

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,210

2
00:00:03,210 --> 00:00:05,250
Off-camera, you
mentioned something

3
00:00:05,250 --> 00:00:10,230
that I think is really important
for us to have recorded,

4
00:00:10,230 --> 00:00:14,190
that people would know
about this detail.

5
00:00:14,190 --> 00:00:18,840
You explained that
there was a reason

6
00:00:18,840 --> 00:00:24,720
beyond that he was Jewish why
your Uncle Otto was arrested.

7
00:00:24,720 --> 00:00:27,000
Tell me the circumstances.

8
00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:30,930
They had composed a
prayer that was supposed

9
00:00:30,930 --> 00:00:35,520
to have been said in all the
Jewish congregations in Germany

10
00:00:35,520 --> 00:00:38,640
on Yom Kippur.

11
00:00:38,640 --> 00:00:41,910
And it mentioned something
about oppression,

12

00:00:41,910 --> 00:00:44,970
and the Nazis didn't like that.

13
00:00:44,970 --> 00:00:48,600
And that was why they were
going to arrest Leo Baeck

14
00:00:48,600 --> 00:00:52,260
and my uncle said,
he's old and fragile,

15
00:00:52,260 --> 00:00:54,390
I will go in his stead.

16
00:00:54,390 --> 00:00:56,000
Yeah, take me instead.

17
00:00:56,000 --> 00:00:56,500
Yeah.

18
00:00:56,500 --> 00:01:02,700
And so it was this prayer
that was the pretext?

19
00:01:02,700 --> 00:01:04,050
Yes, yes.

20
00:01:04,050 --> 00:01:04,550
OK.

21
00:01:04,550 --> 00:01:07,120

22
00:01:07,120 --> 00:01:11,680
Back in London, 1942-1943--

23
00:01:11,680 --> 00:01:12,820
Right.

24
00:01:12,820 --> 00:01:15,340
--your parents are
now out of Germany?

25
00:01:15,340 --> 00:01:16,000
Yes.

26
00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:20,080
Are you getting regular
communication from them?

27
00:01:20,080 --> 00:01:21,670
Yes.

28
00:01:21,670 --> 00:01:23,110
Where had they landed?

29
00:01:23,110 --> 00:01:24,760
In New York.

30
00:01:24,760 --> 00:01:25,300
In New York?

31
00:01:25,300 --> 00:01:26,860
And they stayed in New York.

32
00:01:26,860 --> 00:01:30,220
And why New York?

33
00:01:30,220 --> 00:01:33,520
What made it the destination?

34
00:01:33,520 --> 00:01:35,080
They had relatives there.

35
00:01:35,080 --> 00:01:37,060
My father had relatives there.

36
00:01:37,060 --> 00:01:39,190
OK.

37
00:01:39,190 --> 00:01:45,110
And was there talk
of you joining them?

38
00:01:45,110 --> 00:01:47,060
They were hoping, yes.

39
00:01:47,060 --> 00:01:50,390
And did you want to?

40
00:01:50,390 --> 00:01:54,430
Not too much because, I really--

41
00:01:54,430 --> 00:01:58,660
it was an adjustment to go
from Germany to England,

42
00:01:58,660 --> 00:02:02,260
and I felt like
home by that time.

43
00:02:02,260 --> 00:02:04,160
And then to go again--

44
00:02:04,160 --> 00:02:06,910
it's not that I didn't
want to see my parents,

45
00:02:06,910 --> 00:02:10,419
but I had kind of
made roots in England.

46
00:02:10,419 --> 00:02:12,820
I had friends.

47
00:02:12,820 --> 00:02:15,730
I spoke the language.

48
00:02:15,730 --> 00:02:20,200
And I was not too anxious.

49
00:02:20,200 --> 00:02:21,330
That's understandable.

50

00:02:21,330 --> 00:02:22,240
Yeah.

51
00:02:22,240 --> 00:02:24,980
Certainly, even after
a hard beginning,

52
00:02:24,980 --> 00:02:28,750
to find the way where you're
in a pleasant circumstance--

53
00:02:28,750 --> 00:02:29,410
Right.

54
00:02:29,410 --> 00:02:31,520
A person doesn't want to
give that up so easily.

55
00:02:31,520 --> 00:02:32,620
Yes.

56
00:02:32,620 --> 00:02:35,280
But of course, my parents
were anxious to have me,

57
00:02:35,280 --> 00:02:40,200
so eventually, we did go.

58
00:02:40,200 --> 00:02:47,310
And my cousin happened to
hear that they were looking

59
00:02:47,310 --> 00:02:53,760
for stewardesses or
something on a troop

60
00:02:53,760 --> 00:03:01,260
ship that came from the
Far East to Southampton.

61
00:03:01,260 --> 00:03:04,140
And from England,
it was supposed

62
00:03:04,140 --> 00:03:09,020
to take GI brides and
babies to the United States.

63
00:03:09,020 --> 00:03:10,140
What year was this?

64
00:03:10,140 --> 00:03:13,297

65
00:03:13,297 --> 00:03:15,850
'46.

66
00:03:15,850 --> 00:03:16,970
Right after the war.

67
00:03:16,970 --> 00:03:20,110
So you stay the entire
war in Great Britain?

68
00:03:20,110 --> 00:03:20,920
Yeah.

69
00:03:20,920 --> 00:03:24,130
Do you attend that course
for physical therapy?

70
00:03:24,130 --> 00:03:25,150
Yes.

71
00:03:25,150 --> 00:03:26,500
Did you finish it?

72
00:03:26,500 --> 00:03:27,760
Yes.

73
00:03:27,760 --> 00:03:30,670
And your sister, Lotte, where
was she during this time?

74

00:03:30,670 --> 00:03:35,350
She was in Dewsbury in Bath.

75
00:03:35,350 --> 00:03:42,120
And she studied nursing,
and she became an RN.

76
00:03:42,120 --> 00:03:45,840
And did you have
opportunity to meet?

77
00:03:45,840 --> 00:03:48,030
Yes, once in a while, yeah.

78
00:03:48,030 --> 00:03:50,250
All right.

79
00:03:50,250 --> 00:03:54,390
But you're basically living two
separate lives, both of you?

80
00:03:54,390 --> 00:04:00,810
Yes, but we had a
couple in London

81
00:04:00,810 --> 00:04:07,500
who were really related
distantly to my Aunt Martha.

82
00:04:07,500 --> 00:04:09,240
Who stayed with Uncle Otto?

83
00:04:09,240 --> 00:04:10,320
Right.

84
00:04:10,320 --> 00:04:15,300
And they were very hospitable.

85
00:04:15,300 --> 00:04:19,230
And they took care,
not only of us

86

00:04:19,230 --> 00:04:24,420
whenever we needed a
home away from home, they

87
00:04:24,420 --> 00:04:31,090
housed boys and men and
women refugees from Germany--

88
00:04:31,090 --> 00:04:31,965
I mean, young people.

89
00:04:31,965 --> 00:04:34,740

90
00:04:34,740 --> 00:04:37,770
Because they happened
to have a good position.

91
00:04:37,770 --> 00:04:40,890
I think the husband was
in the woolen trade,

92
00:04:40,890 --> 00:04:46,150
and so he had connections to
England from before the war.

93
00:04:46,150 --> 00:04:50,220
So they were financially
secure, and they always

94
00:04:50,220 --> 00:04:55,020
had an open house for young
people who needed a refuge.

95
00:04:55,020 --> 00:04:56,860
And they were lovely people.

96
00:04:56,860 --> 00:05:00,140
And if you had a problem,
you could talk to them.

97
00:05:00,140 --> 00:05:03,450
I mean, they were almost

like a mother to my sister.

98

00:05:03,450 --> 00:05:04,940

Oh, how wonderful.

99

00:05:04,940 --> 00:05:08,940

Yeah, and I stayed
with them at times.

100

00:05:08,940 --> 00:05:10,080

They were very nice.

101

00:05:10,080 --> 00:05:13,210

And what part of London
did they live in?

102

00:05:13,210 --> 00:05:14,040

Hampstead, I think.

103

00:05:14,040 --> 00:05:14,540

Right.

104

00:05:14,540 --> 00:05:16,750

OK, and do you
remember their names?

105

00:05:16,750 --> 00:05:21,410

106

00:05:21,410 --> 00:05:22,670

It's OK.

107

00:05:22,670 --> 00:05:24,770

Pip and Mim.

108

00:05:24,770 --> 00:05:26,180

They came from Frankfurt.

109

00:05:26,180 --> 00:05:35,130

110

00:05:35,130 --> 00:05:37,350
It'll come to me when
I don't think so hard.

111
00:05:37,350 --> 00:05:40,390
OK, that's OK.

112
00:05:40,390 --> 00:05:42,350
Everybody called
them Pip and Mim.

113
00:05:42,350 --> 00:05:43,720
Pip and Mim?

114
00:05:43,720 --> 00:05:45,220
Yeah.

115
00:05:45,220 --> 00:05:51,150
Now when you were in that
restaurant for that half year,

116
00:05:51,150 --> 00:05:54,210
and the rest of the time
when you were in London,

117
00:05:54,210 --> 00:05:58,870
were you in danger of bombs?

118
00:05:58,870 --> 00:05:59,370
Yes.

119
00:05:59,370 --> 00:06:00,662
Did you experience the things--

120
00:06:00,662 --> 00:06:03,270
Many times, we had to
go to air raid shelters.

121
00:06:03,270 --> 00:06:08,750
But sometimes, it came
when you didn't expect it.

122

00:06:08,750 --> 00:06:11,730
The buzz bombs, you heard, bzzz.

123
00:06:11,730 --> 00:06:14,160
And then when the
noise stopped, it

124
00:06:14,160 --> 00:06:15,960
meant that the
bomb was dropping.

125
00:06:15,960 --> 00:06:20,100
And if you thought
you heard it overhead,

126
00:06:20,100 --> 00:06:21,600
it was not a good sign.

127
00:06:21,600 --> 00:06:23,790
But usually, when
you heard the bzzz,

128
00:06:23,790 --> 00:06:25,710
you went into an
air raid shelter.

129
00:06:25,710 --> 00:06:28,830
Or if you were in a
building, in a house,

130
00:06:28,830 --> 00:06:32,910
the safest place in an air
raid was under a stairway.

131
00:06:32,910 --> 00:06:35,910
And I had friends
that I visited--

132
00:06:35,910 --> 00:06:38,760
there was a school friend
that I had visited.

133
00:06:38,760 --> 00:06:40,200

I went to their house.

134
00:06:40,200 --> 00:06:43,290
And the safest place
under the stairway

135
00:06:43,290 --> 00:06:47,550
was that the lavatory,
(LAUGHING) the bathroom.

136
00:06:47,550 --> 00:06:52,890
And the father had been a
colleague of my father's.

137
00:06:52,890 --> 00:06:55,650
He was a very stiff
kind of person.

138
00:06:55,650 --> 00:07:01,200
And it was very funny to crowd
into the small toilet with him.

139
00:07:01,200 --> 00:07:03,800

140
00:07:03,800 --> 00:07:06,980
But these are the things that
happen in wartime, right?

141
00:07:06,980 --> 00:07:08,870
Yeah, yeah.

142
00:07:08,870 --> 00:07:16,840
And London also was a city that
was in many ways experiencing

143
00:07:16,840 --> 00:07:17,380
huge--

144
00:07:17,380 --> 00:07:19,660
not only chaos, not only war--

145

00:07:19,660 --> 00:07:21,220
but huge changes.

146
00:07:21,220 --> 00:07:25,645
There were so many refugees who
were in London from the East.

147
00:07:25,645 --> 00:07:26,830
Yeah.

148
00:07:26,830 --> 00:07:29,370
There were Poles who
had come to London.

149
00:07:29,370 --> 00:07:30,010
Yeah.

150
00:07:30,010 --> 00:07:33,040
The Polish government in
exile was based there.

151
00:07:33,040 --> 00:07:35,495
They were also East
European Jews--

152
00:07:35,495 --> 00:07:35,995
some.

153
00:07:35,995 --> 00:07:36,730
Yeah.

154
00:07:36,730 --> 00:07:41,530
Did you did your path cross
any of these other groups

155
00:07:41,530 --> 00:07:43,180
and peoples?

156
00:07:43,180 --> 00:07:44,890
Not really too many.

157
00:07:44,890 --> 00:07:47,770

158
00:07:47,770 --> 00:07:51,040
There were a lot of free
French in London too.

159
00:07:51,040 --> 00:07:53,740

160
00:07:53,740 --> 00:07:56,650
And I always wanted
to practice my French,

161
00:07:56,650 --> 00:07:58,900
but I didn't have
an opportunity.

162
00:07:58,900 --> 00:08:02,318
I couldn't just go up to
a French soldier and say,

163
00:08:02,318 --> 00:08:03,776
I'd like to (LAUGHING)
talk to you.

164
00:08:03,776 --> 00:08:05,650
To speak French,
(LAUGHING) yeah.

165
00:08:05,650 --> 00:08:06,150
No.

166
00:08:06,150 --> 00:08:09,300

167
00:08:09,300 --> 00:08:12,950
And so how long did
your course last?

168
00:08:12,950 --> 00:08:15,080
Two years and three months.

169

00:08:15,080 --> 00:08:15,890
All right.

170
00:08:15,890 --> 00:08:19,890
So by the time you
finish, it's coming

171
00:08:19,890 --> 00:08:23,010
close to the end of the war?

172
00:08:23,010 --> 00:08:24,620
Yes.

173
00:08:24,620 --> 00:08:28,910
When you entered, was
that a full time thing

174
00:08:28,910 --> 00:08:32,659
to go to these
studies, or did you

175
00:08:32,659 --> 00:08:35,270
have to find a way to
make a living also?

176
00:08:35,270 --> 00:08:36,380
I did.

177
00:08:36,380 --> 00:08:42,710
I had a partial scholarship from
the Christadelphian Society.

178
00:08:42,710 --> 00:08:51,650
And also, I stayed with
a woman and her mother.

179
00:08:51,650 --> 00:08:58,790
And the when the woman was out,
the old lady needed company,

180
00:08:58,790 --> 00:09:02,030
and I made dinner for
her and things like that.

181
00:09:02,030 --> 00:09:05,130
And for that, I got a free room.

182
00:09:05,130 --> 00:09:09,700
Not free board, but a
free room, which helped.

183
00:09:09,700 --> 00:09:12,100
So you sort of patched
things together?

184
00:09:12,100 --> 00:09:12,600
Yeah.

185
00:09:12,600 --> 00:09:16,100

186
00:09:16,100 --> 00:09:19,660
And I cooked for myself.

187
00:09:19,660 --> 00:09:22,510
And I cooked for her separately.

188
00:09:22,510 --> 00:09:25,390
I always said, I'm cooking
now, what would you like?

189
00:09:25,390 --> 00:09:27,280
She said, no, I'm not hungry.

190
00:09:27,280 --> 00:09:32,415
And 10 minutes later,
she wanted it anyway.

191
00:09:32,415 --> 00:09:34,540
She might have smelt the
food and changed her mind.

192
00:09:34,540 --> 00:09:35,330
I guess so.

193
00:09:35,330 --> 00:09:38,480
I guess so.

194
00:09:38,480 --> 00:09:40,580
Do you remember where you
were when the war ended?

195
00:09:40,580 --> 00:09:43,680

196
00:09:43,680 --> 00:09:46,610
I was in Leeds, and
everybody danced.

197
00:09:46,610 --> 00:09:50,810
And my mother had
sent me a hand-me-down

198
00:09:50,810 --> 00:09:53,900
from an American
cousin, a red dress.

199
00:09:53,900 --> 00:09:57,300
And I had reddish blonde hair.

200
00:09:57,300 --> 00:09:58,980
I never wore the dress.

201
00:09:58,980 --> 00:10:02,370
And that day, I decided
I'm wearing the red dress.

202
00:10:02,370 --> 00:10:05,130
And everybody danced
in the market square.

203
00:10:05,130 --> 00:10:07,080
It was really amazing.

204
00:10:07,080 --> 00:10:07,660
Oh, how cool.

205

00:10:07,660 --> 00:10:08,160

Yeah.

206

00:10:08,160 --> 00:10:09,090

How wonderful.

207

00:10:09,090 --> 00:10:11,960

Yeah, it was very nice.

208

00:10:11,960 --> 00:10:14,030

And then how soon
after that was it

209

00:10:14,030 --> 00:10:19,080

that you started to look for
ways to get to the United

210

00:10:19,080 --> 00:10:20,510

States?

211

00:10:20,510 --> 00:10:23,660

I guess my parents were
very anxious to have us.

212

00:10:23,660 --> 00:10:26,480

213

00:10:26,480 --> 00:10:30,380

My cousin happened to hear
that they were looking

214

00:10:30,380 --> 00:10:36,170

for a nurse or somebody to
take care of the GI brides

215

00:10:36,170 --> 00:10:37,340

and babies.

216

00:10:37,340 --> 00:10:41,090

And it turned out they
just wanted bodies.

217
00:10:41,090 --> 00:10:44,270
You didn't have to have
a nursing background

218
00:10:44,270 --> 00:10:45,810
or anything like that.

219
00:10:45,810 --> 00:10:52,790
So out of 10 stewardesses,
there were four Hirsch girls,

220
00:10:52,790 --> 00:10:55,970
my two cousins and
my sister and myself.

221
00:10:55,970 --> 00:11:00,020
So we got a free passage
to the United States

222
00:11:00,020 --> 00:11:02,720
taking care of
mothers and babies.

223
00:11:02,720 --> 00:11:08,690
We filled bottles with
formula, and took care

224
00:11:08,690 --> 00:11:10,640
if the mothers were seasick.

225
00:11:10,640 --> 00:11:14,690
But that was all we had to do.

226
00:11:14,690 --> 00:11:18,040
I never heard of that before.

227
00:11:18,040 --> 00:11:21,760
It was just like I say, all
my life, I've been lucky.

228
00:11:21,760 --> 00:11:24,280
And you get to New

York City, and that's

229

00:11:24,280 --> 00:11:28,220
the first time you've seen
your parents in seven years?

230

00:11:28,220 --> 00:11:29,890
Yes.

231

00:11:29,890 --> 00:11:32,850
What was reunion like?

232

00:11:32,850 --> 00:11:34,050
Very cordial.

233

00:11:34,050 --> 00:11:36,060
They were very happy to see us.

234

00:11:36,060 --> 00:11:40,430

235

00:11:40,430 --> 00:11:42,740
We said we had a room.

236

00:11:42,740 --> 00:11:45,890
My parents lived in
a one-room apartment

237

00:11:45,890 --> 00:11:48,830
with a kitchenette and thing.

238

00:11:48,830 --> 00:11:53,570
Oh, my father--
part of the week, he

239

00:11:53,570 --> 00:11:58,150
used to work in Kingston, and
weekends, he would be home.

240

00:11:58,150 --> 00:12:00,400
Kingston, Rhode Island?

241

00:12:00,400 --> 00:12:03,470

No, Kingston, New
York-- upstate New York.

242

00:12:03,470 --> 00:12:05,230

Oh, OK.

243

00:12:05,230 --> 00:12:08,530

So we could sleep in his
bed while he was away.

244

00:12:08,530 --> 00:12:15,190

But then we found a room in
the neighborhood, and my sister

245

00:12:15,190 --> 00:12:16,360

and I stayed there.

246

00:12:16,360 --> 00:12:19,170

247

00:12:19,170 --> 00:12:23,700

And my parents said we should
look around the United States

248

00:12:23,700 --> 00:12:26,890

before we started getting a job.

249

00:12:26,890 --> 00:12:30,600

So we visited a
friend in Boston,

250

00:12:30,600 --> 00:12:34,490

and then I visited a
friend in Washington.

251

00:12:34,490 --> 00:12:35,440

DC?

252

00:12:35,440 --> 00:12:41,410

DC, yeah, before we
settled down to get work.

253
00:12:41,410 --> 00:12:45,860
And then I looked for a job
as a physical therapist.

254
00:12:45,860 --> 00:12:49,550
I had already worked as
a therapist in England.

255
00:12:49,550 --> 00:12:52,280
We worked with soldiers.

256
00:12:52,280 --> 00:12:57,810
Actually, I even worked with
a German prisoner of war.

257
00:12:57,810 --> 00:12:59,480
Did you?

258
00:12:59,480 --> 00:13:03,140
It was interesting.

259
00:13:03,140 --> 00:13:05,220
But I don't remember--

260
00:13:05,220 --> 00:13:09,980
I asked him whether he
belonged to the Nazi party,

261
00:13:09,980 --> 00:13:13,580
and he said, I had a wife
and two children, what would

262
00:13:13,580 --> 00:13:16,140
you have done?

263
00:13:16,140 --> 00:13:16,650
Right?

264
00:13:16,650 --> 00:13:19,213
So what would I have done?

265

00:13:19,213 --> 00:13:20,755

Did you think it
was a fair question?

266

00:13:20,755 --> 00:13:23,580

267

00:13:23,580 --> 00:13:26,400

No.

268

00:13:26,400 --> 00:13:28,260

Right.

269

00:13:28,260 --> 00:13:33,040

I mean, he answered
it truthfully, right?

270

00:13:33,040 --> 00:13:36,350

What kind of
injuries did he have?

271

00:13:36,350 --> 00:13:39,830

I really don't remember.

272

00:13:39,830 --> 00:13:42,590

Did he know you were Jewish?

273

00:13:42,590 --> 00:13:43,432

No.

274

00:13:43,432 --> 00:13:44,140

I don't think so.

275

00:13:44,140 --> 00:13:46,330

You spoke in English?

276

00:13:46,330 --> 00:13:48,460

No, I spoke German with him.

277

00:13:48,460 --> 00:13:52,000

That's why they sent me there,

because I was the only one who

278

00:13:52,000 --> 00:13:53,500
could speak German.

279

00:13:53,500 --> 00:13:58,300
So they sent me where the
German prisoners were--

280

00:13:58,300 --> 00:14:00,640
the wounded German prisoners.

281

00:14:00,640 --> 00:14:04,220

282

00:14:04,220 --> 00:14:06,320
I can't imagine what
that must have felt like.

283

00:14:06,320 --> 00:14:09,130

284

00:14:09,130 --> 00:14:13,920
Well, I sort of have a way
of putting things away.

285

00:14:13,920 --> 00:14:17,910
I guess I'm unemotional
in some ways.

286

00:14:17,910 --> 00:14:20,170
Well, there's ways of
being able to cope.

287

00:14:20,170 --> 00:14:20,670
Yeah.

288

00:14:20,670 --> 00:14:21,980
How do you cope with stuff?

289

00:14:21,980 --> 00:14:24,530
Yeah.

290
00:14:24,530 --> 00:14:28,150
What part of New York
did your parents live in?

291
00:14:28,150 --> 00:14:30,370
You said they had a
one-bedroom apartment?

292
00:14:30,370 --> 00:14:32,960

293
00:14:32,960 --> 00:14:34,520
Midtown Manhattan.

294
00:14:34,520 --> 00:14:35,550
They lived in midtown?

295
00:14:35,550 --> 00:14:36,080
Yeah.

296
00:14:36,080 --> 00:14:38,660
OK.

297
00:14:38,660 --> 00:14:43,330
And where did you
eventually settle down?

298
00:14:43,330 --> 00:14:44,815
When I came to
the United States?

299
00:14:44,815 --> 00:14:47,480

300
00:14:47,480 --> 00:14:48,860
In New York.

301
00:14:48,860 --> 00:14:51,530
So you looked around, like
they said, and then you

302

00:14:51,530 --> 00:14:52,850
chose New York?

303

00:14:52,850 --> 00:14:56,570
Well, I guess because my
parents were there, right?

304

00:14:56,570 --> 00:15:00,410
And then I looked
for employment.

305

00:15:00,410 --> 00:15:03,530
And by that time, it was
the beginning of summer,

306

00:15:03,530 --> 00:15:06,680
and wherever I went
they said, nothing

307

00:15:06,680 --> 00:15:10,470
happens during the summer,
come back in September.

308

00:15:10,470 --> 00:15:15,200
So I decided I had
to do something.

309

00:15:15,200 --> 00:15:17,970
I couldn't just sit around.

310

00:15:17,970 --> 00:15:23,800
And my cousin had heard one
of her teachers in Berlin

311

00:15:23,800 --> 00:15:27,430
had opened a children's
camp in North Carolina,

312

00:15:27,430 --> 00:15:29,890
and she was looking
for counselors.

313

00:15:29,890 --> 00:15:33,550

And for some reason, my
cousin had other plans,

314

00:15:33,550 --> 00:15:35,110

she didn't want to go.

315

00:15:35,110 --> 00:15:37,810

She said, why don't you ask her?

316

00:15:37,810 --> 00:15:40,270

So I went there as a
counselor for the summer.

317

00:15:40,270 --> 00:15:41,230

For the summer, yeah.

318

00:15:41,230 --> 00:15:46,450

Yeah, so I had room and board,
and I got a couple of dollars

319

00:15:46,450 --> 00:15:49,220

at the end of the summer.

320

00:15:49,220 --> 00:15:52,340

So at least, I was
occupied and fed.

321

00:15:52,340 --> 00:15:52,840

Yeah.

322

00:15:52,840 --> 00:15:55,270

And it was a boys' camp.

323

00:15:55,270 --> 00:15:58,150

They were aged five to 11.

324

00:15:58,150 --> 00:16:02,670

Did you visit your
maternal grandmother and--

325

00:16:02,670 --> 00:16:05,820

326
00:16:05,820 --> 00:16:07,865
who was it-- her son?

327
00:16:07,865 --> 00:16:08,700
Her son.

328
00:16:08,700 --> 00:16:09,850
Yeah, your uncle?

329
00:16:09,850 --> 00:16:10,350
No.

330
00:16:10,350 --> 00:16:10,930
No?

331
00:16:10,930 --> 00:16:12,090
OK.

332
00:16:12,090 --> 00:16:14,430
I didn't have enough
money to do that.

333
00:16:14,430 --> 00:16:17,190
Was there communication, though?

334
00:16:17,190 --> 00:16:21,225
Yeah, my mother had
been to visit them, yes.

335
00:16:21,225 --> 00:16:23,364
OK.

336
00:16:23,364 --> 00:16:26,510
But I was supposed
to go much later,

337
00:16:26,510 --> 00:16:31,320
and I ended up not going
until much, much later.

338
00:16:31,320 --> 00:16:32,330
OK.

339
00:16:32,330 --> 00:16:33,890
And then you
returned to New York

340
00:16:33,890 --> 00:16:35,370
after that summer was over?

341
00:16:35,370 --> 00:16:36,350
Yes.

342
00:16:36,350 --> 00:16:37,505
And what did you do then?

343
00:16:37,505 --> 00:16:42,770
And then first, I had a
part-time temporary job

344
00:16:42,770 --> 00:16:45,320
for somebody who was
on maternity leave.

345
00:16:45,320 --> 00:16:50,690
And then I ended up
having a regular job,

346
00:16:50,690 --> 00:16:58,825
first at Columbia
Presbyterian Hospital.

347
00:16:58,825 --> 00:17:03,450

348
00:17:03,450 --> 00:17:07,109
Yeah, I stayed there
for a long time.

349
00:17:07,109 --> 00:17:09,250
And your sister?

350

00:17:09,250 --> 00:17:18,550

My sister got a position at
New York Hospital as a nurse.

351

00:17:18,550 --> 00:17:23,710

And she stayed there
for quite a while.

352

00:17:23,710 --> 00:17:25,210

I don't remember how long.

353

00:17:25,210 --> 00:17:28,760

354

00:17:28,760 --> 00:17:33,600

Was it easy to adjust
to the United States?

355

00:17:33,600 --> 00:17:37,200

Was it easy to adjust
to the United States?

356

00:17:37,200 --> 00:17:39,670

It was different from
England, you know?

357

00:17:39,670 --> 00:17:44,040

In England, it's always, after
you, and here, it's me first,

358

00:17:44,040 --> 00:17:44,610

you know?

359

00:17:44,610 --> 00:17:47,400

And I had to learn to
be pushy, you know?

360

00:17:47,400 --> 00:17:52,830

Because you wait for a bus in
England, they wait patiently.

361

00:17:52,830 --> 00:17:54,960

And if you don't
make the first bus,

362
00:17:54,960 --> 00:17:57,660
the next bus comes
a half hour later.

363
00:17:57,660 --> 00:18:00,960
Nobody grumbles, you just
stand there and wait.

364
00:18:00,960 --> 00:18:04,200
Here, you push your way
to the front, otherwise,

365
00:18:04,200 --> 00:18:05,580
you don't get anyplace.

366
00:18:05,580 --> 00:18:07,770
Well, it certainly is
New York's subway system.

367
00:18:07,770 --> 00:18:09,780
Yes, right.

368
00:18:09,780 --> 00:18:12,750
So I remember the first
time we went on the subway

369
00:18:12,750 --> 00:18:16,320
when we came, every time,
the subway was full.

370
00:18:16,320 --> 00:18:18,000
It must have been rush hour.

371
00:18:18,000 --> 00:18:21,180
And we stood on the
platform and let it go by.

372
00:18:21,180 --> 00:18:25,560
And there was a conductor,
and he saw us, and he said,

373
00:18:25,560 --> 00:18:27,400
did you want to
get on the subway?

374
00:18:27,400 --> 00:18:28,680
And we said, yes.

375
00:18:28,680 --> 00:18:32,820
And he pushed us like
you do with a suitcase.

376
00:18:32,820 --> 00:18:37,110
He pushed us in, and
(LAUGHING) we got in, right?

377
00:18:37,110 --> 00:18:38,580
There was a lesson there.

378
00:18:38,580 --> 00:18:40,860
Yeah, otherwise, I'd
still be standing there.

379
00:18:40,860 --> 00:18:41,943
(LAUGHING) In that subway.

380
00:18:41,943 --> 00:18:44,130

381
00:18:44,130 --> 00:18:45,510
Right.

382
00:18:45,510 --> 00:18:47,100
So you have to learn.

383
00:18:47,100 --> 00:18:53,060
Then I think on the second
day that I was here,

384
00:18:53,060 --> 00:18:56,430
my mother sent me next
door to buy some bread.

385
00:18:56,430 --> 00:18:59,990
And I said, could I
have a loaf of bread?

386
00:18:59,990 --> 00:19:01,535
And he said yes.

387
00:19:01,535 --> 00:19:03,710
And I said, could I
have a pound of butter?

388
00:19:03,710 --> 00:19:05,720
He said, do you have money?

389
00:19:05,720 --> 00:19:07,160
I said, yes.

390
00:19:07,160 --> 00:19:10,880
So why do you ask?

391
00:19:10,880 --> 00:19:15,220
But that's the British
way of asking, you know?

392
00:19:15,220 --> 00:19:15,850
Yeah.

393
00:19:15,850 --> 00:19:18,890
He said, so why do you ask?

394
00:19:18,890 --> 00:19:21,530
Different psychology.

395
00:19:21,530 --> 00:19:22,220
Right.

396
00:19:22,220 --> 00:19:25,830
Well, I learned, meanwhile.

397
00:19:25,830 --> 00:19:32,630

How much did life in Germany
that you had left behind

398
00:19:32,630 --> 00:19:35,270
and that you experienced
in the '30s--

399
00:19:35,270 --> 00:19:39,050
how much was that still a topic
of conversation after the war?

400
00:19:39,050 --> 00:19:41,730

401
00:19:41,730 --> 00:19:46,780
And all the experiences
that went with it?

402
00:19:46,780 --> 00:19:50,670
With my sister, I
sometimes recalled

403
00:19:50,670 --> 00:19:54,190
little things that happened
when we were children, you know,

404
00:19:54,190 --> 00:19:56,890
funny things.

405
00:19:56,890 --> 00:20:00,610
We used to ride on the vacuum.

406
00:20:00,610 --> 00:20:02,260
It was like a little--

407
00:20:02,260 --> 00:20:06,250
we called it our
little dog, you know?

408
00:20:06,250 --> 00:20:09,430
Stupid things like that
that we remember-- we said,

409

00:20:09,430 --> 00:20:12,300
do you remember so-and-so?

410

00:20:12,300 --> 00:20:18,240
But all of those turbulent,
and then in the end,

411

00:20:18,240 --> 00:20:20,820
really tragic things--

412

00:20:20,820 --> 00:20:22,410
was there much talk about that?

413

00:20:22,410 --> 00:20:26,110

414

00:20:26,110 --> 00:20:30,450
Not-- I guess, you
want to forget it.

415

00:20:30,450 --> 00:20:32,800
Not too much, no.

416

00:20:32,800 --> 00:20:37,060
And was there any interest
in any of it from outsiders,

417

00:20:37,060 --> 00:20:40,490
from people who
weren't from Germany?

418

00:20:40,490 --> 00:20:42,825
Who were not from Germany?

419

00:20:42,825 --> 00:20:43,325
Yeah.

420

00:20:43,325 --> 00:20:47,030

421

00:20:47,030 --> 00:20:49,390

Not the lady where
I first worked.

422
00:20:49,390 --> 00:20:53,830

423
00:20:53,830 --> 00:20:54,680
The Canadian?

424
00:20:54,680 --> 00:20:56,870
Yeah, she was not interested.

425
00:20:56,870 --> 00:21:00,040
Later, the people that I worked
for with the little girl--

426
00:21:00,040 --> 00:21:02,350
yeah, they wanted to know.

427
00:21:02,350 --> 00:21:03,920
They were more interested.

428
00:21:03,920 --> 00:21:07,270

429
00:21:07,270 --> 00:21:08,320
Excuse me for a second.

430
00:21:08,320 --> 00:21:10,990
We had picked up a
little, that's for sure.

431
00:21:10,990 --> 00:21:11,670
That's OK.

432
00:21:11,670 --> 00:21:12,500
It's a little bit.

433
00:21:12,500 --> 00:21:12,750
No.

434

00:21:12,750 --> 00:21:13,250
It's OK.

435
00:21:13,250 --> 00:21:16,320

436
00:21:16,320 --> 00:21:18,400
Did you ever go back?

437
00:21:18,400 --> 00:21:20,410
Yes, much later.

438
00:21:20,410 --> 00:21:25,030
I wanted my husband to
see where I came from,

439
00:21:25,030 --> 00:21:28,330
and my husband wanted me
to see where he came from.

440
00:21:28,330 --> 00:21:32,750
And then we were also invited
by the city of Stuttgart.

441
00:21:32,750 --> 00:21:33,880
Oh.

442
00:21:33,880 --> 00:21:35,890
So tell me, how did
you meet your husband?

443
00:21:35,890 --> 00:21:37,400
Who was he?

444
00:21:37,400 --> 00:21:39,550
Through friends.

445
00:21:39,550 --> 00:21:44,350
A good friend of mine that I
had known in Germany for years--

446
00:21:44,350 --> 00:21:47,830

her husband and my
husband were classmates.

447
00:21:47,830 --> 00:21:54,820
So one day, my friend said, we
have a friend who owns a car

448
00:21:54,820 --> 00:21:56,660
and we're going to the country--

449
00:21:56,660 --> 00:21:58,750
which was really
not the country,

450
00:21:58,750 --> 00:22:02,140
we were going out of the city--

451
00:22:02,140 --> 00:22:03,920
would you like to come with us?

452
00:22:03,920 --> 00:22:05,860
And that's how I met my husband.

453
00:22:05,860 --> 00:22:10,150
So then he made a
date with me, and we

454
00:22:10,150 --> 00:22:15,370
walked along a city street
where there was a low apartment.

455
00:22:15,370 --> 00:22:22,580
And they had some kind
of mahogany furniture,

456
00:22:22,580 --> 00:22:25,940
and he said, oh, look at
that beautiful furniture.

457
00:22:25,940 --> 00:22:30,320
And I thought, I don't
like sleazy furniture,

458

00:22:30,320 --> 00:22:32,120

I like modern
furniture, you know?

459

00:22:32,120 --> 00:22:33,470

I didn't say anything.

460

00:22:33,470 --> 00:22:35,692

But I thought, he's not my type.

461

00:22:35,692 --> 00:22:36,650

He's not my type, yeah.

462

00:22:36,650 --> 00:22:37,400

No.

463

00:22:37,400 --> 00:22:42,410

Turned out later on that what
he was admiring the workmanship,

464

00:22:42,410 --> 00:22:43,820

not the sleaziness.

465

00:22:43,820 --> 00:22:47,270

But he was very much
into workmanship.

466

00:22:47,270 --> 00:22:49,250

He made that lamp--

467

00:22:49,250 --> 00:22:50,510

Oh wow!

468

00:22:50,510 --> 00:22:55,670

--from a picture that he saw
in the New York Times Magazine.

469

00:22:55,670 --> 00:22:57,230

Wow, that's talented.

470

00:22:57,230 --> 00:22:58,472

So he was--

471

00:22:58,472 --> 00:23:01,380

And it's nicely done.

472

00:23:01,380 --> 00:23:01,880

Yeah.

473

00:23:01,880 --> 00:23:05,170

It's a beautifully
wooden curved lamp here.

474

00:23:05,170 --> 00:23:05,950

Yeah.

475

00:23:05,950 --> 00:23:08,562

Where was he from in Germany?

476

00:23:08,562 --> 00:23:12,720

Vettweiss, a small
town near Cologne.

477

00:23:12,720 --> 00:23:13,760

Vettweiss?

478

00:23:13,760 --> 00:23:16,350

Yeah, he went to
school in Cologne.

479

00:23:16,350 --> 00:23:18,690

What was his name?

480

00:23:18,690 --> 00:23:19,530

Joseph.

481

00:23:19,530 --> 00:23:20,430

Joseph Schwarz?

482

00:23:20,430 --> 00:23:20,930

Yeah.

483

00:23:20,930 --> 00:23:21,720
OK.

484
00:23:21,720 --> 00:23:29,940
And when did he come
over to the States?

485
00:23:29,940 --> 00:23:30,440
Earlier.

486
00:23:30,440 --> 00:23:33,480

487
00:23:33,480 --> 00:23:35,760
I think in '39.

488
00:23:35,760 --> 00:23:38,010
His brother was already here.

489
00:23:38,010 --> 00:23:38,640
OK.

490
00:23:38,640 --> 00:23:43,290
His brother had come earlier,
so he had someplace to go.

491
00:23:43,290 --> 00:23:44,880
And what year did you meet?

492
00:23:44,880 --> 00:23:54,160

493
00:23:54,160 --> 00:23:55,360
I'm trying to think.

494
00:23:55,360 --> 00:23:58,930

495
00:23:58,930 --> 00:24:01,400
In '39.

496

00:24:01,400 --> 00:24:04,964
No, '40, excuse me.

497
00:24:04,964 --> 00:24:06,550
We married in '52.

498
00:24:06,550 --> 00:24:08,220
'49.

499
00:24:08,220 --> 00:24:10,750
OK, OK.

500
00:24:10,750 --> 00:24:14,370
And so the two of you
came back together?

501
00:24:14,370 --> 00:24:16,140
What year was that?

502
00:24:16,140 --> 00:24:17,790
I keep asking these
years, but I want

503
00:24:17,790 --> 00:24:21,330
to get a sense of the distance
from the events itself.

504
00:24:21,330 --> 00:24:23,200
Oh.

505
00:24:23,200 --> 00:24:27,100
Well, we used to go on dates.

506
00:24:27,100 --> 00:24:31,000
And I don't know,
for some reason,

507
00:24:31,000 --> 00:24:37,130
I decided to distance myself.

508
00:24:37,130 --> 00:24:44,890
I think he wanted to marry

me, and I was not quite ready.

509

00:24:44,890 --> 00:24:50,180

So I went on a polio mission.

510

00:24:50,180 --> 00:24:50,990

They send you.

511

00:24:50,990 --> 00:24:54,560

It was after they
had polio epidemics,

512

00:24:54,560 --> 00:24:59,420

and they sent a therapist to
rehabilitate the children.

513

00:24:59,420 --> 00:25:00,650

And where was this?

514

00:25:00,650 --> 00:25:08,000

The first one was in Canton,
Ohio, like Canton here.

515

00:25:08,000 --> 00:25:09,500

Yeah.

516

00:25:09,500 --> 00:25:14,650

For three months, and
then in Vicksburg,

517

00:25:14,650 --> 00:25:17,270

Mississippi for three months.

518

00:25:17,270 --> 00:25:20,050

And after that,
I came back here,

519

00:25:20,050 --> 00:25:23,500

and I thought I was
really foolish, you know?

520

00:25:23,500 --> 00:25:26,440

He's such a nice guy.

521

00:25:26,440 --> 00:25:28,120

Why didn't I stick to him?

522

00:25:28,120 --> 00:25:32,665

So I arranged for an
accidental meeting.

523

00:25:32,665 --> 00:25:35,185

524

00:25:35,185 --> 00:25:40,660

Because I knew where he came
out of the subway to go home.

525

00:25:40,660 --> 00:25:47,840

And it was where two subways
meet in Jackson Heights.

526

00:25:47,840 --> 00:25:52,640

So I happened to be there
just at the right moment.

527

00:25:52,640 --> 00:25:53,570

And did it work?

528

00:25:53,570 --> 00:25:54,507

Yes.

529

00:25:54,507 --> 00:25:55,790

[LAUGHTER]

530

00:25:55,790 --> 00:25:56,480

It worked.

531

00:25:56,480 --> 00:25:57,620

It worked, right?

532

00:25:57,620 --> 00:25:59,890

Could he see through
the accident part of it?

533
00:25:59,890 --> 00:26:01,760
(LAUGHING) Yes.

534
00:26:01,760 --> 00:26:08,750
I told him later that
it was not accidental.

535
00:26:08,750 --> 00:26:10,280
Did you have children?

536
00:26:10,280 --> 00:26:11,790
Yes.

537
00:26:11,790 --> 00:26:14,500
And how many?

538
00:26:14,500 --> 00:26:17,350
Three, Peter, Tom, and Peggy.

539
00:26:17,350 --> 00:26:18,550
Peter, Tom, and Peggy.

540
00:26:18,550 --> 00:26:19,050
Yeah.

541
00:26:19,050 --> 00:26:22,450
Did you both tell them
about your own childhoods

542
00:26:22,450 --> 00:26:24,100
and growing up in Germany?

543
00:26:24,100 --> 00:26:25,970
Yes.

544
00:26:25,970 --> 00:26:29,950
Did they ask questions, or was
this something that came later?

545
00:26:29,950 --> 00:26:33,260

It came later, right.

546
00:26:33,260 --> 00:26:33,760
OK.

547
00:26:33,760 --> 00:26:37,360
Did they ever go back
to Germany with you?

548
00:26:37,360 --> 00:26:39,670
No, not with me.

549
00:26:39,670 --> 00:26:43,720
Actually, only my middle
child, my son, Tom.

550
00:26:43,720 --> 00:26:45,410
He went back to Germany.

551
00:26:45,410 --> 00:26:49,380
And he likes to practice German.

552
00:26:49,380 --> 00:26:54,100
He spoke German with my mother,
and he can read and speak

553
00:26:54,100 --> 00:26:55,330
fluent German.

554
00:26:55,330 --> 00:26:56,980
The others didn't go back.

555
00:26:56,980 --> 00:27:01,400

556
00:27:01,400 --> 00:27:04,760
I went back, I took my
daughter along, right.

557
00:27:04,760 --> 00:27:06,120
OK.

558

00:27:06,120 --> 00:27:09,150

But the oldest one I don't
think ever went back.

559

00:27:09,150 --> 00:27:12,480

And you and your husband--

560

00:27:12,480 --> 00:27:15,130

remind me again, his
first name was Joseph?

561

00:27:15,130 --> 00:27:15,630

Yeah.

562

00:27:15,630 --> 00:27:16,140

OK.

563

00:27:16,140 --> 00:27:19,800

Did you speak English together
or German with one another?

564

00:27:19,800 --> 00:27:23,850

English, because I spoke
Swabian dialect, and my husband

565

00:27:23,850 --> 00:27:26,100

spoke Plautdietsch.

566

00:27:26,100 --> 00:27:26,750

Plautdietsch?

567

00:27:26,750 --> 00:27:27,250

Yeah.

568

00:27:27,250 --> 00:27:27,750

OK.

569

00:27:27,750 --> 00:27:30,390

And we thought we wouldn't
understand each other.

570

00:27:30,390 --> 00:27:34,790
It was better in English,
so we always spoke English.

571
00:27:34,790 --> 00:27:38,980
And when was the first time
that you went back with him so

572
00:27:38,980 --> 00:27:41,480
that he could show you where
he was from, and you could show

573
00:27:41,480 --> 00:27:42,480
and where you were from?

574
00:27:42,480 --> 00:27:46,950

575
00:27:46,950 --> 00:27:49,170
I would have to
look up the year.

576
00:27:49,170 --> 00:27:51,420
OK, approximately, then.

577
00:27:51,420 --> 00:27:54,820
Was it 20 years
later, 30 years later?

578
00:27:54,820 --> 00:28:01,940
We were married in '52, and it
was probably in the late '60s.

579
00:28:01,940 --> 00:28:04,750
OK, OK.

580
00:28:04,750 --> 00:28:07,270
And then you say
you were invited

581
00:28:07,270 --> 00:28:10,045
by the city of Stuttgart?

582

00:28:10,045 --> 00:28:10,720

Yes.

583

00:28:10,720 --> 00:28:13,000

And that must have been
some time after that?

584

00:28:13,000 --> 00:28:13,750

Yeah.

585

00:28:13,750 --> 00:28:14,920

OK.

586

00:28:14,920 --> 00:28:17,980

Do you have any recollections
from the first time

587

00:28:17,980 --> 00:28:19,150

you went back?

588

00:28:19,150 --> 00:28:21,680

Did you still see your house?

589

00:28:21,680 --> 00:28:24,380

We went to look
at my house, yes.

590

00:28:24,380 --> 00:28:29,660

And we rang the bell, and I
said, I used to live here,

591

00:28:29,660 --> 00:28:32,530

and they said--

592

00:28:32,530 --> 00:28:35,620

I don't know, I think the
husband was ill or something.

593

00:28:35,620 --> 00:28:38,350

They didn't want us
to come in the house.

594

00:28:38,350 --> 00:28:43,010

But they allowed us to
go back in the backyard.

595

00:28:43,010 --> 00:28:46,250

And did it look different?

596

00:28:46,250 --> 00:28:47,150

Not much.

597

00:28:47,150 --> 00:28:48,590

The top story--

598

00:28:48,590 --> 00:28:51,470

I had seen a picture
of it already.

599

00:28:51,470 --> 00:28:54,470

The top story had been bombed.

600

00:28:54,470 --> 00:28:56,220

It was off.

601

00:28:56,220 --> 00:28:59,520

It was not there.

602

00:28:59,520 --> 00:29:01,620

So I guess I was lucky.

603

00:29:01,620 --> 00:29:06,660

Nobody got hurt, but apparently,
it did damage to the house.

604

00:29:06,660 --> 00:29:10,590

And did you meet anybody that
you had known as a young girl?

605

00:29:10,590 --> 00:29:14,480

606

00:29:14,480 --> 00:29:19,040

Yes, my classmates
came to the hotel.

607
00:29:19,040 --> 00:29:20,170
Did they?

608
00:29:20,170 --> 00:29:22,520
In 1969 or so?

609
00:29:22,520 --> 00:29:25,100
Yeah.

610
00:29:25,100 --> 00:29:30,220
And do you remember anything
of that conversation?

611
00:29:30,220 --> 00:29:32,690
Well, they wanted to
know how I'm doing,

612
00:29:32,690 --> 00:29:38,590
and it was what they all
personally were doing.

613
00:29:38,590 --> 00:29:42,040
But I mean, it was very
nice that they came.

614
00:29:42,040 --> 00:29:49,140
I think there were like 10
or 12 of them that I knew.

615
00:29:49,140 --> 00:29:52,110
Did your husband have
a similar experience

616
00:29:52,110 --> 00:29:54,660
when you went to his place?

617
00:29:54,660 --> 00:29:59,520
No, he just showed me the
house where he used to live.

618

00:29:59,520 --> 00:30:03,120

And I think he went to visit
a couple of neighbors who

619

00:30:03,120 --> 00:30:07,350

remembered him as a small boy.

620

00:30:07,350 --> 00:30:13,650

And it was a village,
it was a small place.

621

00:30:13,650 --> 00:30:17,880

Yeah, so people remember in
small villages much more so

622

00:30:17,880 --> 00:30:18,420

Yes, yes.

623

00:30:18,420 --> 00:30:19,110

Yeah.

624

00:30:19,110 --> 00:30:22,660

And they remembered his parents.

625

00:30:22,660 --> 00:30:29,500

And when the city invited you
back, what kind of, let's say,

626

00:30:29,500 --> 00:30:32,680

tour or events
had they planned--

627

00:30:32,680 --> 00:30:34,300

when the city of Stuttgart did?

628

00:30:34,300 --> 00:30:37,850

629

00:30:37,850 --> 00:30:44,510

We had a dinner, some
typical German foods.

630

00:30:44,510 --> 00:30:54,960

And I think we went to meet the mayor, who was very hospitable.

631

00:30:54,960 --> 00:30:58,880

And I forget his name now.

632

00:30:58,880 --> 00:31:01,918

What year would it have been?

633

00:31:01,918 --> 00:31:02,585

I have pictures.

634

00:31:02,585 --> 00:31:08,810

635

00:31:08,810 --> 00:31:13,940

Could it have been-- and I'm taking a wild guess here--

636

00:31:13,940 --> 00:31:17,810

I think that General Rommel's son--

637

00:31:17,810 --> 00:31:18,310

Yeah?

638

00:31:18,310 --> 00:31:20,750

You remember Rommel, Manfred Rommel?

639

00:31:20,750 --> 00:31:22,010

Yeah.

640

00:31:22,010 --> 00:31:25,130

He was mayor, and I want to say Stuttgart,

641

00:31:25,130 --> 00:31:27,770

but I don't know if it was Stuttgart.

642

00:31:27,770 --> 00:31:30,020

Yeah, he was the
mayor of Stuttgart.

643

00:31:30,020 --> 00:31:30,950

He was the mayor?

644

00:31:30,950 --> 00:31:33,170

Would it have been
him that you met?

645

00:31:33,170 --> 00:31:33,830

Yes.

646

00:31:33,830 --> 00:31:34,910

Manfred Rommel?

647

00:31:34,910 --> 00:31:36,510

Yeah.

648

00:31:36,510 --> 00:31:38,920

And he had his own
interesting history.

649

00:31:38,920 --> 00:31:41,490

(LAUGHING) Yes, right.

650

00:31:41,490 --> 00:31:42,420

With his father--

651

00:31:42,420 --> 00:31:44,250

Yeah, indeed, yes.

652

00:31:44,250 --> 00:31:45,420

Yeah.

653

00:31:45,420 --> 00:31:46,770

But he was very--

654

00:31:46,770 --> 00:31:56,640

and they sent us to a cafe,

where they had whipped

655

00:31:56,640 --> 00:32:00,630
cream and strudel or something.

656

00:32:00,630 --> 00:32:03,195
No, traebleskuchen.

657

00:32:03,195 --> 00:32:04,500
Traebleskuchen?

658

00:32:04,500 --> 00:32:05,578
Yeah.

659

00:32:05,578 --> 00:32:06,120
What is that?

660

00:32:06,120 --> 00:32:07,230
Red currant.

661

00:32:07,230 --> 00:32:08,800
Oh, that's very nice!

662

00:32:08,800 --> 00:32:12,660
Yeah, that's what
we could order.

663

00:32:12,660 --> 00:32:14,520
We could order, I
think, what we wanted,

664

00:32:14,520 --> 00:32:18,473
but that was a very
typical south German dish.

665

00:32:18,473 --> 00:32:21,020

666

00:32:21,020 --> 00:32:23,540
What kind of feelings
did this leave you with?

667

00:32:23,540 --> 00:32:28,200

668

00:32:28,200 --> 00:32:30,090

I sort of liked the idea.

669

00:32:30,090 --> 00:32:34,650

I mean, it was not a
hostile feeling, you know?

670

00:32:34,650 --> 00:32:37,590

And like I say, they
went out of their way.

671

00:32:37,590 --> 00:32:39,780

They brought flowers.

672

00:32:39,780 --> 00:32:42,810

They went out of their
way to be hospitable.

673

00:32:42,810 --> 00:32:45,540

It's a different
generation, and they

674

00:32:45,540 --> 00:32:47,850

tried very hard to make good.

675

00:32:47,850 --> 00:32:52,590

We went to some lectures,
where a young woman

676

00:32:52,590 --> 00:32:57,630

teacher was saying what
she's teaching her students.

677

00:32:57,630 --> 00:33:01,230

And they were leaning
over backwards

678

00:33:01,230 --> 00:33:08,820

to make us feel welcome, and

to show that they're trying

679

00:33:08,820 --> 00:33:12,250

to undo what harm was done.

680

00:33:12,250 --> 00:33:13,990

It's a tough thing to do.

681

00:33:13,990 --> 00:33:14,620

Yeah.

682

00:33:14,620 --> 00:33:16,250

Well, we appreciated it.

683

00:33:16,250 --> 00:33:16,750

Yeah.

684

00:33:16,750 --> 00:33:18,640

Yeah.

685

00:33:18,640 --> 00:33:21,700

It was an interesting visit.

686

00:33:21,700 --> 00:33:25,210

And you went with your
husband to that visit,

687

00:33:25,210 --> 00:33:26,940

the one where the city--

688

00:33:26,940 --> 00:33:27,580

Yeah.

689

00:33:27,580 --> 00:33:29,720

OK.

690

00:33:29,720 --> 00:33:32,750

And your children--
you say two of them

691

00:33:32,750 --> 00:33:35,880

have gone back, or
gone to Germany?

692
00:33:35,880 --> 00:33:37,080
I'm trying to think.

693
00:33:37,080 --> 00:33:42,570
My daughter went with us, but
I thought that was not the same

694
00:33:42,570 --> 00:33:47,220
time, and I can't-- but I
know my daughter went along.

695
00:33:47,220 --> 00:33:48,900
My son went on his own.

696
00:33:48,900 --> 00:33:52,260
And the other one, who
lives in California, I

697
00:33:52,260 --> 00:33:53,670
don't think he ever went.

698
00:33:53,670 --> 00:33:55,500
OK, OK.

699
00:33:55,500 --> 00:33:58,340
But one of them, at least,
you say speaks fluent German?

700
00:33:58,340 --> 00:34:00,670
Yeah.

701
00:34:00,670 --> 00:34:03,400
A lot of German Jews,
when they came over,

702
00:34:03,400 --> 00:34:04,480
refused to speak German.

703
00:34:04,480 --> 00:34:05,860

To go back, right.

704

00:34:05,860 --> 00:34:08,000

Refused to go back, and
refused to speak German.

705

00:34:08,000 --> 00:34:08,500

Right.

706

00:34:08,500 --> 00:34:09,458

And their children too.

707

00:34:09,458 --> 00:34:14,679

Well, like I say, I had more
good than bad experiences.

708

00:34:14,679 --> 00:34:20,860

I mean, it was not pleasant
when the Nazis marched around,

709

00:34:20,860 --> 00:34:25,060

and you knew that
people got beaten up,

710

00:34:25,060 --> 00:34:29,650

like a friend of ours who
was the head of the music

711

00:34:29,650 --> 00:34:31,550

conservatory.

712

00:34:31,550 --> 00:34:34,340

They came-- and I
forget-- he was later

713

00:34:34,340 --> 00:34:39,770

liaison between the
Jewish congregation

714

00:34:39,770 --> 00:34:42,620

and the German city, whatever.

715

00:34:42,620 --> 00:34:45,639

716
00:34:45,639 --> 00:34:48,370
But he was beaten up
for no good reason,

717
00:34:48,370 --> 00:34:50,230
just because he was Jewish.

718
00:34:50,230 --> 00:34:53,770
And things like that didn't
make you feel very secure.

719
00:34:53,770 --> 00:34:55,440
Yeah, yeah.

720
00:34:55,440 --> 00:35:00,650
And when the men were
arrested and things like that.

721
00:35:00,650 --> 00:35:06,260
But otherwise, somehow,
you remember the good parts

722
00:35:06,260 --> 00:35:07,990
as well as the bad parts.

723
00:35:07,990 --> 00:35:08,770
Yeah.

724
00:35:08,770 --> 00:35:10,410
Right.

725
00:35:10,410 --> 00:35:15,090
Well, I think I've come to
the end of our interview.

726
00:35:15,090 --> 00:35:15,690
Good.

727
00:35:15,690 --> 00:35:17,020

And I appreciate it.

728
00:35:17,020 --> 00:35:19,770
Is there something that
I have not asked you

729
00:35:19,770 --> 00:35:25,920
that you think is very crucial,
like the moment when your Uncle

730
00:35:25,920 --> 00:35:32,230
Otto says, take me instead
of Rabbi Leo Baeck?

731
00:35:32,230 --> 00:35:34,740
Is there anything
else that you would

732
00:35:34,740 --> 00:35:36,045
like people to know about?

733
00:35:36,045 --> 00:35:44,440

734
00:35:44,440 --> 00:35:46,930
Well, my father
didn't want to leave

735
00:35:46,930 --> 00:35:50,920
until he found a successor,
even though theoretically, they

736
00:35:50,920 --> 00:35:52,210
could have left much earlier.

737
00:35:52,210 --> 00:35:56,930

738
00:35:56,930 --> 00:35:59,768
How do you look at that?

739
00:35:59,768 --> 00:36:02,302

It makes me proud
of them, right?

740
00:36:02,302 --> 00:36:06,920

741
00:36:06,920 --> 00:36:13,890
And I remember that they did
a lot of charity anonymously.

742
00:36:13,890 --> 00:36:17,780
My father always said
he felt that people

743
00:36:17,780 --> 00:36:19,560
didn't have to know about it.

744
00:36:19,560 --> 00:36:24,360
And I thought that was
a good example, right.

745
00:36:24,360 --> 00:36:29,860
Did he ever feel adjusted
to the United States?

746
00:36:29,860 --> 00:36:30,520
Did he?

747
00:36:30,520 --> 00:36:31,270
Yes.

748
00:36:31,270 --> 00:36:33,750
I think so, yes.

749
00:36:33,750 --> 00:36:35,710
I think so.

750
00:36:35,710 --> 00:36:38,140
Did he ever find work
that was closer to home?

751
00:36:38,140 --> 00:36:41,020

752
00:36:41,020 --> 00:36:42,390
Instead of going to Kingston?

753
00:36:42,390 --> 00:36:42,910
Yeah.

754
00:36:42,910 --> 00:36:44,670
Yes.

755
00:36:44,670 --> 00:36:46,730
And he did a lot of--

756
00:36:46,730 --> 00:36:49,810
he could never sit lazy.

757
00:36:49,810 --> 00:36:57,600
He made cigarettes that, instead
of tobacco, had menthol in them

758
00:36:57,600 --> 00:37:00,360
for people who wanted to smoke--

759
00:37:00,360 --> 00:37:02,700
[PHONE RINGING]

760
00:37:02,700 --> 00:37:03,774
Let's cut.

761
00:37:03,774 --> 00:37:04,274
Cut.

762
00:37:04,274 --> 00:37:06,930

763
00:37:06,930 --> 00:37:09,450
Before the phone rang, you
were saying that your father

764
00:37:09,450 --> 00:37:10,600

could not sit still.

765

00:37:10,600 --> 00:37:13,200

He started making
cigarettes with menthol?

766

00:37:13,200 --> 00:37:15,840

Right, and he made
them from scratch,

767

00:37:15,840 --> 00:37:21,030

and they looked so real,
and they had a mouthpiece.

768

00:37:21,030 --> 00:37:25,770

People could smoke, and inhale
menthol instead of tobacco,

769

00:37:25,770 --> 00:37:26,640

right.

770

00:37:26,640 --> 00:37:33,630

And out of silver
and colored wire,

771

00:37:33,630 --> 00:37:38,940

he made little
flowers, pins that you

772

00:37:38,940 --> 00:37:40,740

could put on your clothes.

773

00:37:40,740 --> 00:37:42,720

He always had to do something.

774

00:37:42,720 --> 00:37:46,830

And he also helped a lot of
people with [NON-ENGLISH]

775

00:37:46,830 --> 00:37:48,410

restitution.

776

00:37:48,410 --> 00:37:50,820

Oh yeah, with
restitution questions.

777

00:37:50,820 --> 00:37:52,350

Right.

778

00:37:52,350 --> 00:37:54,890

Did your parents ever
go back to Germany?

779

00:37:54,890 --> 00:37:57,490

780

00:37:57,490 --> 00:37:58,935

Yes, I think they went once.

781

00:37:58,935 --> 00:38:03,320

782

00:38:03,320 --> 00:38:06,860

I think they went on the way
to a vacation in Switzerland.

783

00:38:06,860 --> 00:38:10,170

784

00:38:10,170 --> 00:38:14,050

Did they stay in
midtown Manhattan?

785

00:38:14,050 --> 00:38:15,850

No, they moved to Queens.

786

00:38:15,850 --> 00:38:16,780

They moved to Queens?

787

00:38:16,780 --> 00:38:18,010

Yeah.

788

00:38:18,010 --> 00:38:20,260

And when did they pass away?

789
00:38:20,260 --> 00:38:24,140

790
00:38:24,140 --> 00:38:32,450
My father passed away
when he was 76 in '58.

791
00:38:32,450 --> 00:38:36,550

792
00:38:36,550 --> 00:38:41,770
And my mother passed
away, she was 98.

793
00:38:41,770 --> 00:38:43,960
Oh wow.

794
00:38:43,960 --> 00:38:45,166
Taking after her.

795
00:38:45,166 --> 00:38:49,690

796
00:38:49,690 --> 00:38:55,660
In '96.

797
00:38:55,660 --> 00:38:57,710
In '96?

798
00:38:57,710 --> 00:39:00,260
She was born in '98, so '96.

799
00:39:00,260 --> 00:39:04,920
In 1898-- that's
when she was born?

800
00:39:04,920 --> 00:39:07,530
No, she was born in 1892.

801
00:39:07,530 --> 00:39:10,510

So that would have been in
1990 is when she passed--

802
00:39:10,510 --> 00:39:13,230
That's right, actually, yeah.

803
00:39:13,230 --> 00:39:14,220
Yeah.

804
00:39:14,220 --> 00:39:18,100
And your father was born
in 1888, was that right?

805
00:39:18,100 --> 00:39:18,600
Yeah.

806
00:39:18,600 --> 00:39:24,270
So at 76, that makes him 1964,
I think it would have been.

807
00:39:24,270 --> 00:39:27,740
No, he died in 1976.

808
00:39:27,740 --> 00:39:28,240
He did.

809
00:39:28,240 --> 00:39:28,740
Yeah.

810
00:39:28,740 --> 00:39:29,590
Oh, in 1976?

811
00:39:29,590 --> 00:39:30,090
Yeah.

812
00:39:30,090 --> 00:39:31,570
OK.

813
00:39:31,570 --> 00:39:32,070
OK.

814

00:39:32,070 --> 00:39:33,580
Yeah.

815
00:39:33,580 --> 00:39:35,747
Well, thank you
very much, Trudy.

816
00:39:35,747 --> 00:39:36,580
You're very welcome.

817
00:39:36,580 --> 00:39:38,270
Thank you very, very much.

818
00:39:38,270 --> 00:39:41,140
So I hope I got
everything pretty correct.

819
00:39:41,140 --> 00:39:42,490
Yeah.

820
00:39:42,490 --> 00:39:43,780
You did wonderfully.

821
00:39:43,780 --> 00:39:47,350
You painted a picture for
us of what life was like.

822
00:39:47,350 --> 00:39:50,830
You painted a picture for
us of what the cost was

823
00:39:50,830 --> 00:39:55,680
that people had to
bear in general,

824
00:39:55,680 --> 00:40:02,580
and that your family in
particular paid, you know?

825
00:40:02,580 --> 00:40:04,680
So thank you for all that.

826

00:40:04,680 --> 00:40:08,940
And I'll say that this concludes
the United States Holocaust

827
00:40:08,940 --> 00:40:16,110
Memorial Museum interview with
Trudy Schwarz on December 11,

828
00:40:16,110 --> 00:40:17,910
2018.

829
00:40:17,910 --> 00:40:19,320
Thanks again.

830
00:40:19,320 --> 00:40:20,300
Thank you.

831
00:40:20,300 --> 00:40:20,800
OK.

832
00:40:20,800 --> 00:40:21,410
Thank you.

833
00:40:21,410 --> 00:40:29,090

834
00:40:29,090 --> 00:40:30,300
No, we're back, I'm sorry.

835
00:40:30,300 --> 00:40:31,342
I turned everything down.

836
00:40:31,342 --> 00:40:32,330
OK.

837
00:40:32,330 --> 00:40:36,620
Trudy, Dan who was working with
us had a question for you as

838
00:40:36,620 --> 00:40:41,570
well about the air raids that
you experienced in London--

839
00:40:41,570 --> 00:40:45,860
their frequency, about times
of day, how many per week?

840
00:40:45,860 --> 00:40:49,480
Did you know anybody
who got hurt in them?

841
00:40:49,480 --> 00:40:52,460
How was that part
of your daily life?

842
00:40:52,460 --> 00:40:54,890
Describe that a little for us.

843
00:40:54,890 --> 00:40:58,790
The air raids happened more
often at night than in daytime.

844
00:40:58,790 --> 00:41:03,470
Some people actually
slept in the shelters.

845
00:41:03,470 --> 00:41:07,160
But it also happened in daytime,
and you had to go to a place

846
00:41:07,160 --> 00:41:10,370
where it was safe,
like under a stairway.

847
00:41:10,370 --> 00:41:11,870
You told us about that, yeah.

848
00:41:11,870 --> 00:41:18,270
Right, or sometimes, if
you were in the street,

849
00:41:18,270 --> 00:41:20,840
you just ran to the
nearest shelter,

850

00:41:20,840 --> 00:41:24,350
which was in the Underground.

851

00:41:24,350 --> 00:41:28,340
Well, you said it was more often
at night than during the day?

852

00:41:28,340 --> 00:41:30,650
Well, it was in
daytime and at night,

853

00:41:30,650 --> 00:41:33,740
because I remember
running into the subway,

854

00:41:33,740 --> 00:41:37,700
you know, the Underground,
which was safer

855

00:41:37,700 --> 00:41:39,740
than being on the
street, because you

856

00:41:39,740 --> 00:41:43,010
could be hit with falling
bricks or whatever.

857

00:41:43,010 --> 00:41:45,350
Even if you didn't
get a direct hit,

858

00:41:45,350 --> 00:41:49,370
you might get hurt
from falling houses--

859

00:41:49,370 --> 00:41:50,150
buildings.

860

00:41:50,150 --> 00:41:53,330
Did you know anybody
who did get hurt?

861

00:41:53,330 --> 00:41:54,780
No.

862
00:41:54,780 --> 00:41:56,090
OK.

863
00:41:56,090 --> 00:41:59,580
And did you see the
after effects of this?

864
00:41:59,580 --> 00:42:01,110
Yes, yes.

865
00:42:01,110 --> 00:42:06,260
It was very sad to walk down
the streets and see half-houses,

866
00:42:06,260 --> 00:42:08,790
you know, the walls of houses.

867
00:42:08,790 --> 00:42:15,720
I was fortunate that where I
lived was sort of out of town.

868
00:42:15,720 --> 00:42:20,340
We didn't have any close
hits in our neighborhood,

869
00:42:20,340 --> 00:42:26,670
because they concentrated
more in midtown London.

870
00:42:26,670 --> 00:42:28,550
OK, any other part of that, Dan?

871
00:42:28,550 --> 00:42:29,950
How many times a week?

872
00:42:29,950 --> 00:42:36,340
How many times a week would
you experience a raid?

873

00:42:36,340 --> 00:42:39,680
How'd you put it that way?

874
00:42:39,680 --> 00:42:42,160
Sometimes every
day, and sometimes

875
00:42:42,160 --> 00:42:43,930
two or three times a week.

876
00:42:43,930 --> 00:42:45,100
OK.

877
00:42:45,100 --> 00:42:47,580
Was it ever more
than once a day?

878
00:42:47,580 --> 00:42:50,920

879
00:42:50,920 --> 00:42:52,420
I think so, yes.

880
00:42:52,420 --> 00:42:55,766

881
00:42:55,766 --> 00:42:57,808
And one last question,
was it more frequent

882
00:42:57,808 --> 00:43:00,100
when she first got there or
towards the end of the war?

883
00:43:00,100 --> 00:43:01,180
When were they--

884
00:43:01,180 --> 00:43:06,220
Yeah, was it more frequent
when you first came to London,

885
00:43:06,220 --> 00:43:10,270

or did it become more frequent
towards the end of the war?

886
00:43:10,270 --> 00:43:11,380
Do you remember that?

887
00:43:11,380 --> 00:43:14,750

888
00:43:14,750 --> 00:43:20,130
I was in London
only for six months.

889
00:43:20,130 --> 00:43:23,190
No, I believe you said you were
in London for several years,

890
00:43:23,190 --> 00:43:26,160
because you took
that course there.

891
00:43:26,160 --> 00:43:28,430
No, the course was
in Leeds, Yorkshire.

892
00:43:28,430 --> 00:43:29,700
Ah.

893
00:43:29,700 --> 00:43:30,330
OK.

894
00:43:30,330 --> 00:43:32,820
So I was in London
for six months

895
00:43:32,820 --> 00:43:34,620
before the course started--

896
00:43:34,620 --> 00:43:35,610
I see, and so was--

897
00:43:35,610 --> 00:43:36,350

--to make money.

898

00:43:36,350 --> 00:43:36,990

OK.

899

00:43:36,990 --> 00:43:40,620

So you're talking about these
six months that you were there?

900

00:43:40,620 --> 00:43:41,430

Right.

901

00:43:41,430 --> 00:43:42,390

OK.

902

00:43:42,390 --> 00:43:46,250

Now was there bombing in Leeds?

903

00:43:46,250 --> 00:43:47,270

No.

904

00:43:47,270 --> 00:43:48,440

OK.

905

00:43:48,440 --> 00:43:49,150

OK.

906

00:43:49,150 --> 00:43:51,290

Not that I remember, no.

907

00:43:51,290 --> 00:43:52,700

OK.

908

00:43:52,700 --> 00:43:53,780

OK, thank you, Trudy.

909

00:43:53,780 --> 00:43:55,600

You're welcome.