1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,160

2

00:00:02,160 --> 00:00:05,850 This is a United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

3

00:00:05,850 --> 00:00:12,810 interview with Mr. Henry Bloch on May 2, 2017

4

00:00:12,810 --> 00:00:15,270 in Fresh Meadows, New York.

5

00:00:15,270 --> 00:00:18,540 Thank you very much, Mr. Bloch, for agreeing

6

00:00:18,540 --> 00:00:20,940 to speak with us today, for agreeing

7

00:00:20,940 --> 00:00:24,120 to share your experiences and your story.

8

00:00:24,120 --> 00:00:28,530 And we will start with the most basic questions.

9

00:00:28,530 --> 00:00:33,150 And from there, we'll develop and build your story

10

00:00:33,150 --> 00:00:35,860 so that we learn of your experiences.

11

00:00:35,860 --> 00:00:36,360 OK.

00:00:36,360 --> 00:00:41,520 My first question is, can you tell me the date of your birth?

13 00:00:41,520 --> 00:00:45,335 March 11, 1914.

14 00:00:45,335 --> 00:00:46,560 Oh, my.

15 00:00:46,560 --> 00:00:50,190 And today is May 2, 2017.

16 00:00:50,190 --> 00:00:53,340 So that means you are 103 years old?

17 00:00:53,340 --> 00:00:55,080 Just had your 103rd birthday?

18 00:00:55,080 --> 00:00:57,030 Correct.

19 00:00:57,030 --> 00:00:58,410 Congratulations.

20 00:00:58,410 --> 00:00:59,730 Thank you.

21 00:00:59,730 --> 00:01:02,620 And what was your name at birth?

22 00:01:02,620 --> 00:01:04,840 Heinz Werner.

23 00:01:04,840 --> 00:01:06,850 Heinz Werner Bloch.

24 00:01:06,850 --> 00:01:07,550 Yes, yes.

00:01:07,550 --> 00:01:08,880 OK.

26

00:01:08,880 --> 00:01:11,770 And where were you born?

27

00:01:11,770 --> 00:01:13,980 I was born in the city--

28

00:01:13,980 --> 00:01:16,230 I was born during World War I.

29

00:01:16,230 --> 00:01:18,060 Yeah.

30

00:01:18,060 --> 00:01:24,430 And my father was in the army, in the German army.

31

00:01:24,430 --> 00:01:25,740 My mother was by.

32

 $00:01:25,740 \rightarrow 00:01:32,140$ Herself and we were at the time in Duisberg.

33

00:01:32,140 --> 00:01:33,530 Duisberg.

34

00:01:33,530 --> 00:01:35,740 I don't know if you know Duisberg.

35

00:01:35,740 --> 00:01:36,960 Duisberg.

36

00:01:36,960 --> 00:01:42,400 And I was born in Duisberg at that time.

37

00:01:42,400 --> 00:01:48,070 But we then later on resettled back further south,

38

00:01:48,070 --> 00:01:53,020 if you would call that, and we stayed in Mannheim.

39

00:01:53,020 --> 00:01:54,990 So did you grow up in Mannheim?

40

00:01:54,990 --> 00:01:55,990 Basically.

41

00:01:55,990 --> 00:01:57,070 OK.

42

00:01:57,070 --> 00:02:00,010 How is it that your mother gave birth to you in Duisberg

43

00:02:00,010 --> 00:02:02,770 and not in Mannheim?

44

00:02:02,770 --> 00:02:08,669 An aunt of her, or rather a sister, an aunt of mine,

45

00:02:08,669 --> 00:02:12,340 a sister of her lived in Duisberg or Essen,

46

00:02:12,340 --> 00:02:15,130 which is another city nearby.

47

00:02:15,130 --> 00:02:17,740 And she wanted to be near the family.

48 00:02:17,740 --> 00:02:18,580

Yeah.

49 00:02:18,580 --> 00:02:21,110 This is all North Rhine-Westphalia.

50

00:02:21,110 --> 00:02:21,610 Correct.

51 00:02:21,610 --> 00:02:22,440 This whole area.

52 00:02:22,440 --> 00:02:23,300 Correct.

53 00:02:23,300 --> 00:02:24,940 OK.

54 00:02:24,940 --> 00:02:26,540 But Mannheim is not.

55 00:02:26,540 --> 00:02:29,221 Mannheim is Baden.

56 00:02:29,221 --> 00:02:33,850 Baden is the southern part of Germany along the Rhine River

57 00:02:33,850 --> 00:02:39,670 across from, call it Alsace-Lorraine,

58 00:02:39,670 --> 00:02:41,050 next to France.

59 00:02:41,050 --> 00:02:45,010 Is this wine country, German wine country?

60 00:02:45,010 --> 00:02:51,260 It is not necessarily known for wine, but across the river,

61 00:02:51,260 --> 00:02:53,225 which is called the Pfalz--

62 00:02:53,225 --> 00:02:57,280 or Palatia, I think, in English--

63 00:02:57,280 --> 00:03:00,650 there is a lot of wine grown--

64

00:03:00,650 --> 00:03:04,120 I mean, there are a lot of vineyards.

65

00:03:04,120 --> 00:03:07,470 So was your mother originally from Duisberg?

66

00:03:07,470 --> 00:03:07,970 No.

67

00:03:07,970 --> 00:03:08,470 No.

68 00:03:08,470 --> 00:03:10,910 She also was born--

69

00:03:10,910 --> 00:03:13,705 she was born in Germany in a small town.

70 00:03:13,705 --> 00:03:16,300

71

00:03:16,300 --> 00:03:20,710 Her family was-- there were seven children.

72

00:03:20,710 --> 00:03:23,320 She was one of seven children, who

73

00:03:23,320 --> 00:03:26,050 lived in the southern part of Germany. 74 00:03:26,050 --> 00:03:29,570

75 00:03:29,570 --> 00:03:32,900 Do you remember the town that she was from?

76

00:03:32,900 --> 00:03:37,640 It was a small town, which was Meisenheim--

77

00:03:37,640 --> 00:03:38,140 Meisenheim.

78

00:03:38,140 --> 00:03:41,560 --which is not very well known.

79

00:03:41,560 --> 00:03:44,520 But maybe the city which is nearby is called Kreuznach.

80 00:03:44,520 --> 00:03:46,300 Kreuznach.

81 00:03:46,300 --> 00:03:52,450 Kreuznach or Munster, which is on the river now,

82 00:03:52,450 --> 00:03:58,030 which is not far from Bingen, which is not far from the Rhine

83 00:03:58.03

00:03:58,030 --> 00:03:59,170 River.

84 00:03:59,170 --> 00:04:03,440 So that area was her background.

85 00:04:03,440 --> 00:04:03,940 OK. 86 00:04:03,940 --> 00:04:05,650 What was your mother's name?

87 00:04:05,650 --> 00:04:07,870 David-- Emma David.

88 00:04:07,870 --> 00:04:09,400 Emma David.

89 00:04:09,400 --> 00:04:15,310 And had her family been in this area for a long time?

90 00:04:15,310 --> 00:04:20,620 The family David has been there for many generations.

91 00:04:20,620 --> 00:04:24,610 How did the family make its living?

92 00:04:24,610 --> 00:04:27,385 How did they support themselves, her family?

93 00:04:27,385 --> 00:04:32,110

94 00:04:32,110 --> 00:04:37,990 The detailed part, I am not quite so well familiar,

95 00:04:37,990 --> 00:04:43,990 but I think most of which they handled grain from the farmers.

96 00:04:43,990 --> 00:04:51,730 They purchased the harvest of grain of all sorts,

97 00:04:51,730 --> 00:04:59,680 and they sold this to breweries and also similar institutions

98

00:04:59,680 --> 00:05:03,640 which would require this sort of item.

99

00:05:03,640 --> 00:05:06,900 And that's what was their main business.

100

00:05:06,900 --> 00:05:07,710 OK.

101 00:05:07,710 --> 00:05:13,250 They had storage warehouses for this grain.

102 00:05:13,250 --> 00:05:15,820 So they're grain merchants.

103 00:05:15,820 --> 00:05:16,450

00:05:15,820 --> 00:05:16,450 Yes.

104

00:05:16,450 --> 00:05:18,040 But also grew it.

105

00:05:18,040 --> 00:05:22,510 And they also had a factory where they brewed

106 00:05:22,510 --> 00:05:26,560 the grain, which was cooked.

107 00:05:26,560 --> 00:05:29,950 I'm not quite sure of the procedures and all this

108 00:05:29,950 --> 00:05:34,480 anymore, which was primarily for the brewery.

109 00:05:34,480 --> 00:05:37,900

I think it was mostly the grain which they

110 00:05:37,900 --> 00:05:40,180 bought was sold to breweries.

111 00:05:40,180 --> 00:05:41,650 So to make beer.

112 00:05:41,650 --> 00:05:42,500 Make beer.

113 00:05:42,500 --> 00:05:44,050 OK.

114 00:05:44,050 --> 00:05:47,990 And was it a well-to-do family as far as you knew?

115 00:05:47,990 --> 00:05:52,160 They were considered

They were considered very much so.

116

00:05:52,160 --> 00:05:53,560 OK.

117

00:05:53,560 --> 00:05:56,410 And your father, what was his first name?

118

00:05:56,410 --> 00:05:57,290 Ludwig.

119

00:05:57,290 --> 00:05:58,180 Ludwig Bloch.

120

00:05:58,180 --> 00:05:59,560 Yeah.

121 00:05:59,560 --> 00:06:01,510 How many brothers and sisters did he have?

122 00:06:01,510 --> 00:06:04,960

123 00:06:04,960 --> 00:06:09,670 He had one brother, and I think five sisters.

124 00:06:09,670 --> 00:06:10,760 Also a large family.

125 00:06:10,760 --> 00:06:11,260 Yeah.

126 00:06:11,260 --> 00:06:14,320 Well, in those days, the families,

127 00:06:14,320 --> 00:06:17,330 they certainly had many children.

128 00:06:17,330 --> 00:06:18,000 Yeah.

129 00:06:18,000 --> 00:06:19,330 It has changed.

130 00:06:19,330 --> 00:06:20,200 Yes.

131 00:06:20,200 --> 00:06:23,440 So seven on one side, seven on the other side.

132 00:06:23,440 --> 00:06:24,430 Something like that.

133 00:06:24,430 --> 00:06:28,360 And you had all-- you had 14 aunts and uncles or something 134 00:06:28,360 --> 00:06:30,682 like that, you know.

135 00:06:30,682 --> 00:06:35,590 12 aunts and uncles, if we don't take your parents in there.

136 00:06:35,590 --> 00:06:37,630 And where was your father from?

137 00:06:37,630 --> 00:06:38,680 What place was he from?

138 00:06:38,680 --> 00:06:41,860

139 00:06:41,860 --> 00:06:47,920 He lived in the city, Baden, in Baden, the state of Baden.

```
140
00:06:47,920 --> 00:06:50,530
The name of the
city was Offenburg.
```

141 00:06:50,530 --> 00:06:51,177 Offenburg.

142 00:06:51,177 --> 00:06:51,677 OK.

143 00:06:51,677 --> 00:06:53,140 Yeah.

144 00:06:53,140 --> 00:06:56,280 And his father--

145 00:06:56,280 --> 00:06:59,880 I am not definite, but I think he was a butcher.

146 00:06:59,880 --> 00:07:01,420 OK.

147

00:07:01,420 --> 00:07:06,310 Did you know both sets of aunts and uncles and grandparents

148 00:07:06,310 --> 00:07:09,250 and so--

149 00:07:09,250 --> 00:07:13,300 We were in touch with them during the year.

150 00:07:13,300 --> 00:07:17,410 Traveling was not as popular at the time.

151 00:07:17,410 --> 00:07:23,230 But occasionally, a vacation time through the school years,

152 00:07:23,230 --> 00:07:26,880 we visited each other one way or another.

153 00:07:26,880 --> 00:07:28,000 OK.

154 00:07:28,000 --> 00:07:29,680 Did you have brothers and sisters?

155 00:07:29,680 --> 00:07:31,630 I had one older brother.

156 00:07:31,630 --> 00:07:33,100 And what was his name?

157 00:07:33,100 --> 00:07:33,870 Fritz.

158 00:07:33,870 --> 00:07:34,680 Fritz.

159 00:07:34,680 --> 00:07:36,940 And when was he born?

160 00:07:36,940 --> 00:07:42,040 He was born-- let me think for a--

161 00:07:42,040 --> 00:07:42,950 in Mannheim.

162 00:07:42,950 --> 00:07:44,110 He was born in Mannheim.

163 00:07:44,110 --> 00:07:45,010 Yeah.

164 00:07:45,010 --> 00:07:49,030 And was he four years, five years older than you?

165 00:07:49,030 --> 00:07:50,680 He was nine years older.

166 00:07:50,680 --> 00:07:51,730 Oh.

167 00:07:51,730 --> 00:07:53,590 So he was considerably older.

168 00:07:53,590 --> 00:07:55,480 Yeah.

169 00:07:55,480 --> 00:07:57,460 That would have made him--

170 00:07:57,460 --> 00:08:00,500 if he was nine years older, would have been 1904. 00:08:00,500 --> 00:08:01,000 Yeah but--

172 00:08:01,000 --> 00:08:01,500 1905.

173 00:08:01,500 --> 00:08:05,200 My mother came-- in Mannheim, then she moved to Meisenheim.

174 00:08:05,200 --> 00:08:09,140 That was during the war, during the earlier years.

175 00:08:09,140 --> 00:08:14,480 There was a lot of changing positions and locations.

176 00:08:14,480 --> 00:08:21,400 And I don't know about the reasons, to be honest.

177 00:08:21,400 --> 00:08:22,110 OK.

178 00:08:22,110 --> 00:08:27,100 You know, parents in those days did not

179 00:08:27,100 --> 00:08:32,860 tell the children everything as much as it's more the case

180 00:08:32,860 --> 00:08:33,520 nowadays.

181 00:08:33,520 --> 00:08:34,450 OK.

182 00:08:34,450 --> 00:08:35,350 It's true. 00:08:35,350 --> 00:08:36,730 It's true.

184

00:08:36,730 --> 00:08:40,840 They kept a lot of things to themselves.

185

00:08:40,840 --> 00:08:43,150 And children just listened.

186

00:08:43,150 --> 00:08:43,720 Yeah.

187 00:08:43,720 --> 00:08:45,460 Yeah.

188 00:08:45,460 --> 00:08:48,160 Yeah.

189 00:08:48,160 --> 00:08:50,860 There are some families where there are storytellers

190 00:08:50,860 --> 00:08:53,170 naturally, and there's some families

191 00:08:53,170 --> 00:08:55,660 where there's more reserve, and that's just

192 00:08:55,660 --> 00:08:57,895 as natural for those families.

193 00:08:57,895 --> 00:09:01,510

194 00:09:01,510 --> 00:09:04,510 Did either of your parents talk much about World War

195 00:09:04,510 --> 00:09:06,520 I and what that was like?

196

00:09:06,520 --> 00:09:07,750 No.

197 00:09:07,750 --> 00:09:10,302 No.

198 00:09:10,302 --> 00:09:12,010 I don't know, for some

reason or another,

199 00:09:12,010 --> 00:09:14,560 I don't remember details.

200 00:09:14,560 --> 00:09:16,480 My father came back after the war.

201 00:09:16,480 --> 00:09:19,280

202 00:09:19,280 --> 00:09:22,410 I don't know any more details where he--

203 00:09:22,410 --> 00:09:23,680 he was in France.

204 00:09:23,680 --> 00:09:24,340 That I know.

205 00:09:24,340 --> 00:09:29,730 He was somewhere in those battles or wherever there was.

206 00:09:29,730 --> 00:09:31,100 In trenches probably.

207 00:09:31,100 --> 00:09:31,630 Yeah. 208 00:09:31,630 --> 00:09:35,050 And he came back after the war.

209 00:09:35,050 --> 00:09:37,540 Did he have a certain rank?

210 00:09:37,540 --> 00:09:39,760 I don't remember the rank.

211 00:09:39,760 --> 00:09:40,870 I don't remember.

212 00:09:40,870 --> 00:09:42,310 I don't really know.

213

00:09:42,310 --> 00:09:49,090 There was not much talk about it, at least I was--

214

00:09:49,090 --> 00:09:53,840 I mean, I was 5 years old, 4 or 5 years old.

215

00:09:53,840 --> 00:09:59,110 It didn't mean much what he would say to me or so forth.

216

00:09:59,110 --> 00:10:00,370 If so, I forgot it.

217

00:10:00,370 --> 00:10:01,480 Yeah.

218 00:10:01.480

00:10:01,480 --> 00:10:05,720 And do you have any earliest memories from your childhood?

219

00:10:05,720 --> 00:10:08,740 Even if they're just episodic, do you have any? 00:10:08,740 --> 00:10:14,820 Do you remember any particular scenes in your mind?

221

00:10:14,820 --> 00:10:19,400 Well, I mean, I cannot think of any specific ones,

222

00:10:19,400 --> 00:10:23,665 but the school years, we all--

223

00:10:23,665 --> 00:10:31,050 I mean, we were equal with all the Gentile people.

224

00:10:31,050 --> 00:10:35,380 I had very good friends as schoolmates

225

00:10:35,380 --> 00:10:36,850 with whom I went to school.

226

00:10:36,850 --> 00:10:40,060 And there was no difference in those days

227

00:10:40,060 --> 00:10:43,420 that you would say, oh, my God, you are Jewish,

228

00:10:43,420 --> 00:10:48,700 and you are Protestant or Catholic or whatever.

229

00:10:48,700 --> 00:10:52,150 You would not associate and would be together

230

 $00:10:52,150 \rightarrow 00:10:57,160$ with the family as well as with their offspring.

231 00:10:57,160 --> 00:10:59,860

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy. Well, tell me this.

232

00:10:59,860 --> 00:11:02,800 Did you grow up in the same place?

233

00:11:02,800 --> 00:11:06,940 That is, once your mother came back to Mannheim,

234

00:11:06,940 --> 00:11:11,120 did you have the same home that you spent your childhood years

235

00:11:11,120 --> 00:11:11,620 in?

236

00:11:11,620 --> 00:11:12,230 No.

237

00:11:12,230 --> 00:11:15,190 It was not the same home anymore.

238

00:11:15,190 --> 00:11:20,230 That was in-- no, it was not the same home.

239

00:11:20,230 --> 00:11:24,310 It was a different apartment.

240

00:11:24,310 --> 00:11:30,520 So did you grow up in one apartment or in several?

241

00:11:30,520 --> 00:11:34,220 It was mostly in one apartment in Mannheim.

242

00:11:34,220 --> 00:11:36,490 And do you remember the address? 00:11:36,490 --> 00:11:38,120 [GERMAN]

00:11:38,120 --> 00:11:43,810 But I don't know the number, even though I have visited

245

00:11:43,810 --> 00:11:48,850 Germany many times after the war, and I visited the area

246

00:11:48,850 --> 00:11:52,990 and so forth, I just remember the numbers or things

247

00:11:52,990 --> 00:11:53,490 like that.

248

00:11:53,490 --> 00:11:56,560 I know where it was, but I don't remember the numbers and things

249

00:11:56,560 --> 00:11:57,160 like that.

250

00:11:57,160 --> 00:11:58,210 That's OK.

251

00:11:58,210 --> 00:12:00,190 Do you remember what the apartment looked like?

252

00:12:00,190 --> 00:12:02,900

253

00:12:02,900 --> 00:12:04,700 Not the outlay anymore.

254 00:12:04,700 --> 00:12:05,870 Not the outlay.

255 00:12:05,870 --> 00:12:10,610 I wouldn't remember where the living room was or bedroom was

256 00:12:10,610 --> 00:12:11,570 or anything else.

257 00:12:11,570 --> 00:12:12,930 I don't remember that.

258 00:12:12,930 --> 00:12:14,388 Do you know how many rooms you had?

259 00:12:14,388 --> 00:12:20,220 But it was a quite accommodating place.

260 00:12:20,220 --> 00:12:20,720 OK.

261 00:12:20,720 --> 00:12:22,940 It was a modern house.

262 00:12:22,940 --> 00:12:25,100 There were other people in the same house.

263 00:12:25,100 --> 00:12:26,470 It was an apartment house.

264 00:12:26,470 --> 00:12:28,010 OK.

265 00:12:28,010 --> 00:12:30,100 Two, three stories, four?

266 00:12:30,100 --> 00:12:32,870 About two or three stories, something like that.

267 00:12:32,870 --> 00:12:35,810 Was it in the Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

center of Mannheim?

268

00:12:35,810 --> 00:12:39,090 Well, Mannheim-- I don't know if you know that--

269 00:12:39,090 --> 00:12:45,960 Mannheim is built in such a way that you cannot get a lot

270

00:12:45,960 --> 00:12:57,050 of-- it's done with the A, B, C. The streets go from one river--

271

00:12:57,050 --> 00:13:02,544 there is the Rhine River, and the--

272

00:13:02,544 --> 00:13:07,940 now, you see, now I can't think of the other side of the river.

273 00:13:07,940 --> 00:13:08,587 It's not the--

274

00:13:08,587 --> 00:13:09,295 Was it the Pfalz?

275 00:13:09,295 --> 00:13:12,590

276 00:13:12,590 --> 00:13:13,340 Heidelberg.

277

00:13:13,340 --> 00:13:16,360 Do you know what the river is in Heidelberg?

278 00:13:16,360 --> 00:13:16,990 No.

279 00:13:16,990 --> 00:13:17,692 I'm sorry.

280

00:13:17,692 --> 00:13:19,775 But it was the same river that goes to Heidelberg?

281 00:13:19,775 --> 00:13:21,320 Right.

282

00:13:21,320 --> 00:13:23,780 What the heck is the name of the--

283 00:13:23,780 --> 00:13:25,910 It'll come to you when the cameras are off.

284 00:13:25,910 --> 00:13:32,060 Anyhow, that river was one street, and then also

285 00:13:32,060 --> 00:13:34,950 another line from the castle.

286

00:13:34,950 --> 00:13:38,620 There was a castle on the other side, to the other end.

287

00:13:38,620 --> 00:13:42,860 And in between this, there was everything detailed.

288

00:13:42,860 --> 00:13:45,750 You start, on the castle you start

289

00:13:45,750 --> 00:13:51,660 A. The next block was B, C, D, E, F, G. Everything like this.

290 00:13:51,660 --> 00:13:52,690 And so you were Louise--

291 00:13:52,690 --> 00:13:59,510 If you were in A, the other way, you go A1, A2, A3, A4.

292 00:13:59,510 --> 00:14:02,003 If you're know the ABC, you couldn't get lost.

293

00:14:02,003 --> 00:14:03,670 You could find your way around the city.

294 00:14:03,670 --> 00:14:05,200 You could find your way in--

295

00:14:05,200 --> 00:14:08,870 that was a city which was laid out

296

00:14:08,870 --> 00:14:15,070 by whom I don't know but on the basis of alphabet.

297

00:14:15,070 --> 00:14:18,150 And so you're street was L.

298

00:14:18,150 --> 00:14:19,640 Well, we were on the--

299

00:14:19,640 --> 00:14:20,660 there is a ring.

300

00:14:20,660 --> 00:14:22,040 The whole thing was around.

301

00:14:22,040 --> 00:14:25,820 The whole city was a ring which had different names.

302 00:14:25,820 --> 00:14:30,610 And we lived on the Luisen ring, which was not 303 00:14:30,610 --> 00:14:32,660 on the inside of the city, but it

304 00:14:32,660 --> 00:14:35,960 was the outside of the ring, which had a number,

305 00:14:35,960 --> 00:14:38,340 but it didn't have A, B, C number.

306 00:14:38,340 --> 00:14:39,290 Right, right.

307 00:14:39,290 --> 00:14:41,680 And was this a residential kind of--

308 00:14:41,680 --> 00:14:42,680 All.

309 00:14:42,680 --> 00:14:44,480 Only residential.

310 00:14:44,480 --> 00:14:49,360 The whole city, if I remember, was all residential.

311 00:14:49,360 --> 00:14:52,900 I mean, the shops and department stores

312 00:14:52,900 --> 00:14:55,400 and all this but no industry.

313 00:14:55,400 --> 00:14:58,220

314 00:14:58,220 --> 00:15:02,090 What was the economy of Mannheim?

315

00:15:02,090 --> 00:15:10,400 It was the second largest harbor on the Rhine River.

316

00:15:10,400 --> 00:15:11,060 Really?

317

00:15:11,060 --> 00:15:11,780 Yes.

318 00:15:11,780 --> 00:15:16,670 The biggest one was in Duisberg, where ships stopped.

319

00:15:16,670 --> 00:15:19,310 And then on the way back to go to Switzerland,

320

00:15:19,310 --> 00:15:22,490 Mannheim was the second largest harbor.

321

00:15:22,490 --> 00:15:25,850 So there were a lot of ships going up and down the river.

322

00:15:25,850 --> 00:15:27,980 I wouldn't have thought but how interesting.

323

00:15:27,980 --> 00:15:28,590 Yeah.

324

00:15:28,590 --> 00:15:31,210 I didn't know that about Mannheim.

325

00:15:31,210 --> 00:15:34,910 So its economy probably was quite dependent 326 00:15:34,910 --> 00:15:38,510 on this kind of trade.

```
327
00:15:38,510 --> 00:15:41,950
Well, there were a lot of
industries on the outskirts.
```

328 00:15:41,950 --> 00:15:45,570 Across from Mannheim was a city called Ludwigshafen.

329 00:15:45,570 --> 00:15:46,070 Ah.

330 00:15:46,070 --> 00:15:46,690 OK.

331 00:15:46,690 --> 00:15:50,570 And in Ludwigshafen is a city, which is now still

332 00:15:50,570 --> 00:15:51,740 in business--

333 00:15:51,740 --> 00:15:54,780 matter of fact, I visited not too long ago--

334 00:15:54,780 --> 00:15:56,420 BASF.

335 00:15:56,420 --> 00:15:57,410 Oh, that's right.

336 00:15:57,410 --> 00:15:59,340 The company BASF.

337 00:15:59,340 --> 00:15:59,840 Yeah.

338 00:15:59,840 --> 00:16:02,070 It's one of the biggest in the world.

339

00:16:02,070 --> 00:16:03,220 Yeah.

340

00:16:03,220 --> 00:16:03,800 Yeah.

341

00:16:03,800 --> 00:16:04,430 It is.

342

00:16:04,430 --> 00:16:08,280 It's bigger than Dupont and any of the other ones.

343

00:16:08,280 --> 00:16:11,660 And that is the industry on that side.

344

00:16:11,660 --> 00:16:14,335 I mean, it's right across the river.

345

00:16:14,335 --> 00:16:18,080 But when you were a young boy, let's take the year arbitrarily

346

00:16:18,080 --> 00:16:22,400 1920, you're 6 years old.

347

00:16:22,400 --> 00:16:25,430 You are growing up in Mannheim.

348

00:16:25,430 --> 00:16:27,030 I went to public school.

349 00:16:27,030 --> 00:16:28,280 And you went to public school.

350 00:16:28,280 --> 00:16:30,890 351 00:16:30,890 --> 00:16:33,050 Tell me, what did Mannheim look like?

352 00:16:33,050 --> 00:16:35,120 I mean, were there streetcars?

353 00:16:35,120 --> 00:16:37,490 Were there many automobiles?

354 00:16:37,490 --> 00:16:39,740 Well, yes.

355 00:16:39,740 --> 00:16:45,950 There were definitely streetcars all over going from--

356 00:16:45,950 --> 00:16:48,980 in the city and also going the outskirts.

357 00:16:48,980 --> 00:16:50,930 People had cars.

358 00:16:50,930 --> 00:16:51,430 Many?

359 00:16:51,430 --> 00:16:53,840 German cars, I think mostly.

360 00:16:53,840 --> 00:16:56,450 French cars.

361 00:16:56,450 --> 00:17:00,620 Different makes from Italy, also for Czechs.

362 00:17:00,620 --> 00:17:02,480 Not American cars, I don't think. 363 00:17:02,480 --> 00:17:06,410 I don't remember that any American cars off hand.

364 00:17:06,410 --> 00:17:09,020 Was still a different kind of a car.

365

00:17:09,020 --> 00:17:12,710 You had a start in the front had to turn the handle

366

00:17:12,710 --> 00:17:15,560 to get the motor started on the outside.

367

00:17:15,560 --> 00:17:17,240 You had clutches.

368

00:17:17,240 --> 00:17:20,180 You had shifts.

369

00:17:20,180 --> 00:17:23,839 You cannot imagine how difficult it would have been for somebody

370

00:17:23,839 --> 00:17:26,630 today to drive those kind of cars.

371

00:17:26,630 --> 00:17:27,319 Oh, yeah.

372

00:17:27,319 --> 00:17:28,010 Oh, yeah.

373

00:17:28,010 --> 00:17:29,990 But they existed.

374

00:17:29,990 --> 00:17:34,340 And were they a rarity or were they everyday occurrence 375 00:17:34,340 --> 00:17:35,810 to see a car down a street?

376 00:17:35,810 --> 00:17:38,240 It was very, very, very much so.

It was very, very, very much so.

377

00:17:38,240 --> 00:17:42,240 It was a very affluent area.

378

00:17:42,240 --> 00:17:43,370 OK.

379

00:17:43,370 --> 00:17:46,610 And in your own home, did you have electricity?

380

00:17:46,610 --> 00:17:47,780 Yes.

381

00:17:47,780 --> 00:17:50,840 Did you have indoor plumbing?

382

00:17:50,840 --> 00:17:51,630 Yes.

383

00:17:51,630 --> 00:17:52,130 OK.

384 00:17:52.130 --

00:17:52,130 --> 00:17:53,250 All this was there.

385

00:17:53,250 --> 00:17:53,750 Yes.

386

00:17:53,750 --> 00:17:55,520 And how was the home heated?

387 00:17:55,520 --> 00:17:57,370 Do you remember?

388 00:17:57,370 --> 00:18:00,260 That I don't know, if that was coal.

```
389
00:18:00,260 --> 00:18:01,703
You would have coal ovens?
```

390 00:18:01,703 --> 00:18:02,870 You know, those stapel oven?

391 00:18:02,870 --> 00:18:07,730 It was central heating, but I don't know from--

392 00:18:07,730 --> 00:18:08,880 What source.

393 00:18:08,880 --> 00:18:10,010 Yeah, boiler.

394 00:18:10,010 --> 00:18:11,560 I don't know how it was heated.

395 00:18:11,560 --> 00:18:13,850 I don't know.

```
396
00:18:13,850 --> 00:18:16,850
Did your family have a radio?
```

397 00:18:16,850 --> 00:18:18,120 Yes.

398 00:18:18,120 --> 00:18:19,100 Telephone?

399 00:18:19,100 --> 00:18:21,860 Yes.

400 00:18:21,860 --> 00:18:22,950 So this was quite modern. 401 00:18:22,950 --> 00:18:23,450 Yes.

402

00:18:23,450 --> 00:18:25,710 Actually, for the time, it was quite modern--

403

00:18:25,710 --> 00:18:26,210 Yes.

404

00:18:26,210 --> 00:18:27,168 --to have these things.

405

00:18:27,168 --> 00:18:28,680 Right.

406

00:18:28,680 --> 00:18:29,180 Yes.

407

00:18:29,180 --> 00:18:33,380 There was no television yet.

408

00:18:33,380 --> 00:18:34,220 No.

409

00:18:34,220 --> 00:18:34,920 No.

410

00:18:34,920 --> 00:18:38,150 And things think that, no.

411

00:18:38,150 --> 00:18:40,130 What was your father's occupation

412

00:18:40,130 --> 00:18:43,420 when he came back from the war?

413

00:18:43,420 --> 00:18:47,420 He, together with the family members, 414 00:18:47,420 --> 00:18:53,150 they started a company, which made kitchen cabinets.

415 00:18:53,150 --> 00:18:54,320 Oh, OK.

416 00:18:54,320 --> 00:18:55,220 Woodworking.

417 00:18:55,220 --> 00:18:55,910 Woodworking.

418 00:18:55,910 --> 00:18:56,990 Yeah.

419 00:18:56,990 --> 00:19:03,650 And that must have been quite a business.

420 00:19:03,650 --> 00:19:07,820 Well, like everything else, after the war, a lot of things

421 00:19:07,820 --> 00:19:09,030 were destroyed--

422 00:19:09,030 --> 00:19:10,220 Yeah.

423 00:19:10,220 --> 00:19:13,700 --and had to be renovated, had to be done over again

424 00:19:13,700 --> 00:19:18,290 or new homes were built. So it was a lucrative business.

425 00:19:18,290 --> 00:19:20,570 Did you ever visit him in his-- 426 00:19:20,570 --> 00:19:24,500 I mean, visited the company, the office

427 00:19:24,500 --> 00:19:27,260 because my father worked there in the office

428 00:19:27,260 --> 00:19:30,080 and so on and so forth.

429 00:19:30,080 --> 00:19:30,920 Yes.

430 00:19:30,920 --> 00:19:33,560 But I mean, I didn't do anything.

431 00:19:33,560 --> 00:19:34,520 I went to school.

432 00:19:34,520 --> 00:19:35,210 Yeah.

433 00:19:35,210 --> 00:19:37,170 But did you see the cabinets being made?

434 00:19:37,170 --> 00:19:37,670 Oh, sure.

435 00:19:37,670 --> 00:19:40,210

436 00:19:40,210 --> 00:19:43,730 A lot of woods, if I remember.

437 00:19:43,730 --> 00:19:45,020 That took a little time.

438 00:19:45,020 --> 00:19:47,360 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

It didn't come right away.

439

00:19:47,360 --> 00:19:49,350 That happens later.

440

00:19:49,350 --> 00:19:52,040 It was then later imported.

441

00:19:52,040 --> 00:19:53,700 Wood came from America.

442

00:19:53,700 --> 00:19:54,200 Oh, really?

443

00:19:54,200 --> 00:19:57,020 Pitch pine, yellow pine, things like

444

00:19:57,020 --> 00:20:00,800 that came from America to Europe,

445

00:20:00,800 --> 00:20:04,610 and that was very popular in kitchen manufacturing.

446

00:20:04,610 --> 00:20:06,860 And what about European woods?

447

00:20:06,860 --> 00:20:10,040 What woods would be natural or native to Germany

448

00:20:10,040 --> 00:20:11,520 that were also used?

449

00:20:11,520 --> 00:20:18,290 They don't have that many good trees in Germany.

450 00:20:18,290 --> 00:20:20,180 They had oak trees.

451 00:20:20,180 --> 00:20:23,180 Well, it's interesting that you bring up the wood.

452 00:20:23,180 --> 00:20:27,370 You know, my specialty in my later years

453 00:20:27,370 --> 00:20:34,057

and especially here in this country is I was--

454 00:20:34,057 --> 00:20:36,410 I don't want to call an expert--

455

00:20:36,410 --> 00:20:40,370 but I was looking all over the world

456

00:20:40,370 --> 00:20:45,290 for exotic and foreign trees.

457 00:20:45,290 --> 00:20:46,610 Oh, wow.

458 00:20:46,610 --> 00:20:52,430 And I selected those trees to be brought here to this country

459 00:20:52,430 --> 00:20:59,450 to be processed into lumber and wood, which

460 00:20:59,450 --> 00:21:03,815 is then finally used for architectural woodwork.

461 00:21:03,815 --> 00:21:05,240 Oh, wow.

462 00:21:05,240 --> 00:21:06,230 463

00:21:06,230 --> 00:21:08,870 So is this as a result of your father

464 00:21:08,870 --> 00:21:10,010 having had such a business?

465

00:21:10,010 --> 00:21:10,510 Right.

466 00:21:10,510 --> 00:21:15,170 My brother was in the same-- not actually in the same business--

467

00:21:15,170 --> 00:21:19,010 my brother came to this country also

468

00:21:19,010 --> 00:21:24,198 later, much later than I did, and he also

469

00:21:24,198 --> 00:21:25,240 was in the wood business.

470

00:21:25,240 --> 00:21:33,020 But he got together with big companies from the West Coast

471 00:21:33,020 --> 00:21:41,840 and only handled soft wood lumber like spruce and hemlock

472 00:21:41,840 --> 00:21:48,660 and pine and spruce, which is used for construction of homes,

473 00:21:48,660 --> 00:21:52,760 which was for outdoors use. 00:21:52,760 --> 00:21:54,980 The soft woods are used for outdoor use

475

00:21:54,980 --> 00:21:56,317 in the construction of homes?

476 00:21:56,317 --> 00:21:57,650 You mean the frames that we see?

477

00:21:57,650 --> 00:22:02,140 The frames, like a 2 by 4 or 3 by--

478

00:22:02,140 --> 00:22:07,790 anything in the construction field is only soft woods.

479

00:22:07,790 --> 00:22:10,390 That doesn't make you feel very confident about the strength

480

00:22:10,390 --> 00:22:12,920 of one's house if it's all soft wood.

481

00:22:12,920 --> 00:22:14,780 It is very strong.

482

00:22:14,780 --> 00:22:18,460 It's the thickness and the width of the board.

483

00:22:18,460 --> 00:22:22,270 I mean, that was the style, and it still

484

00:22:22,270 --> 00:22:27,730 was vogue until about a few years

485

00:22:27,730 --> 00:22:33,370 ago when things changed

here, this country to.

486 00:22:33,370 --> 00:22:35,620 Everything here was wooden frames.

487 00:22:35,620 --> 00:22:37,930 Every house was wooden frames.

488 00:22:37,930 --> 00:22:41,450 And the outside naturally you had different finishing.

489 00:22:41,450 --> 00:22:46,120 But the inside was everything done by 2 by 4s or 2 by 6s or 3

490 00:22:46,120 --> 00:22:47,290 by 10s.

491 00:22:47,290 --> 00:22:50,830 The whole house was of wooden frames.

492

00:22:50,830 --> 00:22:55,420 And then later on when the fire department

493

00:22:55,420 --> 00:22:59,350 insisted that you have to protect people more,

494 00:22:59,350 --> 00:23:02,210 then they changed it.

495

00:23:02,210 --> 00:23:06,670 It was that you had to use some fire retardant

496 00:23:06,670 --> 00:23:08,770 chemicals on the wood. 00:23:08,770 --> 00:23:15,130 And last but not least, also you used metal instead of wood.

498

00:23:15,130 --> 00:23:18,730 So nowadays in big, big buildings,

499

00:23:18,730 --> 00:23:23,110 they will not use wood anymore because they're afraid.

500

00:23:23,110 --> 00:23:26,860 They're using steel or metal.

501

00:23:26,860 --> 00:23:30,460 So that would be for large non-residential buildings

502

00:23:30,460 --> 00:23:31,395 mostly.

503 00:23:31,395 --> 00:23:35,170 It depends on the architects.

504

00:23:35,170 --> 00:23:36,790 Well, you know, the interesting thing

505

00:23:36,790 --> 00:23:40,450 is that when the people who are familiar with Germany

506

00:23:40,450 --> 00:23:43,150 and have visited there often comment

507

00:23:43,150 --> 00:23:45,610 on the beauty and the strength of the houses

508 00:23:45,610 --> 00:23:50,500 compared to the United States and their construction.

509

00:23:50,500 --> 00:23:53,260 There must be some difference in construction process.

510

00:23:53,260 --> 00:24:00,280 Well, the houses in Europe, they were mostly built out of stone.

511 00:24:00,280 --> 00:24:07,640 Stone houses or even, if you can afford it, I mean, it's brick.

512 00:24:07,640 --> 00:24:08,590 Right.

513

00:24:08,590 --> 00:24:14,870 Which is definitely much more solid but much more costly.

514

00:24:14,870 --> 00:24:15,760 Yeah.

515

00:24:15,760 --> 00:24:18,070 But it lasts longer.

516

00:24:18,070 --> 00:24:20,185 Your house, was it a stone house?

517 00:24:20,185 --> 00:24:21,310

Your apartment?

518 00:24:21,310 --> 00:24:23,410 We didn't have a--

519 00:24:23,410 --> 00:24:26,080 the original houses where we lived,

520 00:24:26,080 --> 00:24:30,430 I have no idea how it was built because those houses were--

521

00:24:30,430 --> 00:24:32,483 if you remember, if I should remember,

522

00:24:32,483 --> 00:24:33,900 I don't know when they were build.

523

00:24:33,900 --> 00:24:35,150 God knows when.

524

00:24:35,150 --> 00:24:35,650 Yeah.

525

00:24:35,650 --> 00:24:39,280 And they were certainly built with wood.

526

00:24:39,280 --> 00:24:42,190 There was no other way of doing it

527

00:24:42,190 --> 00:24:46,030 because that was the only way they could do it.

528

00:24:46,030 --> 00:24:54,730 And only later, when people had maybe chances

529

00:24:54,730 --> 00:25:02,500 to get either stone or brick, which would be much more

530

00:25:02,500 --> 00:25:06,970 costly, they built houses, and they could naturally

531 00:25:06,970 --> 00:25:12,190 afford it also, which were much better and last longer.

532

00:25:12,190 --> 00:25:16,270 Well, so many of the houses in the inner cities of, not only

533 00:25:16,270 --> 00:25:20,970 Austria and Germany, but France and Brussels and so on,

534 00:25:20,970 --> 00:25:22,900 were stone houses that were--

535 00:25:22,900 --> 00:25:25,030 I'm talking the central cities, where

536

00:25:25,030 --> 00:25:26,950 you'd have an apartment building, that

537 00:25:26,950 --> 00:25:30,070 could be many stories high, they were stone.

538

00:25:30,070 --> 00:25:31,480 They were brick and stone.

539

00:25:31,480 --> 00:25:33,940 They were with the 19th century, if you

540

00:25:33,940 --> 00:25:36,550 think of that kind of construction

541

00:25:36,550 --> 00:25:40,960 with high ceilings and big windows and verandas

542

00:25:40,960 --> 00:25:42,400 and you know.

543 00:25:42,400 --> 00:25:44,290 I'm not talking about outer city,

544 00:25:44,290 --> 00:25:45,880 you know, where residential areas.

545 00:25:45,880 --> 00:25:48,430

546 00:25:48,430 --> 00:25:50,310 And that lasted.

547 00:25:50,310 --> 00:25:51,250 It still is.

548 00:25:51,250 --> 00:25:51,760 It lasted.

549 00:25:51,760 --> 00:25:56,110 Sure, it lasted because it was easier

550 00:25:56,110 --> 00:25:59,680 for them to get the stones.

551 00:25:59,680 --> 00:26:04,450 Apparently there were areas where there were stones.

552 00:26:04,450 --> 00:26:09,070 You know, Italy is known for that, for marble and all this,

553 00:26:09,070 --> 00:26:12,430 to get the material.

554 00:26:12,430 --> 00:26:18,520 And I have no idea exactly where the stones or bricks 555 00:26:18,520 --> 00:26:21,400 or something were manufactured.

556 00:26:21,400 --> 00:26:22,750 But it was there.

557 00:26:22,750 --> 00:26:24,360 It came from somewhere.

558 00:26:24,360 --> 00:26:26,650 And in your apartment building, was--

559 00:26:26,650 --> 00:26:28,420 I don't know actually the apartment.

560 00:26:28,420 --> 00:26:30,330 They were there, and I just--

561 00:26:30,330 --> 00:26:32,470 I naturally looked underneath.

562 00:26:32,470 --> 00:26:33,117 I didn't know.

563 00:26:33,117 --> 00:26:33,700 Of course not.

564 00:26:33,700 --> 00:26:33,790 Of course not.

565 00:26:33,790 --> 00:26:35,200 Naturally, I don't know.

566 00:26:35,200 --> 00:26:35,860 Of course not.

567 00:26:35,860 --> 00:26:39,110 But it was definitely solid buildings. 568 00:26:39,110 --> 00:26:40,930 Solid building.

569 00:26:40,930 --> 00:26:44,640 Your father, having himself been a butcher's son,

570

00:26:44,640 --> 00:26:47,650 how did he come by this trade?

571

00:26:47,650 --> 00:26:53,550 How did he come by this particular business?

572

00:26:53,550 --> 00:26:55,040 You mean the kitchen manufacturing?

573 00:26:55,040 --> 00:26:55,630 Mm-hmm.

574 00:26:55,630 --> 00:27:00,230 Well, the family, there were two or three other who all--

575 00:27:00,230 --> 00:27:01,690 the money--

576 00:27:01,690 --> 00:27:06,340 I don't know exactly how they came to found the company.

577 00:27:06,340 --> 00:27:11,680 They had an idea that this will be a good item to start

578 00:27:11,680 --> 00:27:13,810 and would be needed.

579 00:27:13,810 --> 00:27:19,300 And the company was founded. 580

00:27:19,300 --> 00:27:20,580 Yeah.

581 00:27:20,580 --> 00:27:21,910 It was a family business.

582

00:27:21,910 --> 00:27:23,530 It was a family business.

583

00:27:23,530 --> 00:27:26,030 What was the name of it?

584

00:27:26,030 --> 00:27:28,700 At the moment, I wouldn't know what the name of that anymore.

585

00:27:28,700 --> 00:27:29,200 OK.

586 00:27:29,200 --> 00:27:31,840 So it wouldn't have been like [GERMAN] Bloch or something

587

00:27:31,840 --> 00:27:32,790 like that.

588

00:27:32,790 --> 00:27:35,065 It could have been, but I don't remember.

589 00:27:35,065 --> 00:27:37,580

590

00:27:37,580 --> 00:27:40,960 And did they have many workers manufacturing the cabinets,

591 00:27:40,960 --> 00:27:42,940 making the cabinets?

00:27:42,940 --> 00:27:44,750 Naturally, they had people to work there.

593

00:27:44,750 --> 00:27:46,660 I don't know how many.

594

00:27:46,660 --> 00:27:50,320 But they had people who were qualified.

595

00:27:50,320 --> 00:27:54,490 And we had actually cabinet makers.

596

00:27:54,490 --> 00:27:57,130 Those people were-how I should say--

597

00:27:57,130 --> 00:27:58,760 certified.

598

00:27:58,760 --> 00:28:02,170 They had an apprenticeship before they could call

599

00:28:02,170 --> 00:28:04,390 themselves a cabinet maker.

600

00:28:04,390 --> 00:28:09,340 Here, you can go to a company and it says--

601

00:28:09,340 --> 00:28:12,370 and the man goes and says if you--

602

00:28:12,370 --> 00:28:14,280 I would like a job.

603

00:28:14,280 --> 00:28:15,920 So the man says, what can you do? 604 00:28:15,920 --> 00:28:17,830 Well, I'm a cabinet maker.

605 00:28:17,830 --> 00:28:21,310 You have no proof that he ever was taught

606 00:28:21,310 --> 00:28:23,520 or that he knows anything.

607 00:28:23,520 --> 00:28:26,720 He doesn't even know how to put things together perhaps.

608 00:28:26,720 --> 00:28:27,220 Yeah.

609 00:28:27,220 --> 00:28:28,046 There is a difference.

610 00:28:28,046 --> 00:28:28,963 There is a difference.

611 00:28:28,963 --> 00:28:31,500 That's a big-- I mean, apprenticeship.

612 00:28:31,500 --> 00:28:32,000 Yeah.

613 00:28:32,000 --> 00:28:35,050 In the sense of artisan craftsmanship,

614 00:28:35,050 --> 00:28:38,740 that was their guilds in Germany and so

615 00:28:38,740 --> 00:28:43,750 that are part of the quality control as well. 616 00:28:43,750 --> 00:28:47,620 Did you have the kitchen cabinets in your own apartment,

617 00:28:47,620 --> 00:28:49,460 were they from the company?

618 00:28:49,460 --> 00:28:49,960 No.

619 00:28:49,960 --> 00:28:53,290 That apartment was already in existence.

620 00:28:53,290 --> 00:28:54,080 We didn't get it.

621 00:28:54,080 --> 00:28:54,580 No.

622 00:28:54,580 --> 00:28:55,080 No.

623 00:28:55,080 --> 00:28:56,110 OK.

624 00:28:56,110 --> 00:28:58,180 But did you find your father's business

625 00:28:58,180 --> 00:29:01,180 interesting or not so much?

626 00:29:01,180 --> 00:29:07,390 Well, I mean, not for me personally interesting.

627 00:29:07,390 --> 00:29:10,030 00:29:10,030 --> 00:29:12,370 Well, I mean, I went to school.

629 00:29:12,370 --> 00:29:13,810 I mean, I had to go to school.

630 00:29:13,810 --> 00:29:15,872 I had no time to worry about getting

631 00:29:15,872 --> 00:29:17,080 a job or something like this.

632 00:29:17,080 --> 00:29:17,800 Oh, no, no, no.

633 00:29:17,800 --> 00:29:19,660 That's not what I meant.

634 00:29:19,660 --> 00:29:22,560 I meant more like some boys would

635 00:29:22,560 --> 00:29:26,500 see something made of a metal, and they're just fascinated.

636 00:29:26,500 --> 00:29:29,260 They take their family radio apart.

637 00:29:29,260 --> 00:29:32,425 Things like-- I wondered whether that was of interest to you,

638 00:29:32,425 --> 00:29:34,180 what you saw there.

639 00:29:34,180 --> 00:29:35,500 In a way, yes.

640 00:29:35,500 --> 00:29:38,170 In a way, yes, because it's nice to see

641

00:29:38,170 --> 00:29:40,970 that you can manufacture something,

642

00:29:40,970 --> 00:29:43,420 and you have a product at the end.

643

00:29:43,420 --> 00:29:45,610 It was of interest to me, yes.

644

00:29:45,610 --> 00:29:49,150 But it was not for me that I would

645

00:29:49,150 --> 00:29:52,690 say I want to get into it.

646

00:29:52,690 --> 00:29:58,070 I wanted to finish the school first and see what happens.

647

00:29:58,070 --> 00:30:00,460 But well, that is another story.

648

00:30:00,460 --> 00:30:02,140 Yeah.

649

00:30:02,140 --> 00:30:05,575 And Fritz, your older brother, what was--

650

00:30:05,575 --> 00:30:09,880 He was in the company.

651 00:30:09,880 --> 00:30:10,810 He worked there too.

652 00:30:10,810 --> 00:30:17,140 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

He worked at company, but he also

653 00:30:17,140 --> 00:30:22,370 was anxious to get ahead of him.

654 00:30:22,370 --> 00:30:26,350 He didn't see any future in this company.

655 00:30:26,350 --> 00:30:29,170 He made connections with another company.

656 00:30:29,170 --> 00:30:34,580 And he left, and he became quite important

657 00:30:34,580 --> 00:30:36,100 for the other company.

658 00:30:36,100 --> 00:30:39,520 But it more or less in the same type of business.

659 00:30:39,520 --> 00:30:40,440 Same type of business.

660 00:30:40,440 --> 00:30:40,990 OK.

661 00:30:40,990 --> 00:30:43,810 They not only made kitchen cabinets,

662 00:30:43,810 --> 00:30:45,820 they made also other furniture.

663 00:30:45,820 --> 00:30:47,050 OK.

664 00:30:47,050 --> 00:30:49,720 And we'll keep on going.

665

00:30:49,720 --> 00:30:53,040 Did your father have higher education?

666

00:30:53,040 --> 00:30:53,540 No.

667

00:30:53,540 --> 00:30:54,540 OK if I close this door?

668

00:30:54,540 --> 00:30:56,860 OK.

669

00:30:56,860 --> 00:30:59,500 And your mother, had she had any?

670

00:30:59,500 --> 00:31:00,050 No.

671 00:31:00,050 --> 00:31:00,592 Any kind of--

672 00:31:00,592 --> 00:31:02,150 They were home keepers.

673 00:31:02,150 --> 00:31:02,650 She was a--

674 00:31:02,650 --> 00:31:03,310 Homemaker.

675 00:31:03,310 --> 00:31:05,720 Homemaker.

676 00:31:05,720 --> 00:31:08,200 Women didn't go to work.

677 00:31:08,200 --> 00:31:10,390 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

Or they worked at home.

678 00:31:10,390 --> 00:31:14,690 They had no education for business.

679 00:31:14,690 --> 00:31:23,260 They were taught have babies and keep a home and cook.

680 00:31:23,260 --> 00:31:25,070 Did she have any help in any of this?

681 00:31:25,070 --> 00:31:25,570 Yes.

682 00:31:25,570 --> 00:31:26,240 Yes?

683 00:31:26,240 --> 00:31:27,820 Yes.

684 00:31:27,820 --> 00:31:31,060 We always had some help.

685 00:31:31,060 --> 00:31:34,600 Did your father on an automobile?

686 00:31:34,600 --> 00:31:36,130 No.

687 00:31:36,130 --> 00:31:38,690 In the city, we didn't have a garage,

688 00:31:38,690 --> 00:31:40,180 and we didn't have an automobile.

689 00:31:40,180 --> 00:31:40,690 690 00:31:40,690 --> 00:31:41,190 OK.

691 00:31:41,190 --> 00:31:43,660

692 00:31:43,660 --> 00:31:45,100 Was your family religious?

693 00:31:45,100 --> 00:31:50,230

694 00:31:50,230 --> 00:31:52,360 Not that I can say.

695 00:31:52,360 --> 00:32:00,460 They were going to the synagogue on holidays

696 00:32:00,460 --> 00:32:02,710 but not regularly on the weekends.

697 00:32:02,710 --> 00:32:06,110

698 00:32:06,110 --> 00:32:11,650 We believe-- we were Jewish, and we had a congregation.

699 00:32:11,650 --> 00:32:15,370 And we kept the holidays naturally.

700 00:32:15,370 --> 00:32:16,960 But we were not religious.

701 00:32:16,960 --> 00:32:22,105 And then naturally the trend started in Germany-- 702 00:32:22,105 --> 00:32:25,950

703 00:32:25,950 --> 00:32:28,970 what do you call it now?

704

00:32:28,970 --> 00:32:30,140 Let's cut for a second.

705

00:32:30,140 --> 00:32:31,500 What is that looking for?

706 00:32:31,500 --> 00:32:33,190 Oh, so they were reformed Jews.

707 00:32:33,190 --> 00:32:33,710 Right.

708 00:32:33,710 --> 00:32:34,210 OK.

709 00:32:34,210 --> 00:32:37,692

710 00:32:37,692 --> 00:32:40,150 Oh, I just had a thought, and it went in here and out here.

711 00:32:40,150 --> 00:32:45,920

712 00:32:45,920 --> 00:32:48,950 Did your-- ah, this was it.

713 00:32:48,950 --> 00:32:51,590 Did Mannheim have a large Jewish community?

714 00:32:51,590 --> 00:32:52,700 Yes. 715 00:32:52,700 --> 00:33:01,040 There were quite a few synagogues,

716 00:33:01,040 --> 00:33:05,600 religious ones were orthodox.

717 00:33:05,600 --> 00:33:07,660 And I don't know how many.

718 00:33:07,660 --> 00:33:10,010 That I cannot tell you anymore.

719 00:33:10,010 --> 00:33:12,910 Big buildings, matter of fact.

720 00:33:12,910 --> 00:33:18,730 Also out of stone, which you mentioned earlier.

721 00:33:18,730 --> 00:33:20,190 At the congregational church--

722 00:33:20,190 --> 00:33:24,200 I don't know how many people lived in Mannheim--

723 00:33:24,200 --> 00:33:27,830 they had a very considerable amount

724 00:33:27,830 --> 00:33:30,050 of Jewish people living in Mannheim, yes.

725 00:33:30,050 --> 00:33:34,340 And would you say that most of them, like your own family,

726 00:33:34,340 --> 00:33:37,670 had been in Germany for generations and generations?

727

00:33:37,670 --> 00:33:38,630 Yes.

728 00:33:38,630 --> 00:33:40,740 Were there any newcomers from the East,

729

00:33:40,740 --> 00:33:45,350 for example, from Poland, from other countries

730

00:33:45,350 --> 00:33:47,750 further east like Russia?

731

00:33:47,750 --> 00:33:56,210 They used-- well, it used to be that during the year,

732

00:33:56,210 --> 00:34:03,680 some people from the eastern part of Europe came to Germany,

733

00:34:03,680 --> 00:34:08,370 not necessarily to settle down, but to get help--

734

00:34:08,370 --> 00:34:10,520 money.

735

00:34:10,520 --> 00:34:18,830 And it was a general German attitude, we did help them,

736

00:34:18,830 --> 00:34:21,350 but we didn't like them.

737 00:34:21,350 --> 00:34:23,900 That was a German attitude.

738 00:34:23,900 --> 00:34:26,659 A German-Jewish or German in general?

739 00:34:26,659 --> 00:34:27,989 German-Jewish.

740 00:34:27,989 --> 00:34:28,730 Yeah.

741 00:34:28,730 --> 00:34:30,590 Well, I've heard that there has been

742 00:34:30,590 --> 00:34:34,550 a certain tension between East European Jews and German Jews.

743 00:34:34,550 --> 00:34:35,449 Exactly.

744 00:34:35,449 --> 00:34:35,989 OK.

745 00:34:35,989 --> 00:34:42,350 I mean, the background of German Jews and the background

746 00:34:42,350 --> 00:34:46,429 and the upbringing of Eastern educated

747 00:34:46,429 --> 00:34:50,699 or born Jews was like--

748 00:34:50,699 --> 00:34:52,280 I don't want to say day and night,

749 00:34:52,280 --> 00:34:53,940 but it was a big difference.

750 00:34:53,940 --> 00:34:55,100 Yeah.

751 00:34:55,100 --> 00:35:01,100 We were-- you see, I also when somebody would ask me

752 00:35:01,100 --> 00:35:07,310 what are you in Germany, I mean, they would say, what are you?

753 00:35:07,310 --> 00:35:09,810 I said, I'm a German.

754 00:35:09,810 --> 00:35:13,760 Now, most people would say I'm Jewish.

755 00:35:13,760 --> 00:35:15,890 Jewish is not a nationality.

756 00:35:15,890 --> 00:35:18,200 Jewish is a religion.

757 00:35:18,200 --> 00:35:21,080 Judaism is a religion.

758 00:35:21,080 --> 00:35:23,690 I'm not interested to know your religion.

759 00:35:23,690 --> 00:35:26,540 You want to know what part of the country

760 00:35:26,540 --> 00:35:30,170 or what part of the land you belong to.

761 00:35:30,170 --> 00:35:35,897 I was 100% German.

762 00:35:35,897 --> 00:35:37,230 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection And your father and your mother?

763

00:35:37,230 --> 00:35:39,890 Same.

764 00:35:39,890 --> 00:35:45,800 We had-- I mean, we did not find any problems to live

765

00:35:45,800 --> 00:35:48,572 amongst the Gentile people.

766

00:35:48,572 --> 00:35:50,780 You were just as German, and they were just as German

767

00:35:50,780 --> 00:35:52,520 as you-- you all were the same.

768

00:35:52,520 --> 00:35:56,200 I mean, there were incidents maybe when you--

769

00:35:56,200 --> 00:36:00,150 offhand, I cannot give it to you where and when--

770

00:36:00,150 --> 00:36:04,880 where there are some antisemitic incidents, sure.

771

00:36:04,880 --> 00:36:13,550 But as a rule, we were accustomed to being equal.

772

00:36:13,550 --> 00:36:19,250 We didn't expect to be any different from anybody else.

773

00:36:19,250 --> 00:36:22,280 Matter of fact, our attitude was not 774 00:36:22,280 --> 00:36:26,210 that we would take a step back because somebody

775 00:36:26,210 --> 00:36:30,320 was at a Gentile person and you were Jewish and says,

776

00:36:30,320 --> 00:36:32,840 well, I better don't do it because I'm Jewish.

777 00:36:32,840 --> 00:36:33,350 No.

778 00:36:33,350 --> 00:36:37,760 If I feel that I had the proper background,

779 00:36:37,760 --> 00:36:43,900 I went ahead with all the other non-Jewish people just the same

780 00:36:43,900 --> 00:36:46,610 because I feel I'm just as good or maybe even better.

781 00:36:46,610 --> 00:36:49,340

782 00:36:49,340 --> 00:36:52,520 That's the attitude.

783 00:36:52,520 --> 00:36:55,430 It doesn't have the complex that often

784 00:36:55,430 --> 00:36:58,560 would accompany someone who felt they had to be more careful.

785 00:36:58,560 --> 00:37:01,550

```
786
00:37:01,550 --> 00:37:08,900
We lived a very comfortable
social life before Hitler.
```

787 00:37:08,900 --> 00:37:13,010 Were your parents-- were their friends Jewish and non-Jewish?

788

00:37:13,010 --> 00:37:13,920 Yes.

789 00:37:13,920 --> 00:37:14,420 OK.

790

00:37:14,420 --> 00:37:15,680 And yours?

791

00:37:15,680 --> 00:37:16,700 Same.

792 00:37:16,700 --> 00:37:17,200 OK.

793 00:37:17,200 --> 00:37:22,100

794 00:37:22,100 --> 00:37:23,870 Let's talk about school now because you

795 00:37:23,870 --> 00:37:27,630 started talking about school.

796 00:37:27,630 --> 00:37:29,660 What were your first years of school?

797 00:37:29,660 --> 00:37:32,520 Describe a school room to me from the 1920s. 798

00:37:32,520 --> 00:37:36,110 Well, you see, this--

799 00:37:36,110 --> 00:37:37,700 can you imagine how many years?

800 00:37:37,700 --> 00:37:39,260 That's right.

801 00:37:39,260 --> 00:37:41,580 You went to public school.

802 00:37:41,580 --> 00:37:45,140 The learning-- the teaching in those days

803 00:37:45,140 --> 00:37:48,080 was entirely different.

804 00:37:48,080 --> 00:37:52,330 You learned how-- you had to learn how to write.

805 00:37:52,330 --> 00:37:57,981 Matter of fact, there's a German style, that is here.

806 00:37:57,981 --> 00:37:59,630 What is it called?

807 00:37:59,630 --> 00:38:01,450 German term for it--

808 00:38:01,450 --> 00:38:02,600 Deutsche schrift.

809 00:38:02,600 --> 00:38:03,400 Deutsche schrift.

810 00:38:03,400 --> 00:38:03,740

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811 00:38:03,740 --> 00:38:04,240 OK.

812 00:38:04,240 --> 00:38:08,000 I mean, it's different from what we are using now,

813 00:38:08,000 --> 00:38:09,760 which is not the Roman.

814 00:38:09,760 --> 00:38:14,240 This is the ABC, the alphabet and all this.

815 00:38:14,240 --> 00:38:16,310 Latin.

816 00:38:16,310 --> 00:38:17,720 What is it called?

817 00:38:17,720 --> 00:38:22,132 Well, that's what is now all over the world used similar.

818 00:38:22,132 --> 00:38:23,090 Oh, the Latin alphabet.

819 00:38:23,090 --> 00:38:26,480 Yeah, but we had to learn a different--

820 00:38:26,480 --> 00:38:29,870 learn how to write German schrift, you know?

821 00:38:29,870 --> 00:38:33,200 Well, sometimes one sees old printed matter from Germany,

822 00:38:33,200 --> 00:38:36,230 and it's hard to read because it's in this schrift.

823

00:38:36,230 --> 00:38:40,010 If you didn't know the German schrift, you didn't know just--

824

00:38:40,010 --> 00:38:43,250 I mean, we knew it.

825

00:38:43,250 --> 00:38:45,490 Yeah.

826

00:38:45,490 --> 00:38:51,940 Also, I mean, everything was more geared

827

00:38:51,940 --> 00:38:54,980 that you have to do it on your own.

828

00:38:54,980 --> 00:39:00,500 Everything was-- it was not-it was very competitive.

829

00:39:00,500 --> 00:39:01,020 Was it?

830

00:39:01,020 --> 00:39:01,730 Yes.

831

00:39:01,730 --> 00:39:02,660 Was it?

832

00:39:02,660 --> 00:39:06,667 And teachers, the teaching method, was it mostly--

833 00:39:06,667 --> 00:39:07,250 well, tell me.

834 00:39:07,250 --> 00:39:09,740 What was the teaching method for--

835

00:39:09,740 --> 00:39:11,750 I don't know what do you mean by method.

836

00:39:11,750 --> 00:39:13,820 You had respect from the teacher.

837

00:39:13,820 --> 00:39:19,460 Did the students, they were not--

838 00:39:19,460 --> 00:39:22,550

839 00:39:22,550 --> 00:39:24,760 how should I say--

840 00:39:24,760 --> 00:39:29,840 revolting or being problems for the teacher.

841

00:39:29,840 --> 00:39:34,880 I mean, God knows, the teacher would take a stick or something

842 00:39:34,880 --> 00:39:37,200 and hit you over the head.

843 00:39:37,200 --> 00:39:39,440 I mean, that was in the beginning.

844 00:39:39,440 --> 00:39:42,410 That also changed gradually in all this.

845 00:39:42,410 --> 00:39:45,800 But it was very strict.

846 00:39:45,800 --> 00:39:49,880 So you had some fear of the teacher or just respect

847 00:39:49,880 --> 00:39:52,220 that this is someone you don't mess with?

848 00:39:52,220 --> 00:39:53,840 This is someone you don't cross.

849 00:39:53,840 --> 00:39:55,740 I mean, you're brought up, and you

850 00:39:55,740 --> 00:40:01,520 know that it's your teacher, and you respect him.

851 00:40:01,520 --> 00:40:03,920 I mean, it was just natural.

852 00:40:03,920 --> 00:40:07,910

853 00:40:07,910 --> 00:40:09,590 Were their favorite subjects that you

854 00:40:09,590 --> 00:40:13,760 had, things that you liked learning more than others?

855 00:40:13,760 --> 00:40:17,870 Well, at the beginning, I mean, I for instance, had to learn

856 00:40:17,870 --> 00:40:21,140 the beginning Latin and Greek.

857 00:40:21,140 --> 00:40:21,800 Oh, wow. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

858 00:40:21,800 --> 00:40:25,760 Because it was customary that you should learn Latin first

859 00:40:25,760 --> 00:40:31,340 because that was the basic of all, later in law or medicine

860 00:40:31,340 --> 00:40:35,030 or anywhere, where the Latin basic comes in.

861 00:40:35,030 --> 00:40:42,620 And then even later on, they added Greek to our curriculum.

862 00:40:42,620 --> 00:40:45,180 But then I found out--

863 00:40:45,180 --> 00:40:46,700 times also changed.

864 00:40:46,700 --> 00:40:50,720 Naturally that was now in the '20s and so forth.

865 00:40:50,720 --> 00:40:54,560 I wasn't quite so sure that I would want to be a doctor

866 00:40:54,560 --> 00:40:56,480 or whatever would require--

867 00:40:56,480 --> 00:40:58,670 lawyer or something like this.

868 00:40:58,670 --> 00:41:03,020 Even so, a lot of young Jewish people,

869 00:41:03,020 --> 00:41:06,680

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also especially wanted to become doctors and lawyers and things

870 00:41:06,680 --> 00:41:08,890 like that.

871 00:41:08,890 --> 00:41:14,470 And I was more geared to one language.

872 00:41:14,470 --> 00:41:18,020 I wanted to learn English and French.

873 00:41:18,020 --> 00:41:22,260 And then I had to switch to a different department.

874 00:41:22,260 --> 00:41:25,490 And I had to catch up in order not

875 00:41:25,490 --> 00:41:30,920 to lose another year because I didn't have in the beginning.

876 00:41:30,920 --> 00:41:34,610 I had to learn French and English separately

```
877
00:41:34,610 --> 00:41:36,860
in order to catch
up with the ones who
```

```
878
00:41:36,860 --> 00:41:40,100
did learn already that before.
```

879 00:41:40,100 --> 00:41:40,600 OK.

880 00:41:40,600 --> 00:41:45,440 So you had-- can I understand from this that you had an extra 881 00:41:45,440 --> 00:41:47,650 load of classes because you had this interest in--

882 00:41:47,650 --> 00:41:49,150 Through the summertime or something

883 00:41:49,150 --> 00:41:55,340 because a teacher who helped me to get

884 00:41:55,340 --> 00:42:02,990 this part through the six months or a year.

885 00:42:02,990 --> 00:42:07,190 But I lost years before to catch up with the others.

886 00:42:07,190 --> 00:42:09,290 Why did you lose the six months?

887 00:42:09,290 --> 00:42:11,780 Because I learned Greek and Latin,

888 00:42:11,780 --> 00:42:13,790 and they learned French and English.

889 00:42:13,790 --> 00:42:15,020 Ah, I see what you mean.

890 00:42:15,020 --> 00:42:17,450 I see what you mean.

891 00:42:17,450 --> 00:42:20,900 Well, it's a good basis to have Greek and Latin,

892

00:42:20,900 --> 00:42:23,840 but it's not with children today.

893

00:42:23,840 --> 00:42:25,290 It's not.

894 00:42:25,290 --> 00:42:29,690 Well, it's very well learned, and it's good for everything.

895

00:42:29,690 --> 00:42:31,880 I mean, you can't go wrong with it.

896

00:42:31,880 --> 00:42:34,940 But it depends what your future is

897

00:42:34,940 --> 00:42:37,100 or what you want to do with your future.

898

00:42:37,100 --> 00:42:41,000 Was it an assumption in your home that you and your brother

899 00:42:41,000 --> 00:42:43,790 would have higher education?

900 00:42:43,790 --> 00:42:49,560 It was the assumption that the children should graduate

901

00:42:49,560 --> 00:42:52,020 and finish high school.

902

00:42:52,020 --> 00:42:52,780 Abitur.

903 00:42:52,780 --> 00:42:53,660 Abitur.

904 00:42:53,660 --> 00:42:55,280 OK.

905

00:42:55,280 --> 00:42:59,070 And then-- well, that--

906

00:42:59,070 --> 00:43:01,650 So your father's business took a hit.

907

00:43:01,650 --> 00:43:02,890 Sure.

908

00:43:02,890 --> 00:43:05,280 OK.

909

00:43:05,280 --> 00:43:08,490 Did it continue anyway?

910

00:43:08,490 --> 00:43:09,450 Yes, it did.

911

00:43:09,450 --> 00:43:12,490 But it was not the same anymore.

912

00:43:12,490 --> 00:43:17,190 It became more difficult as time goes on,

913 00:43:17,190 --> 00:43:19,320 also because it was Jewish.

914 00:43:19,320 --> 00:43:20,100 Yes.

915 00:43:20,100 --> 00:43:23,100 And people didn't want to buy from Jews.

916 00:43:23,100 --> 00:43:26,430 And it became more difficult.

917 00:43:26,430 --> 00:43:26,970 OK.

918 00:43:26,970 --> 00:43:33,950 But I would say they lived on this--

919

00:43:33,950 --> 00:43:36,880 the company lived on for a little while longer.

920

00:43:36,880 --> 00:43:39,300 I don't know anymore because then I--

921

00:43:39,300 --> 00:43:41,880 later on I left, and I don't know anymore

922

00:43:41,880 --> 00:43:45,750 just how they negotiated or how they liquidated

923

00:43:45,750 --> 00:43:48,060 or how the deal was settled.

924

00:43:48,060 --> 00:43:49,780 I don't remember the details about.

925

00:43:49,780 --> 00:43:50,280 OK.

926

00:43:50,280 --> 00:43:52,860 We'll talk about that part later.

927

00:43:52,860 --> 00:43:58,530 Let's still stay in the 1920s and beginning of the '30s. 00:43:58,530 --> 00:44:03,600 Did your parents have any kind of political interests?

929

00:44:03,600 --> 00:44:08,250 Well, there were-unfortunately,

930

00:44:08,250 --> 00:44:18,670 all were democratic showing the leaders

931

00:44:18,670 --> 00:44:25,430 to get the country solidified on that basis,

932

00:44:25,430 --> 00:44:28,800 on the democratic base.

933

00:44:28,800 --> 00:44:30,330 But it didn't work.

934

00:44:30,330 --> 00:44:33,390 It just, there were too many other parties.

935

00:44:33,390 --> 00:44:34,710 There were so many parties.

936

00:44:34,710 --> 00:44:37,980 I don't remember how many, maybe 25, 30,

937

00:44:37,980 --> 00:44:41,340 or even more parties and not strong enough

938

00:44:41,340 --> 00:44:49,030 to work out a Congress or to be able to--

939

00:44:49,030 --> 00:44:54,360 and then also Germany had to

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pay reparation to the Allies.

940

00:44:54,360 --> 00:45:02,700 I mean, it reigned Germany to the last penny

941

00:45:02,700 --> 00:45:06,120 to pay them whatever.

942

00:45:06,120 --> 00:45:07,560 I don't know how much.

943

00:45:07,560 --> 00:45:09,270 Did you feel that personally?

944

00:45:09,270 --> 00:45:11,820 That is, as a family, did you feel the unjust--

945

00:45:11,820 --> 00:45:14,680 I mean, personally, I didn't feel it, but I mean,

946

00:45:14,680 --> 00:45:20,130 you are in the environment, you hear what is said.

947

00:45:20,130 --> 00:45:23,370 And people naturally talk about it.

948

00:45:23,370 --> 00:45:26,310 As a German, did you feel it--

949

00:45:26,310 --> 00:45:28,170 I don't mean like you had an effect of it,

950

00:45:28,170 --> 00:45:31,770 but did you as a German citizen think 00:45:31,770 --> 00:45:35,550 this is unfair that we should have to pay these reparations?

952

00:45:35,550 --> 00:45:40,440 Well, you feel that it is not right.

953

00:45:40,440 --> 00:45:44,030 I mean, you lose, but you--

954

00:45:44,030 --> 00:45:48,930 as a loser, you then would like to lose more.

955

00:45:48,930 --> 00:45:50,400 That's right.

956

00:45:50,400 --> 00:45:53,070 So this is a natural thing.

957 00:45:53,070 --> 00:45:54,900 But what choice have you got?

958 00:45:54,900 --> 00:45:58,153 If you're a loser, you have no choice.

959 00:45:58,153 --> 00:45:59,070 That's right, you pay.

960 00:45:59,070 --> 00:46:01,060 They got the upper hand.

961 00:46:01,060 --> 00:46:01,560 Yeah.

962 00:46:01,560 --> 00:46:02,400 That's true.

963 00:46:02,400 --> 00:46:07,980 They got the upper hand, and Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

Germany was in very bad shape.

964

00:46:07,980 --> 00:46:09,630 That's what happened.

965

00:46:09,630 --> 00:46:12,720 What were you studying at university when you went in?

966

00:46:12,720 --> 00:46:14,950 Actually, I was not really.

967

00:46:14,950 --> 00:46:17,160 Really, actually what I was--

968

00:46:17,160 --> 00:46:23,250 that I wanted in architecture, I thought, because it

969

00:46:23,250 --> 00:46:25,410 was something in the line of--

970 00:46:25,410 --> 00:46:28,710 what do you call it?

971 00:46:28,710 --> 00:46:32,250 Manufacturing furniture and things like that.

972 00:46:32,250 --> 00:46:34,170 I thought that would be nice.

973 00:46:34,170 --> 00:46:37,770 But then, I wasn't quite sure if I would

974 00:46:37,770 --> 00:46:39,900 be able to get through with it.

975 00:46:39,900 --> 00:46:45,540 And then it became so difficult to stay in the university,

976 00:46:45,540 --> 00:46:46,950 I had to leave.

977 00:46:46,950 --> 00:46:50,430 And what was the difficulty?

978 00:46:50,430 --> 00:46:51,810 How did it express itself?

979 00:46:51,810 --> 00:46:56,310 They made it so difficult for Jewish people to stay up.

980 00:46:56,310 --> 00:46:58,650 Was it through the kinds of courses

981 00:46:58,650 --> 00:46:59,815 you were required to take?

982 00:46:59,815 --> 00:47:00,020 No.

983 00:47:00,020 --> 00:47:00,700 Was it the grades?

984 00:47:00,700 --> 00:47:01,200 Political.

985 00:47:01,200 --> 00:47:02,390 Political.

986 00:47:02,390 --> 00:47:04,480 OK.

987 00:47:04,480 --> 00:47:11,730 Hitler or socialism, all this was already taking definitely

988 00:47:11,730 --> 00:47:13,200

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an upper hand.

989

00:47:13,200 --> 00:47:16,680 So was Hitler already elected in '33

990

00:47:16,680 --> 00:47:20,166 when you left Heidelberg University?

991

00:47:20,166 --> 00:47:21,910 Oh, sure.

992

00:47:21,910 --> 00:47:22,770 OK.

993

00:47:22,770 --> 00:47:25,020 OK.

994

00:47:25,020 --> 00:47:29,430 I don't know now what year it was,

995

00:47:29,430 --> 00:47:33,300 but Hitler became chancellor in '33.

996

00:47:33,300 --> 00:47:34,590 That's right.

997

00:47:34,590 --> 00:47:41,620 Before that, the Nazis were all over the country.

998

00:47:41,620 --> 00:47:48,560 I mean, not perhaps as active as where once he was chancellor,

999

00:47:48,560 --> 00:47:53,710 but they made it difficult for Jewish people to--

1000

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00:47:53,710 --> 00:47:57,420 I mean, it was not easy anymore.

1001 00:47:57,420 --> 00:48:01,970 Then you knew that you were a minority, so to speak.

1002 00:48:01,970 --> 00:48:05,600 You had not your same rights like the others did.

1003 00:48:05,600 --> 00:48:10,070 Can you think of examples of what difficulty meant

1004 00:48:10,070 --> 00:48:10,745 in your life?

1005 00:48:10,745 --> 00:48:13,660

1006 00:48:13,660 --> 00:48:17,710 You could not go to certain areas.

1007 00:48:17,710 --> 00:48:19,630 They would not allow you in.

1008 00:48:19,630 --> 00:48:22,300 I mean, that was one of them.

1009 00:48:22,300 --> 00:48:27,070 There are certain functions where

1010 00:48:27,070 --> 00:48:29,815 they said Jews not allowed.

1011 00:48:29,815 --> 00:48:32,740

1012 00:48:32,740 --> 00:48:39,970 You couldn't go to certain affairs, where they also

1013 00:48:39,970 --> 00:48:44,140 said Jews not allowed.

1014 00:48:44,140 --> 00:48:47,940 So I mean, they made it very clear,

1015 00:48:47,940 --> 00:48:50,690 in order to protect themselves, not

1016 00:48:50,690 --> 00:48:54,150 that they thought it was right.

1017 00:48:54,150 --> 00:48:57,930 But they wanted to be in agreement with the ruling

1018 00:48:57,930 --> 00:49:04,140 people in order not to lose out on their end to oppose them.

1019

00:49:04,140 --> 00:49:09,090 Then they would lose even more if they would not

1020 00:49:09,090 --> 00:49:11,260 go along with the same thought.

1021 00:49:11,260 --> 00:49:11,760 OK.

1022 00:49:11,760 --> 00:49:16,680 So if I understand this properly-- let me see if I do--

1023 00:49:16,680 --> 00:49:22,290 it may not be that everybody was as ideologically 1024 00:49:22,290 --> 00:49:27,690 convinced as the Nazis were, but because they were fearful

1025 00:49:27,690 --> 00:49:31,320 of the power of the Nazis, if and when

1026

00:49:31,320 --> 00:49:33,720 they would get into power, they would

1027

00:49:33,720 --> 00:49:41,400 acquiesce to their demands and even before they were told to.

1028

00:49:41,400 --> 00:49:44,550 And that could have been the university authorities

1029

00:49:44,550 --> 00:49:48,150 or there could have been some municipal authorities or people

1030

00:49:48,150 --> 00:49:50,190 who would have been in charge of one

1031

00:49:50,190 --> 00:49:53,410 or another aspect of German life.

1032

00:49:53,410 --> 00:49:53,970 That's right.

1033 00:49:53,970 --> 00:49:54,840 Is that correct?

1034 00:49:54,840 --> 00:49:55,990 That is correct.

1035 00:49:55,990 --> 00:49:57,870

And so this is what you would feel.

1036 00:49:57,870 --> 00:49:58,610 Yeah.

1037 00:49:58,610 --> 00:50:03,090 And then, I connected--

1038 00:50:03,090 --> 00:50:08,280 since I mentioned my brother was in a bigger big place, which

1039 00:50:08,280 --> 00:50:11,820 was woodworking and wood and everything else.

1040

00:50:11,820 --> 00:50:14,520 I was able to get in this company.

1041

00:50:14,520 --> 00:50:15,750 After you left university.

1042

00:50:15,750 --> 00:50:16,250 Yeah.

1043

00:50:16,250 --> 00:50:17,340 OK.

1044

00:50:17,340 --> 00:50:18,750 I was an apprentice.

1045

00:50:18,750 --> 00:50:22,440 I mean, like everything else, you have to start someplace.

1046 00:50:22,440 --> 00:50:26,400 I was an apprentice in that woodworking business.

1047 00:50:26,400 --> 00:50:31,290 And I don't know what year it was.

1048 00:50:31,290 --> 00:50:37,640 And it lasted maybe, not too long, that they also,

1049 00:50:37,640 --> 00:50:41,020 the owners, it was--

1050 00:50:41,020 --> 00:50:44,340 the funny part is, they were originally Jewish people,

1051 00:50:44,340 --> 00:50:48,360 but what did I say before it was?

1052 00:50:48,360 --> 00:50:51,360 What kind of a--

1053 00:50:51,360 --> 00:50:52,230 the--

1054 00:50:52,230 --> 00:50:54,000 Reformed Jewish?

1055 00:50:54,000 --> 00:50:54,740 What did I say?

1056 00:50:54,740 --> 00:50:56,115 I couldn't think the name before.

1057 00:50:56,115 --> 00:50:56,880 Reformed.

1058 00:50:56,880 --> 00:50:57,880 The reform.

1059 00:50:57,880 --> 00:51:00,810 There were all Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

reformed Jewish people.

1060

00:51:00,810 --> 00:51:10,860 They didn't hold any particular special services or so,

1061 00:51:10,860 --> 00:51:14,640 but they didn't deny it, couldn't deny it anyway

1062

00:51:14,640 --> 00:51:15,990 that they were Jews.

1063

00:51:15,990 --> 00:51:21,480 But that's the way their life was, moderate.

1064

00:51:21,480 --> 00:51:23,550 And then they began--

1065

00:51:23,550 --> 00:51:27,180 they took in partners who were Gentiles.

1066

00:51:27,180 --> 00:51:31,650 So it was 50-50 Jewish, and 50 were Gentiles.

1067

00:51:31,650 --> 00:51:33,260 That lasted for a little while.

1068

00:51:33,260 --> 00:51:37,810 And then when Hitler already started with this whole thing,

1069

00:51:37,810 --> 00:51:41,190 they, the Gentiles, became more interested

1070

00:51:41,190 --> 00:51:43,710 with the political thing and made 1071 00:51:43,710 --> 00:51:47,250 it uncomfortable in the company too.

1072 00:51:47,250 --> 00:51:50,910 They then pushed out everybody who was Jewish.

1073 00:51:50,910 --> 00:51:52,770 OK.

1074 00:51:52,770 --> 00:51:55,600 And I left.

1075 00:51:55,600 --> 00:51:57,840 Well, I had to leave, not I left.

1076 00:51:57,840 --> 00:51:59,010 Yeah.

1077 00:51:59,010 --> 00:52:04,710 And Hitler at that time had a ruling

1078 00:52:04,710 --> 00:52:10,395 that anybody who was born in '14, any Gentile or any German,

1079 00:52:10,395 --> 00:52:17,260 not Gentile, any German '14 is going to go in the army.

1080 00:52:17,260 --> 00:52:20,230 And I was in the German army.

1081 00:52:20,230 --> 00:52:21,700 You were in the German army?

1082 00:52:21,700 --> 00:52:23,250 I had a rise-- 1083 00:52:23,250 --> 00:52:28,000 I had [GERMAN] just like any other German.

1084 00:52:28,000 --> 00:52:31,020 Were there many other Jewish boys who were in the army?

1085 00:52:31,020 --> 00:52:35,133 Any other one who was born in '14 was in the same category.

1086 00:52:35,133 --> 00:52:35,800 Oh, my goodness.

1087 00:52:35,800 --> 00:52:41,050 We were not active but reserves.

1088 00:52:41,050 --> 00:52:44,920 But we were in the German so-called army.

1089 00:52:44,920 --> 00:52:46,750 So you were drafted.

1090 00:52:46,750 --> 00:52:47,860 Drafted.

1091 00:52:47,860 --> 00:52:51,400 Can you tell me about that experience of being drafted?

1092 00:52:51,400 --> 00:52:55,210 Well, I mean, we did not have much to doing

1093 00:52:55,210 --> 00:53:01,750 because the Allies also did not want this German,

1094 00:53:01,750 --> 00:53:05,950 any army or anything like this at the time.

1095

00:53:05,950 --> 00:53:11,690 We were just practicing with wooden rifles

1096 00:53:11,690 --> 00:53:18,810 and with make-believe machinery and tanks.

1097

00:53:18,810 --> 00:53:20,440 The little things.

1098 00:53:20,440 --> 00:53:24,160 Not that we have anything officially available,

1099

00:53:24,160 --> 00:53:32,150 but in that pass which I had, it says Jews in it.

1100 00:53:32,150 --> 00:53:34,460 It was mentioned that I was Jewish.

1101 00:53:34,460 --> 00:53:37,660 But I was nevertheless in the German army.

1102 00:53:37,660 --> 00:53:40,820 And what year were you drafted?

1103 00:53:40,820 --> 00:53:42,670 Right after Hitler got power.

1104 00:53:42,670 --> 00:53:43,750 So 1933.

1105 00:53:43,750 --> 00:53:44,750 Right.

1106 00:53:44,750 --> 00:53:45,730 -----

1107 00:53:45,730 --> 00:53:49,110 And that means you're 19 years old.

1108 00:53:49,110 --> 00:53:51,010 At that time, I applied.

1109 00:53:51,010 --> 00:53:55,070 Then I said, I'm not going to stay here in this country.

1110 00:53:55,070 --> 00:53:56,830 That is pretty early on.

1111 00:53:56,830 --> 00:53:57,350 Yeah.

1112 00:53:57,350 --> 00:54:02,610 So I went to Stuttgart where there was an American

1113 00:54:02,610 --> 00:54:04,190 Consulate.

1114 00:54:04,190 --> 00:54:08,960 And I applied for immigration.

1115 00:54:08,960 --> 00:54:13,160 And naturally, it was extremely difficult to get somebody

1116 00:54:13,160 --> 00:54:14,720 to sponsor me.

1117 00:54:14,720 --> 00:54:17,540 Did you have any relatives in the United States?

1118 00:54:17,540 --> 00:54:19,490 Not known. 1119 00:54:19,490 --> 00:54:22,170 Even so, there were, I was told--

1120 00:54:22,170 --> 00:54:26,240 I mean, you hear this always later on more so.

1121 00:54:26,240 --> 00:54:31,280 There were some Davids who, for what reason I don't know,

1122 00:54:31,280 --> 00:54:36,530 emigrated to the United States, and lived in Chicago.

1123 00:54:36,530 --> 00:54:41,240 And by hook and crook I found out,

1124 00:54:41,240 --> 00:54:45,110 and I don't know how it went.

1125 00:54:45,110 --> 00:54:48,470 They finally-- they were nice enough,

1126 00:54:48,470 --> 00:54:52,580 even they did not want to do it originally.

1127 00:54:52,580 --> 00:54:57,470 They gave me an affidavit to come,

1128 00:54:57,470 --> 00:55:00,740 but they did not want me to come to them.

1129 00:55:00,740 --> 00:55:03,230 Of course. 1130 00:55:03,230 --> 00:55:06,860 They said they had some other relatives who lived here

1131 00:55:06,860 --> 00:55:09,740 on the coast, near West Point.

1132

00:55:09,740 --> 00:55:16,820 And when I came finally then to the United States, those people

1133 00:55:16,820 --> 00:55:18,350 who lived in Newburgh.

1134 00:55:18,350 --> 00:55:19,930 I don't know if you know where it is.

1135 00:55:19,930 --> 00:55:20,750 No.

1136 00:55:20,750 --> 00:55:22,450 West Point is--

1137 00:55:22,450 --> 00:55:23,720 West Point is the army.

1138 00:55:23,720 --> 00:55:24,803 Yeah.

1139 00:55:24,803 --> 00:55:25,590 Right.

1140 00:55:25,590 --> 00:55:27,950 Army, what do you call it?

1141 00:55:27,950 --> 00:55:29,090 Where the cadets--

1142 00:55:29,090 --> 00:55:29,750 Yes. 1143 00:55:29,750 --> 00:55:33,130 Army cadets have to graduate from.

1144 00:55:33,130 --> 00:55:37,430 It's outside from West Point.

1145 00:55:37,430 --> 00:55:41,990 I went to Newburgh and stayed with them, and I came here.

1146 00:55:41,990 --> 00:55:45,590 And when I left Germany, I never forget,

1147 00:55:45,590 --> 00:55:48,180 I was still in the army, the German army.

1148 00:55:48,180 --> 00:55:57,260 I had to resign by the Office of the Military.

1149 00:55:57,260 --> 00:56:01,670 And they made it very firm and told me that as soon

1150 00:56:01,670 --> 00:56:03,210 as I get off the ship--

1151 00:56:03,210 --> 00:56:04,550 I mean, we had to go by ship.

1152 00:56:04,550 --> 00:56:07,130 There were no planes--

1153 00:56:07,130 --> 00:56:11,870 we have to sign up to the German Consulate here in New York

1154 00:56:11,870 --> 00:56:16,220 to let the consulate know in New York where I am.

1155 00:56:16,220 --> 00:56:18,290 I said, yes sir, I will do the first thing

1156 00:56:18,290 --> 00:56:20,620 when I get off the ship, let the German chancellor know

1157 00:56:20,620 --> 00:56:21,700 where I am.

1158 00:56:21,700 --> 00:56:23,383 And he's still waiting.

1159 00:56:23,383 --> 00:56:25,275 [LAUGHS]

1160 00:56:25,275 --> 00:56:29,060

1161 00:56:29,060 --> 00:56:32,480 Sometimes the absurdity of those rules and the absurdity,

1162 00:56:32,480 --> 00:56:36,260 given what we know now about the context in which all of this

1163 00:56:36,260 --> 00:56:37,850 took place.

1164 00:56:37,850 --> 00:56:39,210 Let me step back a little bit.

1165 00:56:39,210 --> 00:56:44,210 Before this all happens, your, quote, "basic training"

1166 00:56:44,210 --> 00:56:50,390 with wooden rifles and sort of like play equipment,

1167 00:56:50,390 --> 00:56:53,710 how long did it last, and

where did it take place?

1168 00:56:53,710 --> 00:56:55,040 In Mannheim.

1169

00:56:55,040 --> 00:56:55,590 In Mannheim.

1170 00:56:55,590 --> 00:56:56,190 Yeah.

1171 00:56:56,190 --> 00:56:56,700 OK.

1172 00:56:56,700 --> 00:57:00,530 They had local little department where

1173 00:57:00,530 --> 00:57:06,830

they had places where you had to assemble

1174 00:57:06,830 --> 00:57:09,260 every week for a few hours.

1175 00:57:09,260 --> 00:57:10,210 OK.

1176 00:57:10,210 --> 00:57:16,670 And was it a politicized kind of atmosphere, not just

1177 00:57:16,670 --> 00:57:17,690 a military one?

1178 00:57:17,690 --> 00:57:21,410 In other words, were the ideals of national socialism--

1179

00:57:21,410 --> 00:57:24,360 Well, more so, it became like this.

1180 00:57:24,360 --> 00:57:25,300 OK.

1181 00:57:25,300 --> 00:57:31,700 More so, but it was actually originally a military draft.

1182 00:57:31,700 --> 00:57:34,750 For that, he took naturally the--

1183 00:57:34,750 --> 00:57:39,570 So what was the point when you said, I'm outta here,

1184 00:57:39,570 --> 00:57:41,570 I'm leaving?

1185 00:57:41,570 --> 00:57:43,410 I was able to get out.

1186 00:57:43,410 --> 00:57:43,910 I know.

1187 00:57:43,910 --> 00:57:45,830 I'm talking about earlier than that.

1188 00:57:45,830 --> 00:57:47,840 I'm talking when you come to the decision,

1189 00:57:47,840 --> 00:57:52,430 I'm not staying in this country, was there something that came--

1190

00:57:52,430 --> 00:57:55,880 that happened that brought you to that?

1191 00:57:55,880 --> 00:57:56,810 I don't know.

1192 00:57:56,810 --> 00:57:58,520 I saw that--

1193 00:57:58,520 --> 00:58:02,190 I mean, by then, I was a grown-up person.

1194 00:58:02,190 --> 00:58:05,020 I was old enough to understand what's going on.

1195 00:58:05,020 --> 00:58:08,110 And I saw that Germany was in such dire--

1196 00:58:08,110 --> 00:58:12,680 in such a bad shape, and I saw Hitler.

1197 00:58:12,680 --> 00:58:15,570 And I thought, this is not going to go away.

1198 00:58:15,570 --> 00:58:17,600 This is not going to help us.

1199 00:58:17,600 --> 00:58:22,040 And my parents were very much against that I should leave.

1200 00:58:22,040 --> 00:58:24,710 Because that is one of my next questions.

1201 00:58:24,710 --> 00:58:27,550 It's unusual that somebody-- 1202 00:58:27,550 --> 00:58:29,330 I mean, from the stories that I hear

1203 00:58:29,330 --> 00:58:31,430 and the people that I talk to, I've

1204 00:58:31,430 --> 00:58:35,060 interviewed people who left as late as 1940.

1205 00:58:35,060 --> 00:58:38,810 And certainly in 1933, there were--

1206 00:58:38,810 --> 00:58:41,390 nobody liked what was happening, of the people that I've

1207 00:58:41,390 --> 00:58:48,140 interviewed, but they didn't at that point say it's time to go,

1208 00:58:48,140 --> 00:58:48,740 you know?

1209 00:58:48,740 --> 00:58:51,660 They said it was too early at that point.

1210 00:58:51,660 --> 00:58:54,750 And there always was pressure not to go.

1211 00:58:54,750 --> 00:58:59,500 So I want to find out how was it for you and your family.

1212 00:58:59,500 --> 00:59:03,730 Well, as I said, my parents were definitely saying, 1213 00:59:03,730 --> 00:59:05,650 this will pass.

1214 00:59:05,650 --> 00:59:11,140 Like most Jewish people thought, Hitler comes and Hitler goes.

1215 00:59:11,140 --> 00:59:15,100 But I personally didn't believe that.

1216 00:59:15,100 --> 00:59:17,980 I just said that is not going to work.

1217 00:59:17,980 --> 00:59:19,390 And I wanted to get out.

1218 00:59:19,390 --> 00:59:20,530 What about Fritz?

1219 00:59:20,530 --> 00:59:21,850 What did he think?

1220 00:59:21,850 --> 00:59:23,140 He didn't go on out.

1221 00:59:23,140 --> 00:59:25,660 He was married.

1222 00:59:25,660 --> 00:59:31,680 And he was older, and he had a business.

1223 00:59:31,680 --> 00:59:34,000 And he-- I don't know.

1224 00:59:34,000 --> 00:59:35,578 He didn't go.

1225

00:59:35,578 --> 00:59:36,820 OK.

1226

00:59:36,820 --> 00:59:38,190 Did he still live in Mannheim?

1227

00:59:38,190 --> 00:59:39,030 Yeah.

1228

00:59:39,030 --> 00:59:39,790 OK.

1229

00:59:39,790 --> 00:59:42,700 And aunts and uncles, and did you have--

1230

00:59:42,700 --> 00:59:43,270 Yes.

1231

00:59:43,270 --> 00:59:44,200 Did they--

1232 00:59:44,200 --> 00:59:45,680 They all stayed.

1233 00:59:45,680 --> 00:59:47,310 They all stayed.

1234 00:59:47,310 --> 00:59:49,320 But I said, I will--

1235 00:59:49,320 --> 00:59:51,910 I'm not going to stay.

1236 00:59:51,910 --> 00:59:54,880 And it was quite a decision for me to make.

1237 00:59:54,880 --> 00:59:55,630 Yes.

1238

00:59:55,630 --> 00:59:57,120 And it took two years.

1239

00:59:57,120 --> 01:00:01,780 I mean, '33 I applied and '35 I only got the visa.

1240

01:00:01,780 --> 01:00:02,970 And why two years?

1241

01:00:02,970 --> 01:00:03,970 Why did it take so long?

1242

01:00:03,970 --> 01:00:06,880 Because the United States government did only

1243

01:00:06,880 --> 01:00:13,590 allow X amount of people from each country to emigrate.

1244

01:00:13,590 --> 01:00:16,990 And if you had a quota or a number,

1245

01:00:16,990 --> 01:00:19,637 you had to wait for your number to come up.

1246

01:00:19,637 --> 01:00:20,970 And do you remember your number?

1247

01:00:20,970 --> 01:00:21,470 No.

1248 01:00:21,470 --> 01:00:23,872

1249 01:00:23,872 --> 01:00:25,720 I have no idea.

1250 01:00:25,720 --> 01:00:30,970 Did you, between 1933 and '35, experience any physical danger?

1251 01:00:30,970 --> 01:00:34,180

1252 01:00:34,180 --> 01:00:35,620 Physically, no.

1253 01:00:35,620 --> 01:00:39,590 I was never injured or anything.

1254 01:00:39,590 --> 01:00:44,350 But I was uncomfortable.

1255 01:00:44,350 --> 01:00:49,330 When you went someplace and everybody said Heil Hitler,

1256 01:00:49,330 --> 01:00:53,260 and I didn't put my hands up.

1257 01:00:53,260 --> 01:00:57,550 Or when you went someplace, they spoke openly

1258 01:00:57,550 --> 01:01:02,440 about the political thing and what they feel, what they--

1259 01:01:02,440 --> 01:01:08,450 and I certainly didn't explain my opinion

1260 01:01:08,450 --> 01:01:17,170 because they would maybe take an example

1261 01:01:17,170 --> 01:01:20,230 and maybe start something with me, which I didn't want.

1262

01:01:20,230 --> 01:01:22,830 So I kept quiet.

1263

01:01:22,830 --> 01:01:30,310 I mean, physically I was not in any way set up.

1264

01:01:30,310 --> 01:01:33,140 Did you lose friends?

1265

01:01:33,140 --> 01:01:41,630 Most of my friends in same age wanted to get out too.

1266 01:01:41,630 --> 01:01:45,680

1267 01:01:45,680 --> 01:01:50,300 Some did go out and went--

1268

01:01:50,300 --> 01:01:55,420 some friends went to Brazil, was able to take people up

1269

01:01:55,420 --> 01:02:00,450 and made it maybe easier to get into Brazil than to go

1270

01:02:00,450 --> 01:02:03,260 to the United States.

1271 01:02:03,260 --> 01:02:07,460 Some people emigrated to England or some other country.

1272 01:02:07,460 --> 01:02:08,450 I don't know.

1273 01:02:08,450 --> 01:02:12,110 But the United States was very difficult.

01:02:12,110 --> 01:02:14,150 Why did you want to go to the United States?

1275 01:02:14,150 --> 01:02:18,970

1276 01:02:18,970 --> 01:02:23,150 I thought it was my future.

1277 01:02:23,150 --> 01:02:24,290 I wanted to go to--

1278 01:02:24,290 --> 01:02:26,920 I wanted to go to the United States.

1279 01:02:26,920 --> 01:02:29,410 Without much thinking, but this is where you felt this--

1280 01:02:29,410 --> 01:02:32,860 I felt, I mean, if anything, I always

1281 01:02:32,860 --> 01:02:35,350 read a lot of books about the United States

1282 01:02:35,350 --> 01:02:37,510 and about what's going on.

1283 01:02:37,510 --> 01:02:41,080 And there's no such thing that you are handicapped.

1284 01:02:41,080 --> 01:02:45,280 You have a free way of doing, and you're not

1285 01:02:45,280 --> 01:02:48,610 handicapped in any way. 1286 01:02:48,610 --> 01:02:52,210 You can express yourself.

1287

01:02:52,210 --> 01:02:54,702 You can leave and go wherever you want.

1288

01:02:54,702 --> 01:02:55,535 You can be yourself.

1289

01:02:55,535 --> 01:02:56,680 Yeah.

1290

01:02:56,680 --> 01:02:59,440 I said that that's where I would like to be.

1291

01:02:59,440 --> 01:03:03,790 But naturally, it was, like I said, you get an affidavit.

1292

01:03:03,790 --> 01:03:07,670 And during those two years, were your parents--

1293

01:03:07,670 --> 01:03:11,030 I mean, was that a constant conversation, don't go,

1294

01:03:11,030 --> 01:03:12,015 don't go?

1295

01:03:12,015 --> 01:03:14,610 Well, not constantly, but I'm naturally

1296

01:03:14,610 --> 01:03:18,890 they knew that that was the ultimate thing

1297 01:03:18,890 --> 01:03:20,560 would be that I would leave.

1298 01:03:20,560 --> 01:03:21,230 OK.

1299 01:03:21,230 --> 01:03:24,440 Can you describe leaving to me and the detail

1300

01:03:24,440 --> 01:03:25,550 how you said goodbye?

1301

01:03:25,550 --> 01:03:27,350 Did you say goodbye to the larger family?

1302 01:03:27,350 --> 01:03:31,140

1303 01:03:31,140 --> 01:03:32,940 Well, look.

1304 01:03:32,940 --> 01:03:38,110 I didn't think that I would not see them again.

1305 01:03:38,110 --> 01:03:41,380 I mean, at the time when I left, I said look,

1306 01:03:41,380 --> 01:03:43,060 we will see each other somehow.

1307 01:03:43,060 --> 01:03:44,560 When I get to the United States, I

1308 01:03:44,560 --> 01:03:46,730 will see that I get an affidavit for you

1309 01:03:46,730 --> 01:03:52,090 too, saying that maybe I will be able to do this,

1310

01:03:52,090 --> 01:03:54,420 not knowing anything.

1311 01:03:54,420 --> 01:03:55,105 I have no idea.

1312 01:03:55,105 --> 01:03:58,580

1313 01:03:58,580 --> 01:04:03,470 As it turned out, things did not go like this.

1314 01:04:03,470 --> 01:04:05,160 What happened?

1315 01:04:05,160 --> 01:04:09,360 My parents went to the concentration camp.

1316 01:04:09,360 --> 01:04:12,320 The relatives?

1317 01:04:12,320 --> 01:04:17,120 My brother was able to get out before they were

1318 01:04:17,120 --> 01:04:20,730 caught after Kristallnacht.

1319 01:04:20,730 --> 01:04:26,500 He was affected by the Kristallnacht.

1320 01:04:26,500 --> 01:04:30,670 They came to his apartment, and they demolished the hold damn

1321 01:04:30,670 --> 01:04:32,310 thing there. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

1322 01:04:32,310 --> 01:04:34,200 They didn't manage to hold him?

1323 01:04:34,200 --> 01:04:36,270 They demolished the whole apartment.

1324 01:04:36,270 --> 01:04:38,140 Oh, they damaged the whole apartment.

1325 01:04:38,140 --> 01:04:41,040 They smashed everything.

1326 01:04:41,040 --> 01:04:48,550 So then he realized that it's time to get out.

1327 01:04:48,550 --> 01:04:50,640 But then it was already late.

1328 01:04:50,640 --> 01:04:51,680 Yeah.

1329 01:04:51,680 --> 01:04:52,180 Yeah.

1330 01:04:52,180 --> 01:04:58,770 And I was here in America, and I really

1331 01:04:58,770 --> 01:05:01,120 tried to get things going.

1332 01:05:01,120 --> 01:05:05,550 But I had a tough time to get people to help me out

1333 01:05:05,550 --> 01:05:08,610 because they were not that anxious. 1334 01:05:08,610 --> 01:05:11,940 People here in America understood,

1335 01:05:11,940 --> 01:05:14,610 but in order to give an affidavit,

1336 01:05:14,610 --> 01:05:20,610 they have to show their income, what they owed,

1337 01:05:20,610 --> 01:05:23,160 what they owned, and everything else.

1338 01:05:23,160 --> 01:05:26,820 And they didn't want to show the government

1339 01:05:26,820 --> 01:05:29,070 all this personal stuff.

1340 01:05:29,070 --> 01:05:33,060 They didn't want to give that information out.

1341 01:05:33,060 --> 01:05:35,310 Are you talking mostly American Jews?

1342 01:05:35,310 --> 01:05:36,010 Yeah.

1343 01:05:36,010 --> 01:05:36,690 OK.

1344 01:05:36,690 --> 01:05:38,500 They didn't want to do it.

1345 01:05:38,500 --> 01:05:39,580

> This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy.

1346 01:05:39,580 --> 01:05:42,050 It was too much risk for them and too much exposure?

1347 01:05:42,050 --> 01:05:43,380 Not so much a risk.

1348 01:05:43,380 --> 01:05:44,670 They just-- look.

1349 01:05:44,670 --> 01:05:48,630 There was no income tax or at least that I

1350 01:05:48,630 --> 01:05:51,100 know there was no income tax.

1351 01:05:51,100 --> 01:05:54,210 And if you own or if you had X--

1352 01:05:54,210 --> 01:05:56,910 I don't know exactly how it was anymore--

1353 01:05:56,910 --> 01:05:58,710 you had to pay.

1354 01:05:58,710 --> 01:06:01,110 I suppose if you had a certain amount

1355 01:06:01,110 --> 01:06:06,010 or if you were the owner of buildings or had income--

1356 01:06:06,010 --> 01:06:07,470 I don't know the details--

1357 01:06:07,470 --> 01:06:11,220 they would have to pay

the government something.

1358

01:06:11,220 --> 01:06:12,420 And if they didn't--

1359 01:06:12,420 --> 01:06:13,160 if they don't--

1360 01:06:13,160 --> 01:06:13,660 Declare it.

1361 01:06:13,660 --> 01:06:16,970 --declare it, they don't owe.

1362 01:06:16,970 --> 01:06:19,170 And in order to give an affidavit,

1363

01:06:19,170 --> 01:06:21,750 you will have to declare that you

1364 01:06:21,750 --> 01:06:26,790 are able to let that person come from Europe,

1365 01:06:26,790 --> 01:06:31,930 you are financially able to pay for it if anything comes up.

1366 01:06:31,930 --> 01:06:34,800 They didn't-- the American government didn't want to have

1367 01:06:34,800 --> 01:06:42,750 the person who comes from Europe come and is going to be not

1368 01:06:42,750 --> 01:06:45,190 able to get a job or doesn't know what to do.

1369

01:06:45,190 --> 01:06:47,040 And the government has to support him

1370 01:06:47,040 --> 01:06:50,070 or has to pay for his livelihood.

1371 01:06:50,070 --> 01:06:51,160 They didn't want that.

1372 01:06:51,160 --> 01:06:54,630 They want to make sure that the person who sponsored them

1373 01:06:54,630 --> 01:06:57,220 is financially able to do it.

1374 01:06:57,220 --> 01:07:01,730 And they did not want to give that information out at first.

1375 01:07:01,730 --> 01:07:03,870 They did not want to do it.

1376 01:07:03,870 --> 01:07:06,780 That was your experience, when you were trying

1377 01:07:06,780 --> 01:07:09,220 to do this for your family.

1378 01:07:09,220 --> 01:07:09,720 Yeah.

1379 01:07:09,720 --> 01:07:10,920 OK.

1380 01:07:10,920 --> 01:07:14,000 So you leave in 1935?

1381 01:07:14,000 --> 01:07:15,600 Yeah.

1382 01:07:15,600 --> 01:07:16,950 And you live from Mannheim. 1383 01:07:16,950 --> 01:07:18,450 Yeah. 1384 01:07:18,450 --> 01:07:19,960 By train? 1385 01:07:19,960 --> 01:07:21,900 By train to a Hamburg. 1386 01:07:21,900 --> 01:07:23,660 And then from Hamburg? 1387 01:07:23,660 --> 01:07:24,420 Ship. 1388 01:07:24,420 --> 01:07:25,573 OK. 1389 01:07:25,573 --> 01:07:27,240 You don't remember the name of the ship. 1390 01:07:27,240 --> 01:07:28,140 Columbus. 1391 01:07:28,140 --> 01:07:29,130 You do. 1392 01:07:29,130 --> 01:07:30,240 Columbus. 1393 01:07:30,240 --> 01:07:31,630 Was it a passenger ship? 1394 01:07:31,630 --> 01:07:32,460

Yeah.

1395 01:07:32,460 --> 01:07:33,540 OK.

1396 01:07:33,540 --> 01:07:36,300 And were there many other people in your situation?

1397

01:07:36,300 --> 01:07:41,160 There were a couple of Jewish people, who

1398 01:07:41,160 --> 01:07:45,360 also were on the same ship, who were fortunate enough

1399

01:07:45,360 --> 01:07:46,490 also to leave, right.

1400

01:07:46,490 --> 01:07:49,340

1401 01:07:49,340 --> 01:07:53,210 And how long did the journey last?

1402

01:07:53,210 --> 01:07:54,090 A week or more.

1403 01:07:54,090 --> 01:07:55,870 I don't remember.

1404

01:07:55,870 --> 01:07:57,465 It was not the fastest.

1405

01:07:57,465 --> 01:07:59,640 OK.

1406 01:07:59,640 --> 01:08:02,660 We got in August here. 01:08:02,660 --> 01:08:06,700 We got here in August, and it was a heat wave.

1408 01:08:06,700 --> 01:08:08,957 It was no air conditioning.

1409 01:08:08,957 --> 01:08:12,160

1410 01:08:12,160 --> 01:08:16,660 So you can imagine for somebody who was not used to this heat,

1411 01:08:16,660 --> 01:08:19,380 I really didn't like the climate.

1412 01:08:19,380 --> 01:08:20,210 Yeah.

1413 01:08:20,210 --> 01:08:20,970 Yeah.

1414 01:08:20,970 --> 01:08:23,590 Germany is in a northern parallel,

1415 01:08:23,590 --> 01:08:27,460 not as far south as here.

1416 01:08:27,460 --> 01:08:30,279 Did you have anybody meet you at the pier?

1417 01:08:30,279 --> 01:08:33,310 Those people who lived in Newburgh, which is outside

1418 01:08:33,310 --> 01:08:35,620 of West Point, they came. 01:08:35,620 --> 01:08:38,399 And we had to have somebody.

1420 01:08:38,399 --> 01:08:45,340 They didn't know me, and they took me in.

1421 01:08:45,340 --> 01:08:47,770 And they took me up to Newburgh.

1422 01:08:47,770 --> 01:08:56,319 They were also, from those people from Chicago, relatives.

1423 01:08:56,319 --> 01:08:57,850 So this would have been--

1424 01:08:57,850 --> 01:08:59,770 Yeah.

1425 01:08:59,770 --> 01:09:04,300 The owner of those people in Newburgh had a big factory.

1426

01:09:04,300 --> 01:09:06,210 They made clothing.

1427

01:09:06,210 --> 01:09:11,590 They made men's suits and men's overcoats and things like that.

1428 01:09:11,590 --> 01:09:17,660 And they had a lot of people work there.

1429 01:09:17,660 --> 01:09:22,090 And I was supposed to work there too.

1430 01:09:22,090 --> 01:09:29,080 And not having air conditioning in a place like this 1431 01:09:29,080 --> 01:09:31,850 and the lint when you cut clothing

1432 01:09:31,850 --> 01:09:33,850 and, like I said, not had machinery

1433

01:09:33,850 --> 01:09:36,790 to cut the clothing to make suits and overcoats and all

1434

01:09:36,790 --> 01:09:43,600 this, the lint and perspiration, it stuck to your skin,

1435

01:09:43,600 --> 01:09:47,020 and it makes it itch.

1436

01:09:47,020 --> 01:09:50,410 I didn't like this one bit.

1437 01:09:50,410 --> 01:09:53,103 And they called me a greenhorn.

1438

01:09:53,103 --> 01:09:54,520 They says, look at this greenhorn.

1439 01:09:54,520 --> 01:09:57,990

He's here only a few weeks, already he's complaining.

1440 01:09:57,990 --> 01:09:59,788 I mean-- I mean--

1441 01:09:59,788 --> 01:10:01,330 Did you already speak English because

1442 01:10:01,330 --> 01:10:02,630 of your English classes? 1443 01:10:02,630 --> 01:10:07,390 I spoke English, not American English.

1444 01:10:07,390 --> 01:10:09,600 English, like in England.

1445 01:10:09,600 --> 01:10:11,410 You know, the typical English.

1446 01:10:11,410 --> 01:10:12,980 But you lose that after a while.

1447 01:10:12,980 --> 01:10:16,960

1448 01:10:16,960 --> 01:10:22,160 So they told me I was a greenhorn, you know.

1449 01:10:22,160 --> 01:10:25,270 So I stayed with them for a little while.

1450 01:10:25,270 --> 01:10:29,380 I mean, I didn't know the first thing anything about America,

1451 01:10:29,380 --> 01:10:31,690 but they were--

1452 01:10:31,690 --> 01:10:35,920 they actually also lost a fortune during the crash here.

1453 01:10:35,920 --> 01:10:38,550 There was a crash here in America.

1454 01:10:38,550 --> 01:10:43,690 And in '35 when I came here, Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

they were again able to--

1455

01:10:43,690 --> 01:10:44,650 they did pretty good.

1456 01:10:44,650 --> 01:10:46,180 They had a very nice home.

1457 01:10:46,180 --> 01:10:47,170 They had a car.

1458 01:10:47,170 --> 01:10:50,050 matter of fact, they had two cars.

1459 01:10:50,050 --> 01:10:54,710 I learned to live a little bit American style of living

1460 01:10:54,710 --> 01:10:57,190 and did very good.

1461 01:10:57,190 --> 01:10:59,050 And I looked around.

1462 01:10:59,050 --> 01:11:02,800 I said, I'm not going to stay the company which

1463 01:11:02,800 --> 01:11:08,510 they had because this making suits over overcoats,

1464 01:11:08,510 --> 01:11:10,510 it's not for me.

1465 01:11:10,510 --> 01:11:17,290 And I looked for a place in New York-- in New York City--

1466 01:11:17,290 --> 01:11:24,300 and I found a place which Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

had a lumber company.

1467

01:11:24,300 --> 01:11:29,500 And I moved from Newburgh to New York.

1468 01:11:29,500 --> 01:11:32,080 And I worked for a lumber company there.

1469

01:11:32,080 --> 01:11:35,170 So when you got the affidavit and the visa,

1470 01:11:35,170 --> 01:11:37,580 you got the right to work

you got the right to work.

1471

01:11:37,580 --> 01:11:39,420 So you were able to-- you know, you

1472

01:11:39,420 --> 01:11:42,430 had freedom to go and find work anywhere.

1473

01:11:42,430 --> 01:11:45,280 I mean, you see, this is the difference.

1474

01:11:45,280 --> 01:11:55,180 When I came here, naturally so I was not tied down by anything.

1475 01:11:55,180 --> 01:11:57,880 I had my freedom.

1476 01:11:57,880 --> 01:12:03,430 And even so, I knew there was problems and my parents

1477 01:12:03,430 --> 01:12:05,830 and my brother and all this. 1478 01:12:05,830 --> 01:12:09,340 And I tried to explain it to those people here.

1479 01:12:09,340 --> 01:12:13,360 They listened, but they don't act.

1480

01:12:13,360 --> 01:12:16,320 They listened, but they didn't act.

1481

01:12:16,320 --> 01:12:18,970 Just like Roosevelt, I don't know.

1482

01:12:18,970 --> 01:12:22,590 He also had that ship here in the harbor.

1483

01:12:22,590 --> 01:12:23,540 St. Louis.

1484

01:12:23,540 --> 01:12:24,040 Yeah.

1485

01:12:24,040 --> 01:12:27,550 And refused to let the people get off the ship

1486

01:12:27,550 --> 01:12:29,350 and sent it back.

1487

01:12:29,350 --> 01:12:34,990 I mean, this is what was the attitude people had here.

1488 01:12:34,990 --> 01:12:38,770 They didn't understand how serious

1489 01:12:38,770 --> 01:12:44,650 this Hitler socialism, Nazi antisemitism, all this

1490 01:12:44,650 --> 01:12:46,250 was already.

1491 01:12:46,250 --> 01:12:51,050 They thought, oh, it's on the other side of the ocean.

1492 01:12:51,050 --> 01:12:53,380 We don't want to get involved.

1493 01:12:53,380 --> 01:12:57,250 Did you learn of the St. Louis as it was happening?

1494 01:12:57,250 --> 01:13:00,380 I read about it, but I mean, what could I do about it?

1495 01:13:00,380 --> 01:13:02,580 No, but did you see the ship in the harbor?

1496 01:13:02,580 --> 01:13:04,030 No, I didn't see it myself.

1497 01:13:04,030 --> 01:13:05,137 I saw it on tel--

1498 01:13:05,137 --> 01:13:06,720 I don't know if I saw it on television

1499 01:13:06,720 --> 01:13:08,390 or I saw it in newspaper.

1500 01:13:08,390 --> 01:13:11,960 Papers, yeah. yeah.

1501 01:13:11,960 --> 01:13:15,220 Now, when you came down and looked for a lumber company

1502

01:13:15,220 --> 01:13:19,990 in New York City, where did you live?

1503

01:13:19,990 --> 01:13:23,010 Well, I mean, when I did get a job in New York,

1504

01:13:23,010 --> 01:13:28,420 I rented a room in the neighborhood

1505

01:13:28,420 --> 01:13:30,490 where the place was and--

1506

01:13:30,490 --> 01:13:32,050 Where was that?

1507

01:13:32,050 --> 01:13:36,645 On the West side, on West 72nd Street, somewheres--

1508

01:13:36,645 --> 01:13:38,380 Oh, so you were on the Upper West Side.

1509

01:13:38,380 --> 01:13:40,390 And there was a lumber company that was also--

1510

01:13:40,390 --> 01:13:44,530 Well, the lumber company, actually they had two places.

1511 01:13:44,530 --> 01:13:49,780 There was one on the East side and one on the West side.

1512 01:13:49,780 --> 01:13:53,140 The East side was where Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

the main office was,

1513 01:13:53,140 --> 01:13:57,100 and they had one on the West side, which they gave me.

1514 01:13:57,100 --> 01:13:59,500 They told, you are in charge of that.

1515 01:13:59,500 --> 01:14:02,873 So I took care of the West side lumber yard.

1516 01:14:02,873 --> 01:14:03,640 OK.

1517 01:14:03,640 --> 01:14:06,820 But it was nothing to speak-- it was a small lumber

1518 01:14:06,820 --> 01:14:08,380 yard, not big.

1519 01:14:08,380 --> 01:14:10,810 We sold whatever in the lumber yard,

1520 01:14:10,810 --> 01:14:13,630 you know, here to-same thing like this.

1521 01:14:13,630 --> 01:14:14,440 But you had some--

1522 01:14:14,440 --> 01:14:15,000 Retail.

1523 01:14:15,000 --> 01:14:16,090 A retail lumber yard.

1524 01:14:16,090 --> 01:14:18,850 People come for this or for that, for a piece of plywood,

1525

01:14:18,850 --> 01:14:23,240 for the [GERMAN],, for whatever there is.

1526

01:14:23,240 --> 01:14:23,770 Yeah.

1527

01:14:23,770 --> 01:14:24,940 But it was a foothold.

1528

01:14:24,940 --> 01:14:27,610 See, this is the interesting-for me, an interesting point.

1529

01:14:27,610 --> 01:14:32,500 You had background and some experience from Europe,

1530

01:14:32,500 --> 01:14:39,680 and it gave you the foothold in New York City to then go for--

1531

01:14:39,680 --> 01:14:41,250 I knew something.

1532

01:14:41,250 --> 01:14:41,890 Yeah.

1533

01:14:41,890 --> 01:14:43,110 Yeah.

1534

01:14:43,110 --> 01:14:44,920 Were there letters back and forth

1535

01:14:44,920 --> 01:14:46,220 between you and your family?

1536 01:14:46,220 --> 01:14:47,140

1537 01:14:47,140 --> 01:14:50,510 What did the letters from your parents say?

1538 01:14:50,510 --> 01:14:54,280 Well, I cannot go--

1539 01:14:54,280 --> 01:14:55,227 tell you each--

1540 01:14:55,227 --> 01:14:55,810 Of course not.

1541 01:14:55,810 --> 01:14:58,210 --individual letter anymore.

1542 01:14:58,210 --> 01:15:00,240 But they told us--

1543 01:15:00,240 --> 01:15:03,560 told me that things are not going well,

1544 01:15:03,560 --> 01:15:06,050 and it's getting worse, and so forth.

1545 01:15:06,050 --> 01:15:11,260 And then finally, I found out that all the Jewish people

1546 01:15:11,260 --> 01:15:14,220 in that area from Mannheim, all the way down

1547 01:15:14,220 --> 01:15:18,370 to the Swiss border, which is clear to the bottom,

1548 01:15:18,370 --> 01:15:23,320 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

were taken by train one day--

1549

01:15:23,320 --> 01:15:25,570 I don't know what day it was, I don't know--

1550

01:15:25,570 --> 01:15:30,400 and sent to a concentration camp in France.

1551

01:15:30,400 --> 01:15:33,100 And it was called Gurs.

1552

01:15:33,100 --> 01:15:34,330 Yeah.

1553

01:15:34,330 --> 01:15:35,110 You know it?

1554

01:15:35,110 --> 01:15:36,200 I've heard of it.

1555 01:15:36,200 --> 01:15:37,630 I've heard of it.

1556 01:15:37.63

01:15:37,630 --> 01:15:39,610 Actually, they first went to a place

1557

01:15:39,610 --> 01:15:47,560 called Recebedou, which was during the Franco

1558

01:15:47,560 --> 01:15:53,990 regime, a Spanish military camp, and then abandoned.

1559 01:15:53,990 --> 01:15:55,870 And they took over in the Pyrenees.

1560 01:15:55,870 --> 01:15:58,390 That was in the mountains, in the Pyrenees Mountains,

```
1561
01:15:58,390 --> 01:16:01,130
which is between
Spain and France.
```

1562 01:16:01,130 --> 01:16:07,520 And there were all those Jewish people were in that camp, Gurs.

1563 01:16:07,520 --> 01:16:11,660 And was this after Kristallnacht?

1564 01:16:11,660 --> 01:16:12,160 Yes.

1565 01:16:12,160 --> 01:16:13,100 You think they were taken?

```
1566
01:16:13,100 --> 01:16:13,600
Yes.
```

1567 01:16:13,600 --> 01:16:15,400 OK.

```
1568
01:16:15,400 --> 01:16:23,490
My brother was able
to leave Germany--
```

1569 01:16:23,490 --> 01:16:25,590 Mannheim.

1570 01:16:25,590 --> 01:16:29,718 Actually, I wanted him to come to New York before,

1571 01:16:29,718 --> 01:16:30,510 but it didn't work.

1572 01:16:30,510 --> 01:16:33,810 I wanted him to go to l, to go to China,

1573 01:16:33,810 --> 01:16:39,750 and come over the East Coast to the United States.

1574 01:16:39,750 --> 01:16:41,150 Didn't work.

1575 01:16:41,150 --> 01:16:46,380 Somehow neither did-- it was extremely difficult.

1576 01:16:46,380 --> 01:16:50,130 But he was able to get out of Mannheim.

1577 01:16:50,130 --> 01:16:54,420 He was able to go to Portugal somehow,

1578 01:16:54,420 --> 01:17:01,890 and I got him a crossing from Lisbon to New York.

1579 01:17:01,890 --> 01:17:06,190

1580 01:17:06,190 --> 01:17:14,550 And in I would say about '40, 1940.

1581 01:17:14,550 --> 01:17:16,020 What about his wife?

1582 01:17:16,020 --> 01:17:17,370 She with him as well.

1583 01:17:17,370 --> 01:17:18,540 With him, both of them.

1584

01:17:18,540 --> 01:17:19,590 Did they have children?

1585

01:17:19,590 --> 01:17:20,260 No.

1586 01:17:20,260 --> 01:17:21,360 OK.

1587 01:17:21,360 --> 01:17:22,890 It was the two of them.

1588 01:17:22,890 --> 01:17:29,430 So they came on one of the large ships, which actually

1589 01:17:29,430 --> 01:17:32,010 left Lisbon or Portugal.

1590 01:17:32,010 --> 01:17:33,940 He came to New York.

1591 01:17:33,940 --> 01:17:38,030 And when he settled actually with me

1592 01:17:38,030 --> 01:17:40,590 because he had no place to go.

1593 01:17:40,590 --> 01:17:41,670 He had no place to go.

1594 01:17:41,670 --> 01:17:43,590 He and his wife settled with me.

1595 01:17:43,590 --> 01:17:46,200 I made arrangements that he could stay with somebody

1596 01:17:46,200 --> 01:17:48,180 in my neighborhood. 1597 01:17:48,180 --> 01:17:50,550 And I took care of them until he was

1598 01:17:50,550 --> 01:17:55,170 able to find also something in his line in the wood

1599

01:17:55,170 --> 01:17:57,990 business in Washington, DC.

1600

01:17:57,990 --> 01:17:58,970 I see.

1601

01:17:58,970 --> 01:18:04,500 And he moved to Washington, DC, and he actually

1602

01:18:04,500 --> 01:18:10,230 was in Chevy Chase for the rest of his life.

1603

01:18:10,230 --> 01:18:15,450 And did you then provide the affidavit for him and his wife?

1604

01:18:15,450 --> 01:18:20,100 I was able, together-- somebody else, with mine together--

1605

01:18:20,100 --> 01:18:21,820 to get him out.

1606

01:18:21,820 --> 01:18:22,320 Yeah.

1607 01:18:22,320 --> 01:18:23,160 OK.

1608 01:18:23,160 --> 01:18:24,442 And for your parents? 1609 01:18:24,442 --> 01:18:25,275 Had they been taken?

1610 01:18:25,275 --> 01:18:25,858 What happened?

1611 01:18:25,858 --> 01:18:29,190 That is a story by itself.

1612 01:18:29,190 --> 01:18:32,950 My parents were in the Gurs.

1613 01:18:32,950 --> 01:18:36,550 And there is no way of escaping it.

1614 01:18:36,550 --> 01:18:44,490 They were all booked to go by one of the trains

1615 01:18:44,490 --> 01:18:48,060 to get to the--

1616 01:18:48,060 --> 01:18:48,690 Auschwitz?

1617 01:18:48,690 --> 01:18:51,630 Auschwitz or someplace.

1618 01:18:51,630 --> 01:18:54,660 And I knew a senator--

1619 01:18:54,660 --> 01:18:56,250 no, I didn't know--

1620 01:18:56,250 --> 01:18:59,040 the person I lived with in Newburgh

1621 01:18:59,040 --> 01:19:06,030 was a very strong Republican political influence,

1622

01:19:06,030 --> 01:19:11,260 knew a senator, who was a Republican senator,

1623

01:19:11,260 --> 01:19:12,530 in his area.

1624

01:19:12,530 --> 01:19:13,570 So in New York--

1625

01:19:13,570 --> 01:19:15,950 nevertheless, in New York or Maryland.

1626

01:19:15,950 --> 01:19:21,310 And he lived right next to Franklin Roosevelt.

1627

01:19:21,310 --> 01:19:22,730 Yeah.

1628

01:19:22,730 --> 01:19:28,750 And he took me one day to this senator,

1629

01:19:28,750 --> 01:19:32,590 who lived not far from us, from Newburgh, was a half an hour

1630

01:19:32,590 --> 01:19:34,640 by car.

1631

01:19:34,640 --> 01:19:38,860 And the senator was nice enough to listen to my story.

1632

01:19:38,860 --> 01:19:45,220 Long and so behold, he arranged, that senator-- 01:19:45,220 --> 01:19:51,490 his name was Howard Lufisch, a very old

1634 01:19:51,490 --> 01:19:54,610 English immigrant family who was already

1635 01:19:54,610 --> 01:19:58,000 for three generations at least--

1636 01:19:58,000 --> 01:20:02,050 very strong Republicans.

1637 01:20:02,050 --> 01:20:13,900 He arranged to get Marseilles consul

1638 01:20:13,900 --> 01:20:18,010 to get to the government-of the French government

1639 01:20:18,010 --> 01:20:25,060 of something in Gurs, get my parents out of this Gurs.

1640 01:20:25,060 --> 01:20:27,730 And we were-- and he arranged it.

1641 01:20:27,730 --> 01:20:29,680 I don't know exactly how it went.

1642 01:20:29,680 --> 01:20:34,050 And they went from Gurs to Marseilles,

1643 01:20:34,050 --> 01:20:37,140 went over to Africa to Casablanca,

1644 01:20:37,140 --> 01:20:41,230 and stayed in Casablanca 'til I was able to get a ship for them

1645 01:20:41,230 --> 01:20:43,030 from Casablanca to come to New York.

1646 01:20:43,030 --> 01:20:44,960 Hah, so you saved your parents.

1647 01:20:44,960 --> 01:20:45,460 Right.

1648 01:20:45,460 --> 01:20:48,100

1649 01:20:48,100 --> 01:20:51,130 Oh, my goodness.

1650 01:20:51,130 --> 01:20:54,335 My parents came here in '44--

1651 01:20:54,335 --> 01:20:54,835 '43.

1652 01:20:54,835 --> 01:20:57,740

1653 01:20:57,740 --> 01:20:59,300 I was in the army already.

1654 01:20:59,300 --> 01:21:04,160 I was already in the American army, ready to go to Europe.

1655 01:21:04,160 --> 01:21:07,760

1656 01:21:07,760 --> 01:21:09,800 Congratulations.

1657

01:21:09,800 --> 01:21:11,750 Congratulations.

1658 01:21:11,750 --> 01:21:16,500 The youngest child gets everybody out.

1659 01:21:16,500 --> 01:21:23,500 And my parents lived here in New York, Washington Heights,

1660 01:21:23,500 --> 01:21:25,710 where most of the German people live.

1661 01:21:25,710 --> 01:21:28,630

1662 01:21:28,630 --> 01:21:31,450 And they died, and my father died first,

1663 01:21:31,450 --> 01:21:35,790 and my mother followed 10 years later.

1664 01:21:35,790 --> 01:21:40,350 Did they tell you of what had happened since you had left?

1665 01:21:40,350 --> 01:21:44,710 Well, the detail part I don't want to hear anymore.

1666 01:21:44,710 --> 01:21:49,920 But all of my uncles and aunts who were in that same camp,

1667 01:21:49,920 --> 01:21:52,330 I couldn't get them out.

1668 01:21:52,330 --> 01:21:54,060 I could not get them out. 1669 01:21:54,060 --> 01:21:55,772 They all died.

1670 01:21:55,772 --> 01:21:56,925 They all were killed.

1671 01:21:56,925 --> 01:21:59,435 They all were killed.

1672 01:21:59,435 --> 01:21:59,935 Yeah.

1673 01:21:59,935 --> 01:22:06,190

1674 01:22:06,190 --> 01:22:07,690 It had been almost--

1675 01:22:07,690 --> 01:22:10,810 when they finally arrived in 1944,

1676 01:22:10,810 --> 01:22:13,720 it had been almost 10 years since you-- nine years,

1677 01:22:13,720 --> 01:22:14,710 eight years--

1678 01:22:14,710 --> 01:22:17,830 since you had left Germany.

1679 01:22:17,830 --> 01:22:21,940 Did they look different to you?

1680 01:22:21,940 --> 01:22:26,880 Well, they didn't have much to eat.

1681 01:22:26,880 --> 01:22:30,510 They look-- you know, they lost weight, lost-- and aged

1682 01:22:30,510 --> 01:22:32,170 in something fierce.

1683 01:22:32,170 --> 01:22:40,360 But somehow they didn't actually have any physical problems

1684 01:22:40,360 --> 01:22:42,280 later on here.

1685 01:22:42,280 --> 01:22:45,165 And things worked out pretty good.

1686 01:22:45,165 --> 01:22:47,925

1687 01:22:47,925 --> 01:22:48,550 Did they ever--

1688 01:22:48,550 --> 01:22:50,500 I was fortunate enough to get them--

1689 01:22:50,500 --> 01:22:54,310 with this help of the senator, otherwise I

1690 01:22:54,310 --> 01:22:57,290 wouldn't have been able to get them out.

1691 01:22:57,290 --> 01:23:02,050 But it took a lot of doing to do all this.

1692 01:23:02,050 --> 01:23:05,710 What was the name of the man who owned the factory up 1693 01:23:05,710 --> 01:23:06,340 in Newburgh?

1694 01:23:06,340 --> 01:23:07,330 Do you remember?

1695 01:23:07,330 --> 01:23:09,850 Scott, his last name.

1696 01:23:09,850 --> 01:23:12,560 The name of the company-that I never forget--

1697 01:23:12,560 --> 01:23:18,490 it was LBS, Lehman, Berkowitz, and Scott.

1698 01:23:18,490 --> 01:23:20,920 They had a very big company.

1699 01:23:20,920 --> 01:23:24,130 I mean, it was big in clothing.

1700 01:23:24,130 --> 01:23:29,120 They had at least maybe 100 or more people working there.

1701 01:23:29,120 --> 01:23:30,310 Very big company.

1702 01:23:30,310 --> 01:23:31,640 And his name was--

1703 01:23:31,640 --> 01:23:35,520 And they made men's suits an overcoats.

1704 01:23:35,520 --> 01:23:37,440 And his name was Scott, Mr. Scott.

1705

01:23:37,440 --> 01:23:38,200 Yeah.

1706 01:23:38,200 --> 01:23:43,360 Now, he never told me that he was--

1707 01:23:43,360 --> 01:23:45,770 he never said he was Jewish.

1708 01:23:45,770 --> 01:23:48,120 And he never told me where he came from.

1709 01:23:48,120 --> 01:23:51,460 And he never told me where his family was from.

1710 01:23:51,460 --> 01:23:55,730 Somehow or another, people here in this--

1711 01:23:55,730 --> 01:23:57,755 it's the funniest thing--

1712 01:23:57,755 --> 01:24:00,130 somehow people, somehow, if they didn't want to tell you,

1713 01:24:00,130 --> 01:24:01,005 they didn't tell you.

1714 01:24:01,005 --> 01:24:04,770

1715 01:24:04,770 --> 01:24:15,810 I have not-- I mean, maybe his name was Schott in Germany,

1716 01:24:15,810 --> 01:24:20,760 but he was here, and he says his-- 1717 01:24:20,760 --> 01:24:24,630 sometimes he told me once he is Italian.

1718 01:24:24,630 --> 01:24:27,660 He comes from an Italian family.

1719 01:24:27,660 --> 01:24:31,360 And because he told me once, this lady or this family,

1720 01:24:31,360 --> 01:24:33,850 which was they were Italians.

1721 01:24:33,850 --> 01:24:36,330 They are relatives of mine.

1722 01:24:36,330 --> 01:24:39,330 So I said, how come they're Italians?

1723 01:24:39,330 --> 01:24:43,020 Well, I don't know how he explained it.

1724 01:24:43,020 --> 01:24:44,340 And yet, you saw--

1725 01:24:44,340 --> 01:24:47,340 you knew that it was some sort of family

1726 01:24:47,340 --> 01:24:50,730 connection between them and the Davids in Chicago.

1727 01:24:50,730 --> 01:24:54,030 Well, his wife was a David.

1728 01:24:54,030 --> 01:24:57,820 His wife was David, who married a Scott. 1729 01:24:57,820 --> 01:24:58,340 I see.

1730 01:24:58,340 --> 01:24:58,840 I see.

1731 01:24:58,840 --> 01:25:01,390

1732 01:25:01,390 --> 01:25:02,420 Wow.

1733 01:25:02,420 --> 01:25:02,920 Wow.

1734 01:25:02,920 --> 01:25:05,450

1735 01:25:05,450 --> 01:25:07,590 Let's at this point take a break.

1736 01:25:07,590 --> 01:25:11,210

1737 01:25:11,210 --> 01:25:13,420 All right.

1738 01:25:13,420 --> 01:25:14,240 OK.

1739 01:25:14,240 --> 01:25:17,990 So let's focus now a little bit on your life in the United

1740 01:25:17,990 --> 01:25:23,120 States, starting with the small lumber yard retail

1741 01:25:23,120 --> 01:25:26,390 that you're working at on the Upper West Side,

1742 01:25:26,390 --> 01:25:30,240 and you rent a room in an apartment close by, you said?

1743 01:25:30,240 --> 01:25:30,920 Mm-hmm.

1744 01:25:30,920 --> 01:25:33,590 How long did this particular job last?

1745 01:25:33,590 --> 01:25:37,700

1746 01:25:37,700 --> 01:25:39,800 Until I was inducted in the army.

1747 01:25:39,800 --> 01:25:41,480 Oh, so a good number of years.

1748 01:25:41,480 --> 01:25:41,980 Yes.

1749 01:25:41,980 --> 01:25:44,840

1750 01:25:44,840 --> 01:25:46,650 Well, can you tell me about how many years

1751 01:25:46,650 --> 01:25:47,525 that would have been?

1752 01:25:47,525 --> 01:25:48,350 Five years.

1753 01:25:48,350 --> 01:25:50,882 Wait a minute. 1754 01:25:50,882 --> 01:25:53,130 I got the army in '42--

1755 01:25:53,130 --> 01:25:55,940 '43.

1756 01:25:55,940 --> 01:25:57,452 Five, six years.

1757 01:25:57,452 --> 01:25:58,750 OK.

1758 01:25:58,750 --> 01:26:02,150 That was-- no, I changed once.

1759 01:26:02,150 --> 01:26:04,910 That place was so small, it didn't give me

1760 01:26:04,910 --> 01:26:09,820 much of a challenge, and I didn't see a future in it.

1761 01:26:09,820 --> 01:26:12,170 And I didn't make enough money.

1762 01:26:12,170 --> 01:26:14,120 And I want to make more money.

1763 01:26:14,120 --> 01:26:17,780 And I wanted to be developing and things.

1764 01:26:17,780 --> 01:26:21,090 So I went with a bigger company in Brooklyn.

1765 01:26:21,090 --> 01:26:24,020 And I naturally also had to move in a different place 1766 01:26:24,020 --> 01:26:25,900 in Brooklyn.

1767 01:26:25,900 --> 01:26:28,370 But they were much, much bigger.

1768 01:26:28,370 --> 01:26:29,520 And it helped me.

1769 01:26:29,520 --> 01:26:30,020 OK.

1770 01:26:30,020 --> 01:26:33,680 What neighborhood in Brooklyn was this?

1771 01:26:33,680 --> 01:26:36,020 The name, I think it was Lutz.

1772 01:26:36,020 --> 01:26:37,140

The name of the company.

1773

01:26:37,140 --> 01:26:37,670 Yeah.

1774

01:26:37,670 --> 01:26:38,477 Lutz.

1775

01:26:38,477 --> 01:26:39,610 OK.

1776

01:26:39,610 --> 01:26:43,440 And was this Bensonhurst, Brooklyn Heights?

1777 01:26:43,440 --> 01:26:47,050 No, it was in Williamsburg.

1778 01:26:47,050 --> 01:26:48,050 In Williamsburg. 1779 01:26:48,050 --> 01:26:49,130 OK.

1780 01:26:49,130 --> 01:26:51,020 And you lived then close by?

1781 01:26:51,020 --> 01:26:53,420 I lived-- I don't know know anything about a street,

1782

01:26:53,420 --> 01:26:55,550 unfortunately.

1783 01:26:55,550 --> 01:26:58,340 Also I stayed nearby, right.

1784 01:26:58,340 --> 01:26:59,150 OK.

1785 01:26:59,150 --> 01:27:03,290 Did you have your own apartment or did you still rent a room?

1786

01:27:03,290 --> 01:27:06,710 No, I had a little apartment.

1787

01:27:06,710 --> 01:27:10,850 And can you describe it for me a bit?

1788

01:27:10,850 --> 01:27:13,200 I don't know how I would describe a little apartment.

1789 01:27:13,200 --> 01:27:15,380 It was not much to talk about.

1790 01:27:15,380 --> 01:27:17,030 Was it a one bedroom, studio?

1791 01:27:17,030 --> 01:27:19,560 One room studio, I would call it nowadays.

1792

01:27:19,560 --> 01:27:20,440 Right.

1793 01:27:20,440 --> 01:27:21,290 OK.

1794 01:27:21,290 --> 01:27:22,730 But it was self-contained.

1795 01:27:22,730 --> 01:27:23,470 Yeah.

1796 01:27:23,470 --> 01:27:24,910 OK.

1797 01:27:24,910 --> 01:27:33,260 And I had and that already then at that time some of the boys,

1798 01:27:33,260 --> 01:27:37,820 who I know from Mannheim, came here.

1799

01:27:37,820 --> 01:27:43,550 And naturally, we got together on weekends and so forth, which

1800 01:27:43,550 --> 01:27:46,020 was very nice.

1801 01:27:46,020 --> 01:27:51,430 And we went in many, many times here and there and so forth.

1802 01:27:51,430 --> 01:27:53,570 It became a little club like.

1803 01:27:53,570 --> 01:27:56,420 You know, you anticipated my next question

1804

01:27:56,420 --> 01:27:59,900 because since you came over and you were truly alone,

1805 01:27:59,900 --> 01:28:04,940 you know, without close family by and without a community,

1806 01:28:04,940 --> 01:28:08,030 I wondered what kind of social life you were able to develop.

1807 01:28:08,030 --> 01:28:11,662

1808 01:28:11,662 --> 01:28:12,370 How should I say?

1809 01:28:12,370 --> 01:28:15,190

1810 01:28:15,190 --> 01:28:18,340 In Newburgh was very similar.

1811 01:28:18,340 --> 01:28:23,910 They had a daughter, marriage in age,

1812 01:28:23,910 --> 01:28:30,240 and they had ideas that maybe I would be interested.

1813 01:28:30,240 --> 01:28:33,750 I mean, she still was in college.

1814 01:28:33,750 --> 01:28:36,930 And she came home for whatever.

1815 01:28:36,930 --> 01:28:38,715 They had vacation or whatever.

1816 01:28:38,715 --> 01:28:41,640

1817 01:28:41,640 --> 01:28:44,060 But I was not interested.

1818

01:28:44,060 --> 01:28:48,180 Not that she was not nice and all this, but I just couldn't--

1819 01:28:48,180 --> 01:28:50,140 That was not your life at that point.

1820 01:28:50,140 --> 01:28:51,030 No.

1821 01:28:51,030 --> 01:28:54,600 Actually, I wasn't ready to marry.

1822 01:28:54,600 --> 01:28:56,470 You were already married?

1823 01:28:56,470 --> 01:28:57,220 I was not married.

1824 01:28:57,220 --> 01:28:57,780 No, no, no.

1825 01:28:57,780 --> 01:29:01,980 You said-- you said, actually I was already--

1826 01:29:01,980 --> 01:29:02,810 something.

1827 01:29:02,810 --> 01:29:04,102 And I thought you said married. 1828 01:29:04,102 --> 01:29:05,090 I wasn't interested.

1829 01:29:05,090 --> 01:29:06,300 OK.

1830 01:29:06,300 --> 01:29:11,490 So anyhow, when we met with the other young people who

1831 01:29:11,490 --> 01:29:14,885 came from Mannheim too, we met here on weekends

1832 01:29:14,885 --> 01:29:18,150 and so forth, we met other girls.

1833 01:29:18,150 --> 01:29:22,750 And we joined and did go on excursion and so forth.

1834 01:29:22,750 --> 01:29:25,490 So we had a nice social life, very nice.

1835 01:29:25,490 --> 01:29:28,470

1836 01:29:28,470 --> 01:29:31,810 Did you join any kind of community?

1837 01:29:31,810 --> 01:29:32,400 Did you--

1838 01:29:32,400 --> 01:29:33,030 No.

1839 01:29:33,030 --> 01:29:36,540 We did not join any Jewish congregation or nothing. 1840 01:29:36,540 --> 01:29:37,860 OK.

1841 01:29:37,860 --> 01:29:39,470 No.

1842 01:29:39,470 --> 01:29:43,530 You see, I don't know what it is.

1843 01:29:43,530 --> 01:29:51,110 Even today, I'm not a--

1844 01:29:51,110 --> 01:29:55,565 I mean, I don't deny that I'm Jewish, and I pay my dues

1845 01:29:55,565 --> 01:30:01,840 and I pay the congregation, whatever is coming up.

1846 01:30:01,840 --> 01:30:04,620 But I don't like--

1847 01:30:04,620 --> 01:30:08,610 they are conservatives.

1848 01:30:08,610 --> 01:30:12,470 And I don't particularly care for the services

1849 01:30:12,470 --> 01:30:16,370 and especially I didn't even care for the rabbi.

1850 01:30:16,370 --> 01:30:17,743 So I just--

1851 01:30:17,743 --> 01:30:18,910 You don't have a connection. 1852 01:30:18,910 --> 01:30:19,700 No.

1853 01:30:19,700 --> 01:30:22,030 I just never feel like it.

1854 01:30:22,030 --> 01:30:25,940 And I know it's maybe unfortunate,

1855 01:30:25,940 --> 01:30:27,740 but that's the way it is.

1856 01:30:27,740 --> 01:30:29,240 That's OK.

1857 01:30:29,240 --> 01:30:35,900 Every individual has that right to know their own soul and know

1858 01:30:35,900 --> 01:30:40,000 what fits with them and what doesn't.

1859

01:30:40,000 --> 01:30:52,120 I mean, this reform movement became very popular.

1860 01:30:52,120 --> 01:30:56,920 And I know more people who are thinking similar what

1861 01:30:56,920 --> 01:31:03,860 I do than I ever had before.

1862 01:31:03,860 --> 01:31:13,440 So they just don't do more than just

1863 01:31:13,440 --> 01:31:17,130 what is necessary, so to speak. 1864 01:31:17,130 --> 01:31:20,580 Did you meet your wife at this time?

1865 01:31:20,580 --> 01:31:23,560 I met her before I went overseas.

1866 01:31:23,560 --> 01:31:32,555 I was married in '43, and I went overseas a few months later

1867 01:31:32,555 --> 01:31:33,950 to Europe.

1868 01:31:33,950 --> 01:31:36,050 Tell me how you met.

1869 01:31:36,050 --> 01:31:37,160 Blind date.

1870 01:31:37,160 --> 01:31:39,740 Really?

1871 01:31:39,740 --> 01:31:42,260 Like I said, we met, and those people

1872 01:31:42,260 --> 01:31:47,750 who came from the other side had always friends

1873 01:31:47,750 --> 01:31:50,450 and so on and so forth.

1874 01:31:50,450 --> 01:31:54,800 And on weekends, we met here and so forth and so on.

1875 01:31:54,800 --> 01:31:59,210 And one day, I was introduced to her. 1876 01:31:59,210 --> 01:32:01,940 And she seems to be very nice.

1877 01:32:01,940 --> 01:32:05,210 I thought to myself, very nice young lady.

1878 01:32:05,210 --> 01:32:07,790 And we stuck together.

1879 01:32:07,790 --> 01:32:10,310 And did she tell you much of her story?

1880 01:32:10,310 --> 01:32:12,410 She lost her whole parents.

1881 01:32:12,410 --> 01:32:14,010 She lost them all.

1882 01:32:14,010 --> 01:32:14,510 All.

1883 01:32:14,510 --> 01:32:16,500 How is it that she ended up in the United?

1884 01:32:16,500 --> 01:32:19,890 She went under Kindertransport.

1885 01:32:19,890 --> 01:32:21,660 She left Cologne with--

1886 01:32:21,660 --> 01:32:23,220 you know what a Kindertransport is?

1887 01:32:23,220 --> 01:32:24,380 Tell us.

1888

01:32:24,380 --> 01:32:24,880 Sure.

1889 01:32:24,880 --> 01:32:25,380 Tell us.

1890 01:32:25,380 --> 01:32:32,670 She went to England and was on a Kindertransport also.

1891 01:32:32,670 --> 01:32:35,130 Her parents said, you've got to get out.

1892 01:32:35,130 --> 01:32:38,810 You have to get out because it's not good for you to stay here.

1893 01:32:38,810 --> 01:32:41,220 And they let her go on the Kindertransport.

1894 01:32:41,220 --> 01:32:47,280 And she went to England, and she worked as a governess or kinder

1895 01:32:47,280 --> 01:32:49,080 or what do you call it?

1896 01:32:49,080 --> 01:32:49,860 A nanny?

1897 01:32:49,860 --> 01:32:55,230 Nanny for some English family someplace--

1898 01:32:55,230 --> 01:32:59,130 I forgot where-- until she got her visa,

1899 01:32:59,130 --> 01:33:02,040 which also took a long time. 1900 01:33:02,040 --> 01:33:05,700 And then she emigrated to New York.

1901 01:33:05,700 --> 01:33:09,800 I think she came in 1940 or '41 to New York.

1902 01:33:09,800 --> 01:33:13,070 And what was her first name and maiden name?

1903 01:33:13,070 --> 01:33:15,590

1904 01:33:15,590 --> 01:33:19,900 Her first name was Hilda, last name Katzenberg

1905 01:33:19,900 --> 01:33:23,160 Katzenberg and then Bloch.

1906 01:33:23,160 --> 01:33:24,310 Well, came Bloch.

1907 01:33:24,310 --> 01:33:26,170 You know, Katzenberg is that, you ever

1908 01:33:26,170 --> 01:33:28,480 heard of Jeffrey Katzenberg?

1909 01:33:28,480 --> 01:33:29,500 Yeah, I have.

1910 01:33:29,500 --> 01:33:30,850 But I don't--

1911 01:33:30,850 --> 01:33:31,810 It's that movie-- 01:33:31,810 --> 01:33:33,230 That's right.

1913 01:33:33,230 --> 01:33:37,780 --mogul who has the--

1914 01:33:37,780 --> 01:33:39,970 well, there are three guys together now.

1915 01:33:39,970 --> 01:33:42,370 It's the Disney on the thing.

1916 01:33:42,370 --> 01:33:43,880 He is one of them.

1917 01:33:43,880 --> 01:33:46,960 And we found out indirectly there

1918 01:33:46,960 --> 01:33:54,005 is a little bit stretched this cousin of what her name was.

1919 01:33:54,005 --> 01:33:54,505 OK.

1920 01:33:54,505 --> 01:33:56,470 Of Hilda.

1921 01:33:56,470 --> 01:33:57,580 And when was she born?

1922 01:33:57,580 --> 01:33:58,600 Do you know?

1923 01:33:58,600 --> 01:34:00,080 1920.

1924 01:34:00,080 --> 01:34:00,580 OK. 1925 01:34:00,580 --> 01:34:02,330 So she was six years younger than you?

1926 01:34:02,330 --> 01:34:04,300 Yeah.

1927

01:34:04,300 --> 01:34:05,850 And she passed away.

1928

01:34:05,850 --> 01:34:09,070 In '14, 2014.

1929

01:34:09,070 --> 01:34:09,910 2014.

1930

01:34:09,910 --> 01:34:17,020 She also came here, and she also took an apprenticeship

1931

01:34:17,020 --> 01:34:22,780 in Germany before she left.

1932

01:34:22,780 --> 01:34:26,160 She had an affidavit in the booklet and everything else,

1933

01:34:26,160 --> 01:34:28,990 where she was qualified as a--

1934

01:34:28,990 --> 01:34:31,540

1935

01:34:31,540 --> 01:34:32,620 not as a tailor.

1936 01:34:32,620 --> 01:34:33,530 What do you call it?

1937 01:34:33,530 --> 01:34:34,410 Seamstress? 1938 01:34:34,410 --> 01:34:36,850 No, not a seamstress.

1939 01:34:36,850 --> 01:34:39,940 She could make the clothing.

1940

01:34:39,940 --> 01:34:42,910 And when she came here, I don't know what the heck is the name.

1941 01:34:42,910 --> 01:34:43,780 It's not clothing.

1942 01:34:43,780 --> 01:34:47,620 It's a-- she was a certified--

1943 01:34:47,620 --> 01:34:50,330

1944 01:34:50,330 --> 01:34:53,020 I can't think of the name what she was.

1945

01:34:53,020 --> 01:34:55,740 Anyhow, she came here to the country.

1946 01:34:55,740 --> 01:34:59,160 She went to Bergdorf Goodman.

1947 01:34:59,160 --> 01:35:02,790 She showed this letter to the owner.

1948 01:35:02,790 --> 01:35:05,520 They hired her to be there.

1949 01:35:05,520 --> 01:35:09,360 She was in charge of made-to-order dresses 1950 01:35:09,360 --> 01:35:14,010 for all the well-to-do people who came the Bergdorf Goodman.

1951 01:35:14,010 --> 01:35:14,715 Custom.

1952 01:35:14,715 --> 01:35:15,215 Custom.

1953 01:35:15,215 --> 01:35:15,930 Custom clothing.

1954 01:35:15,930 --> 01:35:18,090 Custom-made clothing.

1955 01:35:18,090 --> 01:35:20,880 Bespoke is, I think, the way the British would say.

1956 01:35:20,880 --> 01:35:22,050 Bespoke clothing.

1957 01:35:22,050 --> 01:35:23,350 Bespoke suits.

1958 01:35:23,350 --> 01:35:23,850 Bespoke.

1959 01:35:23,850 --> 01:35:26,426 She worked for Bergdorf Goodman.

1960 01:35:26,426 --> 01:35:28,910 God, that was so long.

1961 01:35:28,910 --> 01:35:30,066 OK.

1962 01:35:30,066 --> 01:35:31,980 It was a very good job for her. 1963 01:35:31,980 --> 01:35:33,950 OK.

1964 01:35:33,950 --> 01:35:42,900 So when you-- your work life was at this Lutz company--

1965

01:35:42,900 --> 01:35:46,890 That was before the war.

1966

01:35:46,890 --> 01:35:47,520 That's right.

1967

01:35:47,520 --> 01:35:48,570 In Brooklyn.

1968

01:35:48,570 --> 01:35:49,780 In Brooklyn.

1969

01:35:49,780 --> 01:35:56,040 And when the war starts, do you remember?

1970

01:35:56,040 --> 01:35:58,230 Oh, let me-- before we start the war,

1971

01:35:58,230 --> 01:36:00,690 were you reading newspapers about what

1972

01:36:00,690 --> 01:36:03,220 was going on in Germany during your time here?

1973 01:36:03,220 --> 01:36:04,600 Sure.

1974 01:36:04,600 --> 01:36:06,210 Which newspapers would you read? 01:36:06,210 --> 01:36:07,030 Well, I don't know.

1976 01:36:07,030 --> 01:36:08,490 The Times mostly.

1977 01:36:08,490 --> 01:36:09,840 So English language newspapers.

1978 01:36:09,840 --> 01:36:15,720 I always was very much a Times reader.

1979 01:36:15,720 --> 01:36:16,800 OK.

1980 01:36:16,800 --> 01:36:19,290 So you were all--

1981 01:36:19,290 --> 01:36:22,380 was it that you were following the news of what was going on

1982 01:36:22,380 --> 01:36:24,507 in Germany in an active way?

1983 01:36:24,507 --> 01:36:25,590 That's really my question.

1984 01:36:25,590 --> 01:36:26,430 Yeah.

1985 01:36:26,430 --> 01:36:27,480 All right.

1986 01:36:27,480 --> 01:36:32,520 And the source of this was mostly The Times.

1987 01:36:32,520 --> 01:36:36,120 Well, I mean, you hear from other people too. 1988 01:36:36,120 --> 01:36:38,630 But mostly The Times or radio.

1989 01:36:38,630 --> 01:36:41,460 Now, radio was already available.

1990 01:36:41,460 --> 01:36:41,960 OK.

1991 01:36:41,960 --> 01:36:44,610 There were a couple of very famous American journalists

1992 01:36:44,610 --> 01:36:46,950 who were in Germany during those years,

1993 01:36:46,950 --> 01:36:49,083 William Shiver was there.

1994 01:36:49,083 --> 01:36:50,250 Did you hear his broadcasts?

1995 01:36:50,250 --> 01:36:51,400 Sure.

1996 01:36:51,400 --> 01:36:52,440 OK.

1997 01:36:52,440 --> 01:36:54,330 And then, of course, after the war, it was--

1998 01:36:54,330 --> 01:36:56,990

1999 01:36:56,990 --> 01:37:00,350 his name escapes me now, but he had that very famous report 2000 01:37:00,350 --> 01:37:03,570 from Buchenwald.

2001 01:37:03,570 --> 01:37:05,270 He's on 20 minutes.

2002 01:37:05,270 --> 01:37:06,290 Murrow?

2003 01:37:06,290 --> 01:37:07,280 Was it--

2004 01:37:07,280 --> 01:37:08,030 Ed Murrow.

2005 01:37:08,030 --> 01:37:08,570 Ed Murrow.

2006 01:37:08,570 --> 01:37:09,070 Right.

2007 01:37:09,070 --> 01:37:09,660 Yeah.

2008 01:37:09,660 --> 01:37:10,160 Yeah.

2009 01:37:10,160 --> 01:37:12,560

2010 01:37:12,560 --> 01:37:14,960 Did you read German language newspapers?

2011 01:37:14,960 --> 01:37:15,680 No.

2012 01:37:15,680 --> 01:37:16,490 OK.

2013

01:37:16,490 --> 01:37:18,050 You know, it's a funny thing.

2014 01:37:18,050 --> 01:37:22,440

2015 01:37:22,440 --> 01:37:27,920 We never spoke German in our household.

2016 01:37:27,920 --> 01:37:31,600 Even though my parents--

2017 01:37:31,600 --> 01:37:34,510 I had to speak somehow--

2018 01:37:34,510 --> 01:37:42,830 my daughter, she can understand and speaks haltingly German.

2019 01:37:42,830 --> 01:37:48,320 Our son can understand it but not speak it, no.

2020 01:37:48,320 --> 01:37:54,310 Now, I not only spoke French and English,

2021 01:37:54,310 --> 01:37:57,070 but the army made me learn Russian.

2022 01:37:57,070 --> 01:37:59,580

2023 01:37:59,580 --> 01:38:00,690 I went to the--

2024 01:38:00,690 --> 01:38:02,400 when I came here--

2025 01:38:02,400 --> 01:38:05,490

> This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy.

before I went overseas, I should say,

2026

01:38:05,490 --> 01:38:10,620 they drafted me and made me go to the University

2027 01:38:10,620 --> 01:38:11,940 of Pittsburgh.

2028 01:38:11,940 --> 01:38:13,500 Oh, really?

2029 01:38:13,500 --> 01:38:17,900 And I went to University of Pittsburgh for nine months.

2030 01:38:17,900 --> 01:38:21,630 And there were a lot

of Russian immigrants,

2031

01:38:21,630 --> 01:38:24,240 teachers, and so forth.

2032

01:38:24,240 --> 01:38:28,620 And I had to learn Russian from morning to night.

2033

01:38:28,620 --> 01:38:30,090 Oh, my.

2034

01:38:30,090 --> 01:38:33,270 And when I was finished, I could--

2035

01:38:33,270 --> 01:38:36,360 I should say not really speak it,

2036

01:38:36,360 --> 01:38:38,415 but I made myself understood in Russian. 2037 01:38:38,415 --> 01:38:41,460

2038 01:38:41,460 --> 01:38:44,430 I don't know why of all--

2039 01:38:44,430 --> 01:38:52,650 I had with me a lot of young boys who came from Yugoslavia.

2040 01:38:52,650 --> 01:38:53,430 That's right.

2041 01:38:53,430 --> 01:39:01,650 Who came from, maybe from Hungary or from Poland

2042 01:39:01,650 --> 01:39:05,430 or from someplace in the eastern part of Europe, who

2043 01:39:05,430 --> 01:39:09,840 had the alphabet, the Russian alphabet, and also

2044 01:39:09,840 --> 01:39:12,480 their language is a little bit better

2045 01:39:12,480 --> 01:39:16,440 than German or English or French.

2046 01:39:16,440 --> 01:39:21,000 They had it a lot easier to learn it.

2047 01:39:21,000 --> 01:39:23,700 For me, it was a tough, tough thing to learn.

2048 01:39:23,700 --> 01:39:25,890 It is a different sensibility.

Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

2049

01:39:25,890 --> 01:39:26,640 Learning Russian--

2050 01:39:26,640 --> 01:39:27,840 You spoke Russian.

2051

01:39:27,840 --> 01:39:31,080 [SPEAKING RUSSIAN] He speaks Russian.

2052

01:39:31,080 --> 01:39:31,620 Oh, yeah?

2053

01:39:31,620 --> 01:39:32,130 Yeah.

2054 01:39:32,130 --> 01:39:33,463 Our videographer speaks Russian.

2055 01:39:33,463 --> 01:39:34,088 [PHONE RINGING]

2056

01:39:34,088 --> 01:39:35,050 Let's cut the camera.

2057

01:39:35,050 --> 01:39:37,770 OK.

2058 01:39:37,770 --> 01:39:39,030 Let's step back a bit.

2059

01:39:39,030 --> 01:39:41,670 Were you drafted or did you volunteer?

2060 01:39:41,670 --> 01:39:47,520 I was drafted because I--

2061 01:39:47,520 --> 01:39:49,080 actually, I could have volunteered,

2062

 $01:39:49,080 \rightarrow 01:39:54,960$ but I had at this time all the work to do for my parents.

2063

01:39:54,960 --> 01:39:58,710 And I couldn't go in the army and do this from the army.

2064

01:39:58,710 --> 01:40:01,080 And my brother and all the same kind of thing

2065

01:40:01,080 --> 01:40:05,370 while I was still able to do it on my own.

2066

 $01:40:05,370 \rightarrow 01:40:09,680$ Once in the army, you have to do what the army tells you.

2067 01:40:09,680 --> 01:40:12,910 And I couldn't do this anymore.

2068 01:40:12,910 --> 01:40:14,340 So you were drafted.

2069

01:40:14,340 --> 01:40:18,360 I was drafted in '43.

2070

01:40:18,360 --> 01:40:21,630 So '43 means that you were then 30 years old?

2071 01:40:21,630 --> 01:40:22,490 29, 30 years old?

```
2072
01:40:22,490 --> 01:40:23,190
Right.
```

01:40:23,190 --> 01:40:23,710 Right.

2074 01:40:23,710 --> 01:40:24,210 OK.

2075 01:40:24,210 --> 01:40:26,720

2076 01:40:26,720 --> 01:40:29,220 And I was-- not only was--

2077 01:40:29,220 --> 01:40:32,760 once I was finished with the Russian business,

2078 01:40:32,760 --> 01:40:35,920 then they pulled me over to Ritchie.

2079 01:40:35,920 --> 01:40:36,420 OK.

2080 01:40:36,420 --> 01:40:38,440 Tell us what is Ritchie.

2081 01:40:38,440 --> 01:40:41,110 Ritchie is outside of Washington.

2082 01:40:41,110 --> 01:40:41,610 OK.

2083 01:40:41,610 --> 01:40:43,290 And what was it?

2084 01:40:43,290 --> 01:40:46,980 It was a camp, just like any other camp is,

2085 01:40:46,980 --> 01:40:51,180 where I think there were 2,000. 2086 01:40:51,180 --> 01:40:53,320 I read it some someplace lately.

2087 01:40:53,320 --> 01:41:00,310 All together, 2,000 immigrants from Europe, mostly Germans

2088 01:41:00,310 --> 01:41:02,380 and other countries as well.

2089 01:41:02,380 --> 01:41:03,040 So young men.

2090 01:41:03,040 --> 01:41:03,540 Yeah.

2091 01:41:03,540 --> 01:41:05,040 All young men.

2092 01:41:05,040 --> 01:41:12,630 And we were taught the German regulations and the German

2093 01:41:12,630 --> 01:41:19,530 Army's insignia and whatever we to know and to learn

2094 01:41:19,530 --> 01:41:23,340 to identify and to keep information

2095 01:41:23,340 --> 01:41:31,130 because once we were overseas, we were always with the troops

2096 01:41:31,130 --> 01:41:36,200 right in front in order to capture somebody

2097 01:41:36,200 --> 01:41:40,910 from the Germans, who we could interrogate and give

2098

01:41:40,910 --> 01:41:45,760 that information to our headquarters

2099

01:41:45,760 --> 01:41:49,000 so they know what they have to face.

2100

01:41:49,000 --> 01:41:51,000 So you were intelligence.

2101

01:41:51,000 --> 01:41:51,500 Yes.

2102 01:41:51,500 --> 01:41:56,040

2103

01:41:56,040 --> 01:41:59,190 Did they know that you had been drafted into the German Army?

2104 01:41:59,190 --> 01:42:02,400

2105

01:42:02,400 --> 01:42:04,410 I don't know if I told them or not.

2106 01:42:04,410 --> 01:42:05,630 I don't know.

2107 01:42:05,630 --> 01:42:07,080 Because I find that really--

2108 01:42:07,080 --> 01:42:11,310 I just find that so unique, that here you start with this

2109 01:42:11,310 --> 01:42:13,440 and then you end up in the American Army.

```
2110
01:42:13,440 --> 01:42:14,040
Right.
2111
01:42:14,040 --> 01:42:16,220
There aren't many
stories like that.
2112
01:42:16,220 --> 01:42:17,580
Right.
2113
01:42:17,580 --> 01:42:19,980
So what was the training course?
2114
01:42:19,980 --> 01:42:21,870
How long did it
last at Ritchie--
2115
01:42:21,870 --> 01:42:24,820
Camp Ritchie?
2116
01:42:24,820 --> 01:42:27,870
I think about three months.
2117
01:42:27,870 --> 01:42:28,650
OK.
2118
01:42:28,650 --> 01:42:36,902
So you were inducted or you're
drafted in what month of 1943?
2119
01:42:36,902 --> 01:42:38,365
Now, the month I don't remember.
2120
01:42:38,365 --> 01:42:39,160
Don't remember.
2121
01:42:39,160 --> 01:42:39,790
OK.
```

2122

01:42:39,790 --> 01:42:42,310 But at any rate, nine months Pittsburgh,

2123

01:42:42,310 --> 01:42:43,780 three months Camp Ritchie.

2124 01:42:43,780 --> 01:42:47,380

2125 01:42:47,380 --> 01:42:49,030 And then what happens?

2126 01:42:49,030 --> 01:42:53,530 Then, I think in '44, we--

2127

01:42:53,530 --> 01:42:57,900 I don't know what year, but a month and a half

2128

01:42:57,900 --> 01:43:00,340 before the invasion, we went to England.

2129

01:43:00,340 --> 01:43:00,840 OK.

2130

01:43:00,840 --> 01:43:04,730 So the invasion was June 6, 1944.

2131

01:43:04,730 --> 01:43:05,900 What was it, '44?

2132

01:43:05,900 --> 01:43:06,400 '44.

2133

01:43:06,400 --> 01:43:07,740 June 1944.

2134 01:43:07,740 --> 01:43:09,240 So that would have

been about April.

2135 01:43:09,240 --> 01:43:09,780 Yeah. 2136 01:43:09,780 --> 01:43:13,300 Sometime in April '44, you were sent to England. 2137 01:43:13,300 --> 01:43:13,800 Right. 2138 $01:43:13,800 \rightarrow 01:43:14,790$ On a troop ship? 2139 01:43:14,790 --> 01:43:15,520 Yes. 2140 01:43:15,520 --> 01:43:16,020 OK. 2141 01:43:16,020 --> 01:43:17,060 It was a convoy. 2142 01:43:17,060 --> 01:43:19,080 It was a bit convoy. 2143 01:43:19,080 --> 01:43:21,530 And where did you land? 2144 01:43:21,530 --> 01:43:24,470 2145 01:43:24,470 --> 01:43:26,980 That is a good question. 2146 01:43:26,980 --> 01:43:28,670 I don't know where in England we landed. 2147

01:43:28,670 --> 01:43:30,980

I have no idea anymore where we land.

2148 01:43:30,980 --> 01:43:32,490 Somewheres on the South Coast.

2149 01:43:32,490 --> 01:43:33,140 I don't know.

2150 01:43:33,140 --> 01:43:34,280 OK.

2151 01:43:34,280 --> 01:43:35,900 And did you stay on the South Coast?

2152

01:43:35,900 --> 01:43:39,680 We stayed near-- not in London.

2153 01:43:39,680 --> 01:43:43,990 We stayed in a city near London.

2154 01:43:43,990 --> 01:43:48,950 All of us, we were in a city near London.

2155

01:43:48,950 --> 01:43:51,920 Did you already belong to a certain unit or division?

2156 01:43:51,920 --> 01:43:53,660 Oh, sure we were.

2157 01:43:53,660 --> 01:43:57,260 At that time, we were six people.

2158 01:43:57,260 --> 01:43:59,460 We were a team.

2159 01:43:59,460 --> 01:44:01,350 I think our team was number 17. 2160 01:44:01,350 --> 01:44:05,990

2161 01:44:05,990 --> 01:44:11,810 There was two captains-no two lieutenants,

2162 01:44:11,810 --> 01:44:18,230 myself is three, and three other fellows, who also were with us.

2163 01:44:18,230 --> 01:44:20,780 We had two Jeeps.

2164 01:44:20,780 --> 01:44:27,320 And that was it, two Jeeps, and a little wagon behind it.

2165 01:44:27,320 --> 01:44:32,390 And we were a separate unit by itself.

2166 01:44:32,390 --> 01:44:35,274 And all of you had been emigres, refugees from Germany?

2167 01:44:35,274 --> 01:44:41,540 All of those people had been with German background.

2168 01:44:41,540 --> 01:44:43,880 Did you have a rank?

2169 01:44:43,880 --> 01:44:45,350 Did you have a rank?

2170 01:44:45,350 --> 01:44:48,460 Were you were a soldier, a sergeant, a private, a--

2171 01:44:48,460 --> 01:44:51,620 Yeah, my-- that's interesting too.

2172 01:44:51,620 --> 01:44:57,155 At one time, they offered it to me when I was in the army.

2173 01:44:57,155 --> 01:45:00,810 They offered to me to become an officer.

2174 01:45:00,810 --> 01:45:02,560 And they said I should go--

2175 01:45:02,560 --> 01:45:05,700 I should apply for it because I have the qualifications

2176 01:45:05,700 --> 01:45:07,740 to become an officer.

2177 01:45:07,740 --> 01:45:11,220 So I said to myself, if I become an officer,

2178 01:45:11,220 --> 01:45:14,700 I will end up as a lieutenant.

2179 01:45:14,700 --> 01:45:16,650 And a lieutenant, first lieutenant,

2180 01:45:16,650 --> 01:45:19,110 or a second lieutenant, and then maybe a captain,

2181 01:45:19,110 --> 01:45:21,450 and so forth, they are the lowest

2182 01:45:21,450 --> 01:45:27,170 of all the ranking officers. 2183 01:45:27,170 --> 01:45:32,450 They all have to do what the others tell them to do.

2184 01:45:32,450 --> 01:45:36,050 I became a master sergeant.

2185 01:45:36,050 --> 01:45:43,070 That's the highest rank in the non-commissioned rank.

2186 01:45:43,070 --> 01:45:47,120 I mean, you cannot get higher, is a master sergeant.

2187 01:45:47,120 --> 01:45:52,500 And I was able to tell others what to do.

2188 01:45:52,500 --> 01:45:54,470 And I didn't have to do it.

2189 01:45:54,470 --> 01:45:57,750 So I said, I'm not going to become an officer.

2190 01:45:57,750 --> 01:46:01,550 I am going to be a master sergeant,

2191 01:46:01,550 --> 01:46:03,980 and nobody is going to tell me what to do.

2192 01:46:03,980 --> 01:46:05,900 If something comes up, I tell them,

2193 01:46:05,900 --> 01:46:09,620 the next one is sergeant or the corporal or the private 01:46:09,620 --> 01:46:14,030 to do this and this and this because I know how it works.

2195 01:46:14,030 --> 01:46:14,822 So I--

2196 01:46:14,822 --> 01:46:15,580 Smart.

2197 01:46:15,580 --> 01:46:18,510 I refuse to become a lieutenant.

2198 01:46:18,510 --> 01:46:19,130 OK.

2199 01:46:19,130 --> 01:46:21,590 That's why I did never become OCS.

2200 01:46:21,590 --> 01:46:22,850 OK.

2201 01:46:22,850 --> 01:46:24,720 So you were a master sergeant.

2202 01:46:24,720 --> 01:46:25,810 Master sergeant.

2203 01:46:25,810 --> 01:46:28,140 OK.

2204 01:46:28,140 --> 01:46:30,910 Now, the six of you--

2205 01:46:30,910 --> 01:46:32,250 And we split up.

2206 01:46:32,250 --> 01:46:33,240 OK.

2207

01:46:33,240 --> 01:46:36,150 There were three-- there was one of-- there were two officers.

2208

01:46:36,150 --> 01:46:39,210 One officer went with three and another of with three.

2209

01:46:39,210 --> 01:46:40,420 OK.

2210

01:46:40,420 --> 01:46:43,820 How long did you stay in Britain?

2211

01:46:43,820 --> 01:46:45,380 Not long.

2212

01:46:45,380 --> 01:46:49,670 We were in a movie, and they showed all kinds

2213

01:46:49,670 --> 01:46:56,210 of German equipment which we had to identify in order

2214

01:46:56,210 --> 01:46:59,720 to know what it means and what they're doing with it.

2215 01:46:59,720 --> 01:47:02,720 And the movies was going on.

2216 01:47:02,720 --> 01:47:06,170 And all of a sudden the movie stopped, and the lights

2217 01:47:06,170 --> 01:47:09,440 go on in the movie house.

2218 01:47:09,440 --> 01:47:12,850 And here they call out a few names,

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2219 01:47:12,850 --> 01:47:15,590 and amongst them also my name.

2220 01:47:15,590 --> 01:47:19,130 That means we had to be ready to go,

2221

01:47:19,130 --> 01:47:25,990 and within the next two hours, we were shipped to the port.

2222

01:47:25,990 --> 01:47:30,850 And within the next few hours, we were already on a ship

2223

01:47:30,850 --> 01:47:32,530 to Normandy.

2224

01:47:32,530 --> 01:47:34,120 Had the invasion started?

2225

01:47:34,120 --> 01:47:37,558 The invasion had just started a week ago.

2226

01:47:37,558 --> 01:47:38,100 So you were--

2227

01:47:38,100 --> 01:47:44,640 And no sooner we got over there, no sooner we got over there,

2228

01:47:44,640 --> 01:47:46,260 we didn't know anybody.

2229

01:47:46,260 --> 01:47:50,440 We didn't know-- you don't know anything.

2230 01:47:50,440 --> 01:47:56,160 So we were told that we were assigned to the French Army.

2231

01:47:56,160 --> 01:47:59,280 There was an army, which called the Second French Armored

2232 01:47:59,280 --> 01:48:03,360 Division, which was we had to be liaison

2233

01:48:03,360 --> 01:48:08,160 between the Americans and the French,

2234

01:48:08,160 --> 01:48:11,740 and since we were able to speak French and so forth.

2235

01:48:11,740 --> 01:48:14,910 So we were with the French all the time.

2236

01:48:14,910 --> 01:48:16,590 And whatever was going on, we had

2237

01:48:16,590 --> 01:48:18,830 to tell them in American at the same time

2238 01:48:18,830 --> 01:48:22,290 so they knew was it coordinated.

2239 01:48:22,290 --> 01:48:27,300 And we went with the French army for Normandy

2240 01:48:27,300 --> 01:48:34,080 'til it ended up in Strasbourg at the end of the war.

2241 01:48:34,080 --> 01:48:35,660 So you were in France. 2242 01:48:35,660 --> 01:48:37,130 I was in France.

2243 01:48:37,130 --> 01:48:38,690 OK.

2244 01:48:38,690 --> 01:48:43,550 And we were with the French Army all the time.

2245 01:48:43,550 --> 01:48:47,037 The name of this General Leclerc.

2246 01:48:47,037 --> 01:48:48,620 I don't know if you ever heard of him.

2247 01:48:48,620 --> 01:48:49,040 I've heard of him.

2248 01:48:49,040 --> 01:48:49,910 I've heard of him.

2249 01:48:49,910 --> 01:48:54,110 He was-- I mean, he was just like-- he was sitting down

2250 01:48:54,110 --> 01:49:00,080 with you, it didn't matter that he was the high general.

2251 01:49:00,080 --> 01:49:03,110 He was down to earth fellow.

2252 01:49:03,110 --> 01:49:05,120 And he also had--

2253 01:49:05,120 --> 01:49:07,730 he had troubles before with de Gaulle 2254 01:49:07,730 --> 01:49:09,410 and all this kind of stuff.

2255 01:49:09,410 --> 01:49:12,350 But he was really down to earth fellow.

2256 01:49:12,350 --> 01:49:14,960 And we got along very well.

2257 01:49:14,960 --> 01:49:19,250 But came lunchtime, between 12:00 and 2:00,

2258 01:49:19,250 --> 01:49:21,620 there was no war.

2259 01:49:21,620 --> 01:49:23,460 This is the French army.

2260 01:49:23,460 --> 01:49:26,870 Between 12:00 and 2:00, he had dinner.

2261 01:49:26,870 --> 01:49:29,870 No matter where the battle was on, he says,

2262 01:49:29,870 --> 01:49:32,840 that is dinner time.

2263 01:49:32,840 --> 01:49:33,950 I mean, it was--

2264 01:49:33,950 --> 01:49:37,660 I mean, it was a wonderful guy, a wonderful guy.

2265 01:49:37,660 --> 01:49:41,180 But when it was serious, he was really there. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

2266 01:49:41,180 --> 01:49:44,000 And we went with him through the whole campaign.

2267 01:49:44,000 --> 01:49:47,660 We were the ones who entered Paris with him.

2268 01:49:47,660 --> 01:49:49,400 We were the only--

2269 01:49:49,400 --> 01:49:55,620 the Americans allowed the French to liberate Paris,

2270 01:49:55,620 --> 01:49:58,400 even so the Americans were ahead of us.

2271 01:49:58,400 --> 01:50:01,880 But they said, we don't want to do it.

2272 01:50:01,880 --> 01:50:06,020 Let the French come into Paris first.

2273 01:50:06,020 --> 01:50:08,630 So we went with them into Paris.

2274 01:50:08,630 --> 01:50:10,220 What was that like?

2275 01:50:10,220 --> 01:50:12,380 Oh, that was liberation.

2276 01:50:12,380 --> 01:50:15,110 You should see all the women coming.

2277 01:50:15,110 --> 01:50:16,720 It was something.

2278 01:50:16,720 --> 01:50:22,030 Anyhow, well, one of the things--

2279 01:50:22,030 --> 01:50:25,170 I know you told them that I was at the--

2280 01:50:25,170 --> 01:50:31,010 one of the consuls here now want to give me a decoration.

2281 01:50:31,010 --> 01:50:32,730 That's right.

2282

01:50:32,730 --> 01:50:33,690 So what is it?

2283

01:50:33,690 --> 01:50:35,385 The French Legion of Honor?

2284

01:50:35,385 --> 01:50:36,138 Is this it?

2285

01:50:36,138 --> 01:50:36,930 I don't know what--

2286

01:50:36,930 --> 01:50:40,350 I don't even know what kind of a decoration he wants to give me.

2287

01:50:40,350 --> 01:50:42,220 But it is as a result of serving with--

2288 01:50:42,220 --> 01:50:46,140 It was while we were serving with the French, the Second

2289 01:50:46,140 --> 01:50:49,250 French Armored Division, through all the campaign,

2290

01:50:49,250 --> 01:50:51,900 from the Normandy 'til Strasbourg.

2291

01:50:51,900 --> 01:50:56,760 So tell me, in this campaign, what did you do,

2292

01:50:56,760 --> 01:51:00,720 and what kind of experiences did you have in your role?

2293

01:51:00,720 --> 01:51:05,400 Each day, they sent out with a Jeep

2294

01:51:05,400 --> 01:51:10,930 and so forth, armored vehicles ahead of us.

2295 01:51:10,930 --> 01:51:12,690 I mean, we had to make progress.

2296 01:51:12,690 --> 01:51:13,860 We had to get ahead of us.

2297

01:51:13,860 --> 01:51:21,120 We had to get ahead of the areas and had

2298

 $01:51:21,120 \rightarrow 01:51:24,570$ to find the enemy, where we have to get through.

2299

01:51:24,570 --> 01:51:34,720 We had to find German officers or whoever was caught.

2300 01:51:34,720 --> 01:51:37,150 And we had to interrogate them. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

2301 01:51:37,150 --> 01:51:40,990 And we knew how to do it because even so sometimes they

2302 01:51:40,990 --> 01:51:44,980 didn't want to cooperate, but we know how to do it.

2303 01:51:44,980 --> 01:51:47,830 And we were able to tell them what equipment they had

2304 01:51:47,830 --> 01:51:50,890 and who was in charge, where they were located,

2305 01:51:50,890 --> 01:51:51,890 and all this.

2306 01:51:51,890 --> 01:51:53,740 So we could tell them behind so they

2307 01:51:53,740 --> 01:51:56,520

know where to send artillery where they would bomb

2308 01:51:56,520 --> 01:51:58,150 and all this kind of stuff.

2309 01:51:58,150 --> 01:52:01,240 We were on the front lines every day.

2310 01:52:01,240 --> 01:52:03,070 So you were in a danger zone.

2311 01:52:03,070 --> 01:52:05,090 Most of the time.

2312 01:52:05,090 --> 01:52:07,390 So when you would capture someone,

2313

01:52:07,390 --> 01:52:10,570 and you say they didn't want to tell you, how did you--

2314

01:52:10,570 --> 01:52:14,050 how were you able to get information from them?

2315

01:52:14,050 --> 01:52:15,610 Some of them--

2316

01:52:15,610 --> 01:52:17,800 I tell you, some of them were glad to--

2317

01:52:17,800 --> 01:52:20,470 I mean for them, the war was over.

2318

01:52:20,470 --> 01:52:23,380 Once they were captured, they were not sent back

2319

01:52:23,380 --> 01:52:25,540 to the Germans anymore.

2320

01:52:25,540 --> 01:52:28,110 They were sent back to a prison camp.

2321

01:52:28,110 --> 01:52:31,090 And they didn't have it so bad.

2322

01:52:31,090 --> 01:52:37,390 Sometimes I told them, you can go to a nice camp

2323 01:52:37,390 --> 01:52:39,670 or you can go to a difficult camp.

2324 01:52:39,670 --> 01:52:47,080 And once we-- even I had once a fellow that was in the Austrian

2325 01:52:47,080 --> 01:52:48,340 area--

2326 01:52:48,340 --> 01:52:51,880 I mean, that was already later after France,

2327 01:52:51,880 --> 01:52:54,490 when we were over on the other side of the river--

2328 01:52:54,490 --> 01:53:03,260 of the Rhine River, we called some German major or colonel

2329 01:53:03,260 --> 01:53:04,130 or whatever he was.

2330 01:53:04,130 --> 01:53:05,720 I forgot.

2331 01:53:05,720 --> 01:53:06,740 He wouldn't budge.

2332 01:53:06,740 --> 01:53:10,100 He says-- you know, he joked in German--

2333 01:53:10,100 --> 01:53:13,370 he says, according to the German Geneva Convention,

2334 01:53:13,370 --> 01:53:19,650 I'm only obliged to give you my name, rank, and that's all.

2335 01:53:19,650 --> 01:53:23,300 You know, according to Geneva Convention,

2336 01:53:23,300 --> 01:53:26,090 all he is obliged to tell me his name

2337 01:53:26,090 --> 01:53:30,170 and his rank and his number.

2338 01:53:30,170 --> 01:53:32,010 I said give me your Soldbuch.

2339 01:53:32,010 --> 01:53:33,140 You know, that's his book.

2340 01:53:33,140 --> 01:53:35,330 Everybody had a Soldbuch.

2341 01:53:35,330 --> 01:53:37,640 And once I looked at this, I know exactly what

2342 01:53:37,640 --> 01:53:41,660 was going on because I know the Germans are very, very

2343 01:53:41,660 --> 01:53:43,610 accurate.

2344 01:53:43,610 --> 01:53:45,440 I knew everything I needed to know,

2345 01:53:45,440 --> 01:53:48,230 but I want him to tell me.

2346 01:53:48,230 --> 01:53:50,968 I said you want to talk or you don't want to talk.

2347 01:53:50,968 --> 01:53:52,010 He wouldn't want to talk.

2348

01:53:52,010 --> 01:53:52,760 I said, listen.

2349 01:53:52,760 --> 01:53:55,700 If you don't want to talk, I'll send you out to the Russians.

2350

01:53:55,700 --> 01:53:59,450 The Russians were coming from the other side.

2351 01:53:59,450 --> 01:54:01,760 You know, he wouldn't budge.

2352 01:54:01,760 --> 01:54:03,740 He was so stubborn.

2353 01:54:03,740 --> 01:54:04,590 I said, look.

2354 01:54:04,590 --> 01:54:08,810 You can go to the American prison camp

2355 01:54:08,810 --> 01:54:10,520 or you can go to the Russian.

2356 01:54:10,520 --> 01:54:13,346 You know how they'll treat you.

2357 01:54:13,346 --> 01:54:16,580 He didn't care.

2358 01:54:16,580 --> 01:54:17,750 He doesn't care.

2359 01:54:17,750 --> 01:54:20,550 So stubborn.

2360

01:54:20,550 --> 01:54:21,810 Wow.

2361

01:54:21,810 --> 01:54:23,580 But you had the information from his--

2362

01:54:23,580 --> 01:54:24,220 I got it all.

2363

01:54:24,220 --> 01:54:26,980

2364 01:54:26,980 --> 01:54:29,020 Did you catch anybody who--

2365

01:54:29,020 --> 01:54:32,245 so most of the intelligence was of a military nature.

2366

01:54:32,245 --> 01:54:32,950 All was.

2367

01:54:32,950 --> 01:54:35,650 That is, what is it that you're bombing

2368

01:54:35,650 --> 01:54:38,620 and what kind of equipment do they have,

2369

01:54:38,620 --> 01:54:40,440 and the strength of that particular--

2370

01:54:40,440 --> 01:54:41,260 Right.

2371 01:54:41,260 --> 01:54:43,960 OK.

2372 01:54:43,960 --> 01:54:48,790 And were you in Strasbourg when the war ended?

2373 01:54:48,790 --> 01:54:55,150 We were in Strasbourg where the SS was there two hours before.

2374 01:54:55,150 --> 01:54:59,770 We got in the building where the SS was two hours before.

2375 01:54:59,770 --> 01:55:02,660 The meals-- all the food was still on the table.

2376 01:55:02,660 --> 01:55:05,430

2377 01:55:05,430 --> 01:55:07,280 And they fled across the Rhine River

2378 01:55:07,280 --> 01:55:11,360 to go on the other side of the river while we came in.

2379 01:55:11,360 --> 01:55:13,260 Wow.

2380 01:55:13,260 --> 01:55:13,820 Wow.

2381 01:55:13,820 --> 01:55:15,530 Really fast on their heels.

2382 01:55:15,530 --> 01:55:16,910 Yeah.

2383 01:55:16,910 --> 01:55:18,450 OK.

2384 01:55:18,450 --> 01:55:21,300 And did you go beyond Strasbourg?

2385

01:55:21,300 --> 01:55:21,800 Sure.

2386 01:55:21,800 --> 01:55:24,680

We went up to Vienna.

2387

01:55:24,680 --> 01:55:25,880 With the French.

2388

01:55:25,880 --> 01:55:26,480 No.

2389

01:55:26,480 --> 01:55:27,980 The French stopped.

2390

01:55:27,980 --> 01:55:28,970 OK.

2391

01:55:28,970 --> 01:55:38,570 Once Strasbourg was taken, the French Army, this General

2392

01:55:38,570 --> 01:55:45,050 Leclerc said, they are going to rest now.

2393

01:55:45,050 --> 01:55:49,130 So we-- as we were three and the other three,

2394

01:55:49,130 --> 01:55:53,600 we were then naturally assigned again

2395

01:55:53,600 --> 01:55:57,020 to get back to the American troops.

2396 01:55:57,020 --> 01:56:00,070

And we went back to--

2397

01:56:00,070 --> 01:56:01,046 what is his name?

2398 01:56:01,046 --> 01:56:03,980

2399

01:56:03,980 --> 01:56:07,760 What was this guy who was killed--

2400

01:56:07,760 --> 01:56:09,550 General Patton.

2401

01:56:09,550 --> 01:56:11,160 General Patton.

2402

01:56:11,160 --> 01:56:15,430 Then we were with Patton 'til the end of the war.

2403 01:56:15,430 --> 01:56:15,930 OK.

2404 01:56:15,930 --> 01:56:18,320 And what month did you get to Strasbourg?

2405 01:56:18,320 --> 01:56:19,830 Do you remember?

2406 01:56:19,830 --> 01:56:20,615 No.

2407 01:56:20,615 --> 01:56:21,490 I don't know anymore.

2408 01:56:21,490 --> 01:56:22,520 Well--

2409

01:56:22,520 --> 01:56:23,220 Was it fall?

2410

01:56:23,220 --> 01:56:23,720 Was it--

2411

01:56:23,720 --> 01:56:24,880 It was-- let me see.

2412

01:56:24,880 --> 01:56:27,500 The war was over-when was it over?

2413

01:56:27,500 --> 01:56:29,830 May '45.

2414

01:56:29,830 --> 01:56:32,020 In May.

2415

01:56:32,020 --> 01:56:35,100 So Strasbourg, it must have been in the fall.

2416

01:56:35,100 --> 01:56:43,265 Oh, we were in Belgium before what, the Bulge.

2417

01:56:43,265 --> 01:56:44,640 You were the Battle of the Bulge?

2418

01:56:44,640 --> 01:56:47,217 Yeah, sure.

2419 01:56:47,217 --> 01:56:48,300 That must have been tough.

2420 01:56:48,300 --> 01:56:51,370 We were-- oh, I tell you.

2421 01:56:51,370 --> 01:56:52,900 I had my share.

2422 01:56:52,900 --> 01:56:54,400 Tell me about that.

2423 01:56:54,400 --> 01:56:55,480 I had my share.

2424

01:56:55,480 --> 01:57:00,190 I mean, we were not expecting the German to break through.

2425

01:57:00,190 --> 01:57:06,890 And the Americans were not prepared for it.

2426

01:57:06,890 --> 01:57:10,270 And we didn't have the equipment to hold them back.

2427

01:57:10,270 --> 01:57:13,780 So everybody, even cooks, who were not

2428

01:57:13,780 --> 01:57:16,940 supposed to fight or anybody who was not

2429

01:57:16,940 --> 01:57:23,440 able to do any artillery or any tank or so, but everybody

2430

01:57:23,440 --> 01:57:27,420 was drafted to hold back the Germans who were coming.

2431 01:57:27,420 --> 01:57:36,290 And the weather was bad, was visibly bitter cold snow.

2432

01:57:36,290 --> 01:57:40,840 Then finally, two or three days later, the wagons 2433 01:57:40,840 --> 01:57:43,660 were able to come from the other side

2434 01:57:43,660 --> 01:57:48,940 and were able to break who and captured us and could get us

2435

01:57:48,940 --> 01:57:51,160 out because we were surrounded 1

2436

01:57:51,160 --> 01:57:54,200 And this is when you're still part of General Leclerc's--

2437

01:57:54,200 --> 01:57:56,560 [PHONE RINGING]

2438

01:57:56,560 --> 01:57:58,210 Let's cut.

2439

01:57:58,210 --> 01:58:00,820 So you were still part of the French forces

2440

01:58:00,820 --> 01:58:02,560 during the Battle of the Bulge?

2441

01:58:02,560 --> 01:58:03,580 And it's the American--

2442

01:58:03,580 --> 01:58:05,680 No.

2443

01:58:05,680 --> 01:58:09,910 That was already after it.

2444

01:58:09,910 --> 01:58:13,460 That was with-- what's his name?

2445 01:58:13,460 --> 01:58:13,990

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy. 2446

01:58:13,990 --> 01:58:14,680 Patton.

2447 01:58:14,680 --> 01:58:16,030 OK.

2448 01:58:16,030 --> 01:58:19,060 So you were part of the American forces but surrounded.

2449 01:58:19,060 --> 01:58:19,960 Yeah.

2450 01:58:19,960 --> 01:58:21,898 And then the Americans break through.

2451 01:58:21,898 --> 01:58:25,000

2452 01:58:25,000 --> 01:58:28,510 I got a piece of news in my ear that I should ask you

2453 01:58:28,510 --> 01:58:32,980 about a particular instance which sounds very, very unique.

2454 01:58:32,980 --> 01:58:36,130 Were you involved in protecting the royal family

2455 01:58:36,130 --> 01:58:38,020 in some way in Belgium?

2456 01:58:38,020 --> 01:58:42,230 Well, of course, nothing unique.

2457 01:58:42,230 --> 01:58:45,940 Like I told you, we Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

always for some reason

2458

01:58:45,940 --> 01:58:48,700 or other, we had a fellow--

2459

01:58:48,700 --> 01:58:56,970 I mean, that lieutenant, my age, a daredevil,

2460

01:58:56,970 --> 01:58:58,770 if you can call him.

2461

01:58:58,770 --> 01:59:03,200 He didn't care about the regulations,

2462

01:59:03,200 --> 01:59:06,660 about what is supposed to be and on.

2463

01:59:06,660 --> 01:59:11,090 He says, this is war, and I keep it my way.

2464

01:59:11,090 --> 01:59:17,090 And he always wanted to be there ahead of everybody

2465

01:59:17,090 --> 01:59:19,250 and see when they can get.

2466

01:59:19,250 --> 01:59:24,360 I mean, souvenirs of all kinds of things.

2467

01:59:24,360 --> 01:59:28,050 So we are all of a sudden in--

2468 01:59:28,050 --> 01:59:30,390 that was in somewheres in Austria.

2469

01:59:30,390 --> 01:59:32,940 I forgot exactly where it was.

2470

01:59:32,940 --> 01:59:37,200 We come to area, there is a Nazi soldier standing

2471 01:59:37,200 --> 01:59:39,960 in front of some kind of a gate.

2472 01:59:39,960 --> 01:59:42,020 We come up there.

2473 01:59:42,020 --> 01:59:45,810 And naturally, he right away puts his hand up

2474 01:59:45,810 --> 01:59:47,250 when he saw Americans coming.

2475

01:59:47,250 --> 01:59:49,200 He didn't want to go on to it.

2476

01:59:49,200 --> 01:59:50,910 So he was captured.

2477

01:59:50,910 --> 01:59:52,980 So we ask about, what are you standing here for?

2478

01:59:52,980 --> 01:59:54,570 What's the thing?

2479

01:59:54,570 --> 01:59:57,090 So he told us that there were some important people

2480

01:59:57,090 --> 01:59:58,130 in that castle.

2481 01:59:58,130 --> 02:00:02,550 It was a castle, which he

protected the entrance for.

2482

02:00:02,550 --> 02:00:04,800 So we didn't know.

2483 02:00:04,800 --> 02:00:07,890 So we just drove in in that castle,

2484

02:00:07,890 --> 02:00:10,800 and here was the King Leopold and his wife

2485

02:00:10,800 --> 02:00:16,250 and family from Belgium kept prisoners by the Germans

2486

02:00:16,250 --> 02:00:17,210 all this time.

2487

02:00:17,210 --> 02:00:17,770 Oh, my gosh.

2488

02:00:17,770 --> 02:00:23,370 And we just came in there, and we told them, what's-- what's--

2489

02:00:23,370 --> 02:00:25,750 he says, well, we were not able to get out.

2490

02:00:25,750 --> 02:00:27,220 He says, now you can get out.

2491 02:00:27.220

02:00:27,220 --> 02:00:28,300 Now you get out.

2492 02:00:28,300 --> 02:00:31,690 And he later on gave us a decoration of Fourragere.

2493 02:00:31,690 --> 02:00:34,810 2494 02:00:34,810 --> 02:00:38,690 I mean, we were just always ahead of everything.

2495 02:00:38,690 --> 02:00:43,400 And at one time, unfortunately, this is what I just can--

2496 02:00:43,400 --> 02:00:44,920 if I can remember--

2497 02:00:44,920 --> 02:00:48,800 there were certain things in Austria, mines--

2498 02:00:48,800 --> 02:00:52,270

2499 02:00:52,270 --> 02:00:55,020 I don't know exactly what kind of mines.

2500 02:00:55,020 --> 02:00:57,700 I should know, and I can't think of the name--

2501 02:00:57,700 --> 02:01:04,540 where the Germans had taken jewelry

2502 02:01:04,540 --> 02:01:10,620 of people who they killed or they had accumulated somehow,

2503 02:01:10,620 --> 02:01:13,390 from where, I have no idea.

2504 02:01:13,390 --> 02:01:18,590 Now, if I can tell you, the room is not big enough. 2505 02:01:18,590 --> 02:01:24,450 There were bar-- you know, barrels full of diamonds

2506 02:01:24,450 --> 02:01:25,680 and jewel--

2507 02:01:25,680 --> 02:01:29,550 and valuable things.

2508 02:01:29,550 --> 02:01:30,890 So in these mines.

2509 02:01:30,890 --> 02:01:32,320 In the mines.

2510 02:01:32,320 --> 02:01:34,282 So we're not talking about mines that explode.

2511 02:01:34,282 --> 02:01:36,240 We're talking about mines that are underground.

2512 02:01:36,240 --> 02:01:37,620 Right.

2513 02:01:37,620 --> 02:01:40,330 I think it was--

2514 02:01:40,330 --> 02:01:40,950 what was it?

2515 02:01:40,950 --> 02:01:46,050 It was for reasons, those mines.

2516 02:01:46,050 --> 02:01:48,450 They kept food in those mines.

2517 02:01:48,450 --> 02:01:53,220 They keep it for coolness, for the temperature there.

2518 02:01:53,220 --> 02:01:56,210 I forgot the name of it anymore.

2519 02:01:56,210 --> 02:02:00,660 And also, they had Germans guarding it that all the time.

2520 02:02:00,660 --> 02:02:05,070 We come up there, and we both, we jumped out.

2521 02:02:05,070 --> 02:02:07,930 This German-- those German soldiers, they

2522 02:02:07,930 --> 02:02:10,410 were all glad it was over.

2523 02:02:10,410 --> 02:02:14,370 They gave up you said to hell with it.

2524 02:02:14,370 --> 02:02:15,225 We went inside.

2525 02:02:15,225 --> 02:02:18,050

2526 02:02:18,050 --> 02:02:20,300 I cannot even explain to you.

2527 02:02:20,300 --> 02:02:25,810 This whole area full of barrels and barrels and barrels

2528 02:02:25,810 --> 02:02:29,475 and barrels of nothing but jewelry and diamonds

2529 02:02:29,475 --> 02:02:37,720 and so forth, where the Germans had hidden for whatever reason,

2530

02:02:37,720 --> 02:02:43,000 for future, get it into money or to sell it or something.

2531 02:02:43,000 --> 02:02:44,080 I don't know.

2532 02:02:44,080 --> 02:02:45,400 Oh, my gosh.

2533 02:02:45,400 --> 02:02:48,080 Oh, my gosh.

2534 02:02:48,080 --> 02:02:52,720 And then once you see this, did the US Army take it over?

2535 02:02:52,720 --> 02:02:55,390 We immediately put soldiers--

2536 02:02:55,390 --> 02:02:58,370 American soldiers there-and tell them, you got it.

2537 02:02:58,370 --> 02:03:00,220 You don't let anybody go in.

2538 02:03:00,220 --> 02:03:00,940 Yeah.

2539 02:03:00,940 --> 02:03:05,740 And we had naturally right away reported back

2540 02:03:05,740 --> 02:03:08,950 to our headquarters, and they came up.

2541 02:03:08,950 --> 02:03:11,860 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

And then I don't know exactly what later on happened.

2542 02:03:11,860 --> 02:03:13,155 But just--

2543 02:03:13,155 --> 02:03:13,780 That's amazing.

2544 02:03:13,780 --> 02:03:18,160 --things like that, you didn't expect.

2545 02:03:18,160 --> 02:03:21,620 Did you know by that point about--

2546 02:03:21,620 --> 02:03:25,330 did you have news of what had happened to the Jews?

2547 02:03:25,330 --> 02:03:26,040 In Auschwitz?

2548 02:03:26,040 --> 02:03:26,540 Mm-hmm.

2549 02:03:26,540 --> 02:03:28,030 Oh, sure.

2550 02:03:28,030 --> 02:03:29,400 We went to--

2551 02:03:29,400 --> 02:03:29,900 Dachau?

2552 02:03:29,900 --> 02:03:30,790 Dachau.

2553 02:03:30,790 --> 02:03:33,250 And we liberated the people. 2554 02:03:33,250 --> 02:03:35,530 We were actually in Dachau.

2555 02:03:35,530 --> 02:03:37,340 Tell me about that.

2556 02:03:37,340 --> 02:03:40,770 Well, what can I tell you?

2557 02:03:40,770 --> 02:03:46,690 To get to Dachau and saw the barracks and those people which

2558 02:03:46,690 --> 02:03:51,300 are practically skeleton, more to speak of,

2559 02:03:51,300 --> 02:03:55,980 and we come in there and tell them

2560 02:03:55,980 --> 02:04:05,140 you are now no longer prisoner, they were emotionally,

2561 02:04:05,140 --> 02:04:10,220 you know, so taken that they couldn't explain--

2562 02:04:10,220 --> 02:04:13,960 they couldn't even say anything.

2563 02:04:13,960 --> 02:04:15,020 That was not easy.

2564 02:04:15,020 --> 02:04:16,120 It was terrible.

2565 02:04:16,120 --> 02:04:17,140 It was terrible.

2566

02:04:17,140 --> 02:04:20,710 But you spoke German, and maybe not all of them spoke German,

2567

02:04:20,710 --> 02:04:23,350 but you'd have more ability to communicate

2568

02:04:23,350 --> 02:04:24,670 than most of the others.

2569

02:04:24,670 --> 02:04:25,790 We all knew German.

2570 02:04:25,790 --> 02:04:26,620 OK.

2571 02:04:26,620 --> 02:04:29,300 We, all of us, knew German.

2572 02:04:29,300 --> 02:04:31,520 The cap-- I mean, the

The cap-- I mean, the fellow with me and everybody

2573

02:04:31,520 --> 02:04:32,270 spoke German.

2574 02:04:32,270 --> 02:04:32,770 Yes.

2575 02:04:32,770 --> 02:04:35,220 But I mean, the regular US soldiers who were liberated.

2576 02:04:35,220 --> 02:04:37,080 The regular US soldiers didn't speak German.

2577 02:04:37,080 --> 02:04:37,580 No.

2578 02:04:37,580 --> 02:04:38,360 2579

02:04:38,360 --> 02:04:40,520 So you could communicate with the prisoners.

2580 02:04:40,520 --> 02:04:41,600 Oh, sure.

2581 02:04:41,600 --> 02:04:44,090 Well, what shall I-- should I ask them how do you feel?

2582 02:04:44,090 --> 02:04:44,590 I mean--

2583 02:04:44,590 --> 02:04:45,340 No, of course not.

2584 02:04:45,340 --> 02:04:46,880 Silly to ask.

2585 02:04:46,880 --> 02:04:50,600 I mean, there were some so weak, they couldn't even

2586 02:04:50,600 --> 02:04:52,540 get out of the bed anymore.

2587 02:04:52,540 --> 02:04:58,490 Some died even before they were able to be liberated or taken

2588 02:04:58,490 --> 02:05:01,090 back in the hospital or someplace

2589 02:05:01,090 --> 02:05:02,840 where they would take them.

2590 02:05:02,840 --> 02:05:08,700 There were hundreds of Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

them, hundreds of them.

2591 02:05:08,700 --> 02:05:11,100 Terrible situation, but--

2592 02:05:11,100 --> 02:05:15,000

2593 02:05:15,000 --> 02:05:19,680 Do you remember how you arrived at Dachau?

2594 02:05:19,680 --> 02:05:22,470 Was it also ahead of the Army in a Jeep?

2595 02:05:22,470 --> 02:05:26,430 Was it-- the circumstances of how you got there.

2596 02:05:26,430 --> 02:05:31,350 Well, we asked some people.

2597 02:05:31,350 --> 02:05:32,700 We knew about it.

2598 02:05:32,700 --> 02:05:34,350 Only we didn't know exactly where,

2599 02:05:34,350 --> 02:05:37,320 but then we found somebody in that village

2600 02:05:37,320 --> 02:05:39,270 or nearby the village.

2601 02:05:39,270 --> 02:05:43,860 And we just took them along, and he showed us which way to go.

2602 02:05:43,860 --> 02:05:45,390 So we know which way to go.

2603

02:05:45,390 --> 02:05:46,320 OK.

2604

02:05:46,320 --> 02:05:50,220 I mean, we had to be aggressive too.

2605

02:05:50,220 --> 02:05:55,060 We couldn't be timid about it.

2606

02:05:55,060 --> 02:05:57,090 You do what we tell you or else.

2607

02:05:57,090 --> 02:05:58,082 Yeah.

2608

02:05:58,082 --> 02:06:00,070 Yeah.

2609

02:06:00,070 --> 02:06:04,190 And did you encounter resistance?

2610

02:06:04,190 --> 02:06:06,200 Not really.

2611 02:06:06,200 --> 02:06:08,760 Not really.

2612 02:06:08,760 --> 02:06:14,270 And you said that that lieutenant was not

2613 02:06:14,270 --> 02:06:16,280 a rule-book kind of person.

2614 02:06:16,280 --> 02:06:18,080 Was he with you at this point? 02:06:18,080 --> 02:06:18,950 Yes.

2616 02:06:18,950 --> 02:06:22,790 And were you a head of the army when you entered Dachau or were

2617 02:06:22,790 --> 02:06:24,040 there Americans already there?

2618 02:06:24,040 --> 02:06:25,490 I mean, he was with me.

2619 02:06:25,490 --> 02:06:27,120 He was with me.

2620 02:06:27,120 --> 02:06:27,620 Look.

2621 02:06:27,620 --> 02:06:29,930 You spread out, you know.

2622 02:06:29,930 --> 02:06:34,175 I mean, only with three people, one went this way, one this way

2623 02:06:34,175 --> 02:06:35,810 or this way.

2624 02:06:35,810 --> 02:06:40,230 Different directions, but all over they see the same thing.

2625 02:06:40,230 --> 02:06:44,260 There's very little you can do as a person.

2626 02:06:44,260 --> 02:06:46,300 But they knew--

2627 02:06:46,300 --> 02:06:48,950 I mean, we told them in German-- that we told them

2628

02:06:48,950 --> 02:06:53,480 that no longer any Germans anymore around them.

2629 02:06:53,480 --> 02:06:59,790 We are hear, Americans now, and that you no longer be afraid.

2630 02:06:59,790 --> 02:07:07,300 It was-- I tell you something.

2631 02:07:07,300 --> 02:07:10,050 Somehow, when you come now, since you bring it

2632

02:07:10,050 --> 02:07:16,290 back more so than I ever would have done otherwise,

2633 02:07:16,290 --> 02:07:19,320 it will fade.

2634 02:07:19,320 --> 02:07:21,210 It will fade.

2635 02:07:21,210 --> 02:07:27,930 All this will not longer be so much on your mind

2636 02:07:27,930 --> 02:07:30,620 anymore as time goes on.

2637 02:07:30,620 --> 02:07:35,690

2638 02:07:35,690 --> 02:07:38,690 Is that a good thing?

2639 02:07:38,690 --> 02:07:41,160 It's a normal thing. 2640 02:07:41,160 --> 02:07:43,590 If it's a good thing, I don't know.

2641 02:07:43,590 --> 02:07:46,120 But it's normal.

2642 02:07:46,120 --> 02:07:48,013 Are you saying that because in some ways

2643 02:07:48,013 --> 02:07:50,180 you're not as affected by it as you might have been?

2644 02:07:50,180 --> 02:07:50,680 Look.

2645 02:07:50,680 --> 02:07:52,810 I tell you something.

2646 02:07:52,810 --> 02:07:56,440 There were wars, when you go back to the Romans

2647 02:07:56,440 --> 02:08:01,570 or by the Greeks or by any other wars, whatever happened

2648 02:08:01,570 --> 02:08:05,800 in the world, there were terrible things

2649 02:08:05,800 --> 02:08:07,990 happening in those places.

2650 02:08:07,990 --> 02:08:09,610 And it's history.

2651 02:08:09,610 --> 02:08:13,100 It's written down someplace, Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

and you read about it,

2652

02:08:13,100 --> 02:08:14,520 and you take a notice.

2653 02:08:14,520 --> 02:08:18,070

2654 02:08:18,070 --> 02:08:22,990 Things which happened the last 10 years in Afghanistan

2655 02:08:22,990 --> 02:08:32,700 or in Iraq or in other places all over the East there,

2656

02:08:32,700 --> 02:08:37,430 still not very, very well known to everybody.

2657

02:08:37,430 --> 02:08:42,620 But surely, not very pleasant to hear about it.

2658

02:08:42,620 --> 02:08:47,450 But in time, all this will dis-- not disappear,

2659

02:08:47,450 --> 02:08:53,210 but it will not have the same effect anymore as now.

2660 02:08:53,210 --> 02:09:00,040 This also, it will be history in

This also, it will be history in another 50 years or 100 years,

2661 02:09:00,040 --> 02:09:04,850 that the Holocaust or the Kristallnacht or Hitler

2662 02:09:04,850 --> 02:09:10,200 itself was this and this and so forth. 2663 02:09:10,200 --> 02:09:13,760 And you will read it in the history.

2664 02:09:13,760 --> 02:09:16,100 And that is it.

2665 02:09:16,100 --> 02:09:19,430 It will not change anything.

2666 02:09:19,430 --> 02:09:20,974 It will not change anything.

2667 02:09:20,974 --> 02:09:26,410

2668 02:09:26,410 --> 02:09:30,220 That's kind of fatalistic.

2669 02:09:30,220 --> 02:09:31,740 I'm just-- I'm just responding.

2670 02:09:31,740 --> 02:09:34,450 I mean, I'm not challenging or anything like that.

2671 02:09:34,450 --> 02:09:38,640 But it's-- but a lot of people say the sort of activity that

2672 02:09:38,640 --> 02:09:43,480 we do is in the effort so that it will never happen again.

2673 02:09:43,480 --> 02:09:46,770 And from hearing you say this, I get the sense

2674 02:09:46,770 --> 02:09:48,970 that you're saying it'll all happen again. 2675 02:09:48,970 --> 02:09:50,150 It will.

2676 02:09:50,150 --> 02:09:52,940 And not in the same way.

2677 02:09:52,940 --> 02:09:54,660 I tell you something.

2678 02:09:54,660 --> 02:10:01,440 When we fought the war, every soldier had a uniform on.

2679 02:10:01,440 --> 02:10:04,540 The German were the German uniform, the American uniform,

2680 02:10:04,540 --> 02:10:06,780 the English and so forth.

2681 02:10:06,780 --> 02:10:10,935 You knew your enemy when you saw them.

2682 02:10:10,935 --> 02:10:14,090

2683 02:10:14,090 --> 02:10:16,130 You either took them or you killed them

2684 02:10:16,130 --> 02:10:17,120 or whatever you did.

2685 02:10:17,120 --> 02:10:19,690 That was war.

2686 02:10:19,690 --> 02:10:23,730 The war is no longer like this anymore.

2688 02:10:27,210 --> 02:10:32,310 The enemy can be dressed as you and I am now

2689

02:10:32,310 --> 02:10:39,480 and are very seriously our enemy or opponent

2690

02:10:39,480 --> 02:10:41,240 or God knows what we can call it.

2691

02:10:41,240 --> 02:10:43,210 Just as much as if they had another uniform.

2692

02:10:43,210 --> 02:10:43,960 Right.

2693 02:10:43,960 --> 02:10:44,460 Yeah.

2694 02:10:44,460 --> 02:10:49,260 This is not the same kind of a war anymore like it used to be.

2695 02:10:49,260 --> 02:10:58,470 But it will happen in a different way, I'm sure.

2696 02:10:58,470 --> 02:11:04,317 Things, people, will not change.

2697 02:11:04,317 --> 02:11:05,150 And you will see it.

2698 02:11:05,150 --> 02:11:07,940 You see it now over there. 2699 02:11:07,940 --> 02:11:09,890 And I'll tell this right now--

2700

02:11:09,890 --> 02:11:11,610 and you know what is the cause of it?

2701

02:11:11,610 --> 02:11:14,330

2702

02:11:14,330 --> 02:11:15,165 What?

2703

02:11:15,165 --> 02:11:15,665 Religion.

2704 02:11:15,665 --> 02:11:18,870

2705

02:11:18,870 --> 02:11:22,970 Religion has caused more of this than everything else.

2706

02:11:22,970 --> 02:11:26,090

2707

02:11:26,090 --> 02:11:27,890 If you're a different religion, they

2708

02:11:27,890 --> 02:11:30,110 kill you because they don't believe

2709

02:11:30,110 --> 02:11:33,140 that you are of the same kind, and they

2710

02:11:33,140 --> 02:11:36,170 say you have to be killed because you are not 2711 02:11:36,170 --> 02:11:38,470 the same as we are.

2712 02:11:38,470 --> 02:11:41,560 Well ISIS or whatever is this name group?

2713 02:11:41,560 --> 02:11:42,340 ISIS.

2714 02:11:42,340 --> 02:11:50,855 They openly say, you are not one of us, and the--

2715 02:11:50,855 --> 02:11:53,500

2716 02:11:53,500 --> 02:11:54,400 what do you call it?

2717 02:11:54,400 --> 02:11:59,070 Not the-- what is their religion?

2718 02:11:59,070 --> 02:11:59,890 Islam.

2719 02:11:59,890 --> 02:12:03,520 Islam says you should be killed.

2720 02:12:03,520 --> 02:12:05,380 Well, many people who are Muslim say

2721 02:12:05,380 --> 02:12:08,860 that that is a bastardization of Islam,

2722 02:12:08,860 --> 02:12:11,410 that they are really just thugs.

2723

02:12:11,410 --> 02:12:14,510 And many of the victims that ISIS has controlled

2724

02:12:14,510 --> 02:12:18,700 have been Muslim, other Islam, other Muslims.

2725

02:12:18,700 --> 02:12:22,200 It gets complicated like that.

2726

02:12:22,200 --> 02:12:26,050 But I don't-- I'm not arguing with your point.

2727

02:12:26,050 --> 02:12:29,040 I think that sometimes we don't have

2728

02:12:29,040 --> 02:12:32,910 that perspective that we should, that there has been war.

2729 02:12:32,910 --> 02:12:35,700 There is war, and there will be war.

2730

02:12:35,700 --> 02:12:39,330 It will change in its manifestations,

2731

02:12:39,330 --> 02:12:41,550 but we will not do away with war.

2732 02:12:41,550 --> 02:12:45,000

2733 02:12:45,000 --> 02:12:46,730 We don't even know.

2734 02:12:46,730 --> 02:12:52,020 I mean, you read and

you turn the page.

2735

02:12:52,020 --> 02:12:56,700 You know, for instance, in Chad in--

2736

02:12:56,700 --> 02:12:57,420 Africa.

2737

02:12:57,420 --> 02:13:00,000 --in Africa, it's--

2738 02:13:00,000 --> 02:13:03,180 I mean, you cannot imagine how big it is.

2739 02:13:03,180 --> 02:13:05,190 It's bigger than Texas or even.

2740 02:13:05,190 --> 02:13:07,050 I don't even know.

2741 02:13:07,050 --> 02:13:10,470 And certain sections which is South and North,

2742 02:13:10,470 --> 02:13:17,840 I don't know exactly, they kill those people every day.

2743 02:13:17,840 --> 02:13:19,710 What do we do?

2744 02:13:19,710 --> 02:13:21,737 Yeah.

2745 02:13:21,737 --> 02:13:22,320 It's going on.

2746 02:13:22,320 --> 02:13:26,350 2747 02:13:26,350 --> 02:13:30,400 For what reasons do they get killed?

2748 02:13:30,400 --> 02:13:33,940 Because the other ones don't agree that they

2749 02:13:33,940 --> 02:13:35,790 are the same kind what we are.

2750 02:13:35,790 --> 02:13:37,570 And therefore, we have to get rid of them.

2751 02:13:37,570 --> 02:13:40,340

2752 02:13:40,340 --> 02:13:48,950 It's the way people live, the way things go.

2753 02:13:48,950 --> 02:13:52,700 Well, then how do you go forward?

2754 02:13:52,700 --> 02:13:55,700 With that kind of knowledge, how do you go forward?

2755 02:13:55,700 --> 02:13:58,550

2756 02:13:58,550 --> 02:14:03,630 I don't think we ever-well, what can I say?

2757 02:14:03,630 --> 02:14:04,390 I'm not a--

2758 02:14:04,390 --> 02:14:07,040 2759 02:14:07,040 --> 02:14:09,740 I have no way of explaining it or even

2760 02:14:09,740 --> 02:14:13,780 give you an answer to this, which is almost impossible.

2761 02:14:13,780 --> 02:14:23,340 It's the nature in a person that does this.

2762 02:14:23,340 --> 02:14:25,550 I don't know.

2763 02:14:25,550 --> 02:14:27,680 Did you feel that kind of anger too?

2764 02:14:27,680 --> 02:14:30,310

2765 02:14:30,310 --> 02:14:34,810 Not at any time that I would somebody-- that I would say

2766 02:14:34,810 --> 02:14:37,570 I would kill somebody.

2767 02:14:37,570 --> 02:14:41,800 When you crossed from France into Germany,

2768 02:14:41,800 --> 02:14:45,370 as part of the American Army, was it a different feeling

2769 02:14:45,370 --> 02:14:49,750 from you coming back into the environment that 02:14:49,750 --> 02:14:53,150 had been your home?

2771 02:14:53,150 --> 02:14:56,080 No.

2772 02:14:56,080 --> 02:15:01,330 You know, boundaries, like you had

2773 02:15:01,330 --> 02:15:08,600 mentioned as Germany or France, you don't see it physically.

2774 02:15:08,600 --> 02:15:11,230 No.

2775 02:15:11,230 --> 02:15:15,310 You go across an area, and you say now you're in France

2776 02:15:15,310 --> 02:15:18,970 or you're in someplace else.

2777

 $02:15:18,970 \rightarrow 02:15:31,820$ This is man-made comment, which you either accept or don't.

2778 02:15:31,820 --> 02:15:35,930 But I'm talking the first time you come into a village that

2779 02:15:35,930 --> 02:15:38,540 is German, a town that is German,

2780 02:15:38,540 --> 02:15:43,280 a place where you were in danger, and your family

2781 02:15:43,280 --> 02:15:47,870 was certainly in danger, and most of it didn't survive, 2782 02:15:47,870 --> 02:15:50,720 did that have a different response from you

2783 02:15:50,720 --> 02:15:56,100 than when you were with General Leclerc through France?

2784 02:15:56,100 --> 02:15:58,700 You are-- how should I--

2785 02:15:58,700 --> 02:16:01,210 how should-- I don't know how to put it.

2786 02:16:01,210 --> 02:16:06,030 You are maybe a little bit more on guard.

2787 02:16:06,030 --> 02:16:14,070 You're more-- consider the situation and give it maybe

2788 02:16:14,070 --> 02:16:15,120 some--

2789 02:16:15,120 --> 02:16:17,220 before you were nonchalant.

2790 02:16:17,220 --> 02:16:18,210 You didn't think of it.

2791 02:16:18,210 --> 02:16:23,010 Now, you are aware of it, and you said, I'd better be careful

2792 02:16:23,010 --> 02:16:27,030 or I have to be more guarded or something maybe.

2793 02:16:27,030 --> 02:16:27,630 Maybe.

2794

02:16:27,630 --> 02:16:30,840 I don't know if that's the right answer or not.

2795 02:16:30,840 --> 02:16:35,250 You could say that, yes, what you say now is true.

2796 02:16:35,250 --> 02:16:37,080 You could say that.

2797 02:16:37,080 --> 02:16:53,110 But not-- I mean, I have been back in Germany many times.

2798 02:16:53,110 --> 02:16:57,100 And I spoke to people who I know they were Nazis.

2799 02:16:57,100 --> 02:16:58,420 I mean, call them Nazis.

2800 02:16:58,420 --> 02:17:00,820 They were sympathizers.

2801 02:17:00,820 --> 02:17:04,780 And all of them, they were Christian.

2802 02:17:04,780 --> 02:17:10,540 And I ask them, don't tell me you didn't care for Hitler

2803 02:17:10,540 --> 02:17:12,580 and all this other thing.

2804 02:17:12,580 --> 02:17:16,629 Well, in one way, you have to have the mentality

2805

02:17:16,629 --> 02:17:18,910 Contact referen

2806 02:17:18,910 --> 02:17:22,450 Germany, was down and finished.

2807 02:17:22,450 --> 02:17:26,170 He came along and brought it up.

2808 02:17:26,170 --> 02:17:28,450 And he unified it.

2809 02:17:28,450 --> 02:17:34,780 And he'd succeeded in some way, hook or crook,

2810 02:17:34,780 --> 02:17:40,540 to get more out of the other allies.

2811 02:17:40,540 --> 02:17:44,500 And he did more and more for Germans.

2812 02:17:44,500 --> 02:17:48,340 And they naturally lived through this,

2813 02:17:48,340 --> 02:17:51,100 and they saw what he's doing.

2814 02:17:51,100 --> 02:17:56,260 They wouldn't say we didn't love him.

2815 02:17:56,260 --> 02:18:01,180 But we respect him because he was their leader.

2816 02:18:01,180 --> 02:18:03,150 And they got along. 02:18:03,150 --> 02:18:07,780 When I would ask them, what about the Jewish people

2818 02:18:07,780 --> 02:18:09,100 who lived there?

2819 02:18:09,100 --> 02:18:11,320 Would you-- what you have--

2820 02:18:11,320 --> 02:18:13,719 they'd say, well, look.

2821 02:18:13,719 --> 02:18:19,030 We know his-- what do you call his--

2822 02:18:19,030 --> 02:18:19,725 Policies?

2823 02:18:19,725 --> 02:18:20,225 Policies.

2824 02:18:20,225 --> 02:18:21,430 His ideology.

2825 02:18:21,430 --> 02:18:26,230 And that he hated the Jews and wanted to get rid of it.

2826 02:18:26,230 --> 02:18:31,270 And we had to abide by it because if we would

2827 02:18:31,270 --> 02:18:34,660 have done sympathizing with the Jews,

2828 02:18:34,660 --> 02:18:37,100 they would have killed us.

2829 02:18:37,100 --> 02:18:39,540 They would.

2830

02:18:39,540 --> 02:18:41,670 They would have killed them because they

2831 02:18:41,670 --> 02:18:43,740 were nice to the Jews.

2832 02:18:43,740 --> 02:18:50,219 So they were not sympathetic one way and not helpful

2833 02:18:50,219 --> 02:18:52,290 on the other way either.

2834 02:18:52,290 --> 02:18:54,629 Did those answers satisfy you?

2835 02:18:54,629 --> 02:18:57,680

2836 02:18:57,680 --> 02:19:00,180 Now, you have to be objective.

2837 02:19:00,180 --> 02:19:04,459 Put yourself in their shoes.

2838 02:19:04,459 --> 02:19:06,240 I don't know.

2839 02:19:06,240 --> 02:19:11,790 There was a-- what do you call it--

2840 02:19:11,790 --> 02:19:17,530 television program not too long ago in Nuremberg.

2841 02:19:17,530 --> 02:19:19,200 I don't know if you saw it or not. 2842 02:19:19,200 --> 02:19:20,100 About Nuremberg?

2843 02:19:20,100 --> 02:19:20,790 Yeah.

2844 02:19:20,790 --> 02:19:24,150 The trial of Nuremberg or something.

2845 02:19:24,150 --> 02:19:29,490 And you'll see the scenes, which this was an old movie, I guess.

2846 02:19:29,490 --> 02:19:33,049 You see the scenes, which Tracy--

2847 02:19:33,049 --> 02:19:34,410 what his name?

2848 02:19:34,410 --> 02:19:36,180 Actor Tracy was the judge.

2849 02:19:36,180 --> 02:19:37,980 Oh, Spencer Tracy.

2850 02:19:37,980 --> 02:19:38,600 Spencer Tracy.

2851 02:19:38,600 --> 02:19:39,100 Oh, yeah.

2852 02:19:39,100 --> 02:19:40,270 Judgment at Nuremberg.

2853 02:19:40,270 --> 02:19:41,190 There is that film.

2854 02:19:41,190 --> 02:19:41,940 I knew that film.

2855 02:19:41,940 --> 02:19:42,750 Right.

```
2856
02:19:42,750 --> 02:19:43,379
You saw it?
```

2857 02:19:43,379 --> 02:19:44,040 Mm-hmm.

2858 02:19:44,040 --> 02:19:45,010 Years ago.

2859 02:19:45,010 --> 02:19:46,680 OK.

2860 02:19:46,680 --> 02:19:51,390 Now, those Germans explain to them

2861 02:19:51,390 --> 02:19:53,550 exactly what I said just now.

2862 02:19:53,550 --> 02:19:56,880 You have to put yourself in their shoes

2863 02:19:56,880 --> 02:19:59,520 and think, what would you have done?

2864 02:19:59,520 --> 02:20:03,620

2865 02:20:03,620 --> 02:20:07,440 That's the way it looks.

2866 02:20:07,440 --> 02:20:09,930 They wouldn't have helped the Jews, it's true. 2867 02:20:09,930 --> 02:20:12,770

2868 02:20:12,770 --> 02:20:14,764 But that's the way it is.

2869 02:20:14,764 --> 02:20:19,810

2870 02:20:19,810 --> 02:20:23,560 And your point of view is one that I

2871 02:20:23,560 --> 02:20:28,420 would say not many share who were direct victims.

2872 02:20:28,420 --> 02:20:29,050 Some do.

2873 02:20:29,050 --> 02:20:32,440

2874 02:20:32,440 --> 02:20:37,630 I mean, take for instance, it's very hard for me

2875 02:20:37,630 --> 02:20:40,220 to get this across.

2876 02:20:40,220 --> 02:20:44,080 There were people were told shoot this guy.

2877 02:20:44,080 --> 02:20:46,720

2878 02:20:46,720 --> 02:20:48,270 He's a commanding officer.

2879 02:20:48,270 --> 02:20:49,570

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You are the soldier.

2880

02:20:49,570 --> 02:20:51,110 There is the person.

2881 02:20:51,110 --> 02:20:53,970 I tell you, you shoot this guy.

2882

02:20:53,970 --> 02:20:55,890 If you say, why should I shoot this guy?

2883

02:20:55,890 --> 02:20:57,900 He didn't do-- you know what I mean?

2884

02:20:57,900 --> 02:20:59,930 You don't want to do it.

2885

02:20:59,930 --> 02:21:01,680 If you don't want to do it, he said, well,

2886

02:21:01,680 --> 02:21:07,020 I will shoot you because you refused his orders.

2887

02:21:07,020 --> 02:21:08,722 What would you do?

2888

02:21:08,722 --> 02:21:09,222 Yeah.

2889 02:21:09.222 --> 02:21:13

02:21:09,222 --> 02:21:13,400

2890

02:21:13,400 --> 02:21:17,330 You have to be sometimes saying, what would I

2891 02:21:17,330 --> 02:21:19,850 do under the circumstances? 2892 02:21:19,850 --> 02:21:25,250 That was the answer the Germans gave the Allies.

2893 02:21:25,250 --> 02:21:27,560 We didn't want this.

2894 02:21:27,560 --> 02:21:30,140 We didn't want to have the pogroms.

2895 02:21:30,140 --> 02:21:33,680 We didn't want to have all this Holocaust business

2896 02:21:33,680 --> 02:21:37,070 or we didn't want to have everybody killed.

2897 02:21:37,070 --> 02:21:38,270 But we had no choice.

2898 02:21:38,270 --> 02:21:42,020 If we wouldn't have done it, we would have been killed.

2899 02:21:42,020 --> 02:21:46,430 He-- or the Nazis or whoever told us you go ahead

2900 02:21:46,430 --> 02:21:48,254 and do this and that, et cetera.

2901 02:21:48,254 --> 02:21:51,140

2902 02:21:51,140 --> 02:21:54,680 This makes sense to you, this point

2903 02:21:54,680 --> 02:21:57,430 of view, this explanation.

2904

02:21:57,430 --> 02:21:59,210 I'm just asking.

2905 02:21:59,210 --> 02:22:01,290 I'm not challenging it or anything like that.

2906 02·22·01

02:22:01,290 --> 02:22:04,610 I'm just asking because many people wouldn't accept it.

2907 02:22:04,610 --> 02:22:07,380 Many people wouldn't accept that explanation.

2908 02:22:07,380 --> 02:22:08,420 Well, tell me why.

2909 02:22:08,420 --> 02:22:11,060

2910 02:22:11,060 --> 02:22:16,250 I mean, if you're are sensible and you

2911 02:22:16,250 --> 02:22:19,660 have to be able to put yourself in somebody else's shoes

2912 02:22:19,660 --> 02:22:28,553 in that same setup, what would you do?

2913 02:22:28,553 --> 02:22:29,345 You have no choice.

2914 02:22:29,345 --> 02:22:34,430

2915 02:22:34,430 --> 02:22:38,930

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And that is exactly why a lot of those people, when I went back

2916 02:22:38,930 --> 02:22:43,640 to a small village and it told them how could you be a Nazi?

2917 02:22:43,640 --> 02:22:46,520 How could you have done this and this and so forth?

2918 02:22:46,520 --> 02:22:47,690 They said, listen.

2919 02:22:47,690 --> 02:22:51,250 If we wouldn't have said everything yes, OK,

2920 02:22:51,250 --> 02:22:54,320 they would have ruined our business.

2921 02:22:54,320 --> 02:22:59,930 That would have destroyed our home or whatever

2922 02:22:59,930 --> 02:23:02,960 they could have done physically to me or my wife

2923 02:23:02,960 --> 02:23:05,100 or to the children.

2924 02:23:05,100 --> 02:23:06,530 Simple.

2925 02:23:06,530 --> 02:23:09,490 So we just said, we didn't say no.

2926 02:23:09,490 --> 02:23:10,430 We didn't say yes. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

2927 02:23:10,430 --> 02:23:15,410 We just said OK or we said nothing even.

2928 02:23:15,410 --> 02:23:20,690 But in their own heart, if you can say it,

2929

02:23:20,690 --> 02:23:22,610 I don't know if they were Nazis or not.

2930

02:23:22,610 --> 02:23:28,420 But openly, you would consider them, yes, they were all Nazis.

2931

02:23:28,420 --> 02:23:36,400 You know, people who grow up in societies that have freedom

2932

02:23:36,400 --> 02:23:40,930 of expression often don't realize the pressure that

2933

02:23:40,930 --> 02:23:43,780 people who grew up in societies where their freedom

2934

02:23:43,780 --> 02:23:45,540 of-- there's no freedom of expression--

2935

02:23:45,540 --> 02:23:46,930 Exactly.

2936

02:23:46,930 --> 02:23:51,280 --what compromises you make, what kind of such choices

2937 02:23:51,280 --> 02:23:52,090 you have to make.

2938

02:23:52,090 --> 02:23:54,050 Exactly.

2939 02:23:54,050 --> 02:23:55,850 And that is--

2940 02:23:55,850 --> 02:24:00,140 I've often heard Europeans say about Americans that you

2941 02:24:00,140 --> 02:24:02,630 don't know what war is.

2942 02:24:02,630 --> 02:24:06,350 You see, I don't know if you understand me.

2943 02:24:06,350 --> 02:24:09,750 I am very much like that.

2944 02:24:09,750 --> 02:24:11,000 Yeah.

2945 02:24:11,000 --> 02:24:16,820 I can see what they tell me, and I understand it.

2946 02:24:16,820 --> 02:24:20,480 I don't always agree with everything,

2947 02:24:20,480 --> 02:24:27,080 but I can also feel why they did this.

2948 02:24:27,080 --> 02:24:29,150 I mean, there were people--

2949 02:24:29,150 --> 02:24:35,210 I mean, there was a fellow who went to school with me.

02:24:35,210 --> 02:24:39,030 We sit on the same rank next to each other.

2951 02:24:39,030 --> 02:24:43,220 We copy things of every--

2952 02:24:43,220 --> 02:24:47,510 I mean, we did whatever normal people do.

2953 02:24:47,510 --> 02:24:51,590 Never was there anything said about religion

2954 02:24:51,590 --> 02:24:53,240 or so that we had.

2955 02:24:53,240 --> 02:24:56,915 But later, he became a big shot in the Nazis.

2956 02:24:56,915 --> 02:24:59,900

2957 02:24:59,900 --> 02:25:01,440 Why?

2958 02:25:01,440 --> 02:25:04,680 Because somebody higher told him, look.

2959 02:25:04,680 --> 02:25:09,630 From now on, you are going to be the police

2960 02:25:09,630 --> 02:25:11,700 officer of this town.

2961 02:25:11,700 --> 02:25:14,550 And you have the qualifications, and you have 2962 02:25:14,550 --> 02:25:17,410 to do such and such and such.

2963 02:25:17,410 --> 02:25:21,150 So now think about it.

2964 02:25:21,150 --> 02:25:22,830 They come up and says, look.

2965 02:25:22,830 --> 02:25:27,090 Tomorrow, you arrest this Jew over there.

2966 02:25:27,090 --> 02:25:31,470 He knows that this Jew didn't-this fellow didn't do anything

2967 02:25:31,470 --> 02:25:32,310 to him.

2968 02:25:32,310 --> 02:25:34,200 And why should he arrest him?

2969 02:25:34,200 --> 02:25:38,040 But he is told we want him arrested

2970 02:25:38,040 --> 02:25:41,390 for whatever reasons they have.

2971 02:25:41,390 --> 02:25:43,380 And these are policeman.

2972 02:25:43,380 --> 02:25:45,270 He has no choice.

2973 02:25:45,270 --> 02:25:50,690 If he says, I'm not going to do it, they said why?

2974 02:25:50,690 --> 02:25:53,020 He has to say, I'm not going to do it.

2975 02:25:53,020 --> 02:25:54,110

Why are you not?

2976

02:25:54,110 --> 02:25:57,710 Because I-- he can't say he's my friend.

2977

02:25:57,710 --> 02:25:59,380 But he can say, why should I?

2978 02:25:59,380 --> 02:26:01,330

He didn't do anything.

2979

02:26:01,330 --> 02:26:05,840 But the other one says, I am telling you you'll do it.

2980

02:26:05,840 --> 02:26:07,420 Will you do it?

2981

02:26:07,420 --> 02:26:07,940 Good.

2982

02:26:07,940 --> 02:26:11,270 If you don't do it, they give him

2983

02:26:11,270 --> 02:26:14,220 whatever they will do with him.

2984

02:26:14,220 --> 02:26:16,870 What are you going to say?

2985

02:26:16,870 --> 02:26:20,170 Do you think that as time goes on,

2986 02:26:20,170 --> 02:26:24,700 each generation understands

this less and less,

2987

02:26:24,700 --> 02:26:27,070 this kind of situation?

2988

02:26:27,070 --> 02:26:31,450 Because you're one of the people who was an adult already

2989

02:26:31,450 --> 02:26:33,520 before the war started.

2990

02:26:33,520 --> 02:26:37,720 And I wonder whether-- you know, you have the perspective

2991

02:26:37,720 --> 02:26:41,230 to see how people talked about it right after the war,

2992

02:26:41,230 --> 02:26:45,520 how they talked about it in the '60s, the '80s, and so on.

2993

02:26:45,520 --> 02:26:50,000 I can tell you that in 100 years from now,

2994

02:26:50,000 --> 02:26:53,410 there will be very few people alive, who

2995

02:26:53,410 --> 02:26:55,420 lived through this Holocaust.

2996 02:26:55,420 --> 02:26:57,490 Oh, of course.

2997 02:26:57,490 --> 02:27:01,340 And the people who hear about the Holocaust,

2998

02:27:01,340 --> 02:27:05,290 oh, they say, oh, we heard about it.

2999 02:27:05,290 --> 02:27:06,950 And we read about it.

3000 02:27:06,950 --> 02:27:08,530 And we know about it.

3001 02:27:08,530 --> 02:27:14,410 But it will go in one ear and out the other and nothing more.

3002 02:27:14,410 --> 02:27:15,820 And they couldn't care less.

3003 02:27:15,820 --> 02:27:18,483

3004 02:27:18,483 --> 02:27:20,400 And you're saying that's the way of the world.

3005 02:27:20,400 --> 02:27:21,690 And that's the way it will be.

3006 02:27:21,690 --> 02:27:26,980

3007 02:27:26,980 --> 02:27:28,990 You went back to Mannheim?

3008 02:27:28,990 --> 02:27:30,130 Yes.

3009 02:27:30,130 --> 02:27:34,420 Right as a-- while you were still in the military?

3010 02:27:34,420 --> 02:27:35,410 No. 3011 02:27:35,410 --> 02:27:37,300 When did you go back?

3012 02:27:37,300 --> 02:27:38,650 A civilian.

3013 02:27:38,650 --> 02:27:39,970 As a civilian.

3014 02:27:39,970 --> 02:27:41,860 I was there many times.

3015 02:27:41,860 --> 02:27:43,540 OK.

3016 02:27:43,540 --> 02:27:47,080 I have some friends there, Germans.

3017 02:27:47,080 --> 02:27:50,920 Matter of fact, they're big shots with BASF.

3018 02:27:50,920 --> 02:27:52,990 I go to Ludwigshafen and Mannheim

3019 02:27:52,990 --> 02:27:58,510 very often because they are big shots.

3020 02:27:58,510 --> 02:28:03,970 They work for BASF, and they have something to show for.

3021 02:28:03,970 --> 02:28:07,590 Anyhow, they tell me the same thing.

3022 02:28:07,590 --> 02:28:09,310 I know they're not Nazis. 3023 02:28:09,310 --> 02:28:13,030 They tell me openly now, we are not Nazis.

3024 02:28:13,030 --> 02:28:17,230 But they explained it to me just like I explained it to you.

3025 02:28:17,230 --> 02:28:20,317 What would you have done if your--

3026 02:28:20,317 --> 02:28:20,817 Yeah.

3027 02:28:20,817 --> 02:28:25,810

3028 02:28:25,810 --> 02:28:30,440 I mean, that's the way of life.

3029 02:28:30,440 --> 02:28:35,100 Things go on and pass.

3030 02:28:35,100 --> 02:28:39,480 It will go on, and yes, the combat will just be history.

3031 02:28:39,480 --> 02:28:41,990

3032 02:28:41,990 --> 02:28:44,870 Is there-- I feel like we've come

3033 02:28:44,870 --> 02:28:48,980 to the end of our interview.

3034 02:28:48,980 --> 02:28:50,900 Is there something I haven't asked you 3035 02:28:50,900 --> 02:28:54,320 about that you think is important that we should--

3036 02:28:54,320 --> 02:28:55,940 because what you just told me, I think

3037 02:28:55,940 --> 02:28:59,330 is something that's very important, what we've just

3038 02:28:59,330 --> 02:29:00,080 talked about.

3039 02:29:00,080 --> 02:29:02,540 Is there something else that you would like to share?

3040 02:29:02,540 --> 02:29:06,360

3041 02:29:06,360 --> 02:29:16,180 Well, I mean to help the Jewish people in a way

3042 02:29:16,180 --> 02:29:18,210 like we are doing--

3043 02:29:18,210 --> 02:29:21,640 I don't know-- here in this country

3044 02:29:21,640 --> 02:29:26,830 or overseas is commendable.

3045 02:29:26,830 --> 02:29:31,210 I mean, it's very nice to help out and all these other things.

3046 02:29:31,210 --> 02:29:35,530 But in many cases, in many cases,

3047 02:29:35,530 --> 02:29:40,510 I sometimes also blame the Jewish people themselves.

3048 02:29:40,510 --> 02:29:41,980 For what?

3049 02:29:41,980 --> 02:29:48,700 That sometimes they are taking a viewpoint

3050 02:29:48,700 --> 02:29:52,210 or they express themselves in such a way

3051 02:29:52,210 --> 02:29:56,730 that is offending others.

3052 02:29:56,730 --> 02:30:00,560 It's sometimes not appropriate.

3053 02:30:00,560 --> 02:30:03,200 I mean, I tell--

3054 02:30:03,200 --> 02:30:05,430 I don't know how much this would--

3055 02:30:05,430 --> 02:30:07,580 Well, do you have an example to illustrate?

3056 02:30:07,580 --> 02:30:09,022 You know Mr. Bloomberg.

3057 02:30:09,022 --> 02:30:10,510 Mm-hmm.

3058 02:30:10,510 --> 02:30:11,790

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The former mayor.

3059 02:30:11,790 --> 02:30:12,910 He used to be mayor.

3060 02:30:12,910 --> 02:30:16,860

3061 02:30:16,860 --> 02:30:19,830 He's a billionaire, whatever he is.

3062 02:30:19,830 --> 02:30:22,770 He doesn't need the money.

3063 02:30:22,770 --> 02:30:30,745 He could have been, if he wanted to, president.

3064 02:30:30,745 --> 02:30:33,420

3065 02:30:33,420 --> 02:30:35,540 And he declined.

3066 02:30:35,540 --> 02:30:39,450 He said-- he's Jewish, not--

3067 02:30:39,450 --> 02:30:42,090 I mean, he's made these assurances, or maybe less.

3068 02:30:42,090 --> 02:30:45,060

3069 02:30:45,060 --> 02:30:52,380 He doesn't show it or he doesn't say anything about it.

3070 02:30:52,380 --> 02:30:59,070 It would be catastrophe for a Jewish person to be president. 3071 02:30:59,070 --> 02:31:00,480 He said that?

3072 02:31:00,480 --> 02:31:03,120 Indirectly, he said it, yes.

3073 02:31:03,120 --> 02:31:08,580 I would never hope that a country like the United States

3074 02:31:08,580 --> 02:31:10,830 will have a Jewish president.

3075 02:31:10,830 --> 02:31:13,050 God forbid.

3076 02:31:13,050 --> 02:31:17,550 That would be the worst thing that Jews could expect.

3077 02:31:17,550 --> 02:31:18,230 And why?

3078 02:31:18,230 --> 02:31:21,600

3079 02:31:21,600 --> 02:31:31,890 Because if things are not going good, it's the Jews' fault.

3080 02:31:31,890 --> 02:31:32,720 They're scapegoat.

3081 02:31:32,720 --> 02:31:35,870

3082 02:31:35,870 --> 02:31:39,010 If it is-- why?

3083 02:31:39,010 --> 02:31:41,620 Don't we-- I don't understand.

3084 02:31:41,620 --> 02:31:48,240 The Jewish people are a minority in the world.

3085 02:31:48,240 --> 02:31:51,480 I don't know how many is the percentage, but what it is.

3086 02:31:51,480 --> 02:31:53,310 We are a minority.

3087 02:31:53,310 --> 02:31:59,660 And we have to somehow say to ourselves we cannot be--

3088 02:31:59,660 --> 02:32:02,960

3089 02:32:02,960 --> 02:32:05,900 tell other people how to run themselves

3090 02:32:05,900 --> 02:32:08,450 or do other things which we tell them.

3091 02:32:08,450 --> 02:32:12,370 We have to be considering also their viewpoint

3092 02:32:12,370 --> 02:32:14,820 more so than ours.

3093 02:32:14,820 --> 02:32:18,950 I think that's very much what we have to be aware of.

3094 02:32:18,950 --> 02:32:21,860 You cannot do it.

3095

02:32:21,860 --> 02:32:24,840 I don't think it would be a good idea that ever--

3096

02:32:24,840 --> 02:32:29,060 you would have, God forbid, a Jewish president.

3097

02:32:29,060 --> 02:32:32,630 Because if-- and being president is often things

3098

02:32:32,630 --> 02:32:34,910 are out of your control, you know,

3099

02:32:34,910 --> 02:32:39,380 whether you're coming in at good times or bad times.

3100

02:32:39,380 --> 02:32:46,590 Look, I don't know if it ever would come to something

3101 02:32:46,590 --> 02:32:49,180 like this, which I doubt.

3102

02:32:49,180 --> 02:32:54,270 But I hope never that America would vote

3103 02:32:54,270 --> 02:32:59,970

or would select a person who is a Jewish to run this country.

3104 02:32:59,970 --> 02:33:01,320 God forbid.

3105 02:33:01,320 --> 02:33:03,610 Things would not go just the way it should be

3106 02:33:03,610 --> 02:33:07,620 or something goes wrong, it would be the Jews.

3107 02:33:07,620 --> 02:33:10,810 That's exactly what they need, a scapegoat.

3108 02:33:10,810 --> 02:33:13,490

3109 02:33:13,490 --> 02:33:15,570 Mr. Bloch, thank you.

3110 02:33:15,570 --> 02:33:20,050 Thank you very much for what you've shared today.

3111 02:33:20,050 --> 02:33:22,350 I appreciate your honesty.

3112 02:33:22,350 --> 02:33:25,470 I appreciate your forthrightness.

3113 02:33:25,470 --> 02:33:34,020 I am awed that at 103 you are as with it as anybody half

3114 02:33:34,020 --> 02:33:38,770 your age and sometimes even more.

3115 02:33:38,770 --> 02:33:40,500 I hope that you're--

3116 02:33:40,500 --> 02:33:41,820 you're a hope for all of us.

3117 02:33:41,820 --> 02:33:45,140

3118 02:33:45,140 --> 02:33:47,450

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Thank you very much for this interview.

3119 02:33:47,450 --> 02:33:52,090 Well let me, on the other hand, also thank you, and your help

3120 02:33:52,090 --> 02:33:58,660 too, for coming and interviewing me

3121 02:33:58,660 --> 02:34:02,800 and give me the opportunity to talk

3122 02:34:02,800 --> 02:34:08,800 about what is done, very easily to be done

3123 02:34:08,800 --> 02:34:13,990 and common and appreciated, that you took it

3124 02:34:13,990 --> 02:34:17,870 on notice that will be on the record even--

3125 02:34:17,870 --> 02:34:19,860 It will be on record.

3126 02:34:19,860 --> 02:34:26,200 Of what value, I have no idea, but certainly it was so good

3127 02:34:26,200 --> 02:34:29,590 and especially appreciate it.

3128 02:34:29,590 --> 02:34:30,460 Thank you.

3129 02:34:30,460 --> 02:34:32,380 Thank you very much. 3130 02:34:32,380 --> 02:34:34,870 And I will say that with this, this

3131 02:34:34,870 --> 02:34:39,700 concludes the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

3132 02:34:39,700 --> 02:34:47,840 interview with Mr. Henry Bloch on May 2, 2017

3133 02:34:47,840 --> 02:34:50,560 in Fresh Meadows, New York.

3134 02:34:50,560 --> 02:34:52,410 Thanks again.