

**Richard Hermanowski**

**Tape 1**

**August 19, 2013**

**R-50.030\*0733**

### **Absrtract**

Richard Hermanowski was born January 2, 1929 in Warsaw, Poland and had a brother, Andrew, born 5 years earlier. Richard completed 5 grades of public school and war broke out during his 6<sup>th</sup> year when the Germans closed grammar schools. During the German occupation, he attended private classes in secret held at homes. They were in their country villa when war broke out and they took the train home which stopped after 10 miles and they walked the rest of the way home. The Germans did not like his father being President of the White Collar Union he was dismissed from his job and would become director of taking soft coal and converting it. The Nazis killed some of the 40 Jews who worked for his father which shocked Richard and his father. His brother was arrested in February '43 as was a member of the underground and sent to Auschwitz. His mother came down with malaria and slowly recovered. Richard saw the Germans and partisans fighting near his building and soon the Russians took over. They were wild men who washed their face in the toilet and made a fire for cooking in the street. Richard and his parents were forced into cattle cars to go to Prushkof (?) for forced labor on fixing trains. They stopped in several places and ended up in Eversberger, Germany near Berlin where Richard worked on a nearby dairy farm. On April 23<sup>rd</sup> they were evacuated as the Germans wanted to blow up the city before the Russians arrived. They were on the death march until May 3<sup>rd</sup>. At the end the Germans got drunk and shooting aimlessly and suddenly the Americans and the British arrived. His father was asked to register the Poles and Richard was given a job and a uniform which he was proud of. His brother survived the concentration camp with pneumonia and TB so he and the family were sent to Sweden to recuperate. After two weeks they were sent to a small village where they rested, went fishing or read while the brother went elsewhere to recuperate. Richard completed gymnasium in a Polish School. His parents returned to Poland in '47 but he remained. He was not accepted into Polytechnic so around '54 he came to the US with a mentally sick girl that he married and they soon separated. Richard obtained a contract job for two months and was disappointed when it ended. He completed City College. In 1957 his mother visited for three months and returned to Poland to be treated for gall bladder condition.

### **Summary**

00:00 Richard Hermanowski was born January 2, 1929 in Warsaw, Poland. The family had moved from Pragma, east of the river to a nice villa-like area. His father worked for the city government so eligible for a city apartment. They loved it. It had better conditions, was more open and located in a better area. His name was Voyachick (?), a typical Polish name but could not use it in the US as people could not pronounce it so settled on Richard. He took Richard Voyachik at time of confirmation in Sweden in memory of his

cousin who died at the Warsaw Uprising. Richard's brother, Andrew or Anjee, was born in 1924 and is 5 years older.

- 05:00 Richard's father was in charge of supplies for streetcars and buses. His father was born in the small town of Yenitz (?) which is northwest of Warsaw and had two brothers. He completed a year of polytechnic in Warsaw. His father was born June 12, 1899 and his mother born April 28, 1904. His father was in the military during World War I in a group called military police. One brother was killed in World War I. His parents did not talk much about World War I. His father's name was Jon and his mother's name was Stanistro (?). Richard's mother finished high school, did not attend university and was a housewife. They had household help. Richard's family was not very comfortable financially but his father was director of a department so had a better salary than a clerk. In 1935 Stutsky (?), a respected leader of Poland passed away and officials came from all over the world. The family stood on their balcony and watched the procession. They moved to a new apartment in 1938. He grew up in Pragma.
- 10:00 Richard completed 5 grades of public school and war broke out during his 6<sup>th</sup> year when the Germans closed grammar schools. Except for trade school, Richard did not have higher education. He attended a shoemaker's school. Though they had German books, he was taught Polish. He completed the second class of gymnasium. Latin, Polish and English were taught privately by teachers who came to his home. The teacher would have a group of 5 to 7 students at a time in different homes. It was a conspiracy as the Germans would arrest the students and kill the teachers. People who were caught in the street were sent to Germany. It was always a problem getting together. Sometimes the students did not show up. None of his friends were killed or arrested. He was 13 and 14 when they held classes in his home and at different places as if they held the classes at one place, I might be suspicious.
- 15:00` There were Folkdeutch, Reichdeutch and other kinds of people around so they had to keep it secret. Before the war there were some Jewish children in his private school. They had religion as a subject and two or three children did not participate. During the occupation in high school, there was one Protestant child and two or three boys were probably Jewish. Before the occupation when Richard was 10 or 11, one of his parents gave him a paper to read and distribute to others so he knew what was happening. His parents were not religious but they attended church. They were patriotic and when war broke out, they ran on the street and said they would succeed and kill the Germans. In September, Richard learned that Great Britain and France had declared war. He felt they would conquer Germany. When war broke out, he was with his mother and brother in the villa in the countryside. It was 13 to 15 miles away from Warsaw. On the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the war, at 9 PM it was getting dark and he was sitting with a friend. Suddenly he heard a blast and saw a fire and heard explosions.

- 20:00 Germans were dropping bombs 200 yards away. Richard assumed the German pilot was lost or not patriotic and did not want to kill people so just dropped it. His mother was visiting a friend and ran screaming as though Richard and his brother were killed. His father arrived from Warsaw and told them they were returning to Warsaw. The same amount of people who were traveling to Warsaw by train, were leaving Warsaw by train. People were fighting to get on the small suburban trains. They went 10 miles on the train and it stopped and announced that they were not going further. Everyone got out and had to walk the rest of the way home. Both brothers were closer to their mother as their father was strict and spoke little. They had to listen to their father or they would get into trouble. Their mother was softer.
- 25:00 .Later their father got involved with another woman and caused them to have bad thoughts about him. Both boys were against the father. Until then, they had a normal family life. A lot changed. The father ran into problems with the Germans as they did not like his activity before the war. He was President of the White Collar Union in his department. The Germans did not like people to participate in any social activities. The President of the city called his father and told him he was dismissed from his job and would become director of taking soft coal and converting it like wood outside of Warsaw and he accepted it. His father understood the situation and was happy that it evolved that way. It was only a summer job while they lived at the villa in the countryside. Richard had fun there. His brother was hired to supervise him. The Germans said they would give them 40 Jewish workers which the father did not like. The Jews did physical work in small towns further away from Warsaw. His father had a place to live and hired a local cook for them. His father felt something would happen in 2 or 3 weeks. Germans came to view their progress. His father knew what the Germans were capable of doing. His father made lunch for the Jews and got drunk and told his mother to return.
- 30:00 He asked how they worked and the Germans said to teach them a proper lesson and shoot them. Richard did not see the shooting but knew the Jews as he sat with them at meals. It was a tremendous shock for him and his father. His father returned to Warsaw and reported the incident. Everything was back to normal. They all returned to Warsaw. The Jews continued working. School started in September. His father returned shook up as in Warsaw the Wehrmacht came from 4AM to noon and surrounded the Jews and asked them to create a large hole and shot all of them.
- 35:00 Three Jews ran into the woods nearby and survived until the end of the war in '42. His father worked in transportation in '42 and switched into a new job in summer '42. Richard's mother was with them. The Jews were in a swampy area with mosquitoes and Richard's mother got malaria and the doctor did not know what type as she did not have symptoms nor did they have medicine for it. His mother shook as she was freezing. His father had to work. His brother was arrested in February '43. He had joined the underground and a spy in the group told the gestapo something would occur. Richard

and his parents knew that the brother was in the resistance. It was like ROTC here as you got education to become an officer. Activities were top secret. His brother was in placed in a prison in Warsaw and they sent him packages. In April '43 the Jewish operation started and the brother was still in prison. It was located in the middle of the ghetto so he knew what was happening.

- 40:00 The brother was beaten up as they tried to get information from him. The betrayer was killed by the underground army. His mother became a different person. Previously she was brave and active but due to her sickness and the brother's arrest, she became unaware. The father found a doctor connected to the Germans who had a vaccine for malaria and gave it to the mother and she recovered somewhat. In May '43 his brother was sent to Auschwitz and placed in a special group of 19 prisoners whose shoes were removed and were placed in a special wagon with an escort. The father knew about Auschwitz. By '49 the mother slowly recovered. Young people were patriotic and hated the Germans and would do anything to kill them and get Warsaw and Poland back to normal.
- 45:00 Richard physically changed to become a man. He noticed the girls at his apartment house. He was stopped socially by their situation as all his friends were arrested and placed in concentration or labor camps. His physical changes stopped and he could not think about it. The shock of the war and the Germans gave him post-traumatic stress. No one believed them or could understand it. It was a tremendous problem. The Swedes did not know how to react to them. They thought Richard's family should return to Poland as it was not normal to live in Sweden. His parents had their own problems. Before the uprising, he was approached whether he wanted to be a contact man for the underground army but he was busy running the house, taking care of his mother and going to school so could not undertake more. The Uprising started. All of Warsaw knew about it. The Germans started shooting into his building and made a fire in a corner building. Richard was left alone as he was a fireman and had an armband so could go into the street after curfew.
- 50:00 The Germans could stop him but not arrest him. Richard tried to put out the fire and the Germans were shooting but he did not get shot. Richard joined the resistance group and later learned that all the 40 to 50 partisans had decided to leave Warsaw as every second building was occupied by Germans. They thought they would lose so escaped but everyone was shot. Ten to 15 partisans had grenades and there were two or three guns for all. The underground activities consisted of transporting 12 grenades from one building to another. His building faced a huge infiltration of water station. The area was occupied by Germans marching around it so they were in control. He looked out the window and talked to a guy on the other side and succeeded to cross the street at the proper time. About the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> day Russian soldiers arrived from the East.

- 55:00 They were Blossom or Communist Army. They were wild men as they had never seen running water, a toilet or an apartment building. They built a fire in the middle of the street and sat on the ground singing and eating. On August 7<sup>th</sup>, they occupied their building and shot three people in the yard. This was the city building that his family moved to in '38. It was three stories high and had a yard to play in or sit on the benches or ride their bicycles. In '39 the Germans had walled in the adjacent building and made a huge garage for autos and tanks. Their yard was adjacent to it. Before the war, they were ordered to connect two buildings and all the cellars so you can travel underground through the cellars. Around November or December '39, the Germans brought the Jews. It was very cold as the temperature was 20 or 27 degrees below zero centigrade. There were no windows, no glass and no coal. The windows were gone by the German bombardment. They placed cardboard or plywood over the windows. The Jews were digging.
- 60:00 The Germans asked if they needed wood and they responded, "Yes." The Germans whipped the Jews over their ears who were chopping wood so one was bleeding. Richard could not take it so he ran to the closest entrance to the cellar though the Germans said, "Halt." Richard did not leave his apartment for several days. When he was 10 in '39, he saw atrocity for the first time. He saw other types of atrocity later. Before the Uprising when the Blossom army shot the three, they ran into the house looking for vodka. His father spoke a little Russian and gave them a half bottle. .
- 65:00 The Russians washed their face in the toilet as they were completely wild. They grabbed an umbrella and asked his father what it is. His father said, "umbrella" and they repeated it twice and dropped it. The Russians had no exposure to modern developments. They ran after females and would rape them so women had to hide from them. There was minimum active Uprising in their area. The Germans said they would evacuate in 15 months and the Poles would follow them. The Russians took a deck of cards, dressed in some clothes and marched through Warsaw to open spaces where farmers came. They called it a small concentration camp and remained there for two days. The Russians asked for the men to stay in line and every 10<sup>th</sup> man was shot. The Germans did not allow rape. Gypsies were number one, Jews were number two and the Poles were number three in order of their killing.
- 70:00 The Poles were not allowed to walk with the German girls or talk to them. They did not believe in blending their superior race with others. . Their neighborhood was called, "Cologne Stashman" where they had the underground cellar. The Blossom Army came and Richard was with his father in the yard and they wanted to arrest them to do a job. They were told to remain in the yard while the soldiers went inside to get more people to work. Meanwhile Richard ran to the cellar. Girls were brought by the Germans and they were told they would be visited that evening. The girls got so scared that they put bandages on their face or tried to escape. The officer was furious that the girls ran. They

stayed one night, two days and were told to march to Prushkof outside of Warsaw where they were fixing trains and cars. There were big holes for people to stay. There were thousands of other people there. They tried to escape but had no success. They were 80 to 90 people squeezed into a cattle car. The Germans succeeded to conquer one or two sections. The German General came and ordered 10,000 people killed including those in hospitals.

75:00 Richard was in a car with his parents. He did not know where they were but knew they were going southwest. Later, he learned that he was going to Auschwitz. Halfway they stopped at Bush Garnetza (?) for four hours. Then were told they were going to Germany as were needed there. People escaped and some were killed as they were shot. The Germans came with steps and guns and killed some people. Then they went to Frankfurt for two weeks. From there he and his parents went to Ritzen (?) which was 13 miles south. It was a sugar refinery and they had to prepare the factory to produce sugar. They took heavy clay and removed the rail tracks. The women did other work. Once a German man hit him as he was not removing rail tracks properly and would be killed if he did not improve. He returned to the barracks. Shegwunk (?), maybe a Jew, translated Polish to German to represent them. His father was angry with him to assign a 70-year-old professor to heavy labor. The next day, Richard and three others were put on the track. His father was assigned a heavy job.

80:00 Richard was assigned to a dairy farm in Eversberger (?) where he had to clean and process the milk. It was a heavy job so he was given extra cards for bread. He lifted 30 liter cans or sometimes 60 liters. He was given boots to wear while he was working. Richard lived in the ci5y and had to walk every day sometimes worked until 9 or 11 PM. He had to be available until all the milk was delivered. He lugged canisters of milk to town 1 or 2 kilometers away. The owner of the dairy was older, maybe 70 years old. There were five or six laborers. Two or three were characters and one was a specialist in robbing jewelry stores. One played poker and was stabbed with a knife in the stomach and would not go to the hospital. A third made coffins and worked with young Germans about 18 or 19 who were running away from military service.

85:00 They hid the German, a shoemaker. There was solidarity so they helped one another. Richard brought milk and cream and learned other things. One brought girls. They had three bunk beds. He lay in the dark with a girl. His mother taught him to put women on a pedestal like a goddess, respect them and do everything possible to make them happy. Everything that happened was a shock to him. He walked daily to the factory. Richard wore a "P" on his arm for Polish. The Germans would stop him and ask him where he was going. He had a pass that showed he worked at the dairy except it was not useful when he worked late. He would go home without being stopped. When the Russians came closer, Richard's people were in control, not the Germans. There were all types of nationalities. There were two Germans, one in his 60s was the director and another was

drafted into the German military. Most of the work was performed by foreigners. The Germans could not be spared to do the work as they were in the military. In Poland, everyone tried not to go into the military. The German he was hiding was accused of putting gold rings into the coffin but he was not arrested.

90:00 . It was February or March that he had trouble with the police but he was not involved as it did not relate to his job. He worked with Ukrainians, Poles and Germans. They made butter from milk by shaking. They had the best possible cream. One day there was an investigation and milk and other items were found and they reported to the police who went to the director and Richard was afraid that he would be arrested. They hid bottles and when they were found, they were beaten. The older guy had firearms. The Police department called them up and he knew German so talked and was afraid he would be sent to Potsdam, outside of Berlin. Richard had to do pushups. He represented all those making dairy.

95:00 It was the winter of '45 and the Russians were approaching so you had to be more careful. He took his parents and others to Evansberger (?) as sugar time was over and he had to feed his parents. They had raw milk which was not pasteurized as not properly washed so got dysentery for six weeks. He told a German woman he had a stomach problem and she helped make it stop. He visited his parents weekly. They were 40 kilometers from Berlin which was a big city. His parents were assigned to one room and they were all frightened.

100:00 The Germans were running west. There were people with luggage who offered him cigarettes to help them carry the luggage. He took the cigarettes and smoked them and gave some to his father. Richard took off his "P" and only wore his armband when he was outside as he was no longer afraid of the Germans. It was very cold in the open side railroad truck and other side tracks. The water froze and they were skidding all over the place. On the last week, every day he got a note for overtime as the Germans did not stop. The Germans begged him to help with the luggage. They were 60 years old and couldn't carry it going to the railroad station, On April 18<sup>th</sup>, he heard the Russian artillery and close to the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Russian artillery shouted, "West." The German artillery was shouting and did not pay attention and they might be killed. The British had a heavy bombardment. There were 50 to 60 planes dropping bombs in one spot.

105:00 Older Germans asked them to dig trenches. They screamed, "The Americans are coming," and lay down on the ground three or four times. Richard went to visit his parents on April 23<sup>rd</sup> who he found in bad shape. He told them to remain and he would find them food. He gave his father cigarettes. Suddenly Richard grabbed what he could as his parents had to stand in the open space and then were evacuated to the West at 11:30 PM. Later he learned about it from the internet. The Germans tried to evacuate the Poles and other foreigners as they planned to blow up the city as the Russians were

coming. They were assigned by two older Germans. One had only one arm and the other limped. These guards ran away when the Russians arrived. They started walking the next day. At first it was not too bad but later it was a death march because they walked 10 days until May 3<sup>rd</sup>. At first the road was not crowded though everyone was trying to go west.

110:00 They were close to the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp so people and military came out from the camp. The Germans were shooting at those from the camp so there were dead all over. His father told him not to sleep on the ground as he would get sick so made a bed from wood. He and his father were in good shape though there was nothing to eat or drink. It was terrible for his mother. After four or five days, the two guards disappeared. Some of the people on the march ran away, mostly to the West as had bad experiences with the Russians. One day it became more crowded. One day Wehrmacht SS on a motorcycle hit his mother. He placed his parents in a ditch. They had to deliver a message to a superior in a hurry. A Polish guy ran west and left him in charge. He said to take the mother and she would recover.

115:00 Later he saw other Germans getting in and taking a rest. They were drunk and fighting in the kitchen. They were pilots and airborne SS fighting over a can of preserves. They were shooting each other; one was furious. They went to his parents' room and he told the Germans that his parents had an accident. His father went with the Pole to try to kill an animal for food. The German was screaming, "How can you sit in a German bed and be comfortable while they are suffering?" He is drunk and takes a gun and says he will kill everyone. A higher rank officer walks in and grabs him and says, "No, you won't do it" and chases him out. The drunk Germans leave on trucks. His mother gets out of bed and has pus but they have nothing to clean it. They went to the streams to clean his mother. It did not help her pain. On May 3<sup>rd</sup> at three SS and three women sitting on a horse drawn carriage, were drunk. They were going in the opposite direction and shooting anyone they could. Fifteen minutes later the Americans and British arrived in jeeps and they kissed and hugged them.

120:00 They told the jeep people about the drunk party and they shot them. They got to Schverin The Russians took over and asked for the big truck. His mother got some help from the British. They asked his father to register the Poles at Libik and he got room and board. The Americans and the British fed everyone and they died or had stomach problems because they were eating too much or the food was too rich. Each person was assigned a building. Richard got a job so got a card from the British so he would not be arrested. He was 16 years old and got a uniform so he was happy and proud. His father spent a long time organizing the group. His father suggested that he enter Polish school. Their DP camp school was famous. Richard was there for just one week. The Swedish Red Cross and the International Red Cross tried to help them. His father's friends came and asked him why he was there. The Polish military assigned them a chauffeur and a jeep



and they picked up his brother in Hamburg. They did not know that he was alive. His brother, Anjay, was born September 18, 1929 and his father, Jan Hermanowsky, was born June 12, 1899. After a year in Auschwitz, his brother was sent to Naurengoben (?) near Hamburg and then to Braunschaverg (?). He was evacuated to Bergen-Belsen where the Americans came and pushed bodies with bulldozers into a vast grave. His brother survived by being placed in a safer place. A British plane dropped bombs and hit his gang but he was saved.

130:00 He went fishing with his brother and talked about their experiences and the brother had many stories. At first his brother did not want to talk and was quiet. He had never been outgoing. He had closed himself into a shell after his experiences. The Red Cross checked out Anjy and he was found to have pneumonia and required treatment. The Swedish Red Cross transported Anjy and his family to Sweden. Besides pneumonia, his brother had TB and an injury on his foot from a shell that dropped on it. They all had lice so had to go through cleaning before transporting to Sweden. They were showered and treated by Swedish girls. Those immigrants over 40 or 50 did not want to undress to shower. Women placed disinfecting chemicals under their arms and in their crotch.

135:00 They got new clothes and got on ships, leaving all their belongings in the DP camp. They were allowed to take their documents. The ship crossing the Baltic Sea had to stop and use a minesweeper to search for mines. The trip ordinarily takes eight hours but with all the stops, it took two days. They were not permitted up on deck to prevent something happening as some of the people were mentally sick. Richard got friendly with Swedish girls and was allowed on the deck. He had never been on the sea before and he enjoyed it. Later he and his brother contacted the girls and were invited to their house. The girls had plenty of money. He wrote them from the US. His mother's wounds had been care for in Germany but she was found to have a heart problem. She was placed in a bed in a different part of the camp in Sweden. She was with women and he was with men. He objected to the German music and language but the girls helped him.

140:00 Their building was surrounded by a ditch with water so they swam to each other. In two weeks he was ready to leave. He found lice in one place so he left there in two weeks. They were transported to different locations. The family was assigned to a tiny village in the country. The brother was sent to a bigger place near Stockholm which was good for lung problems so the parents lost contact with him. There was nothing special to do for the rest of the year. He took a walk in the woods, went fishing or rested. Ordinary Swedes thought they should return to Poland rather than take their jobs as there was much unemployment.

145:00 The Swedes were in a better position than other Europeans as they were not in the war. His father was assigned to rip up old clothes, a dirty job. His father did not speak German, Swedish or English but Russian who he did not care for. Some of his Polish

friends suggested he return while others said not to because of the Russians. In '47 they decided to return to Poland. Richard attended a Polish school to complete gymnasium. In three months, he completed the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> classes. There was a large age difference between the students as they were 16 to 35. The Swedes did not have to spend money as camps and school were free. After four years, Richard decided to go to the Techno Institute to learn counting machines. He attended the Technical school to become a draftsman and learned theory and technical support. In 1946 he moved to Stockholm. Early '47 his father decided to return to Poland. Richard accepted it and spent Christmas with them. He had girl friends in Stockholm. They decided that at the end of January they would meet in the south and return together. He returned to Stockholm and his friends. He decided to wait until he got his degrees before returning.

150:00 He fell in love with a girl, Grazna, who had run away from Poland as a stowaway. Her father was an officer in England and sent her money to come to England. Richard decided not to return to Poland. He told his parents that it would be better for him to finish school. His father agreed but was heartbroken and his mother burst into pieces and then said OK but stay in touch. Richard wrote to his brother who wrote back that he was not interested in returning. At the time, his father was with another woman but broke up later. Later his brother came to the US and thought he would be a professor in the West. Richard was in Sweden for nine years and came to the US without language or money. He could not decide what was best.

155:00 He was happy that he stayed and sent packages to support his parents. His father lost his job. His brother could not attend Polytechnic as he was in the West. His family lived in a terrible place without water or closets in a bombed building. After a year they got a better place. The family went through hell as they returned. Richard's life was not easy. He was hit by Western approval in '45 when it was decided to have an end of '45 parade. All the Poles ended up in Russian East Poland as there was a Polish agreement with the Western countries. The Russians were allowed to form military groups in Eastern Poland. A half million Poles took over from the Germans and lived as they were first given freedom. There was fighting in Tohbruchen, Norway. Poles were fighting all over but they were not allowed to march in the parade. It was a shock and you could see Polish soldiers crying. They fought five years for the Allied Forces and then the Russians took over. It was very leftist and accepted but they could not make waves or talk about it.

160:00 Most of the Poles got stateless passports. Some went to Australia, US and Brazil. They went anywhere they could get to as could not return to Poland. Some were successful. Those who went to the US built electricity as knew what they were doing. They were bitter as they could not forget it. A whole generation in America remembers Roosevelt sold Poland to Russia. Yankovsky (?) sent correspondence during the war to Israel and the US. He was in the Warsaw ghetto and concentration camp and told the world what

happened. There were thousands of cases. He hated Roosevelt. He had many objections to the US. There was no way out as he was not accepted in Sweden.

165:00 He came to the US with no money. He had \$20 in his pocket and was married to a woman who was eight years older than him. He had problems with her. She lied about her life and people told him to annul the marriage but he did not. She went through hell in Auschwitz which encouraged people but she was mixed up. They separated. He went to 48<sup>th</sup> Street to Rockefeller Center looking for a job. He saw a black man covered with blood and a policeman hitting him. People said the black man was a robber. Richard supported the man which upset the people so he walked away. There were active groups of Germans and Poles. If you were white, you could protest but not if you were a second class citizen. Jews and Poles could not get jobs. He finally got a job that lasted about six or eight weeks as the contract was over. In Sweden if you work for a company, you get three months' notice or more according to the amount of time worked.

170:00 Richard could not get used to the US attitude. He had friends and finished city college. He had a friend from Estonia who was smart. He had Jewish and Italian friends. The Jews were the most gifted and knowledgeable in English so it was so hard to compete. City College was free. The matriculation fee was \$15. In 1967 the Chancellor for the City of NY introduced loans and even if you had bad high school marks, you would be accepted into City College. This was for the Black students. Someone placed broken glass on the pavement to give you a flat tire so he avoided the side streets. There were all types of problems. In Sweden you had lots of nature and in the US you could not breathe. He left Sweden as after five years he could not get into Polytechnic. Only Poles were accepted if they were extremely gifted.

175:00 He knew the son of a Polish Jewish General. The General was the only one who was Jewish. He escaped through Estonia and Scala Rick Amon (?). Richard wanted to go for math at the Swedish University but he had no money. He had to work and heard there are night schools in the US. They did not like him as he was a foreigner and he could not go to school so he was a part of a group of friends who went to the US. Richard's generation had to change. They had to forget their past lives and a different life was a problem. Some were successful. Most got a job but life was not exactly as wished. He returned five or six times to Sweden. He wanted to bring his family to the US. In 1957 he brought his mother on a 3-month visa and after three months, she had a gall bladder attack and went into the hospital.

180:00 They found a Polish doctor who did not know what was wrong with her. She went down from 200 pounds to 90 pounds. Three days later she went home and found out she had a thyroid problem and got medication. The radiation broke the thyroid into pieces. A specialist could remove it but it would be expensive so he wrote letters to his friends in

Poland. His mother went by plane to a doctor who checked her pulse every hour and she survived. A surgeon supervised the surgery and she lived another ten years.

185:00