

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,930

2

00:00:03,930 --> 00:00:08,760

This is a United States  
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3

00:00:08,760 --> 00:00:15,120

interview with Dr. Jack  
Steinberger on January 12th,

4

00:00:15,120 --> 00:00:17,520

2017.

5

00:00:17,520 --> 00:00:21,000

It is a phone  
interview taking place

6

00:00:21,000 --> 00:00:24,150

in Washington, where  
the interviewer is,

7

00:00:24,150 --> 00:00:28,110

and in Geneva, where  
Dr. Steinberger is.

8

00:00:28,110 --> 00:00:32,880

Thank you, Dr. Steinberger, for  
agreeing to talk with us today.

9

00:00:32,880 --> 00:00:36,390

We much, much appreciate this.

10

00:00:36,390 --> 00:00:40,650

I will start with my very  
first basic question.

11

00:00:40,650 --> 00:00:43,905

Can you tell me the  
date of your birth?

12

00:00:43,905 --> 00:00:46,950

13

00:00:46,950 --> 00:00:50,070

Yes, I'm born in Bad  
Kissingen, in Germany.

14

00:00:50,070 --> 00:00:53,360

And what was the date?

15

00:00:53,360 --> 00:00:57,000

On May 25th, 1921.

16

00:00:57,000 --> 00:00:57,810

All right.

17

00:00:57,810 --> 00:00:59,595

What was your name at birth?

18

00:00:59,595 --> 00:01:02,220

19

00:01:02,220 --> 00:01:06,540

Hans Jakob Steinberger.

20

00:01:06,540 --> 00:01:07,350

OK.

21

00:01:07,350 --> 00:01:10,840

So it was pronounced  
Hans Jakob Steinberger?

22

00:01:10,840 --> 00:01:11,550

Yes.

23

00:01:11,550 --> 00:01:15,720

Who was-- can you tell  
me your father's name?

24

00:01:15,720 --> 00:01:16,950

Ludwig.

25

00:01:16,950 --> 00:01:18,540

Ludwig Steinberger.

26

00:01:18,540 --> 00:01:19,200

Yes.

27

00:01:19,200 --> 00:01:23,880

And do you know  
when he was born?

28

00:01:23,880 --> 00:01:25,060

No.

29

00:01:25,060 --> 00:01:26,070

OK.

30

00:01:26,070 --> 00:01:27,310

What about your mother?

31

00:01:27,310 --> 00:01:29,710

What was her name?

32

00:01:29,710 --> 00:01:32,040

Her name is Berta .

33

00:01:32,040 --> 00:01:32,760

Berta.

34

00:01:32,760 --> 00:01:35,820

What was her maiden name?

35

00:01:35,820 --> 00:01:38,960

Berta-- my god--

36

00:01:38,960 --> 00:01:43,420

37

00:01:43,420 --> 00:01:45,490

Could it have been May?

38

00:01:45,490 --> 00:01:48,910  
My memory is so terrible.

39  
00:01:48,910 --> 00:01:49,720  
That's OK.

40  
00:01:49,720 --> 00:01:50,440  
That's OK.

41  
00:01:50,440 --> 00:01:52,930  
I can't think of her  
maiden name right now.

42  
00:01:52,930 --> 00:01:54,340  
That's OK.

43  
00:01:54,340 --> 00:01:57,520  
So we ask this just  
for the record.

44  
00:01:57,520 --> 00:02:00,940  
But there are ways of  
finding this information.

45  
00:02:00,940 --> 00:02:02,680  
If you know it, that's good.

46  
00:02:02,680 --> 00:02:05,650  
If not, it is not  
a crucial piece.

47  
00:02:05,650 --> 00:02:07,360  
No, I will certainly  
be able to find it.

48  
00:02:07,360 --> 00:02:08,289  
Yeah.

49  
00:02:08,289 --> 00:02:11,920  
Tell me, did you have  
brothers and sisters?

50

00:02:11,920 --> 00:02:16,010

Yes, I had two brothers.

51

00:02:16,010 --> 00:02:16,810

OK.

52

00:02:16,810 --> 00:02:18,460

One older, one younger.

53

00:02:18,460 --> 00:02:20,470

So you were in the middle.

54

00:02:20,470 --> 00:02:21,340

Yes.

55

00:02:21,340 --> 00:02:24,550

Can you tell me the name  
of your older brother?

56

00:02:24,550 --> 00:02:26,470

My older brother was Herbert.

57

00:02:26,470 --> 00:02:28,120

Herbert.

58

00:02:28,120 --> 00:02:31,780

And when was he born?

59

00:02:31,780 --> 00:02:33,790

A year before I was born.

60

00:02:33,790 --> 00:02:35,710

So 1920.

61

00:02:35,710 --> 00:02:36,520

Yes.

62

00:02:36,520 --> 00:02:38,830

And your younger brother's name?

63

00:02:38,830 --> 00:02:39,910

He's Rudolph.

64  
00:02:39,910 --> 00:02:41,230  
Rudolph.

65  
00:02:41,230 --> 00:02:42,850  
And when was Rudolph born?

66  
00:02:42,850 --> 00:02:45,430

67  
00:02:45,430 --> 00:02:47,390  
A year and a half later.

68  
00:02:47,390 --> 00:02:51,190  
I think it's-- no,  
two years later.

69  
00:02:51,190 --> 00:02:53,560  
So 1923?

70  
00:02:53,560 --> 00:02:54,550  
I think so.

71  
00:02:54,550 --> 00:02:56,920  
OK.

72  
00:02:56,920 --> 00:02:59,800  
Tell me, was your  
father and mother

73  
00:02:59,800 --> 00:03:02,260  
from Bad Kissingen always?

74  
00:03:02,260 --> 00:03:06,880  
Does that mean they were born  
and raised there as well?

75  
00:03:06,880 --> 00:03:07,870  
No.

76

00:03:07,870 --> 00:03:09,460

Where did your father come from?

77

00:03:09,460 --> 00:03:14,050

My father, his family was in--

78

00:03:14,050 --> 00:03:19,690

79

00:03:19,690 --> 00:03:22,992

maybe 15 miles away--

80

00:03:22,992 --> 00:03:25,630

in Schonungen-- OK.

81

00:03:25,630 --> 00:03:28,210

--near Schweinfurt.

82

00:03:28,210 --> 00:03:31,420

And my mother is  
born in Nuremburg.

83

00:03:31,420 --> 00:03:32,740

OK.

84

00:03:32,740 --> 00:03:37,390

All of this sounds like in  
the northern Bavaria region.

85

00:03:37,390 --> 00:03:37,980

Yes.

86

00:03:37,980 --> 00:03:39,280

OK.

87

00:03:39,280 --> 00:03:43,060

Were their families there for  
many generations or had they

88

00:03:43,060 --> 00:03:44,200

been newcomers?

89

00:03:44,200 --> 00:03:49,150

90

00:03:49,150 --> 00:03:51,330

I should know this, but I don't.

91

00:03:51,330 --> 00:03:53,020

Oh, OK.

92

00:03:53,020 --> 00:03:56,320

Do you know anything about  
your father's family?

93

00:03:56,320 --> 00:03:58,330

How many siblings he had?

94

00:03:58,330 --> 00:04:02,650

How they made a  
living and so on?

95

00:04:02,650 --> 00:04:05,920

Well, I should know.

96

00:04:05,920 --> 00:04:09,880

I have the information,  
but not in my head.

97

00:04:09,880 --> 00:04:10,600

OK.

98

00:04:10,600 --> 00:04:15,970

The-- but I think  
my father had--

99

00:04:15,970 --> 00:04:18,430

was one of eight children.

100

00:04:18,430 --> 00:04:19,870

Eight children.

101

00:04:19,870 --> 00:04:24,370



In some other  
material that I read,

102  
00:04:24,370 --> 00:04:28,830  
I think it was mentioned  
that it was 12 children.

103  
00:04:28,830 --> 00:04:31,240  
Well, maybe you're  
right, maybe I'm right.

104  
00:04:31,240 --> 00:04:32,380  
OK.

105  
00:04:32,380 --> 00:04:35,620  
Can you tell me what his--

106  
00:04:35,620 --> 00:04:39,880  
how he supported your family?

107  
00:04:39,880 --> 00:04:41,270  
What did your father do?

108  
00:04:41,270 --> 00:04:43,810  
My father was Cantor  
in the synagogue.

109  
00:04:43,810 --> 00:04:46,060  
He was a Cantor  
in the synagogue?

110  
00:04:46,060 --> 00:04:49,120  
And if I can say something  
about my father--

111  
00:04:49,120 --> 00:04:50,990  
Please, please do.

112  
00:04:50,990 --> 00:05:04,300  
My father was a very  
fantastically kind

113

00:05:04,300 --> 00:05:12,310  
and understanding person who  
helped the Jewish community

114  
00:05:12,310 --> 00:05:16,060  
in Bad Kissingen a great deal.

115  
00:05:16,060 --> 00:05:19,810  
Tell me about this Jewish  
community in Bad Kissingen.

116  
00:05:19,810 --> 00:05:23,080  
Was this a large community?

117  
00:05:23,080 --> 00:05:25,420  
Well, I don't know what is  
large and what is small.

118  
00:05:25,420 --> 00:05:28,990  
But I think there  
were about 300.

119  
00:05:28,990 --> 00:05:30,160  
Families?

120  
00:05:30,160 --> 00:05:30,700  
No.

121  
00:05:30,700 --> 00:05:31,200  
People.

122  
00:05:31,200 --> 00:05:31,900  
People.

123  
00:05:31,900 --> 00:05:33,220  
300 people.

124  
00:05:33,220 --> 00:05:34,030  
And about Bad--

125  
00:05:34,030 --> 00:05:35,800  
I think.

126  
00:05:35,800 --> 00:05:38,650  
And Bad Kissingen  
itself, can you

127  
00:05:38,650 --> 00:05:41,660  
give me a sense of the  
size of this place?

128  
00:05:41,660 --> 00:05:42,160  
Yes.

129  
00:05:42,160 --> 00:05:43,180  
OK.

130  
00:05:43,180 --> 00:05:47,020  
Bad Kissingen was  
a health resort.

131  
00:05:47,020 --> 00:05:48,250  
OK.

132  
00:05:48,250 --> 00:05:52,390  
Of catering to tourism.

133  
00:05:52,390 --> 00:05:53,090  
OK.

134  
00:05:53,090 --> 00:05:58,470  
And had maybe 10,000 or so--

135  
00:05:58,470 --> 00:06:01,060  
I am one of its citizens.

136  
00:06:01,060 --> 00:06:07,150  
And of the 10,000, only about  
300 would have been Jewish.

137  
00:06:07,150 --> 00:06:08,380  
Yes.

138

00:06:08,380 --> 00:06:11,920  
That speaks to a very  
small population compared

139  
00:06:11,920 --> 00:06:14,710  
to the rest of the town.

140  
00:06:14,710 --> 00:06:21,370  
Well, I may be making an  
error, but I think that's--

141  
00:06:21,370 --> 00:06:22,090  
OK.

142  
00:06:22,090 --> 00:06:22,630  
OK.

143  
00:06:22,630 --> 00:06:24,240  
--likely not to be so far off.

144  
00:06:24,240 --> 00:06:24,970  
Yeah.

145  
00:06:24,970 --> 00:06:27,910  
Was there a synagogue  
in Bad Kissingen?

146  
00:06:27,910 --> 00:06:30,050  
Oh, yes, of course.

147  
00:06:30,050 --> 00:06:40,510  
And it was a very  
handsome building,

148  
00:06:40,510 --> 00:06:44,260  
and the surroundings  
were quite beautiful

149  
00:06:44,260 --> 00:06:46,720  
as I remember them as a child.

150  
00:06:46,720 --> 00:06:47,980

Now they're very ugly.

151

00:06:47,980 --> 00:06:55,180

The synagogue was burned  
down during Kristallnacht.

152

00:06:55,180 --> 00:06:58,000

Yes, Kristallnacht.

153

00:06:58,000 --> 00:07:04,450

Were your parents still in Bad  
Kissingen during Kristallnacht?

154

00:07:04,450 --> 00:07:09,670

One moment-- I think so.

155

00:07:09,670 --> 00:07:11,350

Did they tell you--

156

00:07:11,350 --> 00:07:13,240

What year was Kristallnacht?

157

00:07:13,240 --> 00:07:17,830

I believe it was 1938.

158

00:07:17,830 --> 00:07:19,370

It might have been '39.

159

00:07:19,370 --> 00:07:22,780

They were able to leave  
a year or two later.

160

00:07:22,780 --> 00:07:23,980

OK.

161

00:07:23,980 --> 00:07:25,180

OK.

162

00:07:25,180 --> 00:07:28,180

I know it was in November--

163

00:07:28,180 --> 00:07:29,860  
'38?

164  
00:07:29,860 --> 00:07:33,820  
Yeah, it was in  
November 9th, 1938.

165  
00:07:33,820 --> 00:07:37,000  
It was Kristallnacht.

166  
00:07:37,000 --> 00:07:40,060  
The other question  
I have is can you

167  
00:07:40,060 --> 00:07:46,060  
describe for me the memories  
you have of your home, where

168  
00:07:46,060 --> 00:07:48,100  
you lived in Bad Kissingen?

169  
00:07:48,100 --> 00:07:50,350  
What kind of place was it?

170  
00:07:50,350 --> 00:07:53,680  
Was it as-- you know, and about  
your family's more or less

171  
00:07:53,680 --> 00:07:54,400  
status.

172  
00:07:54,400 --> 00:07:57,160  
Were they financially  
well-to-do?

173  
00:07:57,160 --> 00:07:58,960  
Were they struggling?

174  
00:07:58,960 --> 00:08:03,890  
Tell me a little bit about  
your early life in those terms.

175

00:08:03,890 --> 00:08:07,420  
Well, let me see.

176  
00:08:07,420 --> 00:08:10,240

177  
00:08:10,240 --> 00:08:14,070  
We were living in  
the, what was called,

178  
00:08:14,070 --> 00:08:18,100  
the gemeindehaus, right  
near the synagogue.

179  
00:08:18,100 --> 00:08:18,850  
OK.

180  
00:08:18,850 --> 00:08:24,010  
And there were three stories  
in this gemeindehaus.

181  
00:08:24,010 --> 00:08:31,970  
And the middle  
floor was our family

182  
00:08:31,970 --> 00:08:35,950  
and was perfectly comfortable.

183  
00:08:35,950 --> 00:08:49,640  
And in the upper floor lived  
the family of the Christian,

184  
00:08:49,640 --> 00:08:53,030  
or somebody who  
was not a Jew, who

185  
00:08:53,030 --> 00:08:57,080  
would take care of the  
problems that a Jew couldn't

186  
00:08:57,080 --> 00:08:58,860  
do on Saturdays.

187

00:08:58,860 --> 00:08:59,930

Oh, I see.

188

00:08:59,930 --> 00:09:02,150

So when there was  
Sabbath and there

189

00:09:02,150 --> 00:09:05,240

was somebody who would  
take care of the tasks

190

00:09:05,240 --> 00:09:08,420

that you weren't  
able to complete.

191

00:09:08,420 --> 00:09:09,200

Is that correct?

192

00:09:09,200 --> 00:09:13,880

That the Jews were  
not allowed to do.

193

00:09:13,880 --> 00:09:15,005

Can you give me an example?

194

00:09:15,005 --> 00:09:17,810

195

00:09:17,810 --> 00:09:22,310

Well, for instance, opening  
the doors of the synagogue.

196

00:09:22,310 --> 00:09:24,535

Ah, OK.

197

00:09:24,535 --> 00:09:25,035

OK.

198

00:09:25,035 --> 00:09:28,280

199



00:09:28,280 --> 00:09:30,890

Was your family-- your  
father was a Cantor--

200

00:09:30,890 --> 00:09:31,790

On Saturdays.

201

00:09:31,790 --> 00:09:32,780

On Saturdays.

202

00:09:32,780 --> 00:09:33,370

Yes.

203

00:09:33,370 --> 00:09:34,010

Yes.

204

00:09:34,010 --> 00:09:36,680

And on the ground floor,  
what was on the ground

205

00:09:36,680 --> 00:09:38,090

floor of the building?

206

00:09:38,090 --> 00:09:39,590

Oh, yes.

207

00:09:39,590 --> 00:09:47,630

There was a family of a  
man who had two functions

208

00:09:47,630 --> 00:09:49,120

in the Jewish community.

209

00:09:49,120 --> 00:10:00,440

He was a Jewish person  
who was the man who--

210

00:10:00,440 --> 00:10:02,990

211

00:10:02,990 --> 00:10:07,850

in the basement of

the same building

212

00:10:07,850 --> 00:10:18,950

there was a place where  
you could kill chickens.

213

00:10:18,950 --> 00:10:21,380

And he was the chicken killer.

214

00:10:21,380 --> 00:10:23,600

So this means to make it kosher.

215

00:10:23,600 --> 00:10:24,620

Is this correct?

216

00:10:24,620 --> 00:10:25,310

Yes.

217

00:10:25,310 --> 00:10:26,340

OK.

218

00:10:26,340 --> 00:10:26,947

OK.

219

00:10:26,947 --> 00:10:27,530

So there was--

220

00:10:27,530 --> 00:10:36,500

And his other function  
was to blow to horn--

221

00:10:36,500 --> 00:10:39,950

when is the horn blown--

222

00:10:39,950 --> 00:10:51,300

for a certain Jewish holiday at  
which a horn has to be blown.

223

00:10:51,300 --> 00:10:51,800

OK.

224

00:10:51,800 --> 00:10:52,890  
What was that holiday?

225  
00:10:52,890 --> 00:10:53,960  
Can you remember it?

226  
00:10:53,960 --> 00:10:54,870  
Hang on a second.

227  
00:10:54,870 --> 00:10:59,420  
What is the holiday when  
a horn needs to be blown?

228  
00:10:59,420 --> 00:11:02,240  
Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur?

229  
00:11:02,240 --> 00:11:02,930  
Yes.

230  
00:11:02,930 --> 00:11:04,380  
OK.

231  
00:11:04,380 --> 00:11:08,870  
Aha, so this is was the duties  
and the function of the person

232  
00:11:08,870 --> 00:11:10,850  
who lived on the ground floor.

233  
00:11:10,850 --> 00:11:12,050  
Yes.

234  
00:11:12,050 --> 00:11:18,170  
It sounds like you lived in  
a very Jewish environment.

235  
00:11:18,170 --> 00:11:18,793  
Even if--

236  
00:11:18,793 --> 00:11:19,460  
Well, certainly.

237

00:11:19,460 --> 00:11:20,870

My father was a Cantor.

238

00:11:20,870 --> 00:11:21,860

Yeah.

239

00:11:21,860 --> 00:11:25,530

Were you were you also  
very observant as a family?

240

00:11:25,530 --> 00:11:27,155

Did you go to synagogue often?

241

00:11:27,155 --> 00:11:31,420

242

00:11:31,420 --> 00:11:32,830

Well, I was a child.

243

00:11:32,830 --> 00:11:44,940

And I have no memory of  
particular family properties.

244

00:11:44,940 --> 00:11:45,590

OK.

245

00:11:45,590 --> 00:11:50,080

I'm talking about attending  
religious services.

246

00:11:50,080 --> 00:11:55,120

Did you attend religious  
services weekly?

247

00:11:55,120 --> 00:11:57,070

Well, my father  
was Cantor and we

248

00:11:57,070 --> 00:12:01,870

were living according to  
the orthodox tradition.

249  
00:12:01,870 --> 00:12:02,440  
I see.

250  
00:12:02,440 --> 00:12:02,940  
OK.

251  
00:12:02,940 --> 00:12:12,110  
And I attended the religious  
services regularly.

252  
00:12:12,110 --> 00:12:13,120  
OK.

253  
00:12:13,120 --> 00:12:14,650  
OK.

254  
00:12:14,650 --> 00:12:17,000  
Tell me a little bit  
about your father.

255  
00:12:17,000 --> 00:12:22,940  
You mentioned that he was  
very kind and understanding.

256  
00:12:22,940 --> 00:12:25,210  
Can you describe more?

257  
00:12:25,210 --> 00:12:25,870  
Sorry.

258  
00:12:25,870 --> 00:12:30,970  
Can you tell me more about  
your father's personality?

259  
00:12:30,970 --> 00:12:34,750  
Well, he was trying  
to do his best

260  
00:12:34,750 --> 00:12:45,240  
to perform the functions  
which he could help in.

261

00:12:45,240 --> 00:12:58,670

And, at that time,  
and before Hitler,

262

00:12:58,670 --> 00:13:03,710

anti-Semitism was  
current everywhere.

263

00:13:03,710 --> 00:13:05,780

Also, if you like,  
I can tell you

264

00:13:05,780 --> 00:13:10,860

a little bit about my experience  
of anti-Semitism in America

265

00:13:10,860 --> 00:13:11,900

when I got there.

266

00:13:11,900 --> 00:13:14,030

I'd like to hear that too.

267

00:13:14,030 --> 00:13:15,920

I would like to, yes.

268

00:13:15,920 --> 00:13:17,160

Let's not forget that.

269

00:13:17,160 --> 00:13:17,660

OK.

270

00:13:17,660 --> 00:13:21,350

So we will come to that.

271

00:13:21,350 --> 00:13:24,650

Before Hitler came  
to power, did you

272

00:13:24,650 --> 00:13:29,670

experience anti-Semitism  
in Bad Kissingen?

273

00:13:29,670 --> 00:13:34,340

Well, it was a current thing  
everywhere, not only in

274

00:13:34,340 --> 00:13:37,430

Bad Kissingen and  
the rest of Germany.

275

00:13:37,430 --> 00:13:40,715

But anti-Semitism was a--

276

00:13:40,715 --> 00:13:44,150

277

00:13:44,150 --> 00:13:47,780

what is it-- an  
absolutely basic feature

278

00:13:47,780 --> 00:13:50,540

of the society at the time.

279

00:13:50,540 --> 00:13:58,940

And for instance,  
Hitler got elected

280

00:13:58,940 --> 00:14:07,040

democratically on in a  
very anti-Semitic campaign.

281

00:14:07,040 --> 00:14:07,880

Yes.

282

00:14:07,880 --> 00:14:10,040

So people, in  
part, voted for him

283

00:14:10,040 --> 00:14:11,960

because of his anti-Semitism.

284

00:14:11,960 --> 00:14:13,880

Yes.

285

00:14:13,880 --> 00:14:19,970

I'm interested to know how  
it affected your family.

286

00:14:19,970 --> 00:14:22,730

Did you experience it in school?

287

00:14:22,730 --> 00:14:26,690

Did your parents  
experience this?

288

00:14:26,690 --> 00:14:34,220

I must admit that I have no  
recollection of any schoolmates

289

00:14:34,220 --> 00:14:45,770

doing anything to me which was  
brutal and because I was a Jew.

290

00:14:45,770 --> 00:14:46,280

Yeah.

291

00:14:46,280 --> 00:14:51,320

I have only positive  
experiences.

292

00:14:51,320 --> 00:14:57,790

And-- what should I say--

293

00:14:57,790 --> 00:15:04,280

oh, let me say one thing about  
anti-Semitism in America.

294

00:15:04,280 --> 00:15:06,380

OK.

295

00:15:06,380 --> 00:15:12,210

I was 12 when I came to America.

296

00:15:12,210 --> 00:15:12,950

OK.



297

00:15:12,950 --> 00:15:23,810  
And in subsequent years, I tried  
to earn a little bit of money

298

00:15:23,810 --> 00:15:29,450  
as a caddie carrying golf  
clubs for people playing golf.

299

00:15:29,450 --> 00:15:38,960  
And in Chicago where  
I was, the Jews

300

00:15:38,960 --> 00:15:41,750  
had to have their  
own golf course.

301

00:15:41,750 --> 00:15:47,340  
They weren't admitted into  
golf courses of non-Jews.

302

00:15:47,340 --> 00:15:47,840  
Yes.

303

00:15:47,840 --> 00:15:53,730  
There was this kind of  
discrimination and segregation.

304

00:15:53,730 --> 00:15:54,560  
Sorry.

305

00:15:54,560 --> 00:15:58,580  
You're saying this was-- there  
was this kind of discrimination

306

00:15:58,580 --> 00:16:00,440  
when you were growing up.

307

00:16:00,440 --> 00:16:07,070  
Well this was a matter of  
general behavior in America

308

00:16:07,070 --> 00:16:07,900

at that time.

309

00:16:07,900 --> 00:16:10,690

310

00:16:10,690 --> 00:16:13,690

And so you were able  
to be a golf caddie

311

00:16:13,690 --> 00:16:15,820

only in the Jewish golf course.

312

00:16:15,820 --> 00:16:16,660

Yes.

313

00:16:16,660 --> 00:16:18,670

Got it.

314

00:16:18,670 --> 00:16:20,200

Got it.

315

00:16:20,200 --> 00:16:25,270

Let's go back to Germany  
and your first years there.

316

00:16:25,270 --> 00:16:28,690

Tell me about your mother  
and your mother's side

317

00:16:28,690 --> 00:16:30,560

of the family.

318

00:16:30,560 --> 00:16:34,690

Can you tell me a little  
bit about her upbringing

319

00:16:34,690 --> 00:16:37,870

and who her parents were?

320

00:16:37,870 --> 00:16:44,020

Her father, and I know  
nothing about the mother,

321  
00:16:44,020 --> 00:16:52,090  
her father was a  
merchant in hops.

322  
00:16:52,090 --> 00:16:53,680  
You mean the stuff  
you make beer with?

323  
00:16:53,680 --> 00:16:55,030  
Beer was made from.

324  
00:16:55,030 --> 00:16:56,830  
Excuse me.

325  
00:16:56,830 --> 00:17:02,380  
Hops, I don't know is maybe a  
German word, maybe not quite.

326  
00:17:02,380 --> 00:17:08,020  
But it's the the basis of beer.

327  
00:17:08,020 --> 00:17:09,260  
That's what I thought.

328  
00:17:09,260 --> 00:17:09,760  
Yes.

329  
00:17:09,760 --> 00:17:10,677  
That's what I thought.

330  
00:17:10,677 --> 00:17:13,210

331  
00:17:13,210 --> 00:17:17,220  
And he was a hops  
merchant in Nuremberg,

332  
00:17:17,220 --> 00:17:22,540  
which was the place for  
the hops market in Germany.

333  
00:17:22,540 --> 00:17:23,650  
Really?

334  
00:17:23,650 --> 00:17:24,150  
Yes.

335  
00:17:24,150 --> 00:17:25,930  
I didn't know that.

336  
00:17:25,930 --> 00:17:27,130  
Well, why should you?

337  
00:17:27,130 --> 00:17:28,450  
Yeah.

338  
00:17:28,450 --> 00:17:32,500  
Well, Nuremberg is known  
for so many other things.

339  
00:17:32,500 --> 00:17:34,810  
I wouldn't have  
thought that it was

340  
00:17:34,810 --> 00:17:38,290  
the center of a particular  
trade like that.

341  
00:17:38,290 --> 00:17:39,280  
Well, it was.

342  
00:17:39,280 --> 00:17:43,110  
Did she have  
brothers and sisters?

343  
00:17:43,110 --> 00:17:44,570  
I don't remember.

344  
00:17:44,570 --> 00:17:46,330  
OK.

345  
00:17:46,330 --> 00:17:48,490

Do you know how  
your parents met?

346  
00:17:48,490 --> 00:17:53,020

347  
00:17:53,020 --> 00:17:55,460  
I know when they met.

348  
00:17:55,460 --> 00:17:56,740  
And it's a good question.

349  
00:17:56,740 --> 00:18:08,080  
My own guess is that it involved  
a person who brought them

350  
00:18:08,080 --> 00:18:10,180  
together in the Jewish fashion.

351  
00:18:10,180 --> 00:18:12,070  
A matchmaker?

352  
00:18:12,070 --> 00:18:13,580  
Is that a chamas?

353  
00:18:13,580 --> 00:18:14,820  
A chamas?

354  
00:18:14,820 --> 00:18:17,340  
You mean a matchmaker of kinds?

355  
00:18:17,340 --> 00:18:18,520  
Yes.

356  
00:18:18,520 --> 00:18:19,060  
I see.

357  
00:18:19,060 --> 00:18:22,360  
But I don't really  
remember the Jewish name.

358

00:18:22,360 --> 00:18:23,260  
I don't either.

359  
00:18:23,260 --> 00:18:26,690  
And I don't know if  
that's really the case.

360  
00:18:26,690 --> 00:18:27,190  
I see.

361  
00:18:27,190 --> 00:18:32,950  
But my father was 45  
when he got married.

362  
00:18:32,950 --> 00:18:42,400  
And he had been through  
World War I by that time.

363  
00:18:42,400 --> 00:18:45,880  
So was he a soldier  
in World War I?

364  
00:18:45,880 --> 00:18:47,770  
Yes.

365  
00:18:47,770 --> 00:18:54,070  
Did he ever talk about his  
service and his experiences?

366  
00:18:54,070 --> 00:19:06,490  
No, but the Jews in Germany  
were very second class citizens.

367  
00:19:06,490 --> 00:19:19,630  
And by that time they were  
given German citizenship,

368  
00:19:19,630 --> 00:19:23,200  
which they didn't have before.

369  
00:19:23,200 --> 00:19:24,040  
I see.

370

00:19:24,040 --> 00:19:28,570

But I don't know  
exactly when this--

371

00:19:28,570 --> 00:19:29,650

Occurred.

372

00:19:29,650 --> 00:19:33,400

--allowing Jews to  
be citizens came.

373

00:19:33,400 --> 00:19:38,080

But it was a very important  
things to the Jewish community.

374

00:19:38,080 --> 00:19:47,170

And the Jews saw themselves  
as German [SPEAKING GERMAN]..

375

00:19:47,170 --> 00:19:49,850

376

00:19:49,850 --> 00:19:50,350

Yeah.

377

00:19:50,350 --> 00:19:51,310

Can you follow that?

378

00:19:51,310 --> 00:20:04,640

Yeah, [SPEAKING GERMAN]

379

00:20:04,640 --> 00:20:05,620

For me also.

380

00:20:05,620 --> 00:20:06,640

OK.

381

00:20:06,640 --> 00:20:09,790

So yes.

382

00:20:09,790 --> 00:20:12,050

Let's talk about  
this a little bit.

383  
00:20:12,050 --> 00:20:15,100  
So your father-- are  
you saying that when

384  
00:20:15,100 --> 00:20:18,430  
he served in World  
War I he was not even

385  
00:20:18,430 --> 00:20:20,950  
a German citizen because  
Jews were not allowed

386  
00:20:20,950 --> 00:20:24,220  
to be citizens at that time?

387  
00:20:24,220 --> 00:20:27,400  
Well, I don't know  
the exact date.

388  
00:20:27,400 --> 00:20:32,470  
My own guess is by World War  
I they were already citizens.

389  
00:20:32,470 --> 00:20:33,460  
I see.

390  
00:20:33,460 --> 00:20:34,930  
I see.

391  
00:20:34,930 --> 00:20:39,940  
And tell me a little bit  
about their education--

392  
00:20:39,940 --> 00:20:43,000  
your father's education and  
your mother's education.

393  
00:20:43,000 --> 00:20:49,930  
Did they attend gymnasium  
and college or university?



394  
00:20:49,930 --> 00:21:00,580  
My father was trained in a  
Jewish seminary of some sort

395  
00:21:00,580 --> 00:21:05,620  
to be a Cantor.

396  
00:21:05,620 --> 00:21:18,810  
And my mother actually had a  
college education in languages.

397  
00:21:18,810 --> 00:21:23,520  
But that was very  
exceptional at that time.

398  
00:21:23,520 --> 00:21:24,690  
Unusual.

399  
00:21:24,690 --> 00:21:25,190  
Yeah.

400  
00:21:25,190 --> 00:21:31,950  
My mother was much more  
educated than most German Jews.

401  
00:21:31,950 --> 00:21:35,220

402  
00:21:35,220 --> 00:21:40,425  
And did she help to  
supplement the family income?

403  
00:21:40,425 --> 00:21:43,990

404  
00:21:43,990 --> 00:21:47,020  
To some extent,  
but a minor extent.

405  
00:21:47,020 --> 00:21:55,150  
She taught languages

in private lessons.

406  
00:21:55,150 --> 00:21:55,690  
OK.

407  
00:21:55,690 --> 00:21:59,050  
And made some money that way.

408  
00:21:59,050 --> 00:22:05,890  
So basically your family  
lived on your father's income

409  
00:22:05,890 --> 00:22:07,390  
as a Cantor.

410  
00:22:07,390 --> 00:22:08,680  
Yes.

411  
00:22:08,680 --> 00:22:13,900  
Was this an income that allowed  
you to live comfortably?

412  
00:22:13,900 --> 00:22:15,340  
Yes.

413  
00:22:15,340 --> 00:22:19,960  
But still quite limited.

414  
00:22:19,960 --> 00:22:22,360  
For instance, when I  
finished high school--

415  
00:22:22,360 --> 00:22:25,390

416  
00:22:25,390 --> 00:22:27,280  
no, I didn't do that in Germany.

417  
00:22:27,280 --> 00:22:30,470  
That was in the United States.

418

00:22:30,470 --> 00:22:30,970  
Let's see.

419  
00:22:30,970 --> 00:22:32,800  
What can I say there.

420  
00:22:32,800 --> 00:22:33,940  
I have questions.

421  
00:22:33,940 --> 00:22:42,750

422  
00:22:42,750 --> 00:22:44,880  
OK.

423  
00:22:44,880 --> 00:22:50,010  
Clearly we were not  
a well-to-do family.

424  
00:22:50,010 --> 00:22:50,790  
OK.

425  
00:22:50,790 --> 00:22:53,370  
I'll ask a few questions.

426  
00:22:53,370 --> 00:22:55,760  
In the second floor  
that you lived,

427  
00:22:55,760 --> 00:22:59,160  
on the middle floor  
of the gemeindehaus,

428  
00:22:59,160 --> 00:23:04,455  
did you have coal heating or  
did you have some other kind?

429  
00:23:04,455 --> 00:23:07,740

430  
00:23:07,740 --> 00:23:09,150  
How did you heat the place?

431  
00:23:09,150 --> 00:23:10,090  
Good question.

432  
00:23:10,090 --> 00:23:11,830  
I don't remember.

433  
00:23:11,830 --> 00:23:18,800  
I don't think there was any  
heating but with radiators.

434  
00:23:18,800 --> 00:23:19,950  
OK.

435  
00:23:19,950 --> 00:23:21,480  
But I don't know for sure.

436  
00:23:21,480 --> 00:23:22,200  
Yeah.

437  
00:23:22,200 --> 00:23:24,150  
Did you have indoor plumbing?

438  
00:23:24,150 --> 00:23:27,060

439  
00:23:27,060 --> 00:23:27,960  
What does that mean?

440  
00:23:27,960 --> 00:23:29,500  
Did we have indoor toilet?

441  
00:23:29,500 --> 00:23:30,000  
Yes.

442  
00:23:30,000 --> 00:23:38,810

443  
00:23:38,810 --> 00:23:40,520  
I also don't remember.

444

00:23:40,520 --> 00:23:43,070

Running water?

445

00:23:43,070 --> 00:23:43,820

Yes.

446

00:23:43,820 --> 00:23:45,080

OK.

447

00:23:45,080 --> 00:23:46,820

Did you have electricity?

448

00:23:46,820 --> 00:23:52,740

449

00:23:52,740 --> 00:23:54,850

I don't remember.

450

00:23:54,850 --> 00:24:01,120

But I remember one thing, which  
may or may not be relevant.

451

00:24:01,120 --> 00:24:12,130

We had a-- which all Jews  
I think at that time had--

452

00:24:12,130 --> 00:24:20,470

some apparatus,  
which was kept warm

453

00:24:20,470 --> 00:24:32,230

during Sabbath by coal which  
had been provided before.

454

00:24:32,230 --> 00:24:37,270

There was a coal fire which kept  
the thing warm to heat things

455

00:24:37,270 --> 00:24:38,170

in.

456

00:24:38,170 --> 00:24:39,130  
I see.

457  
00:24:39,130 --> 00:24:39,940  
I see.

458  
00:24:39,940 --> 00:24:43,540  
So in other words, so  
that the Sabbath rules

459  
00:24:43,540 --> 00:24:47,520  
do not need to be broken  
and you stay warm.

460  
00:24:47,520 --> 00:24:48,700  
Sorry.

461  
00:24:48,700 --> 00:24:49,840  
I didn't follow this.

462  
00:24:49,840 --> 00:24:55,420  
I said you had an apparatus  
that allowed the Sabbath

463  
00:24:55,420 --> 00:24:57,490  
rules to be kept.

464  
00:24:57,490 --> 00:25:00,130  
And yet the family  
could stay warm.

465  
00:25:00,130 --> 00:25:02,410  
And the food, I assume,  
could stay warm.

466  
00:25:02,410 --> 00:25:06,880  
Well, it had nothing to do  
with heating of the quarters.

467  
00:25:06,880 --> 00:25:07,900  
It was for food.

468

00:25:07,900 --> 00:25:08,500  
For food.

469  
00:25:08,500 --> 00:25:09,190  
For food.

470  
00:25:09,190 --> 00:25:10,120  
OK.

471  
00:25:10,120 --> 00:25:11,710  
And it had a name.

472  
00:25:11,710 --> 00:25:16,790  
I don't know the name  
of this apparatus.

473  
00:25:16,790 --> 00:25:18,790  
But the name I remember  
is not completely right.

474  
00:25:18,790 --> 00:25:21,910  
But it was something  
like gruber.

475  
00:25:21,910 --> 00:25:23,290  
Gruber?

476  
00:25:23,290 --> 00:25:24,700  
But this isn't correct.

477  
00:25:24,700 --> 00:25:27,910  
It was something like that.

478  
00:25:27,910 --> 00:25:34,650  
And it was something  
that most families had.

479  
00:25:34,650 --> 00:25:35,270  
I see.

480  
00:25:35,270 --> 00:25:35,770  
I see.

481  
00:25:35,770 --> 00:25:37,960  
As I remember it.

482  
00:25:37,960 --> 00:25:39,340  
I see.

483  
00:25:39,340 --> 00:25:40,435  
Did you have a radio?

484  
00:25:40,435 --> 00:25:46,340

485  
00:25:46,340 --> 00:25:48,140  
Did anybody have a radio then?

486  
00:25:48,140 --> 00:25:49,310  
Did you have a radio?

487  
00:25:49,310 --> 00:25:50,810  
Some people did.

488  
00:25:50,810 --> 00:25:53,990  
Did your family have one?

489  
00:25:53,990 --> 00:25:55,310  
I don't remember.

490  
00:25:55,310 --> 00:25:56,840  
OK.

491  
00:25:56,840 --> 00:25:59,240  
Did your parents  
read newspapers?

492  
00:25:59,240 --> 00:26:04,240

493  
00:26:04,240 --> 00:26:08,000  
I suspect so but I'm not sure.



494

00:26:08,000 --> 00:26:10,760

There was a local newspaper.

495

00:26:10,760 --> 00:26:16,460

They certainly didn't have  
any national newspaper.

496

00:26:16,460 --> 00:26:17,680

OK.

497

00:26:17,680 --> 00:26:21,040

They may have had  
the local newspaper.

498

00:26:21,040 --> 00:26:25,540

What I'm trying to  
establish is where did they

499

00:26:25,540 --> 00:26:27,550

get their news from--

500

00:26:27,550 --> 00:26:31,390

news about the world,  
news about the country,

501

00:26:31,390 --> 00:26:33,830

news about the town.

502

00:26:33,830 --> 00:26:35,770

How did they find  
out about what was

503

00:26:35,770 --> 00:26:39,698

going on in the world outside  
of the family and the community?

504

00:26:39,698 --> 00:26:41,740

You know that's a good  
question and I understand.

505

00:26:41,740 --> 00:26:42,820

But I don't know.

506  
00:26:42,820 --> 00:26:43,720  
OK.

507  
00:26:43,720 --> 00:26:44,650  
OK.

508  
00:26:44,650 --> 00:26:47,320  
That's OK.

509  
00:26:47,320 --> 00:26:50,920  
Tell me a little bit about  
your mother's personality.

510  
00:26:50,920 --> 00:26:54,750

511  
00:26:54,750 --> 00:27:06,080  
Well, my mother was,  
as I remembered,

512  
00:27:06,080 --> 00:27:09,980  
she was not very kind.

513  
00:27:09,980 --> 00:27:12,890  
She tended to be critical.

514  
00:27:12,890 --> 00:27:16,360  
And I inherited this from her.

515  
00:27:16,360 --> 00:27:17,980  
And I'm not very proud of it.

516  
00:27:17,980 --> 00:27:24,460  
My father, on the  
other hand, was just

517  
00:27:24,460 --> 00:27:30,220  
ready to try to be useful  
as best he could be.

518

00:27:30,220 --> 00:27:32,800

So they were  
opposites in that way.

519

00:27:32,800 --> 00:27:34,940

Yes.

520

00:27:34,940 --> 00:27:41,440

Would you describe your  
home life as a happy one?

521

00:27:41,440 --> 00:27:43,420

Well, it was not unhappy.

522

00:27:43,420 --> 00:27:48,610

And I had some quarrels  
with my younger brother.

523

00:27:48,610 --> 00:27:52,420

I don't remember ever quarreling  
with my older brother.

524

00:27:52,420 --> 00:27:55,150

525

00:27:55,150 --> 00:27:58,060

Were these quarrels the  
kind that children often

526

00:27:58,060 --> 00:27:59,260

have with one another--

527

00:27:59,260 --> 00:28:01,150

siblings and so?

528

00:28:01,150 --> 00:28:02,540

I can't tell you this.

529

00:28:02,540 --> 00:28:03,860

OK.

530

00:28:03,860 --> 00:28:04,660

OK.

531

00:28:04,660 --> 00:28:07,750

But I can tell you a little  
bit about my older brother.

532

00:28:07,750 --> 00:28:08,770

Tell me, please.

533

00:28:08,770 --> 00:28:12,880

He was interested-- I was  
interested in doing things

534

00:28:12,880 --> 00:28:14,710

with my hands.

535

00:28:14,710 --> 00:28:18,940

But my older brother  
was more cultural.

536

00:28:18,940 --> 00:28:21,220

He liked to read.

537

00:28:21,220 --> 00:28:28,380

And in school we were  
in the same class,

538

00:28:28,380 --> 00:28:31,800

it turned out for  
some peculiar reason

539

00:28:31,800 --> 00:28:34,950

about going to  
school in Germany.

540

00:28:34,950 --> 00:28:40,590

Or in America-- by that time  
we were in America maybe.

541

00:28:40,590 --> 00:28:41,400

Well, no.

542

00:28:41,400 --> 00:28:43,050  
We were already in Germany.

543  
00:28:43,050 --> 00:28:44,100  
You're still in Germany.

544  
00:28:44,100 --> 00:28:45,810  
Were in the same class.

545  
00:28:45,810 --> 00:28:46,470  
I see.

546  
00:28:46,470 --> 00:28:54,090  
And he was the more  
intellectually inclined.

547  
00:28:54,090 --> 00:28:57,750

548  
00:28:57,750 --> 00:29:00,990  
Did you look up to him?

549  
00:29:00,990 --> 00:29:02,290  
No.

550  
00:29:02,290 --> 00:29:04,500  
Oh.

551  
00:29:04,500 --> 00:29:07,280  
Did he influence you  
in your own interests?

552  
00:29:07,280 --> 00:29:11,190

553  
00:29:11,190 --> 00:29:12,240  
Well, I'm sure he did.

554  
00:29:12,240 --> 00:29:13,860  
But I can't tell you.

555

00:29:13,860 --> 00:29:14,850  
I see.

556  
00:29:14,850 --> 00:29:17,790  
I see.

557  
00:29:17,790 --> 00:29:21,720  
Tell me a little bit  
about your school life.

558  
00:29:21,720 --> 00:29:26,250  
And if you could, describe  
the school to me a bit.

559  
00:29:26,250 --> 00:29:29,530  
Was this a public school?

560  
00:29:29,530 --> 00:29:31,350  
Yes.

561  
00:29:31,350 --> 00:29:36,060  
So at that time in  
Kissingen, there

562  
00:29:36,060 --> 00:29:44,640  
was the beginning school--  
what is it called again?

563  
00:29:44,640 --> 00:29:47,570  
Oh

564  
00:29:47,570 --> 00:29:48,570  
Grade school in America.

565  
00:29:48,570 --> 00:29:48,960  
Yeah.

566  
00:29:48,960 --> 00:29:49,460  
Yeah.

567  
00:29:49,460 --> 00:29:50,200  
I understand.

568  
00:29:50,200 --> 00:29:52,440  
But what was it in--

569  
00:29:52,440 --> 00:29:55,980  
I forget how it's  
said in German.

570  
00:29:55,980 --> 00:29:58,848  
But I know what you're talking  
about-- elementary school.

571  
00:29:58,848 --> 00:29:59,640  
Volksschule, maybe.

572  
00:29:59,640 --> 00:30:01,770  
Volksschule?

573  
00:30:01,770 --> 00:30:02,880  
It could be.

574  
00:30:02,880 --> 00:30:04,520  
OK.

575  
00:30:04,520 --> 00:30:07,050  
And then there  
was a realschule--

576  
00:30:07,050 --> 00:30:07,830  
That's right.

577  
00:30:07,830 --> 00:30:14,790  
--at the age of maybe  
for fifth grade and on.

578  
00:30:14,790 --> 00:30:19,860  
And there was a  
realschule in Kissingen

579  
00:30:19,860 --> 00:30:26,610  
which only the  
middle class families

580

00:30:26,610 --> 00:30:29,010

would send their children to--

581

00:30:29,010 --> 00:30:31,530

middle and higher.

582

00:30:31,530 --> 00:30:35,370

But poor families wouldn't send  
their children to realschule.

583

00:30:35,370 --> 00:30:37,302

Maybe you had to pay  
something for that.

584

00:30:37,302 --> 00:30:38,010

I don't remember.

585

00:30:38,010 --> 00:30:43,800

586

00:30:43,800 --> 00:30:45,390

So I had some years there.

587

00:30:45,390 --> 00:30:46,390

OK.

588

00:30:46,390 --> 00:30:52,530

And as far as anti-Semitism  
in school is concerned,

589

00:30:52,530 --> 00:30:54,990

I have no memories of any.

590

00:30:54,990 --> 00:30:55,560

OK.

591

00:30:55,560 --> 00:31:02,670

On the other hand, I  
had friends who were not

592



00:31:02,670 --> 00:31:03,780  
Jewish with whom I played.

593  
00:31:03,780 --> 00:31:05,430  
That was one of my questions.

594  
00:31:05,430 --> 00:31:07,590  
Yes.

595  
00:31:07,590 --> 00:31:09,240  
And who were not--

596  
00:31:09,240 --> 00:31:11,850

597  
00:31:11,850 --> 00:31:16,170  
how would you call it-- were  
not bothered because they

598  
00:31:16,170 --> 00:31:17,555  
played with a Jewish child.

599  
00:31:17,555 --> 00:31:23,510

600  
00:31:23,510 --> 00:31:24,092  
Let's see.

601  
00:31:24,092 --> 00:31:25,050  
What did I want to say?

602  
00:31:25,050 --> 00:31:33,710

603  
00:31:33,710 --> 00:31:35,700  
Maybe it will come to you.

604  
00:31:35,700 --> 00:31:36,950  
OK.

605  
00:31:36,950 --> 00:31:38,840

Why don't you go  
on with questions.

606  
00:31:38,840 --> 00:31:41,120  
OK.

607  
00:31:41,120 --> 00:31:43,280  
About that was  
what you mentioned,

608  
00:31:43,280 --> 00:31:45,410  
was one of my questions.

609  
00:31:45,410 --> 00:31:50,330  
Because you describe an  
environment that is very much

610  
00:31:50,330 --> 00:31:53,180  
centered on a Jewish community.

611  
00:31:53,180 --> 00:31:59,690  
So I wondered whether or not you  
had much contact with non-Jews

612  
00:31:59,690 --> 00:32:03,440  
as you were growing  
up in Bad Kissingen.

613  
00:32:03,440 --> 00:32:06,005  
And was most of this  
contact through school?

614  
00:32:06,005 --> 00:32:10,020

615  
00:32:10,020 --> 00:32:11,970  
Well, there were  
certainly some contact.

616  
00:32:11,970 --> 00:32:18,090  
But maybe most of our contact  
was with Jewish community.

617  
00:32:18,090 --> 00:32:19,410  
OK.

618  
00:32:19,410 --> 00:32:20,610  
OK.

619  
00:32:20,610 --> 00:32:23,910  
And in your neighborhood, were  
there neighborhood children

620  
00:32:23,910 --> 00:32:26,010  
who were not Jews?

621  
00:32:26,010 --> 00:32:27,850  
Yes.

622  
00:32:27,850 --> 00:32:30,060  
It was not--

623  
00:32:30,060 --> 00:32:33,960  
Bad Kissingen was not  
divided into a ghetto

624  
00:32:33,960 --> 00:32:38,250  
and the rest of the community.

625  
00:32:38,250 --> 00:32:40,150  
I see.

626  
00:32:40,150 --> 00:32:41,030  
OK.

627  
00:32:41,030 --> 00:32:41,530  
OK.

628  
00:32:41,530 --> 00:32:51,490

629  
00:32:51,490 --> 00:32:58,540  
In the 1920s, people say  
that the economy in Germany

630  
00:32:58,540 --> 00:33:02,320  
was in a very, very poor state.

631  
00:33:02,320 --> 00:33:04,480  
And you were a child then.

632  
00:33:04,480 --> 00:33:07,960  
I'm talking before 1930.

633  
00:33:07,960 --> 00:33:12,370  
Do you remember any of  
such things in your town,

634  
00:33:12,370 --> 00:33:13,750  
in Bad Kissingen--

635  
00:33:13,750 --> 00:33:16,960  
it being a spa  
town and a resort?

636  
00:33:16,960 --> 00:33:17,530  
No.

637  
00:33:17,530 --> 00:33:18,070  
No.

638  
00:33:18,070 --> 00:33:18,730  
OK.

639  
00:33:18,730 --> 00:33:27,400  
But I never suffered from  
not getting enough to eat.

640  
00:33:27,400 --> 00:33:28,675  
OK.

641  
00:33:28,675 --> 00:33:29,175  
OK.

642  
00:33:29,175 --> 00:33:31,720

643  
00:33:31,720 --> 00:33:35,200  
Did your father  
have an automobile?

644  
00:33:35,200 --> 00:33:36,050  
Oh, no.

645  
00:33:36,050 --> 00:33:36,550  
No.

646  
00:33:36,550 --> 00:33:39,030  
But very few people  
in those days had one.

647  
00:33:39,030 --> 00:33:40,390  
OK.

648  
00:33:40,390 --> 00:33:41,710  
All right.

649  
00:33:41,710 --> 00:33:47,170  
Did you travel as a family  
much outside of Bad Kissingen?

650  
00:33:47,170 --> 00:33:53,050  
Well, we went for  
summer vacations

651  
00:33:53,050 --> 00:33:55,330  
to other places in Germany.

652  
00:33:55,330 --> 00:33:58,600  
I don't think I was ever  
in a different country.

653  
00:33:58,600 --> 00:34:06,280  
But I was in different  
regions of Germany.

654  
00:34:06,280 --> 00:34:16,090

Close by to Bad Kissingen is a  
rather interesting hilly region

655  
00:34:16,090 --> 00:34:18,010  
called the RhÃ³n.

656  
00:34:18,010 --> 00:34:23,020  
And so sometimes there  
were vacations in the RhÃ³n.

657  
00:34:23,020 --> 00:34:35,920  
And there were also some  
interesting places to which

658  
00:34:35,920 --> 00:34:44,989  
for interesting cultures  
that my parents visited.

659  
00:34:44,989 --> 00:34:48,949  
And I don't remember if  
they were Jewish or not.

660  
00:34:48,949 --> 00:34:50,719  
When you say  
interesting cultures

661  
00:34:50,719 --> 00:34:57,770  
do you mean they visited places  
that had cultural events?

662  
00:34:57,770 --> 00:35:02,060  
Well, I don't know about  
events, but had some traditions

663  
00:35:02,060 --> 00:35:05,300  
which were maybe historical.

664  
00:35:05,300 --> 00:35:07,070  
Got it.

665  
00:35:07,070 --> 00:35:11,270  
Or for some other  
reason of interest.

666  
00:35:11,270 --> 00:35:13,220  
I see.

667  
00:35:13,220 --> 00:35:16,580  
Did you ever visit your  
father's family in Schonungen?

668  
00:35:16,580 --> 00:35:23,490

669  
00:35:23,490 --> 00:35:28,140  
I don't think they  
existed anymore.

670  
00:35:28,140 --> 00:35:29,850  
What about his siblings?

671  
00:35:29,850 --> 00:35:34,290  
Did you have a relationship  
with aunts and uncles?

672  
00:35:34,290 --> 00:35:35,490  
Did I have what?

673  
00:35:35,490 --> 00:35:38,920  
Did you know your  
aunts and uncles?

674  
00:35:38,920 --> 00:35:42,570  
He came from a large family.

675  
00:35:42,570 --> 00:35:43,165  
One moment.

676  
00:35:43,165 --> 00:35:46,490

677  
00:35:46,490 --> 00:35:54,470  
Well, I remember-- well  
there were certainly

678

00:35:54,470 --> 00:35:58,580

some connections, but  
not with all of them.

679

00:35:58,580 --> 00:36:06,770

One uncle and his family  
lived in a town quite close,

680

00:36:06,770 --> 00:36:10,340

about 20 miles away.

681

00:36:10,340 --> 00:36:14,930

And they were just--

682

00:36:14,930 --> 00:36:18,830

my uncle Julius, he had a--

683

00:36:18,830 --> 00:36:28,240

684

00:36:28,240 --> 00:36:32,800

I don't get the name--

685

00:36:32,800 --> 00:36:37,750

the German name-- but a  
place where you kept animals.

686

00:36:37,750 --> 00:36:38,410

Cattle?

687

00:36:38,410 --> 00:36:49,420

And his commerce was to sell  
different animals to farmers.

688

00:36:49,420 --> 00:36:51,807

So [SPEAKING GERMAN]?

689

00:36:51,807 --> 00:36:52,765

[SPEAKING GERMAN], yes.

690

00:36:52,765 --> 00:36:52,990



Exactly.

691  
00:36:52,990 --> 00:36:53,530  
OK.

692  
00:36:53,530 --> 00:36:57,490  
So he was a cattle merchant.

693  
00:36:57,490 --> 00:36:58,310  
Yes.

694  
00:36:58,310 --> 00:36:59,800  
OK.

695  
00:36:59,800 --> 00:37:01,840  
And that was your uncle Julius.

696  
00:37:01,840 --> 00:37:04,930  
And he lived not so far away.

697  
00:37:04,930 --> 00:37:07,000  
Yes, he was quite close.

698  
00:37:07,000 --> 00:37:10,550  
But there were also  
other family members,

699  
00:37:10,550 --> 00:37:14,920  
which were further away and  
which we had some contact with.

700  
00:37:14,920 --> 00:37:17,440

701  
00:37:17,440 --> 00:37:19,390  
What about your mother's  
side of the family?

702  
00:37:19,390 --> 00:37:22,000

703

00:37:22,000 --> 00:37:22,930  
What about what?

704  
00:37:22,930 --> 00:37:25,600  
Your mother's side  
of the family.

705  
00:37:25,600 --> 00:37:29,260  
Did you ever visit anybody in  
Nuremberg, where she is from?

706  
00:37:29,260 --> 00:37:34,210

707  
00:37:34,210 --> 00:37:39,750  
I don't-- I think it's possible,  
but certainly much less

708  
00:37:39,750 --> 00:37:41,370  
contact.

709  
00:37:41,370 --> 00:37:45,760  
So you had a closer tie  
to your father's side.

710  
00:37:45,760 --> 00:37:47,050  
Yes.

711  
00:37:47,050 --> 00:37:48,300  
OK.

712  
00:37:48,300 --> 00:37:50,670  
OK.

713  
00:37:50,670 --> 00:37:56,820  
Well it may not be quite  
correct because my mother's

714  
00:37:56,820 --> 00:37:57,840  
family was--

715  
00:37:57,840 --> 00:38:04,620

she had a brother and a sister.

716

00:38:04,620 --> 00:38:05,290

I see.

717

00:38:05,290 --> 00:38:12,320

And the sister-- and

that's interesting--

718

00:38:12,320 --> 00:38:17,130

married one of my

father's brother--

719

00:38:17,130 --> 00:38:18,300

Oh, no kidding.

720

00:38:18,300 --> 00:38:25,620

--at the same time as my

father married my mother.

721

00:38:25,620 --> 00:38:27,660

There were two marriages.

722

00:38:27,660 --> 00:38:37,510

And this man, my uncle

Julius in Schweinfurt,

723

00:38:37,510 --> 00:38:44,710

the [SPEAKING GERMAN],,

married my mother's sister.

724

00:38:44,710 --> 00:38:47,700

Oh, OK.

725

00:38:47,700 --> 00:38:48,630

OK.

726

00:38:48,630 --> 00:38:51,720

So in that way when you

kept in touch with him,

727

00:38:51,720 --> 00:38:54,240

you also were keeping in  
touch with your mother's side

728  
00:38:54,240 --> 00:38:55,380  
of the family.

729  
00:38:55,380 --> 00:38:57,100  
Yes.

730  
00:38:57,100 --> 00:38:57,600  
OK.

731  
00:38:57,600 --> 00:39:00,820

732  
00:39:00,820 --> 00:39:03,130  
I want to ask about--

733  
00:39:03,130 --> 00:39:05,320  
Excuse me, I didn't get it.

734  
00:39:05,320 --> 00:39:08,510  
No, I didn't say anything.

735  
00:39:08,510 --> 00:39:14,260  
I want to ask about your--

736  
00:39:14,260 --> 00:39:17,830  
did you have any other  
kinds of activities

737  
00:39:17,830 --> 00:39:22,000  
that you participated  
in, aside from school,

738  
00:39:22,000 --> 00:39:24,200  
as you were growing up?

739  
00:39:24,200 --> 00:39:25,390  
Did you go to camps?

740

00:39:25,390 --> 00:39:26,180  
Sure.

741  
00:39:26,180 --> 00:39:27,220  
OK.

742  
00:39:27,220 --> 00:39:37,060  
Well, we played games and one  
activity was in nearby woods

743  
00:39:37,060 --> 00:39:40,390  
to play Indians--

744  
00:39:40,390 --> 00:39:41,290  
American Indians

745  
00:39:41,290 --> 00:39:41,860  
Yeah

746  
00:39:41,860 --> 00:39:52,280  
There was a German  
author for children--

747  
00:39:52,280 --> 00:39:53,990  
can you remind me of the name?

748  
00:39:53,990 --> 00:39:55,910  
Karl May.

749  
00:39:55,910 --> 00:39:56,660  
Yes.

750  
00:39:56,660 --> 00:39:59,030  
Karl May, yes.

751  
00:39:59,030 --> 00:40:01,660  
Many people talk about him.

752  
00:40:01,660 --> 00:40:07,220  
Yes, and he invented  
Shatterhand and things

753

00:40:07,220 --> 00:40:10,910

like that, which we played  
in the nearby woods.

754

00:40:10,910 --> 00:40:13,850

OK.

755

00:40:13,850 --> 00:40:18,500

Did you feel, in  
some ways as you

756

00:40:18,500 --> 00:40:21,230

were growing up, that  
you were different

757

00:40:21,230 --> 00:40:22,250

because you were Jewish?

758

00:40:22,250 --> 00:40:26,210

759

00:40:26,210 --> 00:40:28,670

It's a good question.

760

00:40:28,670 --> 00:40:32,710

But there was no way  
of escaping that.

761

00:40:32,710 --> 00:40:45,260

That was just general  
matter of course.

762

00:40:45,260 --> 00:40:46,080

You were Jewish.

763

00:40:46,080 --> 00:40:50,394

764

00:40:50,394 --> 00:40:53,730

And something I can tell you  
but it may not interest you.

765

00:40:53,730 --> 00:40:54,510

Please tell me.

766

00:40:54,510 --> 00:40:57,090

767

00:40:57,090 --> 00:41:04,800

Before I left, when Hitler came  
to power, there was already--

768

00:41:04,800 --> 00:41:07,350

769

00:41:07,350 --> 00:41:14,130

Hitler, before 1933, Hitler  
already for some years

770

00:41:14,130 --> 00:41:18,870

had been a very powerful  
force in American culture--

771

00:41:18,870 --> 00:41:21,090

in German culture.

772

00:41:21,090 --> 00:41:23,580

In German culture, yes.

773

00:41:23,580 --> 00:41:27,300

And there were SA,  
they were called,

774

00:41:27,300 --> 00:41:33,660

troops which would march  
through the streets

775

00:41:33,660 --> 00:41:38,970

without guns but with sabers--

776

00:41:38,970 --> 00:41:42,210

not sabers, but  
with knives dangling

777

00:41:42,210 --> 00:41:46,320  
from their belt singing.

778

00:41:46,320 --> 00:41:48,570  
What would they sing?

779

00:41:48,570 --> 00:41:54,840  
"When the blood of the Jews  
is dripping from our knives,

780

00:41:54,840 --> 00:41:57,300  
life will be better."

781

00:41:57,300 --> 00:42:01,890  
[SPEAKING GERMAN]

782

00:42:01,890 --> 00:42:04,470  
And you would hear  
this as a child?

783

00:42:04,470 --> 00:42:06,390  
Oh, yes.

784

00:42:06,390 --> 00:42:08,430  
Did you know--  
could you recognize

785

00:42:08,430 --> 00:42:12,270  
any of these SA people  
walking through the streets?

786

00:42:12,270 --> 00:42:18,340  
Were there anybody that was  
someone who was known to you?

787

00:42:18,340 --> 00:42:19,880  
No, but they were adults.

788

00:42:19,880 --> 00:42:23,660  
Of course, I knew children  
but very few adults.



789

00:42:23,660 --> 00:42:24,680

OK.

790

00:42:24,680 --> 00:42:27,820

But some of the  
names were known.

791

00:42:27,820 --> 00:42:29,530

And I can remember some now.

792

00:42:29,530 --> 00:42:32,230

793

00:42:32,230 --> 00:42:33,340

Some of those names?

794

00:42:33,340 --> 00:42:36,070

795

00:42:36,070 --> 00:42:45,880

Well, one was a watch  
dealer named Renner.

796

00:42:45,880 --> 00:42:47,650

Terena?

797

00:42:47,650 --> 00:42:48,160

Renner.

798

00:42:48,160 --> 00:42:48,660

Renner.

799

00:42:48,660 --> 00:42:50,490

R-E-N-N-E-R.

800

00:42:50,490 --> 00:42:50,990

OK.

801

00:42:50,990 --> 00:42:54,160

802

00:42:54,160 --> 00:42:59,680

And were these SA troops, were these what we call Brownshirts?

803

00:42:59,680 --> 00:43:00,330

Yes.

804

00:43:00,330 --> 00:43:00,830

OK.

805

00:43:00,830 --> 00:43:04,910

806

00:43:04,910 --> 00:43:08,840

And they wore uniforms with these brown shirts

807

00:43:08,840 --> 00:43:10,850

and brown trousers.

808

00:43:10,850 --> 00:43:13,850

Would they walk by the synagogue and the gemeindehaus?

809

00:43:13,850 --> 00:43:17,910

810

00:43:17,910 --> 00:43:29,880

The gemeindehaus was 100 meters from a main street

811

00:43:29,880 --> 00:43:31,140

in Bad Kissingen.

812

00:43:31,140 --> 00:43:31,790

OK.

813

00:43:31,790 --> 00:43:35,420

And they would march down that main street.

814

00:43:35,420 --> 00:43:39,260

Do you remember the street  
the gemeindehaus was on?

815

00:43:39,260 --> 00:43:41,180

Just one moment-- Max-Strase.

816

00:43:41,180 --> 00:43:43,020

Max-Strase.

817

00:43:43,020 --> 00:43:43,700

OK.

818

00:43:43,700 --> 00:43:47,720

And the main street,  
what was that name?

819

00:43:47,720 --> 00:43:48,710

Max-Strase.

820

00:43:48,710 --> 00:43:50,630

Oh, that was the main street.

821

00:43:50,630 --> 00:43:51,380

Yes.

822

00:43:51,380 --> 00:43:56,570

And the street your gemeindehaus  
was on, was it a different one?

823

00:43:56,570 --> 00:43:59,750

Well, yes.

824

00:43:59,750 --> 00:44:02,010

But it's very close to the--

825

00:44:02,010 --> 00:44:02,930

To Max-Strase.

826

00:44:02,930 --> 00:44:03,740

Max-Strase.

827

00:44:03,740 --> 00:44:06,560

But I don't remember  
now the name

828

00:44:06,560 --> 00:44:10,400

of the street perpendicular  
to the Max-Strase

829

00:44:10,400 --> 00:44:11,900

the gemindehaus was on.

830

00:44:11,900 --> 00:44:12,770

I understand.

831

00:44:12,770 --> 00:44:14,840

But it's still on  
the same street.

832

00:44:14,840 --> 00:44:16,150

It's still there.

833

00:44:16,150 --> 00:44:19,130

It's still there, yeah.

834

00:44:19,130 --> 00:44:21,470

So let's talk about this now.

835

00:44:21,470 --> 00:44:25,280

Let's talk about  
the early 1930s.

836

00:44:25,280 --> 00:44:29,270

And you mentioned the SA troops  
marching through the streets.

837

00:44:29,270 --> 00:44:34,040

And Hitler is going  
to come to power.

838

00:44:34,040 --> 00:44:36,730

Do your parents talk  
about these things?

839  
00:44:36,730 --> 00:44:38,300  
Sorry, I didn't  
get what you said.

840  
00:44:38,300 --> 00:44:43,940  
I said let's talk now  
about the early 1930s.

841  
00:44:43,940 --> 00:44:45,560  
Yes.

842  
00:44:45,560 --> 00:44:50,240  
So this is still in Germany?

843  
00:44:50,240 --> 00:44:53,420  
Yes, still in Germany.

844  
00:44:53,420 --> 00:44:57,650  
Your parents see  
what is going on,

845  
00:44:57,650 --> 00:45:01,670  
and do they talk  
about it at home?

846  
00:45:01,670 --> 00:45:05,570  
Do they talk to you and your  
brothers about these things?

847  
00:45:05,570 --> 00:45:08,160

848  
00:45:08,160 --> 00:45:14,130  
Well, it was impossible  
not to notice them.

849  
00:45:14,130 --> 00:45:16,290  
OK.

850  
00:45:16,290 --> 00:45:21,960  
Not to be confronted

by them when somebody

851

00:45:21,960 --> 00:45:34,230

has a military formation  
parade singing "when

852

00:45:34,230 --> 00:45:37,230

the blood of the Jews is  
flowing from our knives,

853

00:45:37,230 --> 00:45:43,740

life is twice as good"  
you can't not notice it.

854

00:45:43,740 --> 00:45:46,105

Did you ask your parents  
about these things?

855

00:45:46,105 --> 00:45:50,050

856

00:45:50,050 --> 00:45:56,020

Well, they were something  
in the daily lives

857

00:45:56,020 --> 00:45:57,930

and you had to accept it.

858

00:45:57,930 --> 00:46:04,750

For instance, two years already  
before Hitler took power

859

00:46:04,750 --> 00:46:11,920

most of the children, so the  
people who were my schoolmates,

860

00:46:11,920 --> 00:46:14,800

were part of the  
Hitler movement.

861

00:46:14,800 --> 00:46:16,100

They were?

862

00:46:16,100 --> 00:46:17,890

Yes.

863

00:46:17,890 --> 00:46:20,410

Even before he took power?

864

00:46:20,410 --> 00:46:21,760

Yes.

865

00:46:21,760 --> 00:46:31,300

And I remember even I was  
once at a summer event

866

00:46:31,300 --> 00:46:41,410

where children were taught  
how to throw hand grenades.

867

00:46:41,410 --> 00:46:42,910

Oh, my goodness.

868

00:46:42,910 --> 00:46:48,700

And I was taught how  
to throw hand grenades.

869

00:46:48,700 --> 00:46:52,420

What an activity for a child.

870

00:46:52,420 --> 00:46:53,310

Yes.

871

00:46:53,310 --> 00:47:01,790

Well, somehow the whole  
culture was already taken over

872

00:47:01,790 --> 00:47:08,510

by Hitler, or certainly at least  
two years before he took power.

873

00:47:08,510 --> 00:47:12,320

When he did take  
power, did your life--

874

00:47:12,320 --> 00:47:13,370  
in 1933.

875

00:47:13,370 --> 00:47:18,140  
Yes, did your life and did the  
life of your family change?

876

00:47:18,140 --> 00:47:21,670

877

00:47:21,670 --> 00:47:23,120  
Well, yes.

878

00:47:23,120 --> 00:47:32,170  
Within one month I was on  
a boat to go to New York.

879

00:47:32,170 --> 00:47:34,270  
That's very fast.

880

00:47:34,270 --> 00:47:35,650  
Yes.

881

00:47:35,650 --> 00:47:42,430  
And it's really much  
shorter than you

882

00:47:42,430 --> 00:47:45,100  
need to organize  
something like that.

883

00:47:45,100 --> 00:47:54,310  
So the problem which Germany  
faced with Hitler taking power

884

00:47:54,310 --> 00:47:57,770  
was already anticipated.

885

00:47:57,770 --> 00:48:01,210  
It was anticipated  
by your parents?



886  
00:48:01,210 --> 00:48:03,340  
By the culture as a whole.

887  
00:48:03,340 --> 00:48:04,610  
I see.

888  
00:48:04,610 --> 00:48:07,600  
And the Jewish community?

889  
00:48:07,600 --> 00:48:14,050  
The Jewish community but also  
by the non-Jewish community.

890  
00:48:14,050 --> 00:48:15,460  
My question is--

891  
00:48:15,460 --> 00:48:21,550  
When these Storm troopers, the  
Brownshirts, well, everybody

892  
00:48:21,550 --> 00:48:22,460  
saw them.

893  
00:48:22,460 --> 00:48:22,960  
Yeah.

894  
00:48:22,960 --> 00:48:26,610

895  
00:48:26,610 --> 00:48:30,240  
Was there talk in your  
family of your whole family

896  
00:48:30,240 --> 00:48:30,915  
leaving Germany?

897  
00:48:30,915 --> 00:48:34,240

898  
00:48:34,240 --> 00:48:38,260  
Well, no.

899

00:48:38,260 --> 00:48:43,700

Because we didn't have  
the possibility to do it.

900

00:48:43,700 --> 00:48:48,730

You needed somebody  
to accommodate you

901

00:48:48,730 --> 00:48:50,620

in another country.

902

00:48:50,620 --> 00:48:54,160

How did it come about  
that you could leave?

903

00:48:54,160 --> 00:48:56,020

Oh, that was a German--

904

00:48:56,020 --> 00:49:03,130

not a German-- an American  
Jewish charitable organization

905

00:49:03,130 --> 00:49:05,920

which had organized that.

906

00:49:05,920 --> 00:49:06,970

Do you know the name?

907

00:49:06,970 --> 00:49:13,790

908

00:49:13,790 --> 00:49:19,670

Some name comes to mind,  
but it may not be correct.

909

00:49:19,670 --> 00:49:24,050

The name that comes in mind is  
German Jewish Children's Aid.

910

00:49:24,050 --> 00:49:27,230

911  
00:49:27,230 --> 00:49:32,780  
And was it a  
surprise for you when

912  
00:49:32,780 --> 00:49:37,700  
you realized that you  
were going to be going?

913  
00:49:37,700 --> 00:49:41,840  
Well, I certainly had  
no way of anticipating.

914  
00:49:41,840 --> 00:49:45,275  
Can you tell me, do you  
remember how it happened?

915  
00:49:45,275 --> 00:49:49,960

916  
00:49:49,960 --> 00:49:51,500  
I was 12 years old.

917  
00:49:51,500 --> 00:49:54,370  
You do what you're told.

918  
00:49:54,370 --> 00:49:55,990  
That's true.

919  
00:49:55,990 --> 00:49:57,130  
That's true.

920  
00:49:57,130 --> 00:50:00,380  
Was it that your parents  
came to you one day and said,

921  
00:50:00,380 --> 00:50:03,730  
you're going to be  
going to America?

922  
00:50:03,730 --> 00:50:04,730  
Well, they must have.

923  
00:50:04,730 --> 00:50:07,360  
But it all happened very fast.

924  
00:50:07,360 --> 00:50:10,570  
I told you within  
one month I was gone.

925  
00:50:10,570 --> 00:50:16,660  
That's amazing because many  
people didn't leave that early.

926  
00:50:16,660 --> 00:50:21,490  
Many stayed until it  
was too late thinking--

927  
00:50:21,490 --> 00:50:24,940  
Well, it's not very  
easy to leave your home.

928  
00:50:24,940 --> 00:50:27,640  
Yeah.

929  
00:50:27,640 --> 00:50:29,950  
Do you remember how  
you felt when you left?

930  
00:50:29,950 --> 00:50:35,700

931  
00:50:35,700 --> 00:50:41,190  
Well, my guess is I didn't  
ask myself that question.

932  
00:50:41,190 --> 00:50:41,730  
OK.

933  
00:50:41,730 --> 00:50:43,920  
I left with my older brother.

934  
00:50:43,920 --> 00:50:45,920  
With Herbert.

935  
00:50:45,920 --> 00:50:47,210  
Yes.

936  
00:50:47,210 --> 00:50:50,160  
OK.

937  
00:50:50,160 --> 00:50:54,510  
And so he was 13  
and you were 12.

938  
00:50:54,510 --> 00:50:55,860  
Yes.

939  
00:50:55,860 --> 00:50:56,940  
OK.

940  
00:50:56,940 --> 00:51:00,870  
What can you tell me  
of the journey over?

941  
00:51:00,870 --> 00:51:03,900  
How did you leave Bad  
Kissingen and how did you

942  
00:51:03,900 --> 00:51:05,370  
come to the United States?

943  
00:51:05,370 --> 00:51:08,880  
What was the means  
of transportation?

944  
00:51:08,880 --> 00:51:21,010  
Well, we were I think  
driven by a motor car, which

945  
00:51:21,010 --> 00:51:33,450  
was to Northern Germany,  
I think, in Bremen,

946  
00:51:33,450 --> 00:51:37,260  
to the boat which took us.

947

00:51:37,260 --> 00:51:45,000

And in Berlin, on  
the way, we were

948

00:51:45,000 --> 00:51:55,020

able to visit my uncle Sigmund,  
who was a medical doctor.

949

00:51:55,020 --> 00:52:00,060

And there's a  
practice in Nuremberg.

950

00:52:00,060 --> 00:52:06,040

But already before that--

951

00:52:06,040 --> 00:52:08,910

so before Hitler took power--

952

00:52:08,910 --> 00:52:19,470

he was threatened in  
his life in Nuremberg.

953

00:52:19,470 --> 00:52:27,840

And he moved to Berlin  
where he now had a practice.

954

00:52:27,840 --> 00:52:30,600

And that certainly  
you wouldn't do

955

00:52:30,600 --> 00:52:33,180

unless life was very difficult.

956

00:52:33,180 --> 00:52:34,860

Yeah.

957

00:52:34,860 --> 00:52:39,780

So on your way to leave Germany  
you visited your uncle Sigmund.

958

00:52:39,780 --> 00:52:41,730

Yes.

959

00:52:41,730 --> 00:52:44,040

And was there a  
particular reason

960

00:52:44,040 --> 00:52:45,660

or was it to say goodbye?

961

00:52:45,660 --> 00:52:46,935

Was there another reason?

962

00:52:46,935 --> 00:52:47,670

Sorry.

963

00:52:47,670 --> 00:52:52,800

What was the reason to  
visit him before you left?

964

00:52:52,800 --> 00:52:59,700

Well, it was on the way and he  
was the brother of my mother.

965

00:52:59,700 --> 00:53:00,930

I see.

966

00:53:00,930 --> 00:53:03,210

I see.

967

00:53:03,210 --> 00:53:04,800

Do you know what  
happened to him?

968

00:53:04,800 --> 00:53:07,860

Did he eventually  
leave Germany too?

969

00:53:07,860 --> 00:53:09,120

Yes.

970

00:53:09,120 --> 00:53:10,650

OK.

971  
00:53:10,650 --> 00:53:18,040  
And my memory is just so bad.

972  
00:53:18,040 --> 00:53:22,060  
It was he came to  
the United States

973  
00:53:22,060 --> 00:53:30,160  
and had an interesting life  
there, I think, on Long Island.

974  
00:53:30,160 --> 00:53:32,650  
On Long Island, OK.

975  
00:53:32,650 --> 00:53:35,530  
Do you remember his last name?

976  
00:53:35,530 --> 00:53:36,930  
Sigmund May.

977  
00:53:36,930 --> 00:53:42,490  
May, oh, so your mother's last  
name is the same as Karl May.

978  
00:53:42,490 --> 00:53:43,220  
Yes.

979  
00:53:43,220 --> 00:53:43,720  
OK.

980  
00:53:43,720 --> 00:53:46,370

981  
00:53:46,370 --> 00:53:49,580  
So let's go back to your trip.

982  
00:53:49,580 --> 00:53:53,540  
After you visit  
your uncle Sigmund,

983



00:53:53,540 --> 00:53:57,047  
is this just you and Herbert by  
yourselves or did your parents

984  
00:53:57,047 --> 00:53:57,630  
accompany you?

985  
00:53:57,630 --> 00:53:59,240  
No, my parents were with us.

986  
00:53:59,240 --> 00:54:00,140  
I see.

987  
00:54:00,140 --> 00:54:01,130  
OK.

988  
00:54:01,130 --> 00:54:04,550  
Did they accompany you  
all the way to Bremen?

989  
00:54:04,550 --> 00:54:06,080  
As best I know.

990  
00:54:06,080 --> 00:54:07,310  
OK.

991  
00:54:07,310 --> 00:54:10,100  
Do you remember the name of  
the boat that you got on?

992  
00:54:10,100 --> 00:54:12,950

993  
00:54:12,950 --> 00:54:21,030  
Well, it was something  
like the United States

994  
00:54:21,030 --> 00:54:22,130  
something or other.

995  
00:54:22,130 --> 00:54:23,910  
OK.

996  
00:54:23,910 --> 00:54:26,420  
OK.

997  
00:54:26,420 --> 00:54:28,010  
I think I can find out.

998  
00:54:28,010 --> 00:54:30,090  
But I don't remember now.

999  
00:54:30,090 --> 00:54:30,590  
OK.

1000  
00:54:30,590 --> 00:54:31,490  
It's a detail.

1001  
00:54:31,490 --> 00:54:35,120  
It's not-- do you remember  
anything of the experience

1002  
00:54:35,120 --> 00:54:36,560  
of going by boat?

1003  
00:54:36,560 --> 00:54:37,370  
Sorry.

1004  
00:54:37,370 --> 00:54:42,230  
Do you remember any of the  
experience of going by boat?

1005  
00:54:42,230 --> 00:54:43,910  
It must have been  
the first time.

1006  
00:54:43,910 --> 00:54:44,705  
Yes, I remember.

1007  
00:54:44,705 --> 00:54:48,710

1008  
00:54:48,710 --> 00:54:51,260

I remember being  
seasick all the time.

1009  
00:54:51,260 --> 00:54:52,673  
Oh, dear.

1010  
00:54:52,673 --> 00:54:53,340  
It was terrible.

1011  
00:54:53,340 --> 00:54:56,030

1012  
00:54:56,030 --> 00:54:57,320  
And so was everybody else.

1013  
00:54:57,320 --> 00:54:59,870  
Yeah.

1014  
00:54:59,870 --> 00:55:03,210  
Was it a very choppy ocean?

1015  
00:55:03,210 --> 00:55:03,710  
Sorry.

1016  
00:55:03,710 --> 00:55:08,510  
Was it a choppy ocean-- that  
the boat swayed back and forth?

1017  
00:55:08,510 --> 00:55:13,580  
Well, clearly that's  
what makes seasickness.

1018  
00:55:13,580 --> 00:55:14,210  
Yeah.

1019  
00:55:14,210 --> 00:55:15,240  
Is there any other way?

1020  
00:55:15,240 --> 00:55:18,500

1021

00:55:18,500 --> 00:55:19,610

You're right.

1022

00:55:19,610 --> 00:55:20,165

You're right.

1023

00:55:20,165 --> 00:55:24,260

1024

00:55:24,260 --> 00:55:27,830

Were there more children  
like you and your brother

1025

00:55:27,830 --> 00:55:29,870

on that boat?

1026

00:55:29,870 --> 00:55:32,120

Sorry, I was with my  
brother on that boat.

1027

00:55:32,120 --> 00:55:32,660

Yeah.

1028

00:55:32,660 --> 00:55:33,650

Anybody else?

1029

00:55:33,650 --> 00:55:36,920

Any other German  
Jewish children?

1030

00:55:36,920 --> 00:55:38,450

I think so.

1031

00:55:38,450 --> 00:55:39,970

But I'm not sure.

1032

00:55:39,970 --> 00:55:44,370

I think they were  
quite a few of us.

1033

00:55:44,370 --> 00:55:44,870

Yeah.

1034  
00:55:44,870 --> 00:55:49,400  
Was there someone from the  
charitable organization

1035  
00:55:49,400 --> 00:55:51,890  
that accompanied you?

1036  
00:55:51,890 --> 00:55:54,230  
I don't remember that.

1037  
00:55:54,230 --> 00:55:55,400  
OK.

1038  
00:55:55,400 --> 00:55:57,770  
So you don't remember  
of an adult being

1039  
00:55:57,770 --> 00:55:59,960  
in charge of the children?

1040  
00:55:59,960 --> 00:56:01,340  
Yes, no I don't.

1041  
00:56:01,340 --> 00:56:02,390  
OK.

1042  
00:56:02,390 --> 00:56:03,780  
OK.

1043  
00:56:03,780 --> 00:56:06,320  
Is there anything else you  
remember about the boat

1044  
00:56:06,320 --> 00:56:09,380  
trip over?

1045  
00:56:09,380 --> 00:56:11,360  
No.

1046  
00:56:11,360 --> 00:56:15,590

And did your parents  
give you the reason why

1047  
00:56:15,590 --> 00:56:17,150  
you and Herbert were leaving?

1048  
00:56:17,150 --> 00:56:24,460

1049  
00:56:24,460 --> 00:56:28,930  
I am sure they did--

1050  
00:56:28,930 --> 00:56:31,450  
you can not help but do that.

1051  
00:56:31,450 --> 00:56:37,840  
But I don't remember how  
we discussed these things.

1052  
00:56:37,840 --> 00:56:43,000  
But what was  
happening in Germany

1053  
00:56:43,000 --> 00:56:53,630  
was so obvious and awful that  
you could not discuss it.

1054  
00:56:53,630 --> 00:56:55,870  
OK.

1055  
00:56:55,870 --> 00:57:01,030  
Did you ever have  
feelings of homesickness?

1056  
00:57:01,030 --> 00:57:02,230  
Feelings of what?

1057  
00:57:02,230 --> 00:57:05,730  
Homesickness, heimweh.

1058  
00:57:05,730 --> 00:57:07,760  
I didn't get that word.

1059  
00:57:07,760 --> 00:57:10,330  
Homesickness, heimweh.

1060  
00:57:10,330 --> 00:57:12,595  
Did you ever have  
feelings of missing.

1061  
00:57:12,595 --> 00:57:14,560  
No, I still didn't get that--

1062  
00:57:14,560 --> 00:57:16,090  
what kind of sickness?

1063  
00:57:16,090 --> 00:57:18,850  
Homesickness, that is  
you missed your home.

1064  
00:57:18,850 --> 00:57:20,500  
You missed your family.

1065  
00:57:20,500 --> 00:57:21,850  
You missed-- did you miss--

1066  
00:57:21,850 --> 00:57:22,960  
Health sickness.

1067  
00:57:22,960 --> 00:57:24,460  
Not health, home.

1068  
00:57:24,460 --> 00:57:26,780  
Like in a place where  
somebody lives. homesick--

1069  
00:57:26,780 --> 00:57:28,270  
No, I don't get that word.

1070  
00:57:28,270 --> 00:57:29,290  
Can you spell it?

1071  
00:57:29,290 --> 00:57:34,260

H-O-M-E S

1072  
00:57:34,260 --> 00:57:35,620  
H-O-S

1073  
00:57:35,620 --> 00:57:38,050  
No, H-O-M, like Mary.

1074  
00:57:38,050 --> 00:57:38,570  
Home.

1075  
00:57:38,570 --> 00:57:39,070  
Home

1076  
00:57:39,070 --> 00:57:40,000  
Homesickness.

1077  
00:57:40,000 --> 00:57:41,020  
Yeah.

1078  
00:57:41,020 --> 00:57:42,010  
Did you feel that?

1079  
00:57:42,010 --> 00:57:44,380  
I don't, I wouldn't  
know what that is.

1080  
00:57:44,380 --> 00:57:45,160  
OK.

1081  
00:57:45,160 --> 00:57:52,270  
In German it's called  
heimweh, H-E-I-M-W-E-H.

1082  
00:57:52,270 --> 00:57:53,470  
Heim--

1083  
00:57:53,470 --> 00:57:54,850  
Heimweh.

1084  
00:57:54,850 --> 00:57:56,170



No, I don't know it.

1085

00:57:56,170 --> 00:57:56,980  
OK.

1086

00:57:56,980 --> 00:57:58,120  
OK.

1087

00:57:58,120 --> 00:58:03,190  
Were you worried about what  
was going on with your parents

1088

00:58:03,190 --> 00:58:05,560  
because they stayed behind?

1089

00:58:05,560 --> 00:58:09,970  
Was I worried about what  
was going on in America?

1090

00:58:09,970 --> 00:58:13,600  
No, with your  
parents in Germany.

1091

00:58:13,600 --> 00:58:19,720  
Yes, oh, well of course  
but we communicated

1092

00:58:19,720 --> 00:58:21,220  
with letter writing.

1093

00:58:21,220 --> 00:58:22,480  
OK.

1094

00:58:22,480 --> 00:58:24,070  
OK.

1095

00:58:24,070 --> 00:58:26,440  
So tell me-- now  
let's talk about

1096

00:58:26,440 --> 00:58:32,170  
once you arrive in the

United States, what happens?

1097

00:58:32,170 --> 00:58:34,900

What are your first experiences?

1098

00:58:34,900 --> 00:58:36,670

So I can tell you a  
little about that.

1099

00:58:36,670 --> 00:58:37,210

Yeah.

1100

00:58:37,210 --> 00:58:41,080

We were brought there  
by some charity.

1101

00:58:41,080 --> 00:58:42,100

Yes.

1102

00:58:42,100 --> 00:58:47,860

And this charity then tried  
to find foster homes for us,

1103

00:58:47,860 --> 00:58:51,490

which was not an easy job.

1104

00:58:51,490 --> 00:58:54,730

And they found--

1105

00:58:54,730 --> 00:58:55,990

I don't know how long it took.

1106

00:58:55,990 --> 00:58:58,930

In the meantime,  
we were also put up

1107

00:58:58,930 --> 00:59:06,280

in orphan homes in New York  
and maybe also other places.

1108

00:59:06,280 --> 00:59:11,260

And they found a place

for us in Chicago--

1109  
00:59:11,260 --> 00:59:12,610  
for the two of us--

1110  
00:59:12,610 --> 00:59:15,040  
Together.

1111  
00:59:15,040 --> 00:59:17,860  
--together in the same home.

1112  
00:59:17,860 --> 00:59:20,290  
But that didn't work out.

1113  
00:59:20,290 --> 00:59:22,360  
It lasted maybe half a year.

1114  
00:59:22,360 --> 00:59:23,230  
OK.

1115  
00:59:23,230 --> 00:59:33,100  
And then we were taken  
back to these orphan--

1116  
00:59:33,100 --> 00:59:34,090  
Homes.

1117  
00:59:34,090 --> 00:59:35,185  
--places.

1118  
00:59:35,185 --> 00:59:37,750  
And they tried to find another.

1119  
00:59:37,750 --> 00:59:42,580  
And they found two different  
ones, but quite close together,

1120  
00:59:42,580 --> 00:59:44,740  
in the suburbs of Chicago.

1121  
00:59:44,740 --> 00:59:45,490

OK.

1122

00:59:45,490 --> 00:59:50,950

One was for me in  
Winnetka, Illinois.

1123

00:59:50,950 --> 00:59:59,350

And the other one was for my  
brother, Herbert, in, I think,

1124

00:59:59,350 --> 01:00:00,310

it was Glencoe.

1125

01:00:00,310 --> 01:00:03,410

But I'm not sure of  
the name anymore.

1126

01:00:03,410 --> 01:00:04,060

OK.

1127

01:00:04,060 --> 01:00:10,870

About maybe ten  
miles from Winnetka.

1128

01:00:10,870 --> 01:00:14,650

Tell me about the family  
that you came to in Winnetka.

1129

01:00:14,650 --> 01:00:15,310

Sorry.

1130

01:00:15,310 --> 01:00:17,410

Tell me a little  
bit about the people

1131

01:00:17,410 --> 01:00:20,230

who took you in Winnetka.

1132

01:00:20,230 --> 01:00:27,400

Yes, it was Barnett  
Farroll who took me in.

1133

01:00:27,400 --> 01:00:28,210  
OK.

1134  
01:00:28,210 --> 01:00:34,210  
And he was a merchant--

1135  
01:00:34,210 --> 01:00:36,730  
a brokerage house he had.

1136  
01:00:36,730 --> 01:00:38,380  
He was quite well-to-do.

1137  
01:00:38,380 --> 01:00:39,070  
OK.

1138  
01:00:39,070 --> 01:00:46,850  
And he had a brokerage  
house and they still exists.

1139  
01:00:46,850 --> 01:00:53,500  
It's some trade  
center in Chicago.

1140  
01:00:53,500 --> 01:00:55,070  
OK.

1141  
01:00:55,070 --> 01:01:03,850  
A brokerage house  
for farmer products.

1142  
01:01:03,850 --> 01:01:05,800  
Like grain and things?

1143  
01:01:05,800 --> 01:01:06,400  
Sorry.

1144  
01:01:06,400 --> 01:01:10,510  
Like grain or  
agricultural equipment?

1145  
01:01:10,510 --> 01:01:13,090

1146  
01:01:13,090 --> 01:01:15,460  
Grain certainly must  
have been part of it.

1147  
01:01:15,460 --> 01:01:16,360  
OK.

1148  
01:01:16,360 --> 01:01:20,540  
And not agricultural equipment  
but agricultural goods.

1149  
01:01:20,540 --> 01:01:21,820  
OK.

1150  
01:01:21,820 --> 01:01:23,320  
OK.

1151  
01:01:23,320 --> 01:01:25,750  
Did he have children?

1152  
01:01:25,750 --> 01:01:27,790  
No, he had no children.

1153  
01:01:27,790 --> 01:01:29,110  
But he was married.

1154  
01:01:29,110 --> 01:01:29,710  
OK.

1155  
01:01:29,710 --> 01:01:34,990  
And his wife died, Mrs. Farroll.

1156  
01:01:34,990 --> 01:01:36,670  
I never really knew her.

1157  
01:01:36,670 --> 01:01:37,690  
OK.

1158  
01:01:37,690 --> 01:01:44,620  
They went soon after I arrived,

they went on a trip to Europe,

1159

01:01:44,620 --> 01:01:52,120

I think it was, and  
his wife had leukemia

1160

01:01:52,120 --> 01:01:54,850

when she came back  
and died soon after.

1161

01:01:54,850 --> 01:01:56,230

I see.

1162

01:01:56,230 --> 01:01:57,940

I see.

1163

01:01:57,940 --> 01:01:58,810

So in the--

1164

01:01:58,810 --> 01:02:02,720

But she was very kind  
and took care of me

1165

01:02:02,720 --> 01:02:09,420

for four or five years.

1166

01:02:09,420 --> 01:02:19,370

And the high school nearby was  
New Trier Township High School,

1167

01:02:19,370 --> 01:02:25,050

which was maybe the best  
high school in the country.

1168

01:02:25,050 --> 01:02:28,220

So it was very fortunate.

1169

01:02:28,220 --> 01:02:30,330

But it was the two of you.

1170

01:02:30,330 --> 01:02:30,830

Sorry.

1171  
01:02:30,830 --> 01:02:37,940  
It was just the two of you  
at his home, himself and you.

1172  
01:02:37,940 --> 01:02:38,480  
Sorry.

1173  
01:02:38,480 --> 01:02:40,010  
It was just the two of you.

1174  
01:02:40,010 --> 01:02:44,150  
After his wife died,  
he more or less

1175  
01:02:44,150 --> 01:02:48,740  
brought you up by himself  
during those four or five years.

1176  
01:02:48,740 --> 01:02:49,490  
Is that correct?

1177  
01:02:49,490 --> 01:02:51,110  
I didn't understand you.

1178  
01:02:51,110 --> 01:02:57,020  
I said after his wife  
died, it was just the two

1179  
01:02:57,020 --> 01:02:59,510  
of you, Mr. Farroll and you.

1180  
01:02:59,510 --> 01:03:01,930  
And the maid and the chauffeur.

1181  
01:03:01,930 --> 01:03:03,710  
Oh, I see.

1182  
01:03:03,710 --> 01:03:06,200  
I see.

1183



01:03:06,200 --> 01:03:09,110  
So it must have been very  
different from the life

1184  
01:03:09,110 --> 01:03:10,740  
you had in Germany.

1185  
01:03:10,740 --> 01:03:11,240  
Yes.

1186  
01:03:11,240 --> 01:03:14,250

1187  
01:03:14,250 --> 01:03:19,830  
So in what ways did you  
feel this difference?

1188  
01:03:19,830 --> 01:03:23,280  
Oh, I doubt that I asked  
myself that question.

1189  
01:03:23,280 --> 01:03:26,110  
No, but I mean, was  
going to school--

1190  
01:03:26,110 --> 01:03:27,360  
You have to accept what comes.

1191  
01:03:27,360 --> 01:03:27,860  
Yes.

1192  
01:03:27,860 --> 01:03:31,830

1193  
01:03:31,830 --> 01:03:33,610  
Was going to school different?

1194  
01:03:33,610 --> 01:03:34,710  
Did you walk there?

1195  
01:03:34,710 --> 01:03:35,430  
Did you--

1196  
01:03:35,430 --> 01:03:36,360  
Sorry.

1197  
01:03:36,360 --> 01:03:40,090  
Tell me about your school  
life in the United States.

1198  
01:03:40,090 --> 01:03:41,850  
Yes.

1199  
01:03:41,850 --> 01:03:47,280  
At New Trier township,  
tell me what that was like?

1200  
01:03:47,280 --> 01:03:58,860  
Well, my own interest  
was doing things by hand.

1201  
01:03:58,860 --> 01:04:01,020  
You mentioned that, yes.

1202  
01:04:01,020 --> 01:04:04,150  
And my brother's interest  
was more cultural.

1203  
01:04:04,150 --> 01:04:04,650  
Yes.

1204  
01:04:04,650 --> 01:04:09,030

1205  
01:04:09,030 --> 01:04:11,730  
Did you see your brother  
much during the time

1206  
01:04:11,730 --> 01:04:14,830  
you lived with Mr. Farroll?

1207  
01:04:14,830 --> 01:04:16,900  
Yes.

1208  
01:04:16,900 --> 01:04:18,570  
Well, we were in  
school together.

1209  
01:04:18,570 --> 01:04:19,355  
Oh, were you?

1210  
01:04:19,355 --> 01:04:20,655  
And we were in the same--

1211  
01:04:20,655 --> 01:04:28,710  
the school I remember  
had a classroom

1212  
01:04:28,710 --> 01:04:38,712  
in which a certain  
group of schoolchildren

1213  
01:04:38,712 --> 01:04:41,700  
were every morning together.

1214  
01:04:41,700 --> 01:04:50,220  
And Herbert and I were  
in the same classroom.

1215  
01:04:50,220 --> 01:04:53,070  
How was school in America?

1216  
01:04:53,070 --> 01:04:55,830  
Was it different from what  
you remember from Germany?

1217  
01:04:55,830 --> 01:05:03,500

1218  
01:05:03,500 --> 01:05:05,210  
I can't answer that question.

1219  
01:05:05,210 --> 01:05:06,800  
OK.

1220

01:05:06,800 --> 01:05:14,180  
Did you feel like you fit in  
easily in your new environment?

1221  
01:05:14,180 --> 01:05:18,060  
Well, I don't remember  
any difficulties.

1222  
01:05:18,060 --> 01:05:18,560  
OK.

1223  
01:05:18,560 --> 01:05:21,870

1224  
01:05:21,870 --> 01:05:26,450  
How long did it take  
you to learn English?

1225  
01:05:26,450 --> 01:05:30,590  
Oh, that's a good question.

1226  
01:05:30,590 --> 01:05:35,490  
The children learn  
languages very fast.

1227  
01:05:35,490 --> 01:05:36,110  
Yeah.

1228  
01:05:36,110 --> 01:05:41,090  
And-- oh, my god--

1229  
01:05:41,090 --> 01:05:45,380  
my wife's dog is doing  
some terrible things.

1230  
01:05:45,380 --> 01:05:48,040  
Should we call back later?

1231  
01:05:48,040 --> 01:05:52,025  
No, no, no, I have  
nothing to do with it.

1232

01:05:52,025 --> 01:05:53,600  
It's Cynthia's job.

1233  
01:05:53,600 --> 01:05:55,522  
OK.

1234  
01:05:55,522 --> 01:05:56,480  
What was your question?

1235  
01:05:56,480 --> 01:05:59,600  
We were talking about language.

1236  
01:05:59,600 --> 01:06:02,720  
About language--  
yes, what I remember

1237  
01:06:02,720 --> 01:06:11,990  
is that before they put  
me up with Mr. Farroll,

1238  
01:06:11,990 --> 01:06:22,010  
I was for a while in  
New York or wherever.

1239  
01:06:22,010 --> 01:06:23,690  
I don't remember.

1240  
01:06:23,690 --> 01:06:29,300  
And I was able to go  
to school already.

1241  
01:06:29,300 --> 01:06:32,070  
Oh, you still-- even when  
you were in the orphanage.

1242  
01:06:32,070 --> 01:06:32,570  
Yeah.

1243  
01:06:32,570 --> 01:06:38,870  
Just a few months after  
I arrived in America,

1244

01:06:38,870 --> 01:06:41,190  
I was able to go to school.

1245  
01:06:41,190 --> 01:06:52,250  
And since my mother had  
an education in languages,

1246  
01:06:52,250 --> 01:06:55,570  
she had taught us a little  
English before we left.

1247  
01:06:55,570 --> 01:06:57,200  
I see.

1248  
01:06:57,200 --> 01:06:58,610  
I see.

1249  
01:06:58,610 --> 01:07:00,650  
It helped then.

1250  
01:07:00,650 --> 01:07:01,215  
Yes.

1251  
01:07:01,215 --> 01:07:01,715  
OK.

1252  
01:07:01,715 --> 01:07:06,300

1253  
01:07:06,300 --> 01:07:09,030  
Tell me a little bit  
about Mr. Farroll

1254  
01:07:09,030 --> 01:07:12,240  
and what kind of  
a person he was.

1255  
01:07:12,240 --> 01:07:16,230  
And what kind of relationship  
you had with him.

1256  
01:07:16,230 --> 01:07:18,990

1257

01:07:18,990 --> 01:07:24,570

Well, clearly he  
was very kind to me.

1258

01:07:24,570 --> 01:07:36,600

And so were also the  
servants in the house.

1259

01:07:36,600 --> 01:07:42,000

So I don't remember  
any difficulties

1260

01:07:42,000 --> 01:07:44,970

except the fact that after--

1261

01:07:44,970 --> 01:07:50,850

1262

01:07:50,850 --> 01:08:04,710

after I was through with high  
school and went to college

1263

01:08:04,710 --> 01:08:11,940

he was very stingy  
about paying for things.

1264

01:08:11,940 --> 01:08:19,109

And it was not possible  
for me to do what I

1265

01:08:19,109 --> 01:08:21,810

wanted in the way of schooling.

1266

01:08:21,810 --> 01:08:28,140

Then I had to do whatever  
I could afford to do.

1267

01:08:28,140 --> 01:08:31,680

You had to find your  
own way financially.

1268

01:08:31,680 --> 01:08:36,810

Well, he sort of tapped out.

1269

01:08:36,810 --> 01:08:37,470

I see.

1270

01:08:37,470 --> 01:08:39,990

1271

01:08:39,990 --> 01:08:44,520

By that point had your  
parents already arrived

1272

01:08:44,520 --> 01:08:50,970

in the United States or  
was this before they did?

1273

01:08:50,970 --> 01:08:51,569

Hang on.

1274

01:08:51,569 --> 01:08:52,120

One second.

1275

01:08:52,120 --> 01:08:52,620

Sure.

1276

01:08:52,620 --> 01:08:59,810

1277

01:08:59,810 --> 01:09:05,870

It was already  
before they arrived.

1278

01:09:05,870 --> 01:09:07,430

Oh.

1279

01:09:07,430 --> 01:09:12,200

So in some ways you  
were left on your own.

1280

01:09:12,200 --> 01:09:14,750



Yes.

1281

01:09:14,750 --> 01:09:24,770

And I got a scholarship at  
a very second-rate school

1282

01:09:24,770 --> 01:09:27,830

for a couple of years.

1283

01:09:27,830 --> 01:09:32,569

And managed that way.

1284

01:09:32,569 --> 01:09:34,460

I don't know where  
I was living then.

1285

01:09:34,460 --> 01:09:37,550

1286

01:09:37,550 --> 01:09:48,950

And well, I don't  
remember exactly.

1287

01:09:48,950 --> 01:09:53,630

But it wasn't so long before  
my parents also came to

1288

01:09:53,630 --> 01:09:55,520

and we had to manage together.

1289

01:09:55,520 --> 01:09:56,030

Yeah.

1290

01:09:56,030 --> 01:09:59,240

Tell me how did they  
make it out of Germany?

1291

01:09:59,240 --> 01:10:02,390

Through what means were  
they able to leave?

1292

01:10:02,390 --> 01:10:08,120

1293

01:10:08,120 --> 01:10:20,810

In one way this Mr. Farroll,  
who was my foster father,

1294

01:10:20,810 --> 01:10:23,210

was a great help.

1295

01:10:23,210 --> 01:10:30,680

He signed what was  
called an affidavit.

1296

01:10:30,680 --> 01:10:31,700

Do you know that word?

1297

01:10:31,700 --> 01:10:33,440

Yes, I do.

1298

01:10:33,440 --> 01:10:34,920

OK.

1299

01:10:34,920 --> 01:10:39,380

And that made it possible  
for them to get a visa.

1300

01:10:39,380 --> 01:10:42,560

1301

01:10:42,560 --> 01:10:46,700

But when they came  
they had to worry

1302

01:10:46,700 --> 01:10:48,170

about how to make a living.

1303

01:10:48,170 --> 01:10:54,980

And the way, which was with  
the help of charities also,

1304

01:10:54,980 --> 01:11:03,710

was found was to find for them

a delicatessen store, which

1305  
01:11:03,710 --> 01:11:07,680  
caters to the Jewish  
community in Chicago.

1306  
01:11:07,680 --> 01:11:08,660  
Oh.

1307  
01:11:08,660 --> 01:11:13,040  
So they bought a delicatessen  
store, or they worked at one?

1308  
01:11:13,040 --> 01:11:18,090  
They were helped to buy it.

1309  
01:11:18,090 --> 01:11:21,690  
They helped-- people  
helped them to buy it.

1310  
01:11:21,690 --> 01:11:22,360  
Yes.

1311  
01:11:22,360 --> 01:11:23,510  
OK.

1312  
01:11:23,510 --> 01:11:25,070  
OK.

1313  
01:11:25,070 --> 01:11:29,210  
Where was the delicatessen  
store located in Chicago?

1314  
01:11:29,210 --> 01:11:35,030  
It was in Rogers  
Park in Chicago.

1315  
01:11:35,030 --> 01:11:36,530  
Rogers Park?

1316  
01:11:36,530 --> 01:11:38,360  
Rogers Park.

1317  
01:11:38,360 --> 01:11:40,090  
It's a district.

1318  
01:11:40,090 --> 01:11:40,590  
OK.

1319  
01:11:40,590 --> 01:11:46,490  
And it was right below  
the elevated railway.

1320  
01:11:46,490 --> 01:11:47,870  
I see.

1321  
01:11:47,870 --> 01:11:50,420  
OK.

1322  
01:11:50,420 --> 01:11:54,045  
And we lived on  
the street called

1323  
01:11:54,045 --> 01:11:57,770  
Lunt Avenue in Rogers Park.

1324  
01:11:57,770 --> 01:12:00,050  
In Rogers Park.

1325  
01:12:00,050 --> 01:12:06,350  
Did you see much of Mr. Farroll  
after your parents came?

1326  
01:12:06,350 --> 01:12:07,130  
What?

1327  
01:12:07,130 --> 01:12:10,580  
Did you see much of Mr.  
Farroll after your parents

1328  
01:12:10,580 --> 01:12:11,810  
came to Chicago?

1329

01:12:11,810 --> 01:12:13,890  
Hang on let me try to remember.

1330  
01:12:13,890 --> 01:12:14,390  
OK.

1331  
01:12:14,390 --> 01:12:37,150

1332  
01:12:37,150 --> 01:12:41,890  
No, the contact-- there was  
some contact but not very much.

1333  
01:12:41,890 --> 01:12:44,500  
I see.

1334  
01:12:44,500 --> 01:12:49,520  
And when your parents  
came, I assume

1335  
01:12:49,520 --> 01:12:52,780  
they also came with Rudolph,  
your younger brother.

1336  
01:12:52,780 --> 01:12:53,800  
Yes.

1337  
01:12:53,800 --> 01:12:55,330  
All right.

1338  
01:12:55,330 --> 01:13:00,250  
And did your older  
brother join you as well?

1339  
01:13:00,250 --> 01:13:05,260  
Well, hang on.

1340  
01:13:05,260 --> 01:13:15,060

1341  
01:13:15,060 --> 01:13:21,040  
No, I don't think I had much

contact with my older brother

1342  
01:13:21,040 --> 01:13:22,560  
nor with my younger brother.

1343  
01:13:22,560 --> 01:13:24,885  
Well, my younger brother--

1344  
01:13:24,885 --> 01:13:27,390

1345  
01:13:27,390 --> 01:13:31,560  
I ended up at the  
University of Chicago

1346  
01:13:31,560 --> 01:13:37,700  
to study physics after the war.

1347  
01:13:37,700 --> 01:13:44,500  
And there was my younger  
brother studying chemistry.

1348  
01:13:44,500 --> 01:13:46,220  
Aha.

1349  
01:13:46,220 --> 01:13:47,840  
OK.

1350  
01:13:47,840 --> 01:13:51,470  
So our contract was  
limited but there was some.

1351  
01:13:51,470 --> 01:13:54,440  
Did he live with your  
parents when they

1352  
01:13:54,440 --> 01:13:55,715  
arrived in the United States?

1353  
01:13:55,715 --> 01:13:58,700

1354

01:13:58,700 --> 01:14:01,140  
Well, he came with my parents.

1355

01:14:01,140 --> 01:14:04,610  
And so did you  
all live together?

1356

01:14:04,610 --> 01:14:07,370  
Well, Rudolph and my  
parents were together.

1357

01:14:07,370 --> 01:14:08,540  
OK.

1358

01:14:08,540 --> 01:14:10,340  
And did you live  
with your parents

1359

01:14:10,340 --> 01:14:13,010  
when they arrived in  
the United States?

1360

01:14:13,010 --> 01:14:14,690  
Did you join them?

1361

01:14:14,690 --> 01:14:15,650  
Yes.

1362

01:14:15,650 --> 01:14:16,370  
And did Herbert?

1363

01:14:16,370 --> 01:14:20,860

1364

01:14:20,860 --> 01:14:23,080  
Well, I think so.

1365

01:14:23,080 --> 01:14:23,915  
OK.

1366

01:14:23,915 --> 01:14:24,415

OK.

1367

01:14:24,415 --> 01:14:28,150

1368

01:14:28,150 --> 01:14:29,620

And--

1369

01:14:29,620 --> 01:14:33,130

Could we maybe call it quits?

1370

01:14:33,130 --> 01:14:34,390

Of course we can.

1371

01:14:34,390 --> 01:14:40,720

Is it something that you would  
want to continue another day

1372

01:14:40,720 --> 01:14:44,740

or do you feel like you have,  
more or less, said everything

1373

01:14:44,740 --> 01:14:50,800

that you think you can  
about those early years?

1374

01:14:50,800 --> 01:14:54,430

Well, I would like to  
help you as much as I can.

1375

01:14:54,430 --> 01:14:55,670

I appreciate that.

1376

01:14:55,670 --> 01:14:57,230

Thank you.

1377

01:14:57,230 --> 01:14:58,000

Thank you.

1378

01:14:58,000 --> 01:14:58,750

Bye bye.



1379

01:14:58,750 --> 01:14:59,530

Bye bye.

1380

01:14:59,530 --> 01:15:03,790

This concludes the United  
States Holocaust Memorial Museum

1381

01:15:03,790 --> 01:15:08,830

interview with Mr. Jack  
Steinberger on January 12th,

1382

01:15:08,830 --> 01:15:10,680

2017.

1383

01:15:10,680 --> 01:15:14,000