes.

1003

00:48:07,670 --> 00:48:14,510

So it was a whole
different scenario.

1004

00:48:14,510 --> 00:48:15,890

But they're doing well.

1005

00:48:15,890 --> 00:48:18,890

And it looks like
they're flourishing,

1006

00:48:18,890 --> 00:48:21,960

as they had before.

1007

00:48:21,960 --> 00:48:25,100

So tell us a little bit--
you went back to Austria.

1008

00:48:25,100 --> 00:48:28,760

Aside from the time when you
were looking for scientists,

1009

00:48:28,760 --> 00:48:31,940

earlier with the
OSS, your focus now

1010

00:48:31,940 --> 00:48:35,330

was on what were the Soviets
doing when you were in Vienna.

1011

00:48:35,330 --> 00:48:36,710

Well, it was a mixed bag.

1012

00:48:36,710 --> 00:48:39,530

Yes, we were in that
incident, in that too.

1013

00:48:39,530 --> 00:48:42,500

But my time was
coming to an end.

1014

00:48:42,500 --> 00:48:47,780

I went to [PERSONAL NAME],,
and I said to him,

1015

00:48:47,780 --> 00:48:49,550

I'm going back to the States.

1016

00:48:49,550 --> 00:48:51,660

What do you think I should do?

1017

00:48:51,660 --> 00:48:57,060

I had reached the fabulous
grade of Buck Sergeant, which

1018

00:48:57,060 --> 00:49:01,140

is about as low as you can
get in the Sergeant business.

1019

00:49:01,140 --> 00:49:04,680

And I thought I was
doing pretty good.

1020
00:49:04,680 --> 00:49:06,840
He looked at me, and
he said, why don't you

1021
00:49:06,840 --> 00:49:08,610
get yourself an education?

1022
00:49:08,610 --> 00:49:10,890
Go to Princeton.

1023
00:49:10,890 --> 00:49:12,156
I said, sure.

1024
00:49:12,156 --> 00:49:14,340
[LAUGHS] I never
heard of Princeton.

1025
00:49:14,340 --> 00:49:18,360
I never knew what he was
talking about until I came home.

1026
00:49:18,360 --> 00:49:21,531
And I said to my girlfriend--

1027
00:49:21,531 --> 00:49:23,880
the same girlfriend
I had before--

1028
00:49:23,880 --> 00:49:25,110
The one from the beach.

1029
00:49:25,110 --> 00:49:26,160
The one from the beach.

1030
00:49:26,160 --> 00:49:27,870
What was her name, by the way?

1031
00:49:27,870 --> 00:49:28,840
Pardon me?

1032
00:49:28,840 --> 00:49:30,120
What was her name, by the way?

1033
00:49:30,120 --> 00:49:31,162
Her name is still Vivian.

1034
00:49:31,162 --> 00:49:32,310
[LAUGHS]

1035
00:49:32,310 --> 00:49:33,630
It was, and it remains.

1036
00:49:33,630 --> 00:49:34,440
Yes.

1037
00:49:34,440 --> 00:49:35,880
What was her last name?

1038
00:49:35,880 --> 00:49:36,390
Sheparton.

1039
00:49:36,390 --> 00:49:37,310
Sheparton.

1040
00:49:37,310 --> 00:49:38,230
OK.

1041
00:49:38,230 --> 00:49:41,670
She said, why go to Princeton?

1042
00:49:41,670 --> 00:49:43,680
That's in New Jersey.

1043
00:49:43,680 --> 00:49:46,920
We've got a school in New Haven.

1044
00:49:46,920 --> 00:49:48,370
And I said, OK.

1045

00:49:48,370 --> 00:49:49,430
What school is that?

1046
00:49:49,430 --> 00:49:51,720
And she told me it was Yale.

1047
00:49:51,720 --> 00:49:52,770
So we went to Yale.

1048
00:49:52,770 --> 00:49:55,680
[LAUGHS] And nobody wants
to believe this story,

1049
00:49:55,680 --> 00:49:58,410
because it was so odd.

1050
00:49:58,410 --> 00:50:02,130
I took a test or two,
talked to somebody,

1051
00:50:02,130 --> 00:50:04,690
and next thing I
knew, I was at Yale.

1052
00:50:04,690 --> 00:50:06,660
And I spent four years there.

1053
00:50:06,660 --> 00:50:08,490
What did you study?

1054
00:50:08,490 --> 00:50:11,190
I studied, of all things,
history and Russian.

1055
00:50:11,190 --> 00:50:14,010
And Russian kind of escape--
even though I went home

1056
00:50:14,010 --> 00:50:22,600
every weekend, hitchhiked, I
became a very good hitchhiker.

1057

00:50:22,600 --> 00:50:25,240
I hitchhiked home.

1058
00:50:25,240 --> 00:50:26,955
And when I didn't
hitchhike home,

1059
00:50:26,955 --> 00:50:30,610
Vivian would come to New Haven.

1060
00:50:30,610 --> 00:50:34,560
So we had a-- it was a
wonderful time at Yale.

1061
00:50:34,560 --> 00:50:36,190
But I spoke Russian
with my mother.

1062
00:50:36,190 --> 00:50:36,982
I thought I could--

1063
00:50:36,982 --> 00:50:37,530
I wondered.

1064
00:50:37,530 --> 00:50:38,890
I wondered how you'd do that.

1065
00:50:38,890 --> 00:50:39,630
She helped me.

1066
00:50:39,630 --> 00:50:41,340
And it did help me.

1067
00:50:41,340 --> 00:50:43,350
But it never really stuck long.

1068
00:50:43,350 --> 00:50:45,670
So would you call yourself
a Russian speaker now?

1069
00:50:45,670 --> 00:50:46,590
No, not at all.

1070
00:50:46,590 --> 00:50:48,420
I mean, I can
understand a little bit,

1071
00:50:48,420 --> 00:50:49,360
and that's about it.

1072
00:50:49,360 --> 00:50:50,520
OK.

1073
00:50:50,520 --> 00:50:54,930
I was just not very good
about learning languages.

1074
00:50:54,930 --> 00:50:56,230
I did a lot at Yale.

1075
00:50:56,230 --> 00:50:58,480
I graduated with honors.

1076
00:50:58,480 --> 00:51:03,210
And the next thing
I did was applied

1077
00:51:03,210 --> 00:51:06,360
to the OSS succession, CIA.

1078
00:51:06,360 --> 00:51:09,420
And since I had a
history with them,

1079
00:51:09,420 --> 00:51:12,150
I was able to get in there.

1080
00:51:12,150 --> 00:51:14,760
And I found there also
everybody went to Princeton.

1081
00:51:14,760 --> 00:51:16,770
[LAUGHS]

1082
00:51:16,770 --> 00:51:18,510
Not Yale.

1083
00:51:18,510 --> 00:51:20,640
Well, eventually a
few Yalers came in.

1084
00:51:20,640 --> 00:51:24,430
But it was just a
whole new world.

1085
00:51:24,430 --> 00:51:27,480
And so is that what
brought you to DC?

1086
00:51:27,480 --> 00:51:31,590
The city that you've lived in?

1087
00:51:31,590 --> 00:51:35,520
Well, we moved to-- actually,
we moved to Arlington.

1088
00:51:35,520 --> 00:51:38,400
And we've lived
there ever since.

1089
00:51:38,400 --> 00:51:43,270
And can you tell us, did you
go back to Europe at all?

1090
00:51:43,270 --> 00:51:43,770
What?

1091
00:51:43,770 --> 00:51:45,720
Did you go back to
Europe afterwards?

1092
00:51:45,720 --> 00:51:47,430
I was stationed in Europe, yes.

1093
00:51:47,430 --> 00:51:50,970
And it was a totally

different situation.

1094

00:51:50,970 --> 00:51:53,460

I had my whole family with me.

1095

00:51:53,460 --> 00:51:57,030

By that time, we

had two children.

1096

00:51:57,030 --> 00:51:58,290

I remember leaving.

1097

00:51:58,290 --> 00:52:00,690

It was in the middle of January.

1098

00:52:00,690 --> 00:52:06,450

I had to get there,

and when I did--

1099

00:52:06,450 --> 00:52:08,310

you had to fly.

1100

00:52:08,310 --> 00:52:11,240

But the planes were very slow.

1101

00:52:11,240 --> 00:52:15,420

My wife was breast

feeding the boy, who

1102

00:52:15,420 --> 00:52:20,880

was by that time about

two, three weeks old.

1103

00:52:20,880 --> 00:52:23,445

He was really a baby.

1104

00:52:23,445 --> 00:52:24,570

But she was a good soldier.

1105

00:52:24,570 --> 00:52:28,360

She-- same girl that

was on the beach.

1106
00:52:28,360 --> 00:52:28,860
[LAUGHS]

1107
00:52:28,860 --> 00:52:29,370
Same girl.

1108
00:52:29,370 --> 00:52:30,840
So you eventually married her.

1109
00:52:30,840 --> 00:52:32,820
Yes, I did marry her.

1110
00:52:32,820 --> 00:52:39,840
And we had one daughter,
who was about four, three.

1111
00:52:39,840 --> 00:52:42,020
About three when he was born.

1112
00:52:42,020 --> 00:52:43,780
Yeah.

1113
00:52:43,780 --> 00:52:50,850
And we'd been-- we lived in
Europe for a number of years.

1114
00:52:50,850 --> 00:52:52,522
Went back to Berlin again.

1115
00:52:52,522 --> 00:52:53,730
Did you live in Berlin again?

1116
00:52:53,730 --> 00:52:58,180
Lived in Berlin and had a--

1117
00:52:58,180 --> 00:52:59,430
and that was interesting.

1118
00:52:59,430 --> 00:53:01,650
Because by this time,

now, I knew Berlin,

1119
00:53:01,650 --> 00:53:03,590
and Berlin had changed.

1120
00:53:03,590 --> 00:53:06,220
Was it already split East-West?

1121
00:53:06,220 --> 00:53:06,720
Oh, yes.

1122
00:53:06,720 --> 00:53:07,260
It was.

1123
00:53:07,260 --> 00:53:08,220
It was very much so.

1124
00:53:08,220 --> 00:53:11,460
And the border, at first,
was not that heavily guarded.

1125
00:53:11,460 --> 00:53:14,520
But eventually, it became
very heavily guarded.

1126
00:53:14,520 --> 00:53:15,360
And was it--

1127
00:53:15,360 --> 00:53:16,980
In 1960, they put up the wall.

1128
00:53:16,980 --> 00:53:18,900
By that time, I had left Berlin.

1129
00:53:18,900 --> 00:53:23,880
So I didn't really experience
the worst part of the thing.

1130
00:53:23,880 --> 00:53:27,030
Well, if you were to--

1131

00:53:27,030 --> 00:53:31,740
if you were standing on stage
at the Rubenstein Auditorium,

1132
00:53:31,740 --> 00:53:35,490
but let's say the
audience here would be--

1133
00:53:35,490 --> 00:53:37,260
these seats would be
filled with people

1134
00:53:37,260 --> 00:53:40,350
who had come from
Germany, Jewish refugees,

1135
00:53:40,350 --> 00:53:42,760
their children,
their grandchildren.

1136
00:53:42,760 --> 00:53:46,200
And this audience in
particular wouldn't have ever

1137
00:53:46,200 --> 00:53:48,690
gone back to Germany.

1138
00:53:48,690 --> 00:53:51,080
But they ask you,
what was it like?

1139
00:53:51,080 --> 00:53:55,760
What can you tell us about
the Germans in the 1950s?

1140
00:53:55,760 --> 00:53:56,900
What should we know?

1141
00:53:56,900 --> 00:53:59,030
What should we
understand about them?

1142
00:53:59,030 --> 00:54:00,300

What would you say?

1143
00:54:00,300 --> 00:54:02,120
First of all, we were--

1144
00:54:02,120 --> 00:54:05,540
the American community was a
very tightly knit community.

1145
00:54:05,540 --> 00:54:07,700
We had our own schools.

1146
00:54:07,700 --> 00:54:09,740
We had the PX.

1147
00:54:09,740 --> 00:54:11,780
We had our own movie theater.

1148
00:54:11,780 --> 00:54:14,180
And we could live
totally in isolation

1149
00:54:14,180 --> 00:54:15,440
from the German people.

1150
00:54:15,440 --> 00:54:16,790
Did you?

1151
00:54:16,790 --> 00:54:18,100
Well, we almost did.

1152
00:54:18,100 --> 00:54:22,690
[LAUGHS] Certainly,
my wife, who was--

1153
00:54:22,690 --> 00:54:26,240
at that time she wasn't
teaching, because we

1154
00:54:26,240 --> 00:54:28,610
had all these little children.

1155

00:54:28,610 --> 00:54:32,360

I even had a daughter born in
Berlin, in Berlin, the Jewish--

1156

00:54:32,360 --> 00:54:35,750

I mean, I guess in
the army hospital.

1157

00:54:35,750 --> 00:54:40,370

But our lives were separate.

1158

00:54:40,370 --> 00:54:42,420

Our neighbors were Americans.

1159

00:54:42,420 --> 00:54:46,430

Our kids played with
American children.

1160

00:54:46,430 --> 00:54:51,320

Our contact with
Germans was minimal.

1161

00:54:51,320 --> 00:54:54,500

And unless you went
out of your way

1162

00:54:54,500 --> 00:55:02,480

to go shopping in
[GERMAN] or elsewhere,

1163

00:55:02,480 --> 00:55:05,780

it was a different life.

1164

00:55:05,780 --> 00:55:08,540

1165

00:55:08,540 --> 00:55:11,360

And we were the occupation.

1166

00:55:11,360 --> 00:55:12,480

That makes a difference.

1167

00:55:12,480 --> 00:55:16,100

That makes a difference.

1168

00:55:16,100 --> 00:55:20,540

I don't-- I never really
have felt any real animosity

1169

00:55:20,540 --> 00:55:21,190

to Germans.

1170

00:55:21,190 --> 00:55:25,455

I mean, I have the philosophy
that people are people,

1171

00:55:25,455 --> 00:55:28,320

and that you can take
any group of people

1172

00:55:28,320 --> 00:55:30,410

and make anything
you want out of them

1173

00:55:30,410 --> 00:55:32,120

if you have the
right tools for it.

1174

00:55:32,120 --> 00:55:38,420

And Goebbels was actually
the master of that genre.

1175

00:55:38,420 --> 00:55:41,630

He was able to persuade the
German people that there

1176

00:55:41,630 --> 00:55:44,840

was indeed a danger, that
Jews had to be eliminated,

1177

00:55:44,840 --> 00:55:48,350

and most Germans
seemed to believe that.

1178

00:55:48,350 --> 00:55:50,660

And unfortunately, you
can do that anywhere.

1179

00:55:50,660 --> 00:55:55,350

You see this every day
in our own history.

1180

00:55:55,350 --> 00:55:58,550

And we see it today
in our efforts

1181

00:55:58,550 --> 00:56:02,135

overseas to create
some kind of order.

1182

00:56:02,135 --> 00:56:05,210

1183

00:56:05,210 --> 00:56:09,860

People can be made
to believe anything.

1184

00:56:09,860 --> 00:56:16,580

We are a very unfinished
species of animal.

1185

00:56:16,580 --> 00:56:18,170

We still have a long ways to go.

1186

00:56:18,170 --> 00:56:19,790

[LAUGHS]

1187

00:56:19,790 --> 00:56:27,170

Well then, when you look back at
the various parts of your life,

1188

00:56:27,170 --> 00:56:31,100

is that one of the lessons that
you draw from your experiences

1189

00:56:31,100 --> 00:56:34,700

and from what has

happened to you?

1190
00:56:34,700 --> 00:56:36,500
Are there other
things that you think

1191
00:56:36,500 --> 00:56:39,770
people need to understand
about the Holocaust aspect

1192
00:56:39,770 --> 00:56:41,120
and about what came later?

1193
00:56:41,120 --> 00:56:43,880

1194
00:56:43,880 --> 00:56:48,560
The Holocaust is
simply an example

1195
00:56:48,560 --> 00:56:50,990
of how easy it is
to mislead people

1196
00:56:50,990 --> 00:56:53,510
into believing something.

1197
00:56:53,510 --> 00:56:55,580
I mean, I must give
credit to Goebbels.

1198
00:56:55,580 --> 00:57:04,610
He did this with tactics that
were exceedingly professional.

1199
00:57:04,610 --> 00:57:11,780
He made people believe that Jews
were no longer human beings,

1200
00:57:11,780 --> 00:57:15,540
that you could do anything you
want to them, because they were

1201

00:57:15,540 --> 00:57:17,060
not like us.

1202

00:57:17,060 --> 00:57:19,190
They had different blood.

1203

00:57:19,190 --> 00:57:22,460
They had different--
you see upstairs,

1204

00:57:22,460 --> 00:57:25,880
when you go through
the exhibits,

1205

00:57:25,880 --> 00:57:28,400
they measured the
heads of people

1206

00:57:28,400 --> 00:57:38,960
to show how different Aryans
are from, say, non-Aryans.

1207

00:57:38,960 --> 00:57:43,370
Certainly different from
people of different colors.

1208

00:57:43,370 --> 00:57:44,480
You could measure that.

1209

00:57:44,480 --> 00:57:47,930
You can look at it
from various aspects,

1210

00:57:47,930 --> 00:57:50,150
and sure enough, they're
not the same people

1211

00:57:50,150 --> 00:57:53,690
as pure-blooded Aryans.

1212

00:57:53,690 --> 00:57:56,390
And that was believed.

1213
00:57:56,390 --> 00:57:58,790
This blood theory
went a long way

1214
00:57:58,790 --> 00:58:02,210
towards making Germans believe
that they are supermen,

1215
00:58:02,210 --> 00:58:06,380
and they had some powers
others do not have.

1216
00:58:06,380 --> 00:58:11,870
They deserve what was coming
to them, one way or another.

1217
00:58:11,870 --> 00:58:16,140

1218
00:58:16,140 --> 00:58:23,040
Today, Germany has probably
the most progressive education

1219
00:58:23,040 --> 00:58:25,920
on the Holocaust.

1220
00:58:25,920 --> 00:58:29,430
I was in Berlin, went
to the Jewish Museum.

1221
00:58:29,430 --> 00:58:35,760
And they had exhibited
pictures of department stores

1222
00:58:35,760 --> 00:58:37,860
which belonged to Jews.

1223
00:58:37,860 --> 00:58:42,120
And most of the big department
stores were owned by Jews.

1224

00:58:42,120 --> 00:58:43,890

And people were
surprised, you know?

1225

00:58:43,890 --> 00:58:46,185

They had no idea that this
was actually the case.

1226

00:58:46,185 --> 00:58:49,440

1227

00:58:49,440 --> 00:58:53,280

The museum also had to teach
German people what Jews were.

1228

00:58:53,280 --> 00:58:55,770

All of a sudden, you walk
in, the first-- and they

1229

00:58:55,770 --> 00:58:57,360

change exhibits periodically.

1230

00:58:57,360 --> 00:58:59,100

But when I went there
for the first time,

1231

00:58:59,100 --> 00:59:02,070

the first thing you came
across was a mikvah,

1232

00:59:02,070 --> 00:59:06,780

to show people what ritual bath
was like, why it was there.

1233

00:59:06,780 --> 00:59:09,360

And then from there, you
saw progressively, here's

1234

00:59:09,360 --> 00:59:11,710

what Judaism is all about.

1235

00:59:11,710 --> 00:59:12,780

And it's being taught.

1236
00:59:12,780 --> 00:59:17,880
I've seen their schoolbooks,
their curriculum,

1237
00:59:17,880 --> 00:59:26,250
and they are very careful
to teach the Holocaust.

1238
00:59:26,250 --> 00:59:31,320
So you can turn people from
one direction to another.

1239
00:59:31,320 --> 00:59:32,650
Your own direction.

1240
00:59:32,650 --> 00:59:35,730
And now I want to talk
in more religious terms.

1241
00:59:35,730 --> 00:59:38,130
You said that you weren't
outside religion when

1242
00:59:38,130 --> 00:59:40,770
you were growing up,
but in post-war years

1243
00:59:40,770 --> 00:59:44,220
here in the United States,
did you become more religious?

1244
00:59:44,220 --> 00:59:45,900
Did you join a synagogue?

1245
00:59:45,900 --> 00:59:46,820
Did you participate?

1246
00:59:46,820 --> 00:59:47,520
Yes.

1247
00:59:47,520 --> 00:59:50,220

My family always
was members of--

1248
00:59:50,220 --> 00:59:53,880
and my parents were
and so was my family.

1249
00:59:53,880 --> 00:59:58,880
Yes, we have been very
active in Jewish life.

1250
00:59:58,880 --> 01:00:01,170
I was president of
my congregation,

1251
01:00:01,170 --> 01:00:05,520
and my wife was president also.

1252
01:00:05,520 --> 01:00:10,810
So we were very much involved.

1253
01:00:10,810 --> 01:00:13,380
Am I a religious person?

1254
01:00:13,380 --> 01:00:14,490
I'm not sure.

1255
01:00:14,490 --> 01:00:18,990
[LAUGHS] Not sure.

1256
01:00:18,990 --> 01:00:22,960
But I have a feeling I
belong to these people.

1257
01:00:22,960 --> 01:00:24,960
This is my tribe.

1258
01:00:24,960 --> 01:00:29,190
And that's where I have to be.

1259
01:00:29,190 --> 01:00:31,650
I mean, all this, you

have little choice.

1260
01:00:31,650 --> 01:00:34,380
You are born into this,
and then you're it.

1261
01:00:34,380 --> 01:00:37,020
And you better make
the most of it.

1262
01:00:37,020 --> 01:00:37,860
[LAUGHS]

1263
01:00:37,860 --> 01:00:40,770
Well, is there
anything else you would

1264
01:00:40,770 --> 01:00:42,300
like to say that
you would want--

1265
01:00:42,300 --> 01:00:43,890
is there anything
else you would like

1266
01:00:43,890 --> 01:00:49,050
to say that you would want
people to understand, either

1267
01:00:49,050 --> 01:00:51,630
about what your
experiences were,

1268
01:00:51,630 --> 01:00:54,110
or some thought that you'd
want to leave people with,

1269
01:00:54,110 --> 01:00:55,985
or that you'd want your
children to remember.

1270
01:00:55,985 --> 01:00:59,830

1271
01:00:59,830 --> 01:01:11,400
I'm not very good about
the idea of changing people

1272
01:01:11,400 --> 01:01:14,430
or that people are changeable.

1273
01:01:14,430 --> 01:01:23,190
People are born with certain
ideas, principles, and conduct

1274
01:01:23,190 --> 01:01:27,180
which is theirs for life.

1275
01:01:27,180 --> 01:01:28,620
And I'm always
surprised at people

1276
01:01:28,620 --> 01:01:32,760
being able to move from
one religion to another

1277
01:01:32,760 --> 01:01:40,810
or act in various capacities
that they would normally not

1278
01:01:40,810 --> 01:01:41,310
act.

1279
01:01:41,310 --> 01:01:45,660
But I do believe that
you're kind of formed very

1280
01:01:45,660 --> 01:01:49,230
early in life, and that
you stick with those ways,

1281
01:01:49,230 --> 01:01:51,630
because they seem
comfortable to you,

1282

01:01:51,630 --> 01:01:56,640
and you feel secure
in that environment.

1283
01:01:56,640 --> 01:01:59,190
Yeah.

1284
01:01:59,190 --> 01:01:59,820
Thank you.

1285
01:01:59,820 --> 01:02:00,510
Thank you.

1286
01:02:00,510 --> 01:02:01,830
Thank you very much.

1287
01:02:01,830 --> 01:02:02,400
Thank you.

1288
01:02:02,400 --> 01:02:05,190
Mr. Liebenau, I really
appreciate that you've

1289
01:02:05,190 --> 01:02:07,360
talked with us today.

1290
01:02:07,360 --> 01:02:11,310
And this now concludes our
United States Holocaust

1291
01:02:11,310 --> 01:02:16,050
Memorial Museum interview with
Mr. Gerald Liebenau, September

1292
01:02:16,050 --> 01:02:21,000
12, 2012, here at the US
Holocaust Memorial Museum.

1293
01:02:21,000 --> 01:02:21,690
Thank you.

1294
01:02:21,690 --> 01:02:22,540

Thank you.

1295

01:02:22,540 --> 01:02:24,840

Before we move, I want to
get a little room tone.

1296

01:02:24,840 --> 01:02:28,110

15 seconds of it for
editing purposes.