

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,140

2
00:00:01,140 --> 00:00:03,090
OK.

3
00:00:03,090 --> 00:00:07,080
This is a United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

4
00:00:07,080 --> 00:00:12,210
interview with Mrs. Gertrude
Leiser on February 26,

5
00:00:12,210 --> 00:00:16,320
2017 in Boca Raton, Florida.

6
00:00:16,320 --> 00:00:19,290
Thank you very much
Mrs. Leiser for agreeing

7
00:00:19,290 --> 00:00:23,970
to speak with us today, for
agreeing to share your story,

8
00:00:23,970 --> 00:00:27,540
and let us know of how
the war and the Holocaust

9
00:00:27,540 --> 00:00:29,760
impacted your life.

10
00:00:29,760 --> 00:00:31,140
You're very welcome.

11
00:00:31,140 --> 00:00:35,820
I'm going to start our interview
with the most basic questions.

12
00:00:35,820 --> 00:00:40,170
And from there, we'll paint

a picture with your words

13
00:00:40,170 --> 00:00:42,790
to be able to tell your story.

14
00:00:42,790 --> 00:00:45,030
So the very first
question I have

15
00:00:45,030 --> 00:00:49,500
is; can you tell me what
was the date of your birth?

16
00:00:49,500 --> 00:00:52,230
January 3, 1930.

17
00:00:52,230 --> 00:00:53,940
January 3, 1930.

18
00:00:53,940 --> 00:00:54,660
Correct.

19
00:00:54,660 --> 00:00:57,390
And what was your name at birth?

20
00:00:57,390 --> 00:00:58,590
What was my what?

21
00:00:58,590 --> 00:01:01,560
What was your name
when you were born?

22
00:01:01,560 --> 00:01:03,270
Gertrude Krause.

23
00:01:03,270 --> 00:01:04,450
Gertrude Krause.

24
00:01:04,450 --> 00:01:04,950
Krause.

25

00:01:04,950 --> 00:01:07,110
And where were you born?

26
00:01:07,110 --> 00:01:08,620
Vienna, Austria.

27
00:01:08,620 --> 00:01:09,390
OK.

28
00:01:09,390 --> 00:01:11,440
Do you have brothers
and sisters?

29
00:01:11,440 --> 00:01:15,150
I have a sister
who's still alive.

30
00:01:15,150 --> 00:01:18,250
And I had a brother who died.

31
00:01:18,250 --> 00:01:20,850
Can you tell me their names?

32
00:01:20,850 --> 00:01:22,410
My brother was the older one.

33
00:01:22,410 --> 00:01:24,360
His name was Leo Krause.

34
00:01:24,360 --> 00:01:25,350
Leo Krause?

35
00:01:25,350 --> 00:01:26,200
Correct.

36
00:01:26,200 --> 00:01:28,800
And my sister's name
is Edith Krause.

37
00:01:28,800 --> 00:01:29,790
Edith Krause.

38

00:01:29,790 --> 00:01:35,110

About what year was Leo born?

39

00:01:35,110 --> 00:01:38,350

He must have been
born around 1922.

40

00:01:38,350 --> 00:01:39,670

I'm not sure.

41

00:01:39,670 --> 00:01:41,890

OK, he was born in 1921--

42

00:01:41,890 --> 00:01:43,570

I heard in the background.

43

00:01:43,570 --> 00:01:44,080

Yeah.

44

00:01:44,080 --> 00:01:44,580

OK.

45

00:01:44,580 --> 00:01:45,160

OK.

46

00:01:45,160 --> 00:01:47,410

And your sister was born when?

47

00:01:47,410 --> 00:01:50,840

My sister is four
years older than I am.

48

00:01:50,840 --> 00:01:55,790

So she must have been born 1925.

49

00:01:55,790 --> 00:01:57,310

1925.

50

00:01:57,310 --> 00:01:59,410

All right.

51

00:01:59,410 --> 00:02:02,330
And tell me your parents' names.

52

00:02:02,330 --> 00:02:06,190
My mother's name was Pearl.

53

00:02:06,190 --> 00:02:06,690
OK.

54

00:02:06,690 --> 00:02:07,590
And her maiden name?

55

00:02:07,590 --> 00:02:09,493
Shifter was her maiden name.

56

00:02:09,493 --> 00:02:10,410
Is that what you want?

57

00:02:10,410 --> 00:02:11,280
Yeah.

58

00:02:11,280 --> 00:02:11,800
OK.

59

00:02:11,800 --> 00:02:18,240
And my father's
name was Max Krause.

60

00:02:18,240 --> 00:02:21,840

61

00:02:21,840 --> 00:02:26,550
Can you tell me; was your
family an old Viennese

62

00:02:26,550 --> 00:02:30,840
family for generations or had
they come from somewhere else?

63

00:02:30,840 --> 00:02:32,610
My parents came from Poland.

64
00:02:32,610 --> 00:02:34,740
Do you know what part of Poland?

65
00:02:34,740 --> 00:02:37,500
Stanislau, as far as I know.

66
00:02:37,500 --> 00:02:39,600
Stanislau.

67
00:02:39,600 --> 00:02:41,760
Did you still have
relatives in that part

68
00:02:41,760 --> 00:02:45,650
of the world in Stanislau?

69
00:02:45,650 --> 00:02:47,360
I think they were all killed.

70
00:02:47,360 --> 00:02:48,620
That's during the war.

71
00:02:48,620 --> 00:02:51,200
But when you were
born, were there still

72
00:02:51,200 --> 00:02:53,690
relatives of the family
that lived in Stanislau?

73
00:02:53,690 --> 00:02:56,970
Yes, there was an uncle
that lived in Austria.

74
00:02:56,970 --> 00:02:57,470
OK.

75
00:02:57,470 --> 00:03:00,020

76

00:03:00,020 --> 00:03:03,710

A cousin; a son of
his that I remember.

77

00:03:03,710 --> 00:03:05,300

Other than that,
I don't remember

78

00:03:05,300 --> 00:03:08,600

any other relatives in Austria.

79

00:03:08,600 --> 00:03:10,190

And in Poland?

80

00:03:10,190 --> 00:03:11,450

I never met them.

81

00:03:11,450 --> 00:03:12,950

I never went to Poland.

82

00:03:12,950 --> 00:03:17,940

I was the youngest of the three
and I never get to go there.

83

00:03:17,940 --> 00:03:18,470

OK.

84

00:03:18,470 --> 00:03:19,960

That was one of my questions.

85

00:03:19,960 --> 00:03:20,720

So thank you.

86

00:03:20,720 --> 00:03:22,010

You answered that.

87

00:03:22,010 --> 00:03:25,700

So your parents were not
born in Vienna themselves.

88

00:03:25,700 --> 00:03:26,990

They were from somewhere else.

89
00:03:26,990 --> 00:03:27,490
Correct.

90
00:03:27,490 --> 00:03:28,340
OK.

91
00:03:28,340 --> 00:03:32,330
What language did
you speak at home?

92
00:03:32,330 --> 00:03:33,080
German.

93
00:03:33,080 --> 00:03:34,070
OK.

94
00:03:34,070 --> 00:03:35,300
Or Jewish.

95
00:03:35,300 --> 00:03:36,080
So both?

96
00:03:36,080 --> 00:03:37,610
You spoke Yiddish and German?

97
00:03:37,610 --> 00:03:39,290
Well, I understood the Jewish.

98
00:03:39,290 --> 00:03:41,630
I didn't speak Jewish.

99
00:03:41,630 --> 00:03:45,890
But when my parents
mentioned certain words

100
00:03:45,890 --> 00:03:47,830
and spoke certain
words, I understood.

101
00:03:47,830 --> 00:03:48,330

OK.

102
00:03:48,330 --> 00:03:50,510
But I spoke German to them.

103
00:03:50,510 --> 00:03:52,400
OK, OK.

104
00:03:52,400 --> 00:03:56,810
And how did your father support
your family and your mother?

105
00:03:56,810 --> 00:04:00,680
My father was a
traveling salesman.

106
00:04:00,680 --> 00:04:01,730
OK.

107
00:04:01,730 --> 00:04:04,060
But I think before I was born--

108
00:04:04,060 --> 00:04:08,360
at some time in our
lifetime in Austria,

109
00:04:08,360 --> 00:04:12,830
I think he had two stores.

110
00:04:12,830 --> 00:04:13,970
Mm-hmm.

111
00:04:13,970 --> 00:04:16,279
I really don't
remember because I

112
00:04:16,279 --> 00:04:19,040
don't think I was born yet
when he had that business.

113
00:04:19,040 --> 00:04:20,810
But he was a traveling salesman.

114
00:04:20,810 --> 00:04:22,079
OK, can we cut for a minute?

115
00:04:22,079 --> 00:04:26,600

116
00:04:26,600 --> 00:04:27,100
All right.

117
00:04:27,100 --> 00:04:29,410
So your father, you say,
was a traveling salesman

118
00:04:29,410 --> 00:04:33,520
and you think he had two
stores when he was in Vienna?

119
00:04:33,520 --> 00:04:34,390
Correct.

120
00:04:34,390 --> 00:04:37,030
Do you know what he was selling
when he was on the road?

121
00:04:37,030 --> 00:04:40,000
I think it was
basically paper goods.

122
00:04:40,000 --> 00:04:41,725
I'm not sure.

123
00:04:41,725 --> 00:04:43,930
No, stationary I would call it.

124
00:04:43,930 --> 00:04:44,920
OK.

125
00:04:44,920 --> 00:04:48,070
From his own business
or from somebody else's?

126

00:04:48,070 --> 00:04:51,250

I think he worked for
somebody else as a salesman.

127

00:04:51,250 --> 00:04:52,300

OK.

128

00:04:52,300 --> 00:04:53,570

And your mom?

129

00:04:53,570 --> 00:04:54,070

Was she--

130

00:04:54,070 --> 00:04:55,750

My mom was a homemaker.

131

00:04:55,750 --> 00:04:56,830

All right.

132

00:04:56,830 --> 00:04:59,770

What about your
parents' education?

133

00:04:59,770 --> 00:05:02,980

Did your father finish
high school, or college,

134

00:05:02,980 --> 00:05:05,140

or something?

135

00:05:05,140 --> 00:05:07,120

I couldn't answer that.

136

00:05:07,120 --> 00:05:07,630

All right.

137

00:05:07,630 --> 00:05:08,680

I'm not sure.

138

00:05:08,680 --> 00:05:10,660

Same with your mom?

139
00:05:10,660 --> 00:05:13,420
I know my mother did not
finish high school, well,

140
00:05:13,420 --> 00:05:16,300
school in Poland.

141
00:05:16,300 --> 00:05:19,360
When they spoke with one
another, your parents,

142
00:05:19,360 --> 00:05:21,520
would they speak in
Yiddish or in German?

143
00:05:21,520 --> 00:05:22,090
German.

144
00:05:22,090 --> 00:05:24,130
In German, OK.

145
00:05:24,130 --> 00:05:31,220
Would you say they were
assimilated Jews or not?

146
00:05:31,220 --> 00:05:35,090
Assimilated in the sense of,
because they spoke German,

147
00:05:35,090 --> 00:05:39,160
did they want to assimilate
into Austrian society?

148
00:05:39,160 --> 00:05:40,600
I would say yes.

149
00:05:40,600 --> 00:05:41,780
OK.

150
00:05:41,780 --> 00:05:45,150
Were they very religious?

151
00:05:45,150 --> 00:05:46,300
Yes, to a point.

152
00:05:46,300 --> 00:05:47,830
My mother was kosher.

153
00:05:47,830 --> 00:05:48,790
OK.

154
00:05:48,790 --> 00:05:52,960
And we celebrated all
the Jewish holidays.

155
00:05:52,960 --> 00:05:56,050
And, in fact, on Saturday,
we didn't put on the lights.

156
00:05:56,050 --> 00:05:58,130
So my mother was religious.

157
00:05:58,130 --> 00:05:58,630
OK.

158
00:05:58,630 --> 00:06:00,490
So you observed?

159
00:06:00,490 --> 00:06:01,090
Yes.

160
00:06:01,090 --> 00:06:03,160
OK.

161
00:06:03,160 --> 00:06:08,330
Can you tell me what your
earliest memories would be?

162
00:06:08,330 --> 00:06:15,790
My earliest memories would
be; when we went on vacation,

163

00:06:15,790 --> 00:06:21,380
my father used to rent a
convertible limousine, which

164
00:06:21,380 --> 00:06:22,880
is a lot of fun for us.

165
00:06:22,880 --> 00:06:24,530
Of course.

166
00:06:24,530 --> 00:06:27,440
I can remember going
to school, which,

167
00:06:27,440 --> 00:06:30,180
of course, was interrupted
when Hitler came in.

168
00:06:30,180 --> 00:06:31,550
OK, we'll talk about that.

169
00:06:31,550 --> 00:06:33,620
I remember our apartment.

170
00:06:33,620 --> 00:06:35,300
Oh, I want to talk about that.

171
00:06:35,300 --> 00:06:38,000
OK.

172
00:06:38,000 --> 00:06:41,520
Basically, yes, I do
remember some of it.

173
00:06:41,520 --> 00:06:42,020
All right.

174
00:06:42,020 --> 00:06:45,350
I remember the old-fashioned
way we had to take a bath.

175
00:06:45,350 --> 00:06:47,390

Tell me about that.

176
00:06:47,390 --> 00:06:51,170
We had a bath tub, I
think, under the table.

177
00:06:51,170 --> 00:06:52,070
In the kitchen?

178
00:06:52,070 --> 00:06:54,380
In the kitchen that my
mother used to take out.

179
00:06:54,380 --> 00:06:56,330
And she had to heat the water.

180
00:06:56,330 --> 00:06:57,230
OK.

181
00:06:57,230 --> 00:07:00,920
And we used to take a
bath in the kitchen.

182
00:07:00,920 --> 00:07:02,300
That is old-fashioned, isn't it?

183
00:07:02,300 --> 00:07:04,370
I don't remember taking
a bath, but that's

184
00:07:04,370 --> 00:07:07,700
what I remember that
that's how it worked.

185
00:07:07,700 --> 00:07:11,480
And-- OK, so let me ask some
of the questions I usually

186
00:07:11,480 --> 00:07:14,480
ask about the surroundings.

187
00:07:14,480 --> 00:07:16,190

We have to cut.

188
00:07:16,190 --> 00:07:17,060
OK.

189
00:07:17,060 --> 00:07:20,300
So I'd like to learn a little
bit about your apartment, where

190
00:07:20,300 --> 00:07:22,205
you lived, or your house,
your circumstances.

191
00:07:22,205 --> 00:07:24,330
Well, we lived in
an apartment house.

192
00:07:24,330 --> 00:07:24,830
OK.

193
00:07:24,830 --> 00:07:27,080
I think it was on the
second or third floor.

194
00:07:27,080 --> 00:07:28,360
I'm not sure.

195
00:07:28,360 --> 00:07:29,150
OK.

196
00:07:29,150 --> 00:07:31,310
We had a tremendous bedroom.

197
00:07:31,310 --> 00:07:32,180
How many rooms?

198
00:07:32,180 --> 00:07:33,920
How many rooms did you have?

199
00:07:33,920 --> 00:07:36,920
I would call it three rooms;
a bedroom, a dining room,

200
00:07:36,920 --> 00:07:37,850
and a kitchen.

201
00:07:37,850 --> 00:07:38,780
OK.

202
00:07:38,780 --> 00:07:42,210
And for five people?

203
00:07:42,210 --> 00:07:45,120
For five people.

204
00:07:45,120 --> 00:07:46,950
We all slept in--

205
00:07:46,950 --> 00:07:50,310
no, four of us slept
in the bedroom.

206
00:07:50,310 --> 00:07:52,493
My brother slept
in the dining room.

207
00:07:52,493 --> 00:07:53,580
A-ha.

208
00:07:53,580 --> 00:07:55,860
So your sister and yourself
were in the same bedroom

209
00:07:55,860 --> 00:07:57,870
as your parents and
your brother separately.

210
00:07:57,870 --> 00:07:58,380
Right.

211
00:07:58,380 --> 00:07:59,370
OK.

212

00:07:59,370 --> 00:08:02,880
And what part of Vienna
was the apartment in?

213
00:08:02,880 --> 00:08:05,830

214
00:08:05,830 --> 00:08:09,070
It was close to the Danube,
as far as I remember.

215
00:08:09,070 --> 00:08:12,465
Was it city center or was it
sort of a residential area?

216
00:08:12,465 --> 00:08:15,713

217
00:08:15,713 --> 00:08:16,880
Do you remember the address?

218
00:08:16,880 --> 00:08:20,080

219
00:08:20,080 --> 00:08:22,480
[SPEAKING GERMAN]

220
00:08:22,480 --> 00:08:27,610
[SPEAKING GERMAN]
So like Denmark.

221
00:08:27,610 --> 00:08:29,250
[SPEAKING GERMAN]

222
00:08:29,250 --> 00:08:31,870
Daniskas is the street.

223
00:08:31,870 --> 00:08:33,700
And the six is the
number of the building.

224
00:08:33,700 --> 00:08:34,780

OK.

225

00:08:34,780 --> 00:08:35,980

Thank you.

226

00:08:35,980 --> 00:08:40,059

And was it a building
that was built, let's say,

227

00:08:40,059 --> 00:08:44,680

in the 19th century, like so
many apartment buildings were

228

00:08:44,680 --> 00:08:46,510

in old European cities?

229

00:08:46,510 --> 00:08:47,590

I would think so.

230

00:08:47,590 --> 00:08:50,680

Out of stone?

231

00:08:50,680 --> 00:08:51,730

I think so.

232

00:08:51,730 --> 00:08:52,720

OK.

233

00:08:52,720 --> 00:08:55,510

And did it have indoor plumbing?

234

00:08:55,510 --> 00:08:56,230

Indoor what?

235

00:08:56,230 --> 00:08:56,730

Plumbing.

236

00:08:56,730 --> 00:08:59,436

237

00:08:59,436 --> 00:09:00,330

No.

238
00:09:00,330 --> 00:09:05,110
I don't believe so
because the bathroom was

239
00:09:05,110 --> 00:09:07,600
on the outside of the hallway.

240
00:09:07,600 --> 00:09:10,750
And like I said before,
the water had to be heated.

241
00:09:10,750 --> 00:09:14,550
Where did you get
the water from?

242
00:09:14,550 --> 00:09:15,450
I don't know.

243
00:09:15,450 --> 00:09:16,110
OK.

244
00:09:16,110 --> 00:09:19,200
I don't know maybe my mother
had a sink in the house.

245
00:09:19,200 --> 00:09:20,100
I don't remember.

246
00:09:20,100 --> 00:09:23,220
She must have had
something to get the water.

247
00:09:23,220 --> 00:09:24,120
OK.

248
00:09:24,120 --> 00:09:27,330
And did you have electricity?

249
00:09:27,330 --> 00:09:28,530
Yes.

250
00:09:28,530 --> 00:09:29,550
OK.

251
00:09:29,550 --> 00:09:33,010
And how was the house heated?

252
00:09:33,010 --> 00:09:33,850
How was the what?

253
00:09:33,850 --> 00:09:34,930
House heated.

254
00:09:34,930 --> 00:09:36,620
What kind of heat did you have?

255
00:09:36,620 --> 00:09:39,800
How did you get heat?

256
00:09:39,800 --> 00:09:46,260
We had a tremendous stove in
the bedroom made out of tile.

257
00:09:46,260 --> 00:09:49,757
Oh, one of those tile stoves
so it probably had coal.

258
00:09:49,757 --> 00:09:50,340
Is that right?

259
00:09:50,340 --> 00:09:51,650
It was heated by coal?

260
00:09:51,650 --> 00:09:57,050
And in the kitchen, we had a
regular, old-fashioned stove.

261
00:09:57,050 --> 00:09:58,040
A black stove.

262
00:09:58,040 --> 00:10:00,860

263
00:10:00,860 --> 00:10:03,960
Did your family have a radio?

264
00:10:03,960 --> 00:10:05,650
I believe we had a radio.

265
00:10:05,650 --> 00:10:06,150
Yes.

266
00:10:06,150 --> 00:10:08,190
And what about a telephone?

267
00:10:08,190 --> 00:10:08,910
Telephone?

268
00:10:08,910 --> 00:10:09,420
Yeah.

269
00:10:09,420 --> 00:10:10,300
No.

270
00:10:10,300 --> 00:10:12,970
OK.

271
00:10:12,970 --> 00:10:17,320
Would you say that your
parents were well-to-do?

272
00:10:17,320 --> 00:10:20,380
No, but we were comfortable.

273
00:10:20,380 --> 00:10:23,110
We weren't lacking anything.

274
00:10:23,110 --> 00:10:26,410
My mother was a
wonderful homemaker.

275
00:10:26,410 --> 00:10:29,290

We always had good
cooking, good meals.

276
00:10:29,290 --> 00:10:30,543
Did she have help?

277
00:10:30,543 --> 00:10:31,960
Or did she do this
all by herself?

278
00:10:31,960 --> 00:10:33,280
Yes, she did have help.

279
00:10:33,280 --> 00:10:34,930
I think I had a nanny.

280
00:10:34,930 --> 00:10:36,160
OK.

281
00:10:36,160 --> 00:10:39,190
I don't know about my sister,
because she was the older one.

282
00:10:39,190 --> 00:10:41,170
But I do know I had a nanny.

283
00:10:41,170 --> 00:10:43,850
Do you remember her name?

284
00:10:43,850 --> 00:10:45,910
I think her name was Rosa.

285
00:10:45,910 --> 00:10:46,675
Was she Jewish?

286
00:10:46,675 --> 00:10:48,370
Or Rose or something like that.

287
00:10:48,370 --> 00:10:52,160
Was she a Jewish girl or
was she a Gentile girl?

288

00:10:52,160 --> 00:10:53,770

Did you ask me if
she was Jewish?

289

00:10:53,770 --> 00:10:54,370

Yeah.

290

00:10:54,370 --> 00:10:54,910

No.

291

00:10:54,910 --> 00:10:56,860

I believe she was
Catholic because she

292

00:10:56,860 --> 00:10:58,570

used to take me to church.

293

00:10:58,570 --> 00:10:59,090

Did she?

294

00:10:59,090 --> 00:10:59,890

When I was little.

295

00:10:59,890 --> 00:11:00,390

Yeah.

296

00:11:00,390 --> 00:11:02,500

Do you have any
impressions or memories

297

00:11:02,500 --> 00:11:03,670

of going to church with her?

298

00:11:03,670 --> 00:11:05,410

No, because I was an infant.

299

00:11:05,410 --> 00:11:10,835

I was told by my
sister that she used

300

00:11:10,835 --> 00:11:16,390

to put on a white coat on me,
some kind of like an angel,

301
00:11:16,390 --> 00:11:19,510
and she used to take
me to church with her.

302
00:11:19,510 --> 00:11:22,270
Well, she had to
take care of you.

303
00:11:22,270 --> 00:11:24,430
And she probably
wanted to go to church.

304
00:11:24,430 --> 00:11:26,560
And this is a way of
combining the two.

305
00:11:26,560 --> 00:11:28,450
I imagine so.

306
00:11:28,450 --> 00:11:29,860
Yeah.

307
00:11:29,860 --> 00:11:33,670
Well, did you live in
a Jewish neighborhood?

308
00:11:33,670 --> 00:11:35,880
I think it was a
mixed neighborhood.

309
00:11:35,880 --> 00:11:37,170
OK.

310
00:11:37,170 --> 00:11:40,470
Do you remember,
Vienna, I understand,

311
00:11:40,470 --> 00:11:45,900
was divided into different
areas called bezirk.

312
00:11:45,900 --> 00:11:47,160
Do you remember which bezirk--

313
00:11:47,160 --> 00:11:48,330
Yeah, the 20th.

314
00:11:48,330 --> 00:11:50,850
The 20th.

315
00:11:50,850 --> 00:11:51,960
OK.

316
00:11:51,960 --> 00:11:53,490
What did your street look like?

317
00:11:53,490 --> 00:11:57,330
Did it have apartment building
after apartment building?

318
00:11:57,330 --> 00:11:57,840
Yes.

319
00:11:57,840 --> 00:12:00,330
It was apartment buildings
across the street.

320
00:12:00,330 --> 00:12:02,670
There was, I remember,
there was a grocery store

321
00:12:02,670 --> 00:12:04,560
across the street.

322
00:12:04,560 --> 00:12:07,760
And it was basically
apartment houses.

323
00:12:07,760 --> 00:12:08,850
OK.

324

00:12:08,850 --> 00:12:12,930
And your-- did your
father have an automobile?

325
00:12:12,930 --> 00:12:13,840
No.

326
00:12:13,840 --> 00:12:16,313
OK, so when you went on
vacations in that limousine--

327
00:12:16,313 --> 00:12:16,980
He used to rent.

328
00:12:16,980 --> 00:12:17,370
Yeah.

329
00:12:17,370 --> 00:12:17,948
He used to.

330
00:12:17,948 --> 00:12:19,240
Where would you go on vacation?

331
00:12:19,240 --> 00:12:22,490

332
00:12:22,490 --> 00:12:22,990
What is it?

333
00:12:22,990 --> 00:12:24,610
Saurbrunn.

334
00:12:24,610 --> 00:12:25,840
Saurbrunn?

335
00:12:25,840 --> 00:12:26,870
Yeah.

336
00:12:26,870 --> 00:12:27,370
OK.

337

00:12:27,370 --> 00:12:28,996
I'm not familiar with that area.

338
00:12:28,996 --> 00:12:32,200
And we had a neighbor
downstairs that

339
00:12:32,200 --> 00:12:35,350
used to take us to her
house in the country that

340
00:12:35,350 --> 00:12:37,270
was called Forglow.

341
00:12:37,270 --> 00:12:38,825
How do you spell that?

342
00:12:38,825 --> 00:12:39,325
Forglow?

343
00:12:39,325 --> 00:12:41,980

344
00:12:41,980 --> 00:12:43,640
That's how I remember it.

345
00:12:43,640 --> 00:12:46,300
And we went to a different
place, I don't remember,

346
00:12:46,300 --> 00:12:48,400
which was mountains.

347
00:12:48,400 --> 00:12:49,750
I don't remember the name.

348
00:12:49,750 --> 00:12:51,880
My sister would probably
know the name of that.

349
00:12:51,880 --> 00:12:52,737
We'll ask her.

350
00:12:52,737 --> 00:12:53,320
We'll ask her.

351
00:12:53,320 --> 00:12:55,240
But we did go on
vacation every summer

352
00:12:55,240 --> 00:12:57,190
as long as things were good.

353
00:12:57,190 --> 00:13:00,120
Well, that speaks to a
comfortable lifestyle.

354
00:13:00,120 --> 00:13:00,935
Yeah, yeah.

355
00:13:00,935 --> 00:13:02,740
We were comfortable.

356
00:13:02,740 --> 00:13:06,700
And tell me a little bit about
your parents personalities.

357
00:13:06,700 --> 00:13:09,310
What was your mother like?

358
00:13:09,310 --> 00:13:11,110
Was she an outgoing person?

359
00:13:11,110 --> 00:13:13,600
Was she a shy person?

360
00:13:13,600 --> 00:13:14,290
No.

361
00:13:14,290 --> 00:13:17,420
My mother was friendly.

362
00:13:17,420 --> 00:13:20,500

She was sociable.

363
00:13:20,500 --> 00:13:22,810
And I think she was
very caring as far

364
00:13:22,810 --> 00:13:24,440
as her family was concerned.

365
00:13:24,440 --> 00:13:24,940
OK.

366
00:13:24,940 --> 00:13:27,490

367
00:13:27,490 --> 00:13:33,340
My father, of course,
was the breadwinner.

368
00:13:33,340 --> 00:13:35,950
He was an excellent father.

369
00:13:35,950 --> 00:13:38,200
He was a giving father.

370
00:13:38,200 --> 00:13:44,380
And I feel that I had gotten
a lot of love from my parents.

371
00:13:44,380 --> 00:13:45,940
Being the youngest
one, of course,

372
00:13:45,940 --> 00:13:49,720
I was babied and overprotected.

373
00:13:49,720 --> 00:13:52,960
And who did the overprotecting?

374
00:13:52,960 --> 00:13:54,400
Who did the overprotecting?

375

00:13:54,400 --> 00:13:57,520

I think my brother did
a lot of overprotecting.

376

00:13:57,520 --> 00:13:58,390

Leo?

377

00:13:58,390 --> 00:13:58,960

Leo.

378

00:13:58,960 --> 00:14:03,640

And my sister took care of me
when we had to leave Austria.

379

00:14:03,640 --> 00:14:09,070

So, I guess, everybody
in my family.

380

00:14:09,070 --> 00:14:11,890

OK, you were truly the
baby of the family.

381

00:14:11,890 --> 00:14:12,460

Correct.

382

00:14:12,460 --> 00:14:13,690

I was very lucky.

383

00:14:13,690 --> 00:14:16,040

OK.

384

00:14:16,040 --> 00:14:18,530

But about personality,
I want to go back there.

385

00:14:18,530 --> 00:14:23,390

Your own father, was he also
an outgoing kind of person?

386

00:14:23,390 --> 00:14:24,500

Yes, yes.

387

00:14:24,500 --> 00:14:30,230
He was very liked by outsiders.

388

00:14:30,230 --> 00:14:30,770
Yeah.

389

00:14:30,770 --> 00:14:31,970
I would say yes.

390

00:14:31,970 --> 00:14:33,530
OK.

391

00:14:33,530 --> 00:14:38,330
And as far as observant, they
were observant of traditions.

392

00:14:38,330 --> 00:14:39,950
Correct.

393

00:14:39,950 --> 00:14:41,630
Did you tell me you
kept a kosher home?

394

00:14:41,630 --> 00:14:44,450
Your mother kept a kosher
home, or not always?

395

00:14:44,450 --> 00:14:46,185
Yes, my mother
kept a kosher home.

396

00:14:46,185 --> 00:14:46,685
OK.

397

00:14:46,685 --> 00:14:50,870

398

00:14:50,870 --> 00:14:53,480
Did you play with some
of the neighborhood kids

399

00:14:53,480 --> 00:14:54,800
as you were growing up?

400
00:14:54,800 --> 00:14:59,690
It's very funny that you ask
that because we had a neighbor

401
00:14:59,690 --> 00:15:01,760
who had a little girl.

402
00:15:01,760 --> 00:15:05,090
I think she was a year or
two younger than myself.

403
00:15:05,090 --> 00:15:08,540
And that was my friend
right next door.

404
00:15:08,540 --> 00:15:09,900
Her name was Susie.

405
00:15:09,900 --> 00:15:11,000
Susie?

406
00:15:11,000 --> 00:15:11,870
OK.

407
00:15:11,870 --> 00:15:14,420
And was she your best friend?

408
00:15:14,420 --> 00:15:16,700
Was she my best friend?

409
00:15:16,700 --> 00:15:17,350
I guess so.

410
00:15:17,350 --> 00:15:17,850
Yeah.

411
00:15:17,850 --> 00:15:19,940
OK.

412

00:15:19,940 --> 00:15:22,790

Did you play with her more often
than, let's say, with some kids

413

00:15:22,790 --> 00:15:23,600

at school?

414

00:15:23,600 --> 00:15:24,800

Oh, no.

415

00:15:24,800 --> 00:15:27,140

Kids from school?

416

00:15:27,140 --> 00:15:31,760

Well, I really, I think I only
went up to the third grade

417

00:15:31,760 --> 00:15:33,630

if I'm not mistaken.

418

00:15:33,630 --> 00:15:37,520

I really didn't have a chance
to make friends in school

419

00:15:37,520 --> 00:15:42,410

because of what occurred
with the Hitler situation.

420

00:15:42,410 --> 00:15:45,080

And the Nazis; the
kids became Nazis.

421

00:15:45,080 --> 00:15:50,060

And it wasn't that easy
to make friends in school.

422

00:15:50,060 --> 00:15:51,830

We'll come to those parts.

423

00:15:51,830 --> 00:15:52,490

OK.

424

00:15:52,490 --> 00:15:57,590

Right now; what do you remember
about school before all

425

00:15:57,590 --> 00:15:59,190

of those changes happened?

426

00:15:59,190 --> 00:15:59,795

The what?

427

00:15:59,795 --> 00:16:02,420

What do you remember
about school

428

00:16:02,420 --> 00:16:05,780

before all those changes?

429

00:16:05,780 --> 00:16:07,360

I really don't remember much.

430

00:16:07,360 --> 00:16:12,070

I know that when all this
occurred with Hitler,

431

00:16:12,070 --> 00:16:13,810

I had to change schools.

432

00:16:13,810 --> 00:16:15,615

I had to go to a Jewish school.

433

00:16:15,615 --> 00:16:16,115

OK.

434

00:16:16,115 --> 00:16:19,460

435

00:16:19,460 --> 00:16:20,930

Let's step back a little bit.

436

00:16:20,930 --> 00:16:23,570

Was your school

a public school--

437

00:16:23,570 --> 00:16:24,900
the first one that you went to?

438

00:16:24,900 --> 00:16:25,730
Yeah.

439

00:16:25,730 --> 00:16:31,310
And what year, or let's
say, how old were you

440

00:16:31,310 --> 00:16:34,020
when you started school?

441

00:16:34,020 --> 00:16:36,000
I guess, six-years-old.

442

00:16:36,000 --> 00:16:40,310
OK, so like in 1936 or
1937; something like that.

443

00:16:40,310 --> 00:16:44,810
Well, I left Austria in 1939.

444

00:16:44,810 --> 00:16:48,950
So, yeah, between
those couple of years.

445

00:16:48,950 --> 00:16:53,990
OK and before the
changes happened, do you

446

00:16:53,990 --> 00:16:56,870
remember some of your teachers?

447

00:16:56,870 --> 00:16:58,870
Oh yes, I do remember a teacher.

448

00:16:58,870 --> 00:16:59,870
OK.

449

00:16:59,870 --> 00:17:00,908

She was very strict.

450

00:17:00,908 --> 00:17:01,950

Do you remember her name?

451

00:17:01,950 --> 00:17:04,910

I hated her.

452

00:17:04,910 --> 00:17:09,200

And, for some reason or other,
when kids didn't behave,

453

00:17:09,200 --> 00:17:12,260

they used to hit you,
you know, on the hands.

454

00:17:12,260 --> 00:17:13,310

They had that habit.

455

00:17:13,310 --> 00:17:17,735

So she was one of those
unpleasant teachers.

456

00:17:17,735 --> 00:17:23,490

457

00:17:23,490 --> 00:17:25,440

OK.

458

00:17:25,440 --> 00:17:26,430

You know.

459

00:17:26,430 --> 00:17:28,290

You had a strict
teacher you said.

460

00:17:28,290 --> 00:17:31,480

It's very pleasant
to do this with you.

461

00:17:31,480 --> 00:17:32,700
Thank you.

462
00:17:32,700 --> 00:17:34,320
So are we rolling?

463
00:17:34,320 --> 00:17:35,100
OK.

464
00:17:35,100 --> 00:17:38,700
So tell me about that
teacher; the strict one.

465
00:17:38,700 --> 00:17:41,430
Was she sort of like the
homeroom teacher at school?

466
00:17:41,430 --> 00:17:42,790
Do you remember her name?

467
00:17:42,790 --> 00:17:47,910
I think she was a math teacher.

468
00:17:47,910 --> 00:17:48,930
OK.

469
00:17:48,930 --> 00:17:54,470
And her name was something with
a D. I'm not a hundred percent.

470
00:17:54,470 --> 00:17:56,000
OK.

471
00:17:56,000 --> 00:17:58,115
But she was an old hag.

472
00:17:58,115 --> 00:18:01,700

473
00:18:01,700 --> 00:18:05,980
And in those-- did
you walk to school or?

474
00:18:05,980 --> 00:18:07,515
Yes, I walked.

475
00:18:07,515 --> 00:18:09,140
Do you remember the
name of the school?

476
00:18:09,140 --> 00:18:09,920
No.

477
00:18:09,920 --> 00:18:11,770
OK.

478
00:18:11,770 --> 00:18:18,200
And you were a little
girl in the 30s.

479
00:18:18,200 --> 00:18:23,450
How much of what was going
on in the outside world

480
00:18:23,450 --> 00:18:26,240
did you kind of understand?

481
00:18:26,240 --> 00:18:31,010
How much was shared with you
of all these political things?

482
00:18:31,010 --> 00:18:34,730
Are you talking about
when the Nazis took over?

483
00:18:34,730 --> 00:18:36,200
Before.

484
00:18:36,200 --> 00:18:37,400
Before?

485
00:18:37,400 --> 00:18:38,750
Yeah.

486

00:18:38,750 --> 00:18:42,710

Did that impact
your life at all?

487

00:18:42,710 --> 00:18:47,540

Well, like I said,
we had a nice home.

488

00:18:47,540 --> 00:18:49,640

We went on vacations.

489

00:18:49,640 --> 00:18:52,618

Did you ever feel like
there was anti-Semitism?

490

00:18:52,618 --> 00:18:54,410

Did you ever feel like
anyone picked on you

491

00:18:54,410 --> 00:18:56,430

because you were Jewish?

492

00:18:56,430 --> 00:18:57,770

Yes.

493

00:18:57,770 --> 00:18:59,210

Even beforehand?

494

00:18:59,210 --> 00:18:59,870

I'm sorry?

495

00:18:59,870 --> 00:19:03,400

Even before all those changes?

496

00:19:03,400 --> 00:19:04,900

Yeah, I would think so.

497

00:19:04,900 --> 00:19:05,440

OK.

498

00:19:05,440 --> 00:19:07,600

Can you remember any
of those incidents?

499
00:19:07,600 --> 00:19:11,840

500
00:19:11,840 --> 00:19:14,780
Well, are we going
into the Holocaust now?

501
00:19:14,780 --> 00:19:19,380
I remember the Kristallnacht.

502
00:19:19,380 --> 00:19:21,420
OK.

503
00:19:21,420 --> 00:19:24,840
My mother was standing-- do you
want me to speak about that?

504
00:19:24,840 --> 00:19:27,180
Well.

505
00:19:27,180 --> 00:19:30,240
Thank you for
asking the question.

506
00:19:30,240 --> 00:19:32,870
If that's not the very
first things that happened,

507
00:19:32,870 --> 00:19:34,320
then let's wait for a minute.

508
00:19:34,320 --> 00:19:41,130
Well, it was difficult to walk
in the street because if there

509
00:19:41,130 --> 00:19:47,280
were Nazi's little kids walking
around with the swastika,

510

00:19:47,280 --> 00:19:51,750
they would try to
grab you or, hit you,

511
00:19:51,750 --> 00:19:55,420
or anything that would hurt you.

512
00:19:55,420 --> 00:19:56,070
OK.

513
00:19:56,070 --> 00:19:58,110
Did you walk on the
streets by yourself?

514
00:19:58,110 --> 00:19:59,520
Or did someone accompany you?

515
00:19:59,520 --> 00:20:01,635
The only way I walked
through the street by myself

516
00:20:01,635 --> 00:20:03,420
was when I went to school.

517
00:20:03,420 --> 00:20:05,340
But apparently,
I don't remember,

518
00:20:05,340 --> 00:20:08,250
the school was not that
far because I remember

519
00:20:08,250 --> 00:20:09,970
my mother used to
look out the window

520
00:20:09,970 --> 00:20:11,460
and I used to wave to her.

521
00:20:11,460 --> 00:20:13,620
That I remember.

522

00:20:13,620 --> 00:20:15,000
OK.

523
00:20:15,000 --> 00:20:26,610
And did anyone explain to you
at home what was going on;

524
00:20:26,610 --> 00:20:29,460
either your older sister,
or brother, or your parents?

525
00:20:29,460 --> 00:20:33,115
I didn't need an explanation
because I was going through it

526
00:20:33,115 --> 00:20:33,615
myself.

527
00:20:33,615 --> 00:20:37,170

528
00:20:37,170 --> 00:20:41,640
Again, my father was in danger.

529
00:20:41,640 --> 00:20:43,910
Did he lose his job?

530
00:20:43,910 --> 00:20:44,510
I'm sorry?

531
00:20:44,510 --> 00:20:47,910
Did he lose his job?

532
00:20:47,910 --> 00:20:50,220
Did he lose his job?

533
00:20:50,220 --> 00:20:51,240
I don't know.

534
00:20:51,240 --> 00:20:52,950
I don't think so.

535

00:20:52,950 --> 00:20:55,050

OK.

536

00:20:55,050 --> 00:20:56,430

My brother was in danger.

537

00:20:56,430 --> 00:20:58,860

He was 16 years old.

538

00:20:58,860 --> 00:21:03,150

We were afraid that he would be taken into concentration camp.

539

00:21:03,150 --> 00:21:09,670

And they were also not considerate of women.

540

00:21:09,670 --> 00:21:11,880

So there was a lot of anxiety.

541

00:21:11,880 --> 00:21:14,420

Yes, I could feel it.

542

00:21:14,420 --> 00:21:16,350

And it was scary.

543

00:21:16,350 --> 00:21:19,240

I was, you know, I was, what, seven, eight-years-old

544

00:21:19,240 --> 00:21:21,130

when all this started.

545

00:21:21,130 --> 00:21:27,580

Do you remember how life changed when there was the Anschluss;

546

00:21:27,580 --> 00:21:30,730

when Germany annexed Austria?

547

00:21:30,730 --> 00:21:32,857

Do you remember how
it looked outside,

548
00:21:32,857 --> 00:21:33,940
how it was in the streets?

549
00:21:33,940 --> 00:21:38,410

550
00:21:38,410 --> 00:21:39,270
No.

551
00:21:39,270 --> 00:21:40,830
Honestly speaking; no.

552
00:21:40,830 --> 00:21:41,980
OK.

553
00:21:41,980 --> 00:21:42,820
That's all right.

554
00:21:42,820 --> 00:21:46,240
That's perfectly fine.

555
00:21:46,240 --> 00:21:52,400
Were there marches by supporters
of the Nazis in the streets?

556
00:21:52,400 --> 00:21:53,960
I would think so.

557
00:21:53,960 --> 00:21:58,190
But none in your street,
none in your neighborhood?

558
00:21:58,190 --> 00:22:00,275
There probably were, but I--

559
00:22:00,275 --> 00:22:01,520
You didn't remember.

560

00:22:01,520 --> 00:22:04,570
I didn't personally--

561
00:22:04,570 --> 00:22:05,310
See It.

562
00:22:05,310 --> 00:22:06,050
Right.

563
00:22:06,050 --> 00:22:06,780
OK.

564
00:22:06,780 --> 00:22:09,720
What about neighbors?

565
00:22:09,720 --> 00:22:11,670
We had Nazis for neighbors.

566
00:22:11,670 --> 00:22:12,900
You did?

567
00:22:12,900 --> 00:22:16,020
Which my sister told
me very recently.

568
00:22:16,020 --> 00:22:20,260
And my parents; they wanted
my parents' apartment.

569
00:22:20,260 --> 00:22:24,520
So my parents had to move,
give up the apartment,

570
00:22:24,520 --> 00:22:29,220
and; I don't know whether it
was them or someone else that

571
00:22:29,220 --> 00:22:32,580
came in; and picked
out all the things

572
00:22:32,580 --> 00:22:35,610

that they wanted that
were in the apartment.

573
00:22:35,610 --> 00:22:38,670
So, you know, all of a sudden
your belongings were not

574
00:22:38,670 --> 00:22:39,820
yours anymore.

575
00:22:39,820 --> 00:22:40,620
Yeah.

576
00:22:40,620 --> 00:22:42,150
Yeah.

577
00:22:42,150 --> 00:22:43,560
Were you witness to this?

578
00:22:43,560 --> 00:22:44,830
Did you see them do this?

579
00:22:44,830 --> 00:22:46,110
Was I witness to this?

580
00:22:46,110 --> 00:22:48,900
No, because my sister
and I were in France

581
00:22:48,900 --> 00:22:50,480
already when this happened.

582
00:22:50,480 --> 00:22:51,250
Ah, I see.

583
00:22:51,250 --> 00:22:51,750
OK.

584
00:22:51,750 --> 00:22:53,910
But they were definitely Nazis.

585

00:22:53,910 --> 00:22:55,260
OK.

586
00:22:55,260 --> 00:23:00,600
We had neighbors downstairs
right below us who were Nazis.

587
00:23:00,600 --> 00:23:04,410
But they were very
friendly with us.

588
00:23:04,410 --> 00:23:08,580
They protected my father and
my brother when they had to.

589
00:23:08,580 --> 00:23:13,260
And when I was a little girl, I
used to be downstairs playing.

590
00:23:13,260 --> 00:23:19,980
And they had a [SPEAKING GERMAN]
Do you speak German?

591
00:23:19,980 --> 00:23:20,830
A little bit, yes.

592
00:23:20,830 --> 00:23:22,838
A [SPEAKING GERMAN]

593
00:23:22,838 --> 00:23:24,630
Well, that sounds like
a very naughty word.

594
00:23:24,630 --> 00:23:25,890
It was like a little figurine.

595
00:23:25,890 --> 00:23:27,540
And I remember playing with it.

596
00:23:27,540 --> 00:23:29,100
They used to let
me play with it.

597

00:23:29,100 --> 00:23:30,030
[SPEAKING GERMAN]

598

00:23:30,030 --> 00:23:35,340
And every Christmas, they
never celebrated without us.

599

00:23:35,340 --> 00:23:36,420
Really?

600

00:23:36,420 --> 00:23:38,970
Christmas night, we
used to go downstairs.

601

00:23:38,970 --> 00:23:40,350
They had a piano.

602

00:23:40,350 --> 00:23:42,720
We used to sing, and they
used to light the Christmas

603

00:23:42,720 --> 00:23:43,770
tree with us.

604

00:23:43,770 --> 00:23:44,530
Well, that's nice.

605

00:23:44,530 --> 00:23:45,030
Yeah.

606

00:23:45,030 --> 00:23:45,810
It was very nice.

607

00:23:45,810 --> 00:23:48,370
They were crazy about my father.

608

00:23:48,370 --> 00:23:51,400
What was their name?

609

00:23:51,400 --> 00:23:53,730
One of them was Frieda.

610
00:23:53,730 --> 00:23:55,150
OK.

611
00:23:55,150 --> 00:23:58,960
And the one that was in love
with my father was Hertha.

612
00:23:58,960 --> 00:23:59,770
Hertha.

613
00:23:59,770 --> 00:24:02,320
And their last name
was Eisenhower.

614
00:24:02,320 --> 00:24:03,270
Eisenhower?

615
00:24:03,270 --> 00:24:06,010
Oh, and there was a son; Otto.

616
00:24:06,010 --> 00:24:06,800
Otto?

617
00:24:06,800 --> 00:24:07,300
Right.

618
00:24:07,300 --> 00:24:11,260
And you say, and yet they
were Nazis themselves?

619
00:24:11,260 --> 00:24:16,450
They were Nazis, but they
couldn't be better people to us

620
00:24:16,450 --> 00:24:19,300
than our own family.

621
00:24:19,300 --> 00:24:22,270
Were there other Jewish
families in your building?

622

00:24:22,270 --> 00:24:25,330

Well, of course my girl
friend's parents were Jewish.

623

00:24:25,330 --> 00:24:26,950

Rosa's parents?

624

00:24:26,950 --> 00:24:27,700

Susie's parents.

625

00:24:27,700 --> 00:24:30,280

Oh, Susie's parents.

626

00:24:30,280 --> 00:24:32,620

Other than that, I
really don't know.

627

00:24:32,620 --> 00:24:34,370

I'm sure it was
a mixed building.

628

00:24:34,370 --> 00:24:34,870

OK.

629

00:24:34,870 --> 00:24:38,510

630

00:24:38,510 --> 00:24:40,730

That's interesting
that on one, you know,

631

00:24:40,730 --> 00:24:43,580

you had neighbors
on the one side

632

00:24:43,580 --> 00:24:45,410

who wanted your
parents' apartment--

633

00:24:45,410 --> 00:24:46,070

Correct.

634

00:24:46,070 --> 00:24:51,890

--and other neighbors; they
belong to the same party.

635

00:24:51,890 --> 00:24:54,830

They're also that,
but they're friendly.

636

00:24:54,830 --> 00:24:57,170

Yeah, they were very
protective over us.

637

00:24:57,170 --> 00:24:59,390

OK.

638

00:24:59,390 --> 00:25:06,290

How did life change in your
home, inside your home when--

639

00:25:06,290 --> 00:25:11,860

Well, I think my
mother was very scared.

640

00:25:11,860 --> 00:25:15,990

I know that she used to
be at the window a lot;

641

00:25:15,990 --> 00:25:19,080

looking to see
what was going on.

642

00:25:19,080 --> 00:25:22,350

And I know I used to be right
next to her holding on to her

643

00:25:22,350 --> 00:25:24,088

because I was afraid.

644

00:25:24,088 --> 00:25:24,588

Yeah.

645

00:25:24,588 --> 00:25:28,010

646
00:25:28,010 --> 00:25:31,055
I don't remember whether
my father lost his job

647
00:25:31,055 --> 00:25:33,880
or what happened.

648
00:25:33,880 --> 00:25:36,220
But, basically, there was fear--

649
00:25:36,220 --> 00:25:38,500
Did his manner change?

650
00:25:38,500 --> 00:25:41,620
Was he also more
worried, or nervous,

651
00:25:41,620 --> 00:25:45,940
or did his behavior
change is what I'm asking.

652
00:25:45,940 --> 00:25:47,080
Were they what?

653
00:25:47,080 --> 00:25:51,070
Did your father's
behavior change with all

654
00:25:51,070 --> 00:25:52,387
of the political changes?

655
00:25:52,387 --> 00:25:54,220
Well, I don't know if
he changed towards us,

656
00:25:54,220 --> 00:25:59,610
but I'm sure that
there was anxiety.

657
00:25:59,610 --> 00:26:02,710

But did you see
that, that anxiety?

658
00:26:02,710 --> 00:26:03,420
Somewhat.

659
00:26:03,420 --> 00:26:07,260
Not that bad, but yeah.

660
00:26:07,260 --> 00:26:09,810
Well, I mean, I don't want
to push you towards that,

661
00:26:09,810 --> 00:26:12,720
but it's interesting; one of
the reasons I ask about this

662
00:26:12,720 --> 00:26:15,720
is that younger
children; parents usually

663
00:26:15,720 --> 00:26:17,130
try to protect them--

664
00:26:17,130 --> 00:26:18,630
so not to show these things.

665
00:26:18,630 --> 00:26:20,230
Oh, definitely.

666
00:26:20,230 --> 00:26:23,130
So I'm wondering just how
much they kept it from you.

667
00:26:23,130 --> 00:26:26,250
Well, by protecting
us, they sent us away.

668
00:26:26,250 --> 00:26:27,840
Tell me how that happened.

669
00:26:27,840 --> 00:26:33,000

Well, my father as far
as my sister told me

670
00:26:33,000 --> 00:26:39,280
my father found out that
they had children's transport

671
00:26:39,280 --> 00:26:40,740
to England.

672
00:26:40,740 --> 00:26:42,000
Kindertransport?

673
00:26:42,000 --> 00:26:44,370
Kindertransports, correct.

674
00:26:44,370 --> 00:26:47,310
And, apparently,
the one to England

675
00:26:47,310 --> 00:26:50,460
was filled up so he
couldn't sign us up.

676
00:26:50,460 --> 00:26:55,980
But he did find a children's
transport to France.

677
00:26:55,980 --> 00:26:56,590
OK.

678
00:26:56,590 --> 00:26:59,760
And he asked my sister
if she wanted to go.

679
00:26:59,760 --> 00:27:01,110
OK.

680
00:27:01,110 --> 00:27:04,230
And my sister was smart
enough to say yes;

681

00:27:04,230 --> 00:27:06,340
that she wanted to go.

682
00:27:06,340 --> 00:27:10,490
So my father, of course,
did what he had to do.

683
00:27:10,490 --> 00:27:14,180
And he told her too
that we were both going

684
00:27:14,180 --> 00:27:16,100
and to take care of me.

685
00:27:16,100 --> 00:27:19,700
And that's how I left
Austria at the age of nine.

686
00:27:19,700 --> 00:27:20,230
OK.

687
00:27:20,230 --> 00:27:24,010
And this was after
Kristallnacht, or before?

688
00:27:24,010 --> 00:27:24,880
After what?

689
00:27:24,880 --> 00:27:27,180
Kristallnacht.

690
00:27:27,180 --> 00:27:29,580
Kristallnacht; was
this-- did you leave

691
00:27:29,580 --> 00:27:32,730
before Kristallnacht or after?

692
00:27:32,730 --> 00:27:34,188
I think it was before.

693
00:27:34,188 --> 00:27:34,688

OK.

694

00:27:34,688 --> 00:27:37,440

695

00:27:37,440 --> 00:27:45,470

So do you remember when you left, like what month it

696

00:27:45,470 --> 00:27:46,220

might have been?

697

00:27:46,220 --> 00:27:47,850

I think it was March.

698

00:27:47,850 --> 00:27:50,680

OK.

699

00:27:50,680 --> 00:27:52,540

'39?

700

00:27:52,540 --> 00:27:53,830

March '39.

701

00:27:53,830 --> 00:27:54,490

Correct.

702

00:27:54,490 --> 00:27:55,420

OK.

703

00:27:55,420 --> 00:28:00,820

I remember being taken to the train by my parents.

704

00:28:00,820 --> 00:28:03,400

I remember saying goodbye to them--

705

00:28:03,400 --> 00:28:06,150

OK.

706

00:28:06,150 --> 00:28:10,350
--not knowing whether
I'd ever see them again.

707
00:28:10,350 --> 00:28:17,990

708
00:28:17,990 --> 00:28:22,170
But I was lucky to have
my sister because she

709
00:28:22,170 --> 00:28:26,490
did take good care of me.

710
00:28:26,490 --> 00:28:29,000
Why was your brother not
going along with you?

711
00:28:29,000 --> 00:28:33,580
My brother was sent to America.

712
00:28:33,580 --> 00:28:38,730
My father had a
sister-in-law here;

713
00:28:38,730 --> 00:28:43,260
his brother's wife; who was
very comfortable financially.

714
00:28:43,260 --> 00:28:45,420
So they sent papers.

715
00:28:45,420 --> 00:28:47,580
And he came down to--

716
00:28:47,580 --> 00:28:49,530
I mean, they sent
papers and he was

717
00:28:49,530 --> 00:28:53,140
able to leave Austria in time.

718

00:28:53,140 --> 00:28:54,240
He was 16.

719
00:28:54,240 --> 00:28:58,160
And he stayed with
them in America.

720
00:28:58,160 --> 00:29:00,650
Did he leave before you
and your sister did?

721
00:29:00,650 --> 00:29:01,790
Yes.

722
00:29:01,790 --> 00:29:02,290
OK.

723
00:29:02,290 --> 00:29:03,880
Yes.

724
00:29:03,880 --> 00:29:07,960
So this sounds like your parents
made a really concerted effort

725
00:29:07,960 --> 00:29:09,590
to get all the kids out.

726
00:29:09,590 --> 00:29:10,770
Right.

727
00:29:10,770 --> 00:29:13,840
And apparently they
were successful.

728
00:29:13,840 --> 00:29:14,340
Yeah.

729
00:29:14,340 --> 00:29:17,110

730
00:29:17,110 --> 00:29:21,520
Your school; I

want to step back.

731
00:29:21,520 --> 00:29:26,950
Before we talk about your
journey out of Austria,

732
00:29:26,950 --> 00:29:30,160
you said that when
the Nazis took over

733
00:29:30,160 --> 00:29:35,880
and Austria was annexed that
you had to change schools.

734
00:29:35,880 --> 00:29:38,200
What was the new school like?

735
00:29:38,200 --> 00:29:39,450
Was that also a public school?

736
00:29:39,450 --> 00:29:40,290
I don't remember.

737
00:29:40,290 --> 00:29:41,082
You don't remember.

738
00:29:41,082 --> 00:29:43,080
All I know is that I
think it was strictly

739
00:29:43,080 --> 00:29:45,510
for the Jewish children.

740
00:29:45,510 --> 00:29:50,100
But I don't remember what
the school was like because I

741
00:29:50,100 --> 00:29:51,870
wasn't there long enough.

742
00:29:51,870 --> 00:29:53,050
OK.

743
00:29:53,050 --> 00:29:54,870
OK.

744
00:29:54,870 --> 00:30:00,300
And let's go back to
the train station.

745
00:30:00,300 --> 00:30:02,610
You remember saying
goodbye to your parents

746
00:30:02,610 --> 00:30:03,780
at the train station?

747
00:30:03,780 --> 00:30:04,500
Yes.

748
00:30:04,500 --> 00:30:06,940
You remember-- you were a child.

749
00:30:06,940 --> 00:30:11,290
So it's understandable
that you would worry,

750
00:30:11,290 --> 00:30:12,740
you know, do you see them again.

751
00:30:12,740 --> 00:30:14,990
Everybody would worry, whether
they're a child or not.

752
00:30:14,990 --> 00:30:15,930
Right.

753
00:30:15,930 --> 00:30:18,120
What happened after that?

754
00:30:18,120 --> 00:30:21,310
When the train pulls
out, where did it go?

755

00:30:21,310 --> 00:30:22,480

Where did I go?

756

00:30:22,480 --> 00:30:24,280

Where did you go
with your sister?

757

00:30:24,280 --> 00:30:31,810

Well, the train took us
to Paris to a hospital

758

00:30:31,810 --> 00:30:36,490

that was named after
a Baron Rothschild.

759

00:30:36,490 --> 00:30:40,960

Were you the only ones on that
train going to that hospital?

760

00:30:40,960 --> 00:30:42,250

I don't know.

761

00:30:42,250 --> 00:30:43,630

Were there more children?

762

00:30:43,630 --> 00:30:46,640

I don't know how the
other children got there.

763

00:30:46,640 --> 00:30:47,140

OK.

764

00:30:47,140 --> 00:30:52,770

But that's where we ended up
when we first left Austria.

765

00:30:52,770 --> 00:30:54,100

OK.

766

00:30:54,100 --> 00:30:56,620

And we stayed
there about a week.

767
00:30:56,620 --> 00:30:57,520
OK.

768
00:30:57,520 --> 00:31:03,040
And then Baron Rothschild
donated a castle for, I think,

769
00:31:03,040 --> 00:31:06,130
about 100 children.

770
00:31:06,130 --> 00:31:09,700
And that's where we
went from the hospital.

771
00:31:09,700 --> 00:31:12,760
OK, so this would have
been in March '39--

772
00:31:12,760 --> 00:31:14,307
This is in my--

773
00:31:14,307 --> 00:31:15,470
right.

774
00:31:15,470 --> 00:31:17,590
March '39; correct.

775
00:31:17,590 --> 00:31:22,990
And you end up in this castle
that becomes a hospital.

776
00:31:22,990 --> 00:31:25,540
Well, it became a home
for all the children

777
00:31:25,540 --> 00:31:28,870
that were there that
were able to get out.

778
00:31:28,870 --> 00:31:31,390
And were most of these

children from Vienna,

779

00:31:31,390 --> 00:31:33,130

or most of these
children from Austria?

780

00:31:33,130 --> 00:31:39,280

I think they were from Vienna,
they were from Berlin, Germany.

781

00:31:39,280 --> 00:31:42,390

It was a mixture.

782

00:31:42,390 --> 00:31:48,120

And can you paint a picture of
what that castle looked like?

783

00:31:48,120 --> 00:31:49,300

It was beautiful.

784

00:31:49,300 --> 00:31:49,950

Yeah?

785

00:31:49,950 --> 00:31:52,230

It's a real castle.

786

00:31:52,230 --> 00:31:57,700

They had the kitchen
downstairs like an entrance

787

00:31:57,700 --> 00:31:58,480

from the outside.

788

00:31:58,480 --> 00:32:01,550

789

00:32:01,550 --> 00:32:05,300

It was beautiful
and comfortable.

790

00:32:05,300 --> 00:32:06,770

And my sister told

me; there were

791

00:32:06,770 --> 00:32:09,050

27 showers in the basement.

792

00:32:09,050 --> 00:32:09,742

Oh, my goodness.

793

00:32:09,742 --> 00:32:10,700

Which I don't remember.

794

00:32:10,700 --> 00:32:13,580

She just told me recently.

795

00:32:13,580 --> 00:32:18,230

And did it-- was it like
two stories, three stories?

796

00:32:18,230 --> 00:32:20,060

Did it have ballrooms
and staircases?

797

00:32:20,060 --> 00:32:23,320

I think it had about
two or three stories.

798

00:32:23,320 --> 00:32:25,130

It had a big dining room.

799

00:32:25,130 --> 00:32:28,580

It must have had a
playroom or something.

800

00:32:28,580 --> 00:32:31,590

It had a tremendous
amount of ground.

801

00:32:31,590 --> 00:32:33,470

OK.

802

00:32:33,470 --> 00:32:34,850

Where did you sleep?

803
00:32:34,850 --> 00:32:35,420
I'm sorry?

804
00:32:35,420 --> 00:32:38,210
Where did you
sleep; the children?

805
00:32:38,210 --> 00:32:42,790
I slept with younger
children more my age.

806
00:32:42,790 --> 00:32:47,140
My sister, being older, I guess,
she had a room with children

807
00:32:47,140 --> 00:32:47,920
her age.

808
00:32:47,920 --> 00:32:49,870
Were there many
children to one room?

809
00:32:49,870 --> 00:32:54,790

810
00:32:54,790 --> 00:32:57,520
I don't know how
many were in my room

811
00:32:57,520 --> 00:32:59,440
because I was the youngest one.

812
00:32:59,440 --> 00:33:02,320
There was one little
girl younger than I.

813
00:33:02,320 --> 00:33:05,440
And I was next to
her so I don't know.

814
00:33:05,440 --> 00:33:06,340

OK.

815

00:33:06,340 --> 00:33:10,060

Well, I wonder whether it
was like a dormitory style,

816

00:33:10,060 --> 00:33:13,480

or you more or less had two
or three kids per bedroom.

817

00:33:13,480 --> 00:33:15,080

I'm trying to get
a sense of how--

818

00:33:15,080 --> 00:33:18,280

I don't think my sister had
more than two than herself

819

00:33:18,280 --> 00:33:19,120

and someone else.

820

00:33:19,120 --> 00:33:20,170

I'm not sure.

821

00:33:20,170 --> 00:33:21,370

OK.

822

00:33:21,370 --> 00:33:22,540

OK.

823

00:33:22,540 --> 00:33:24,930

What kind of activities?

824

00:33:24,930 --> 00:33:28,450

Activities; we had to get up
in the morning and exercise.

825

00:33:28,450 --> 00:33:30,940

OK.

826

00:33:30,940 --> 00:33:36,860

I think we had to dig ditches.

827
00:33:36,860 --> 00:33:40,270
I forgot what they call it
when the planes come over

828
00:33:40,270 --> 00:33:42,230
and they bomb, you jump into it.

829
00:33:42,230 --> 00:33:42,730
Right.

830
00:33:42,730 --> 00:33:43,975
So we were doing that.

831
00:33:43,975 --> 00:33:46,630

832
00:33:46,630 --> 00:33:49,380
We had school in the castle.

833
00:33:49,380 --> 00:33:50,590
OK.

834
00:33:50,590 --> 00:33:53,540
I learned French,
which was very nice.

835
00:33:53,540 --> 00:33:54,040
Yeah?

836
00:33:54,040 --> 00:33:58,750
Which I forgot when
I came to America.

837
00:33:58,750 --> 00:34:03,670
It was a normal situation.

838
00:34:03,670 --> 00:34:05,830
And then, of course, we
looked forward to the mail

839

00:34:05,830 --> 00:34:06,790
from my parents.

840
00:34:06,790 --> 00:34:08,320
Well, that was one
of my questions.

841
00:34:08,320 --> 00:34:13,659
And there was relaxation on the
grounds which were beautiful.

842
00:34:13,659 --> 00:34:16,060
Did you ever see
Baron Rothschild?

843
00:34:16,060 --> 00:34:16,639
I'm sorry?

844
00:34:16,639 --> 00:34:20,330
Did you ever see
Baron Rothschild?

845
00:34:20,330 --> 00:34:26,060
Ah, yes we visited them in New
York when we came to America.

846
00:34:26,060 --> 00:34:29,020
They once invited us,
so few of us were there.

847
00:34:29,020 --> 00:34:31,239
But they weren't at the castle?

848
00:34:31,239 --> 00:34:33,489
No, I never met
them at the castle.

849
00:34:33,489 --> 00:34:34,210
All right.

850
00:34:34,210 --> 00:34:36,909
And who were the people who
were taking care of you?

851
00:34:36,909 --> 00:34:40,120

852
00:34:40,120 --> 00:34:44,679
I guess people that were
willing to do that or people

853
00:34:44,679 --> 00:34:48,280
that wanted to leave Austria.

854
00:34:48,280 --> 00:34:51,460
But were they sponsored
by any organization

855
00:34:51,460 --> 00:34:52,590
that you knew of or--

856
00:34:52,590 --> 00:34:53,739
I think so.

857
00:34:53,739 --> 00:34:55,179
OK, OK.

858
00:34:55,179 --> 00:35:00,490

859
00:35:00,490 --> 00:35:03,490
Do you remember the place
where this castle was located;

860
00:35:03,490 --> 00:35:06,760
what part of France, and
what the name of the,

861
00:35:06,760 --> 00:35:08,080
let's say, the most--

862
00:35:08,080 --> 00:35:10,660
The castle was called Leggett.

863

00:35:10,660 --> 00:35:11,980
Leggett?

864
00:35:11,980 --> 00:35:13,780
Correct.

865
00:35:13,780 --> 00:35:16,720
And I don't know what
part of Paris it was in,

866
00:35:16,720 --> 00:35:17,990
but it was in Paris.

867
00:35:17,990 --> 00:35:18,960
It was in Paris?

868
00:35:18,960 --> 00:35:19,460
Yeah.

869
00:35:19,460 --> 00:35:20,080
OK.

870
00:35:20,080 --> 00:35:22,540
So it wasn't out
in the countryside?

871
00:35:22,540 --> 00:35:24,680
No, I don't know.

872
00:35:24,680 --> 00:35:25,210
OK.

873
00:35:25,210 --> 00:35:26,080
I really don't know.

874
00:35:26,080 --> 00:35:28,630
When you speak to my sister,
maybe she'll tell you.

875
00:35:28,630 --> 00:35:29,410
OK.

876

00:35:29,410 --> 00:35:32,170

Did you ever venture outside
of the castle grounds?

877

00:35:32,170 --> 00:35:34,910

878

00:35:34,910 --> 00:35:36,150

I don't think so.

879

00:35:36,150 --> 00:35:39,170

I don't remember going
out of the castle.

880

00:35:39,170 --> 00:35:40,430

OK.

881

00:35:40,430 --> 00:35:43,580

I don't think they wanted
us out of the castle.

882

00:35:43,580 --> 00:35:44,270

OK.

883

00:35:44,270 --> 00:35:46,040

Because when the
Germans came in,

884

00:35:46,040 --> 00:35:50,420

they didn't want us to speak
German, strictly French.

885

00:35:50,420 --> 00:35:55,400

So you were there for
how long in this place?

886

00:35:55,400 --> 00:35:57,860

I think we were in the
castle about a year, a year

887

00:35:57,860 --> 00:35:59,030

and a half.

888
00:35:59,030 --> 00:36:01,970
And you were there when
Germany occupied France?

889
00:36:01,970 --> 00:36:03,110
Yes.

890
00:36:03,110 --> 00:36:04,463
What was that like?

891
00:36:04,463 --> 00:36:05,630
Did they come to the castle?

892
00:36:05,630 --> 00:36:10,370
Well, yeah, there was a lot
of tension, a lot of anxiety.

893
00:36:10,370 --> 00:36:13,580
And we were told
not to speak German.

894
00:36:13,580 --> 00:36:16,750
And did they come-- did the
soldiers come to the castle?

895
00:36:16,750 --> 00:36:18,950
No.

896
00:36:18,950 --> 00:36:21,950
Did any official kind of
person visit the castle

897
00:36:21,950 --> 00:36:24,251
that you remember?

898
00:36:24,251 --> 00:36:27,240
No.

899
00:36:27,240 --> 00:36:33,780
And how did your lives change
after the German occupation,

900
00:36:33,780 --> 00:36:35,030
the Nazi occupation in France?

901
00:36:35,030 --> 00:36:35,780
How did it change?

902
00:36:35,780 --> 00:36:37,810
We had to leave the castle.

903
00:36:37,810 --> 00:36:40,150
Mm-hmm.

904
00:36:40,150 --> 00:36:45,020
We had to escape to the
mountains without clothing.

905
00:36:45,020 --> 00:36:46,970
We had to leave
everything in the castle.

906
00:36:46,970 --> 00:36:49,460
So this was very, very fast.

907
00:36:49,460 --> 00:36:51,530
Was this a very fast evacuation?

908
00:36:51,530 --> 00:36:54,200

909
00:36:54,200 --> 00:36:56,090
I really can't answer that.

910
00:36:56,090 --> 00:36:56,930
That's OK.

911
00:36:56,930 --> 00:37:00,940
But I know we had
to leave the castle

912
00:37:00,940 --> 00:37:02,830

and leave all our belongings.

913
00:37:02,830 --> 00:37:03,790
OK.

914
00:37:03,790 --> 00:37:06,980
And, of course, there was
a winter in the mountains.

915
00:37:06,980 --> 00:37:09,580
And we didn't have
warm clothing.

916
00:37:09,580 --> 00:37:11,950
Where did you live
in the mountains?

917
00:37:11,950 --> 00:37:14,120
I don't know.

918
00:37:14,120 --> 00:37:16,210
I think they took us to a hotel.

919
00:37:16,210 --> 00:37:18,420
OK.

920
00:37:18,420 --> 00:37:22,440
I understand we showered once a
month, which I just found out.

921
00:37:22,440 --> 00:37:23,550
I didn't know that either.

922
00:37:23,550 --> 00:37:26,070

923
00:37:26,070 --> 00:37:32,660
We had no warm
clothing which I have

924
00:37:32,660 --> 00:37:34,200
to give my sister credit for.

925
00:37:34,200 --> 00:37:40,220
She took care of me to make
sure that I was kept warm

926
00:37:40,220 --> 00:37:42,340
and that I didn't get frostbite.

927
00:37:42,340 --> 00:37:46,290

928
00:37:46,290 --> 00:37:48,180
I really don't
remember very much,

929
00:37:48,180 --> 00:37:51,990
but I do remember
the sirens going off

930
00:37:51,990 --> 00:37:55,050
when German planes came around.

931
00:37:55,050 --> 00:37:57,760
We had to run into the basement.

932
00:37:57,760 --> 00:38:01,170
So this was probably in
the free part of France,

933
00:38:01,170 --> 00:38:04,595
the part that wasn't
occupied by Germany yet?

934
00:38:04,595 --> 00:38:05,220
You don't know.

935
00:38:05,220 --> 00:38:05,915
I guess not.

936
00:38:05,915 --> 00:38:06,540
You don't know.

937
00:38:06,540 --> 00:38:07,800
OK.

938
00:38:07,800 --> 00:38:13,290
Now, tell me; the letters that
you got from your parents,

939
00:38:13,290 --> 00:38:16,650
did you get much correspondence
two or three times,

940
00:38:16,650 --> 00:38:18,003
or did it come a lot?

941
00:38:18,003 --> 00:38:19,170
Did they write to you a lot?

942
00:38:19,170 --> 00:38:20,128
You talking about mail?

943
00:38:20,128 --> 00:38:21,180
Mail.

944
00:38:21,180 --> 00:38:22,980
We got mail from my parents.

945
00:38:22,980 --> 00:38:27,550
They described America to
us because, in the interim,

946
00:38:27,550 --> 00:38:29,040
while we were in
France, they were

947
00:38:29,040 --> 00:38:32,070
able to come to this country.

948
00:38:32,070 --> 00:38:33,630
So they were able to get out?

949
00:38:33,630 --> 00:38:35,560

They were able to
get out, right.

950
00:38:35,560 --> 00:38:36,240
Oh.

951
00:38:36,240 --> 00:38:36,820
I see.

952
00:38:36,820 --> 00:38:39,570
I think about a year
after we were gone.

953
00:38:39,570 --> 00:38:40,480
So in 1940--

954
00:38:40,480 --> 00:38:42,240
They were allowed to get out.

955
00:38:42,240 --> 00:38:44,010
That's pretty late.

956
00:38:44,010 --> 00:38:46,380
They got out in 1940.

957
00:38:46,380 --> 00:38:47,820
OK.

958
00:38:47,820 --> 00:38:50,940
But they experienced
Kristallnacht?

959
00:38:50,940 --> 00:38:51,600
Yes.

960
00:38:51,600 --> 00:38:53,000
OK.

961
00:38:53,000 --> 00:38:56,770
So what you know about
Kristallnacht for your family,

962
00:38:56,770 --> 00:38:59,990
they are things that
you learned from them?

963
00:38:59,990 --> 00:39:00,870
Yes.

964
00:39:00,870 --> 00:39:01,370
OK.

965
00:39:01,370 --> 00:39:04,290

966
00:39:04,290 --> 00:39:07,270
Let's step back and talk
about that a little bit.

967
00:39:07,270 --> 00:39:11,640
What did they tell you about
how their lives progressed

968
00:39:11,640 --> 00:39:13,800
after you and your sister left?

969
00:39:13,800 --> 00:39:16,420
Well, they had to
leave the apartment.

970
00:39:16,420 --> 00:39:16,950
OK.

971
00:39:16,950 --> 00:39:19,560
They had to find
a place to live.

972
00:39:19,560 --> 00:39:22,540
So I think they lived
with another family.

973
00:39:22,540 --> 00:39:23,040
OK.

974

00:39:23,040 --> 00:39:25,950

And now I do remember;
my father lost his job

975

00:39:25,950 --> 00:39:29,580

because he worked in
the kitchen, I guess,

976

00:39:29,580 --> 00:39:33,570

helping out, distributing
food, or whatever

977

00:39:33,570 --> 00:39:37,020

it was that had to be done.

978

00:39:37,020 --> 00:39:39,090

Basically, that's all I know.

979

00:39:39,090 --> 00:39:43,320

And how is it that
they were able to leave

980

00:39:43,320 --> 00:39:45,000

Austria for the United States?

981

00:39:45,000 --> 00:39:46,740

Well, again, my
father had his sister

982

00:39:46,740 --> 00:39:51,900

in this country who was
able to send him papers.

983

00:39:51,900 --> 00:39:54,395

And they were lucky
enough to get a--

984

00:39:54,395 --> 00:39:58,740

I don't know what they call
it-- a visa or permission

985

00:39:58,740 --> 00:40:01,710

to leave Austria.

986

00:40:01,710 --> 00:40:07,920

So they left, like I said, I think it was January, 1940.

987

00:40:07,920 --> 00:40:09,360

OK.

988

00:40:09,360 --> 00:40:12,420

And this sister; what was her name?

989

00:40:12,420 --> 00:40:13,560

My sister?

990

00:40:13,560 --> 00:40:15,240

No, your aunt.

991

00:40:15,240 --> 00:40:17,610

Your father's sister.

992

00:40:17,610 --> 00:40:18,490

Mini.

993

00:40:18,490 --> 00:40:19,410

Mini.

994

00:40:19,410 --> 00:40:22,440

And her last name?

995

00:40:22,440 --> 00:40:24,150

You don't know?

996

00:40:24,150 --> 00:40:27,090

She must have been either a Krause or a Patridge.

997

00:40:27,090 --> 00:40:28,260

OK.

998

00:40:28,260 --> 00:40:30,690
And where did they live?

999
00:40:30,690 --> 00:40:34,390
My aunt lived on the
East Side of New York.

1000
00:40:34,390 --> 00:40:36,090
So that's where
your parents went?

1001
00:40:36,090 --> 00:40:38,080
To the East Side of New York?

1002
00:40:38,080 --> 00:40:41,020
No, my parents went to Brooklyn.

1003
00:40:41,020 --> 00:40:44,830
My father had another sister
who had a bakery in Brooklyn.

1004
00:40:44,830 --> 00:40:47,760
And when they came
to this country,

1005
00:40:47,760 --> 00:40:50,220
she had sold her bakery.

1006
00:40:50,220 --> 00:40:52,530
And my parents stayed
in the apartment

1007
00:40:52,530 --> 00:40:53,885
that they had lived in.

1008
00:40:53,885 --> 00:40:54,385
OK.

1009
00:40:54,385 --> 00:40:59,850

1010
00:40:59,850 --> 00:41:04,530

So it turned out that both your
parents and your older brother

1011
00:41:04,530 --> 00:41:07,170
were in the United States,
but you and your sister

1012
00:41:07,170 --> 00:41:08,760
were still in France.

1013
00:41:08,760 --> 00:41:11,700
And they must have been very
worried about that situation.

1014
00:41:11,700 --> 00:41:13,110
Oh, I imagine so, yes.

1015
00:41:13,110 --> 00:41:15,000
We used to get
letters from them.

1016
00:41:15,000 --> 00:41:15,900
OK.

1017
00:41:15,900 --> 00:41:19,900
And my father used to
write me what they're going

1018
00:41:19,900 --> 00:41:23,170
to call me in this country.

1019
00:41:23,170 --> 00:41:26,310
And, of course, we were
looking forward to, you know.

1020
00:41:26,310 --> 00:41:31,690
So from that mountain,
how did things develop?

1021
00:41:31,690 --> 00:41:33,580
How long did you stay there?

1022

00:41:33,580 --> 00:41:36,040
I think we must have been
there about a year, a year

1023
00:41:36,040 --> 00:41:36,940
and a half.

1024
00:41:36,940 --> 00:41:38,270
That's quite a while.

1025
00:41:38,270 --> 00:41:39,310
Yeah.

1026
00:41:39,310 --> 00:41:43,240
And were all the children who
had been in the castle with you

1027
00:41:43,240 --> 00:41:44,110
in that hotel?

1028
00:41:44,110 --> 00:41:44,680
Of course.

1029
00:41:44,680 --> 00:41:45,180
Yeah.

1030
00:41:45,180 --> 00:41:46,030
All right.

1031
00:41:46,030 --> 00:41:48,160
And the same people
who had minded you

1032
00:41:48,160 --> 00:41:51,440
there in the castle, the
same ones at the hotel?

1033
00:41:51,440 --> 00:41:51,940
Right.

1034
00:41:51,940 --> 00:41:52,720
All right.

1035
00:41:52,720 --> 00:41:55,570
And how did you
how did you leave?

1036
00:41:55,570 --> 00:41:58,830
And when did you leave?

1037
00:41:58,830 --> 00:42:03,310
We left in 1941, June 1941.

1038
00:42:03,310 --> 00:42:03,810
OK.

1039
00:42:03,810 --> 00:42:08,100

1040
00:42:08,100 --> 00:42:13,560
I guess my parents were
able to get papers for us.

1041
00:42:13,560 --> 00:42:16,950
We came on a little cargo boat.

1042
00:42:16,950 --> 00:42:18,060
Really?

1043
00:42:18,060 --> 00:42:19,110
From Lisbon.

1044
00:42:19,110 --> 00:42:26,550
We went from Paris to Marseilles
to Portugal to Lisbon.

1045
00:42:26,550 --> 00:42:27,600
And how did you--

1046
00:42:27,600 --> 00:42:28,860
this whole trek.

1047
00:42:28,860 --> 00:42:29,430

Do you--

1048
00:42:29,430 --> 00:42:32,430
There were only about, I
think, 10 or 15 children

1049
00:42:32,430 --> 00:42:34,740
that left at the same time.

1050
00:42:34,740 --> 00:42:42,260
And one of the people
that were in charge of us

1051
00:42:42,260 --> 00:42:43,530
took care of us.

1052
00:42:43,530 --> 00:42:44,030
OK.

1053
00:42:44,030 --> 00:42:48,070
They escorted you all
the way to Lisbon?

1054
00:42:48,070 --> 00:42:49,490
That's with the boat.

1055
00:42:49,490 --> 00:42:51,220
That's where we
waited for the boat.

1056
00:42:51,220 --> 00:42:52,510
OK.

1057
00:42:52,510 --> 00:43:00,010
And we slept on the boat
right next to the motor,

1058
00:43:00,010 --> 00:43:02,200
whatever you call it.

1059
00:43:02,200 --> 00:43:02,875
The engine.

1060
00:43:02,875 --> 00:43:05,800
But we were happy
to be on there.

1061
00:43:05,800 --> 00:43:11,170
And the good side; the captain
liked me, so he used to feed

1062
00:43:11,170 --> 00:43:15,730
me pastries because
I looked like a sick.

1063
00:43:15,730 --> 00:43:17,570
I was undernourished.

1064
00:43:17,570 --> 00:43:18,490
OK.

1065
00:43:18,490 --> 00:43:22,510
And it took us, I think,
about 10 days or two weeks

1066
00:43:22,510 --> 00:43:23,890
to get here.

1067
00:43:23,890 --> 00:43:26,110
The cargo boat; what
did it look like?

1068
00:43:26,110 --> 00:43:29,810
This cargo boat?

1069
00:43:29,810 --> 00:43:32,690
Do you know what kind of
cargo it was carrying?

1070
00:43:32,690 --> 00:43:33,860
You'd have to ask my sister.

1071
00:43:33,860 --> 00:43:35,550
I don't know what

they brought over.

1072
00:43:35,550 --> 00:43:36,050
All right.

1073
00:43:36,050 --> 00:43:39,110
Were you the only
passengers, the 10 children?

1074
00:43:39,110 --> 00:43:40,130
I think so.

1075
00:43:40,130 --> 00:43:42,230
I think we're the
only passengers.

1076
00:43:42,230 --> 00:43:43,370
OK.

1077
00:43:43,370 --> 00:43:44,600
All right.

1078
00:43:44,600 --> 00:43:50,030
And do you remember arriving
in the United States?

1079
00:43:50,030 --> 00:43:50,555
Yes.

1080
00:43:50,555 --> 00:43:51,680
Can you tell me about that?

1081
00:43:51,680 --> 00:43:54,020
I remember-- I don't
know where we docked.

1082
00:43:54,020 --> 00:43:58,760
If we docked in Hoboken or--

1083
00:43:58,760 --> 00:44:00,150
I really don't remember.

1084

00:44:00,150 --> 00:44:04,130

But I do remember looking
down from the boat

1085

00:44:04,130 --> 00:44:06,170

and I saw my mother.

1086

00:44:06,170 --> 00:44:10,160

And I couldn't speak German to
her because I forgot my German.

1087

00:44:10,160 --> 00:44:12,410

And she didn't
understand French.

1088

00:44:12,410 --> 00:44:13,560

Oh, my goodness!

1089

00:44:13,560 --> 00:44:15,020

Oh, my goodness!

1090

00:44:15,020 --> 00:44:17,300

That I remember!

1091

00:44:17,300 --> 00:44:18,990

How unusual, you know?

1092

00:44:18,990 --> 00:44:20,780

You wouldn't think
that, but yeah.

1093

00:44:20,780 --> 00:44:22,580

Yeah.

1094

00:44:22,580 --> 00:44:26,450

And do you remember seeing
the Statue of Liberty?

1095

00:44:26,450 --> 00:44:28,430

No, I don't remember that.

1096

00:44:28,430 --> 00:44:29,240
OK.

1097
00:44:29,240 --> 00:44:30,660
Maybe it was there.

1098
00:44:30,660 --> 00:44:31,820
I really don't remember.

1099
00:44:31,820 --> 00:44:35,240
OK, but you do remember
meeting your mother again.

1100
00:44:35,240 --> 00:44:35,900
Yes.

1101
00:44:35,900 --> 00:44:37,692
And then you had to
find a common language.

1102
00:44:37,692 --> 00:44:38,930
I remember what she wore.

1103
00:44:38,930 --> 00:44:40,880
It's very odd, but
I don't remember

1104
00:44:40,880 --> 00:44:42,680
seeing the Statue of Liberty.

1105
00:44:42,680 --> 00:44:43,970
What did your mother wear?

1106
00:44:43,970 --> 00:44:45,380
What did your mother wear?

1107
00:44:45,380 --> 00:44:49,970
She wore a Navy blue
dress with red polka dots.

1108
00:44:49,970 --> 00:44:53,320
And I think she wore

a Navy blue hat.

1109
00:44:53,320 --> 00:44:54,500
OK.

1110
00:44:54,500 --> 00:44:56,540
Was your father with her?

1111
00:44:56,540 --> 00:44:57,540
I would think so.

1112
00:44:57,540 --> 00:44:58,040
OK.

1113
00:44:58,040 --> 00:44:59,140
But you don't remember that?

1114
00:44:59,140 --> 00:44:59,640
No.

1115
00:44:59,640 --> 00:45:00,680
OK.

1116
00:45:00,680 --> 00:45:03,155
What are your first impressions
of the United States?

1117
00:45:03,155 --> 00:45:06,950

1118
00:45:06,950 --> 00:45:09,140
Well, I'm going to
tell you a funny thing.

1119
00:45:09,140 --> 00:45:11,680

1120
00:45:11,680 --> 00:45:16,410
We lived in the neighborhood
where there was, I guess,

1121

00:45:16,410 --> 00:45:20,050
a commercial or an
apartment for rent.

1122
00:45:20,050 --> 00:45:26,010
And it said to let;
being T-O dash L-E-T,

1123
00:45:26,010 --> 00:45:27,300
which means to rent.

1124
00:45:27,300 --> 00:45:30,060
Yeah, right.

1125
00:45:30,060 --> 00:45:34,260
Not knowing the language,
I thought it was a toilet.

1126
00:45:34,260 --> 00:45:35,820
All it missed was one letter!

1127
00:45:35,820 --> 00:45:37,770
That's the impression
of the language.

1128
00:45:37,770 --> 00:45:38,940
But I was very good.

1129
00:45:38,940 --> 00:45:40,620
I learned it very fast.

1130
00:45:40,620 --> 00:45:42,780
And I forgot my
French very fast.

1131
00:45:42,780 --> 00:45:43,770
OK.

1132
00:45:43,770 --> 00:45:47,640
So did you then
stay in Brooklyn?

1133

00:45:47,640 --> 00:45:50,910
Yeah, we lived in
Brooklyn for a while.

1134
00:45:50,910 --> 00:45:53,160
I was put in a lower grade.

1135
00:45:53,160 --> 00:45:53,940
OK.

1136
00:45:53,940 --> 00:45:58,260
Because I didn't know
the language that well.

1137
00:45:58,260 --> 00:46:00,840
I had to skip my
way up to my grade

1138
00:46:00,840 --> 00:46:02,670
and I was still a year behind.

1139
00:46:02,670 --> 00:46:04,530
OK.

1140
00:46:04,530 --> 00:46:08,020
My parents sent me
to Hebrew school.

1141
00:46:08,020 --> 00:46:09,850
And I had one--

1142
00:46:09,850 --> 00:46:12,340
the public school was
across the street.

1143
00:46:12,340 --> 00:46:15,310
And of course, I went to
high school and whatever.

1144
00:46:15,310 --> 00:46:17,650
Where in Brooklyn did you live?

1145

00:46:17,650 --> 00:46:19,720
It was called Brownsville.

1146
00:46:19,720 --> 00:46:23,020
Belmont Avenue;
115 Belmont Avenue.

1147
00:46:23,020 --> 00:46:23,960
OK.

1148
00:46:23,960 --> 00:46:28,540
And after a number of years, my
father was doing well enough.

1149
00:46:28,540 --> 00:46:31,210
We bought a house
in East Flatbush.

1150
00:46:31,210 --> 00:46:33,920
I don't know if you're
familiar with the neighborhood,

1151
00:46:33,920 --> 00:46:35,740
but we moved to East Flatbush.

1152
00:46:35,740 --> 00:46:37,480
Well, I've lived
in Brooklyn too,

1153
00:46:37,480 --> 00:46:41,290
but I don't know East
Flatbush as a neighborhood.

1154
00:46:41,290 --> 00:46:43,510
I lived in another
part of Brooklyn.

1155
00:46:43,510 --> 00:46:46,660
What I wanted to ask is this;
did he work at that bakery

1156
00:46:46,660 --> 00:46:47,950
where his sister--

1157
00:46:47,950 --> 00:46:48,940
No, no.

1158
00:46:48,940 --> 00:46:49,835
What did he do when--

1159
00:46:49,835 --> 00:46:50,335
No.

1160
00:46:50,335 --> 00:46:55,750
My father had gotten a job
working with burlap bags

1161
00:46:55,750 --> 00:46:58,840
because he used to come home
with his skin, you know,

1162
00:46:58,840 --> 00:47:05,770
torn up from the threads or
whatever he was working with.

1163
00:47:05,770 --> 00:47:09,040
And my mother worked very
hard in the coat factory.

1164
00:47:09,040 --> 00:47:10,280
In a coat factory?

1165
00:47:10,280 --> 00:47:10,780
Yeah.

1166
00:47:10,780 --> 00:47:13,970
So she worked in
the garment trade?

1167
00:47:13,970 --> 00:47:15,820
I don't think it
was a German place.

1168
00:47:15,820 --> 00:47:16,440
Garment.

1169
00:47:16,440 --> 00:47:17,380
Oh, garment place.

1170
00:47:17,380 --> 00:47:17,590
Yeah.

1171
00:47:17,590 --> 00:47:18,160
I'm sorry.

1172
00:47:18,160 --> 00:47:18,660
Yeah.

1173
00:47:18,660 --> 00:47:21,580

1174
00:47:21,580 --> 00:47:24,040
And was this also in Flatbush?

1175
00:47:24,040 --> 00:47:25,960
I mean, not in Flatbush
but in Brooklyn?

1176
00:47:25,960 --> 00:47:28,990
That was the first
place where we lived.

1177
00:47:28,990 --> 00:47:29,800
OK.

1178
00:47:29,800 --> 00:47:30,340
Yeah.

1179
00:47:30,340 --> 00:47:34,340
And then you moved to
East Flatbush you say?

1180
00:47:34,340 --> 00:47:34,840
Right.

1181
00:47:34,840 --> 00:47:36,340

My father bought a house.

1182
00:47:36,340 --> 00:47:37,210
OK.

1183
00:47:37,210 --> 00:47:39,520
The one family house
and we lived there.

1184
00:47:39,520 --> 00:47:43,840
And did you go to high
school in East Flatbush?

1185
00:47:43,840 --> 00:47:44,410
No.

1186
00:47:44,410 --> 00:47:45,790
I went to--

1187
00:47:45,790 --> 00:47:48,700
I started high
school in the area

1188
00:47:48,700 --> 00:47:50,770
that we lived in originally.

1189
00:47:50,770 --> 00:47:51,490
OK.

1190
00:47:51,490 --> 00:47:55,030
And when we moved to East
Flatbush, I had a year left.

1191
00:47:55,030 --> 00:47:59,260
So I traveled from East
Flatbush to the high school

1192
00:47:59,260 --> 00:48:02,710
where I graduated from.

1193
00:48:02,710 --> 00:48:04,940
Were both neighborhoods

mixed, or were

1194
00:48:04,940 --> 00:48:06,190
they Jewish, or how were they?

1195
00:48:06,190 --> 00:48:11,050
Well, when we came
to this country;

1196
00:48:11,050 --> 00:48:12,610
that neighborhood was mixed.

1197
00:48:12,610 --> 00:48:15,400
It was mixed with already--

1198
00:48:15,400 --> 00:48:18,700
black people lived
across the street.

1199
00:48:18,700 --> 00:48:20,360
It was very commercial.

1200
00:48:20,360 --> 00:48:22,870
There were groceries
and a butcher.

1201
00:48:22,870 --> 00:48:29,590
And it wasn't anything to
brag about, but it was nice.

1202
00:48:29,590 --> 00:48:31,240
There was a movie
around the corner.

1203
00:48:31,240 --> 00:48:36,100
And there was a nice street
going a little further down

1204
00:48:36,100 --> 00:48:37,510
with a lot of stores.

1205
00:48:37,510 --> 00:48:38,290

OK.

1206
00:48:38,290 --> 00:48:42,200
And, of course, East
Flatbush was nice.

1207
00:48:42,200 --> 00:48:46,700
And was it hard for any
member of the family

1208
00:48:46,700 --> 00:48:49,220
to adjust to the United States?

1209
00:48:49,220 --> 00:48:50,800
Not that I know of.

1210
00:48:50,800 --> 00:48:51,410
OK.

1211
00:48:51,410 --> 00:48:53,880
We were happy to be together.

1212
00:48:53,880 --> 00:48:56,690
Were there any family
members like extended

1213
00:48:56,690 --> 00:48:59,750
family members,
aunts and uncles, who

1214
00:48:59,750 --> 00:49:03,760
didn't make it out of Europe?

1215
00:49:03,760 --> 00:49:04,870
A lot of them, yeah.

1216
00:49:04,870 --> 00:49:06,010
My mother's family.

1217
00:49:06,010 --> 00:49:13,200
My father's-- my father's
family some of it were in this

1218
00:49:13,200 --> 00:49:14,440
country.

1219
00:49:14,440 --> 00:49:17,400
But my mother's family,
they all got killed.

1220
00:49:17,400 --> 00:49:19,530
Are they from Poland too?

1221
00:49:19,530 --> 00:49:20,030
OK.

1222
00:49:20,030 --> 00:49:20,970
Yeah.

1223
00:49:20,970 --> 00:49:22,740
How did she learn about that?

1224
00:49:22,740 --> 00:49:29,190

1225
00:49:29,190 --> 00:49:33,780
Well, there was a
nephew of hers that,

1226
00:49:33,780 --> 00:49:36,120
of course, lost his parents.

1227
00:49:36,120 --> 00:49:38,340
Then there was a nephew
that they brought over

1228
00:49:38,340 --> 00:49:39,250
to this country.

1229
00:49:39,250 --> 00:49:41,460
My parents brought them over.

1230
00:49:41,460 --> 00:49:50,070

He was in a some kind
of a lost people or a--

1231
00:49:50,070 --> 00:49:51,930
Displaced person's camp?

1232
00:49:51,930 --> 00:49:52,650
Yeah.

1233
00:49:52,650 --> 00:49:54,110
After the war?

1234
00:49:54,110 --> 00:49:54,610
Right.

1235
00:49:54,610 --> 00:49:57,120
So they were able to find him.

1236
00:49:57,120 --> 00:49:59,260
And they brought
him to this country.

1237
00:49:59,260 --> 00:50:00,300
OK.

1238
00:50:00,300 --> 00:50:02,700
That was my mother's family.

1239
00:50:02,700 --> 00:50:05,490
Did you ever go back to Vienna?

1240
00:50:05,490 --> 00:50:06,780
No, I would have liked to.

1241
00:50:06,780 --> 00:50:07,680
But I didn't.

1242
00:50:07,680 --> 00:50:09,300
OK.

1243
00:50:09,300 --> 00:50:12,840

And after you graduated high school,

1244
00:50:12,840 --> 00:50:15,340
did you continue living with your parents?

1245
00:50:15,340 --> 00:50:16,450
Yeah.

1246
00:50:16,450 --> 00:50:18,130
For how long?

1247
00:50:18,130 --> 00:50:19,270
Till I got married.

1248
00:50:19,270 --> 00:50:22,340
And how did you meet your husband?

1249
00:50:22,340 --> 00:50:24,080
That is a long story.

1250
00:50:24,080 --> 00:50:31,514
I met my husband through his friend.

1251
00:50:31,514 --> 00:50:32,300
OK.

1252
00:50:32,300 --> 00:50:36,760
His friend went out with my girlfriend Susie.

1253
00:50:36,760 --> 00:50:37,480
The same one--

1254
00:50:37,480 --> 00:50:38,080
From Austria.

1255
00:50:38,080 --> 00:50:40,540
She also came over?

1256
00:50:40,540 --> 00:50:44,080
Well, she went to China.

1257
00:50:44,080 --> 00:50:45,790
There was a ghetto.

1258
00:50:45,790 --> 00:50:49,780
And when they came to this
country, she and her mother,

1259
00:50:49,780 --> 00:50:52,730
they called my mother because
my mother was friendly with her

1260
00:50:52,730 --> 00:50:54,800
as a neighbor.

1261
00:50:54,800 --> 00:50:58,620
And she went out.

1262
00:50:58,620 --> 00:51:03,250
My husband's friend
brought them to my house.

1263
00:51:03,250 --> 00:51:07,970
Now, she made a blind
date for me, Susie.

1264
00:51:07,970 --> 00:51:15,040
And he was not my type.

1265
00:51:15,040 --> 00:51:19,300
But we went to New York
City to pick up my husband,

1266
00:51:19,300 --> 00:51:23,980
who I didn't know at the time,
and it was love instantly.

1267
00:51:23,980 --> 00:51:24,730
Really?

1268
00:51:24,730 --> 00:51:25,660
Yes.

1269
00:51:25,660 --> 00:51:28,300
We found out we had
the same background.

1270
00:51:28,300 --> 00:51:29,480
Also from Vienna?

1271
00:51:29,480 --> 00:51:29,980
Right.

1272
00:51:29,980 --> 00:51:32,830

1273
00:51:32,830 --> 00:51:37,120
He came on the same
boat as my parents.

1274
00:51:37,120 --> 00:51:40,900
It's a very nice long story.

1275
00:51:40,900 --> 00:51:41,810
How lovely.

1276
00:51:41,810 --> 00:51:42,400
Yes.

1277
00:51:42,400 --> 00:51:43,100
How lovely.

1278
00:51:43,100 --> 00:51:43,600
Yes.

1279
00:51:43,600 --> 00:51:44,100
It is.

1280
00:51:44,100 --> 00:51:46,180
OK.

1281
00:51:46,180 --> 00:51:48,070
And how many
children do you have?

1282
00:51:48,070 --> 00:51:48,700
Two.

1283
00:51:48,700 --> 00:51:49,660
OK.

1284
00:51:49,660 --> 00:51:50,687
And who are they?

1285
00:51:50,687 --> 00:51:51,520
Tell me their names.

1286
00:51:51,520 --> 00:51:55,975
I have my daughter who's
going to be 57 or 58.

1287
00:51:55,975 --> 00:51:57,850
I'm not sure.

1288
00:51:57,850 --> 00:52:00,940
And my son, of
course, who is 54.

1289
00:52:00,940 --> 00:52:02,920
And their names?

1290
00:52:02,920 --> 00:52:04,600
My daughter's name is Sherry.

1291
00:52:04,600 --> 00:52:05,740
OK.

1292
00:52:05,740 --> 00:52:08,050
My son's name is Bennett.

1293
00:52:08,050 --> 00:52:11,260

And as they were growing
up, did they ask you

1294
00:52:11,260 --> 00:52:15,070
much about your life before
the war, about Vienna.

1295
00:52:15,070 --> 00:52:16,900
My daughter is very
much interested

1296
00:52:16,900 --> 00:52:21,660
in what happened in the
Holocaust and her grandparents.

1297
00:52:21,660 --> 00:52:23,560
OK.

1298
00:52:23,560 --> 00:52:28,490
I don't know about my son; how
much interest he has in it.

1299
00:52:28,490 --> 00:52:28,990
OK.

1300
00:52:28,990 --> 00:52:32,320
Well, he's the one who made
today happen, you know?

1301
00:52:32,320 --> 00:52:33,620
He put this together.

1302
00:52:33,620 --> 00:52:34,630
So I think he does.

1303
00:52:34,630 --> 00:52:38,120
Oh, I'm sure that he's
interested in our background.

1304
00:52:38,120 --> 00:52:41,350
But my daughter,
really, went into it.

1305

00:52:41,350 --> 00:52:43,810

And she tried to
get information.

1306

00:52:43,810 --> 00:52:46,780

And she's pretty good with that.

1307

00:52:46,780 --> 00:52:49,000

Well, a lot of
people didn't speak

1308

00:52:49,000 --> 00:52:51,820

about what they went
through after the war.

1309

00:52:51,820 --> 00:52:53,410

And some people did.

1310

00:52:53,410 --> 00:52:55,870

And that's one of the reasons
I asked this question.

1311

00:52:55,870 --> 00:52:58,780

Well, my husband
is a good speaker.

1312

00:52:58,780 --> 00:53:00,610

So he speaks about it.

1313

00:53:00,610 --> 00:53:03,510

All right.

1314

00:53:03,510 --> 00:53:06,090

I am more to myself.

1315

00:53:06,090 --> 00:53:07,860

I don't like to speak about it.

1316

00:53:07,860 --> 00:53:10,140

I'd like to forget it.

1317

00:53:10,140 --> 00:53:13,140
Not that I really was
tortured that badly,

1318
00:53:13,140 --> 00:53:14,790
but it wasn't a good experience.

1319
00:53:14,790 --> 00:53:18,330
It wasn't a good
bringing up for me.

1320
00:53:18,330 --> 00:53:24,360
What are the parts that are the
hardest for you to remember?

1321
00:53:24,360 --> 00:53:28,590
Leaving my parents,
Kristallnacht

1322
00:53:28,590 --> 00:53:31,410
when I was scared
because I saw my mother;

1323
00:53:31,410 --> 00:53:35,490
the way she looked
and acted that day.

1324
00:53:35,490 --> 00:53:36,945
Except that you weren't there.

1325
00:53:36,945 --> 00:53:38,070
You said you weren't there.

1326
00:53:38,070 --> 00:53:38,940
Oh, for Kristallnacht.

1327
00:53:38,940 --> 00:53:39,720
Yeah, we were there.

1328
00:53:39,720 --> 00:53:40,560
Oh, you were there?

1329

00:53:40,560 --> 00:53:41,830
For sure.

1330
00:53:41,830 --> 00:53:42,330
Sure.

1331
00:53:42,330 --> 00:53:44,060
We lived in Austria.

1332
00:53:44,060 --> 00:53:46,140
Oh, I was under the
impression you weren't there.

1333
00:53:46,140 --> 00:53:53,700
Yeah, that happened in
1938 I think it happened.

1334
00:53:53,700 --> 00:53:54,420
Yes.

1335
00:53:54,420 --> 00:53:57,370
And we left 1939.

1336
00:53:57,370 --> 00:53:58,960
That's right.

1337
00:53:58,960 --> 00:54:02,830
So we didn't talk about
Kristallnacht at all.

1338
00:54:02,830 --> 00:54:04,570
I mean, we talked
that it happened,

1339
00:54:04,570 --> 00:54:07,430
but I was under the
impression you were gone.

1340
00:54:07,430 --> 00:54:09,160
So that's my mistake.

1341
00:54:09,160 --> 00:54:09,840

That's OK.

1342
00:54:09,840 --> 00:54:12,790

1343
00:54:12,790 --> 00:54:17,140
Do you remember how it
impacted your family,

1344
00:54:17,140 --> 00:54:18,560
where you were, and so on?

1345
00:54:18,560 --> 00:54:19,060
Yes.

1346
00:54:19,060 --> 00:54:20,450
Tell me about that.

1347
00:54:20,450 --> 00:54:24,340
Well, we, like I said, my mother
was at the window all day.

1348
00:54:24,340 --> 00:54:25,810
OK.

1349
00:54:25,810 --> 00:54:27,970
I don't think she put
the lights on at night.

1350
00:54:27,970 --> 00:54:30,940

1351
00:54:30,940 --> 00:54:40,980
She saw the SS collecting men.

1352
00:54:40,980 --> 00:54:46,970
And I don't know whether
there was children or women.

1353
00:54:46,970 --> 00:54:49,155
She was watching
from the window.

1354
00:54:49,155 --> 00:54:51,900

1355
00:54:51,900 --> 00:54:55,950
We were waiting for them
to come to our building.

1356
00:54:55,950 --> 00:54:58,470
And luckily enough, they came--

1357
00:54:58,470 --> 00:55:01,770
I think we were one
of the last families

1358
00:55:01,770 --> 00:55:05,610
that they came to to
take what they wanted.

1359
00:55:05,610 --> 00:55:12,230
And we were lucky because
they didn't take my father.

1360
00:55:12,230 --> 00:55:14,790
Was he in the
apartment with you?

1361
00:55:14,790 --> 00:55:16,620
I didn't think he
was, but my sister

1362
00:55:16,620 --> 00:55:19,510
said he was in the apartment.

1363
00:55:19,510 --> 00:55:22,750
And he let them go
through the whole place,

1364
00:55:22,750 --> 00:55:26,380
not that he had any choice.

1365
00:55:26,380 --> 00:55:28,250

And they took money.

1366
00:55:28,250 --> 00:55:32,020
They took what they
felt they liked.

1367
00:55:32,020 --> 00:55:38,480
And, like I said, we thank
God that they didn't take him

1368
00:55:38,480 --> 00:55:42,690
into concentration camp or my
mother to clean the streets.

1369
00:55:42,690 --> 00:55:43,910
Yeah.

1370
00:55:43,910 --> 00:55:54,250
So it was a very, very day
that cannot be forgotten.

1371
00:55:54,250 --> 00:55:55,390
Yeah.

1372
00:55:55,390 --> 00:55:58,988
And my sister wrote a
beautiful story on that.

1373
00:55:58,988 --> 00:56:01,740
OK.

1374
00:56:01,740 --> 00:56:04,830
Tell me, did the neighbors
downstairs, the good ones;

1375
00:56:04,830 --> 00:56:10,050
the ones who invited you for
Christmas, did they help in--

1376
00:56:10,050 --> 00:56:12,930
Yes, I think that my
brother and my father

1377

00:56:12,930 --> 00:56:16,440
were downstairs most of the day.

1378

00:56:16,440 --> 00:56:17,610
OK.

1379

00:56:17,610 --> 00:56:18,180
OK.

1380

00:56:18,180 --> 00:56:20,830
If I remember correctly.

1381

00:56:20,830 --> 00:56:25,160
But I guess, in
the evening, when

1382

00:56:25,160 --> 00:56:29,490
they did come to our house,
he was in the apartment.

1383

00:56:29,490 --> 00:56:31,310
OK.

1384

00:56:31,310 --> 00:56:35,150
I think that we've pretty much
covered all the territory.

1385

00:56:35,150 --> 00:56:36,950
Is there anything
that you would like

1386

00:56:36,950 --> 00:56:40,000
to add to what we've
spoken about today?

1387

00:56:40,000 --> 00:56:42,510

1388

00:56:42,510 --> 00:56:44,810
There's a lot to add,
but I think that--

1389
00:56:44,810 --> 00:56:49,590

1390
00:56:49,590 --> 00:56:51,120
No, I think it's fine.

1391
00:56:51,120 --> 00:56:52,970
I appreciated your questions.

1392
00:56:52,970 --> 00:56:58,260
They were very nice questions
and you made it very easy

1393
00:56:58,260 --> 00:56:59,830
for me to answer.

1394
00:56:59,830 --> 00:57:01,410
Thank you very much.

1395
00:57:01,410 --> 00:57:02,220
Thank you.

1396
00:57:02,220 --> 00:57:03,120
OK.

1397
00:57:03,120 --> 00:57:07,320
So I'll say, with that, this
concludes the United States

1398
00:57:07,320 --> 00:57:11,730
Holocaust Memorial Museum
interview with Mrs. Gertrude

1399
00:57:11,730 --> 00:57:19,260
Leiser on February 26, 2017,
in Boca Raton, Florida.

1400
00:57:19,260 --> 00:57:21,500
Thank you very much.

1401
00:57:21,500 --> 00:57:22,000

Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection