

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,260

2
00:00:03,260 --> 00:00:06,950
This is a United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3
00:00:06,950 --> 00:00:13,940
interview with Mr. Isaak
Sarfati on August 17, 2019

4
00:00:13,940 --> 00:00:16,040
in Brooklyn, New York.

5
00:00:16,040 --> 00:00:18,770
Thank you, Mr.
Sarfati for agreeing

6
00:00:18,770 --> 00:00:23,270
to speak with us today, to
share your story, your family's

7
00:00:23,270 --> 00:00:26,840
experiences during World
War II and what came

8
00:00:26,840 --> 00:00:29,330
to be known as the Holocaust.

9
00:00:29,330 --> 00:00:34,190
And we appreciate you raising
up all of these memories

10
00:00:34,190 --> 00:00:35,670
to share with us today.

11
00:00:35,670 --> 00:00:39,170
We know that some of
them are not easy at all.

12
00:00:39,170 --> 00:00:43,250

The very first question that I'm going to ask is the simplest.

13
00:00:43,250 --> 00:00:46,340
And we'll develop everything from there.

14
00:00:46,340 --> 00:00:47,960
The first question I have is, can you

15
00:00:47,960 --> 00:00:50,150
tell me the date of your birth?

16
00:00:50,150 --> 00:00:51,390
When were you born?

17
00:00:51,390 --> 00:00:56,660
I was born in July 28, 1934.

18
00:00:56,660 --> 00:00:58,575
And what was your name at birth?

19
00:00:58,575 --> 00:01:01,150

20
00:01:01,150 --> 00:01:01,990
Isaak.

21
00:01:01,990 --> 00:01:02,920
The same as today?

22
00:01:02,920 --> 00:01:04,000
Yeah, same as today.

23
00:01:04,000 --> 00:01:05,110
Nothing has changed?

24
00:01:05,110 --> 00:01:05,790
No.

25

00:01:05,790 --> 00:01:06,610
OK.

26
00:01:06,610 --> 00:01:08,820
Did you have any nicknames?

27
00:01:08,820 --> 00:01:10,380
Yeah, Ino.

28
00:01:10,380 --> 00:01:11,100
Ino?

29
00:01:11,100 --> 00:01:12,280
Isaakino.

30
00:01:12,280 --> 00:01:13,330
Isaakino.

31
00:01:13,330 --> 00:01:14,650
OK.

32
00:01:14,650 --> 00:01:16,330
And where were you born?

33
00:01:16,330 --> 00:01:18,600
Born in Salonika.

34
00:01:18,600 --> 00:01:21,100
It's Northern Greece.

35
00:01:21,100 --> 00:01:28,300
It is a city that
had a lot of Jews.

36
00:01:28,300 --> 00:01:32,580
It was called Mother to Israel.

37
00:01:32,580 --> 00:01:34,380
Really?

38
00:01:34,380 --> 00:01:38,460

Yerushalayim do los Balkanes.

39

00:01:38,460 --> 00:01:41,060

The Jerusalem of the Balkans?

40

00:01:41,060 --> 00:01:42,060

Right.

41

00:01:42,060 --> 00:01:43,740

Wow.

42

00:01:43,740 --> 00:01:46,570

So how large was the Jewish community in Salonika?

43

00:01:46,570 --> 00:01:56,620

Well, at the time when the Shoah started, it was about 55,000.

44

00:01:56,620 --> 00:02:04,910

But I have read somewhere that, at one time in its existence,

45

00:02:04,910 --> 00:02:10,699

the Jewish community was the biggest community anywhere.

46

00:02:10,699 --> 00:02:13,450

I don't know where, but--

47

00:02:13,450 --> 00:02:15,830

Or we don't know really what era that would have been.

48

00:02:15,830 --> 00:02:17,300

Yeah.

49

00:02:17,300 --> 00:02:24,493

I assume it was before the 20th century,

50

00:02:24,493 --> 00:02:25,660

definitely before the 20th--

51

00:02:25,660 --> 00:02:28,820

Yeah, of course, before
the 20th century.

52

00:02:28,820 --> 00:02:32,240

How large was Salonika in total?

53

00:02:32,240 --> 00:02:37,400

If about 55,000 were
Jewish citizens,

54

00:02:37,400 --> 00:02:39,530

how many non-Jews were there?

55

00:02:39,530 --> 00:02:43,700

The whole city
was about 300,000.

56

00:02:43,700 --> 00:02:47,700

So this is a sixth of the
population, something,

57

00:02:47,700 --> 00:02:48,220

a large--

58

00:02:48,220 --> 00:02:48,720

Right.

59

00:02:48,720 --> 00:02:49,880

--large part.

60

00:02:49,880 --> 00:02:54,860

At one point in its history
that I know for sure,

61

00:02:54,860 --> 00:03:00,030

that the Jewish population
was the largest group.

62

00:03:00,030 --> 00:03:03,140

There are three
groups basically,

63
00:03:03,140 --> 00:03:06,740
Turkish, Greek, and Jewish.

64
00:03:06,740 --> 00:03:10,500
And Jewish was
the largest group.

65
00:03:10,500 --> 00:03:24,720
And then after Greece came
to have control over Salonika

66
00:03:24,720 --> 00:03:30,660
in 1922, a large
number of refugees

67
00:03:30,660 --> 00:03:36,550
from Asia Minor and
other Turkish places,

68
00:03:36,550 --> 00:03:41,110
Greek speaking people,
came into Greece.

69
00:03:41,110 --> 00:03:43,060
And they came in Salonika.

70
00:03:43,060 --> 00:03:44,560
So that increased it.

71
00:03:44,560 --> 00:03:48,190
So before then, it was
part of the Ottoman Empire?

72
00:03:48,190 --> 00:03:50,620
Yes, it was part of
the Ottoman Empire

73
00:03:50,620 --> 00:03:58,900
from about the 13th century,
something like that.

74
00:03:58,900 --> 00:04:00,890
Until the early 20th century.

75
00:04:00,890 --> 00:04:01,390
Yes.

76
00:04:01,390 --> 00:04:03,290
And then comes into--

77
00:04:03,290 --> 00:04:10,900
Well, they re-- we don't call
but the Ottoman Empire anymore.

78
00:04:10,900 --> 00:04:11,800
What is it called?

79
00:04:11,800 --> 00:04:12,755
Turkey.

80
00:04:12,755 --> 00:04:16,141
Ah, OK.

81
00:04:16,141 --> 00:04:16,641
OK.

82
00:04:16,641 --> 00:04:19,510

83
00:04:19,510 --> 00:04:22,019
Well, see this is part--

84
00:04:22,019 --> 00:04:23,080
I have to admit--

85
00:04:23,080 --> 00:04:26,050
and so some of my questions
will reflect this.

86
00:04:26,050 --> 00:04:29,640
I don't know the history of

Southern Europe that well.

87
00:04:29,640 --> 00:04:31,940
OK.

88
00:04:31,940 --> 00:04:33,460
And so please correct me.

89
00:04:33,460 --> 00:04:36,820
There are times I'm going
to be asking questions

90
00:04:36,820 --> 00:04:39,730
to place in historical context.

91
00:04:39,730 --> 00:04:42,610
And this is one of
those instances.

92
00:04:42,610 --> 00:04:44,350
It's, of course,
before the events

93
00:04:44,350 --> 00:04:48,420
that we are going to focus on,
but it gives us the background.

94
00:04:48,420 --> 00:04:49,150
OK.

95
00:04:49,150 --> 00:04:56,620
So then can I make an assumption
that modern Greece only

96
00:04:56,620 --> 00:05:01,660
really comes into being
in the early 20th century?

97
00:05:01,660 --> 00:05:02,350
No.

98
00:05:02,350 --> 00:05:03,970

OK.

99

00:05:03,970 --> 00:05:08,080

Modern Greece comes into
being in the early--

100

00:05:08,080 --> 00:05:15,100

101

00:05:15,100 --> 00:05:23,230

19th century 1821 was
the Greek Revolution.

102

00:05:23,230 --> 00:05:34,060

And it threw out
the Ottoman rule

103

00:05:34,060 --> 00:05:38,800

for most of Southern Greece.

104

00:05:38,800 --> 00:05:41,410

105

00:05:41,410 --> 00:05:46,260

It stayed like this until
the First World War--

106

00:05:46,260 --> 00:05:51,130

or, no, a little
before that, 1912,

107

00:05:51,130 --> 00:05:57,340

when the Christian
states of the Balkans

108

00:05:57,340 --> 00:06:01,060

got together and started
a war against Turkey.

109

00:06:01,060 --> 00:06:07,070

And they, I would say,
liberated their countries

110

00:06:07,070 --> 00:06:10,750
from Ottoman rule--

111

00:06:10,750 --> 00:06:12,790
or--

112

00:06:12,790 --> 00:06:13,450
Turkish rule?

113

00:06:13,450 --> 00:06:17,490
Yeah, I guess it wasn't-- if
I call Ottoman rule anymore.

114

00:06:17,490 --> 00:06:22,500
It was called Turkey, I suppose.

115

00:06:22,500 --> 00:06:29,980
That's in 1912, 1913.

116

00:06:29,980 --> 00:06:33,462
Greek forces came
into Salonika in 1912.

117

00:06:33,462 --> 00:06:33,962
OK.

118

00:06:33,962 --> 00:06:37,090

119

00:06:37,090 --> 00:06:40,960
Does this mean that the
region was somewhat unstable?

120

00:06:40,960 --> 00:06:46,090
Or is it that we're
highlighting just certain parts

121

00:06:46,090 --> 00:06:48,910
where instability was there?

122

00:06:48,910 --> 00:06:51,400

By unstable, do
I mean were there

123
00:06:51,400 --> 00:06:55,630
competing tensions between
various groups all along?

124
00:06:55,630 --> 00:06:59,860
And they kind of burst
on the scene in the years

125
00:06:59,860 --> 00:07:01,870
that you mention.

126
00:07:01,870 --> 00:07:02,670
The first part--

127
00:07:02,670 --> 00:07:06,190
Well, the thing is
that the Ottoman Empire

128
00:07:06,190 --> 00:07:13,000
had conquered the area, people
of different nationalities

129
00:07:13,000 --> 00:07:17,160
there, had their own language.

130
00:07:17,160 --> 00:07:21,660
The way the Ottoman Empire
dealt with this is they

131
00:07:21,660 --> 00:07:23,890
called them the
millet system, which

132
00:07:23,890 --> 00:07:37,405
means that each nationality its
own semi-autonomous rule, you

133
00:07:37,405 --> 00:07:42,646
know, their own
vital statistics,

134
00:07:42,646 --> 00:07:52,310
their own either ethnic
and religious groups.

135
00:07:52,310 --> 00:07:53,665
And they called them millet.

136
00:07:53,665 --> 00:07:56,640

137
00:07:56,640 --> 00:08:05,960
And they stayed separate.

138
00:08:05,960 --> 00:08:11,270
And the Ottoman rulers
wanted to remain separate--

139
00:08:11,270 --> 00:08:14,740
To keep various groups separate?

140
00:08:14,740 --> 00:08:15,800
--to keep them apart.

141
00:08:15,800 --> 00:08:18,830

142
00:08:18,830 --> 00:08:30,020
So what happened was that,
as the empire weakened,

143
00:08:30,020 --> 00:08:33,659
these groups began
to assert themselves.

144
00:08:33,659 --> 00:08:37,249
So in the early 19th century--

145
00:08:37,249 --> 00:08:42,169

146

00:08:42,169 --> 00:08:43,740
1820, yeah, early 19th--

147
00:08:43,740 --> 00:08:45,230
Yeah, early 19th century.

148
00:08:45,230 --> 00:08:50,610
--the Greeks revolted.

149
00:08:50,610 --> 00:08:58,920
Within a couple of years, they
conquered Southern Greece.

150
00:08:58,920 --> 00:09:04,080

151
00:09:04,080 --> 00:09:06,300
Bulgarians did their thing.

152
00:09:06,300 --> 00:09:09,870
Serbs did their
thing, other thing.

153
00:09:09,870 --> 00:09:21,750
So maybe 1912, there were
already states, Bulgarians,

154
00:09:21,750 --> 00:09:25,140
Serbs, and Greeks.

155
00:09:25,140 --> 00:09:30,990
And they got together,
and they kicked Turkey out

156
00:09:30,990 --> 00:09:34,790
of most of the Balkans.

157
00:09:34,790 --> 00:09:39,660
What kind of effect did this
have on the Jewish community

158
00:09:39,660 --> 00:09:41,210

in Salonika?

159

00:09:41,210 --> 00:09:44,930

Did the Jewish community
have a preference

160

00:09:44,930 --> 00:09:47,030

for one kind of
rule over another?

161

00:09:47,030 --> 00:09:51,230

Were they treated
one way under one?

162

00:09:51,230 --> 00:09:51,730

OK.

163

00:09:51,730 --> 00:09:57,130

164

00:09:57,130 --> 00:10:04,700

The Ottomans felt that
the Jews were innocuous.

165

00:10:04,700 --> 00:10:09,910

They didn't pose a threat to
their rule, the others did.

166

00:10:09,910 --> 00:10:15,240

So they treated the
Jews with kindness.

167

00:10:15,240 --> 00:10:19,630

In some ways, they
welcomed the Jews.

168

00:10:19,630 --> 00:10:25,660

When the expulsion
occurred, they

169

00:10:25,660 --> 00:10:28,295

welcomed the Jews of Spain.

170

00:10:28,295 --> 00:10:29,920

You're talking about
in the Middle Ages

171

00:10:29,920 --> 00:10:32,630

when there was the Inquisition?

172

00:10:32,630 --> 00:10:33,940

Not the Middle Ages.

173

00:10:33,940 --> 00:10:37,810

174

00:10:37,810 --> 00:10:50,050

The 16th century, when
the expulsion occurred.

175

00:10:50,050 --> 00:10:57,100

And the Jews who had to
leave Spain, a lot of them

176

00:10:57,100 --> 00:11:00,260

came all the way to
the Ottoman Empire.

177

00:11:00,260 --> 00:11:03,130

178

00:11:03,130 --> 00:11:09,450

And in fact, I can't
remember the date exactly.

179

00:11:09,450 --> 00:11:16,510

But the year of the
expulsion is the same year

180

00:11:16,510 --> 00:11:23,740

that Constantinople fell
to the Ottoman forces.

181

00:11:23,740 --> 00:11:26,200

We can look it up.

182
00:11:26,200 --> 00:11:30,580
I can't remember exactly.

183
00:11:30,580 --> 00:11:39,660
Then did the change
in the 20th century,

184
00:11:39,660 --> 00:11:42,780
when it comes totally
under Greek control,

185
00:11:42,780 --> 00:11:47,926
did that have a difference
for the Jewish community?

186
00:11:47,926 --> 00:11:48,426
OK.

187
00:11:48,426 --> 00:11:53,040

188
00:11:53,040 --> 00:11:56,670
Theoretically, they
were all Greek citizens.

189
00:11:56,670 --> 00:11:58,552
They were Greek citizens.

190
00:11:58,552 --> 00:12:00,000
Right.

191
00:12:00,000 --> 00:12:02,460
The Jews did not
feel comfortable.

192
00:12:02,460 --> 00:12:06,450
The Jews of Salonika
did not feel comfortable

193
00:12:06,450 --> 00:12:07,920
with the Greek rule.

194
00:12:07,920 --> 00:12:15,330
And again, a little bit
later, 10 years later, there

195
00:12:15,330 --> 00:12:18,720
was another war with Turkey.

196
00:12:18,720 --> 00:12:26,610
And it ended by an
exchange of populations.

197
00:12:26,610 --> 00:12:35,340
A lot of Greeks that lived
all over the Turkish area

198
00:12:35,340 --> 00:12:37,380
came to Greece.

199
00:12:37,380 --> 00:12:44,890
Most of the Turks that lived
in the Greek areas went there.

200
00:12:44,890 --> 00:12:48,930
There was only two groups
that remained-- there was

201
00:12:48,930 --> 00:12:51,150
some Greeks in Constantinople.

202
00:12:51,150 --> 00:12:56,820
There was an agreement
between the Greek and Turkish

203
00:12:56,820 --> 00:13:01,140
government, some
Greeks remaining

204
00:13:01,140 --> 00:13:08,430
in Istanbul, Constantinople,
and some Turks

205

00:13:08,430 --> 00:13:14,610
remained in an area
of Greek Thrace,

206
00:13:14,610 --> 00:13:20,970
which is east of Salonika.

207
00:13:20,970 --> 00:13:24,520
So a lot of people came with--

208
00:13:24,520 --> 00:13:27,270

209
00:13:27,270 --> 00:13:30,000
the nature of the city changed.

210
00:13:30,000 --> 00:13:34,870
The Greeks overwhelm
the culture.

211
00:13:34,870 --> 00:13:37,870
The Jews didn't quite like it.

212
00:13:37,870 --> 00:13:39,570
Why?

213
00:13:39,570 --> 00:13:43,680
There was a little
friction there.

214
00:13:43,680 --> 00:13:46,230
Is there a cause
of this friction?

215
00:13:46,230 --> 00:13:49,080
Is there a reason
for the friction?

216
00:13:49,080 --> 00:13:53,080
Well, there's a lot
of the antisemitism

217

00:13:53,080 --> 00:13:58,580
with all the Christian people.

218
00:13:58,580 --> 00:14:08,760
The Jews seem to feel
displaced by a large influx

219
00:14:08,760 --> 00:14:13,320
of Greek speaking people.

220
00:14:13,320 --> 00:14:15,930
Because of the Christianity?

221
00:14:15,930 --> 00:14:18,450
Because of the religion
more than the ethnicity,

222
00:14:18,450 --> 00:14:20,250
is that what you're saying?

223
00:14:20,250 --> 00:14:22,170
I would say yes, yeah.

224
00:14:22,170 --> 00:14:23,430
OK.

225
00:14:23,430 --> 00:14:28,710
So can I make an assumption
that, historically,

226
00:14:28,710 --> 00:14:32,370
until we come to present
day, but historically, there

227
00:14:32,370 --> 00:14:37,080
was a closer relationship or a
more comfortable relationship

228
00:14:37,080 --> 00:14:43,230
with Islamic rule
than Christian rule

229

00:14:43,230 --> 00:14:45,680
in Salonika, in Greece,
in the Greek territories?

230
00:14:45,680 --> 00:14:46,710
Yes.

231
00:14:46,710 --> 00:14:48,330
Yeah.

232
00:14:48,330 --> 00:14:50,040
That's right.

233
00:14:50,040 --> 00:14:51,000
OK.

234
00:14:51,000 --> 00:14:52,410
OK.

235
00:14:52,410 --> 00:14:54,690
And your own
family, how far back

236
00:14:54,690 --> 00:15:00,660
can you trace your own
family's roots in Salonika?

237
00:15:00,660 --> 00:15:06,180

238
00:15:06,180 --> 00:15:11,550
My-- from us--

239
00:15:11,550 --> 00:15:20,390
my father was born in a town
west of Salonika, Veria.

240
00:15:20,390 --> 00:15:31,500
My mother was born in a place
Monastir, which now it's

241
00:15:31,500 --> 00:15:35,755

in what they call the
Northern Macedonia.

242
00:15:35,755 --> 00:15:36,543
Oh, yeah.

243
00:15:36,543 --> 00:15:37,460
They finally settled--

244
00:15:37,460 --> 00:15:39,020
They finally settled the name.

245
00:15:39,020 --> 00:15:41,450
--the name north of Macedonia.

246
00:15:41,450 --> 00:15:42,840
Yeah.

247
00:15:42,840 --> 00:15:54,210
And Vitola, I think,
what was called Monastir,

248
00:15:54,210 --> 00:15:56,440
now it's Vitola.

249
00:15:56,440 --> 00:15:57,683
V like Victor?

250
00:15:57,683 --> 00:15:58,850
Vitola, something like this.

251
00:15:58,850 --> 00:16:00,030
Yeah, OK.

252
00:16:00,030 --> 00:16:03,060
I can't remember now.

253
00:16:03,060 --> 00:16:09,390
So they were not Salonikans.

254
00:16:09,390 --> 00:16:10,420

Oh, they weren't--

255
00:16:10,420 --> 00:16:10,920
OK.

256
00:16:10,920 --> 00:16:14,240
My generation was the
first one born in Salonika.

257
00:16:14,240 --> 00:16:15,300
OK.

258
00:16:15,300 --> 00:16:20,520
But I'll pose the question
then in taking it from where

259
00:16:20,520 --> 00:16:22,830
your two parents were from.

260
00:16:22,830 --> 00:16:29,010
Had their families been in
these places for generations?

261
00:16:29,010 --> 00:16:30,810
Presumably, yes.

262
00:16:30,810 --> 00:16:31,310
OK.

263
00:16:31,310 --> 00:16:35,100

264
00:16:35,100 --> 00:16:38,160
The presumption is that all
of them came from Spain.

265
00:16:38,160 --> 00:16:42,210

266
00:16:42,210 --> 00:16:44,230
They were Sephardic Jews.

267

00:16:44,230 --> 00:16:47,570

But as I was saying
before, there

268

00:16:47,570 --> 00:16:53,170

were Jews that came from
Germany before that.

269

00:16:53,170 --> 00:16:54,640

Before the expulsion?

270

00:16:54,640 --> 00:16:58,910

Before the expulsion,
Jews came from Germany.

271

00:16:58,910 --> 00:17:02,920

There was a rabbi in Edirne.

272

00:17:02,920 --> 00:17:09,250

Edirne is now what they
call the Eastern Thrace--

273

00:17:09,250 --> 00:17:10,528

[BACKGROUND NOISE]

274

00:17:10,528 --> 00:17:11,380

275

00:17:11,380 --> 00:17:12,430

OK, let's cut.

276

00:17:12,430 --> 00:17:13,920

--inside turkey.

277

00:17:13,920 --> 00:17:15,619

OK.

278

00:17:15,619 --> 00:17:17,490

OK.

279

00:17:17,490 --> 00:17:22,050

There was my namesake--

280
00:17:22,050 --> 00:17:22,920
Also rabbi?

281
00:17:22,920 --> 00:17:24,410
--Yitzhak Sarfati.

282
00:17:24,410 --> 00:17:34,270
Yitzhak Sarfati, 13th
century, wrote a letter

283
00:17:34,270 --> 00:17:41,140
to the rabbis in Germany
saying come down here

284
00:17:41,140 --> 00:17:45,070
where the Jews are
treated well, where

285
00:17:45,070 --> 00:17:51,170
they don't have to wear
yellow caps and so on.

286
00:17:51,170 --> 00:17:59,030
So the truth, this
is one person.

287
00:17:59,030 --> 00:18:05,300
But there were a number of
Jews from middle of Europe,

288
00:18:05,300 --> 00:18:17,000
from Germany, that have
come to the Ottoman area

289
00:18:17,000 --> 00:18:18,937
by the 13th century.

290
00:18:18,937 --> 00:18:20,160
OK.

291

00:18:20,160 --> 00:18:23,150
So they were there.

292
00:18:23,150 --> 00:18:25,820
There were some Jews,
but not too many.

293
00:18:25,820 --> 00:18:32,780
They're called Romaniotes, who
had been there since antiquity.

294
00:18:32,780 --> 00:18:35,580
Really?

295
00:18:35,580 --> 00:18:37,160
Right.

296
00:18:37,160 --> 00:18:43,950
In Salonika, the Spanish
Jews came and obliterated--

297
00:18:43,950 --> 00:18:44,450
The others.

298
00:18:44,450 --> 00:18:47,120
--the cultures of the others.

299
00:18:47,120 --> 00:18:53,620
But there are places outside
where the Jews called

300
00:18:53,620 --> 00:18:54,970
themselves Romaniotes.

301
00:18:54,970 --> 00:18:57,730
And that's Spanish, Romaniotes.

302
00:18:57,730 --> 00:19:05,270
Even in Athens and
other small cities,

303
00:19:05,270 --> 00:19:08,090

they called
themselves Romaniotes.

304
00:19:08,090 --> 00:19:09,090
They don't speak Ladino.

305
00:19:09,090 --> 00:19:12,726
They speak Greek.

306
00:19:12,726 --> 00:19:19,830
In fact, there's a synagogue
in Manhattan at Broome Street.

307
00:19:19,830 --> 00:19:20,610
Really?

308
00:19:20,610 --> 00:19:22,520
It's a Romaniote.

309
00:19:22,520 --> 00:19:24,586
It's a Romaniote synagogue.

310
00:19:24,586 --> 00:19:25,086
Right.

311
00:19:25,086 --> 00:19:28,370

312
00:19:28,370 --> 00:19:35,540
So they don't speak Ladino.

313
00:19:35,540 --> 00:19:45,860
They speak Greek, a few of
them from Alexandrian times.

314
00:19:45,860 --> 00:19:47,550
Wow, that really is going back.

315
00:19:47,550 --> 00:19:50,070

316

00:19:50,070 --> 00:19:53,840
Then there were the German
Jews that came in 13th century,

317
00:19:53,840 --> 00:19:56,100
I believe, around there.

318
00:19:56,100 --> 00:20:02,425
And then came the Spanish
Jews in the 15th century.

319
00:20:02,425 --> 00:20:03,055
And that--

320
00:20:03,055 --> 00:20:06,130

321
00:20:06,130 --> 00:20:10,350
How far back do you know
about your own family?

322
00:20:10,350 --> 00:20:11,090
My own family?

323
00:20:11,090 --> 00:20:11,830
Yeah.

324
00:20:11,830 --> 00:20:14,900
Two generations,
three generations?

325
00:20:14,900 --> 00:20:23,310
Well, I know stories that my
grandmother, who lived with us,

326
00:20:23,310 --> 00:20:35,800
told about her life in
Veria, where she was born

327
00:20:35,800 --> 00:20:37,020
and where she lived.

328

00:20:37,020 --> 00:20:41,610
But her husband, my grandfather,
whom I never knew, because he

329
00:20:41,610 --> 00:20:45,070
died very young--

330
00:20:45,070 --> 00:20:48,350
but I don't know further
than that anything.

331
00:20:48,350 --> 00:20:48,850
OK.

332
00:20:48,850 --> 00:20:54,230

333
00:20:54,230 --> 00:20:56,300
I had a question,
and it went this way.

334
00:20:56,300 --> 00:21:00,430

335
00:21:00,430 --> 00:21:03,460
What was the first
language that you learned?

336
00:21:03,460 --> 00:21:07,660
I would say Ladino was
the first language.

337
00:21:07,660 --> 00:21:12,010

338
00:21:12,010 --> 00:21:20,795
I could, at that point,
understand French probably.

339
00:21:20,795 --> 00:21:25,230

340

00:21:25,230 --> 00:21:28,980
I learned Greek afterwards.

341
00:21:28,980 --> 00:21:31,080
I can't understand
French anymore.

342
00:21:31,080 --> 00:21:36,730
But I have so many hearing
problems again in English.

343
00:21:36,730 --> 00:21:38,621
Well, a lot of us
say that, you know.

344
00:21:38,621 --> 00:21:39,543
[LAUGHTER]

345
00:21:39,543 --> 00:21:42,310

346
00:21:42,310 --> 00:21:44,880
Yeah.

347
00:21:44,880 --> 00:21:50,070
I believe the language
at home was Ladino.

348
00:21:50,070 --> 00:21:53,950
My parents spoke French.

349
00:21:53,950 --> 00:21:58,430
And my suspicion was
they spoke French

350
00:21:58,430 --> 00:22:02,990
when they didn't want the kids
to hear what they were saying.

351
00:22:02,990 --> 00:22:04,360
That's such a universal thing.

352

00:22:04,360 --> 00:22:05,460
[LAUGHTER]

353
00:22:05,460 --> 00:22:08,115
But we learned.

354
00:22:08,115 --> 00:22:11,052

355
00:22:11,052 --> 00:22:12,135
You learned to understand.

356
00:22:12,135 --> 00:22:13,020
[LAUGHTER]

357
00:22:13,020 --> 00:22:15,450
We learned to understand, right.

358
00:22:15,450 --> 00:22:20,287
And what was the language
of outside the home

359
00:22:20,287 --> 00:22:21,870
when you would go
to the streets, when

360
00:22:21,870 --> 00:22:23,500
you go to other places?

361
00:22:23,500 --> 00:22:24,000
Greek.

362
00:22:24,000 --> 00:22:24,510
Greek?

363
00:22:24,510 --> 00:22:25,070
Greek, yeah.

364
00:22:25,070 --> 00:22:26,160
Greek.

365

00:22:26,160 --> 00:22:29,955
So is there a time that
you didn't know Greek?

366
00:22:29,955 --> 00:22:35,210

367
00:22:35,210 --> 00:22:36,670
I don't believe so.

368
00:22:36,670 --> 00:22:42,830
I don't have any memory of--

369
00:22:42,830 --> 00:22:49,992
I went to school, what
was it, six years old.

370
00:22:49,992 --> 00:22:50,700
I went to school.

371
00:22:50,700 --> 00:22:53,230
I got a I knew Greek.

372
00:22:53,230 --> 00:22:54,960
I spoke it.

373
00:22:54,960 --> 00:22:56,310
OK.

374
00:22:56,310 --> 00:23:00,690
And so was it just so that
there was the language at home,

375
00:23:00,690 --> 00:23:01,410
that's Ladino?

376
00:23:01,410 --> 00:23:03,850
The language in public is Greek?

377
00:23:03,850 --> 00:23:04,650
Yes.

378
00:23:04,650 --> 00:23:06,180
OK.

379
00:23:06,180 --> 00:23:09,940
Tell those of us,
including myself

380
00:23:09,940 --> 00:23:11,790
who are very ignorant
about these things,

381
00:23:11,790 --> 00:23:13,830
tell us about Ladino
as a language.

382
00:23:13,830 --> 00:23:16,440

383
00:23:16,440 --> 00:23:19,065
Yiddish, we know,
has a root in German.

384
00:23:19,065 --> 00:23:23,370

385
00:23:23,370 --> 00:23:25,890
If you speak German, you
can understand some Yiddish.

386
00:23:25,890 --> 00:23:28,980
Maybe not everything,
but you can.

387
00:23:28,980 --> 00:23:32,010
If you speak Spanish, can
you understand Ladino?

388
00:23:32,010 --> 00:23:34,590
If you speak French, can
you understand Ladino?

389
00:23:34,590 --> 00:23:39,600

Well, I wouldn't know that.

390
00:23:39,600 --> 00:23:40,890
I will know the--

391
00:23:40,890 --> 00:23:41,670
The other way.

392
00:23:41,670 --> 00:23:42,660
--reverse.

393
00:23:42,660 --> 00:23:45,510
OK.

394
00:23:45,510 --> 00:23:49,110
When I came to this
country, I could

395
00:23:49,110 --> 00:23:58,540
understand any Spanish
speaking person very well

396
00:23:58,540 --> 00:23:59,930
no matter where they came.

397
00:23:59,930 --> 00:24:06,820
Puerto Ricans, who speak very
fast and people from the south,

398
00:24:06,820 --> 00:24:09,550
they speak Spanish, I
could understand very well.

399
00:24:09,550 --> 00:24:11,560
I could understand
French, because, you know,

400
00:24:11,560 --> 00:24:14,710
my parents spoke French.

401
00:24:14,710 --> 00:24:17,170
Because of that, I

could understand just

402

00:24:17,170 --> 00:24:20,095
about every romance language.

403

00:24:20,095 --> 00:24:28,390
But, now, I can't anymore,
because, you know--

404

00:24:28,390 --> 00:24:31,390
But do you still know Ladino?

405

00:24:31,390 --> 00:24:32,890
Yes, I know.

406

00:24:32,890 --> 00:24:41,120
But put it this way, if somebody
speaks Spanish fast, I can't--

407

00:24:41,120 --> 00:24:45,310

408

00:24:45,310 --> 00:24:51,190
if somebody speaks very slowly,
very clearly, I can understand.

409

00:24:51,190 --> 00:24:57,400
I remember, about a
year ago, Pope Francis

410

00:24:57,400 --> 00:25:03,850
was on television speaking in
his native Argentine Spanish.

411

00:25:03,850 --> 00:25:04,420
Spanish.

412

00:25:04,420 --> 00:25:06,490
And I could understand
him, but he was

413

00:25:06,490 --> 00:25:09,370

speaking slowly and clearly.

414

00:25:09,370 --> 00:25:12,370

Most people I can't
understand anymore.

415

00:25:12,370 --> 00:25:13,610

OK, OK.

416

00:25:13,610 --> 00:25:16,310

417

00:25:16,310 --> 00:25:17,870

Let's turn to your family.

418

00:25:17,870 --> 00:25:21,170

419

00:25:21,170 --> 00:25:25,970

You go back two, three
generations at most then,

420

00:25:25,970 --> 00:25:28,820

your generation, your parents,
and your grandparents.

421

00:25:28,820 --> 00:25:30,260

That's right.

422

00:25:30,260 --> 00:25:32,810

Your father came, again,
from which village?

423

00:25:32,810 --> 00:25:33,770

Veria.

424

00:25:33,770 --> 00:25:35,030

Veria.

425

00:25:35,030 --> 00:25:44,450

Veria is about 50 kilometers
west, northwest of Salonika.

426
00:25:44,450 --> 00:25:48,010
And did it have a
Jewish community, Veria?

427
00:25:48,010 --> 00:25:50,160
Yes.

428
00:25:50,160 --> 00:25:51,290
It's a small town.

429
00:25:51,290 --> 00:25:54,010
It has a Jewish community.

430
00:25:54,010 --> 00:26:00,710
And why did he leave
Veria to come to Salonika?

431
00:26:00,710 --> 00:26:03,190
For economic reasons, I suppose.

432
00:26:03,190 --> 00:26:06,710
Salonika was where
you can do business.

433
00:26:06,710 --> 00:26:08,180
What did his grandfather do?

434
00:26:08,180 --> 00:26:09,350
What does his father do?

435
00:26:09,350 --> 00:26:11,090
How did his father
support the family?

436
00:26:11,090 --> 00:26:18,390

437
00:26:18,390 --> 00:26:22,170
He had a grocery store,
I believe, there.

438
00:26:22,170 --> 00:26:23,880
In Veria?

439
00:26:23,880 --> 00:26:25,030
Yeah.

440
00:26:25,030 --> 00:26:44,520
They tell me the stories about
during the Muslim holiday--

441
00:26:44,520 --> 00:26:45,490
what do they call?

442
00:26:45,490 --> 00:26:47,050
Ramadan?

443
00:26:47,050 --> 00:26:51,970
During the Ramadan, he
could take his fruit

444
00:26:51,970 --> 00:26:53,200
and put it outside.

445
00:26:53,200 --> 00:26:56,740
Because the Turkish
friends who come and pick,

446
00:26:56,740 --> 00:27:02,000
they wouldn't pick,
because they were fasting.

447
00:27:02,000 --> 00:27:02,520
OK.

448
00:27:02,520 --> 00:27:06,138
So there was safety for the
food, safety for the fruit.

449
00:27:06,138 --> 00:27:06,638
[LAUGHTER]

450

00:27:06,638 --> 00:27:09,850
That's right.

451
00:27:09,850 --> 00:27:13,066
How many brothers and
sisters did your father have?

452
00:27:13,066 --> 00:27:28,010
Let me here, he had one
brother, had four or five

453
00:27:28,010 --> 00:27:29,620
sisters, five sisters.

454
00:27:29,620 --> 00:27:30,400
A large family.

455
00:27:30,400 --> 00:27:31,600
A large family.

456
00:27:31,600 --> 00:27:34,110
Did you know most of them?

457
00:27:34,110 --> 00:27:38,380
I knew all but one.

458
00:27:38,380 --> 00:27:43,090
That one lived in Tel Aviv.

459
00:27:43,090 --> 00:27:49,820
By the time I am aware of it,
they had moved to Tel Aviv.

460
00:27:49,820 --> 00:27:52,990
So they were out of harm's way.

461
00:27:52,990 --> 00:27:56,170
Let's, if we can,
go through the list.

462
00:27:56,170 --> 00:27:58,230
What was your father's

name, first name?

463
00:27:58,230 --> 00:27:58,850
Sam.

464
00:27:58,850 --> 00:27:59,350
Sam.

465
00:27:59,350 --> 00:28:00,010
Samuel?

466
00:28:00,010 --> 00:28:01,160
Samuel.

467
00:28:01,160 --> 00:28:01,960
OK.

468
00:28:01,960 --> 00:28:04,450
And the other siblings,
his brothers and sisters?

469
00:28:04,450 --> 00:28:26,390
Asher was-- there was Sonhula,
Miriam, Bella, and Matilda.

470
00:28:26,390 --> 00:28:29,050
Did I forget anyone?

471
00:28:29,050 --> 00:28:31,520
If it comes back later,
we can say it later.

472
00:28:31,520 --> 00:28:32,590
We can interject.

473
00:28:32,590 --> 00:28:38,920
So Matilda was
the one in Israel,

474
00:28:38,920 --> 00:28:42,160
in Palestine at the time.

475

00:28:42,160 --> 00:28:44,150

The others are--

476

00:28:44,150 --> 00:28:45,280

Did the others--

477

00:28:45,280 --> 00:28:46,990

Bella survived.

478

00:28:46,990 --> 00:28:50,430

479

00:28:50,430 --> 00:28:52,020

The others were lost.

480

00:28:52,020 --> 00:28:55,780

481

00:28:55,780 --> 00:28:59,660

Matilda, did she
leave before 1940?

482

00:28:59,660 --> 00:29:00,726

Yeah, before.

483

00:29:00,726 --> 00:29:03,870

484

00:29:03,870 --> 00:29:07,980

I'm not aware of
ever meeting her.

485

00:29:07,980 --> 00:29:12,245

So she must have
left at the time when

486

00:29:12,245 --> 00:29:15,870

either I was very young or
maybe I wasn't even born.

487

00:29:15,870 --> 00:29:18,960

I guess, you know,
because I know

488
00:29:18,960 --> 00:29:24,740
I had a cousin that
was a year older.

489
00:29:24,740 --> 00:29:27,170
I think she was
born in Palestine.

490
00:29:27,170 --> 00:29:28,620
So [INAUDIBLE].

491
00:29:28,620 --> 00:29:31,530

492
00:29:31,530 --> 00:29:35,490
Were any of your father's
siblings or himself--

493
00:29:35,490 --> 00:29:37,350
did they get a higher education?

494
00:29:37,350 --> 00:29:44,040

495
00:29:44,040 --> 00:29:45,090
No.

496
00:29:45,090 --> 00:29:48,570
No, I never--

497
00:29:48,570 --> 00:29:49,930
And your father, also no?

498
00:29:49,930 --> 00:29:50,850
I don't think.

499
00:29:50,850 --> 00:29:53,610
He was self-taught.

500

00:29:53,610 --> 00:29:57,900

So when he came
to Salonika, what

501

00:29:57,900 --> 00:30:04,080

did he do for work and for
being able to make a living?

502

00:30:04,080 --> 00:30:04,980

OK.

503

00:30:04,980 --> 00:30:13,240

He eventually, as far back as
I know he and his older brother

504

00:30:13,240 --> 00:30:18,480

had a store.

505

00:30:18,480 --> 00:30:23,860

They sold knits,
things like that.

506

00:30:23,860 --> 00:30:25,410

And then--

507

00:30:25,410 --> 00:30:27,630

Excuse me, they sold
clothes that were knitted,

508

00:30:27,630 --> 00:30:29,880

or they sold fabric
that was knitted?

509

00:30:29,880 --> 00:30:34,640

510

00:30:34,640 --> 00:30:36,170

Clothes that were knitted.

511

00:30:36,170 --> 00:30:42,110

And then I don't remember
what Asher was doing,

512
00:30:42,110 --> 00:30:48,640
but my father eventually
had a small factory

513
00:30:48,640 --> 00:30:59,900
that made knit things,
like socks, and stockings,

514
00:30:59,900 --> 00:31:02,950
other underwear.

515
00:31:02,950 --> 00:31:11,140
Like haberdashery, is that how
we-- well, in our language,

516
00:31:11,140 --> 00:31:13,780
we call that [NON-ENGLISH].

517
00:31:13,780 --> 00:31:16,800
But, you know, all of these
smaller knitted items,

518
00:31:16,800 --> 00:31:19,450
they kind of come
under one umbrella

519
00:31:19,450 --> 00:31:22,535
whether it's socks,
whether it is underclothes,

520
00:31:22,535 --> 00:31:23,410
and things like that.

521
00:31:23,410 --> 00:31:24,370
I don't know.

522
00:31:24,370 --> 00:31:25,950
But is that the
sort of thing that--

523
00:31:25,950 --> 00:31:30,390

Yeah, that's the sort of
thing he did until the end.

524
00:31:30,390 --> 00:31:32,290
OK.

525
00:31:32,290 --> 00:31:37,210
And how did he meet your mother?

526
00:31:37,210 --> 00:31:43,360

527
00:31:43,360 --> 00:31:49,630
You know, as I told you,
I've written a book.

528
00:31:49,630 --> 00:31:51,570
And I made it up.

529
00:31:51,570 --> 00:31:52,930
I don't know.

530
00:31:52,930 --> 00:31:53,590
You don't know.

531
00:31:53,590 --> 00:31:54,575
You don't know.

532
00:31:54,575 --> 00:31:55,075
OK.

533
00:31:55,075 --> 00:31:56,937
They didn't talk
about this thing.

534
00:31:56,937 --> 00:31:58,645
Do you think it was
an arranged marriage?

535
00:31:58,645 --> 00:32:01,840

536

00:32:01,840 --> 00:32:06,650

Most marriages were arranged.

537

00:32:06,650 --> 00:32:18,260

But I would say very definitely
it was probably arranged,

538

00:32:18,260 --> 00:32:20,740

but it was not enforced.

539

00:32:20,740 --> 00:32:21,610

Forced, OK.

540

00:32:21,610 --> 00:32:23,030

They don't enforce them.

541

00:32:23,030 --> 00:32:24,260

OK.

542

00:32:24,260 --> 00:32:26,360

OK.

543

00:32:26,360 --> 00:32:31,790

And before we talk about
your lives in Salonika,

544

00:32:31,790 --> 00:32:35,780

I want to know now more
about your mother's family.

545

00:32:35,780 --> 00:32:39,900

She comes from Monastir?

546

00:32:39,900 --> 00:32:43,410

Monastir, Vitola
they call it now.

547

00:32:43,410 --> 00:32:48,860

And what kind of a
family did she come from?

548

00:32:48,860 --> 00:32:50,040
OK.

549
00:32:50,040 --> 00:32:54,840
The name suggests
aristocracy, Pardo.

550
00:32:54,840 --> 00:32:57,400
Pardo was her maiden name?

551
00:32:57,400 --> 00:32:57,900
Yes.

552
00:32:57,900 --> 00:33:03,150

553
00:33:03,150 --> 00:33:08,660
There are names in Spanish
that sound like that

554
00:33:08,660 --> 00:33:14,116
and is highfalutin aristocracy,
Prado, for instance.

555
00:33:14,116 --> 00:33:16,580
So I don't what.

556
00:33:16,580 --> 00:33:28,740
So there was, at that time,
very class consciousness.

557
00:33:28,740 --> 00:33:31,710
And I'm sure that my
mother came from a higher--

558
00:33:31,710 --> 00:33:35,140

559
00:33:35,140 --> 00:33:37,590
Higher class than father?

560
00:33:37,590 --> 00:33:40,070

--class than father, yeah.

561
00:33:40,070 --> 00:33:41,930
What was her first name?

562
00:33:41,930 --> 00:33:44,180
Her first name-- Estrea.

563
00:33:44,180 --> 00:33:44,835
Estrea?

564
00:33:44,835 --> 00:33:45,335
Estrea.

565
00:33:45,335 --> 00:33:49,130

566
00:33:49,130 --> 00:33:55,490
The Jews of Salonika
had rules about how

567
00:33:55,490 --> 00:33:57,920
they name their children.

568
00:33:57,920 --> 00:34:01,850

569
00:34:01,850 --> 00:34:05,960
All the males had
biblical names,

570
00:34:05,960 --> 00:34:08,389
all males have biblical names.

571
00:34:08,389 --> 00:34:14,505
Women had biblical names,
but also names from Spain.

572
00:34:14,505 --> 00:34:15,380
My mother was Estrea.

573

00:34:15,380 --> 00:34:18,420

574

00:34:18,420 --> 00:34:23,590

There was another rule
that said the first born

575

00:34:23,590 --> 00:34:28,870

son would take the paternal
grandfather's name.

576

00:34:28,870 --> 00:34:32,710

The firstborn daughter will have
paternal grandmother's name.

577

00:34:32,710 --> 00:34:37,449

The second one will take
the maternal parent's name.

578

00:34:37,449 --> 00:34:42,040

And so which grandfather
are you named after?

579

00:34:42,040 --> 00:34:43,350

My mother's.

580

00:34:43,350 --> 00:34:44,739

OK, so you had an older brother.

581

00:34:44,739 --> 00:34:46,370

I had an older.

582

00:34:46,370 --> 00:34:47,020

OK.

583

00:34:47,020 --> 00:34:49,630

We'll come to your
generation in a minute.

584

00:34:49,630 --> 00:34:52,690

We're still focusing on mama.

585

00:34:52,690 --> 00:34:56,850

So what did her
father do in Monastir?

586

00:34:56,850 --> 00:35:01,900

Her father was a
merchant in Serbia.

587

00:35:01,900 --> 00:35:09,430

By that time, I guess it was
Yugoslavia already formed.

588

00:35:09,430 --> 00:35:16,660

And he had stores in Monastir,
but they had other store

589

00:35:16,660 --> 00:35:19,660

in other towns around there.

590

00:35:19,660 --> 00:35:22,990

And he was--

591

00:35:22,990 --> 00:35:25,050

I don't know what
he was selling.

592

00:35:25,050 --> 00:35:26,725

Do you know his name?

593

00:35:26,725 --> 00:35:27,725

Of course, he was Isaac.

594

00:35:27,725 --> 00:35:28,010

Isaak.

595

00:35:28,010 --> 00:35:28,700

Isaak.

596

00:35:28,700 --> 00:35:30,410

Isaak, of course.

597

00:35:30,410 --> 00:35:31,430

Isaak Pardo.

598
00:35:31,430 --> 00:35:32,690
Yeah.

599
00:35:32,690 --> 00:35:37,250
And how many brothers and
sisters did your mother have?

600
00:35:37,250 --> 00:35:42,970
Mother had three sisters--

601
00:35:42,970 --> 00:35:48,200
oh my, two sisters.

602
00:35:48,200 --> 00:35:51,110
Did you know them?

603
00:35:51,110 --> 00:35:53,730
Yes.

604
00:35:53,730 --> 00:35:58,550
One, Esther, lived in Salonika.

605
00:35:58,550 --> 00:36:10,980
The other, Rachel, I didn't
remember from my childhood.

606
00:36:10,980 --> 00:36:15,400
But I met her later on.

607
00:36:15,400 --> 00:36:16,870
She survived.

608
00:36:16,870 --> 00:36:18,712
I met her in New York.

609
00:36:18,712 --> 00:36:21,670
I was able to--

610
00:36:21,670 --> 00:36:25,090

Well, they might have come
from different social classes.

611
00:36:25,090 --> 00:36:27,160
But from what you're
telling me, they

612
00:36:27,160 --> 00:36:31,420
came from more or less
the same world as far

613
00:36:31,420 --> 00:36:36,370
as making a living, fabrics,
and stores, and clothes,

614
00:36:36,370 --> 00:36:38,800
and merchant, and so on.

615
00:36:38,800 --> 00:36:40,900
Do you think that
had something to do

616
00:36:40,900 --> 00:36:43,750
with them coming together?

617
00:36:43,750 --> 00:36:44,700
Or you don't--

618
00:36:44,700 --> 00:36:47,780
I'm speculating.

619
00:36:47,780 --> 00:36:53,470
As I told you, when it
comes to that, I made it up.

620
00:36:53,470 --> 00:36:57,815
And I made it up.

621
00:36:57,815 --> 00:36:58,315
Yeah.

622
00:36:58,315 --> 00:37:01,480

623

00:37:01,480 --> 00:37:04,750

Did you know your grandparents
on your mother's side?

624

00:37:04,750 --> 00:37:05,470

Yes.

625

00:37:05,470 --> 00:37:07,678

Did you know your grandparents
on your father's side?

626

00:37:07,678 --> 00:37:10,540

Well, my grandmother,
grandfather

627

00:37:10,540 --> 00:37:12,330

had died before I was born.

628

00:37:12,330 --> 00:37:13,670

OK.

629

00:37:13,670 --> 00:37:20,110

And did they continue living
in their respective towns

630

00:37:20,110 --> 00:37:21,610

or had they moved to Salonika?

631

00:37:21,610 --> 00:37:24,808

My maternal grandmother
lived with us.

632

00:37:24,808 --> 00:37:25,600

She lived with you?

633

00:37:25,600 --> 00:37:29,590

With us as far back
as I can remember.

634

00:37:29,590 --> 00:37:36,210

My maternal grandmother
lived this Salonika.

635
00:37:36,210 --> 00:37:43,070
When I was a boy, her
husband moved up and down,

636
00:37:43,070 --> 00:37:46,670
because he had all this
business in Yugoslavia.

637
00:37:46,670 --> 00:37:47,330
OK.

638
00:37:47,330 --> 00:37:52,160
What was your mother's
mother's name, first name?

639
00:37:52,160 --> 00:37:53,390
Do you remember?

640
00:37:53,390 --> 00:37:54,690
Mazel To.

641
00:37:54,690 --> 00:37:55,190
Hmm?

642
00:37:55,190 --> 00:37:56,210
Mazel To.

643
00:37:56,210 --> 00:37:57,830
Mazel To?

644
00:37:57,830 --> 00:37:59,510
I've never heard that name.

645
00:37:59,510 --> 00:38:00,240
Is it a--

646
00:38:00,240 --> 00:38:02,990
It's the Hebrew "mazel tov."

647

00:38:02,990 --> 00:38:05,240

Oh, mazel tov.

648

00:38:05,240 --> 00:38:07,640

Oh my goodness.

649

00:38:07,640 --> 00:38:13,185

And your grandmother
on your father's side?

650

00:38:13,185 --> 00:38:14,550

Esther.

651

00:38:14,550 --> 00:38:15,920

Esther?

652

00:38:15,920 --> 00:38:17,790

So she was Esther Sarfati?

653

00:38:17,790 --> 00:38:20,270

Mm-hmm.

654

00:38:20,270 --> 00:38:24,050

Your other grandmother
is Mazel Tov Pardo.

655

00:38:24,050 --> 00:38:26,480

And your grandfather
on your father's side,

656

00:38:26,480 --> 00:38:27,620

what was his first name?

657

00:38:27,620 --> 00:38:28,740

Azaria.

658

00:38:28,740 --> 00:38:30,100

Azaria?

659

00:38:30,100 --> 00:38:31,765

And so was your

older brother Azaria?

660
00:38:31,765 --> 00:38:34,690
Yes, yes.

661
00:38:34,690 --> 00:38:35,190
OK.

662
00:38:35,190 --> 00:38:38,560

663
00:38:38,560 --> 00:38:43,560
Do you remember the factory
that your father had?

664
00:38:43,560 --> 00:38:44,070
Yeah.

665
00:38:44,070 --> 00:38:45,960
I remember, yeah.

666
00:38:45,960 --> 00:38:48,210
Do remember going there?

667
00:38:48,210 --> 00:38:49,910
I've been there.

668
00:38:49,910 --> 00:38:52,740
I had been there
several times, yeah.

669
00:38:52,740 --> 00:38:54,060
Was it close to your home?

670
00:38:54,060 --> 00:38:59,840

671
00:38:59,840 --> 00:39:02,070
Yes, originally.

672
00:39:02,070 --> 00:39:09,340

Although when the war started,
we moved away from the--

673
00:39:09,340 --> 00:39:14,630
the factory was close to
the center of the city.

674
00:39:14,630 --> 00:39:17,370
We moved away from
the center, because it

675
00:39:17,370 --> 00:39:24,970
seemed to be safer from, I don't
know, air raids or whatever.

676
00:39:24,970 --> 00:39:26,790
But until then, until then?

677
00:39:26,790 --> 00:39:29,690
Yeah, I--

678
00:39:29,690 --> 00:39:33,830
And in your own generation,
we know that you

679
00:39:33,830 --> 00:39:36,200
have an older brother Azaria.

680
00:39:36,200 --> 00:39:39,000
You were born in
1934, is that correct?

681
00:39:39,000 --> 00:39:39,500
Yes.

682
00:39:39,500 --> 00:39:40,940
When was he born?

683
00:39:40,940 --> 00:39:41,710
'29.

684
00:39:41,710 --> 00:39:43,820

1929.

685

00:39:43,820 --> 00:39:46,740

And do you have
any other siblings?

686

00:39:46,740 --> 00:39:47,645

I had.

687

00:39:47,645 --> 00:39:49,100

Ah.

688

00:39:49,100 --> 00:39:52,442

She was lost.

689

00:39:52,442 --> 00:39:56,301

She was born five years--

690

00:39:56,301 --> 00:39:58,879

691

00:39:58,879 --> 00:39:59,462

When was she--

692

00:39:59,462 --> 00:40:00,100

'39.

693

00:40:00,100 --> 00:40:01,700

She was born in 1939.

694

00:40:01,700 --> 00:40:02,680

'39.

695

00:40:02,680 --> 00:40:04,490

And so this was a sister?

696

00:40:04,490 --> 00:40:04,990

Yeah.

697

00:40:04,990 --> 00:40:06,270

And what was her name?

698
00:40:06,270 --> 00:40:07,300
Esther.

699
00:40:07,300 --> 00:40:07,800
Esther?

700
00:40:07,800 --> 00:40:09,160
Of course.

701
00:40:09,160 --> 00:40:12,370
Ah, of course, of course.

702
00:40:12,370 --> 00:40:15,700
Can we cut the
camera for a second?

703
00:40:15,700 --> 00:40:17,080
So did she have a nickname?

704
00:40:17,080 --> 00:40:18,750
It was Nina.

705
00:40:18,750 --> 00:40:19,810
It was Nina.

706
00:40:19,810 --> 00:40:20,860
OK.

707
00:40:20,860 --> 00:40:26,500
So her formal name was Esther,
but everyone knew her as Nina.

708
00:40:26,500 --> 00:40:28,480
So you were really
in the middle,

709
00:40:28,480 --> 00:40:32,651
one sibling five years older,
another one five years younger.

710

00:40:32,651 --> 00:40:33,151
Right.

711
00:40:33,151 --> 00:40:37,270

712
00:40:37,270 --> 00:40:41,530
Where did you live in Salonika
as far as neighborhood?

713
00:40:41,530 --> 00:40:44,410
Did you live in the
Jewish neighborhood?

714
00:40:44,410 --> 00:40:47,250
Was there a Jewish neighborhood?

715
00:40:47,250 --> 00:40:50,270
There was.

716
00:40:50,270 --> 00:40:53,450
We didn't live in a
Jewish neighborhood.

717
00:40:53,450 --> 00:40:57,380
Jewish neighborhoods, there
were a couple of them,

718
00:40:57,380 --> 00:41:02,370
basically slums.

719
00:41:02,370 --> 00:41:14,180
And most Jews that had
means lived dispersed.

720
00:41:14,180 --> 00:41:20,300
I don't think there was a place
as much Jewish as this is,

721
00:41:20,300 --> 00:41:20,890
for instance.

722

00:41:20,890 --> 00:41:22,020
Where you are in Brooklyn?

723
00:41:22,020 --> 00:41:23,150
Yeah.

724
00:41:23,150 --> 00:41:27,230
No, where we lived,
probably we were

725
00:41:27,230 --> 00:41:31,850
the only Jews in the building,
the only Jews in the street.

726
00:41:31,850 --> 00:41:33,060
I don't know.

727
00:41:33,060 --> 00:41:34,000
OK.

728
00:41:34,000 --> 00:41:35,390
But it was integrated then.

729
00:41:35,390 --> 00:41:37,010
It was integrated, yes.

730
00:41:37,010 --> 00:41:38,210
OK.

731
00:41:38,210 --> 00:41:45,050
And do you remember your
home and what it looked like?

732
00:41:45,050 --> 00:41:46,370
And I'm talking pre-war.

733
00:41:46,370 --> 00:41:48,035
I'm talking until
everything changes.

734
00:41:48,035 --> 00:41:50,710

735
00:41:50,710 --> 00:41:53,470
I do not remember pre-war.

736
00:41:53,470 --> 00:41:59,810
I remember the years between
the beginning of the war

737
00:41:59,810 --> 00:42:06,820
and the beginning of the Shoah.

738
00:42:06,820 --> 00:42:15,160
And it was in a nice
neighborhood not in the center,

739
00:42:15,160 --> 00:42:18,940
but close to the outskirts.

740
00:42:18,940 --> 00:42:20,410
Do you still
remember the address?

741
00:42:20,410 --> 00:42:21,760
Yeah.

742
00:42:21,760 --> 00:42:23,410
I remember the
name of the street.

743
00:42:23,410 --> 00:42:24,890
I don't remember number.

744
00:42:24,890 --> 00:42:26,320
Koromila.

745
00:42:26,320 --> 00:42:27,250
Koromila Street.

746
00:42:27,250 --> 00:42:28,520
I don't remember the number.

747

00:42:28,520 --> 00:42:30,340
OK, Koromla Street.

748
00:42:30,340 --> 00:42:31,540
Koromla.

749
00:42:31,540 --> 00:42:32,440
Koromla?

750
00:42:32,440 --> 00:42:33,340
Koromla.

751
00:42:33,340 --> 00:42:35,060
Ah, Koromla.

752
00:42:35,060 --> 00:42:37,240
OK.

753
00:42:37,240 --> 00:42:42,040
I wonder if it still has
that name, that street.

754
00:42:42,040 --> 00:42:46,620
I don't know, because as
government change in Greece

755
00:42:46,620 --> 00:42:50,390
and politics, they change
the name of streets, too.

756
00:42:50,390 --> 00:42:53,630
[LAUGHTER]

757
00:42:53,630 --> 00:42:57,460
It's a European
phenomenon everywhere.

758
00:42:57,460 --> 00:42:59,620
Things change,
street names change.

759
00:42:59,620 --> 00:43:03,700

Governments change, countries
change, street names change.

760
00:43:03,700 --> 00:43:04,810
People get confused.

761
00:43:04,810 --> 00:43:08,230

762
00:43:08,230 --> 00:43:12,310
Often, if you go
back to someplace,

763
00:43:12,310 --> 00:43:15,640
in order to find out whether
it was the street that you knew

764
00:43:15,640 --> 00:43:19,150
you have to find an old person
in that neighborhood who

765
00:43:19,150 --> 00:43:25,100
could remember not
everywhere, but many places.

766
00:43:25,100 --> 00:43:25,970
Right.

767
00:43:25,970 --> 00:43:31,850
I had this experience
not in my hometown,

768
00:43:31,850 --> 00:43:38,240
but going back in
Rhodes, where, if I

769
00:43:38,240 --> 00:43:46,850
asked the name of a local
street, they couldn't tell me.

770
00:43:46,850 --> 00:43:50,080
If I told them the
name of a person,

771
00:43:50,080 --> 00:43:51,830
they would tell
how to get there.

772
00:43:51,830 --> 00:43:52,730
[LAUGHTER]

773
00:43:52,730 --> 00:43:53,630

774
00:43:53,630 --> 00:43:56,750
Isn't that interesting?

775
00:43:56,750 --> 00:44:00,140
I mean, it speaks of
people knowing each other,

776
00:44:00,140 --> 00:44:01,610
not being anonymous.

777
00:44:01,610 --> 00:44:04,780
They don't care about
the name of the street.

778
00:44:04,780 --> 00:44:05,850
It's a small--

779
00:44:05,850 --> 00:44:07,320
Yeah, small places.

780
00:44:07,320 --> 00:44:07,820
--place.

781
00:44:07,820 --> 00:44:11,630

782
00:44:11,630 --> 00:44:12,800
OK.

783
00:44:12,800 --> 00:44:19,370

So in Koromila, can you describe to me your--

784
00:44:19,370 --> 00:44:21,560
it was an apartment that you lived in or a house?

785
00:44:21,560 --> 00:44:25,820

786
00:44:25,820 --> 00:44:28,760
We rented it, but it's a house.

787
00:44:28,760 --> 00:44:35,120
The bottom floor was occupied by the owner,

788
00:44:35,120 --> 00:44:43,120
who was a bishop in a province outside Salonika.

789
00:44:43,120 --> 00:44:48,500
And a caretaker lived there.

790
00:44:48,500 --> 00:44:50,870
So when an Orthodox Christian Bishop?

791
00:44:50,870 --> 00:44:51,575
Yes.

792
00:44:51,575 --> 00:44:52,730
Do you remember his name?

793
00:44:52,730 --> 00:44:58,110

794
00:44:58,110 --> 00:45:01,630
I can't remember the name.

795
00:45:01,630 --> 00:45:04,060
The book, I probably

have it there.

796
00:45:04,060 --> 00:45:06,190
But I can't remember now.

797
00:45:06,190 --> 00:45:07,090
Let's explain this.

798
00:45:07,090 --> 00:45:09,130
You refer to something
that you've written.

799
00:45:09,130 --> 00:45:13,250
Is this a published
book or a manuscript?

800
00:45:13,250 --> 00:45:14,320
It's a manuscript.

801
00:45:14,320 --> 00:45:17,860
And I tried there.

802
00:45:17,860 --> 00:45:19,070
It didn't work out.

803
00:45:19,070 --> 00:45:26,750
So I thought maybe you can--

804
00:45:26,750 --> 00:45:29,510
Whether I can--

805
00:45:29,510 --> 00:45:34,960
--guide me somewhere where
I can try to sell it again.

806
00:45:34,960 --> 00:45:36,800
OK.

807
00:45:36,800 --> 00:45:39,770
Well, often in
interviews, there are

808

00:45:39,770 --> 00:45:44,720
things that come up that can
be used in writing a manuscript

809

00:45:44,720 --> 00:45:47,120
or amending it.

810

00:45:47,120 --> 00:45:48,980
People have used it that way.

811

00:45:48,980 --> 00:45:51,440
We can speak at the
end of the interview

812

00:45:51,440 --> 00:45:53,876
to see if there would be--

813

00:45:53,876 --> 00:45:54,730
OK.

814

00:45:54,730 --> 00:45:59,150
--let's say, a place for
it to have a life in print.

815

00:45:59,150 --> 00:46:02,390
I don't have a direct knowledge,
but we can talk about it.

816

00:46:02,390 --> 00:46:04,980
OK.

817

00:46:04,980 --> 00:46:07,760
But it's interesting that
you wrote something down that

818

00:46:07,760 --> 00:46:11,930
is book length form, because
that means that usually people

819

00:46:11,930 --> 00:46:14,900
have to do research as well
as rely on their memories.

820
00:46:14,900 --> 00:46:16,520
Well, yeah.

821
00:46:16,520 --> 00:46:21,290
I relied on the
memory, my memory,

822
00:46:21,290 --> 00:46:29,750
and the memory of my brother
and cousin who survived.

823
00:46:29,750 --> 00:46:35,240
And we did our best.

824
00:46:35,240 --> 00:46:38,260

825
00:46:38,260 --> 00:46:42,970
And as I said, sometimes
things I didn't know I--

826
00:46:42,970 --> 00:46:44,520
You assumed.

827
00:46:44,520 --> 00:46:45,801
You assumed.

828
00:46:45,801 --> 00:46:46,430
I made it up.

829
00:46:46,430 --> 00:46:48,030
Yeah.

830
00:46:48,030 --> 00:46:55,150
And then I did some research
for the introduction,

831
00:46:55,150 --> 00:46:59,820
which is one thing I
have to work it over.

832
00:46:59,820 --> 00:47:02,160
When did you write
this manuscript?

833
00:47:02,160 --> 00:47:04,000
20 years ago.

834
00:47:04,000 --> 00:47:04,500
OK.

835
00:47:04,500 --> 00:47:07,350
And since we're
doing this in 2019,

836
00:47:07,350 --> 00:47:11,240
that would have been 1999,
sometime around then?

837
00:47:11,240 --> 00:47:11,740
Yeah.

838
00:47:11,740 --> 00:47:14,280

839
00:47:14,280 --> 00:47:18,130
When I retired from
work, I started writing.

840
00:47:18,130 --> 00:47:20,277
Yeah.

841
00:47:20,277 --> 00:47:21,360
That makes a lot of sense.

842
00:47:21,360 --> 00:47:22,740
A lot of people did.

843
00:47:22,740 --> 00:47:26,250
A lot of people
then had the time.

844

00:47:26,250 --> 00:47:29,280

Earlier they hadn't
had the time.

845

00:47:29,280 --> 00:47:31,000

I just wanted to establish that.

846

00:47:31,000 --> 00:47:33,640

And then let's go
back to where we were.

847

00:47:33,640 --> 00:47:39,270

So you lived in this house where
there was a bishop, an Orthodox

848

00:47:39,270 --> 00:47:40,650

Christian Bishop who owned it.

849

00:47:40,650 --> 00:47:42,360

He didn't live there.

850

00:47:42,360 --> 00:47:43,920

He came from time to time

851

00:47:43,920 --> 00:47:44,830

To visit?

852

00:47:44,830 --> 00:47:55,950

But he was bishop in another
province, nearby province.

853

00:47:55,950 --> 00:48:00,280

From time to time, he
came to stay there.

854

00:48:00,280 --> 00:48:03,940

A what do you--

855

00:48:03,940 --> 00:48:05,040

Housekeeper?

856

00:48:05,040 --> 00:48:10,560

Housekeeper, she lived there--

857

00:48:10,560 --> 00:48:11,390

And what about--

858

00:48:11,390 --> 00:48:12,930

--in the basement.

859

00:48:12,930 --> 00:48:16,110

Did anybody else live
in the house besides you

860

00:48:16,110 --> 00:48:19,410

and the housekeeper?

861

00:48:19,410 --> 00:48:22,560

She lived in the basement.

862

00:48:22,560 --> 00:48:24,840

We lived in the main floor.

863

00:48:24,840 --> 00:48:26,910

And there was a
second floor upstairs,

864

00:48:26,910 --> 00:48:32,570

my maternal grandmother.

865

00:48:32,570 --> 00:48:36,930

866

00:48:36,930 --> 00:48:39,490

Did it have a
garden, this house?

867

00:48:39,490 --> 00:48:43,620

A garden and fruit trees--

868

00:48:43,620 --> 00:48:47,150

in fact, there was
real contention

869

00:48:47,150 --> 00:48:53,190

between the housekeeper and
us about who was eating the--

870

00:48:53,190 --> 00:48:54,380

Who gets the fruit?

871

00:48:54,380 --> 00:48:56,440

Who does the fruit belong to?

872

00:48:56,440 --> 00:48:56,940

Yeah.

873

00:48:56,940 --> 00:48:59,730

874

00:48:59,730 --> 00:49:04,740

And so it really was your
family had most of the house.

875

00:49:04,740 --> 00:49:05,910

Yes.

876

00:49:05,910 --> 00:49:11,670

And the housekeeper, who
represented the owner,

877

00:49:11,670 --> 00:49:12,810

lived in the basement?

878

00:49:12,810 --> 00:49:15,180

Yes.

879

00:49:15,180 --> 00:49:18,630

It sounds like your family
was, if not well-to-do,

880

00:49:18,630 --> 00:49:19,860

very comfortable.

881

00:49:19,860 --> 00:49:21,360

Yes, it was.

882
00:49:21,360 --> 00:49:23,680
And would you say even
that financially you

883
00:49:23,680 --> 00:49:25,760
were well-to-do?

884
00:49:25,760 --> 00:49:30,925
You know, were you wealthy
is what I'm asking.

885
00:49:30,925 --> 00:49:31,925
What kind of a wealthy--

886
00:49:31,925 --> 00:49:35,140

887
00:49:35,140 --> 00:49:38,170
we're doing OK, let's
put it this way.

888
00:49:38,170 --> 00:49:39,070
OK.

889
00:49:39,070 --> 00:49:42,230
So I have a couple of questions
that sound a little weird,

890
00:49:42,230 --> 00:49:47,170
but it helps me understand what
does wealth mean at that time

891
00:49:47,170 --> 00:49:49,600
or what is being
well-to-do mean.

892
00:49:49,600 --> 00:49:51,670
Did you have electricity?

893
00:49:51,670 --> 00:49:52,480

Yes.

894

00:49:52,480 --> 00:49:54,380

Did you have indoor plumbing?

895

00:49:54,380 --> 00:49:54,880

Yes.

896

00:49:54,880 --> 00:49:59,320

897

00:49:59,320 --> 00:50:00,460

What kind of heating?

898

00:50:00,460 --> 00:50:02,350

How did you heat the place?

899

00:50:02,350 --> 00:50:13,860

No central heating, individuals
stoves in some of the rooms.

900

00:50:13,860 --> 00:50:18,010

And we fed wood, basically.

901

00:50:18,010 --> 00:50:19,420

Not coal, wood.

902

00:50:19,420 --> 00:50:19,960

Wood, yeah.

903

00:50:19,960 --> 00:50:21,430

Wood.

904

00:50:21,430 --> 00:50:24,175

There was a separate bathroom?

905

00:50:24,175 --> 00:50:25,300

There was a bathroom, yeah.

906

00:50:25,300 --> 00:50:26,470

OK.

907
00:50:26,470 --> 00:50:28,480
Did your father have a car?

908
00:50:28,480 --> 00:50:29,350
No.

909
00:50:29,350 --> 00:50:30,100
OK.

910
00:50:30,100 --> 00:50:31,503
Did you have a radio?

911
00:50:31,503 --> 00:50:33,092
We had a radio.

912
00:50:33,092 --> 00:50:34,390
OK.

913
00:50:34,390 --> 00:50:36,670
Did you have any household help?

914
00:50:36,670 --> 00:50:41,110

915
00:50:41,110 --> 00:50:43,500
We had.

916
00:50:43,500 --> 00:50:49,010
I remember having, yes,
someone coming once in a while.

917
00:50:49,010 --> 00:50:51,320
OK, but not constant, not
like nothing with you?

918
00:50:51,320 --> 00:50:53,300
Not that.

919
00:50:53,300 --> 00:50:59,500
So how did your mother--

920
00:50:59,500 --> 00:51:01,130
did she take care of everything?

921
00:51:01,130 --> 00:51:01,630
Yeah.

922
00:51:01,630 --> 00:51:03,950
Or did she help your
father in the business?

923
00:51:03,950 --> 00:51:06,680
No, she stayed home.

924
00:51:06,680 --> 00:51:07,930
She stayed home.

925
00:51:07,930 --> 00:51:11,580
And so she did the cooking and
the taking care of the children

926
00:51:11,580 --> 00:51:12,880
and all of that?

927
00:51:12,880 --> 00:51:15,380
Well, my grandmother
also lived with us.

928
00:51:15,380 --> 00:51:18,370
This is my paternal grandma.

929
00:51:18,370 --> 00:51:20,140
So she also-- yeah.

930
00:51:20,140 --> 00:51:21,310
OK.

931
00:51:21,310 --> 00:51:26,770
Was that easy for the two
ladies to be in the same home?

932

00:51:26,770 --> 00:51:29,250
I wasn't aware of any problems.

933
00:51:29,250 --> 00:51:30,790
OK.

934
00:51:30,790 --> 00:51:31,900
Sometimes there is.

935
00:51:31,900 --> 00:51:33,235
[LAUGHTER]

936
00:51:33,235 --> 00:51:34,640
I wasn't aware of it.

937
00:51:34,640 --> 00:51:35,230
OK.

938
00:51:35,230 --> 00:51:37,900
There might have been,
but I wasn't aware.

939
00:51:37,900 --> 00:51:43,430
And was your home a happy home?

940
00:51:43,430 --> 00:51:44,820
Yeah, I would say.

941
00:51:44,820 --> 00:51:45,630
Yeah?

942
00:51:45,630 --> 00:51:47,970
Your parents,
there wasn't a kind

943
00:51:47,970 --> 00:51:50,800
of an atmosphere of tension
or anything like that?

944
00:51:50,800 --> 00:51:51,300
No.

945

00:51:51,300 --> 00:51:52,710

No.

946

00:51:52,710 --> 00:51:56,760

Tell me a little bit about their personalities, the grandma,

947

00:51:56,760 --> 00:51:58,890

your father, and your mother.

948

00:51:58,890 --> 00:52:01,440

Let's start with grandma, because she told you stories.

949

00:52:01,440 --> 00:52:04,560

So tell me a little bit about what kind of a person she was.

950

00:52:04,560 --> 00:52:08,400

951

00:52:08,400 --> 00:52:25,690

I can't remember her very well, but she didn't have

952

00:52:25,690 --> 00:52:28,570

any peculiarity that I can say.

953

00:52:28,570 --> 00:52:34,315

I know that my other grandmother complained a lot.

954

00:52:34,315 --> 00:52:37,810

955

00:52:37,810 --> 00:52:38,580

She didn't.

956

00:52:38,580 --> 00:52:44,030

She told stories of [MUMBLING].

957

00:52:44,030 --> 00:52:51,000

She was very good
with the children.

958

00:52:51,000 --> 00:52:54,560

And I don't remember anything--

959

00:52:54,560 --> 00:52:55,785

What kind of stories?

960

00:52:55,785 --> 00:52:56,660

What kind of stories?

961

00:52:56,660 --> 00:53:07,480

Well, would tell about her
husband who died very young.

962

00:53:07,480 --> 00:53:08,700

He got cancer.

963

00:53:08,700 --> 00:53:15,402

I don't remember [MUMBLING]
That's what I remember about,

964

00:53:15,402 --> 00:53:17,430

stories about her husband.

965

00:53:17,430 --> 00:53:18,750

OK.

966

00:53:18,750 --> 00:53:21,780

So it is stories about
her life, because it's

967

00:53:21,780 --> 00:53:24,690

with her husband, things
that she knew about.

968

00:53:24,690 --> 00:53:32,340

And, you know, how
he died, he was sick.

969

00:53:32,340 --> 00:53:36,270
But the doctors didn't
know what it was.

970
00:53:36,270 --> 00:53:42,890
They didn't take good care
of him, things like that.

971
00:53:42,890 --> 00:53:44,690
Did she spend more
time with you,

972
00:53:44,690 --> 00:53:47,673
or did your mother spend
more time with you?

973
00:53:47,673 --> 00:53:48,465
Yeah, both of them.

974
00:53:48,465 --> 00:53:51,090
Both did, OK.

975
00:53:51,090 --> 00:53:57,660
And then tell me about what kind
of personality your father had.

976
00:53:57,660 --> 00:54:02,600
My father was the
personality in the house.

977
00:54:02,600 --> 00:54:03,150
OK.

978
00:54:03,150 --> 00:54:08,835
He was outgoing, very--

979
00:54:08,835 --> 00:54:16,450

980
00:54:16,450 --> 00:54:20,830
he sort of held
the house together.

981
00:54:20,830 --> 00:54:24,020
He was the man.

982
00:54:24,020 --> 00:54:26,060
He was the true head
of household, yeah?

983
00:54:26,060 --> 00:54:31,060

984
00:54:31,060 --> 00:54:33,370
Was he a strict person?

985
00:54:33,370 --> 00:54:34,880
No.

986
00:54:34,880 --> 00:54:37,760
Did he engage with
you as children?

987
00:54:37,760 --> 00:54:39,998
Or was he usually
too busy to do that?

988
00:54:39,998 --> 00:54:42,580
He engaged.

989
00:54:42,580 --> 00:54:43,790
Yeah.

990
00:54:43,790 --> 00:54:46,430
He took us out.

991
00:54:46,430 --> 00:54:51,230
This I remember, that weekends--

992
00:54:51,230 --> 00:54:57,030
well, maybe not weekends, but
Sundays we went out together.

993
00:54:57,030 --> 00:54:59,850

He would take us out.

994
00:54:59,850 --> 00:55:00,800
He had friends.

995
00:55:00,800 --> 00:55:03,510
He had a lot of friends.

996
00:55:03,510 --> 00:55:09,500
And he would go
out with friends.

997
00:55:09,500 --> 00:55:12,070
He would take us along.

998
00:55:12,070 --> 00:55:12,570
OK.

999
00:55:12,570 --> 00:55:15,150

1000
00:55:15,150 --> 00:55:23,490
Was he someone who told you
stories as well or not so much?

1001
00:55:23,490 --> 00:55:25,770
Did he bring you to
the office to show you

1002
00:55:25,770 --> 00:55:28,300
what the factory was like?

1003
00:55:28,300 --> 00:55:30,640
Yes.

1004
00:55:30,640 --> 00:55:32,895
I've been there a few times.

1005
00:55:32,895 --> 00:55:34,920
So I must have gone.

1006

00:55:34,920 --> 00:55:38,520

1007

00:55:38,520 --> 00:55:43,320

And did he have
particular interests?

1008

00:55:43,320 --> 00:55:47,420

1009

00:55:47,420 --> 00:55:48,670

I don't know.

1010

00:55:48,670 --> 00:55:49,170

OK.

1011

00:55:49,170 --> 00:55:50,640

Yes.

1012

00:55:50,640 --> 00:55:52,130

OK.

1013

00:55:52,130 --> 00:55:59,240

Remember, I was nine
years old when I saw him.

1014

00:55:59,240 --> 00:55:59,760

I know.

1015

00:55:59,760 --> 00:56:01,520

I know.

1016

00:56:01,520 --> 00:56:03,380

I'm asking not easy things.

1017

00:56:03,380 --> 00:56:05,390

I know.

1018

00:56:05,390 --> 00:56:08,780

But I want, for the
purposes of our interview,

1019

00:56:08,780 --> 00:56:12,800

to get a sense of
who he was, you know,

1020

00:56:12,800 --> 00:56:16,940

what his presence
was in your life.

1021

00:56:16,940 --> 00:56:21,980

1022

00:56:21,980 --> 00:56:29,450

Well, he was definitely
a very strong presence.

1023

00:56:29,450 --> 00:56:32,410

1024

00:56:32,410 --> 00:56:33,900

I remember those things.

1025

00:56:33,900 --> 00:56:36,770

I remember that we
would go out together.

1026

00:56:36,770 --> 00:56:38,630

I remember sitting at the table.

1027

00:56:38,630 --> 00:56:40,800

And he was smiling.

1028

00:56:40,800 --> 00:56:45,420

He had a pleasant disposition.

1029

00:56:45,420 --> 00:56:49,870

And I remember him
worried also when the--

1030

00:56:49,870 --> 00:56:54,040

you know, at the end.

1031

00:56:54,040 --> 00:56:56,150
I remember him--

1032
00:56:56,150 --> 00:56:57,240
You saw that?

1033
00:56:57,240 --> 00:57:00,590
--worried, yeah.

1034
00:57:00,590 --> 00:57:02,820
I'll come to these things.

1035
00:57:02,820 --> 00:57:04,350
Let's talk about mama.

1036
00:57:04,350 --> 00:57:06,790
What kind of personality
did your mother have?

1037
00:57:06,790 --> 00:57:10,050

1038
00:57:10,050 --> 00:57:17,470
She was a complainer of
sorts, not strict either.

1039
00:57:17,470 --> 00:57:23,395
But she had-- well, I
remember this thing.

1040
00:57:23,395 --> 00:57:26,010

1041
00:57:26,010 --> 00:57:34,290
My brother and my cousin,
who were about the same age,

1042
00:57:34,290 --> 00:57:36,750
they were talking
about a place that

1043
00:57:36,750 --> 00:57:38,520

sells magazines and things.

1044
00:57:38,520 --> 00:57:49,300
And people will lift, will
steal, the magazine and so on.

1045
00:57:49,300 --> 00:57:53,030
And they were bragging
that they did it.

1046
00:57:53,030 --> 00:57:55,545
And I mentioned it to my mother.

1047
00:57:55,545 --> 00:58:00,195
And I thought this was fun
thing, [MUMBLING] my mother.

1048
00:58:00,195 --> 00:58:05,380
And I was impressed the
way she shut me down.

1049
00:58:05,380 --> 00:58:08,770

1050
00:58:08,770 --> 00:58:12,820
So you told your mother
about this kind of bragging

1051
00:58:12,820 --> 00:58:15,140
that your brother
and cousin had done.

1052
00:58:15,140 --> 00:58:18,550
And she got angry with you?

1053
00:58:18,550 --> 00:58:27,676
No, but she said this is
not the thing to brag about,

1054
00:58:27,676 --> 00:58:29,980
not thing to do.

1055

00:58:29,980 --> 00:58:31,880

And do you know if
your brother got a--

1056

00:58:31,880 --> 00:58:38,350

--surprised I remember how
definite she was about it.

1057

00:58:38,350 --> 00:58:41,530

I thought it was so fun.

1058

00:58:41,530 --> 00:58:44,090

Do if your brother
heard about it, too?

1059

00:58:44,090 --> 00:58:45,130

I'm sure he did.

1060

00:58:45,130 --> 00:58:48,420

1061

00:58:48,420 --> 00:58:50,020

Yeah, there are
moments like that

1062

00:58:50,020 --> 00:58:53,100

that stay in a child's mind
because they're so surprising,

1063

00:58:53,100 --> 00:58:53,600

you know?

1064

00:58:53,600 --> 00:58:56,110

1065

00:58:56,110 --> 00:58:59,350

Did she have time for
a social life as well?

1066

00:58:59,350 --> 00:59:02,080

Did she have interests
and friends and things

1067

00:59:02,080 --> 00:59:02,690
that she did?

1068

00:59:02,690 --> 00:59:08,020

1069

00:59:08,020 --> 00:59:19,890
Well, I remember that she was
visiting with her relatives,

1070

00:59:19,890 --> 00:59:21,700
friends, whatever it was.

1071

00:59:21,700 --> 00:59:32,300
And I was bored out of my skin
because I was there alone.

1072

00:59:32,300 --> 00:59:37,780
And I was listening to them
gossiping and things like this.

1073

00:59:37,780 --> 00:59:42,955
And I was so envious of my
brother, was at school already.

1074

00:59:42,955 --> 00:59:44,420
He didn't have to be here.

1075

00:59:44,420 --> 00:59:47,750

1076

00:59:47,750 --> 00:59:49,832
So she took you along as well.

1077

00:59:49,832 --> 00:59:50,540
Well, yeah, sure.

1078

00:59:50,540 --> 00:59:53,370
But it wasn't as much fun.

1079

00:59:53,370 --> 00:59:54,750

Yes, it was fun.

1080
00:59:54,750 --> 00:59:55,250
Yeah.

1081
00:59:55,250 --> 00:59:58,160

1082
00:59:58,160 --> 01:00:01,700
Remind me again, you were born
in September, is that correct?

1083
01:00:01,700 --> 01:00:02,200
July.

1084
01:00:02,200 --> 01:00:03,710
July, excuse me.

1085
01:00:03,710 --> 01:00:06,185
So you're born in July 1934.

1086
01:00:06,185 --> 01:00:06,685
Right.

1087
01:00:06,685 --> 01:00:09,600

1088
01:00:09,600 --> 01:00:14,360
The war starts
September 1, 1939.

1089
01:00:14,360 --> 01:00:16,040
Well, that is--

1090
01:00:16,040 --> 01:00:18,270
That's when Hitler
invades Poland.

1091
01:00:18,270 --> 01:00:21,740
--Europe, but not in Greece.

1092

01:00:21,740 --> 01:00:24,100
Greece is part of Europe.

1093
01:00:24,100 --> 01:00:25,820
Well--

1094
01:00:25,820 --> 01:00:26,940
OK.

1095
01:00:26,940 --> 01:00:32,960
--Greece, the war
started October of 1940.

1096
01:00:32,960 --> 01:00:35,120
OK, I will come to that.

1097
01:00:35,120 --> 01:00:39,590
But the reason I mentioned
1939 is I wonder--

1098
01:00:39,590 --> 01:00:42,860
now, as I ask you this,
I'm asking somebody who

1099
01:00:42,860 --> 01:00:44,630
was five years old at the time.

1100
01:00:44,630 --> 01:00:46,415
So I know that it's
a crazy question.

1101
01:00:46,415 --> 01:00:49,100

1102
01:00:49,100 --> 01:00:54,080
But on September 1, 1939, do
you remember whether or not

1103
01:00:54,080 --> 01:00:56,960
there was any broadcast
over the radio

1104

01:00:56,960 --> 01:00:59,480
that Hitler has invaded Poland?

1105
01:00:59,480 --> 01:01:03,260
Do you remember your parents
talking about things?

1106
01:01:03,260 --> 01:01:05,510
You said your
father got worried.

1107
01:01:05,510 --> 01:01:09,890
I wonder whether the worry
started then or started later.

1108
01:01:09,890 --> 01:01:13,330
I was aware that there
was something going on.

1109
01:01:13,330 --> 01:01:17,090

1110
01:01:17,090 --> 01:01:22,190
I wasn't aware of any war.

1111
01:01:22,190 --> 01:01:27,920
I can't remember what
the reaction was.

1112
01:01:27,920 --> 01:01:30,680
I remember I knew
there was something

1113
01:01:30,680 --> 01:01:32,750
happening in Europe, yeah.

1114
01:01:32,750 --> 01:01:36,880
But I don't think it was--

1115
01:01:36,880 --> 01:01:41,720
yeah, I think there
were concerns.

1116
01:01:41,720 --> 01:01:42,660
I think so.

1117
01:01:42,660 --> 01:01:45,140
I think I can remember that.

1118
01:01:45,140 --> 01:01:49,760
And I know that, if someone
asked me a question from when

1119
01:01:49,760 --> 01:01:52,670
I was five years
old about politics,

1120
01:01:52,670 --> 01:01:54,950
I would say, what would
I know from politics?

1121
01:01:54,950 --> 01:01:59,520
I'm five years old, you
know, or historical events.

1122
01:01:59,520 --> 01:02:02,450
But these were so major.

1123
01:02:02,450 --> 01:02:05,480
And yet they hadn't
affected Greece yet.

1124
01:02:05,480 --> 01:02:09,620
So let's come to when
you say October 1940.

1125
01:02:09,620 --> 01:02:11,315
That's when the war
starts in Greece?

1126
01:02:11,315 --> 01:02:12,380
Yes.

1127
01:02:12,380 --> 01:02:13,700
How does it start?

1128
01:02:13,700 --> 01:02:14,810
What happens?

1129
01:02:14,810 --> 01:02:17,660
Who fights whom?

1130
01:02:17,660 --> 01:02:37,650
Italy, which had occupied
Albania, the way I know it,

1131
01:02:37,650 --> 01:02:43,070
gave an ultimatum to Greece
to allow them to come

1132
01:02:43,070 --> 01:02:45,960
to get certain bases and so on.

1133
01:02:45,960 --> 01:02:48,060
And Greece rejected them.

1134
01:02:48,060 --> 01:02:59,150
So they invaded from Albania
into Epirus, which is the--

1135
01:02:59,150 --> 01:03:02,650
A mountain range?

1136
01:03:02,650 --> 01:03:08,010
It's the area south of Albania.

1137
01:03:08,010 --> 01:03:15,540
But the Greeks fought
back and pushed them back.

1138
01:03:15,540 --> 01:03:21,930
And it was a humiliating
defeat for Mussolini.

1139
01:03:21,930 --> 01:03:23,160
OK.

1140

01:03:23,160 --> 01:03:26,070

So Mussolini hadn't
expected this?

1141

01:03:26,070 --> 01:03:26,670

When he--

1142

01:03:26,670 --> 01:03:31,530

1143

01:03:31,530 --> 01:03:36,420

I guess he expected he
would run it through.

1144

01:03:36,420 --> 01:03:38,010

So the Greeks win.

1145

01:03:38,010 --> 01:03:41,910

In other words, there
is no Axis power

1146

01:03:41,910 --> 01:03:45,680

on Greek territory at that time.

1147

01:03:45,680 --> 01:03:50,882

Not in 1940, no.

1148

01:03:50,882 --> 01:03:51,590

Do you remember--

1149

01:03:51,590 --> 01:03:59,580

Not the winter-- winter 1941,
the Greeks were winning.

1150

01:03:59,580 --> 01:04:02,610

And there were celebrations.

1151

01:04:02,610 --> 01:04:05,320

1152

01:04:05,320 --> 01:04:06,960

They occupied this town.

1153

01:04:06,960 --> 01:04:08,260

They occupied that town.

1154

01:04:08,260 --> 01:04:11,410

And all the towns

had Greek names

1155

01:04:11,410 --> 01:04:21,902

because that was an area

with Greek speaking people.

1156

01:04:21,902 --> 01:04:27,250

I remember the celebrations

that were In Salonika,

1157

01:04:27,250 --> 01:04:33,095

we were outside.

1158

01:04:33,095 --> 01:04:36,290

1159

01:04:36,290 --> 01:04:40,310

People-- meetings.

1160

01:04:40,310 --> 01:04:41,660

There were meetings and things?

1161

01:04:41,660 --> 01:04:42,160

Yeah.

1162

01:04:42,160 --> 01:04:42,750

OK.

1163

01:04:42,750 --> 01:04:45,390

Were there parades?

1164

01:04:45,390 --> 01:04:46,900

I don't remember parades.

1165

01:04:46,900 --> 01:04:51,690
I remember people
gathering in the street

1166
01:04:51,690 --> 01:04:55,220
and shouting and screaming.

1167
01:04:55,220 --> 01:04:57,470
OK.

1168
01:04:57,470 --> 01:05:01,090
Do you remember any
particular radio broadcasts?

1169
01:05:01,090 --> 01:05:01,990
No.

1170
01:05:01,990 --> 01:05:03,230
I don't remember.

1171
01:05:03,230 --> 01:05:06,890
Do you remember how your mother
and father reacted to this news

1172
01:05:06,890 --> 01:05:11,191
that Greece was
beating back Italy?

1173
01:05:11,191 --> 01:05:12,450
No, I can't remember.

1174
01:05:12,450 --> 01:05:13,700
I can't say.

1175
01:05:13,700 --> 01:05:14,200
It's OK.

1176
01:05:14,200 --> 01:05:17,810

1177
01:05:17,810 --> 01:05:20,350
And did this continue?

1178
01:05:20,350 --> 01:05:25,100
Did this kind of
success continue?

1179
01:05:25,100 --> 01:05:34,560
Well, Germany intervened in
the spring, in early spring.

1180
01:05:34,560 --> 01:05:39,310
And they overwhelmed
all the Allied forces

1181
01:05:39,310 --> 01:05:41,300
that were in the area.

1182
01:05:41,300 --> 01:05:44,450
Was it only Greek forces that
were fighting the Italians

1183
01:05:44,450 --> 01:05:45,300
or were there--

1184
01:05:45,300 --> 01:05:46,592
Yeah, it was only Greek forces.

1185
01:05:46,592 --> 01:05:47,840
Only Greeks forces, no Brits?

1186
01:05:47,840 --> 01:05:48,400
No--

1187
01:05:48,400 --> 01:05:49,290
No.

1188
01:05:49,290 --> 01:05:49,790
OK.

1189
01:05:49,790 --> 01:05:53,940

1190

01:05:53,940 --> 01:05:58,253
And then what happened
after they overwhelmed them?

1191
01:05:58,253 --> 01:06:10,210
They overwhelmed-- if
you're asking now what

1192
01:06:10,210 --> 01:06:15,890
the consequences of the Jews
of Salonika when the Germans

1193
01:06:15,890 --> 01:06:19,620
entered, I think one
thing, they occupied the--

1194
01:06:19,620 --> 01:06:23,150
OK, let me put it--

1195
01:06:23,150 --> 01:06:25,850
remember I told you
about the millet system?

1196
01:06:25,850 --> 01:06:26,420
Yes.

1197
01:06:26,420 --> 01:06:31,460
Now, some of the
millet system remained

1198
01:06:31,460 --> 01:06:33,720
after Greece took over.

1199
01:06:33,720 --> 01:06:42,290
So the Jewish community
of Salonika had its own

1200
01:06:42,290 --> 01:06:43,490
semi-official--

1201
01:06:43,490 --> 01:06:48,360

1202
01:06:48,360 --> 01:06:49,510
Status?

1203
01:06:49,510 --> 01:06:50,730
--status.

1204
01:06:50,730 --> 01:06:55,340
It kept records--

1205
01:06:55,340 --> 01:06:57,410
Of who the members are?

1206
01:06:57,410 --> 01:07:00,890
--who are Jews and the--

1207
01:07:00,890 --> 01:07:05,570
so they occupied the
Jewish community.

1208
01:07:05,570 --> 01:07:10,850
They replaced the
people on top of it.

1209
01:07:10,850 --> 01:07:19,000
And then they started
anti-Jewish propaganda.

1210
01:07:19,000 --> 01:07:29,460
They didn't interfere with us
physically until a year later.

1211
01:07:29,460 --> 01:07:30,490
OK.

1212
01:07:30,490 --> 01:07:33,930
There is a question I had
forgotten to ask you earlier.

1213
01:07:33,930 --> 01:07:37,390
And that was, was your family
very religious and observant?

1214
01:07:37,390 --> 01:07:38,800
No.

1215
01:07:38,800 --> 01:07:41,190
Did you go to
synagogue every week?

1216
01:07:41,190 --> 01:07:41,690
No.

1217
01:07:41,690 --> 01:07:44,500

1218
01:07:44,500 --> 01:07:48,200
Did you have Sabbath
every week on Fridays?

1219
01:07:48,200 --> 01:07:48,700
No.

1220
01:07:48,700 --> 01:07:50,080
No.

1221
01:07:50,080 --> 01:07:54,088
Did you see yourselves
as more secular?

1222
01:07:54,088 --> 01:07:56,005
Or your family, your
parents, saw themselves--

1223
01:07:56,005 --> 01:08:07,500
Well, as far as I remember, the
only one that was not secular

1224
01:08:07,500 --> 01:08:10,530
was my grandmother
on my mother's side.

1225
01:08:10,530 --> 01:08:12,460
The complainer?

1226

01:08:12,460 --> 01:08:13,622

Mazel To.

1227

01:08:13,622 --> 01:08:16,330

Yeah.

1228

01:08:16,330 --> 01:08:19,140

Yeah, but her husband was not.

1229

01:08:19,140 --> 01:08:26,770

I think there was a little
bit of a discourse about that.

1230

01:08:26,770 --> 01:08:29,080

But I can't tell for sure.

1231

01:08:29,080 --> 01:08:31,180

OK.

1232

01:08:31,180 --> 01:08:31,820

Did you keep--

1233

01:08:31,820 --> 01:08:39,220

But one thing, there was
a leftover from kashrut

1234

01:08:39,220 --> 01:08:47,290

is that it was never anything
meat early in the day.

1235

01:08:47,290 --> 01:08:51,569

Breakfast, there was
never anything meat.

1236

01:08:51,569 --> 01:08:53,450

So you kept a kosher house?

1237

01:08:53,450 --> 01:08:53,979

No.

1238

01:08:53,979 --> 01:08:54,479

OK.

1239

01:08:54,479 --> 01:08:54,979

No.

1240

01:08:54,979 --> 01:08:56,350

Just that's the only thing?

1241

01:08:56,350 --> 01:08:58,255

That's the thing I remember.

1242

01:08:58,255 --> 01:09:02,390

And it has to do with
the habit of kashrut.

1243

01:09:02,390 --> 01:09:02,890

OK.

1244

01:09:02,890 --> 01:09:04,680

Yeah.

1245

01:09:04,680 --> 01:09:05,939

What is kashrut?

1246

01:09:05,939 --> 01:09:10,319

Tell us what is kashrut
because some people won't know.

1247

01:09:10,319 --> 01:09:15,560

Well, keeping dietary rules.

1248

01:09:15,560 --> 01:09:18,260

So that means the
same thing as kosher?

1249

01:09:18,260 --> 01:09:20,020

That's what I mean, kashrut.

1250

01:09:20,020 --> 01:09:22,069

OK, OK.

1251

01:09:22,069 --> 01:09:23,990
Pardon me, I didn't know that.

1252
01:09:23,990 --> 01:09:27,017
I didn't know that
it was the same,

1253
01:09:27,017 --> 01:09:31,260
the kashrut is the same thing.

1254
01:09:31,260 --> 01:09:36,790
It is the rule of
keeping kosher.

1255
01:09:36,790 --> 01:09:39,680
Of the diet, I understand.

1256
01:09:39,680 --> 01:09:42,660
Can you cut the
camera for a second?

1257
01:09:42,660 --> 01:09:43,520
OK.

1258
01:09:43,520 --> 01:09:48,720
Elaine just mentioned that
you forgot one relative.

1259
01:09:48,720 --> 01:09:53,370
And tell us about your
Uncle David, who is he?

1260
01:09:53,370 --> 01:09:58,590
David was-- there's
something wrong with him.

1261
01:09:58,590 --> 01:10:00,450
I don't know what it was.

1262
01:10:00,450 --> 01:10:07,290
He stayed in a room when
I visited my grandmother.

1263
01:10:07,290 --> 01:10:08,500
Your mother's mother?

1264
01:10:08,500 --> 01:10:10,170
Yeah.

1265
01:10:10,170 --> 01:10:10,760
He would go.

1266
01:10:10,760 --> 01:10:15,870
He smiled and go somewhere
else and then come back,

1267
01:10:15,870 --> 01:10:18,310
stay in the room.

1268
01:10:18,310 --> 01:10:24,420
I don't know what's wrong
with him, but something.

1269
01:10:24,420 --> 01:10:28,830
Was he younger or
older than your mother?

1270
01:10:28,830 --> 01:10:33,085
I believe my mother was the
oldest in the family, yeah.

1271
01:10:33,085 --> 01:10:35,010
OK, of the children.

1272
01:10:35,010 --> 01:10:38,580
So would we say
today that he had

1273
01:10:38,580 --> 01:10:42,060
some developmental disabilities?

1274
01:10:42,060 --> 01:10:44,630
I don't know what it was

1275

01:10:44,630 --> 01:10:46,080
OK.

1276
01:10:46,080 --> 01:10:47,980
All right.

1277
01:10:47,980 --> 01:10:48,630
OK.

1278
01:10:48,630 --> 01:10:54,120
Now, I'd like to ask another
question just about Salonika.

1279
01:10:54,120 --> 01:10:55,710
Was it on the ocean?

1280
01:10:55,710 --> 01:11:00,470
Can you give us a geographical
sense where in Greece it was?

1281
01:11:00,470 --> 01:11:05,890
Salonika is in northern Greece.

1282
01:11:05,890 --> 01:11:09,430
It's a seaport.

1283
01:11:09,430 --> 01:11:11,200
It's very far from the ocean.

1284
01:11:11,200 --> 01:11:13,900

1285
01:11:13,900 --> 01:11:27,250
The closest water is
the Aegean, which is not

1286
01:11:27,250 --> 01:11:28,695
called an ocean and the--

1287
01:11:28,695 --> 01:11:29,720
I was wrong.

1288
01:11:29,720 --> 01:11:32,800
--the Mediterranean,
which is not called an--

1289
01:11:32,800 --> 01:11:34,270
An ocean, OK.

1290
01:11:34,270 --> 01:11:36,720
I was wrong.

1291
01:11:36,720 --> 01:11:38,050
It was really water.

1292
01:11:38,050 --> 01:11:39,110
Was it close to water?

1293
01:11:39,110 --> 01:11:39,790
Yes.

1294
01:11:39,790 --> 01:11:41,080
It is a seaport.

1295
01:11:41,080 --> 01:11:42,490
It is a seaport.

1296
01:11:42,490 --> 01:11:47,920
And how close to borders is it?

1297
01:11:47,920 --> 01:11:57,580
It is close to the
northern border,

1298
01:11:57,580 --> 01:12:00,550
what we call now,
finally settled to be,

1299
01:12:00,550 --> 01:12:02,710
Northern Macedonia.

1300
01:12:02,710 --> 01:12:13,030
It's probably not more than

100 miles from the border.

1301
01:12:13,030 --> 01:12:14,510
But I can't say for sure.

1302
01:12:14,510 --> 01:12:15,010
OK.

1303
01:12:15,010 --> 01:12:18,580
This is a lead up as to
when Germany invaded.

1304
01:12:18,580 --> 01:12:21,010
Did they get to
Salonika really quickly?

1305
01:12:21,010 --> 01:12:23,020
Yes, they get here quickly.

1306
01:12:23,020 --> 01:12:23,830
OK.

1307
01:12:23,830 --> 01:12:26,350
Was this something
that surprised

1308
01:12:26,350 --> 01:12:30,745
Greece, the Greek forces,
the people of Salonika?

1309
01:12:30,745 --> 01:12:33,540

1310
01:12:33,540 --> 01:12:40,820
Well, the way I know is
that at the same time

1311
01:12:40,820 --> 01:12:46,420
the Greek forces
sort of dissolved.

1312
01:12:46,420 --> 01:12:49,500

1313
01:12:49,500 --> 01:12:54,730
The British, they had
some forces in Greece.

1314
01:12:54,730 --> 01:12:57,460
They retreated very fast.

1315
01:12:57,460 --> 01:13:04,360
And the only resistance
worth mentioning

1316
01:13:04,360 --> 01:13:10,921
is in Crete, which
took a great deal of--

1317
01:13:10,921 --> 01:13:15,645
the Germans lost a lot
of forces in Crete.

1318
01:13:15,645 --> 01:13:19,300

1319
01:13:19,300 --> 01:13:25,295
So when they first arrive, the
elders of the Jewish community

1320
01:13:25,295 --> 01:13:25,795
are changed?

1321
01:13:25,795 --> 01:13:28,480

1322
01:13:28,480 --> 01:13:33,710
They occupied the offices.

1323
01:13:33,710 --> 01:13:41,550
They arrested some
functionaries.

1324
01:13:41,550 --> 01:13:50,770

But then they--
no, they didn't--

1325
01:13:50,770 --> 01:13:54,700
I cannot say for sure that--

1326
01:13:54,700 --> 01:13:57,540
I have to look it up--

1327
01:13:57,540 --> 01:14:03,780
that they put other
people in yet.

1328
01:14:03,780 --> 01:14:05,590
Later, they did that.

1329
01:14:05,590 --> 01:14:08,080
They appointed their own people.

1330
01:14:08,080 --> 01:14:11,220
Ah, I see.

1331
01:14:11,220 --> 01:14:13,830
Was your father affected?

1332
01:14:13,830 --> 01:14:16,550
Was his business affected by--

1333
01:14:16,550 --> 01:14:20,250
Not at the moment,
not for being Jewish,

1334
01:14:20,250 --> 01:14:31,010
but there was of a famine
in the winter that followed.

1335
01:14:31,010 --> 01:14:39,990
'41 to '42 was
famine, so long ago.

1336
01:14:39,990 --> 01:14:47,385
My father had to provide

food for his workers.

1337

01:14:47,385 --> 01:14:50,220

1338

01:14:50,220 --> 01:14:51,180

How did he do that?

1339

01:14:51,180 --> 01:14:53,860

1340

01:14:53,860 --> 01:15:04,830

Well, they bartered with
farmers in the vicinity.

1341

01:15:04,830 --> 01:15:08,350

For a period there,
they gathered some food.

1342

01:15:08,350 --> 01:15:14,550

I remember my uncle,
who now lived with us.

1343

01:15:14,550 --> 01:15:17,820

Father's brother?

1344

01:15:17,820 --> 01:15:29,130

My uncle is my oldest aunt's
husband on my father's side

1345

01:15:29,130 --> 01:15:33,540

that I remember was
the cook for the--

1346

01:15:33,540 --> 01:15:36,132

1347

01:15:36,132 --> 01:15:40,250

it was part of the pay was food.

1348

01:15:40,250 --> 01:15:41,260

OK.

1349

01:15:41,260 --> 01:15:45,500

So the way he kept the factory
going was to feed the workers,

1350

01:15:45,500 --> 01:15:47,890

not just pay them,
but feed them.

1351

01:15:47,890 --> 01:15:51,640

Or was it that some of their
salary was in this food?

1352

01:15:51,640 --> 01:15:52,235

I don't know.

1353

01:15:52,235 --> 01:15:53,360

You don't know the details.

1354

01:15:53,360 --> 01:15:55,660

I don't know the arrangement.

1355

01:15:55,660 --> 01:15:58,000

Yeah.

1356

01:15:58,000 --> 01:15:59,920

Do you remember
going hungry at home?

1357

01:15:59,920 --> 01:16:00,420

No.

1358

01:16:00,420 --> 01:16:04,050

1359

01:16:04,050 --> 01:16:08,230

Did you or had you
already started school?

1360

01:16:08,230 --> 01:16:08,730

OK.

1361

01:16:08,730 --> 01:16:14,870

I started school just--

1362

01:16:14,870 --> 01:16:18,500

I must have started school--

1363

01:16:18,500 --> 01:16:21,790

the war started October 28.

1364

01:16:21,790 --> 01:16:24,380

That's the official.

1365

01:16:24,380 --> 01:16:29,050

I must have started
school that September,

1366

01:16:29,050 --> 01:16:32,770

but I don't remember
being in school that long.

1367

01:16:32,770 --> 01:16:37,390

I remember being in
school for a few days,

1368

01:16:37,390 --> 01:16:40,437

and then schools closed.

1369

01:16:40,437 --> 01:16:48,200

They were-- and I went to
school for a while afterwards,

1370

01:16:48,200 --> 01:16:51,730

second grade, a little
while, the third grade.

1371

01:16:51,730 --> 01:16:55,330

And then I didn't go to
school for a long time

1372

01:16:55,330 --> 01:16:59,420

until I was in fifth grade.

1373

01:16:59,420 --> 01:17:02,300

Your brother-- one thing
I forgot to ask about also

1374

01:17:02,300 --> 01:17:06,950

was what kind of an influence
on you did your brother have.

1375

01:17:06,950 --> 01:17:09,770

Was he a big part of your
life when you were this age?

1376

01:17:09,770 --> 01:17:11,400

Yeah.

1377

01:17:11,400 --> 01:17:12,980

Yes, he was.

1378

01:17:12,980 --> 01:17:16,010

Did he tell you about
what's going on?

1379

01:17:16,010 --> 01:17:18,770

Did he explain this
wider world to you?

1380

01:17:18,770 --> 01:17:23,190

1381

01:17:23,190 --> 01:17:29,840

You know, by that
time, my brother--

1382

01:17:29,840 --> 01:17:32,310

my cousin lived
with us, you know.

1383

01:17:32,310 --> 01:17:34,290

I told you about the uncle.

1384

01:17:34,290 --> 01:17:37,040

The one who went with the

magazines with your brother?

1385

01:17:37,040 --> 01:17:37,970

Yeah.

1386

01:17:37,970 --> 01:17:47,100

And the cousin, they
lived in the same house.

1387

01:17:47,100 --> 01:17:59,640

And I remember being with
them, do arithmetic together,

1388

01:17:59,640 --> 01:18:03,335

remember talking about books.

1389

01:18:03,335 --> 01:18:08,820

1390

01:18:08,820 --> 01:18:13,300

They were banished in the
house, because I had--

1391

01:18:13,300 --> 01:18:16,084

1392

01:18:16,084 --> 01:18:18,260

You mean books that
boys shouldn't be

1393

01:18:18,260 --> 01:18:20,060

reading, those kinds of books?

1394

01:18:20,060 --> 01:18:20,870

That--

1395

01:18:20,870 --> 01:18:21,830

OK.

1396

01:18:21,830 --> 01:18:23,930

OK.

1397

01:18:23,930 --> 01:18:25,760

So this isn't
political banishment.

1398

01:18:25,760 --> 01:18:27,440

This is parents
who are censoring

1399

01:18:27,440 --> 01:18:28,560

what the boys could read.

1400

01:18:28,560 --> 01:18:29,060

Yeah.

1401

01:18:29,060 --> 01:18:30,020

Got it.

1402

01:18:30,020 --> 01:18:31,760

All right.

1403

01:18:31,760 --> 01:18:35,370

So there were the three of
you as boys in the house.

1404

01:18:35,370 --> 01:18:35,960

Right.

1405

01:18:35,960 --> 01:18:37,700

OK.

1406

01:18:37,700 --> 01:18:43,310

Did your brother have an idea
himself of what's going on?

1407

01:18:43,310 --> 01:18:45,920

I'm sure they did, both of them.

1408

01:18:45,920 --> 01:18:49,490

1409

01:18:49,490 --> 01:18:56,930

My cousin was an
Italian citizen, which

1410
01:18:56,930 --> 01:19:03,140
bears on what happened next.

1411
01:19:03,140 --> 01:19:07,510
But he had gone to school
the Italian government,

1412
01:19:07,510 --> 01:19:13,610
the fascist government,
had in Salonika.

1413
01:19:13,610 --> 01:19:15,050
He was pro-Italian.

1414
01:19:15,050 --> 01:19:17,900

1415
01:19:17,900 --> 01:19:18,910
What was his name?

1416
01:19:18,910 --> 01:19:24,650
Much of the-- and, yeah,
we talked about the war

1417
01:19:24,650 --> 01:19:33,860
and how the Italians did,
how the Greeks did and so on.

1418
01:19:33,860 --> 01:19:35,600
What was this cousin's name?

1419
01:19:35,600 --> 01:19:36,500
Isaak.

1420
01:19:36,500 --> 01:19:37,190
Also Isaak?

1421
01:19:37,190 --> 01:19:38,000
Yeah.

1422
01:19:38,000 --> 01:19:39,450
And his last name?

1423
01:19:39,450 --> 01:19:40,370
Matalon.

1424
01:19:40,370 --> 01:19:41,960
Matalon.

1425
01:19:41,960 --> 01:19:46,440
And he was the son of your aunt
who was your father's sister?

1426
01:19:46,440 --> 01:19:48,860
Yeah, the older sister.

1427
01:19:48,860 --> 01:19:54,383
The older sister-- and
his father was the cook?

1428
01:19:54,383 --> 01:19:55,050
Is that correct?

1429
01:19:55,050 --> 01:19:56,020
His father was-- yes.

1430
01:19:56,020 --> 01:19:56,780
He was the cook.

1431
01:19:56,780 --> 01:20:00,190
So your aunt's name was
what, her first name?

1432
01:20:00,190 --> 01:20:00,930
Bella.

1433
01:20:00,930 --> 01:20:03,940
Ah, this was Bella,
Bella Matalon.

1434

01:20:03,940 --> 01:20:06,400
And Isaak Matalon, her son.

1435
01:20:06,400 --> 01:20:08,410
And what was the father's name?

1436
01:20:08,410 --> 01:20:09,480
Solomon.

1437
01:20:09,480 --> 01:20:10,060
Solomon.

1438
01:20:10,060 --> 01:20:10,910
Solomon.

1439
01:20:10,910 --> 01:20:14,020
And are all three of them
now Italian citizens?

1440
01:20:14,020 --> 01:20:14,540
Or only--

1441
01:20:14,540 --> 01:20:15,040
Yes.

1442
01:20:15,040 --> 01:20:16,300
All three of them are.

1443
01:20:16,300 --> 01:20:17,420
OK.

1444
01:20:17,420 --> 01:20:20,920
But they live with you
in your home in Salonika?

1445
01:20:20,920 --> 01:20:24,310
And the father helps
out your father

1446
01:20:24,310 --> 01:20:27,230
when it comes to providing
and preparing that food.

1447
01:20:27,230 --> 01:20:27,730
Yes.

1448
01:20:27,730 --> 01:20:28,610
OK.

1449
01:20:28,610 --> 01:20:29,110
I got it.

1450
01:20:29,110 --> 01:20:32,780

1451
01:20:32,780 --> 01:20:35,450
What's the next
thing that happens,

1452
01:20:35,450 --> 01:20:42,393
that stays in your memory, that
kind of changes in your lives?

1453
01:20:42,393 --> 01:20:42,893
OK.

1454
01:20:42,893 --> 01:20:47,330

1455
01:20:47,330 --> 01:20:53,960
One of the things that we were
talking with the older kids

1456
01:20:53,960 --> 01:20:59,840
is read the paper.

1457
01:20:59,840 --> 01:21:06,100
Germans had shut all the papers,
and they publish the thing.

1458
01:21:06,100 --> 01:21:07,310
Nea Evropi.

1459

01:21:07,310 --> 01:21:09,230
New Europe it's called.

1460
01:21:09,230 --> 01:21:19,700
And they started anti-Jewish
propaganda there.

1461
01:21:19,700 --> 01:21:26,670
And there was a thing
that impressed them.

1462
01:21:26,670 --> 01:21:28,200
And they found it funny.

1463
01:21:28,200 --> 01:21:29,360
It wasn't funny.

1464
01:21:29,360 --> 01:21:33,200

1465
01:21:33,200 --> 01:21:38,040
It's a Turkish word, "tsifut."

1466
01:21:38,040 --> 01:21:38,540
Tsifut.

1467
01:21:38,540 --> 01:21:43,340
--which means immigrant?

1468
01:21:43,340 --> 01:21:44,090
Foreigner?

1469
01:21:44,090 --> 01:21:45,320
Stranger?

1470
01:21:45,320 --> 01:21:51,560
Foreigner, something
like that, refugee.

1471
01:21:51,560 --> 01:21:53,060
I'm not quite sure.

1472

01:21:53,060 --> 01:21:59,680

So they called Salonika tsifut.

1473

01:21:59,680 --> 01:22:09,440

Salonik-- that means, I guess,
a reference to Jews coming from

1474

01:22:09,440 --> 01:22:10,580

Spain, tsifut Saloni--

1475

01:22:10,580 --> 01:22:14,860

1476

01:22:14,860 --> 01:22:20,990

And then the word "tsifut"
became a slur for Jews

1477

01:22:20,990 --> 01:22:21,770

in Greek.

1478

01:22:21,770 --> 01:22:31,300

And the Nea Evropi used
this word, tsifut Salonik.

1479

01:22:31,300 --> 01:22:33,575

And they found that
it was very funny.

1480

01:22:33,575 --> 01:22:34,560

Well, it wasn't funny.

1481

01:22:34,560 --> 01:22:35,060

It was--

1482

01:22:35,060 --> 01:22:37,550

Well, yeah.

1483

01:22:37,550 --> 01:22:40,220

It's sort of like they
see it as ridiculous,

1484

01:22:40,220 --> 01:22:43,520
but it has serious
underpinnings.

1485
01:22:43,520 --> 01:22:50,330
You had mentioned earlier that
living under Christian rule

1486
01:22:50,330 --> 01:22:57,590
was not as comfortable as living
under Islamic, in those days

1487
01:22:57,590 --> 01:22:59,930
the Turkish, rule.

1488
01:22:59,930 --> 01:23:03,710
Had there been antisemitism
in this new Greece

1489
01:23:03,710 --> 01:23:09,150
from the early 1920s and 1930s?

1490
01:23:09,150 --> 01:23:10,360
Yeah.

1491
01:23:10,360 --> 01:23:11,000
There was.

1492
01:23:11,000 --> 01:23:18,420

1493
01:23:18,420 --> 01:23:19,030
Yeah.

1494
01:23:19,030 --> 01:23:22,000
I would say yes.

1495
01:23:22,000 --> 01:23:23,990
Can you give me examples?

1496
01:23:23,990 --> 01:23:25,960
But this is before

the Germans come.

1497

01:23:25,960 --> 01:23:29,730

1498

01:23:29,730 --> 01:23:35,940

I can't tell you that
serious things happened,

1499

01:23:35,940 --> 01:23:44,520

but I can tell you that
probably somebody will

1500

01:23:44,520 --> 01:23:49,980

say a word, dirty Jew
or something like that.

1501

01:23:49,980 --> 01:23:55,680

And it went both ways.

1502

01:23:55,680 --> 01:24:00,060

The Jews of Salonika were
not found of the Greeks.

1503

01:24:00,060 --> 01:24:01,910

The Greeks--

1504

01:24:01,910 --> 01:24:04,340

OK.

1505

01:24:04,340 --> 01:24:08,300

But it was not on a state
institutional level.

1506

01:24:08,300 --> 01:24:08,940

Or was it?

1507

01:24:08,940 --> 01:24:09,940

No.

1508

01:24:09,940 --> 01:24:11,760

OK.

1509
01:24:11,760 --> 01:24:19,640
Well, I don't know.

1510
01:24:19,640 --> 01:24:24,290
I would say there were,
let's say, Jewish cops,

1511
01:24:24,290 --> 01:24:27,020
I don't think there were any.

1512
01:24:27,020 --> 01:24:32,190
I was thinking they
were not in the army.

1513
01:24:32,190 --> 01:24:42,170
Although my cousin married
a woman whose uncle was

1514
01:24:42,170 --> 01:24:44,110
an officer in the Greek army.

1515
01:24:44,110 --> 01:24:46,460
So that-- I know.

1516
01:24:46,460 --> 01:24:48,260
An officer, he died.

1517
01:24:48,260 --> 01:24:52,525
He was killed early in
the war and honored.

1518
01:24:52,525 --> 01:24:55,190

1519
01:24:55,190 --> 01:24:58,980
Well, what you're mentioning
are important markers.

1520
01:24:58,980 --> 01:25:03,320
That is would Jews be accepted
in the civil administration?

1521
01:25:03,320 --> 01:25:05,960
Would they be accepted
into the armed forces?

1522
01:25:05,960 --> 01:25:10,580
Can they be government
ministers, things like that?

1523
01:25:10,580 --> 01:25:11,975
I don't believe there--

1524
01:25:11,975 --> 01:25:17,520
I mean, that is the
only person I know of.

1525
01:25:17,520 --> 01:25:21,980

1526
01:25:21,980 --> 01:25:26,960
He was a captain in the army.

1527
01:25:26,960 --> 01:25:32,225
He was killed early in the war.

1528
01:25:32,225 --> 01:25:36,900
And he was honored as a hero.

1529
01:25:36,900 --> 01:25:37,948
OK.

1530
01:25:37,948 --> 01:25:49,610
But I wouldn't think that
there were Jews in high places.

1531
01:25:49,610 --> 01:25:50,660
OK.

1532
01:25:50,660 --> 01:25:55,790
So you see, another
thing that is, was there,

1533

01:25:55,790 --> 01:25:59,180
in Greek, a word
that was derogatory

1534

01:25:59,180 --> 01:26:03,180
for Jew before tsifut appears?

1535

01:26:03,180 --> 01:26:03,680
Yeah.

1536

01:26:03,680 --> 01:26:09,500
That word tsifut was a
derogatory word for Jews.

1537

01:26:09,500 --> 01:26:12,740
But had it appeared, had
it been used, before?

1538

01:26:12,740 --> 01:26:13,520
Yes.

1539

01:26:13,520 --> 01:26:14,125
OK.

1540

01:26:14,125 --> 01:26:15,490
Yeah, it was--

1541

01:26:15,490 --> 01:26:19,440
OK, so that was not something
that this new newspaper--

1542

01:26:19,440 --> 01:26:19,940
No.

1543

01:26:19,940 --> 01:26:22,190
--discovers or creates.

1544

01:26:22,190 --> 01:26:23,010
It had been around.

1545

01:26:23,010 --> 01:26:23,510

Yeah.

1546

01:26:23,510 --> 01:26:25,250

The word has been around, yeah.

1547

01:26:25,250 --> 01:26:26,610

OK.

1548

01:26:26,610 --> 01:26:32,660

And the purpose is
to let everyone know

1549

01:26:32,660 --> 01:26:34,730

that this is a foreign element.

1550

01:26:34,730 --> 01:26:36,170

This is a strange element.

1551

01:26:36,170 --> 01:26:40,130

This is not part
of Greek society.

1552

01:26:40,130 --> 01:26:45,200

These are people who
are outside of it.

1553

01:26:45,200 --> 01:26:47,990

1554

01:26:47,990 --> 01:26:53,330

The whole part of the
Shoah of being implemented

1555

01:26:53,330 --> 01:26:55,790

is that there are
steps that are taken.

1556

01:26:55,790 --> 01:26:58,580

And one of the first
steps is isolation.

1557

01:26:58,580 --> 01:27:04,490

And one of the ways of isolating
is to distinguish the other

1558
01:27:04,490 --> 01:27:07,380
from the society.

1559
01:27:07,380 --> 01:27:08,576
Yeah.

1560
01:27:08,576 --> 01:27:14,880
But the distinction,
as I said before,

1561
01:27:14,880 --> 01:27:26,090
was the inheritance of the
system that preceded it,

1562
01:27:26,090 --> 01:27:27,248
this separation of--

1563
01:27:27,248 --> 01:27:27,790
That's right.

1564
01:27:27,790 --> 01:27:29,207
That's this millet
you mentioned.

1565
01:27:29,207 --> 01:27:29,790
--ethnicities.

1566
01:27:29,790 --> 01:27:30,290
Yeah.

1567
01:27:30,290 --> 01:27:34,430

1568
01:27:34,430 --> 01:27:39,800
You know, the Jews of Salonika
were a lot more separate

1569
01:27:39,800 --> 01:27:44,690
from the rest of the

Greeks than the Jews

1570

01:27:44,690 --> 01:27:50,810
of other places,
who spoke Greek, who

1571

01:27:50,810 --> 01:27:54,980
were smaller part of the thing.

1572

01:27:54,980 --> 01:27:59,130
And they were more
accepted than--

1573

01:27:59,130 --> 01:28:01,670
So when you say the
Jews of other places,

1574

01:28:01,670 --> 01:28:03,020
you mean within Greece itself?

1575

01:28:03,020 --> 01:28:03,840
Yeah.

1576

01:28:03,840 --> 01:28:08,195
So Salonika Jews were already
distinct, already different?

1577

01:28:08,195 --> 01:28:09,260
Yes.

1578

01:28:09,260 --> 01:28:10,370
OK.

1579

01:28:10,370 --> 01:28:15,050
So this is just
emphasizing that more?

1580

01:28:15,050 --> 01:28:16,400
All right.

1581

01:28:16,400 --> 01:28:20,360
So after your brother and

your cousin laugh at that,

1582

01:28:20,360 --> 01:28:22,590

what's the next

thing you remember?

1583

01:28:22,590 --> 01:28:34,100

Then the next thing was an

order given to all Jewish men,

1584

01:28:34,100 --> 01:28:42,650

oh, I don't know, 18 to 50

will have to present themselves

1585

01:28:42,650 --> 01:28:43,530

in a square.

1586

01:28:43,530 --> 01:28:46,670

It was called

Platia Eleftherias,

1587

01:28:46,670 --> 01:28:49,670

a square in downtown Salonika.

1588

01:28:49,670 --> 01:28:51,500

What is it called again?

1589

01:28:51,500 --> 01:28:53,100

Efth-- could you say--

1590

01:28:53,100 --> 01:28:54,740

Platia Eleftherias.

1591

01:28:54,740 --> 01:28:56,200

Plate Eftherias?

1592

01:28:56,200 --> 01:28:57,530

Eleftherias.

1593

01:28:57,530 --> 01:28:58,210

Eleftherias.

1594
01:28:58,210 --> 01:29:01,610
--which means Liberty Square.

1595
01:29:01,610 --> 01:29:03,330
How ironic.

1596
01:29:03,330 --> 01:29:04,280
How ironic.

1597
01:29:04,280 --> 01:29:06,290
OK.

1598
01:29:06,290 --> 01:29:16,130
And everybody who
was that age, nothing

1599
01:29:16,130 --> 01:29:19,160
happened except they
kept them whole day.

1600
01:29:19,160 --> 01:29:20,240
Your father went?

1601
01:29:20,240 --> 01:29:22,460
My father went.

1602
01:29:22,460 --> 01:29:30,710
One cousin, Asher's
son, also went.

1603
01:29:30,710 --> 01:29:34,470
He was old enough.

1604
01:29:34,470 --> 01:29:37,510
And my father was young enough.

1605
01:29:37,510 --> 01:29:39,560
So they went.

1606
01:29:39,560 --> 01:29:40,670
They kept them all day.

1607
01:29:40,670 --> 01:29:44,120
And then they were released.

1608
01:29:44,120 --> 01:29:46,620
But they didn't register
them or anything like that?

1609
01:29:46,620 --> 01:29:50,420
I don't believe they
did any of these thing.

1610
01:29:50,420 --> 01:29:56,933
They were kept in an
open space all day.

1611
01:29:56,933 --> 01:29:57,933
And then there released.

1612
01:29:57,933 --> 01:29:59,830
That sounds kind of bizarre.

1613
01:29:59,830 --> 01:30:03,490
I don't think there
was anything, you know.

1614
01:30:03,490 --> 01:30:06,908
Oh, did life at
school change for you?

1615
01:30:06,908 --> 01:30:08,200
Were you still going to school?

1616
01:30:08,200 --> 01:30:09,190
And did things change?

1617
01:30:09,190 --> 01:30:18,622
Well, no, I went to school,
but the school was not open.

1618
01:30:18,622 --> 01:30:27,370
Well, I remember going back to

school for a short time not--

1619
01:30:27,370 --> 01:30:35,250
because for some reason all
the schools were closed.

1620
01:30:35,250 --> 01:30:51,440
And then, of course, in
1943, the things started.

1621
01:30:51,440 --> 01:30:56,000
So is it around this time when
your father goes to the square

1622
01:30:56,000 --> 01:30:58,760
and then is released,
is it around then

1623
01:30:58,760 --> 01:31:01,390
that he starts looking worried?

1624
01:31:01,390 --> 01:31:03,040
Or had that already
been going on?

1625
01:31:03,040 --> 01:31:04,000
Yeah.

1626
01:31:04,000 --> 01:31:06,040
I think he was
worried before that.

1627
01:31:06,040 --> 01:31:09,250

1628
01:31:09,250 --> 01:31:13,190
Did he still have a
cheerful manner or no more?

1629
01:31:13,190 --> 01:31:14,320
Yeah, he had.

1630

01:31:14,320 --> 01:31:15,310
He did.

1631
01:31:15,310 --> 01:31:18,700
He went to work.

1632
01:31:18,700 --> 01:31:20,530
He kept going.

1633
01:31:20,530 --> 01:31:22,420
How old was he at this time?

1634
01:31:22,420 --> 01:31:25,710
When was the date of
his birth, your father?

1635
01:31:25,710 --> 01:31:26,210
OK.

1636
01:31:26,210 --> 01:31:29,320

1637
01:31:29,320 --> 01:31:33,230
Officially, it was 1900.

1638
01:31:33,230 --> 01:31:35,130
I think he was a little
younger than that.

1639
01:31:35,130 --> 01:31:41,310

1640
01:31:41,310 --> 01:31:48,930
Again, 1900 was
still Turkish rule.

1641
01:31:48,930 --> 01:31:52,800
I think somehow he
made himself older

1642
01:31:52,800 --> 01:31:58,980
to avoid the draft

into the Turkish army.

1643
01:31:58,980 --> 01:32:07,520
So in 1943, officially
he was 43 years old.

1644
01:32:07,520 --> 01:32:11,380
He could have been
maybe 40 years old.

1645
01:32:11,380 --> 01:32:12,840
He's still a young man.

1646
01:32:12,840 --> 01:32:13,400
Yeah.

1647
01:32:13,400 --> 01:32:14,280
He's a young man.

1648
01:32:14,280 --> 01:32:16,290
And your mother,
when was she born?

1649
01:32:16,290 --> 01:32:17,290
Do you know?

1650
01:32:17,290 --> 01:32:22,073

1651
01:32:22,073 --> 01:32:22,573
OK.

1652
01:32:22,573 --> 01:32:25,471

1653
01:32:25,471 --> 01:32:28,080
1903.

1654
01:32:28,080 --> 01:32:30,060
1903.

1655

01:32:30,060 --> 01:32:31,040
1903.

1656
01:32:31,040 --> 01:32:31,690
OK.

1657
01:32:31,690 --> 01:32:32,723
Elaine said.

1658
01:32:32,723 --> 01:32:36,560
OK, 1903-- also a young woman.

1659
01:32:36,560 --> 01:32:38,920
Yeah.

1660
01:32:38,920 --> 01:32:45,910
All right, so this
kind of requirement

1661
01:32:45,910 --> 01:32:52,290
to come to that square,
that was in 1942?

1662
01:32:52,290 --> 01:32:54,000
I believe so.

1663
01:32:54,000 --> 01:32:55,000
OK, OK.

1664
01:32:55,000 --> 01:32:57,510
I have to check it out.

1665
01:32:57,510 --> 01:33:00,630
And what's the next thing that
happens that changes life?

1666
01:33:00,630 --> 01:33:03,210

1667
01:33:03,210 --> 01:33:07,920
I know that then
some of the young men

1668

01:33:07,920 --> 01:33:16,530
were drafted into forced labor
and that the community sort of

1669

01:33:16,530 --> 01:33:23,800
negotiated by giving money and
part of the Jewish cemetery

1670

01:33:23,800 --> 01:33:25,050
for the release.

1671

01:33:25,050 --> 01:33:27,290
And they were released.

1672

01:33:27,290 --> 01:33:28,785
It was not in my experiences.

1673

01:33:28,785 --> 01:33:31,860
This is just what
I read afterwards.

1674

01:33:31,860 --> 01:33:38,670
And the next thing
was when we were

1675

01:33:38,670 --> 01:33:40,980
made to move into a ghetto.

1676

01:33:40,980 --> 01:33:43,620

1677

01:33:43,620 --> 01:33:46,600
And tell me about that transfer.

1678

01:33:46,600 --> 01:33:47,100
OK.

1679

01:33:47,100 --> 01:33:51,680

1680

01:33:51,680 --> 01:33:59,000
As I said, there were certain
areas, basically slums, Jewish.

1681
01:33:59,000 --> 01:34:06,980
And the periphery of this,
really there were more Jewish.

1682
01:34:06,980 --> 01:34:12,640
This became the three
different areas in Salonika.

1683
01:34:12,640 --> 01:34:18,170
They became places
where Jews can live.

1684
01:34:18,170 --> 01:34:20,160
We were outside.

1685
01:34:20,160 --> 01:34:26,320
My uncle who lived with
us was Italian citizen.

1686
01:34:26,320 --> 01:34:27,675
He didn't have to move.

1687
01:34:27,675 --> 01:34:28,550
He didn't have to go.

1688
01:34:28,550 --> 01:34:29,570
No.

1689
01:34:29,570 --> 01:34:36,290
So we moved in a
place very near where

1690
01:34:36,290 --> 01:34:39,680
he used to live before the war.

1691
01:34:39,680 --> 01:34:42,120
He stayed in the
house on Koromila.

1692

01:34:42,120 --> 01:34:43,850

But this is interesting.

1693

01:34:43,850 --> 01:34:46,850

Because he is an
Italian citizen,

1694

01:34:46,850 --> 01:34:56,270

he has more freedom being a
citizen of a fascist country

1695

01:34:56,270 --> 01:34:58,850

than you as occupied.

1696

01:34:58,850 --> 01:35:01,700

But I would have thought
that, in Germany,

1697

01:35:01,700 --> 01:35:04,340

the first ones to go are
the German Jews, you know.

1698

01:35:04,340 --> 01:35:06,770

And in Italy, it's not the same.

1699

01:35:06,770 --> 01:35:13,890

No, neither in other
fascist country.

1700

01:35:13,890 --> 01:35:18,540

Spain also protected Jews.

1701

01:35:18,540 --> 01:35:25,600

I know of another young man,
who had Spanish citizenship.

1702

01:35:25,600 --> 01:35:27,676

And he was free.

1703

01:35:27,676 --> 01:35:29,050

OK.

1704

01:35:29,050 --> 01:35:35,850

So how is it that Uncle
Matalon and Bella and their son

1705

01:35:35,850 --> 01:35:37,260

had Italian citizenship?

1706

01:35:37,260 --> 01:35:39,770

Was he from Italy?

1707

01:35:39,770 --> 01:35:45,565

Well, again, this is folklore.

1708

01:35:45,565 --> 01:35:48,660

1709

01:35:48,660 --> 01:35:51,650

His father had a lot of sons.

1710

01:35:51,650 --> 01:35:58,830

And the Turkish army--

1711

01:35:58,830 --> 01:36:02,100

Ottoman army would
conscript them.

1712

01:36:02,100 --> 01:36:05,340

1713

01:36:05,340 --> 01:36:12,300

You could ransom them, but
he couldn't afford to ransom.

1714

01:36:12,300 --> 01:36:17,940

Instead, he went to Istanbul
into the Italian consulate

1715

01:36:17,940 --> 01:36:20,743

and bought citizenship.

1716

01:36:20,743 --> 01:36:21,670

No kidding.

1717
01:36:21,670 --> 01:36:25,290
That's the story.

1718
01:36:25,290 --> 01:36:26,700
Oh my.

1719
01:36:26,700 --> 01:36:28,532
So you can buy citizenship.

1720
01:36:28,532 --> 01:36:29,490
Isn't that interesting?

1721
01:36:29,490 --> 01:36:30,540
Right.

1722
01:36:30,540 --> 01:36:33,130
You know-- of certain countries.

1723
01:36:33,130 --> 01:36:34,408
Things happened there.

1724
01:36:34,408 --> 01:36:36,360
Yeah.

1725
01:36:36,360 --> 01:36:37,960
That's the story.

1726
01:36:37,960 --> 01:36:39,090
OK, OK.

1727
01:36:39,090 --> 01:36:43,050
But true or not,
it's interesting

1728
01:36:43,050 --> 01:36:45,840
that that's the version
that was circulating.

1729
01:36:45,840 --> 01:36:48,220

That's the explanation
that you had.

1730
01:36:48,220 --> 01:36:50,070
And at that point,
it makes a difference

1731
01:36:50,070 --> 01:36:52,590
in the lives of Mr.
Matalon and his family.

1732
01:36:52,590 --> 01:36:54,030
Yes.

1733
01:36:54,030 --> 01:36:54,840
OK.

1734
01:36:54,840 --> 01:36:57,210
So you are all moved
into the ghetto.

1735
01:36:57,210 --> 01:37:00,330
He stays in your old
house or the place

1736
01:37:00,330 --> 01:37:05,310
that you live, you know, that is
the second floor of this house

1737
01:37:05,310 --> 01:37:06,150
that you're renting.

1738
01:37:06,150 --> 01:37:07,025
Well, it was a house.

1739
01:37:07,025 --> 01:37:09,440
Yeah.

1740
01:37:09,440 --> 01:37:12,060
What do your new quarters
look like in the ghetto?

1741

01:37:12,060 --> 01:37:14,830

1742

01:37:14,830 --> 01:37:17,563

I can't remember them very well.

1743

01:37:17,563 --> 01:37:19,440

It was OK.

1744

01:37:19,440 --> 01:37:23,420

And it was five of
you who moved or more?

1745

01:37:23,420 --> 01:37:23,920

OK.

1746

01:37:23,920 --> 01:37:26,910

1747

01:37:26,910 --> 01:37:28,530

Yes, the five of us.

1748

01:37:28,530 --> 01:37:31,320

1749

01:37:31,320 --> 01:37:33,450

My grandmother must
have moved, too.

1750

01:37:33,450 --> 01:37:36,760

So six-- the three
children and three adults.

1751

01:37:36,760 --> 01:37:37,260

Yeah.

1752

01:37:37,260 --> 01:37:38,700

We had enough room.

1753

01:37:38,700 --> 01:37:40,850

There was no problem like that.

1754
01:37:40,850 --> 01:37:42,280
OK.

1755
01:37:42,280 --> 01:37:44,880
And was this the
first time that you're

1756
01:37:44,880 --> 01:37:50,140
living in entirely a
Jewish surrounding?

1757
01:37:50,140 --> 01:37:54,680
Well, it was not entirely
Jewish surrounding.

1758
01:37:54,680 --> 01:37:59,220
It was restricted for the
Jews, but people lived there

1759
01:37:59,220 --> 01:38:01,080
that were not Jewish.

1760
01:38:01,080 --> 01:38:02,070
Oh.

1761
01:38:02,070 --> 01:38:05,310
So was it circled
with barbed wire?

1762
01:38:05,310 --> 01:38:07,860

1763
01:38:07,860 --> 01:38:09,240
No.

1764
01:38:09,240 --> 01:38:11,610
It was blocked.

1765
01:38:11,610 --> 01:38:13,905
There were guards at the--

1766

01:38:13,905 --> 01:38:16,370
but you can go through.

1767
01:38:16,370 --> 01:38:16,870
I see.

1768
01:38:16,870 --> 01:38:17,920
There's no barbed wire.

1769
01:38:17,920 --> 01:38:21,990
There was no barbed
wire, but the street--

1770
01:38:21,990 --> 01:38:24,030
But people who were
Gentile could still

1771
01:38:24,030 --> 01:38:25,410
live in that ghetto area?

1772
01:38:25,410 --> 01:38:26,680
Still did, yeah.

1773
01:38:26,680 --> 01:38:27,600
OK.

1774
01:38:27,600 --> 01:38:29,830
Could Jews leave
that ghetto area?

1775
01:38:29,830 --> 01:38:30,330
No.

1776
01:38:30,330 --> 01:38:30,990
You couldn't.

1777
01:38:30,990 --> 01:38:31,490
OK.

1778
01:38:31,490 --> 01:38:33,750
So--

1779

01:38:33,750 --> 01:38:37,260

The beginning, they could
live during the day.

1780

01:38:37,260 --> 01:38:40,200

And then that was
restricted of also.

1781

01:38:40,200 --> 01:38:43,200

So is it at this point that
your father loses his business,

1782

01:38:43,200 --> 01:38:44,295

Or had he lost it before?

1783

01:38:44,295 --> 01:38:46,890

1784

01:38:46,890 --> 01:38:49,432

At this point, yeah.

1785

01:38:49,432 --> 01:38:53,250

He loses his business.

1786

01:38:53,250 --> 01:38:56,480

The business went
to a receiver which

1787

01:38:56,480 --> 01:38:59,350

is a collaborator or something.

1788

01:38:59,350 --> 01:39:03,180

1789

01:39:03,180 --> 01:39:09,200

And how does your life
change in that ghetto?

1790

01:39:09,200 --> 01:39:14,680

Well, not much, but
was a short time.

1791

01:39:14,680 --> 01:39:15,200

OK.

1792

01:39:15,200 --> 01:39:19,580

What does that mean, short time?

1793

01:39:19,580 --> 01:39:30,750

All right, soon after
that, this is what we did.

1794

01:39:30,750 --> 01:39:35,730

My sister, who was
4 years old and I,

1795

01:39:35,730 --> 01:39:37,270

were adopted by the Matalons.

1796

01:39:37,270 --> 01:39:40,660

1797

01:39:40,660 --> 01:39:43,390

And the reason?

1798

01:39:43,390 --> 01:39:45,786

The vision was to--

1799

01:39:45,786 --> 01:39:49,210

we would be protected
if they were adopted.

1800

01:39:49,210 --> 01:39:50,360

Oh, so you would get--

1801

01:39:50,360 --> 01:39:51,730

We'd be Italian citizens.

1802

01:39:51,730 --> 01:39:52,682

We'd be protected.

1803

01:39:52,682 --> 01:39:53,640

That's what we thought.

1804
01:39:53,640 --> 01:39:54,404
That would work.

1805
01:39:54,404 --> 01:39:55,170
OK.

1806
01:39:55,170 --> 01:39:58,620
And why not your
older brother, too?

1807
01:39:58,620 --> 01:40:03,300
Well, they thought he was
too old, better not to.

1808
01:40:03,300 --> 01:40:09,030
And then we moved
back to our house.

1809
01:40:09,030 --> 01:40:10,690
The two of you?

1810
01:40:10,690 --> 01:40:12,930
The two of us--

1811
01:40:12,930 --> 01:40:20,250
and we said goodbye to my
parents and Asher, my brother.

1812
01:40:20,250 --> 01:40:25,360
And I didn't see them
until we went to Athens.

1813
01:40:25,360 --> 01:40:25,860
OK.

1814
01:40:25,860 --> 01:40:29,473

1815
01:40:29,473 --> 01:40:31,140
How long did you live
with the Matalons?

1816
01:40:31,140 --> 01:40:34,400

1817
01:40:34,400 --> 01:40:36,160
I can't tell for sure.

1818
01:40:36,160 --> 01:40:37,110
OK.

1819
01:40:37,110 --> 01:40:38,810
Did it work, this adoption?

1820
01:40:38,810 --> 01:40:39,310
No.

1821
01:40:39,310 --> 01:40:40,110
Did it work?

1822
01:40:40,110 --> 01:40:41,867
It didn't work.

1823
01:40:41,867 --> 01:40:42,450
What happened?

1824
01:40:42,450 --> 01:40:52,240

1825
01:40:52,240 --> 01:40:57,510
The thing is they thought
that I was at risk.

1826
01:40:57,510 --> 01:40:59,550
Nina was too young.

1827
01:40:59,550 --> 01:41:01,590
They wouldn't bother with her.

1828
01:41:01,590 --> 01:41:08,370
So a friend of my
father's came, took me

1829
01:41:08,370 --> 01:41:10,890
to the railroad station.

1830
01:41:10,890 --> 01:41:11,840
You were how old?

1831
01:41:11,840 --> 01:41:12,670
She handed me--

1832
01:41:12,670 --> 01:41:14,160
10?

1833
01:41:14,160 --> 01:41:15,630
'43-- nine years old.

1834
01:41:15,630 --> 01:41:17,620
Nine years old, OK.

1835
01:41:17,620 --> 01:41:22,440

1836
01:41:22,440 --> 01:41:24,225
He introduced me to a couple.

1837
01:41:24,225 --> 01:41:27,510

1838
01:41:27,510 --> 01:41:32,070
The woman was his cousin.

1839
01:41:32,070 --> 01:41:35,550
And he took me to Athens.

1840
01:41:35,550 --> 01:41:38,040
And I had a false paper.

1841
01:41:38,040 --> 01:41:40,920
They took me to Athens.

1842

01:41:40,920 --> 01:41:44,340
We left Nina there,
and they took her.

1843
01:41:44,340 --> 01:41:47,110

1844
01:41:47,110 --> 01:41:49,720
Did they leave the
Matalons alone?

1845
01:41:49,720 --> 01:41:51,400
Yeah.

1846
01:41:51,400 --> 01:41:57,820
So who took her, Greek forces,
or German forces, or who?

1847
01:41:57,820 --> 01:42:05,055
I think the culprits
were Jewish.

1848
01:42:05,055 --> 01:42:07,525
Oh.

1849
01:42:07,525 --> 01:42:08,025
Oh.

1850
01:42:08,025 --> 01:42:14,200

1851
01:42:14,200 --> 01:42:16,900
They came prepared to take her.

1852
01:42:16,900 --> 01:42:24,770
They forced my aunt,
my uncle to take her

1853
01:42:24,770 --> 01:42:28,910
to someone in the community.

1854
01:42:28,910 --> 01:42:31,865

Did you ever find out the details of how this happened?

1855
01:42:31,865 --> 01:42:35,320

1856
01:42:35,320 --> 01:42:43,110
Apparently, somewhere I think they were scrutinizing the--

1857
01:42:43,110 --> 01:42:47,870
but maybe there were other adoptions like that.

1858
01:42:47,870 --> 01:42:50,350
There were scrutinizing them.

1859
01:42:50,350 --> 01:42:53,230
I don't know what happened.

1860
01:42:53,230 --> 01:42:55,300
Did they bring her back to the ghetto,

1861
01:42:55,300 --> 01:42:57,600
or did they take her someplace else?

1862
01:42:57,600 --> 01:42:58,960
I don't know.

1863
01:42:58,960 --> 01:42:59,950
They took her away.

1864
01:42:59,950 --> 01:43:02,498
We never saw her again.

1865
01:43:02,498 --> 01:43:05,420
Oh.

1866
01:43:05,420 --> 01:43:07,480
When did your parents

find out about that?

1867

01:43:07,480 --> 01:43:10,560

1868

01:43:10,560 --> 01:43:12,100

OK.

1869

01:43:12,100 --> 01:43:14,260

After a short time--

1870

01:43:14,260 --> 01:43:17,830

again, I can't tell the
dates right now off-hand.

1871

01:43:17,830 --> 01:43:18,460

That's OK.

1872

01:43:18,460 --> 01:43:25,270

The Germans decided they don't
want the Jews in Salonika

1873

01:43:25,270 --> 01:43:26,660

at all.

1874

01:43:26,660 --> 01:43:33,290

So the Italian
consulate arranged

1875

01:43:33,290 --> 01:43:36,650

for them to move to Athens.

1876

01:43:36,650 --> 01:43:39,260

What's the thing about Athens?

1877

01:43:39,260 --> 01:43:43,700

Athens was under
Italian occupation.

1878

01:43:43,700 --> 01:43:46,310

So they moved him to Athens.

1879

01:43:46,310 --> 01:43:50,190

So your father, your mother,
your uncle, your brother?

1880

01:43:50,190 --> 01:43:53,240

My father had been
taken for some reason

1881

01:43:53,240 --> 01:43:57,260

that we have never understood.

1882

01:43:57,260 --> 01:44:02,340

Somehow they picked
him up off the street,

1883

01:44:02,340 --> 01:44:05,190

and we didn't see him again.

1884

01:44:05,190 --> 01:44:13,520

But when the Matalons came with
the rest of the Italians, then

1885

01:44:13,520 --> 01:44:17,260

we find out that my
sister wasn't with them.

1886

01:44:17,260 --> 01:44:18,410

They had taken the sister.

1887

01:44:18,410 --> 01:44:21,770

1888

01:44:21,770 --> 01:44:22,520

OK.

1889

01:44:22,520 --> 01:44:29,215

So you are in Athens separately
with the sister of a--

1890

01:44:29,215 --> 01:44:31,670

No, no.

1891

01:44:31,670 --> 01:44:33,620

They took me to Athens.

1892

01:44:33,620 --> 01:44:37,610

I met my mother and my brother.

1893

01:44:37,610 --> 01:44:39,500

My father had been already--

1894

01:44:39,500 --> 01:44:40,290

Arrested.

1895

01:44:40,290 --> 01:44:42,740

--arrested.

1896

01:44:42,740 --> 01:44:46,280

So we stayed there in Athens.

1897

01:44:46,280 --> 01:44:49,820

But when you left

Salonika, your sister

1898

01:44:49,820 --> 01:44:51,150

was still with the Matalons.

1899

01:44:51,150 --> 01:44:51,650

Yeah.

1900

01:44:51,650 --> 01:44:53,600

She's taken after you leave.

1901

01:44:53,600 --> 01:44:54,590

After I left, yes.

1902

01:44:54,590 --> 01:44:55,220

OK.

1903

01:44:55,220 --> 01:44:57,468

So had you stayed
there, you probably

1904

01:44:57,468 --> 01:44:58,760
would have been taken with her?

1905

01:44:58,760 --> 01:45:00,290
Yeah.

1906

01:45:00,290 --> 01:45:01,950
OK.

1907

01:45:01,950 --> 01:45:02,450
OK.

1908

01:45:02,450 --> 01:45:07,550
And was it that the
Matalons told you all

1909

01:45:07,550 --> 01:45:13,560
when they came to Athens
how your sister was taken?

1910

01:45:13,560 --> 01:45:24,950
Well, they forced them
to take her somewhere,

1911

01:45:24,950 --> 01:45:29,340
but remember where this
is, the community offices.

1912

01:45:29,340 --> 01:45:30,490
I don't know.

1913

01:45:30,490 --> 01:45:31,032
I don't know.

1914

01:45:31,032 --> 01:45:32,630
That's the thing.

1915

01:45:32,630 --> 01:45:34,820
They didn't want
to talk about it.

1916

01:45:34,820 --> 01:45:41,160
There was a lot of
blames back and forth.

1917
01:45:41,160 --> 01:45:44,180
Well, that's one of the
reasons I'm emphasizing this.

1918
01:45:44,180 --> 01:45:49,220
If I had been your mother
and my child is not there

1919
01:45:49,220 --> 01:45:52,640
and I had left her
with relatives,

1920
01:45:52,640 --> 01:45:54,960
I would be wanting to
know what did they do.

1921
01:45:54,960 --> 01:45:59,330
Yeah, there was a lot
of back and forth.

1922
01:45:59,330 --> 01:46:03,040
But I'm not clear
exactly what happened.

1923
01:46:03,040 --> 01:46:04,840
Oh, dear.

1924
01:46:04,840 --> 01:46:08,200
Well, clearly, they wouldn't
have wanted to do it.

1925
01:46:08,200 --> 01:46:09,960
But--

1926
01:46:09,960 --> 01:46:11,267
They were forced to do.

1927
01:46:11,267 --> 01:46:14,010
Yeah.

1928
01:46:14,010 --> 01:46:17,190
So your father is
taken from the streets.

1929
01:46:17,190 --> 01:46:20,220
Nina is taken from the Matalons.

1930
01:46:20,220 --> 01:46:26,250
And all of you were together
in Athens eventually.

1931
01:46:26,250 --> 01:46:27,320
Yeah.

1932
01:46:27,320 --> 01:46:28,275
Where in Athens?

1933
01:46:28,275 --> 01:46:32,200

1934
01:46:32,200 --> 01:46:33,510
Do you know the--

1935
01:46:33,510 --> 01:46:34,010
No.

1936
01:46:34,010 --> 01:46:34,860
But tell us.

1937
01:46:34,860 --> 01:46:36,598
Somebody will know.

1938
01:46:36,598 --> 01:46:38,640
If you tell it on the
camera, somebody will know.

1939
01:46:38,640 --> 01:46:39,508
All right.

1940
01:46:39,508 --> 01:46:47,640

1941
01:46:47,640 --> 01:46:51,720
We lived in a neighborhood
called Pangrati.

1942
01:46:51,720 --> 01:46:52,530
Pagratz?

1943
01:46:52,530 --> 01:46:53,760
Pangrati.

1944
01:46:53,760 --> 01:46:55,290
Pangrati, OK.

1945
01:46:55,290 --> 01:46:57,690
Right.

1946
01:46:57,690 --> 01:47:04,740
We lived there for as long as
Italy was part of the Axis.

1947
01:47:04,740 --> 01:47:16,540
When Italy, well, when
they surrendered--

1948
01:47:16,540 --> 01:47:18,660
what do I call it?

1949
01:47:18,660 --> 01:47:19,950
They--

1950
01:47:19,950 --> 01:47:20,800
They were overrun.

1951
01:47:20,800 --> 01:47:24,820

1952
01:47:24,820 --> 01:47:26,503
Some would say they
were liberated.

1953

01:47:26,503 --> 01:47:27,920

Some would say
they were occupied.

1954

01:47:27,920 --> 01:47:28,420

Right.

1955

01:47:28,420 --> 01:47:32,980

1956

01:47:32,980 --> 01:47:37,140

They, let's say,
withdrew from the war.

1957

01:47:37,140 --> 01:47:41,960

The Germans moved into
the Italian occupied area.

1958

01:47:41,960 --> 01:47:45,430

Here's a question, though,
going back to the move.

1959

01:47:45,430 --> 01:47:50,260

So instead of shipping all of
Salonika Jews off to Auschwitz,

1960

01:47:50,260 --> 01:47:52,540

they get rid of them by
sending them to Athens

1961

01:47:52,540 --> 01:47:54,190

where life is better for Jews?

1962

01:47:54,190 --> 01:48:01,730

1963

01:48:01,730 --> 01:48:07,680

Jews of Italian
citizenship were protected.

1964

01:48:07,680 --> 01:48:11,490

So when the Germans

didn't want any Jews--

1965

01:48:11,490 --> 01:48:11,990

Anymore in--

1966

01:48:11,990 --> 01:48:16,210

--remaining in Salonika,

so the Italian consulate--

1967

01:48:16,210 --> 01:48:16,710

Got them.

1968

01:48:16,710 --> 01:48:20,120

--arranged for them to

move down to Athens.

1969

01:48:20,120 --> 01:48:22,040

Except that your mother wasn't.

1970

01:48:22,040 --> 01:48:23,340

Your brother wasn't.

1971

01:48:23,340 --> 01:48:25,090

Your grandmother wasn't.

1972

01:48:25,090 --> 01:48:30,997

So the Jews of the ghetto of

Salonika also go to Athens?

1973

01:48:30,997 --> 01:48:33,140

No, no.

1974

01:48:33,140 --> 01:48:37,980

My mother and my brother and my

1975

01:48:37,980 --> 01:48:38,480

Grandmother.

1976

01:48:38,480 --> 01:48:42,400

--father, they

sneaked into Athens.

1977

01:48:42,400 --> 01:48:44,630

They didn't go--

1978

01:48:44,630 --> 01:48:45,630

OK.

1979

01:48:45,630 --> 01:48:46,130

OK.

1980

01:48:46,130 --> 01:48:48,230

So they escaped from the ghetto.

1981

01:48:48,230 --> 01:48:49,460

They escaped.

1982

01:48:49,460 --> 01:48:53,960

The ghetto-- was it in Athens
that your father was picked up?

1983

01:48:53,960 --> 01:48:55,054

Yes.

1984

01:48:55,054 --> 01:48:55,920

Ah.

1985

01:48:55,920 --> 01:49:00,870

And we haven't understood
why he was picked up.

1986

01:49:00,870 --> 01:49:03,630

1987

01:49:03,630 --> 01:49:04,130

OK.

1988

01:49:04,130 --> 01:49:05,560

It was supposed
to be safe there.

1989

01:49:05,560 --> 01:49:11,860

The Italians did not allow

the [? intervene-- ?]

1990
01:49:11,860 --> 01:49:13,970
Maybe someone saw him
and recognized him.

1991
01:49:13,970 --> 01:49:14,860
I have no idea.

1992
01:49:14,860 --> 01:49:16,090
Who knows?

1993
01:49:16,090 --> 01:49:18,790
So did you ever find
out what happened

1994
01:49:18,790 --> 01:49:20,140
to him after he was picked up?

1995
01:49:20,140 --> 01:49:24,680

1996
01:49:24,680 --> 01:49:29,580
Stories say that he
tried to escape from a--

1997
01:49:29,580 --> 01:49:33,260
he had stomach ulcers.

1998
01:49:33,260 --> 01:49:36,470
So that's the story.

1999
01:49:36,470 --> 01:49:40,010
I don't know if
it's true or not.

2000
01:49:40,010 --> 01:49:43,720
He was in custody.

2001
01:49:43,720 --> 01:49:52,220
And I really don't know
who had him in custody.

2002
01:49:52,220 --> 01:49:55,470
And he pretended to--

2003
01:49:55,470 --> 01:49:58,216

2004
01:49:58,216 --> 01:50:01,010
the stomach ulcers are going.

2005
01:50:01,010 --> 01:50:02,660
They sent him to a hospital.

2006
01:50:02,660 --> 01:50:03,770
He goes to the hospital.

2007
01:50:03,770 --> 01:50:06,680
He tried to escape
from the hospital.

2008
01:50:06,680 --> 01:50:09,530
He was picked up in the street.

2009
01:50:09,530 --> 01:50:13,420
But this is apocryphal.

2010
01:50:13,420 --> 01:50:14,840
So I don't know.

2011
01:50:14,840 --> 01:50:15,830
You don't know.

2012
01:50:15,830 --> 01:50:17,690
In other words, you don't know.

2013
01:50:17,690 --> 01:50:20,210
I don't know, as I said,
what happened to him.

2014
01:50:20,210 --> 01:50:24,420

2015

01:50:24,420 --> 01:50:27,750

One of the reasons I pause
and I ask more questions

2016

01:50:27,750 --> 01:50:30,960

about these moments
is because I'm

2017

01:50:30,960 --> 01:50:36,190

trying to imagine
when you were a child.

2018

01:50:36,190 --> 01:50:39,820

And you have family members,
your father, you know,

2019

01:50:39,820 --> 01:50:42,330

who's the head of the
household, the protector,

2020

01:50:42,330 --> 01:50:44,320

and he disappears.

2021

01:50:44,320 --> 01:50:46,970

And you don't have answers.

2022

01:50:46,970 --> 01:50:49,150

You don't have any answers
to how this happened,

2023

01:50:49,150 --> 01:50:53,950

where this happened, who did
this, what ended up happening.

2024

01:50:53,950 --> 01:50:57,310

I can't imagine, but
it sounds terrifying.

2025

01:50:57,310 --> 01:50:59,230

It sounds absolutely terrifying.

2026

01:50:59,230 --> 01:51:01,790

2027

01:51:01,790 --> 01:51:05,445

Well, it was terrible.

2028

01:51:05,445 --> 01:51:05,945

It was.

2029

01:51:05,945 --> 01:51:07,180

It was.

2030

01:51:07,180 --> 01:51:09,690

And the same with Nina?

2031

01:51:09,690 --> 01:51:10,200

Yeah.

2032

01:51:10,200 --> 01:51:10,860

She's a baby.

2033

01:51:10,860 --> 01:51:11,402

That's right.

2034

01:51:11,402 --> 01:51:12,210

She's a baby.

2035

01:51:12,210 --> 01:51:12,710

You know?

2036

01:51:12,710 --> 01:51:15,710

Yeah.

2037

01:51:15,710 --> 01:51:23,910

So after you have these blows to the family, what happens then?

2038

01:51:23,910 --> 01:51:25,590

Where are you living in Athens?

2039

01:51:25,590 --> 01:51:29,190

You say Pangrati, but
was that a neighborhood?

2040
01:51:29,190 --> 01:51:31,050
Is that another ghetto?

2041
01:51:31,050 --> 01:51:34,140
No, no.

2042
01:51:34,140 --> 01:51:35,650
It wasn't a ghetto.

2043
01:51:35,650 --> 01:51:38,700
Pangrati is a neighborhood.

2044
01:51:38,700 --> 01:51:44,370
We lived there until Italy
withdrew from the war

2045
01:51:44,370 --> 01:51:50,940
and the Germans moved into
the Italian occupation area.

2046
01:51:50,940 --> 01:51:54,000
Again, a friend
of my father's who

2047
01:51:54,000 --> 01:51:57,910
lived in Athens came to warn
us, because people around

2048
01:51:57,910 --> 01:52:01,020
knew we were Jewish,
that you should move.

2049
01:52:01,020 --> 01:52:04,800
So we moved somewhere else.

2050
01:52:04,800 --> 01:52:05,760
All of you?

2051
01:52:05,760 --> 01:52:09,480

Mother, father-- I mean,
mother, grandma, brother, you--

2052
01:52:09,480 --> 01:52:10,890
Grandmother, no.

2053
01:52:10,890 --> 01:52:12,630
There was no grandmother.

2054
01:52:12,630 --> 01:52:15,200
She had died?

2055
01:52:15,200 --> 01:52:19,420
She was left in
Salonika, I suppose.

2056
01:52:19,420 --> 01:52:20,336
I don't know.

2057
01:52:20,336 --> 01:52:23,090
Oh, I see.

2058
01:52:23,090 --> 01:52:27,230
My mother, my aunt, my cousin--

2059
01:52:27,230 --> 01:52:29,780

2060
01:52:29,780 --> 01:52:34,940
my uncle, stayed
in Athens, where

2061
01:52:34,940 --> 01:52:42,530
the Italian government had given
refuge there for the Italians.

2062
01:52:42,530 --> 01:52:45,650
He stayed there and was taken.

2063
01:52:45,650 --> 01:52:49,550
I don't know exactly
why he stayed.

2064
01:52:49,550 --> 01:52:56,720
So my mother and my aunt and
the three of us, three boys,

2065
01:52:56,720 --> 01:53:02,250
moved somewhere else in
Athens, [NON-ENGLISH]..

2066
01:53:02,250 --> 01:53:06,920
This was another street.

2067
01:53:06,920 --> 01:53:11,500
I don't know the name
of the neighborhood.

2068
01:53:11,500 --> 01:53:14,740
And we stayed there for a while.

2069
01:53:14,740 --> 01:53:21,700
And then the same person
came and said that the things

2070
01:53:21,700 --> 01:53:24,960
don't look safe here.

2071
01:53:24,960 --> 01:53:27,430
You have to move somewhere.

2072
01:53:27,430 --> 01:53:29,190
We left Athens.

2073
01:53:29,190 --> 01:53:34,932
We moved to a place on the
eastern part of the country,

2074
01:53:34,932 --> 01:53:37,460
called Karditsa, a small town.

2075
01:53:37,460 --> 01:53:41,230
The Germans, they had
no interest in it.

2076

01:53:41,230 --> 01:53:43,580
So there were no Germans there.

2077

01:53:43,580 --> 01:53:45,370
So we stayed there for a while.

2078

01:53:45,370 --> 01:53:50,390
And then we were warned that
the Germans would come in.

2079

01:53:50,390 --> 01:53:54,950
We moved to the eastern
part of the country, Volos,

2080

01:53:54,950 --> 01:53:57,970
which is a seaport in
the middle of the--

2081

01:53:57,970 --> 01:54:01,135
Who is the driving
force within your group?

2082

01:54:01,135 --> 01:54:02,060
My mother.

2083

01:54:02,060 --> 01:54:03,300
Your mother.

2084

01:54:03,300 --> 01:54:05,750
She's the one who
made it all happen?

2085

01:54:05,750 --> 01:54:07,790
Yeah.

2086

01:54:07,790 --> 01:54:10,115
So she sounds like she had
quite a strong personality.

2087

01:54:10,115 --> 01:54:12,640
Yes, she did.

2088
01:54:12,640 --> 01:54:17,850

2089
01:54:17,850 --> 01:54:22,524
What was her demeanor
like during these times?

2090
01:54:22,524 --> 01:54:35,770
Very, very difficult, she
was in panic all the time,

2091
01:54:35,770 --> 01:54:37,289
in distress all the time.

2092
01:54:37,289 --> 01:54:41,690

2093
01:54:41,690 --> 01:54:44,780
Who put food on the table?

2094
01:54:44,780 --> 01:54:50,398
Well, we had some gold coins.

2095
01:54:50,398 --> 01:54:50,898
Ah.

2096
01:54:50,898 --> 01:54:56,530

2097
01:54:56,530 --> 01:55:08,810
When things got dark and
things, what happened,

2098
01:55:08,810 --> 01:55:11,460
we procured some gold coins.

2099
01:55:11,460 --> 01:55:17,290
They were either
Turkish lira, British--

2100

01:55:17,290 --> 01:55:17,925
Pound?

2101
01:55:17,925 --> 01:55:25,810
--pound sterling or
French [NON-ENGLISH],,

2102
01:55:25,810 --> 01:55:32,800
all about the same, just
about the same prices,

2103
01:55:32,800 --> 01:55:34,760
the same value.

2104
01:55:34,760 --> 01:55:39,980
I think the British pound was
more expensive than French

2105
01:55:39,980 --> 01:55:41,930
and then the Turkish.

2106
01:55:41,930 --> 01:55:51,580
So my mother made belts of
canvas with little pockets.

2107
01:55:51,580 --> 01:55:54,650
And every pocket
had a gold coin.

2108
01:55:54,650 --> 01:56:02,085
We had it around our waist
under our clothes all the time.

2109
01:56:02,085 --> 01:56:06,480
So there-- Of course.

2110
01:56:06,480 --> 01:56:08,620
You may take everything
else off, but not the belt.

2111
01:56:08,620 --> 01:56:11,860
Not the belt.

2112

01:56:11,860 --> 01:56:15,130

So did each one of you
have such a gold belt?

2113

01:56:15,130 --> 01:56:15,700

Yeah.

2114

01:56:15,700 --> 01:56:18,400

So there were not
a few gold coins.

2115

01:56:18,400 --> 01:56:19,940

There were several gold coins.

2116

01:56:19,940 --> 01:56:21,400

Yeah, there were several.

2117

01:56:21,400 --> 01:56:22,450

And your mother wore one.

2118

01:56:22,450 --> 01:56:23,260

You wore one.

2119

01:56:23,260 --> 01:56:25,750

Your brother wore one.

2120

01:56:25,750 --> 01:56:28,060

Your aunt wore one?

2121

01:56:28,060 --> 01:56:29,830

I suppose she did and my--

2122

01:56:29,830 --> 01:56:30,900

Your cousin?

2123

01:56:30,900 --> 01:56:32,270

I suppose did, yeah.

2124

01:56:32,270 --> 01:56:33,200

OK.

2125

01:56:33,200 --> 01:56:36,483

So, well, let's say,
we don't know for sure.

2126

01:56:36,483 --> 01:56:38,650

But you know for sure that
it was you, your brother,

2127

01:56:38,650 --> 01:56:39,670

and your mother had one.

2128

01:56:39,670 --> 01:56:40,212

Yes, had one.

2129

01:56:40,212 --> 01:56:41,470

OK.

2130

01:56:41,470 --> 01:56:44,110

And did those gold coins last?

2131

01:56:44,110 --> 01:56:46,405

Yes.

2132

01:56:46,405 --> 01:56:49,134

It was more than enough.

2133

01:56:49,134 --> 01:56:52,870

Although my mother worked.

2134

01:56:52,870 --> 01:57:00,160

We were trying to explain to her
that the rate that we're going,

2135

01:57:00,160 --> 01:57:04,800

the war will last
another 20 years before.

2136

01:57:04,800 --> 01:57:08,390

And she says, what
happens after the war--

2137

01:57:08,390 --> 01:57:10,130
she was worried about.

2138
01:57:10,130 --> 01:57:12,130
OK, OK.

2139
01:57:12,130 --> 01:57:15,610
So the gold coins, what
would one gold coin

2140
01:57:15,610 --> 01:57:20,440
purchase if they were more
or less equal in value?

2141
01:57:20,440 --> 01:57:20,940
A week?

2142
01:57:20,940 --> 01:57:23,922

2143
01:57:23,922 --> 01:57:24,505
Accommodation?

2144
01:57:24,505 --> 01:57:27,765
I'm trying to remember.

2145
01:57:27,765 --> 01:57:30,510

2146
01:57:30,510 --> 01:57:36,220
Yeah, probably a month.

2147
01:57:36,220 --> 01:57:38,400
OK, so a month's rent.

2148
01:57:38,400 --> 01:57:39,980
And a month's food?

2149
01:57:39,980 --> 01:57:42,240
OK.

2150

01:57:42,240 --> 01:57:45,270
This is what I remember.

2151
01:57:45,270 --> 01:57:48,570
Eventually, we ended up in a--

2152
01:57:48,570 --> 01:57:54,813
I said Volos on a village
up the mountain near Volos.

2153
01:57:54,813 --> 01:58:01,230

2154
01:58:01,230 --> 01:58:07,230
Once every while-- but
I can't remember how--

2155
01:58:07,230 --> 01:58:16,050
my mother and my aunt would go
down to Volos to buy supplies.

2156
01:58:16,050 --> 01:58:21,240
They will sell a
coin, buy supplies.

2157
01:58:21,240 --> 01:58:29,950
And then they would load the
supplies on a mule that people,

2158
01:58:29,950 --> 01:58:34,140
villagers who
brought things down--

2159
01:58:34,140 --> 01:58:35,060
mules were empty.

2160
01:58:35,060 --> 01:58:35,820
They were--

2161
01:58:35,820 --> 01:58:36,900
Brought them up, yeah.

2162

01:58:36,900 --> 01:58:38,390
Yeah, bring the supplies up.

2163
01:58:38,390 --> 01:58:44,410
I can't remember how
often they went down.

2164
01:58:44,410 --> 01:58:47,620
But it must have
lasted for a while,

2165
01:58:47,620 --> 01:58:51,004
because they didn't
go too often.

2166
01:58:51,004 --> 01:58:53,560
OK.

2167
01:58:53,560 --> 01:58:58,630
And did they pay
accommodations in gold coins,

2168
01:58:58,630 --> 01:59:00,280
too, as far as you know?

2169
01:59:00,280 --> 01:59:07,820

2170
01:59:07,820 --> 01:59:11,210
I don't know how this is.

2171
01:59:11,210 --> 01:59:20,360
We were-- no, I think it's
have to exchange it for some--

2172
01:59:20,360 --> 01:59:25,050
I know that in
Volos in particular

2173
01:59:25,050 --> 01:59:28,800
they didn't accept
paper currency.

2174
01:59:28,800 --> 01:59:33,770
It was the currency
was cigarettes.

2175
01:59:33,770 --> 01:59:34,950
Of course.

2176
01:59:34,950 --> 01:59:41,640
There was a factory that
produced cigarettes.

2177
01:59:41,640 --> 01:59:47,370
And this was the currency
that they accepted.

2178
01:59:47,370 --> 01:59:55,025
There were packages
of 100 and packages

2179
01:59:55,025 --> 01:59:59,850
of 20 and then individual.

2180
01:59:59,850 --> 02:00:03,770
And how much, a package
of 20 cigarettes?

2181
02:00:03,770 --> 02:00:04,590
I can't--

2182
02:00:04,590 --> 02:00:06,450
You don't know what
that could buy you.

2183
02:00:06,450 --> 02:00:08,812
I can't tell--

2184
02:00:08,812 --> 02:00:10,250
I don't know.

2185
02:00:10,250 --> 02:00:12,360
But, you know, when
you're talking like this,

2186
02:00:12,360 --> 02:00:19,650
I'm thinking they have to
maneuver this new economy that

2187
02:00:19,650 --> 02:00:24,060
is an underground economy,
that is black market, that

2188
02:00:24,060 --> 02:00:26,390
is what everybody is doing.

2189
02:00:26,390 --> 02:00:28,200
Yeah, it's not underground.

2190
02:00:28,200 --> 02:00:29,940
It was open.

2191
02:00:29,940 --> 02:00:31,350
Yeah.

2192
02:00:31,350 --> 02:00:34,200
But nevertheless, it
is how do I get food?

2193
02:00:34,200 --> 02:00:36,510
How do I get shelter?

2194
02:00:36,510 --> 02:00:38,550
I can't just go and pay money.

2195
02:00:38,550 --> 02:00:42,000
I have to do this to do
that to do the other thing

2196
02:00:42,000 --> 02:00:43,830
and also to make sure
I don't get caught.

2197
02:00:43,830 --> 02:00:51,270
I know that they did
that to buy supplies.

2198
02:00:51,270 --> 02:00:56,400
I don't know how we
paid rent in Volos

2199
02:00:56,400 --> 02:01:00,390
and how we paid rent
up in the village.

2200
02:01:00,390 --> 02:01:02,910
I don't know that.

2201
02:01:02,910 --> 02:01:06,480
Did the people that
you would rent from

2202
02:01:06,480 --> 02:01:09,960
know that you would Jews, or
did you have false papers?

2203
02:01:09,960 --> 02:01:10,500
OK.

2204
02:01:10,500 --> 02:01:14,560
We had false papers,
but they knew.

2205
02:01:14,560 --> 02:01:15,780
They knew.

2206
02:01:15,780 --> 02:01:20,100
Well, we had a
[? problem. ?] We finally--

2207
02:01:20,100 --> 02:01:24,220
we were living in
Volos for a while,

2208
02:01:24,220 --> 02:01:28,130
actually, well, six months.

2209
02:01:28,130 --> 02:01:29,880

That's a long time
when you're on the run.

2210
02:01:29,880 --> 02:01:32,510
And the people in the
neighborhood knew it.

2211
02:01:32,510 --> 02:01:38,110

2212
02:01:38,110 --> 02:01:39,670
They knew.

2213
02:01:39,670 --> 02:01:41,580
I heard things in
the neighborhood.

2214
02:01:41,580 --> 02:01:43,290
I was a kid.

2215
02:01:43,290 --> 02:01:44,640
They knew.

2216
02:01:44,640 --> 02:01:52,310
And then one day the
landlord's son was a hoodlum,

2217
02:01:52,310 --> 02:01:55,810
had other hoodlum friends.

2218
02:01:55,810 --> 02:02:00,330
They extorted money from us.

2219
02:02:00,330 --> 02:02:08,760
And the father was
distraught over this.

2220
02:02:08,760 --> 02:02:10,640
His brother was from the--

2221
02:02:10,640 --> 02:02:13,440

2222
02:02:13,440 --> 02:02:15,710
he was from the
Makrinitza, which is

2223
02:02:15,710 --> 02:02:20,700
the village up in the mountain.

2224
02:02:20,700 --> 02:02:23,040
And I don't know how.

2225
02:02:23,040 --> 02:02:29,490
Within a day, his brother
came down, came to the house,

2226
02:02:29,490 --> 02:02:34,770
took all our clothes,
brought them up, all

2227
02:02:34,770 --> 02:02:37,510
our supplies, with
everything that we had.

2228
02:02:37,510 --> 02:02:39,650
And you?

2229
02:02:39,650 --> 02:02:42,342
Well, we walked
behind the mules.

2230
02:02:42,342 --> 02:02:44,130
OK.

2231
02:02:44,130 --> 02:02:45,270
So the father--

2232
02:02:45,270 --> 02:02:47,320
And we went.

2233
02:02:47,320 --> 02:02:49,780
The house was ready for us.

2234
02:02:49,780 --> 02:02:50,280
OK.

2235
02:02:50,280 --> 02:02:52,920
So the father had
this tragedy, that he

2236
02:02:52,920 --> 02:02:56,280
sees what his son and his
son's friends are like,

2237
02:02:56,280 --> 02:03:00,678
and does what he
can to protect you.

2238
02:03:00,678 --> 02:03:02,310
Yeah.

2239
02:03:02,310 --> 02:03:05,610
Did you have other
such experiences

2240
02:03:05,610 --> 02:03:08,910
of people helping,
people betraying,

2241
02:03:08,910 --> 02:03:12,850
people taking advantage of?

2242
02:03:12,850 --> 02:03:22,070
I don't think there was
anybody taking advantage of us.

2243
02:03:22,070 --> 02:03:23,945
I know that people helped.

2244
02:03:23,945 --> 02:03:29,300

2245
02:03:29,300 --> 02:03:37,126
We went from Karditsa, where
we found a relative there,

2246
02:03:37,126 --> 02:03:41,210
a relative of my father's
from Veria, probably a cousin,

2247
02:03:41,210 --> 02:03:46,550
because they were
all cousins there,

2248
02:03:46,550 --> 02:03:52,040
who was in the resistance
and who told us when

2249
02:03:52,040 --> 02:03:54,140
the Germans are about to come.

2250
02:03:54,140 --> 02:03:58,670
He had some knowledge
ahead of it.

2251
02:03:58,670 --> 02:04:00,720
You have to leave.

2252
02:04:00,720 --> 02:04:04,460
So we then we went to Volos.

2253
02:04:04,460 --> 02:04:08,740
And my mother's looking
for a place to live.

2254
02:04:08,740 --> 02:04:14,960
We found a-- what
do you call it--

2255
02:04:14,960 --> 02:04:16,810
real estate agent?

2256
02:04:16,810 --> 02:04:18,140
Well, not quite that--

2257
02:04:18,140 --> 02:04:20,760

2258
02:04:20,760 --> 02:04:22,790
to find us a place.

2259
02:04:22,790 --> 02:04:25,385
Someone who deals in rented
apartment, rented places?

2260
02:04:25,385 --> 02:04:26,170
Yeah.

2261
02:04:26,170 --> 02:04:26,670
OK.

2262
02:04:26,670 --> 02:04:30,380

2263
02:04:30,380 --> 02:04:39,640
I'm not sure whether he was
recommended from the guy

2264
02:04:39,640 --> 02:04:41,950
or she just found him.

2265
02:04:41,950 --> 02:04:49,700
And he got us false papers.

2266
02:04:49,700 --> 02:04:54,110
He got us a place to rent.

2267
02:04:54,110 --> 02:04:56,970

2268
02:04:56,970 --> 02:05:01,520
So in other words, at a
time of great disadvantage

2269
02:05:01,520 --> 02:05:05,510
where your lives
are in danger, did

2270

02:05:05,510 --> 02:05:15,810
you feel like the non-targeted
people are potential helpers

2271
02:05:15,810 --> 02:05:19,530
or potential betrayers?

2272
02:05:19,530 --> 02:05:26,550
Well, it was a good
policy not to let

2273
02:05:26,550 --> 02:05:28,650
anybody know we were Jewish.

2274
02:05:28,650 --> 02:05:29,460
Of course.

2275
02:05:29,460 --> 02:05:31,200
Of course.

2276
02:05:31,200 --> 02:05:38,160
But our experience was
that people helped.

2277
02:05:38,160 --> 02:05:43,080
When we went up
in the mountains,

2278
02:05:43,080 --> 02:05:44,880
we didn't hide our identity.

2279
02:05:44,880 --> 02:05:51,840
Because it was free
country, free again.

2280
02:05:51,840 --> 02:05:58,560
So they knew we were
Jewish, the resistance.

2281
02:05:58,560 --> 02:06:08,120
Actually, we had this thing
that the boys were now, 1943,

2282

02:06:08,120 --> 02:06:09,140
they were--

2283

02:06:09,140 --> 02:06:09,990
They're teenagers.

2284

02:06:09,990 --> 02:06:11,480
They're 14, 15 years old.

2285

02:06:11,480 --> 02:06:12,776
They were teenagers.

2286

02:06:12,776 --> 02:06:20,990
And the communist resistance,
they had a youth group.

2287

02:06:20,990 --> 02:06:23,300
And they recruited them.

2288

02:06:23,300 --> 02:06:29,490
And my mother and my aunt
went, "oh, don't do that.

2289

02:06:29,490 --> 02:06:31,110
You'll get into trouble.

2290

02:06:31,110 --> 02:06:32,550
Blah, blah."

2291

02:06:32,550 --> 02:06:39,540
But they did, worried everyone
when we applied for a visa

2292

02:06:39,540 --> 02:06:40,650
to enter the country.

2293

02:06:40,650 --> 02:06:42,910
They were--

2294

02:06:42,910 --> 02:06:44,370
To enter the United States--

2295

02:06:44,370 --> 02:06:47,640
and then you have this question
on there that says, are you now

2296

02:06:47,640 --> 02:06:50,310
or have you ever been a
member of the communist party?

2297

02:06:50,310 --> 02:06:50,940
Oh, well.

2298

02:06:50,940 --> 02:06:52,240
Oh, well.

2299

02:06:52,240 --> 02:06:53,150
OK.

2300

02:06:53,150 --> 02:06:56,140
So, well, they recruited us.

2301

02:06:56,140 --> 02:06:59,070
But, yeah, we knew the thing.

2302

02:06:59,070 --> 02:07:08,430
And anything seemed risky,
the Germans may come,

2303

02:07:08,430 --> 02:07:12,870
they will let us know that
something was going on.

2304

02:07:12,870 --> 02:07:17,120
So move out, move high
up in the mountain.

2305

02:07:17,120 --> 02:07:18,610
We moved up there.

2306

02:07:18,610 --> 02:07:20,430
We did that, too.

2307

02:07:20,430 --> 02:07:23,340

About how many places do
you think you moved to?

2308

02:07:23,340 --> 02:07:25,410

Did you ever count them up?

2309

02:07:25,410 --> 02:07:27,840

How many from Athens?

2310

02:07:27,840 --> 02:07:28,470

From Athens?

2311

02:07:28,470 --> 02:07:35,460

Athens, Karditsa, Volos,
Makrinitza, and what

2312

02:07:35,460 --> 02:07:39,480

called [GREEK],, the
broad flat, which

2313

02:07:39,480 --> 02:07:47,040

is a place up in the mountain
where we stayed until October

2314

02:07:47,040 --> 02:07:50,310

of 1944 when the Germans left.

2315

02:07:50,310 --> 02:07:52,540

And then we went back to Volos.

2316

02:07:52,540 --> 02:07:54,030

And from there--

2317

02:07:54,030 --> 02:07:56,070

Did you go back to Salonika?

2318

02:07:56,070 --> 02:07:57,240

Yeah.

2319

02:07:57,240 --> 02:07:59,430

Eventually.

2320

02:07:59,430 --> 02:08:06,310

Right after the December events,
you know the Dekemvriana?

2321

02:08:06,310 --> 02:08:08,070

No, tell me about those.

2322

02:08:08,070 --> 02:08:08,730

OK.

2323

02:08:08,730 --> 02:08:17,850

This is when there was this
thing between the communists

2324

02:08:17,850 --> 02:08:23,790

and the British in Athens
which is December 1944.

2325

02:08:23,790 --> 02:08:25,470

Was it an actual battle?

2326

02:08:25,470 --> 02:08:27,400

Was it fights?

2327

02:08:27,400 --> 02:08:28,230

Yeah, it was.

2328

02:08:28,230 --> 02:08:31,080

2329

02:08:31,080 --> 02:08:40,700

And after that, my mother had
gone ahead, because she was--

2330

02:08:40,700 --> 02:08:43,240

and took my brother.

2331

02:08:43,240 --> 02:08:45,670

She was trying to find things.

2332

02:08:45,670 --> 02:08:50,420

You know, Volos was another place to find things.

2333

02:08:50,420 --> 02:08:53,500

So she went to go to Athens.

2334

02:08:53,500 --> 02:08:55,700

We went to Salonika again.

2335

02:08:55,700 --> 02:08:57,380

What did she want to find?

2336

02:08:57,380 --> 02:08:59,790

What things did she want to find, your mother?

2337

02:08:59,790 --> 02:09:03,230

To find out any news.

2338

02:09:03,230 --> 02:09:06,260

Any news about your father, any news about your sister?

2339

02:09:06,260 --> 02:09:06,908

Right.

2340

02:09:06,908 --> 02:09:08,660

OK.

2341

02:09:08,660 --> 02:09:11,030

So she had gone ahead.

2342

02:09:11,030 --> 02:09:14,015

And then we removed to Salonika.

2343

02:09:14,015 --> 02:09:19,470

2344

02:09:19,470 --> 02:09:20,820

I know this.

2345
02:09:20,820 --> 02:09:26,970
The day I moved to, I
reached, Salonika was the day

2346
02:09:26,970 --> 02:09:29,990
that Roosevelt died.

2347
02:09:29,990 --> 02:09:31,440
Who died?

2348
02:09:31,440 --> 02:09:32,930
Roosevelt. President Roosevelt.

2349
02:09:32,930 --> 02:09:34,430
Roosevelt died.

2350
02:09:34,430 --> 02:09:36,570
President Roosevelt died, OK.

2351
02:09:36,570 --> 02:09:42,500
That day, because I
remember we went over there.

2352
02:09:42,500 --> 02:09:45,665
There was a flag outside.

2353
02:09:45,665 --> 02:09:47,750
And it was down the pole.

2354
02:09:47,750 --> 02:09:51,170
I thought, well, the
wind brought it down.

2355
02:09:51,170 --> 02:09:57,140
And then my mother came and
said, you know, Roosevelt died.

2356
02:09:57,140 --> 02:09:59,570
So was it a Greek flag
that was at half-mast?

2357

02:09:59,570 --> 02:10:01,250

Yeah.

2358

02:10:01,250 --> 02:10:05,340

How interesting, a Greek flag
at half mast, not a US flag.

2359

02:10:05,340 --> 02:10:09,530

So was it outside
a resident house,

2360

02:10:09,530 --> 02:10:11,068

you know, a private person?

2361

02:10:11,068 --> 02:10:11,610

It's a hotel.

2362

02:10:11,610 --> 02:10:13,190

It was at a hotel.

2363

02:10:13,190 --> 02:10:14,410

OK.

2364

02:10:14,410 --> 02:10:14,910

OK.

2365

02:10:14,910 --> 02:10:17,750

2366

02:10:17,750 --> 02:10:20,240

And did your brother
have anything

2367

02:10:20,240 --> 02:10:25,040

to do with the fights that
were going on in Athens?

2368

02:10:25,040 --> 02:10:28,415

Did his connection to
the partisans continue?

2369

02:10:28,415 --> 02:10:30,940
They didn't in Athens.

2370
02:10:30,940 --> 02:10:31,940
It was in the mountains.

2371
02:10:31,940 --> 02:10:33,620
In Makrinitza, in the mountains.

2372
02:10:33,620 --> 02:10:35,820
And then it stopped after that?

2373
02:10:35,820 --> 02:10:36,930
And then-- yeah.

2374
02:10:36,930 --> 02:10:37,930
I don't really remember.

2375
02:10:37,930 --> 02:10:38,720
OK.

2376
02:10:38,720 --> 02:10:42,350
So your mother was not worried
that he would in some way

2377
02:10:42,350 --> 02:10:45,030
be implicated in this?

2378
02:10:45,030 --> 02:10:46,160
Sure, she was.

2379
02:10:46,160 --> 02:10:47,740
But then--

2380
02:10:47,740 --> 02:10:49,330
But it didn't happen, OK.

2381
02:10:49,330 --> 02:10:50,740
Nothing happened.

2382
02:10:50,740 --> 02:10:52,400

OK, OK.

2383
02:10:52,400 --> 02:10:58,820
And was your brother a real
convert, or was he someone--

2384
02:10:58,820 --> 02:11:03,410
these are the good guys at
this time and it's exciting?

2385
02:11:03,410 --> 02:11:05,420
Yeah.

2386
02:11:05,420 --> 02:11:06,980
These were the good guys, yeah.

2387
02:11:06,980 --> 02:11:08,160
OK.

2388
02:11:08,160 --> 02:11:11,390
And did that ever change?

2389
02:11:11,390 --> 02:11:13,918
Was he really a believer
in the communist system

2390
02:11:13,918 --> 02:11:14,710
is what I'm asking.

2391
02:11:14,710 --> 02:11:17,704

2392
02:11:17,704 --> 02:11:20,200
I don't know.

2393
02:11:20,200 --> 02:11:27,430
In fact, he was at the
right of me I think.

2394
02:11:27,430 --> 02:11:29,883
Here, he worked--

2395

02:11:29,883 --> 02:11:30,850

In the United--

2396

02:11:30,850 --> 02:11:38,480

--for a firm that did just about
the same thing as my father.

2397

02:11:38,480 --> 02:11:41,740

2398

02:11:41,740 --> 02:11:46,410

There were also
Jews from Greece.

2399

02:11:46,410 --> 02:11:48,430

And he found employment there.

2400

02:11:48,430 --> 02:11:51,850

And I remember he had
gripes with the union.

2401

02:11:51,850 --> 02:11:53,230

[LAUGHTER]

2402

02:11:53,230 --> 02:11:55,990

2403

02:11:55,990 --> 02:11:58,450

Well, I ask it in a clumsy way.

2404

02:11:58,450 --> 02:12:01,660

But there were people who joined
the party because they believed

2405

02:12:01,660 --> 02:12:06,100

in the ideals, the young
kids who were just attracted

2406

02:12:06,100 --> 02:12:09,500

because it's adventurers,
others who say,

2407

02:12:09,500 --> 02:12:12,730

OK, these are the guys who
are saving us at this time.

2408

02:12:12,730 --> 02:12:16,660

And they have no
connection to ideology.

2409

02:12:16,660 --> 02:12:19,900

And Greece also had a
problem after the war.

2410

02:12:19,900 --> 02:12:23,420

I believe that was
the only game in town.

2411

02:12:23,420 --> 02:12:28,720

The only place where there
was other kids and there

2412

02:12:28,720 --> 02:12:31,522

was something going on.

2413

02:12:31,522 --> 02:12:32,230

So they went to--

2414

02:12:32,230 --> 02:12:32,920

OK.

2415

02:12:32,920 --> 02:12:34,630

You said it, the
only game in town.

2416

02:12:34,630 --> 02:12:39,020

2417

02:12:39,020 --> 02:12:40,810

OK.

2418

02:12:40,810 --> 02:12:48,670

So when Roosevelt dies,
that's 1945, I believe.

2419
02:12:48,670 --> 02:12:49,840
Right, right.

2420
02:12:49,840 --> 02:12:50,704
Yeah.

2421
02:12:50,704 --> 02:12:53,730
That was the time
I returned Salonika

2422
02:12:53,730 --> 02:12:57,550
with my aunt and cousin.

2423
02:12:57,550 --> 02:13:01,340
And you're 10 and
1/2 years old, yes?

2424
02:13:01,340 --> 02:13:03,118
'45, 11 years.

2425
02:13:03,118 --> 02:13:04,750
Yeah.

2426
02:13:04,750 --> 02:13:05,590
Well--

2427
02:13:05,590 --> 02:13:08,000
Close to 11 years, not yet.

2428
02:13:08,000 --> 02:13:13,180
I was going-- by the
Greek reckoning, I was 11.

2429
02:13:13,180 --> 02:13:16,215
By the way we do it
here, I was not yet 11.

2430
02:13:16,215 --> 02:13:16,715
11.

2431

02:13:16,715 --> 02:13:21,540

2432

02:13:21,540 --> 02:13:24,300

How would you describe
the 11-year-old

2433

02:13:24,300 --> 02:13:26,340

that you were at the time?

2434

02:13:26,340 --> 02:13:27,885

How had that child changed?

2435

02:13:27,885 --> 02:13:30,720

2436

02:13:30,720 --> 02:13:32,190

What kind of a person were you?

2437

02:13:32,190 --> 02:13:42,090

2438

02:13:42,090 --> 02:13:46,035

Well, one thing, I don't
believe was traumatized.

2439

02:13:46,035 --> 02:13:48,942

2440

02:13:48,942 --> 02:13:51,830

We had things.

2441

02:13:51,830 --> 02:13:54,350

My mother was
traumatized definitely.

2442

02:13:54,350 --> 02:13:58,175

And we felt that, but
I don't believe I was.

2443

02:13:58,175 --> 02:14:00,882

2444
02:14:00,882 --> 02:14:02,240
OK.

2445
02:14:02,240 --> 02:14:03,230
Why?

2446
02:14:03,230 --> 02:14:06,650
I mean, by saying
this, I wasn't trying

2447
02:14:06,650 --> 02:14:09,080
to feed you are you traumatized.

2448
02:14:09,080 --> 02:14:12,980
But it's more out of a
sense this child has lived

2449
02:14:12,980 --> 02:14:16,760
from age 6 or so on through--

2450
02:14:16,760 --> 02:14:20,030
no, a little bit later,
but not much later--

2451
02:14:20,030 --> 02:14:23,270
these two, three
years of experiences

2452
02:14:23,270 --> 02:14:26,270
that adults don't have.

2453
02:14:26,270 --> 02:14:27,680
You've been close to death.

2454
02:14:27,680 --> 02:14:29,210
How does that affect you?

2455
02:14:29,210 --> 02:14:30,200
How does it change you?

2456

02:14:30,200 --> 02:14:32,330
What does it make you--

2457
02:14:32,330 --> 02:14:34,340
yeah.

2458
02:14:34,340 --> 02:14:38,880
How do you become as a child
after going through that?

2459
02:14:38,880 --> 02:14:42,780
I don't know that it was--

2460
02:14:42,780 --> 02:14:49,200
I think I was a regular child.

2461
02:14:49,200 --> 02:14:56,460
Eventually, in 1945, I
went to school again.

2462
02:14:56,460 --> 02:15:00,600
And I was one of the kids.

2463
02:15:00,600 --> 02:15:02,880
And your brother, was
he more affected more

2464
02:15:02,880 --> 02:15:05,700
because he was older?

2465
02:15:05,700 --> 02:15:07,170
He was one of the kids also.

2466
02:15:07,170 --> 02:15:08,726
He has had the--

2467
02:15:08,726 --> 02:15:17,080
I remember him going
on hikes with friends.

2468
02:15:17,080 --> 02:15:19,370
In fact, the thing

that I remember

2469

02:15:19,370 --> 02:15:22,140

is that my mother
wouldn't stay alone.

2470

02:15:22,140 --> 02:15:25,800

She had a fear of staying alone.

2471

02:15:25,800 --> 02:15:29,105

And my brother
would go on hikes.

2472

02:15:29,105 --> 02:15:30,742

He would stay overnight.

2473

02:15:30,742 --> 02:15:31,700

And I had to stay home.

2474

02:15:31,700 --> 02:15:34,610

2475

02:15:34,610 --> 02:15:36,170

You anticipated a question.

2476

02:15:36,170 --> 02:15:41,900

Did the two of you come to be
caretakers for your mother?

2477

02:15:41,900 --> 02:15:45,510

Well, no, not really.

2478

02:15:45,510 --> 02:15:49,250

But just she had a
fear of staying alone.

2479

02:15:49,250 --> 02:15:52,140

She needed to have
someone there?

2480

02:15:52,140 --> 02:15:53,190

OK.

2481
02:15:53,190 --> 02:15:57,800
And that lasted forever.

2482
02:15:57,800 --> 02:16:00,080
And that hadn't
been there before?

2483
02:16:00,080 --> 02:16:01,370
That hadn't been there before?

2484
02:16:01,370 --> 02:16:02,580
I don't know.

2485
02:16:02,580 --> 02:16:03,750
OK.

2486
02:16:03,750 --> 02:16:05,130
I don't remember.

2487
02:16:05,130 --> 02:16:09,120
And did she get
the factory back?

2488
02:16:09,120 --> 02:16:12,350

2489
02:16:12,350 --> 02:16:13,315
Not really, no.

2490
02:16:13,315 --> 02:16:15,470
They didn't.

2491
02:16:15,470 --> 02:16:19,590
Where did you live when
you went back to Salonika?

2492
02:16:19,590 --> 02:16:21,900
Oh, we found a house.

2493
02:16:21,900 --> 02:16:27,340

We rented an
apartment in a house.

2494

02:16:27,340 --> 02:16:33,510

We lived there for a while,
then we moved to [INAUDIBLE]

2495

02:16:33,510 --> 02:16:36,309

because our--

2496

02:16:36,309 --> 02:16:39,620

oh, yeah, we got the thing back.

2497

02:16:39,620 --> 02:16:42,850

2498

02:16:42,850 --> 02:16:50,570

But we didn't have anyone
who could manage it well.

2499

02:16:50,570 --> 02:16:58,639

So we came to America because
our economics were not good.

2500

02:16:58,639 --> 02:16:59,139

OK.

2501

02:16:59,139 --> 02:17:02,170

2502

02:17:02,170 --> 02:17:06,580

Before I ask about
that, was there

2503

02:17:06,580 --> 02:17:08,740

a point where you
stopped looking

2504

02:17:08,740 --> 02:17:13,850

for information about your
father or your sister?

2505

02:17:13,850 --> 02:17:17,160
Yeah, after a year or so.

2506
02:17:17,160 --> 02:17:22,469

2507
02:17:22,469 --> 02:17:27,719
There was a place in the
old community offices.

2508
02:17:27,719 --> 02:17:35,020
There was a wall
where they had names

2509
02:17:35,020 --> 02:17:44,340
of people who were returning
or who were found to be alive.

2510
02:17:44,340 --> 02:17:48,820
And I remember going
there a couple of times.

2511
02:17:48,820 --> 02:17:50,177
And then we stopped going.

2512
02:17:50,177 --> 02:17:51,608
And I don't remember then.

2513
02:17:51,608 --> 02:17:59,010

2514
02:17:59,010 --> 02:18:01,650
Did your brother start working?

2515
02:18:01,650 --> 02:18:03,129
You went to school.

2516
02:18:03,129 --> 02:18:06,040
But did your mother go to work?

2517
02:18:06,040 --> 02:18:08,092
How did you support yourselves?

2518
02:18:08,092 --> 02:18:12,030

2519
02:18:12,030 --> 02:18:13,750
The thing was working.

2520
02:18:13,750 --> 02:18:15,270
We wasn't working well.

2521
02:18:15,270 --> 02:18:24,809
And we found our
finances going down.

2522
02:18:24,809 --> 02:18:27,910
I remember going
to private school.

2523
02:18:27,910 --> 02:18:29,940
We started-- it's
an American school--

2524
02:18:29,940 --> 02:18:32,820

2525
02:18:32,820 --> 02:18:34,600
for a couple years.

2526
02:18:34,600 --> 02:18:41,730
And we thought we couldn't
afford the thing anymore.

2527
02:18:41,730 --> 02:18:52,500
Fortunately, there
was some money that--

2528
02:18:52,500 --> 02:18:56,520
the American government
and Greek currency,

2529
02:18:56,520 --> 02:18:58,860
they couldn't do

anything with it.

2530

02:18:58,860 --> 02:19:03,120

And they called it Fulbright
scholarships-- was not

2531

02:19:03,120 --> 02:19:04,830

the real Fulbrights.

2532

02:19:04,830 --> 02:19:07,850

But that's what they called
it, Fulbright scholarships.

2533

02:19:07,850 --> 02:19:09,475

And I got one.

2534

02:19:09,475 --> 02:19:11,590

And I finished the--

2535

02:19:11,590 --> 02:19:12,090

Here?

2536

02:19:12,090 --> 02:19:13,910

--high school.

2537

02:19:13,910 --> 02:19:14,940

OK.

2538

02:19:14,940 --> 02:19:17,774

So what year did you come
to the United States?

2539

02:19:17,774 --> 02:19:20,549

In '56.

2540

02:19:20,549 --> 02:19:23,020

So it's still 11
years after the war.

2541

02:19:23,020 --> 02:19:23,520

Yeah.

2542

02:19:23,520 --> 02:19:26,219

2543

02:19:26,219 --> 02:19:29,040

When did you make the
decision as a family

2544

02:19:29,040 --> 02:19:30,320

to come to the United States?

2545

02:19:30,320 --> 02:19:37,889

Well, it must have been not
much before that because there

2546

02:19:37,889 --> 02:19:39,730

was no way of coming.

2547

02:19:39,730 --> 02:19:44,309

It was, I believe,
an act of Congress

2548

02:19:44,309 --> 02:19:48,100

passed about that time,
a little earlier, that

2549

02:19:48,100 --> 02:19:57,210

would allow us to be refugees
of some kind, be allowed in.

2550

02:19:57,210 --> 02:19:59,300

It wasn't easy going.

2551

02:19:59,300 --> 02:20:02,790

It wasn't easy to get
to the United States.

2552

02:20:02,790 --> 02:20:06,560

See, your situation is
different from so many other

2553

02:20:06,560 --> 02:20:11,190

of millions of survivors in that

you weren't displaced persons.

2554

02:20:11,190 --> 02:20:13,800

You weren't in DP
camps in Germany.

2555

02:20:13,800 --> 02:20:16,890

So many came to the
United States from there.

2556

02:20:16,890 --> 02:20:20,100

And there were quotas and so on.

2557

02:20:20,100 --> 02:20:22,180

But you went back to your homes.

2558

02:20:22,180 --> 02:20:22,680

Yeah.

2559

02:20:22,680 --> 02:20:29,720

So were you allowed in under
a Greek quota, for example?

2560

02:20:29,720 --> 02:20:31,880

Were you considered
citizens of Greece?

2561

02:20:31,880 --> 02:20:32,380

Yes.

2562

02:20:32,380 --> 02:20:33,180

Yeah.

2563

02:20:33,180 --> 02:20:35,520

And was it under that
condition, or was it

2564

02:20:35,520 --> 02:20:38,100

as Jewish survivors
from World War II?

2565

02:20:38,100 --> 02:20:40,110

I believe it was the latter.

2566
02:20:40,110 --> 02:20:45,300

2567
02:20:45,300 --> 02:20:49,590
That we were included as
displaced persons there,

2568
02:20:49,590 --> 02:20:51,690
but we were not
really displaced--

2569
02:20:51,690 --> 02:20:56,040
Well, not in the sense of not
being in your home community.

2570
02:20:56,040 --> 02:21:00,660
You know, you weren't in a camp
somewhere else after the war.

2571
02:21:00,660 --> 02:21:02,040
You went back to Salonika.

2572
02:21:02,040 --> 02:21:02,160
Yeah.

2573
02:21:02,160 --> 02:21:03,090
We went back to Salonika.

2574
02:21:03,090 --> 02:21:03,590
Yeah.

2575
02:21:03,590 --> 02:21:06,520

2576
02:21:06,520 --> 02:21:10,300
But 11 years is a long time,
you know, after the war to--

2577
02:21:10,300 --> 02:21:10,840
Yeah.

2578
02:21:10,840 --> 02:21:12,100
I went to high school.

2579
02:21:12,100 --> 02:21:13,240
I went to college.

2580
02:21:13,240 --> 02:21:13,770
Here.

2581
02:21:13,770 --> 02:21:14,670
In Salonika.

2582
02:21:14,670 --> 02:21:16,990
Ah, in Salonika.

2583
02:21:16,990 --> 02:21:17,950
I didn't finish there.

2584
02:21:17,950 --> 02:21:19,200
I finished here.

2585
02:21:19,200 --> 02:21:20,110
What did you finish?

2586
02:21:20,110 --> 02:21:23,920
What did you study in college?

2587
02:21:23,920 --> 02:21:24,850
Chemistry.

2588
02:21:24,850 --> 02:21:26,500
Chemistry.

2589
02:21:26,500 --> 02:21:30,490
And where did you go to school
here in the United States?

2590
02:21:30,490 --> 02:21:31,240
City College.

2591

02:21:31,240 --> 02:21:34,490
City College, of
course, and then a PhD

2592

02:21:34,490 --> 02:21:39,270
at Polytechnic
Institute of Brooklyn,

2593

02:21:39,270 --> 02:21:41,730
which now is part of an NYU.

2594

02:21:41,730 --> 02:21:47,650

2595

02:21:47,650 --> 02:21:49,750
Do you have children?

2596

02:21:49,750 --> 02:21:50,250
Yes.

2597

02:21:50,250 --> 02:21:53,190

2598

02:21:53,190 --> 02:21:56,180
I have three.

2599

02:21:56,180 --> 02:21:59,850
I have a daughter from
a previous marriage,

2600

02:21:59,850 --> 02:22:02,750
who lives in Greece.

2601

02:22:02,750 --> 02:22:04,000
I have a daughter in--

2602

02:22:04,000 --> 02:22:07,660

2603

02:22:07,660 --> 02:22:15,310
we have a daughter, who lives

in Eugene, Oregon and a son that

2604

02:22:15,310 --> 02:22:18,610

lives down the street.

2605

02:22:18,610 --> 02:22:21,520

And do they know of your story?

2606

02:22:21,520 --> 02:22:25,990

Did they ask about what
your experiences were?

2607

02:22:25,990 --> 02:22:28,120

Well, they know some.

2608

02:22:28,120 --> 02:22:29,950

OK.

2609

02:22:29,950 --> 02:22:32,530

Some people talked
about what had gone on

2610

02:22:32,530 --> 02:22:36,040

and some people stayed
really quiet after the war.

2611

02:22:36,040 --> 02:22:39,162

2612

02:22:39,162 --> 02:22:40,060

Yeah.

2613

02:22:40,060 --> 02:22:44,490

Well, I didn't talk much.

2614

02:22:44,490 --> 02:22:44,990

OK.

2615

02:22:44,990 --> 02:22:46,140

Yes, yes.

2616

02:22:46,140 --> 02:22:50,760
I didn't talk much
for many years.

2617
02:22:50,760 --> 02:22:53,280
Did your mother come to
the United States as well?

2618
02:22:53,280 --> 02:22:53,910
Yeah.

2619
02:22:53,910 --> 02:22:54,760
And your brother?

2620
02:22:54,760 --> 02:22:55,830
My aunt and--

2621
02:22:55,830 --> 02:22:56,510
Oh.

2622
02:22:56,510 --> 02:22:59,190
--my cousin, yeah.

2623
02:22:59,190 --> 02:23:01,500
All at the same time in 1956?

2624
02:23:01,500 --> 02:23:05,460
Well, about the same--

2625
02:23:05,460 --> 02:23:07,790
not together, about
the same time, though.

2626
02:23:07,790 --> 02:23:09,120
OK.

2627
02:23:09,120 --> 02:23:12,600
And did you have any
relatives here already?

2628
02:23:12,600 --> 02:23:13,620
Yeah.

2629
02:23:13,620 --> 02:23:15,810
We find out we had.

2630
02:23:15,810 --> 02:23:18,990
My mother had some cousins.

2631
02:23:18,990 --> 02:23:23,014
So from the Pardo
side of the family?

2632
02:23:23,014 --> 02:23:23,850
Yeah.

2633
02:23:23,850 --> 02:23:24,350
OK.

2634
02:23:24,350 --> 02:23:27,940

2635
02:23:27,940 --> 02:23:29,995
How did she adjust
to the United States?

2636
02:23:29,995 --> 02:23:32,780

2637
02:23:32,780 --> 02:23:37,120
Well, not very well.

2638
02:23:37,120 --> 02:23:37,620
OK.

2639
02:23:37,620 --> 02:23:40,980

2640
02:23:40,980 --> 02:23:46,640
Did you go back to Greece
after you arrived here?

2641
02:23:46,640 --> 02:23:49,090

Yeah.

2642
02:23:49,090 --> 02:23:50,750
We've been going--

2643
02:23:50,750 --> 02:23:51,250
OK.

2644
02:23:51,250 --> 02:23:53,200
--recently.

2645
02:23:53,200 --> 02:23:55,720
And where does your
daughter live in Greece?

2646
02:23:55,720 --> 02:23:56,800
In Athens.

2647
02:23:56,800 --> 02:23:57,957
In Athens, OK.

2648
02:23:57,957 --> 02:24:00,598

2649
02:24:00,598 --> 02:24:02,140
Is there something
that I should have

2650
02:24:02,140 --> 02:24:08,265
asked that I haven't asked that
you would like to add to this?

2651
02:24:08,265 --> 02:24:09,726
I don't know what.

2652
02:24:09,726 --> 02:24:12,648

2653
02:24:12,648 --> 02:24:13,622
I don't know.

2654

02:24:13,622 --> 02:24:19,960

2655

02:24:19,960 --> 02:24:22,090

Is there something,
a final thought,

2656

02:24:22,090 --> 02:24:24,640

you would like to
leave with people

2657

02:24:24,640 --> 02:24:28,150

who will listen to
your testimony and hear

2658

02:24:28,150 --> 02:24:29,710

about your experiences?

2659

02:24:29,710 --> 02:24:32,680

2660

02:24:32,680 --> 02:24:35,190

Well, there's one thing.

2661

02:24:35,190 --> 02:24:41,240

And I don't want to get into
the politics of the day.

2662

02:24:41,240 --> 02:24:47,050

But when I heard
about this first thing

2663

02:24:47,050 --> 02:24:50,380

that a child was
forcibly removed

2664

02:24:50,380 --> 02:24:56,720

from mothers down at the border,
my mind went to my sister.

2665

02:24:56,720 --> 02:24:57,220

Just--

2666

02:24:57,220 --> 02:25:08,140

2667

02:25:08,140 --> 02:25:10,810

And you have to
referring to events

2668

02:25:10,810 --> 02:25:15,010

that have happened in the
past year in the United States

2669

02:25:15,010 --> 02:25:20,710

with Mexicans and other
South Americans who

2670

02:25:20,710 --> 02:25:23,060

are trying to cross the
southern US borders?

2671

02:25:23,060 --> 02:25:28,450

Just the first thing about
one child being forced,

2672

02:25:28,450 --> 02:25:33,975

removed from the mother,
and immediately that's

2673

02:25:33,975 --> 02:25:37,411

what came to my mind.

2674

02:25:37,411 --> 02:25:37,911

Yeah.

2675

02:25:37,911 --> 02:25:43,217

2676

02:25:43,217 --> 02:25:44,300

I think it's very apropos.

2677

02:25:44,300 --> 02:25:49,020

2678

02:25:49,020 --> 02:25:50,690

Thank you.

2679

02:25:50,690 --> 02:25:51,830

Thank you very much.

2680

02:25:51,830 --> 02:25:53,900

Yeah.

2681

02:25:53,900 --> 02:25:58,690

This concludes the United
States Holocaust Memorial Museum

2682

02:25:58,690 --> 02:26:06,820

interview with Mr. Isaak
Sarfati on August 17, 2019

2683

02:26:06,820 --> 02:26:08,950

in Brooklyn, New York.

2684

02:26:08,950 --> 02:26:15,340

And after we cut here, we
will film a few photographs.

2685

02:26:15,340 --> 02:26:18,490

And you'll be able to tell us
who is on those photographs.

2686

02:26:18,490 --> 02:26:19,240

Thank you.

2687

02:26:19,240 --> 02:26:20,762

OK.

2688

02:26:20,762 --> 02:26:22,000

[INAUDIBLE]

2689

02:26:22,000 --> 02:26:27,370

So Mr. Sarfati, tell us who is
in this picture in this photo.

2690

02:26:27,370 --> 02:26:35,020
My father, my mother,
my older brother, and I.

2691
02:26:35,020 --> 02:26:37,680
And which one are you?

2692
02:26:37,680 --> 02:26:39,450
The smallest.

2693
02:26:39,450 --> 02:26:40,020
OK.

2694
02:26:40,020 --> 02:26:43,170
And so this probably
looks like it was taken

2695
02:26:43,170 --> 02:26:45,810
in the late '30s at some point.

2696
02:26:45,810 --> 02:26:48,270
You don't look very old there.

2697
02:26:48,270 --> 02:26:51,150
Do you have any recollection
of what the date would be?

2698
02:26:51,150 --> 02:26:53,750

2699
02:26:53,750 --> 02:27:03,480
I should have, but I
have the impression

2700
02:27:03,480 --> 02:27:05,215
that, if I take it
out of the thing,

2701
02:27:05,215 --> 02:27:06,820
there will date
in the back of it.

2702

02:27:06,820 --> 02:27:08,760
But I don't want to do it.

2703
02:27:08,760 --> 02:27:13,260
Because my mother had
the thing of putting

2704
02:27:13,260 --> 02:27:15,240
the dates of pictures.

2705
02:27:15,240 --> 02:27:19,650
We didn't take many
pictures at that time.

2706
02:27:19,650 --> 02:27:26,460
You know, we had to go find
a photographer with a camera

2707
02:27:26,460 --> 02:27:27,900
and take one picture.

2708
02:27:27,900 --> 02:27:31,230
So my mother would
put the date in.

2709
02:27:31,230 --> 02:27:32,730
OK.

2710
02:27:32,730 --> 02:27:35,190
Tell us again then
everybody's first name,

2711
02:27:35,190 --> 02:27:38,820
just so that we have it
together with the photograph.

2712
02:27:38,820 --> 02:27:41,950
There's you, Isaak,
your brother.

2713
02:27:41,950 --> 02:27:46,260
My brother, name is Azaria.

2714
02:27:46,260 --> 02:27:48,760
We call him Azi.

2715
02:27:48,760 --> 02:27:51,350
My father-- Sam.

2716
02:27:51,350 --> 02:27:53,640
And my mother's Estrea.

2717
02:27:53,640 --> 02:27:56,940
Estrea Sarfati,
the Sarfati family.

2718
02:27:56,940 --> 02:27:57,820
Sarfati.

2719
02:27:57,820 --> 02:28:01,070
OK, thank you.

2720
02:28:01,070 --> 02:28:01,790
OK.

2721
02:28:01,790 --> 02:28:05,330
Mr. Sarfati, so tell
me this photograph.

2722
02:28:05,330 --> 02:28:08,240
The two young men and
the lady in between them,

2723
02:28:08,240 --> 02:28:09,710
who is in this photo?

2724
02:28:09,710 --> 02:28:11,900
My mother is in the middle.

2725
02:28:11,900 --> 02:28:17,990
And the taller one is
Azaria, Azi, my brother.

2726
02:28:17,990 --> 02:28:21,080

And the shorter one is me.

2727

02:28:21,080 --> 02:28:23,450

And about when was this taken?

2728

02:28:23,450 --> 02:28:31,070

That was, I believe, at the time
when we came to this country

2729

02:28:31,070 --> 02:28:34,850

in 1956 or thereabouts.

2730

02:28:34,850 --> 02:28:36,170

OK, thank you.

2731

02:28:36,170 --> 02:28:39,110

And one thought that I had
about the other photograph,

2732

02:28:39,110 --> 02:28:40,850

your sister isn't in it.

2733

02:28:40,850 --> 02:28:44,720

So maybe it was before
she was born in 1939?

2734

02:28:44,720 --> 02:28:45,530

Yes.

2735

02:28:45,530 --> 02:28:46,460

OK.

2736

02:28:46,460 --> 02:28:48,400

All right, thank you.