1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,620

2

00:00:02,620 --> 00:00:06,490 This is a United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

3

00:00:06,490 --> 00:00:14,650 interview with Mrs. Amely Smith on September 26, 2019

4

00:00:14,650 --> 00:00:17,020 in Peabody, Massachusetts.

5

00:00:17,020 --> 00:00:19,870 Thank you very, very much, Mrs. Smith,

6

00:00:19,870 --> 00:00:21,660 for agreeing to speak with us today.

7

00:00:21,660 --> 00:00:23,590 I'm very happy to be here.

8

00:00:23,590 --> 00:00:28,090 And to share your experiences and something of your story.

9

00:00:28,090 --> 00:00:32,590 I'm going to start the interview with the most basic questions,

10

00:00:32,590 --> 00:00:34,220 and then we go from there.

11

00:00:34,220 --> 00:00:34,840 OK?

12

00:00:34,840 --> 00:00:36,010 All right. 13 00:00:36,010 --> 00:00:38,770 So the very first question I have is,

14

00:00:38,770 --> 00:00:43,480 can you tell me what your name was at birth?

15

00:00:43,480 --> 00:00:46,750 Amely Helen Baer.

16

00:00:46,750 --> 00:00:48,430 How do I spell "Baer?"

17

00:00:48,430 --> 00:00:51,290 B-- in Germany, we spelled it B-A--

18

00:00:51,290 --> 00:00:52,210 umlaut.

19

00:00:52,210 --> 00:00:53,440 The little dots.

20

00:00:53,440 --> 00:00:54,410 --H-R.

21

00:00:54,410 --> 00:00:54,910 Ah, I see.

22

00:00:54,910 --> 00:00:59,140 And when we came here, we changed it to B-A-E-R. B-A-E-R.

23 00:00:59,140 --> 00:01:01,780 B A E B and you dropped the

B-A-E-R, and you dropped the H.

24

00:01:01,780 --> 00:01:02,680 That's right. 00:01:02,680 --> 00:01:03,730 OK.

26

00:01:03,730 --> 00:01:06,010 So you were Amely Helen Bahr.

27

00:01:06,010 --> 00:01:07,220 Where were you born?

28

00:01:07,220 --> 00:01:11,260 I was born in Koenigsberg, East Prussia.

29

00:01:11,260 --> 00:01:12,550 And when were you born?

30

00:01:12,550 --> 00:01:16,390 In October 11, 1926.

31

00:01:16,390 --> 00:01:19,120 October 11, 1926.

32

00:01:19,120 --> 00:01:19,740 Yes.

33

00:01:19,740 --> 00:01:21,190 OK.

34

00:01:21,190 --> 00:01:24,400 Well, I want to ask you many questions

35

00:01:24,400 --> 00:01:28,030 about your early years there, your childhood

36

00:01:28,030 --> 00:01:29,500 and teenage years.

37

00:01:29,500 --> 00:01:32,620 And I have to say, we don't have many interviewees 38 00:01:32,620 --> 00:01:33,550 from Koenigsberg.

39 00:01:33,550 --> 00:01:34,420 All right

All right.

40

00:01:34,420 --> 00:01:36,430 So I'm going to want to know as much as you

41

00:01:36,430 --> 00:01:40,990 can share with us, what was it like growing up there.

42

00:01:40,990 --> 00:01:43,430 Let's start, though, with your family.

43

00:01:43,430 --> 00:01:45,250 Did you have brothers and sisters?

44

00:01:45,250 --> 00:01:46,920 No, I'm an only child.

45

00:01:46,920 --> 00:01:48,040 OK.

46

00:01:48,040 --> 00:01:53,060 And so your mother's family, what was her maiden name?

47

00:01:53,060 --> 00:01:55,825 Her maiden name was Dubowsky.

48

00:01:55,825 --> 00:01:58,990 D-U-B-O-W-S-K-Y.

49

00:01:58,990 --> 00:01:59,890 D like David? 50 00:01:59,890 --> 00:02:00,740 David, yes.

51 00:02:00,740 --> 00:02:01,930 OK, Dubowsky.

52 00:02:01,930 --> 00:02:02,710 That's right.

53 00:02:02,710 --> 00:02:04,660 And what was her first name?

54 00:02:04,660 --> 00:02:06,970 Meta, M-E-T-A.

55 00:02:06,970 --> 00:02:08,320 Meta Dubowsky.

56 00:02:08,320 --> 00:02:09,070 That's right.

57 00:02:09,070 --> 00:02:11,080 And was she from Koenigsberg, too?

58 00:02:11,080 --> 00:02:13,710 No, she grew up in Tilsit.

59 00:02:13,710 --> 00:02:14,210 Oh.

60 00:02:14,210 --> 00:02:15,160 Yes.

61 00:02:15,160 --> 00:02:17,380 And Tilst tells me--

62 00:02:17,380 --> 00:02:18,460 what is Tilsit? 00:02:18,460 --> 00:02:19,825 Where is Tilsit?

64

00:02:19,825 --> 00:02:23,320 Tilsit is about two hours from Germany--

65

00:02:23,320 --> 00:02:23,890 from Germany.

66

00:02:23,890 --> 00:02:25,040 From Koenigsberg.

67

00:02:25,040 --> 00:02:25,540 OK.

68

00:02:25,540 --> 00:02:31,060 And I think, as I remember, it was on the River Memel.

69

00:02:31,060 --> 00:02:31,570 OK.

70

00:02:31,570 --> 00:02:36,070 And I think when you crossed the bridge, you were in Lithuania.

71

00:02:36,070 --> 00:02:36,790 That's right.

72

00:02:36,790 --> 00:02:37,920 That's right, isn't it?

73

00:02:37,920 --> 00:02:39,760 So the River Memel has--

74

00:02:39,760 --> 00:02:41,860 the name is Niemen in Polish.

75

00:02:41,860 --> 00:02:42,710 Yeah, that's right. 76 00:02:42,710 --> 00:02:43,210 Yeah.

77 00:02:43,210 --> 00:02:44,660 And Nemunas in Lithuanian.

78 00:02:44,660 --> 00:02:45,160 Yeah.

79 00:02:45,160 --> 00:02:48,550 So she grew up in Tilsit, which was on that river.

80 00:02:48,550 --> 00:02:49,840 On that river, yes.

81 00:02:49,840 --> 00:02:50,830 Right at the border.

82 00:02:50,830 --> 00:02:52,210 I remember that, yes.

83 00:02:52,210 --> 00:02:53,110 Did you visit it?

84

00:02:53,110 --> 00:02:55,120 I was there when my grandparents were there.

85 00:02:55,120 --> 00:02:58,150 As a matter of fact,

until I was three,

86 00:02:58,150 --> 00:03:01,450 my great grandfather still lived, but my great grandmother

87 00:03:01,450 --> 00:03:04,060 died just before I was born.

88 00:03:04,060 --> 00:03:04,880

89

00:03:04,880 --> 00:03:05,380 Oh, my.

90 00:03:05,380 --> 00:03:07,000 Yeah, we used to visit him.

91

00:03:07,000 --> 00:03:12,350 And then of course, I was often with my grandparents in Tilsit.

92

00:03:12,350 --> 00:03:14,650 Did your mother have brothers and sisters?

93

00:03:14,650 --> 00:03:16,640 Yes, she had a sister.

94

00:03:16,640 --> 00:03:18,070 What was her name?

95

00:03:18,070 --> 00:03:19,550 Edith, in German.

96

00:03:19,550 --> 00:03:21,070 E-D-I-T-H.

97

00:03:21,070 --> 00:03:21,920 OK.

98

00:03:21,920 --> 00:03:22,420 Edith.

99

00:03:22,420 --> 00:03:25,160 And she was 2 and 1/2 years younger than she.

100

00:03:25,160 --> 00:03:26,410 OK.

101

00:03:26,410 --> 00:03:30,710 So Meta and Edith, were they the only children for this family?

102

00:03:30,710 --> 00:03:33,530 Yeah, there was a little boy who died as a baby.

103

00:03:33,530 --> 00:03:35,140 Yes, yes.

104

00:03:35,140 --> 00:03:38,050 And do you know how your grandfather made a living?

105

00:03:38,050 --> 00:03:46,060 Yes, he had a cigar Store a cigar, yes.

106

00:03:46,060 --> 00:03:48,670 Where was it located in Tilsit?

107 00:03:48,670 --> 00:03:49,690 Where?

108 00:03:49,690 --> 00:03:50,868 You mean on what street?

109

00:03:50,868 --> 00:03:52,910 Well, sometimes people will remember the streets.

110

00:03:52,910 --> 00:03:53,800 I don't remember.

111 00:03:53,800 --> 00:03:54,770 I don't remember that.

112 00:03:54,770 --> 00:03:55,270 No.

113 00:03:55,270 --> 00:03:56,500

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy. Was it in the center of town?

114

00:03:56,500 --> 00:03:58,120 Yes, it probably was.

115 00:03:58,120 --> 00:03:58,900 Yes, it was.

116 00:03:58,900 --> 00:04:00,610 And they had many relatives there.

117 00:04:00,610 --> 00:04:02,840 Other relatives, and-- yes.

118 00:04:02,840 --> 00:04:03,340 OK.

119 00:04:03,340 --> 00:04:05,800 So the family was well established in that city.

120 00:04:05,800 --> 00:04:07,090 Yes, they were.

121 00:04:07,090 --> 00:04:10,630 I think their grandparents or great grandparents--

122 00:04:10,630 --> 00:04:13,480 I think they were there since 1700 or so.

123 00:04:13,480 --> 00:04:14,380 Oh, that's a while.

124 00:04:14,380 --> 00:04:17,829 Then the one part of the family, my grandmothers,

125 00:04:17,829 --> 00:04:20,920 my grandmothers from the other family,

126

00:04:20,920 --> 00:04:23,680 they came from Vilna, from Lithuanian.

127

00:04:23,680 --> 00:04:25,790 That's how they're named Dubowsky.

128

00:04:25,790 --> 00:04:26,590 Oh.

129 00:04:26,590 --> 00:04:30,280 And they came, I guess, and established themselves

130 00:04:30,280 --> 00:04:30,970 in Tilsit.

131 00:04:30,970 --> 00:04:33,760 But my grandfather, I think he must

132

00:04:33,760 --> 00:04:35,740 have come as a small child.

133

00:04:35,740 --> 00:04:38,470 Because none of his sisters are brothers

134

00:04:38,470 --> 00:04:41,110 had any accent in German, accents.

135

00:04:41,110 --> 00:04:44,570 I didn't know those great grandparents anymore.

136

00:04:44,570 --> 00:04:46,810 So it was your mother's side of the family where 137 00:04:46,810 --> 00:04:49,840 there were great grandparents, the great grandfather that you

138 00:04:49,840 --> 00:04:50,530 did know.

139 00:04:50,530 --> 00:04:51,400 Yes, yes.

140 00:04:51,400 --> 00:04:53,920 What was his name?

141 00:04:53,920 --> 00:04:56,630 His name was Moritz Rosenthal.

142 00:04:56,630 --> 00:04:57,130 Rosenthal.

143 00:04:57,130 --> 00:04:59,020 Ah, Moritz Rosenthal.

144 00:04:59,020 --> 00:04:59,530 Yeah.

145 00:04:59,530 --> 00:05:00,580 OK.

146 00:05:00,580 --> 00:05:03,780 And all of this--

147 00:05:03,780 --> 00:05:05,982 well, I don't know.

148 00:05:05,982 --> 00:05:07,440 I was going to say, all of this was

149 00:05:07,440 --> 00:05:10,020 part of the Russian Empire in the 19th century, 150 00:05:10,020 --> 00:05:11,418 but maybe not.

151 00:05:11,418 --> 00:05:12,210 No, I don't think--

152 00:05:12,210 --> 00:05:14,127 No, because Vilna, of course, would have been.

153 00:05:14,127 --> 00:05:14,850 Yes, yes.

154 00:05:14,850 --> 00:05:16,490 And Lithuania would have been.

155 00:05:16,490 --> 00:05:17,615 That's right, but I don't--

156 00:05:17,615 --> 00:05:19,670 But the Koenigsberg area and Tilsit, that

157 00:05:19,670 --> 00:05:20,760 was part of Germany.

158 00:05:20,760 --> 00:05:21,450 That was part.

159 00:05:21,450 --> 00:05:22,000 Oh, yes.

160 00:05:22,000 --> 00:05:23,470 That was.

161 00:05:23,470 --> 00:05:28,110 The Junkers, who were the elite--

162 00:05:28,110 --> 00:05:29,040

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

Tell me what is it.

163 00:05:29,040 --> 00:05:30,660 For those of us who don't know, what

164 00:05:30,660 --> 00:05:32,620 were the Junkers in Germany?

165 00:05:32,620 --> 00:05:37,120 The Junkers were the I say the aristocrats,

166 00:05:37,120 --> 00:05:39,900 and they were mostly came from East Prussia,

167 00:05:39,900 --> 00:05:41,760 from Prussia or East Prussia.

168 00:05:41,760 --> 00:05:42,260 OK.

169 00:05:42,260 --> 00:05:48,390 And usually they had land, landowners, and big landowners.

170 00:05:48,390 --> 00:05:54,060 So would this be people who had a "von" in front of their name?

171 00:05:54,060 --> 00:05:55,180 Most of them, yes.

172 00:05:55,180 --> 00:05:56,210 Yes, that's it.

173 00:05:56,210 --> 00:05:56,940 Yes.

174 00:05:56,940 --> 00:06:00,390 One of the most famous ladies was a Grafin con Doenhoff.

175

00:06:00,390 --> 00:06:01,720 Yes, I have her book.

176

00:06:01,720 --> 00:06:02,220 Oh, yeah.

177

00:06:02,220 --> 00:06:02,720 Me too.

. _ .

178 00:06:02,720 --> 00:06:03,750 Very interesting.

179

00:06:03,750 --> 00:06:05,670 Yes, yes.

180

00:06:05,670 --> 00:06:08,110 She there had a family estate in Prussia.

181 00:06:08,110 --> 00:06:09,070 That's right.

182 00:06:09,070 --> 00:06:09,570 Oh, yes.

183 00:06:09,570 --> 00:06:10,320 Many did.

184 00:06:10,320 --> 00:06:11,700 Yes, yes.

185 00:06:11,700 --> 00:06:13,890 Small towns, mostly.

186 00:06:13,890 --> 00:06:17,700 And so this was your mother's side of the family.

187 00:06:17,700 --> 00:06:18,240

188 00:06:18,240 --> 00:06:21,630 And your father's side of the family,

189 00:06:21,630 --> 00:06:23,430 how many brothers and sisters did he have?

190 00:06:23,430 --> 00:06:25,380 Oh, there were eight.

191 00:06:25,380 --> 00:06:27,540 Four sisters and four brothers.

192

00:06:27,540 --> 00:06:30,950 So eight children they had, and they grew up in Hamburg.

193

00:06:30,950 --> 00:06:31,950 They grew up in Hamburg?

194 00:06:31,950 --> 00:06:32,617 Hamburg, Altona.

195 00:06:32,617 --> 00:06:33,340 Yes, yes.

196 00:06:33,340 --> 00:06:36,200 He comes from Hamburg, but he went

197 00:06:36,200 --> 00:06:38,940 to establish a business in Koenigsberg.

198 00:06:38,940 --> 00:06:40,410 What brought him East?

199 00:06:40,410 --> 00:06:41,700 What's that? 200 00:06:41,700 --> 00:06:44,550 What brought your father eastwards?

201 00:06:44,550 --> 00:06:47,100 Because I guess there was an opportunity.

202

00:06:47,100 --> 00:06:52,110 He learned the-- when he was 14, he left school.

203 00:06:52,110 --> 00:06:52,860 They had to leave.

204 00:06:52,860 --> 00:06:54,490 You know, they had to make a living.

205 00:06:54,490 --> 00:06:58,530 And so he learned the business of hides and skins.

206 00:06:58,530 --> 00:07:02,130 And then there was some opportunity to be in business.

207 00:07:02,130 --> 00:07:05,160 As a matter of fact, he was in business with my mother's

208 00:07:05,160 --> 00:07:07,950 uncle, Samuel Dubowsky.

209 00:07:07,950 --> 00:07:09,647 And that's how my mother met him.

210 00:07:09,647 --> 00:07:11,105 Well, that was one of my questions. 211 00:07:11,105 --> 00:07:12,272 And this was in Koenigsberg.

212 00:07:12,272 --> 00:07:13,290 That was in Koenigsberg.

213 00:07:13,290 --> 00:07:13,870 OK.

214 00:07:13,870 --> 00:07:15,510 And what was your father's first name?

215 00:07:15,510 --> 00:07:16,560 Josef.

216 00:07:16,560 --> 00:07:17,740 Josef Bahr?

217 00:07:17,740 --> 00:07:18,600 That's right.

218 00:07:18,600 --> 00:07:19,530 OK.

219 00:07:19,530 --> 00:07:22,680 And do you know when they met?

220 00:07:22,680 --> 00:07:23,440 When they met?

221 00:07:23,440 --> 00:07:24,240 Yes.

222 00:07:24,240 --> 00:07:27,990 I would say 1923.

223 00:07:27,990 --> 00:07:29,820 They met-- they met at a-- 00:07:29,820 --> 00:07:31,890 my uncle's second wedding.

00:07:31,890 --> 00:07:34,620 His wife died, and he got married again.

226

00:07:34,620 --> 00:07:37,110 And they met at their wedding, this uncle

227

00:07:37,110 --> 00:07:39,150 who was in business with him.

228

00:07:39,150 --> 00:07:42,360 And so this is uncle on your mother's side.

229

00:07:42,360 --> 00:07:43,260 So--

230

00:07:43,260 --> 00:07:44,520 Yes, Dubowsky.

231

00:07:44,520 --> 00:07:47,220 Yeah, how was she related to him?

232

00:07:47,220 --> 00:07:49,410 Was it her father's brother or something?

233

00:07:49,410 --> 00:07:52,630 Yes, was her father's brother who got married again, yes.

234 00:07:52,630 --> 00:07:53,130 All right.

235 00:07:53,130 --> 00:07:54,120 And-- 00:07:54,120 --> 00:07:55,690 And they lived in Koenigsberg.

237

00:07:55,690 --> 00:07:56,930 And they live in Koenigsberg.

238

00:07:56,930 --> 00:07:57,430 Yes.

239

00:07:57,430 --> 00:08:00,440

240 00:08:00,440 --> 00:08:07,240 Your grandfather, then, it was your grandfather's brother

241

00:08:07,240 --> 00:08:08,070 was this man?

242

00:08:08,070 --> 00:08:08,570 Yes.

243

00:08:08,570 --> 00:08:10,750 And his name his first name was what?

244

00:08:10,750 --> 00:08:11,460 Samuel.

245

00:08:11,460 --> 00:08:11,990 Samuel.

246

00:08:11,990 --> 00:08:12,490 Yes.

247

00:08:12,490 --> 00:08:14,450 And what was your grandfather's name?

248 00:08:14,450 --> 00:08:14,950 Louis.

249 00:08:14,950 --> 00:08:15,450 Louis.

250 00:08:15,450 --> 00:08:16,000 Yes.

251 00:08:16,000 --> 00:08:16,900 All right.

252 00:08:16,900 --> 00:08:20,620 And your grandmother's name on your mother's side?

253 00:08:20,620 --> 00:08:21,430 Ella.

254 00:08:21,430 --> 00:08:22,330 Ella Rosenthal.

255 00:08:22,330 --> 00:08:23,380 Yeah, Ella Rosenthal.

256 00:08:23,380 --> 00:08:25,330 Rosenthal, Dubowsky.

257 00:08:25,330 --> 00:08:29,800 And did you know your father's relatives much?

258 00:08:29,800 --> 00:08:31,500 Did they stay in Hamburg, or did--

259 00:08:31,500 --> 00:08:32,000 No, no.

260 00:08:32,000 --> 00:08:36,340 They-- most of them, the children, the boys,

261 00:08:36,340 --> 00:08:39,460 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

the other three boys, except my father moved to Koenigsberg,

262 00:08:39,460 --> 00:08:41,320 and they moved to Hanover.

263 00:08:41,320 --> 00:08:42,480 They lived in Hanover.

264 00:08:42,480 --> 00:08:45,670 I never was in Hamburg until later, after the war.

265 00:08:45,670 --> 00:08:50,080 And then my grandmother-my grandfather, my father's

266 00:08:50,080 --> 00:08:51,370 father, died very young.

267 00:08:51,370 --> 00:08:52,550 He had diabetes.

268 00:08:52,550 --> 00:08:55,870 And I think my father was 16 maybe when he died.

269 00:08:55,870 --> 00:08:56,800 He was the youngest.

270 00:08:56,800 --> 00:08:58,592 My father was the youngest of the children.

271 00:08:58,592 --> 00:08:59,530 Of the eight children.

272 00:08:59,530 --> 00:09:00,505 Of all the children, yes.

273 00:09:00,505 --> 00:09:01,005 OK. 274 00:09:01,005 --> 00:09:03,610 And so my grandmother became quite old.

275 00:09:03,610 --> 00:09:05,860 She was 88 when she died.

276 00:09:05,860 --> 00:09:08,093 And she was-- she lived--

277 00:09:08,093 --> 00:09:09,760 she lived-- she lived with her daughter.

278 00:09:09,760 --> 00:09:14,740 But in the summer, she was always in a hotel near Hanover.

279 00:09:14,740 --> 00:09:17,950 And it was a Jewish hotel, kosher.

280 00:09:17,950 --> 00:09:22,240 And then she had birthday August 27.

281 00:09:22,240 --> 00:09:24,900 So every year the whole family came.

282 00:09:24,900 --> 00:09:25,540 You, too?

283 00:09:25,540 --> 00:09:26,110 Yes.

284 00:09:26,110 --> 00:09:29,090 Yes, and I remember especially her 80th birthday.

285 00:09:29,090 --> 00:09:29,590

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I remember.

286 00:09:29,590 --> 00:09:31,420 We have a lovely picture of that.

287 00:09:31,420 --> 00:09:33,310 Yes, I have.

288 00:09:33,310 --> 00:09:37,330 And you were about how old when her 80th birthday

289 00:09:37,330 --> 00:09:37,960 turned around?

290 00:09:37,960 --> 00:09:39,970 I was 8 years old.

291 00:09:39,970 --> 00:09:41,500 So it was 1934?

292 00:09:41,500 --> 00:09:42,620 Yes, that's right.

293 00:09:42,620 --> 00:09:43,120 OK.

294 00:09:43,120 --> 00:09:45,740

295 00:09:45,740 --> 00:09:50,360 And did you-- so that was an opportunity for you to meet all

296 00:09:50,360 --> 00:09:51,470 of the aunts and uncles--

297 00:09:51,470 --> 00:09:52,070 That's right. 00:09:52,070 --> 00:09:53,180 --on your father's side.

299 00:09:53,180 --> 00:09:54,050 Yes.

300 00:09:54,050 --> 00:09:56,870 Tell me their names, if you can.

301 00:09:56,870 --> 00:09:58,850 I think you mean his brothers and his sisters?

302 00:09:58,850 --> 00:09:59,510 Mm-hmm.

303

00:09:59,510 --> 00:10:01,820 The oldest one was [? Zali. ?]

304

00:10:01,820 --> 00:10:02,460 [? Zali. ?]

305

00:10:02,460 --> 00:10:02,960 Zali.

306

00:10:02,960 --> 00:10:06,610 And he was a banker, and he was one who was a millionaire.

307

00:10:06,610 --> 00:10:11,150 So he supported the mother, and he was a wonderful person.

308

00:10:11,150 --> 00:10:12,740 And became a bachelor.

309

00:10:12,740 --> 00:10:13,640 Was a bachelor.

310 00:10:13,640 --> 00:10:14,180 OK.

311 00:10:14,180 --> 00:10:17,510 Then there was Phillip.

312 00:10:17,510 --> 00:10:21,110 Phillip, he had his wife Sophie.

313 00:10:21,110 --> 00:10:21,680 Mm-hmm.

314 00:10:21,680 --> 00:10:23,280 And they had two children.

315 00:10:23,280 --> 00:10:23,800 OK.

316 00:10:23,800 --> 00:10:25,790 Ruth and Heinz.

317 00:10:25,790 --> 00:10:26,292 OK.

318 00:10:26,292 --> 00:10:27,500 Do you want to know that far?

319 00:10:27,500 --> 00:10:28,070 Yes.

320 00:10:28,070 --> 00:10:29,120 And then the next?

321 00:10:29,120 --> 00:10:34,430 And the next, then there was Julius and Marianna.

322 00:10:34,430 --> 00:10:35,970 And they had no children.

323 00:10:35,970 --> 00:10:36,470 OK. 00:10:36,470 --> 00:10:38,270 So they were not that many.

325

00:10:38,270 --> 00:10:40,370 And then the sisters.

326

00:10:40,370 --> 00:10:43,130 OK, well, one sister.

327

00:10:43,130 --> 00:10:44,885 I was named after her.

328

00:10:44,885 --> 00:10:46,780 Her name was Helena.

329

00:10:46,780 --> 00:10:47,300 Helena.

330

00:10:47,300 --> 00:10:49,280 And that's my second name.

331

00:10:49,280 --> 00:10:53,910 And she was murdered by her husband.

332

00:10:53,910 --> 00:10:56,100 Her husband was a dentist.

333

00:10:56,100 --> 00:10:59,150 And he used to inject her with morphine.

334

00:10:59,150 --> 00:11:00,980 And they didn't know it, and then she died.

335

00:11:00,980 --> 00:11:03,560 My grandmother was always very suspicious of that,

336 00:11:03,560 --> 00:11:05,330 she suddenly died.

337
00:11:05,330 --> 00:11:09,028
And must have been maybe
30 or maybe in their 20s.

338 00:11:09,028 --> 00:11:09,570 I don't know.

339

00:11:09,570 --> 00:11:11,010 This was before I was born.

340

00:11:11,010 --> 00:11:12,490 I think it was in 1920.

341

00:11:12,490 --> 00:11:16,040 It was big in the papers all over the country then,

342

00:11:16,040 --> 00:11:17,300 but they didn't know it.

343 00:11:17,300 --> 00:11:19,710 And then he'd married again.

344

00:11:19,710 --> 00:11:21,000 And the same thing happened.

345

00:11:21,000 --> 00:11:24,290 That woman, the wife died, so they got suspicious.

346

00:11:24,290 --> 00:11:26,030 And then they came to my grandmother,

347

00:11:26,030 --> 00:11:30,160 said we'd like to open the grave up to see what happened to her.

348

00:11:30,160 --> 00:11:32,520 And that's not a Jewish thing to do that. 349 00:11:32,520 --> 00:11:33,020 Yeah.

350 00:11:33,020 --> 00:11:34,490 And they were rather religious.

351 00:11:34,490 --> 00:11:35,540 But then she gave in.

352 00:11:35,540 --> 00:11:37,730 She said, yes, it's necessary.

353 00:11:37,730 --> 00:11:39,890 And then they found that he had done that.

354 00:11:39,890 --> 00:11:41,050 All this morphine in her.

355 00:11:41,050 --> 00:11:43,280 Then he went to prison, of course, yes.

356 00:11:43,280 --> 00:11:44,120 Oh my goodness.

357 00:11:44,120 --> 00:11:45,825 Yes, that was an interesting story.

358 00:11:45,825 --> 00:11:47,120 It was a sad story.

359 00:11:47,120 --> 00:11:48,420 Did they have children?

360 00:11:48,420 --> 00:11:50,420 No, they had no children.

361 00:11:50,420 --> 00:11:54,230 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

She was a nurse in the First World War, as a matter of fact.

362 00:11:54,230 --> 00:11:55,520 And her name again?

363 00:11:55,520 --> 00:11:58,718 Her name was Helena--

364 00:11:58,718 --> 00:12:01,320 her married name was Goodman, Gutmann.

365 00:12:01,320 --> 00:12:02,780 Goodman, yeah, yeah.

366 00:12:02,780 --> 00:12:04,040 But her first name was Helena.

367 00:12:04,040 --> 00:12:05,030 Helena, yes.

368 00:12:05,030 --> 00:12:05,570 OK.

369 00:12:05,570 --> 00:12:10,055 And then there was Rosie, who married a Dutch-Jewish man

370 00:12:10,055 --> 00:12:10,880 in Holland.

371 00:12:10,880 --> 00:12:12,890 They lived in Amsterdam.

372 00:12:12,890 --> 00:12:16,860 And her husband was Willem, and they had two daughters.

373 00:12:16,860 --> 00:12:17,450 OK. 374 00:12:17,450 --> 00:12:20,060 And then there was--

375

00:12:20,060 --> 00:12:22,610 her name was Sarah, but they called her [? Jaka. ?]

376

00:12:22,610 --> 00:12:24,170 You know, so that's all I knew about.

377

00:12:24,170 --> 00:12:25,750 But I know the name was [? Zalla ?]..

378

00:12:25,750 --> 00:12:26,250 OK.

379

00:12:26,250 --> 00:12:28,180 And she had one son.

380 00:12:28,180 --> 00:12:30,580 But who's the other one?

381 00:12:30,580 --> 00:12:31,520 oh, Else.

382

 $00:12:31,520 \rightarrow 00:12:34,910$ Else was actually the oldest daughter.

383

00:12:34,910 --> 00:12:36,472 And she had two girls, too.

384 00:12:36,472 --> 00:12:37,430 So that was the family.

385 00:12:37,430 --> 00:12:39,200 And did they all--

386 00:12:39,200 --> 00:12:43,940 aside from the ones that you mentioned lived in Amsterdam,

387

00:12:43,940 --> 00:12:46,415 did they all stay in this Northern Germany

388

00:12:46,415 --> 00:12:47,040 kind of region?

389

00:12:47,040 --> 00:12:48,320 Yes, yes, yes.

390 00:12:48,320 --> 00:12:49,690 One lived in Hamm.

391 00:12:49,690 --> 00:12:52,770 That's in Westphalia.

392

00:12:52,770 --> 00:12:56,810 But the brothers, the other brothers all lived in Hanover.

393 00·12·

00:12:56,810 --> 00:12:59,310 They established themselves in Hanover.

394

00:12:59,310 --> 00:12:59,810 OK.

395

00:12:59,810 --> 00:13:05,480 And one lived in Stuttgart, one sister.

396 00:13:05,480 --> 00:13:09,090 But all of this is in the Western part of Germany.

397 00:13:09,090 --> 00:13:09,590 Yes.

398 00:13:09,590 --> 00:13:12,838 And in the part of Germany that became West Germany.

399 00:13:12,838 --> 00:13:13,380 That's right.

400 00:13:13,380 --> 00:13:16,170 That formally became West Germany afterwards.

401

00:13:16,170 --> 00:13:17,240 After the war, yes.

402

00:13:17,240 --> 00:13:21,090 And so your father is the only one who really goes East.

403

00:13:21,090 --> 00:13:22,430 Yes, yes.

404

00:13:22,430 --> 00:13:26,420 Did any of his family visit him in Koenigsberg?

405

00:13:26,420 --> 00:13:28,250 Yeah, once in a while they came.

406

00:13:28,250 --> 00:13:28,760 Yes.

407

00:13:28,760 --> 00:13:29,260 OK.

408

00:13:29,260 --> 00:13:29,780 Yes.

409

00:13:29,780 --> 00:13:33,020 But mostly we went there, because of the grandmother.

410 00:13:33,020 --> 00:13:33,860 Yeah.

411 00:13:33,860 --> 00:13:36,980 And so her 80th birthday, you were eight years old,

412 00:13:36,980 --> 00:13:38,450 and itle 1024

and it's 1934.

413

00:13:38,450 --> 00:13:39,200 Yes.

414

00:13:39,200 --> 00:13:41,550 That's a year after Hitler comes to power.

415

00:13:41,550 --> 00:13:42,500 That's right.

416

00:13:42,500 --> 00:13:45,695 Did that make itself felt during this celebration?

417

00:13:45,695 --> 00:13:49,130 Not as far as-- no, I don't think at that time yet,

418

00:13:49,130 --> 00:13:49,790 you know?

419

00:13:49,790 --> 00:13:50,600 OK.

420

00:13:50,600 --> 00:13:53,180 There were things, I guess, that were happening--

421

00:13:53,180 --> 00:13:55,130 But you don't remember any kind of--

422 00:13:55,130 --> 00:13:57,930 No, I don't remember Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

that, not that far back

423

00:13:57,930 --> 00:13:59,180 that there was any difference.

424

00:13:59,180 --> 00:14:00,120 We could travel.

425

00:14:00,120 --> 00:14:00,761 We could go.

426 00:14:00,761 --> 00:14:02,023

We could stay in hotels.

427

00:14:02,023 --> 00:14:03,190 We could still at that time.

428

00:14:03,190 --> 00:14:05,600 And there still was a Jewish hotel to stay in.

429

00:14:05,600 --> 00:14:07,430 There was a Jewish one, but otherwise not

430

00:14:07,430 --> 00:14:12,050 until it's 1936 I think that happened that you couldn't stay

431

00:14:12,050 --> 00:14:15,155 or you couldn't go to a restaurant because

432

00:14:15,155 --> 00:14:16,310 of the Nuremberg laws.

433

00:14:16,310 --> 00:14:18,860 And your father is the baby of the family.

434 00:14:18,860 --> 00:14:20,300 Yes, yes.

435

00:14:20,300 --> 00:14:21,440 When was he born?

436

00:14:21,440 --> 00:14:23,880 He was born 1897.

437

00:14:23,880 --> 00:14:24,950 1897.

438

00:14:24,950 --> 00:14:25,830 And your mother?

439

00:14:25,830 --> 00:14:28,430 My mother was born in 1904.

440

00:14:28,430 --> 00:14:29,070 OK.

441

00:14:29,070 --> 00:14:29,570 Yeah.

442

00:14:29,570 --> 00:14:30,530 OK.

443

00:14:30,530 --> 00:14:38,780 And when they met in 1923 or 24, they

444

00:14:38,780 --> 00:14:40,280 met at your uncle's wedding.

445

00:14:40,280 --> 00:14:41,630 Yes.

446

00:14:41,630 --> 00:14:43,890 When did they themselves get married?

447

00:14:43,890 --> 00:14:46,290 They got married in 1925. 448 00:14:46,290 --> 00:14:47,040 OK.

449 00:14:47,040 --> 00:14:48,720 And they had you in 1926.

450

00:14:48,720 --> 00:14:51,630 Yeah, they were married October 18, 1925.

451

00:14:51,630 --> 00:14:54,212 And I was born October 11, 1926.

452

00:14:54,212 --> 00:14:55,530 Very legal.

453

00:14:55,530 --> 00:14:56,647 OK.

454

00:14:56,647 --> 00:14:57,960 [LAUGHTER]

455

00:14:57,960 --> 00:15:04,050 And did either of them have higher education?

456

00:15:04,050 --> 00:15:08,625 My mother went to a postgraduate school in Berlin.

457 00:15:08,625 --> 00:15:11,660

00.15.08,025 --> 00.15.11,000

458

00:15:11,660 --> 00:15:14,430 To learn some just--

459 00:15:14,430 --> 00:15:15,197 Administrative?

460 00:15:15,197 --> 00:15:16,530 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

You mean like typing and things?

461

00:15:16,530 --> 00:15:18,570 Something like that, something like that.

462

00:15:18,570 --> 00:15:20,730 I mean, but she never used it, you know,

463

00:15:20,730 --> 00:15:22,470 because she didn't work at the time.

464

00:15:22,470 --> 00:15:23,460 And yeah--

465

00:15:23,460 --> 00:15:25,440 And your father, did he have any--

466

00:15:25,440 --> 00:15:28,530 No, my father, 1 think I said before, he left school

467

00:15:28,530 --> 00:15:30,150 when he was 14.

468

00:15:30,150 --> 00:15:31,440 That's the way it was done.

469

00:15:31,440 --> 00:15:34,560 And he was sent away from home to a family

470 00:15:34,560 --> 00:15:36,330 where he learned the business.

471 00:15:36,330 --> 00:15:38,400 Did he serve in World War I, your father? 00:15:38,400 --> 00:15:39,300 Yes, yes.

473

00:15:39,300 --> 00:15:41,410 My father was-- as a matter of fact,

474

00:15:41,410 --> 00:15:43,560 he was a prisoner of war in France.

475

00:15:43,560 --> 00:15:44,130 Was he?

476

00:15:44,130 --> 00:15:44,970 Yes.

477

00:15:44,970 --> 00:15:46,828 And so he was fighting for the German side.

478

00:15:46,828 --> 00:15:47,370 That's right.

479

00:15:47,370 --> 00:15:50,250 And I think he was only 17 when he went in,

480

00:15:50,250 --> 00:15:51,780 when he went into the army.

481

00:15:51,780 --> 00:15:52,620 Yes.

482

00:15:52,620 --> 00:15:54,640 Did he ever talk about his experiences?

483 00:15:54,640 --> 00:15:55,140 Oh, yes.

484 00:15:55,140 --> 00:15:57,010 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

He was wounded a little bit.

485

00:15:57,010 --> 00:15:58,755 He had, I think, a shot in the-- yeah,

486

00:15:58,755 --> 00:16:01,440 you could see this wound on the arm,

487

00:16:01,440 --> 00:16:03,420 and a little bit over the eye.

488 00:16:03,420 --> 00:16:09,993 He said he was by Senegalese

soldiers he was shot. 489

00:16:09,993 --> 00:16:11,160 You know, and then I guess--

490

00:16:11,160 --> 00:16:11,743 By Senegalese.

491

00:16:11,743 --> 00:16:14,340 --I don't know-- then he was caught, I imagine.

492

00:16:14,340 --> 00:16:17,970 And I think a couple of years he was in prison.

493

00:16:17,970 --> 00:16:20,610 And he never would eat rice anymore,

494

00:16:20,610 --> 00:16:23,040 because that's all he was fed.

495

00:16:23,040 --> 00:16:24,650 Was rice, and rice, and more rice. 00:16:24,650 --> 00:16:25,150 Rice, rice.

497 00:16:25,150 --> 00:16:26,310 Yes.

498 00:16:26,310 --> 00:16:28,530 And so he was imprisoned in France.

499

00:16:28,530 --> 00:16:31,110 Yes, I don't know where, but I know he was.

500

00:16:31,110 --> 00:16:32,255 OK, OK.

501 00:16:32,255 --> 00:16:36,010

502 00:16:36,010 --> 00:16:38,050 Now, in this business that he was

503

00:16:38,050 --> 00:16:41,470 that he was in with your uncle, you

504

 $00:16:41,470 \rightarrow 00:16:43,750$ mentioned that it was hides.

505 00:16:43,750 --> 00:16:44,980 Was it a tannery?

506 00:16:44,980 --> 00:16:46,200 No, it wasn't a tannery.

507 00:16:46,200 --> 00:16:49,340 Here he had a tannery, but it was--

508 00:16:49,340 --> 00:16:53,290 you know the hides and skins that you sell to tanneries,

509

00:16:53,290 --> 00:16:56,380 and they processed them.

510

00:16:56,380 --> 00:16:57,040 It was like a--

511

00:16:57,040 --> 00:16:58,480 So he would get them.

512

 $00:16:58,480 \rightarrow 00:17:01,930$ Who would be the people he would buy them from?

513

00:17:01,930 --> 00:17:07,240 I think from-- what do you call this?

514

00:17:07,240 --> 00:17:10,030 For animals, you know--

515

00:17:10,030 --> 00:17:14,200 oh, I can't think of the name of it.

516 00:17:14,200 --> 00:17:17,129

517 00:17:17,129 --> 00:17:23,849 Animals-- to process the animals for food,

518 00:17:23,849 --> 00:17:26,760 and then the skin would come off, and he'd buy the skin.

519 00:17:26,760 --> 00:17:28,102 I see, so he wouldn't--

520 00:17:28,102 --> 00:17:29,310

This is a verbatim transcript of spoken word generated with 3Play Media. It is not the primary source, and it may contain errors in spelling or accuracy. And the hides, and whatever--

521

00:17:29,310 --> 00:17:33,460 He would not buy them direct from, let's say, a hunter--

522

00:17:33,460 --> 00:17:33,960 No, no.

523

00:17:33,960 --> 00:17:34,560 Not from a hunter.

524

00:17:34,560 --> 00:17:34,740 No, no.

525

00:17:34,740 --> 00:17:35,030 --or something like that.

526

00:17:35,030 --> 00:17:36,090 No.

527

00:17:36,090 --> 00:17:40,200 It would be like a cow was being taken to someplace for--

528

00:17:40,200 --> 00:17:41,280 Yeah, where they first--

529

00:17:41,280 --> 00:17:42,450 --slaughter it.

530

00:17:42,450 --> 00:17:43,785 Or this or that.

531

00:17:43,785 --> 00:17:47,250 Yes, I know we used to go into the country, all over East

532

00:17:47,250 --> 00:17:50,610 Prussia, make these day trips with my father 533 00:17:50,610 --> 00:17:52,980 and that's where he saw his customers.

534 00:17:52,980 --> 00:17:55,200 Not just customers, but from the people he bought.

535 00:17:55,200 --> 00:17:55,980 Mm-hmm.

536 00:17:55,980 --> 00:18:00,720 And then he would-- yes, they were processed, and sold

537 00:18:00,720 --> 00:18:02,790 to tanneries, and-- yes.

538 00:18:02,790 --> 00:18:03,300 I see.

539 00:18:03,300 --> 00:18:05,580 So he would buy them from whoever

540 00:18:05,580 --> 00:18:06,930 would have slaughtered the cow.

541 00:18:06,930 --> 00:18:07,860 Yes, right.

542 00:18:07,860 --> 00:18:08,820 And would take--

543 00:18:08,820 --> 00:18:09,960 Slaughterhouse.

544 00:18:09,960 --> 00:18:12,807 The slaughterhouses, but also I couldn't think of the name 00:18:12,807 --> 00:18:13,890 till you said "slaughter."

546

00:18:13,890 --> 00:18:14,190 Yes.

547

00:18:14,190 --> 00:18:14,730 OK.

548

00:18:14,730 --> 00:18:15,230 Yes.

549

00:18:15,230 --> 00:18:16,990 So those are the people he would buy them?

550

00:18:16,990 --> 00:18:17,730 Yes, yes.

551

00:18:17,730 --> 00:18:18,930 I know that he did that.

552

00:18:18,930 --> 00:18:21,240 And what kind of process did he put through them,

553

00:18:21,240 --> 00:18:22,350 or was he simply--

554 00:18:22,350 --> 00:18:23,800 I guess they skinned them.

555 00:18:23,800 --> 00:18:25,155 I really-- don't ask me.

556 00:18:25,155 --> 00:18:27,210 I know they had a--

557

00:18:27,210 --> 00:18:32,850 he had a building, and he had an office. 558 00:18:32,850 --> 00:18:35,880 And then also there was where they processed the skins.

559 00:18:35,880 --> 00:18:37,530 That's all I know about that.

560 00:18:37,530 --> 00:18:38,430 Did it smell?

561 00:18:38,430 --> 00:18:40,390 I know more-- yes.

562 00:18:40,390 --> 00:18:41,910 It's a very--

563 00:18:41,910 --> 00:18:43,490 I'm used to that smell.

564 00:18:43,490 --> 00:18:44,040 Yeah?

565 00:18:44,040 --> 00:18:45,960 And then he here he had a tannery.

566 00:18:45,960 --> 00:18:47,970 And so again the smell.

567 00:18:47,970 --> 00:18:48,750 OK.

568 00:18:48,750 --> 00:18:49,500 Yeah.

569 00:18:49,500 --> 00:18:51,780 But it was one step further in the process.

570 00:18:51,780 --> 00:18:52,280 Yes. 571 00:18:52,280 --> 00:18:53,580 Of making leather.

572 00:18:53,580 --> 00:18:56,670 Yes, right.

573 00:18:56,670 --> 00:18:57,820 He was well known.

574 00:18:57,820 --> 00:19:00,850 He was one of the biggest dealers in East Prussia.

575 00:19:00,850 --> 00:19:01,350 Was he now?

576 00:19:01,350 --> 00:19:01,850 Of this.

577 00:19:01,850 --> 00:19:03,540 Yes, yes.

578 00:19:03,540 --> 00:19:06,570 They knew him even here in America.

579 00:19:06,570 --> 00:19:07,350 Yeah.

580 00:19:07,350 --> 00:19:08,400 Because--

581 00:19:08,400 --> 00:19:10,650 So do you remember some of the places

582 00:19:10,650 --> 00:19:12,910 that you visited in East Prussia with him?

583

00:19:12,910 --> 00:19:14,340 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

Oh, there were lots of--

584

00:19:14,340 --> 00:19:19,230 Allenstein and Gumbinnen, and we went as far West as the Polish

585

00:19:19,230 --> 00:19:21,870 border, down with the [? Masurian ?] You know

586

00:19:21,870 --> 00:19:22,860 [? Masuria ?]

587

00:19:22,860 --> 00:19:23,450 Mm-hmm.

588

00:19:23,450 --> 00:19:24,750 So Allenstein, Gumbinnen.

589

00:19:24,750 --> 00:19:28,590 Yeah, and further down, all these places.

590

00:19:28,590 --> 00:19:30,450 Well, these are such--

591 00:19:30,450 --> 00:19:33,208 These are--

592 00:19:33,208 --> 00:19:34,500 Really, they were small places.

593 00:19:34,500 --> 00:19:36,375

And all those people, I remember those people

594 00:19:36,375 --> 00:19:39,240 because they were also Jewish, who he bought from.

595 00:19:39,240 --> 00:19:41,740 And they finally-- they came to America, too.

596 00:19:41,740 --> 00:19:44,160 And we were very friendly with them.

597 00:19:44,160 --> 00:19:48,570 My father did business with one of them, too, here in America.

598 00:19:48,570 --> 00:19:50,010 Well, the places you mentioned are

599 00:19:50,010 --> 00:19:54,370 so unfamiliar to most people.

600 00:19:54,370 --> 00:19:57,270 And surprisingly also in Germany.

601 00:19:57,270 --> 00:19:58,650 Yes, yes, yes.

602 00:19:58,650 --> 00:20:01,290 I've met here some Germans who said, "Oh,

603 00:20:01,290 --> 00:20:03,118 I had a cousin in Allenstein."

604 00:20:03,118 --> 00:20:03,660 A woman here.

605 00:20:03,660 --> 00:20:05,730 Yeah, who knows of Allenstein?

606 00:20:05,730 --> 00:20:06,280 That's right.

607 00:20:06,280 --> 00:20:07,125

608

00:20:07,125 --> 00:20:07,780 That's right.

609

00:20:07,780 --> 00:20:09,180 But you do.

610

00:20:09,180 --> 00:20:10,050 Yeah, I do.

611

00:20:10,050 --> 00:20:11,220 I do.

612

00:20:11,220 --> 00:20:14,220 But that's because we're so close geographically.

613

00:20:14,220 --> 00:20:15,195 Yes, yes, of course.

614 00:20:15,195 --> 00:20:17,820

615 00:20:17,820 --> 00:20:21,330 But it struck me--

616 00:20:21,330 --> 00:20:24,270 I must say, I was there in the early '90s--

617 00:20:24,270 --> 00:20:27,160 as a very pretty part of--

618 00:20:27,160 --> 00:20:27,828 Pretty part.

619 00:20:27,828 --> 00:20:28,620 It was very pretty.

620 00:20:28,620 --> 00:20:31,830

And of course the Baltic Sea, we used used to go--

621

00:20:31,830 --> 00:20:33,390 Where did you go on the Baltic Sea?

622

00:20:33,390 --> 00:20:36,200 Well, there was a place, Cranz.

623

00:20:36,200 --> 00:20:36,700 Cranz.

624

00:20:36,700 --> 00:20:39,030 It was half an hour from Koenigsberg.

625

00:20:39,030 --> 00:20:41,490 We used to spend summers there.

626

00:20:41,490 --> 00:20:43,560 Not all summers, but we did.

627

00:20:43,560 --> 00:20:47,460 Then another place we went to was outside of Memel.

628

00:20:47,460 --> 00:20:51,166 Do you know Sandkrug?

629

00:20:51,166 --> 00:20:51,840 No?

630

00:20:51,840 --> 00:20:54,240 I don't know what it was called in Lithuanian.

631 00:20:54,240 --> 00:20:56,280 It was right across from Memel.

632 00:20:56,280 --> 00:20:57,928 You took the ferry to come over. 633 00:20:57,928 --> 00:20:58,470 I know, yeah.

634 00:20:58,470 --> 00:21:03,188 My relatives were all in Memel, so my mother loved that area.

635 00:21:03,188 --> 00:21:03,980 It was very pretty.

636 00:21:03,980 --> 00:21:04,680 It's a spit, yeah.

637 00:21:04,680 --> 00:21:05,722 And there was Schwarzort.

638 00:21:05,722 --> 00:21:06,810 This was [INAUDIBLE].

639 00:21:06,810 --> 00:21:09,310 We went back there in 2007.

640 00:21:09,310 --> 00:21:09,900 Oh, did you?

641 00:21:09,900 --> 00:21:11,100 We went to Schwarzort.

642 00:21:11,100 --> 00:21:13,260 What's it called in--

643 00:21:13,260 --> 00:21:14,490 In Russian?

644 00:21:14,490 --> 00:21:15,310 In Lithuanian.

645 00:21:15,310 --> 00:21:16,422 Yeah, I don't-- 646 00:21:16,422 --> 00:21:18,790 Ah, Schwarzort-- Juodkranté.

647 00:21:18,790 --> 00:21:19,290 Yes.

648 00:21:19,290 --> 00:21:20,040 Juodkranté.

649 00:21:20,040 --> 00:21:20,980 That's what it is.

650 00:21:20,980 --> 00:21:21,480 Schwarzort.

651 00:21:21,480 --> 00:21:21,970 Yeah.

652 00:21:21,970 --> 00:21:23,095 Yeah, beautiful, beautiful.

653 00:21:23,095 --> 00:21:27,090 Well, that area is called Kursiu Marios in Lithuanian.

654 00:21:27,090 --> 00:21:27,992 There's Nida.

655 00:21:27,992 --> 00:21:28,700 Which was Nidden.

656 00:21:28,700 --> 00:21:29,700 Yes.

657 00:21:29,700 --> 00:21:30,820 [INAUDIBLE] Nidden.

658 00:21:30,820 --> 00:21:31,740 Yeah, German-- Nidden. 00:21:31,740 --> 00:21:33,930 Yeah, yeah.

660 00:21:33,930 --> 00:21:35,422 And Thomas Mann had a--

661 00:21:35,422 --> 00:21:36,630 I was just going to say that.

662 00:21:36,630 --> 00:21:37,950 Yeah, had a summer place there.

663 00:21:37,950 --> 00:21:39,200 Thomas Mann had a house there.

664 00:21:39,200 --> 00:21:40,320 So we went up there.

665 00:21:40,320 --> 00:21:42,150 It's sort of up the hill, you know?

666 00:21:42,150 --> 00:21:43,198 Yeah, yeah.

667 00:21:43,198 --> 00:21:43,740 Yeah, I know.

668 00:21:43,740 --> 00:21:44,910 It was beautiful.

669 00:21:44,910 --> 00:21:46,840 Because I went back in 2007.

670 00:21:46,840 --> 00:21:52,470 We spent maybe 10 days, maybe two weeks in Schwarzort.

671 00:21:52,470 --> 00:21:53,670 OK. 00:21:53,670 --> 00:21:57,750 Did you-- did you cross into what is today the Kaliningrad

673 00:21:57,750 --> 00:21:59,040 region?

674 00:21:59,040 --> 00:22:00,300 The Kaliningrad?

675 00:22:00,300 --> 00:22:02,250 Yeah, what Koenigsberg became.

676 00:22:02,250 --> 00:22:03,070 Oh, yes, yes.

677 00:22:03,070 --> 00:22:03,570 Of course.

678 00:22:03,570 --> 00:22:07,020 Yes, then we took from there, we went on a bus.

679 00:22:07,020 --> 00:22:08,230 I should have stayed longer.

680 00:22:08,230 --> 00:22:11,640 I stayed only two days and one night, my husband and I.

681 00:22:11,640 --> 00:22:15,210 And my cousins stayed back [INAUDIBLE]..

682 00:22:15,210 --> 00:22:17,910 And so that was very interesting for me,

683 00:22:17,910 --> 00:22:21,480 you know, because it's all built up Russian-style.

00:22:21,480 --> 00:22:23,010 But I found my way.

685

00:22:23,010 --> 00:22:23,590 Did you?

686

00:22:23,590 --> 00:22:24,110 Yes, I did.

687

00:22:24,110 --> 00:22:25,606 I did.

688 00:22:25,606 --> 00:22:29,770 And do you remember the street you lived on as a child?

689 00:22:29,770 --> 00:22:31,200

What was the name of the street?

690

00:22:31,200 --> 00:22:33,000 General-Litzmann-Strasse.

691 00:22:33,000 --> 00:22:35,577 That was German-- one of the German generals.

692 00:22:35,577 --> 00:22:36,660 You know, they renamed it.

693 00:22:36,660 --> 00:22:38,790 It used to be Stresemannstrasse.

694 00:22:38,790 --> 00:22:43,700 He was some kind of a big shot during the democracy.

695 00:22:43,700 --> 00:22:44,200 OK.

696 00:22:44,200 --> 00:22:46,158 And then, of course, they renamed it, you know? 697 00:22:46,158 --> 00:22:48,150 OK, so it was General-Litzmann-Strasse?

698 00:22:48,150 --> 00:22:51,570 Yeah, that's one of the main-it was a main street up in--

699 00:22:51,570 --> 00:22:52,980 they called it the Hufen.

700 00:22:52,980 --> 00:22:57,000 It was up-- residential section.

701 00:22:57,000 --> 00:22:58,350 Wasn't downtown, you know?

702 00:22:58,350 --> 00:23:01,270 OK, was it north of downtown or?

703 00:23:01,270 --> 00:23:02,820 Yes, north, yes.

704 00:23:02,820 --> 00:23:06,030 So you lived in a northern part of--

705 00:23:06,030 --> 00:23:07,190 Koenigsberg, yes.

706 00:23:07,190 --> 00:23:07,690 All right.

707 00:23:07,690 --> 00:23:09,087 And I used to have to commute.

708 00:23:09,087 --> 00:23:10,920 I don't know if I'm getting ahead of myself.

709

00:23:10,920 --> 00:23:12,060 No, no, no, please.

710

00:23:12,060 --> 00:23:14,820 I had to commute on the streetcar

711

00:23:14,820 --> 00:23:18,330 to go to-- first I went to a public school for two years.

712

00:23:18,330 --> 00:23:19,230 As a little girl.

713 00:23:19,230 --> 00:23:20,100 Yes, a little girl.

714 00:23:20,100 --> 00:23:23,100 I started in 1933 when Hitler--

715

00:23:23,100 --> 00:23:24,390 they start there in April.

716

00:23:24,390 --> 00:23:25,555 They start school in April.

717

00:23:25,555 --> 00:23:26,055 Really?

718

00:23:26,055 --> 00:23:26,555 Yes.

719

00:23:26,555 --> 00:23:27,448 That's interesting.

720 00:23:27.448 --> 00

00:23:27,448 --> 00:23:27,990 I don't know.

721 00:23:27,990 --> 00:23:31,570 It's crazy, because then they go for vacation two months later.

722 00:23:31,570 --> 00:23:32,190 Yeah, yeah.

723 00:23:32,190 --> 00:23:33,150 But they did.

724 00:23:33,150 --> 00:23:35,130 The year started in April.

725 00:23:35,130 --> 00:23:36,300 And I started April.

726 00:23:36,300 --> 00:23:38,398 And he, Hitler came in, in January.

727

00:23:38,398 --> 00:23:38,940 That's right.

728

00:23:38,940 --> 00:23:40,740 Yes, 1933.

729

00:23:40,740 --> 00:23:43,770 And at first, of course, there wasn't a Jewish school yet.

730

00:23:43,770 --> 00:23:46,410 You know, they established that about two years later.

731

00:23:46,410 --> 00:23:48,120 They established a Jewish school.

732

00:23:48,120 --> 00:23:50,520 They felt it was necessary.

733

00:23:50,520 --> 00:23:52,780 And that's I think I went a year later, 00:23:52,780 --> 00:23:56,040 from '36 after they established it.

735 00:23:56,040 --> 00:23:57,270 And you would travel--

736 00:23:57,270 --> 00:23:59,190 In the public school

737 00:23:59,190 --> 00:24:02,010 So you say two years or three years in the public school?

738 00:24:02,010 --> 00:24:03,630 I think I was three years.

739 00:24:03,630 --> 00:24:04,470 Three years?

740 00:24:04,470 --> 00:24:07,020 Because I know they established a school in '35,

741 00:24:07,020 --> 00:24:08,640 and I didn't go right away.

742 00:24:08,640 --> 00:24:09,780 OK, OK.

743 00:24:09,780 --> 00:24:12,330

744 00:24:12,330 --> 00:24:14,940 Describe for me a little bit your house,

745 00:24:14,940 --> 00:24:19,040 where you lived in the Hufen, General-Litzmann-Strasse.

746 00:24:19,040 --> 00:24:21,150 Well, at first-- I have to say, at first I

747 00:24:21,150 --> 00:24:23,100 lived in [? Gluckstrasse. ?]

748 00:24:23,100 --> 00:24:23,760 OK.

749 00:24:23,760 --> 00:24:26,940 That was right near the zoo, Tiergarten.

750 00:24:26,940 --> 00:24:28,230 They called it Tiergarten.

751 00:24:28,230 --> 00:24:30,600 It's animals garden.

752 00:24:30,600 --> 00:24:31,260 Yeah.

753 00:24:31,260 --> 00:24:34,145 It was either called zoo or Tiergarten in German.

754

00:24:34,145 --> 00:24:35,970 In Berlin, they called it the zoo.

755 00:24:35,970 --> 00:24:36,630 Yeah.

756 00:24:36,630 --> 00:24:40,080 And so I lived like maybe not even five minutes walk.

757 00:24:40,080 --> 00:24:43,990 So every day when I was little, I went to the Tiergarten.

758 00:24:43,990 --> 00:24:46,140 So I had a nanny.

759

00:24:46,140 --> 00:24:48,490 And then later on, we had a housekeeper.

760 00:24:48,490 --> 00:24:49,830 She didn't want the nanny.

761 00:24:49,830 --> 00:24:51,180 She wanted to be in charge.

762 00:24:51,180 --> 00:24:52,680 So she said, let her go.

763 00:24:52,680 --> 00:24:54,480 I'm going to take care of all of you.

764 00:24:54,480 --> 00:24:55,860 OK.

765 00:24:55,860 --> 00:25:00,010 And then-- and then we moved to--

766 00:25:00,010 --> 00:25:01,680 they were apartments.

767 00:25:01,680 --> 00:25:03,450 Very nice apartments.

768 00:25:03,450 --> 00:25:06,420 So you lived not in a separate single family home?

769 00:25:06,420 --> 00:25:06,920 No, no.

770 00:25:06,920 --> 00:25:09,180 There were not many people in the city in Germany 771 00:25:09,180 --> 00:25:11,820 who lived in single houses, because there

772 00:25:11,820 --> 00:25:14,940 was that much space.

773

00:25:14,940 --> 00:25:18,428 So describe for me the apartment building you lived in.

774

00:25:18,428 --> 00:25:20,220 The one in-- the one you remember the best.

775

00:25:20,220 --> 00:25:20,340 Let's see.

776

00:25:20,340 --> 00:25:21,090 The second one--

777 00:25:21,090 --> 00:25:21,580 The second one.

778 00:25:21,580 --> 00:25:22,622 --where I lived the most.

779 00:25:22,622 --> 00:25:24,420 [INAUDIBLE] was four I think we moved over

780 00:25:24,420 --> 00:25:28,590 to General-Litzmann-Strasse.

781 00:25:28,590 --> 00:25:32,640 And we lived in a house underneath was stores,

782 00:25:32,640 --> 00:25:34,760 and there was even a movie underneath. 783 00:25:34,760 --> 00:25:36,000 Well, that's convenient.

784 00:25:36,000 --> 00:25:37,290 Yes, it was convenient.

785 00:25:37,290 --> 00:25:39,350 They let us in as long as we--

786 00:25:39,350 --> 00:25:40,570 we could always go there.

787 00:25:40,570 --> 00:25:42,536 They always let us in, you know?

788 00:25:42,536 --> 00:25:43,786 I mean, then it was forbidden.

789 00:25:43,786 --> 00:25:44,590 As children.

790 00:25:44,590 --> 00:25:45,900 No, then it was forbidden.

791 00:25:45,900 --> 00:25:51,150 They still-- you know, we went to rehearsals.

792 00:25:51,150 --> 00:25:53,970 And it was lovely, as I saw all the movies.

793 00:25:53,970 --> 00:25:56,340 I was a child, but I saw all these--

794 00:25:56,340 --> 00:25:59,160 What were some of the movies that you saw in the cinema? Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

00:25:59,160 --> 00:26:00,810 What did you-- in this theater?

796 00:26:00,810 --> 00:26:01,620 What did I see?

797 00:26:01,620 --> 00:26:03,800 Well, there was a Shirley Temple movie,

798 00:26:03,800 --> 00:26:05,490 but I saw adult movies, too.

799 00:26:05,490 --> 00:26:07,230 I can't remember the names.

800 00:26:07,230 --> 00:26:10,520 There was Greta Garbo and whatever.

801 00:26:10,520 --> 00:26:11,865 Now I can't remember-- recall.

802 00:26:11,865 --> 00:26:14,850 But so on, names of the [INAUDIBLE]

803 00:26:14,850 --> 00:26:16,290 the movies of the [INAUDIBLE].

804 00:26:16,290 --> 00:26:19,620 So this would have been movies coming from Hollywood as well?

805 00:26:19,620 --> 00:26:20,910 As well, they were.

806 00:26:20,910 --> 00:26:21,720 Yeah, yeah.

807 00:26:21,720 --> 00:26:23,370 They were adapted in German. 808 00:26:23,370 --> 00:26:25,030 They were-- yeah, yeah, mostly.

809 00:26:25,030 --> 00:26:27,928 You know, you saw them, and they adapted them.

810 00:26:27,928 --> 00:26:28,470 That's right.

811 00:26:28,470 --> 00:26:29,430 Yes, yeah.

812 00:26:29,430 --> 00:26:31,320 And what were some of the--

813 00:26:31,320 --> 00:26:34,770 what were some of the actors or actresses from Germany

814 00:26:34,770 --> 00:26:35,520 that you saw?

815 00:26:35,520 --> 00:26:39,090 There was one was Lil Dagover.

816 00:26:39,090 --> 00:26:40,170 A beautiful woman.

817 00:26:40,170 --> 00:26:42,300 I always said my mother looked like her.

818 00:26:42,300 --> 00:26:46,170 And who can I--

819 00:26:46,170 --> 00:26:47,580 Heinz Ruhmann.

820 00:26:47,580 --> 00:26:51,060 And some were Nazis, some were not.

821 00:26:51,060 --> 00:26:57,450 And there were quite a few.

822 00:26:57,450 --> 00:27:00,000 Of course, Greta Garbo was then already.

823 00:27:00,000 --> 00:27:01,290 Was Marlene Dietrich in--

824 00:27:01,290 --> 00:27:03,400 Oh, Marlene Dietrich, of course.

825

00:27:03,400 --> 00:27:05,535 Yeah, of course then she left and went to America.

826

00:27:05,535 --> 00:27:06,220 Then she left.

827

00:27:06,220 --> 00:27:06,720 Yeah.

828

00:27:06,720 --> 00:27:09,210 She was great.

829

00:27:09,210 --> 00:27:14,460 So you had this theater.

830

00:27:14,460 --> 00:27:16,270 It was a cinema or a theater?

831 00:27:16,270 --> 00:27:17,290 No, no, cinema.

832 00:27:17,290 --> 00:27:19,270 It was a cinema. 00:27:19,270 --> 00:27:22,180 And it was right underneath where you lived.

834 00:27:22,180 --> 00:27:24,190 Yes, and there was another store.

835

00:27:24,190 --> 00:27:27,670 And then the owner of the apartment--

836

00:27:27,670 --> 00:27:31,010 of the apartment house had his own little addition there.

837

00:27:31,010 --> 00:27:34,000 That was like a double up and down, near the garden.

838

00:27:34,000 --> 00:27:36,080 You could look into his garden.

839 00:27:36,0

00:27:36,080 --> 00:27:40,690 And we had-- and there were four Jewish families-- six families

840

00:27:40,690 --> 00:27:41,500 in the whole house.

841 00:27:41,500 --> 00:27:42,890 Not a big apartment house.

842

00:27:42,890 --> 00:27:45,310 You know, they were also little apartment house.

843

00:27:45,310 --> 00:27:46,480 And there were six family.

844 00:27:46,480 --> 00:27:47,830 Four were Jewish.

845 00:27:47,830 --> 00:27:52,360 And maybe upstairs lived the teacher before--

846

00:27:52,360 --> 00:27:54,640 well, when did we move over there?

847

00:27:54,640 --> 00:27:56,450 It was probably 1930s.

848

00:27:56,450 --> 00:27:58,810 So I was friendly with the little girl.

849

00:27:58,810 --> 00:28:00,760 But as soon as Hitler came--

850

00:28:00,760 --> 00:28:01,480 finished.

851

00:28:01,480 --> 00:28:03,970 She wasn't allowed to talk to us anymore.

852

00:28:03,970 --> 00:28:06,600 And she had two older brothers.

853 00:28:06,600 --> 00:28:08,140 So they became terrible Nazis.

854 00:28:08,140 --> 00:28:09,880 Terrible.

855 00:28:09,880 --> 00:28:12,920 When you came down the stairs, you'd go right to the side.

856 00:28:12,920 --> 00:28:16,030 You were afraid they were going to really attack you

857 00:28:16,030 --> 00:28:16,880 or whatever.

858 00:28:16,880 --> 00:28:18,190 Do you remember their names?

859 00:28:18,190 --> 00:28:19,648 It was not very pleasant with them.

860 00:28:19,648 --> 00:28:21,220 Do you remember their names?

861 00:28:21,220 --> 00:28:22,330 Hippler.

862 00:28:22,330 --> 00:28:24,080 H-I-P-P-L-E-R.

863 00:28:24,080 --> 00:28:24,580 Hippler?

864 00:28:24,580 --> 00:28:27,040 So much like Hitler, yeah, that I remember the name.

865 00:28:27,040 --> 00:28:27,820 Yeah.

866 00:28:27,820 --> 00:28:32,645 And so this was a Gentile family, a German Gentile

867 00:28:32,645 --> 00:28:33,145 family.

868 00:28:33,145 --> 00:28:33,645 Yes.

869 00:28:33,645 --> 00:28:37,108 And they became adherents to the new ideology.

870

00:28:37,108 --> 00:28:37,900 They did, they did.

871

00:28:37,900 --> 00:28:38,740 Yeah, yeah, yes.

872

00:28:38,740 --> 00:28:40,060 OK.

873

00:28:40,060 --> 00:28:40,870 They did.

874

00:28:40,870 --> 00:28:42,190 The little girl was my age.

875

00:28:42,190 --> 00:28:43,870 The boys were older.

876 00:28:43,870 --> 00:28:44,903 But she was not--

877 00·28·44

00:28:44,903 --> 00:28:46,570 you know, I think the brothers probably.

878

00:28:46,570 --> 00:28:48,220 The father didn't seem like that,

879

00:28:48,220 --> 00:28:52,220 but the young-- you know, the young fellows were, yeah.

880 00:28:52,220 --> 00:28:52,720 OK.

881 00:28:52,720 --> 00:28:56,770 So what about the other family that was not Jewish? 882 00:28:56,770 --> 00:28:57,315 Do you have--

883 00:28:57,315 --> 00:28:58,888 No, others were all Jewish.

884 00:28:58,888 --> 00:29:00,180 Oh, the others were all Jewish?

885 00:29:00,180 --> 00:29:00,680 Ah-hah.

886 00:29:00,680 --> 00:29:02,260 There were four.

887 00:29:02,260 --> 00:29:03,910 Downstairs was nothing.

888 00:29:03,910 --> 00:29:04,790 Was just the lobby.

889 00:29:04,790 --> 00:29:07,040 And then you went up the stairs a whole flight.

890 00:29:07,040 --> 00:29:07,540 OK.

891 00:29:07,540 --> 00:29:08,873 And we lived on the first floor.

892 00:29:08,873 --> 00:29:12,000 And next to us lived a family.

893 00:29:12,000 --> 00:29:13,930 And the boy went to school with me.

894 00:29:13,930 --> 00:29:15,240 We were friendly with them. 895 00:29:15,240 --> 00:29:17,440 And then upstairs lived a lawyer.

896 00:29:17,440 --> 00:29:19,580 They were very much to themselves.

897

00:29:19,580 --> 00:29:23,380 And then above us was another family that we knew well.

898 00:29:23,380 --> 00:29:25,210 Also was one boy.

899 00:29:25,210 --> 00:29:27,400 They all were my age, and we all went to school.

900 00:29:27,400 --> 00:29:29,800 We were in the same class together.

901 00:29:29,800 --> 00:29:33,100 Do you-- did you live in what was then predominantly

902 00:29:33,100 --> 00:29:34,240 a Jewish neighborhood?

903 00:29:34,240 --> 00:29:35,120 No, no.

904 00:29:35,120 --> 00:29:35,620 It wasn't.

905 00:29:35,620 --> 00:29:36,040 No.

906 00:29:36,040 --> 00:29:36,320 That was more downtown. 907 00:29:36,320 --> 00:29:37,760 It just happened at this house.

908 00:29:37,760 --> 00:29:38,680 Yes.

909 00:29:38,680 --> 00:29:40,270 There were Jews around there.

910 00:29:40,270 --> 00:29:41,830 I had a girlfriend, you know.

911 00:29:41,830 --> 00:29:44,320 Diagonally across was my girlfriend

912 00:29:44,320 --> 00:29:47,050 that I went to school with, a Jewish girl.

913 00:29:47,050 --> 00:29:50,800 But not predominantly Jewish there.

914 00:29:50,800 --> 00:29:56,800 And did I understand correctly that even after Hitler banned

915 00:29:56,800 --> 00:30:00,400 Jews from going into cinemas, the cinema would let you in

916 00:30:00,400 --> 00:30:01,620 to watch movies anyway?

917 00:30:01,620 --> 00:30:03,830 Well, yeah, they were very nice to us,

918 00:30:03,830 --> 00:30:05,770 especially children if they had-- 919 00:30:05,770 --> 00:30:07,420 they were trying out the film.

920 00:30:07,420 --> 00:30:09,610 I don't know if you call it rehearsal or whatever.

921

00:30:09,610 --> 00:30:10,630 They would let us come.

922

00:30:10,630 --> 00:30:13,570 It was during the day, and they would let us in.

923

00:30:13,570 --> 00:30:14,815 Yes, yes.

924

00:30:14,815 --> 00:30:15,315 OK.

925

00:30:15,315 --> 00:30:17,440 It was after-- it must have been--

926

00:30:17,440 --> 00:30:18,160 I wonder.

927

00:30:18,160 --> 00:30:20,170 Because my parents went to the-- every

928

00:30:20,170 --> 00:30:22,510 Saturday night to the movies.

929

00:30:22,510 --> 00:30:24,940 And when they stopped that-- no, I

930

00:30:24,940 --> 00:30:26,500 don't think they would let them in. 931 00:30:26,500 --> 00:30:29,380 They wouldn't dare when the laws were already--

932

00:30:29,380 --> 00:30:34,570 that must have been '36 or '37 that they couldn't go anymore.

933

00:30:34,570 --> 00:30:35,560 OK.

934

00:30:35,560 --> 00:30:36,850 But until that time--

935

00:30:36,850 --> 00:30:37,570 Yes, yes.

936

00:30:37,570 --> 00:30:38,510 Oh, yes, yes.

937

00:30:38,510 --> 00:30:39,190 OK.

938

00:30:39,190 --> 00:30:42,250 What other kinds of shops were on the ground floor?

939

00:30:42,250 --> 00:30:45,190 What kind of-- there was a paper store, you know?

940

00:30:45,190 --> 00:30:46,360 A paper store.

941

00:30:46,360 --> 00:30:47,140 Papierwaren.

942 00:30:47,140 --> 00:30:49,600

Yeah, it was only two stores.

00:30:49,600 --> 00:30:51,730 The other one was a shoe store.

944

00:30:51,730 --> 00:30:52,450 OK.

945 00:30:52,450 --> 00:30:54,700 And where did you get food?

946

00:30:54,700 --> 00:30:55,240 Food?

947

00:30:55,240 --> 00:30:56,920 Yeah.

948

00:30:56,920 --> 00:30:57,880 In the stores.

949

00:30:57,880 --> 00:30:58,480 We could go.

950

00:30:58,480 --> 00:31:00,610 The stores we could keep going, you know?

951

00:31:00,610 --> 00:31:03,100 That was till the end you could go to the stores.

952

00:31:03,100 --> 00:31:03,730 And was that--

953

00:31:03,730 --> 00:31:04,230 The end.

954 00:31:04,230 --> 00:31:05,350 That we left.

955 00:31:05,350 --> 00:31:06,910 Of course, after that, I don't know. 956 00:31:06,910 --> 00:31:08,200 We left in '39.

957 00:31:08,200 --> 00:31:09,640 Yeah, yeah.

958 00:31:09,640 --> 00:31:18,820 But did your mother go shopping every single day for food?

959 00:31:18,820 --> 00:31:19,570 More or less.

960 00:31:19,570 --> 00:31:20,710 There was a gro--

961 00:31:20,710 --> 00:31:25,588 there was a single grocery store called [? Koryand ?]..

```
962
00:31:25,588 --> 00:31:26,380
What was it called?
```

963 00:31:26,380 --> 00:31:29,230

964 00:31:29,230 --> 00:31:30,260 [? Koryand ?].

```
965
00:31:30,260 --> 00:31:30,940
[? Koryand ?].
```

966 00:31:30,940 --> 00:31:33,450 Yeah, I don't know exactly now.

967 00:31:33,450 --> 00:31:35,050 The name doesn't come to me.

968 00:31:35,050 --> 00:31:35,740 It was-- 969 00:31:35,740 --> 00:31:36,240 OK.

970 00:31:36,240 --> 00:31:38,860 Anyway, there was a store, where you

971 00:31:38,860 --> 00:31:42,280 get-- it was maybe five minutes walk, you know?

972 00:31:42,280 --> 00:31:46,120 But usually our housekeeper went shopping for that.

973 00:31:46,120 --> 00:31:48,020 And we had a bakery near there.

974 00:31:48,020 --> 00:31:51,430 So she went whatever she wanted what she needed.

975 00:31:51,430 --> 00:31:52,510 Oh, she went every day.

976 00:31:52,510 --> 00:31:54,730 But probably you didn't go once a week

977 00:31:54,730 --> 00:31:56,990 and get a whole-- you couldn't carry it home.

978 00:31:56,990 --> 00:31:57,580 Yeah.

979 00:31:57,580 --> 00:31:58,080 Yeah.

980 00:31:58,080 --> 00:32:00,740 981 00:32:00,740 --> 00:32:07,100 Let's go to your own home, the apartment itself.

982 00:32:07,100 --> 00:32:09,050 You say it was on the first floor.

983 00:32:09,050 --> 00:32:10,970 That is the floor above the street level.

984 00:32:10,970 --> 00:32:13,400 Yeah, they would say here second floor.

985 00:32:13,400 --> 00:32:15,200 Exactly, exactly.

986 00:32:15,200 --> 00:32:17,660 And how many rooms did you have?

987 00:32:17,660 --> 00:32:22,250 We had-- let's see, a living room, a dining room, my room,

988 00:32:22,250 --> 00:32:24,080 my parents' room.

989 00:32:24,080 --> 00:32:25,790 And then there was a bathroom.

990 00:32:25,790 --> 00:32:27,200 Of course, one bathroom.

991 00:32:27,200 --> 00:32:29,900 And then there was a very small room next to the bathroom.

992 00:32:29,900 --> 00:32:31,520 It was long and small, and that's 993 00:32:31,520 --> 00:32:33,590 where the housekeeper lived.

994 00:32:33,590 --> 00:32:34,210 Oh.

995 00:32:34,210 --> 00:32:35,600 And there was a kitchen?

996 00:32:35,600 --> 00:32:37,040 And the kitchen, of course.

997 00:32:37,040 --> 00:32:37,970 And the kitchen.

998 00:32:37,970 --> 00:32:41,990 And was it a modern building?

999

00:32:41,990 --> 00:32:44,540 Was it built in the 19th century, do you think?

1000

00:32:44,540 --> 00:32:46,170 Yes, I think so.

1001

00:32:46,170 --> 00:32:47,180 I think so.

1002 00:32:47,180 --> 00:32:48,560 How did you heat it?

1003 00:32:48,560 --> 00:32:49,350 How was it heated?

1004 00:32:49,350 --> 00:32:52,760 Well, you had to go down every morning in the cellar

1005 00:32:52,760 --> 00:32:54,380 and got the coals. 1006 00:32:54,380 --> 00:32:57,020 And then there was like a little stove.

1007 00:32:57,020 --> 00:32:58,670 A Kachelofen?

1008 00:32:58,670 --> 00:32:59,770 No, not that.

1009 00:32:59,770 --> 00:33:00,327 Not that.

1010 00:33:00,327 --> 00:33:01,160 That we didn't have.

1011 00:33:01,160 --> 00:33:02,540 My grandmother had that.

1012 00:33:02,540 --> 00:33:07,430 This was in the kitchen, and you put the coals in, lit them,

1013 00:33:07,430 --> 00:33:10,020 and heated the house.

1014 00:33:10,020 --> 00:33:11,210 So it was all the rooms?

1015 00:33:11,210 --> 00:33:11,637 But it wasn't central.

1016 00:33:11,637 --> 00:33:13,530 It didn't come from the bottom, you know?

1017 00:33:13,530 --> 00:33:14,537 It didn't come from--

1018 00:33:14,537 --> 00:33:15,495 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

Oh, that's interesting.

1019

00:33:15,495 --> 00:33:16,550 So each one had--

1020 00:33:16,550 --> 00:33:17,150 OK.

1021 00:33:17,150 --> 00:33:17,900 That was terrible.

1022 00:33:17,900 --> 00:33:21,770 We had to get up early in the morning, 5 o'clock and so on.

1023 00:33:21,770 --> 00:33:22,530 6 o'clock.

1024 00:33:22,530 --> 00:33:25,250 So that when we got up it was warm.

1025 00:33:25,250 --> 00:33:27,260 Yeah.

1026 00:33:27,260 --> 00:33:29,410 And did you have electricity?

1027 00:33:29,410 --> 00:33:31,550 Yes, yes, definitely.

1028 00:33:31,550 --> 00:33:33,692 Did you have indoor plumbing?

1029 00:33:33,692 --> 00:33:34,400 Did we have what?

1030 00:33:34,400 --> 00:33:36,140 Indoor plumbing.

1031 00:33:36,140 --> 00:33:37,160

1032 00:33:37,160 --> 00:33:37,700 No, no.

1033 00:33:37,700 --> 00:33:38,283 It was modern.

1034 00:33:38,283 --> 00:33:40,280 Did your parents have a phone?

1035 00:33:40,280 --> 00:33:42,260 Did your parents have a telephone?

1036 00:33:42,260 --> 00:33:43,100 Of course.

1037 00:33:43,100 --> 00:33:44,130 Yes, we had a telephone.

1038 00:33:44,130 --> 00:33:44,630 Yeah.

1039 00:33:44,630 --> 00:33:45,940 Did you have a radio?

1040 00:33:45,940 --> 00:33:47,172 Yes.

1041 00:33:47,172 --> 00:33:48,500 No television.

1042 00:33:48,500 --> 00:33:49,070 OK.

1043 00:33:49,070 --> 00:33:49,737 No, I'm kidding.

1044 00:33:49,737 --> 00:33:51,800 Now, what kind of radio broadcasts

1045

00:33:51,800 --> 00:33:53,540 do you remember hearing?

1046 00:33:53,540 --> 00:33:57,480 I remember-- as a child, I remember sitting with my-- when

1047

00:33:57,480 --> 00:34:00,500 my parents went out with my die Liesel--

1048 00:34:00,500 --> 00:34:01,910 that was our housekeeper.

1049

00:34:01,910 --> 00:34:03,770 She was like my second mother.

1050 00:34:03,770 --> 00:34:06,050 And I'm sitting there.

1051 00:34:06,050 --> 00:34:14,060 There were comedies and things came from Koelln often,

1052 00:34:14,060 --> 00:34:15,409 you know?

1053 00:34:15,409 --> 00:34:16,429 So you would hear--

1054 00:34:16,429 --> 00:34:18,690 you would hear plays over the radio.

1055 00:34:18,690 --> 00:34:19,190 Yes, yeah.

1056 00:34:19,190 --> 00:34:24,620 Yes, plays and stories, and-- 1057 00:34:24,620 --> 00:34:27,630 Did you hear-- did you hear Hitler over the radio?

1058 00:34:27,630 --> 00:34:28,350 Oh, of course.

1059 00:34:28,350 --> 00:34:28,850 Yeah, yeah.

1060 00:34:28,850 --> 00:34:29,520 That we heard.

1061 00:34:29,520 --> 00:34:30,650 That we heard.

1062 00:34:30,650 --> 00:34:32,780 I even saw him when he came to Koenigsberg.

1063 00:34:32,780 --> 00:34:34,100 I was caught in the--

1064 00:34:34,100 --> 00:34:37,460 I was coming home from school or something, and in the middle

1065 00:34:37,460 --> 00:34:40,580 they're all standing there, and you

1066 00:34:40,580 --> 00:34:41,748 couldn't move at the moment.

1067 00:34:41,748 --> 00:34:43,040 So you had to stand there, too.

1068 00:34:43,040 --> 00:34:45,373 But you weren't supposed to be there as a Jew, you know?

1069

00:34:45,373 --> 00:34:47,630 Yeah.

1070 00:34:47,630 --> 00:34:50,719 And how old were you when you saw him?

1071 00:34:50,719 --> 00:34:52,949 Probably 10.

1072 00:34:52,949 --> 00:34:55,219 OK, so about 1936.

1073 00:34:55,219 --> 00:34:56,230 Yeah, yeah.

1074 00:34:56,230 --> 00:34:56,820 At least.

1075 00:34:56,820 --> 00:34:58,040 Yes, yes.

1076 00:34:58,040 --> 00:34:59,180 OK.

1077 00:34:59,180 --> 00:35:02,060 I think it was even later.

1078 00:35:02,060 --> 00:35:04,070 Did he drive-- did he come by in a motorcade?

1079 00:35:04,070 --> 00:35:05,290 In a motorcade.

1080 00:35:05,290 --> 00:35:07,310 Yeah, and of course everybody raised their hand.

1081 00:35:07,310 --> 00:35:09,610 You weren't supposed to, and you didn't want to, either. 1082 00:35:09,610 --> 00:35:10,110 Yeah.

1083 00:35:10,110 --> 00:35:10,640 Yeah, yeah.

1084 00:35:10,640 --> 00:35:13,640 So you stood there and you hoped nobody saw you, you know?

1085 00:35:13,640 --> 00:35:15,590 Because you didn't raise your hand.

1086 00:35:15,590 --> 00:35:17,030 You didn't want to.

1087 00:35:17,030 --> 00:35:19,923 Did you at that point have to wear any kind of identification

1088 00:35:19,923 --> 00:35:20,830 marks?

1089 00:35:20,830 --> 00:35:23,960 No, that was until when the war broke out.

1090 00:35:23,960 --> 00:35:26,100 That wasn't before, when they wore the star.

1091 00:35:26,100 --> 00:35:26,600 OK.

1092 00:35:26,600 --> 00:35:28,185 We didn't have to wear that yet.

1093 00:35:28,185 --> 00:35:28,685 OK. 1094 00:35:28,685 --> 00:35:31,220

1095 00:35:31,220 --> 00:35:35,640 And would you say that your family was well-to-do?

1096 00:35:35,640 --> 00:35:38,006 Yes, fairly.

1097 00:35:38,006 --> 00:35:40,980 Not extremely rich, but well-to-do, yes.

1098 00:35:40,980 --> 00:35:41,670 Comfortable.

1099 00:35:41,670 --> 00:35:43,230 Comfortable, yes.

1100 00:35:43,230 --> 00:35:45,140 Did your father have an automobile?

1101 00:35:45,140 --> 00:35:46,060 Yes, yes.

1102 00:35:46,060 --> 00:35:47,160 We had a Ford.

1103 00:35:47,160 --> 00:35:47,955 You had a Ford?

1104 00:35:47,955 --> 00:35:49,920 Yeah, we had a Ford, yes.

1105 00:35:49,920 --> 00:35:50,850 OK.

1106 00:35:50,850 --> 00:35:54,420 So when you would go with him into the countryside for him

1107 00:35:54,420 --> 00:35:55,680 to visit the slaughterhouses--

1108 00:35:55,680 --> 00:35:56,375 We went by car.

1109 00:35:56,375 --> 00:35:57,000 Yes, of course.

1110 00:35:57,000 --> 00:35:57,667 You went by car.

1111 00:35:57,667 --> 00:35:58,610 Yes, yes.

1112 00:35:58,610 --> 00:35:59,260 OK.

1113 00:35:59,260 --> 00:36:00,810 Yeah.

1114 00:36:00,810 --> 00:36:04,840 Describe to me a little bit what that countryside was like.

1115 00:36:04,840 --> 00:36:05,340 Oh.

1116 00:36:05,340 --> 00:36:06,120 I know it's hard.

1117 00:36:06,120 --> 00:36:07,960 It's an open question.

1118 00:36:07,960 --> 00:36:10,140 But what stays in your mind's eye?

1119 00:36:10,140 --> 00:36:12,420 Because you know as a child, you probably

1120 00:36:12,420 --> 00:36:14,280 don't notice so much, the nature.

1121 00:36:14,280 --> 00:36:16,000 You know, you don't look at that.

1122 00:36:16,000 --> 00:36:16,940 But it's beautiful.

1123 00:36:16,940 --> 00:36:21,930 I mean, East Prussia was a very, very flat, very flat,

1124 00:36:21,930 --> 00:36:22,620 beautiful.

1125 00:36:22,620 --> 00:36:24,940 I can tell you more when I went to see, you know,

1126 00:36:24,940 --> 00:36:26,940 what Cranz looked like.

1127 00:36:26,940 --> 00:36:28,470 It was beautiful.

1128 00:36:28,470 --> 00:36:34,580 We had a long, long boardwalk and hotels there.

1129 00:36:34,580 --> 00:36:38,290 All the years we stayed in those hotels.

1130 00:36:38,290 --> 00:36:39,960 There was a Jewish hotel later.

1131

00:36:39,960 --> 00:36:41,005 Was there?

1132 00:36:41,005 --> 00:36:44,400 In 1938-- 19--

1133 00:36:44,400 --> 00:36:48,570 yeah, before [INAUDIBLE] in that summer we stayed there.

1134 00:36:48,570 --> 00:36:49,680 In a Jewish hotel?

1135 00:36:49,680 --> 00:36:51,870 I went to Memel, to my aunt.

1136 00:36:51,870 --> 00:36:54,000 They were still in Memel then.

1137 00:36:54,000 --> 00:36:56,460 Because it must have been later that they left.

1138 00:36:56,460 --> 00:37:01,080 And then I-- in the meantime, they had a raid there.

1139 00:37:01,080 --> 00:37:01,950 They raided.

1140 00:37:01,950 --> 00:37:04,560 You know, they were looking for someone or something

1141 00:37:04,560 --> 00:37:06,780 the night before I came home.

1142 00:37:06,780 --> 00:37:08,530 And this was in 1938?

1143 00:37:08,530 --> 00:37:09,390 Yeah. 1144 00:37:09,390 --> 00:37:13,074 When you went to Memel in 1938, did it--

1145 00:37:13,074 --> 00:37:16,050 was it still-- was it still part of Lithuania,

1146 00:37:16,050 --> 00:37:17,640 or was it already part of Germany?

1147 00:37:17,640 --> 00:37:19,410 No, see, that's what I'm trying to think.

1148 00:37:19,410 --> 00:37:21,000 When did they go into Lithuania?

1149 00:37:21,000 --> 00:37:22,090 Was it in '38?

1150 00:37:22,090 --> 00:37:22,590 March.

1151 00:37:22,590 --> 00:37:23,257 It was in March.

1152 00:37:23,257 --> 00:37:25,760 '38 in March or '39?

1153 00:37:25,760 --> 00:37:26,742 I think it was '39.

1154 00:37:26,742 --> 00:37:27,450 I don't remember.

1155 00:37:27,450 --> 00:37:29,980 Then it could have been '36 when I went, you know? 1156 00:37:29,980 --> 00:37:31,230 Well, then it was definitely--

1157 00:37:31,230 --> 00:37:33,810 Maybe it was '36 when I went to Memel, when

1158 00:37:33,810 --> 00:37:35,790 I was in Memel in the summer.

1159 00:37:35,790 --> 00:37:37,050 Then that was definitely--

1160 00:37:37,050 --> 00:37:38,160 Yes, and then came back.

1161 00:37:38,160 --> 00:37:42,450 That night they had a raid, you know, at the hotel.

1162 00:37:42,450 --> 00:37:43,110 Oh, really?

1163 00:37:43,110 --> 00:37:44,940 And what were they looking for?

1164 00:37:44,940 --> 00:37:47,970 They said they were looking for somebody or something.

1165 00:37:47,970 --> 00:37:50,130 And of course, they knew it was a Jewish hotel.

1166 00:37:50,130 --> 00:37:50,940 I don't know.

1167 00:37:50,940 --> 00:37:51,990 She didn't know herself.

1168 00:37:51,990 --> 00:37:53,040 They didn't know.

1169 00:37:53,040 --> 00:37:55,480 And the owner was a woman.

1170 00:37:55,480 --> 00:37:59,340

She was very interesting, intelligent, very lovely woman.

1171

00:37:59,340 --> 00:38:04,230 And when the 1938, the Kristallnacht, you know,

1172

00:38:04,230 --> 00:38:06,720 the small town was very bad, you know?

1173

00:38:06,720 --> 00:38:09,060 And so she came to us.

1174

00:38:09,060 --> 00:38:11,940 She stayed with us for months, I think, in my mother's house.

1175

00:38:11,940 --> 00:38:14,570 My mother always welcomed everybody.

1176

00:38:14,570 --> 00:38:17,070 And she went out, because she couldn't be in Cranz anymore,

1177

00:38:17,070 --> 00:38:18,690 and the small town was getting-- a lot

1178 00:38:18,690 --> 00:38:23,470 of people moved into the city, Jews who lived in the country.

1179 00:38:23,470 --> 00:38:26,590 So you're saying-- if I understand this correctly-- 1180 00:38:26,590 --> 00:38:30,570 you happened to be in Memel and were coming home one night.

1181 00:38:30,570 --> 00:38:34,080 And there was a raid from that took place

1182 00:38:34,080 --> 00:38:36,090 in Cranz, not in Memel.

1183 00:38:36,090 --> 00:38:37,350 No, no, in Cranz.

1184 00:38:37,350 --> 00:38:38,130 In Cranz.

1185 00:38:38,130 --> 00:38:42,278 And at this time, the authorities then--

1186 00:38:42,278 --> 00:38:44,070 it would have been the German authorities--

1187 00:38:44,070 --> 00:38:44,650 Of course.

1188 00:38:44,650 --> 00:38:48,745 --were looking for something in that Jewish hotel.

1189 00:38:48,745 --> 00:38:51,150 A man, I think, [INAUDIBLE].

1190 00:38:51,150 --> 00:38:52,500 OK.

1191 00:38:52,500 --> 00:38:55,350 Now, when you went across-- 1192 00:38:55,350 --> 00:38:58,270 when you went to Memel, it was to visit an aunt, did you say?

1193 00:38:58,270 --> 00:39:00,120 Yeah, my aunt and my grandmother.

1194 00:39:00,120 --> 00:39:02,340 My grandmother lived as well--

1195 00:39:02,340 --> 00:39:05,445 I think my grandparents were separated.

1196 00:39:05,445 --> 00:39:08,220 Yeah, my grandfather was a difficult man.

1197 00:39:08,220 --> 00:39:11,370 And so they were sort of separated.

1198 00:39:11,370 --> 00:39:14,820 And she lived with my aunt and her husband,

1199 00:39:14,820 --> 00:39:17,310 and the little girl, my cousin, who

1200 00:39:17,310 --> 00:39:20,070 was much younger, eight younger than I.

1201 00:39:20,070 --> 00:39:22,920 What were their names, grandmother's names?

1202 00:39:22,920 --> 00:39:25,770 My grandmother was the one, you know, Dubowsky-- 1203 00:39:25,770 --> 00:39:27,570 I mean, Rosenthal, yeah.

1204 00:39:27,570 --> 00:39:29,580 And then was my aunt.

1205 00:39:29,580 --> 00:39:32,812 Her name about Burack.

1206 00:39:32,812 --> 00:39:34,890 B-U-R-A-C-K. Yes.

1207 00:39:34,890 --> 00:39:36,480 And her first name?

1208 00:39:36,480 --> 00:39:38,220 Her husband was from Memel.

1209 00:39:38,220 --> 00:39:39,045 OK.

1210 00:39:39,045 --> 00:39:42,480 And actually, he had a factory in Germany.

1211 00:39:42,480 --> 00:39:46,320 And as a foreigner, he had to close it already.

1212 00:39:46,320 --> 00:39:49,290 I think in '36 or so, they weren't allowed.

1213 00:39:49,290 --> 00:39:52,320 They had to go back to--

1214 00:39:52,320 --> 00:39:54,510 as foreign Jews, they didn't allow

1215 00:39:54,510 --> 00:39:56,910 to have any businesses anymore.

1216

00:39:56,910 --> 00:39:57,640 In Germany.

1217

00:39:57,640 --> 00:39:58,230 Yes.

1218

00:39:58,230 --> 00:40:00,390 And so they went back to Memel.

1219

00:40:00,390 --> 00:40:01,050 OK.

1220

00:40:01,050 --> 00:40:03,540 Where in Germany did he have his factory?

1221

00:40:03,540 --> 00:40:04,720 Near Koelln.

1222

00:40:04,720 --> 00:40:06,720 OK, so it was not in East Prussia.

1223

00:40:06,720 --> 00:40:08,040 No, no, no.

1224 00:40:08,040 --> 00:40:09,300

He had a factory near Cologne?

1225 00:40:09,300 --> 00:40:09,960 That was.

1226 00:40:09,960 --> 00:40:10,890 Yes, yes.

1227 00:40:10,890 --> 00:40:12,670 And his last name was Burack.

1228 00:40:12,670 --> 00:40:13,170 Yeah.

1229

00:40:13,170 --> 00:40:15,642 And his wife's first name?

1230

00:40:15,642 --> 00:40:16,435 Edith, Edith.

1231

00:40:16,435 --> 00:40:17,652 Edith, Edith.

1232

00:40:17,652 --> 00:40:19,110 Oh, so it was your mother's sister.

1233

00:40:19,110 --> 00:40:19,605 That's right.

1234

00:40:19,605 --> 00:40:19,800 Yes.

1235

00:40:19,800 --> 00:40:21,360 Your mother's sister lived there.

1236

00:40:21,360 --> 00:40:21,900 OK.

1237

00:40:21,900 --> 00:40:23,910 And my grandmother lived with her.

1238 00:40:23,910 --> 00:40:24,990 Yeah, so I was there.

1239 00:40:24,990 --> 00:40:27,900 And they had a little girl eight years younger than I.

1240 00:40:27,900 --> 00:40:31,680 Well, it was-- at that point it was a different country, Memel. 1241 00:40:31,680 --> 00:40:32,580 Yes.

1242 00:40:32,580 --> 00:40:33,390 Did you notice?

1243 00:40:33,390 --> 00:40:35,580 Did you feel that when you were there,

1244 00:40:35,580 --> 00:40:37,110 that it was a different country?

1245 00:40:37,110 --> 00:40:38,250 Or not so much?

1246 00:40:38,250 --> 00:40:39,820 Yeah, well, you know, Memel, I always

1247 00:40:39,820 --> 00:40:42,390 thought as a child there were only Jews in Memel.

1248 00:40:42,390 --> 00:40:43,380 That's all I saw.

1249 00:40:43,380 --> 00:40:44,273 There were a lot.

1250 00:40:44,273 --> 00:40:45,690 There were a lot of Jews in Memel.

1251 00:40:45,690 --> 00:40:48,090 And they all lived very well.

1252 00:40:48,090 --> 00:40:51,150 When we went in the summer, went over to Sandkrug, 1253 00:40:51,150 --> 00:40:55,000 [? the pier ?] and we stayed there in a hotel.

1254 00:40:55,000 --> 00:40:56,670 And it was a lovely life.

1255 00:40:56,670 --> 00:40:57,210 Lovely.

1256 00:40:57,210 --> 00:40:59,880 And the women, all of them went to--

1257 00:40:59,880 --> 00:41:03,570 they went to the restaurant every day.

1258 00:41:03,570 --> 00:41:04,980 The cafe, not the restaurant.

1259 00:41:04,980 --> 00:41:08,250 The cafe, and had coffee, and they played cards.

1260 00:41:08,250 --> 00:41:09,240 At least, my aunt.

1261 00:41:09,240 --> 00:41:10,300 This aunt who had--

1262 00:41:10,300 --> 00:41:10,800 Aunt Edith.

1263 00:41:10,800 --> 00:41:12,217 --the daughter, Ina.

1264 00:41:12,217 --> 00:41:14,050 Oh, she's the one who had the daughter, Ina.

1265

00:41:14,050 --> 00:41:15,510 Yeah, my aunt and uncle.

1266 00:41:15,510 --> 00:41:17,490 Yeah, it was really my mother's-- she was

1267 00:41:17,490 --> 00:41:18,780 my mother's first cousin.

1268 00:41:18,780 --> 00:41:23,430

1269 00:41:23,430 --> 00:41:26,190 But did you notice a difference in--

1270 00:41:26,190 --> 00:41:28,650 that you were in a different country, or not?

1271 00:41:28,650 --> 00:41:29,430 No.

1272 00:41:29,430 --> 00:41:31,380 and I say, I saw a lot of Jews.

1273 00:41:31,380 --> 00:41:34,110 I didn't meet too many other people there.

1274 00:41:34,110 --> 00:41:38,560 And I found-- to tell you the truth--

1275 00:41:38,560 --> 00:41:39,060 Sure, sure.

1276 00:41:39,060 --> 00:41:40,290 No, go right ahead.

1277 00:41:40,290 --> 00:41:43,290 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

I went on the boat alone.

1278 00:41:43,290 --> 00:41:47,040 I kind of-- and there were mostly Lithuanians.

1279 00:41:47,040 --> 00:41:49,300 I looked Jewish, probably because I was dark.

1280 00:41:49,300 --> 00:41:53,940 And in East Prussia, if you're darker, you were Jewish.

1281 00:41:53,940 --> 00:41:57,610 And I felt very uncomfortable.

1282 00:41:57,610 --> 00:41:58,110 Really?

1283 00:41:58,110 --> 00:42:00,090 I think there were a lot of Nazis there.

1284

00:42:00,090 --> 00:42:02,310 So there were antisemites amongst those.

1285 00:42:02,310 --> 00:42:04,120 Yes, I think so in Lithuania.

1286 00:42:04,120 --> 00:42:04,620 OK.

1287 00:42:04,620 --> 00:42:07,710 And you know, I didn't feel very comfortable.

1288 00:42:07,710 --> 00:42:09,750 And did you travel that way often,

1289

00:42:09,750 --> 00:42:11,370 or was this the one time?

1290 00:42:11,370 --> 00:42:12,480 With my mother, yes.

1291

00:42:12,480 --> 00:42:15,180 Because we went not every year, but every other year

1292

00:42:15,180 --> 00:42:17,020 we went there in the summer.

1293 00:42:17,020 --> 00:42:18,180 You had to go on the boat.

1294

00:42:18,180 --> 00:42:20,280 Now you can go on the bus there.

1295

00:42:20,280 --> 00:42:25,300 When I went back from Lithuania to Koenigsberg, to Kaliningrad,

1296

00:42:25,300 --> 00:42:26,370 we went on a bus.

1297

00:42:26,370 --> 00:42:29,150 But at that time you could take a ferry from--

1298 00:42:29,150 --> 00:42:30,150 You had to take a boat--

1299 00:42:30,150 --> 00:42:32,708 From Koenigsberg?

1300 00:42:32,708 --> 00:42:33,750 No, not from Koenigsberg.

1301 00:42:33,750 --> 00:42:34,500 From Cranz. 1302 00:42:34,500 --> 00:42:35,117 From Cranz.

1303 00:42:35,117 --> 00:42:35,950 It was called Cranz.

1304 00:42:35,950 --> 00:42:37,470 It was outside of Cranz.

1305 00:42:37,470 --> 00:42:39,140 And it went-- and it went.

1306 00:42:39,140 --> 00:42:40,570 It stopped in Nidden.

1307

 $00:42:40,570 \rightarrow 00:42:43,500$ And it stopped in Rositten and all those places.

1308

00:42:43,500 --> 00:42:45,630 Yeah, all those places that we know.

1309

00:42:45,630 --> 00:42:47,610 And it went far as Memel.

1310 00:42:47,610 --> 00:42:48,950 OK.

1311 00:42:48,950 --> 00:42:50,605 But we did that often, yes.

1312

00:42:50,605 --> 00:42:51,105 OK.

1313 00:42:51,105 --> 00:42:54,750

1314 00:42:54,750 --> 00:43:04,020 As you were growing up, what kind of interaction

1315 00:43:04,020 --> 00:43:09,540 did you have with people who supported the Nazis?

1316 00:43:09,540 --> 00:43:13,440 You mentioned the neighbors and the two boys

1317 00:43:13,440 --> 00:43:15,330 who would come down the stairs.

1318 00:43:15,330 --> 00:43:17,310 Yeah, yeah, yeah.

1319 00:43:17,310 --> 00:43:19,770 Did you meet-- did you have it in school?

1320 00:43:19,770 --> 00:43:24,120 Did you have-- when you were going to primary school?

1321 00:43:24,120 --> 00:43:25,620 Yes.

1322 00:43:25,620 --> 00:43:27,370 And the public school for three years?

1323 00:43:27,370 --> 00:43:28,470 Yes, yes.

1324 00:43:28,470 --> 00:43:33,240 Do you remember any kind of discussion,

1325 00:43:33,240 --> 00:43:36,630 any kind of indoctrination?

1326 00:43:36,630 --> 00:43:38,610 Well, they were indoctrinating. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

1327 00:43:38,610 --> 00:43:45,630 And every morning there was a swastika made out of wood

1328 00:43:45,630 --> 00:43:47,250 with holes in it.

1329 00:43:47,250 --> 00:43:51,030 So we weren't allowed to do that right away, but the children,

1330 00:43:51,030 --> 00:43:54,990 you know, they brought \$0.10, and they could put a nail

1331 00:43:54,990 --> 00:43:56,110 in those holes.

1332 00:43:56,110 --> 00:43:58,800 That was how they raised money.

1333 00:43:58,800 --> 00:44:00,900 And I don't remember.

1334 00:44:00,900 --> 00:44:02,790 They didn't associate with us.

1335 00:44:02,790 --> 00:44:03,850 No, they didn't.

1336 00:44:03,850 --> 00:44:05,970 They didn't at that time already.

1337 00:44:05,970 --> 00:44:08,500 And this would have been when you were how old?

1338 00:44:08,500 --> 00:44:09,485 In '33 I started. 1339 00:44:09,485 --> 00:44:09,985 In '33.

1340 00:44:09,985 --> 00:44:12,470 Yeah, I think they were indoctrinated.

1341 00:44:12,470 --> 00:44:15,420 But we were enough Jewish children there.

1342 00:44:15,420 --> 00:44:17,520 As I said, not a Jewish section, but there

1343 00:44:17,520 --> 00:44:19,740 were maybe in my class about four or five.

1344 00:44:19,740 --> 00:44:22,110 You know, Jewish children.

1345 00:44:22,110 --> 00:44:23,370 And we were together.

1346 00:44:23,370 --> 00:44:25,920 I don't remember ever associating with the others.

1347 00:44:25,920 --> 00:44:27,780 You know, even talking to them.

1348 00:44:27,780 --> 00:44:29,298 Or what about the teachers?

1349 00:44:29,298 --> 00:44:30,465 How did the teachers behave?

1350 00:44:30,465 --> 00:44:31,007 The teachers?

00:44:31,007 --> 00:44:32,560 I think they were all right to us.

1352

00:44:32,560 --> 00:44:34,770 I don't think we had at that time-- you know,

1353

00:44:34,770 --> 00:44:38,370 I don't think they were especially mean.

1354

00:44:38,370 --> 00:44:40,130 Because I wouldn't have stayed two years,

1355

00:44:40,130 --> 00:44:41,090 or three years maybe.

1356

00:44:41,090 --> 00:44:42,960 Because three years I could have gone.

1357 00:44:42,960 --> 00:44:44,050 But it wasn't bad.

1358 00:44:44,050 --> 00:44:45,180 It wasn't that bad.

1359 00:44:45,180 --> 00:44:47,160 You know, the teachers were OK.

1360 00:44:47,160 --> 00:44:49,410 And what about in the shops and on the street?

1361 00:44:49,410 --> 00:44:50,195 In the shops?

1362 00:44:50,195 --> 00:44:52,830 Well, I never noticed anything like that.

1363 00:44:52,830 --> 00:44:54,040 You went shopping.

1364 00:44:54,040 --> 00:44:57,060 You didn't if you were-- you know.

1365 00:44:57,060 --> 00:44:59,965 And tell me about Liesel, who was your housekeeper.

1366 00:44:59,965 --> 00:45:01,530 Oh, she was wonderful.

1367 00:45:01,530 --> 00:45:02,280 Tell me about her.

1368 00:45:02,280 --> 00:45:04,920 She was-- she always--

1369 00:45:04,920 --> 00:45:08,190 before she came to us, she worked only for Jews.

1370 00:45:08,190 --> 00:45:09,630 She herself was not Jewish.

1371 00:45:09,630 --> 00:45:10,500 No, no.

1372 00:45:10,500 --> 00:45:11,410 Not at all.

1373 00:45:11,410 --> 00:45:11,910 Not at all.

1374 00:45:11,910 --> 00:45:13,665 Came from Gumbinnen.

1375 00:45:13,665 --> 00:45:15,330 Oh, she came from Gumbinnen. 1376 00:45:15,330 --> 00:45:16,110 OK.

1377 00:45:16,110 --> 00:45:18,540 And if she would have been educated,

1378 00:45:18,540 --> 00:45:20,062 she was a very smart woman.

1379 00:45:20,062 --> 00:45:22,020 You know, she would have really been something.

1380 00:45:22,020 --> 00:45:23,430 Very clever.

1381 00:45:23,430 --> 00:45:25,920 Basically.

1382 00:45:25,920 --> 00:45:29,910 And then she came to us, but she was very bossy, and she said,

1383 00:45:29,910 --> 00:45:33,000 I don't want this nanny here.

1384 00:45:33,000 --> 00:45:34,410 I'll take care of Amely.

1385 00:45:34,410 --> 00:45:35,730 I'll take care of everything.

1386 00:45:35,730 --> 00:45:36,863 You know?

1387 00:45:36,863 --> 00:45:38,280 How old were you when she arrived?

00:45:38,280 --> 00:45:39,300 I was two years old.

1389 00:45:39,300 --> 00:45:39,840 Oh!

1390 00:45:39,840 --> 00:45:41,850 So I grew up with her, and she was really

1391 00:45:41,850 --> 00:45:43,160

like my second mother.

1392 00:45:43,160 --> 00:45:45,240 We spent a lot of time together.

1393 00:45:45,240 --> 00:45:46,860 Was she older or younger?

1394 00:45:46,860 --> 00:45:47,360 Older.

1395 00:45:47,360 --> 00:45:48,510 You know, she had to be.

1396 00:45:48,510 --> 00:45:52,470 Later on, I think the laws came-- that was in '36 again--

1397 00:45:52,470 --> 00:45:57,930 the Nuremberg laws, that no one who worked for a family--

1398 00:45:57,930 --> 00:45:58,530 For Jews.

1399 00:45:58,530 --> 00:46:03,450 --that was non-Jewish, they had to be over 45, because

1400 00:46:03,450 --> 00:46:04,800 of Rassenschande.

1401 00:46:04,800 --> 00:46:06,450 Race--

1402 00:46:06,450 --> 00:46:07,200 Disgrace.

1403 00:46:07,200 --> 00:46:10,110 Disgrace, yes.

1404 00:46:10,110 --> 00:46:11,655 And she was over 45.

1405 00:46:11,655 --> 00:46:13,680 She was over 45.

1406 00:46:13,680 --> 00:46:16,440 I never knew how old she was, but she must have been--

1407 00:46:16,440 --> 00:46:19,200 at that anyway, it was 1936.

1408 00:46:19,200 --> 00:46:20,987 I would say she was 50, maybe.

1409 00:46:20,987 --> 00:46:21,820 Yeah, wait a minute.

1410 00:46:21,820 --> 00:46:23,158 She was a little--

1411 00:46:23,158 --> 00:46:25,200 yeah, quite a bit older than my mother of course.

1412 00:46:25,200 --> 00:46:26,280 Yes, yes.

1413 00:46:26,280 --> 00:46:29,080 She was a very obese woman, and very-- you know,

1414

00:46:29,080 --> 00:46:31,050 she knew how to bring me up.

1415 00:46:31,050 --> 00:46:32,370 And you know, my mother--

1416

00:46:32,370 --> 00:46:35,040 my mother wasn't very social, but she went--

1417 00:46:35,040 --> 00:46:37,410 she'd love to go to--

1418 00:46:37,410 --> 00:46:39,370 in the afternoon, she would walk downtown

1419 00:46:39,370 --> 00:46:41,790 where my father's office was.

1420 00:46:41,790 --> 00:46:43,920 And they would have-after he was finished,

1421 00:46:43,920 --> 00:46:47,070 they went with the secretary, who was Catholic.

1422 00:46:47,070 --> 00:46:50,160 They would have tea, and you know, and then

1423 00:46:50,160 --> 00:46:52,250 she would bring rolls, and they would eat them.

1424 00:46:52,250 --> 00:46:54,990 Then at night, they already had a cup of tea or so.

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00:46:54,990 --> 00:46:57,750 Because we eat our main meal at lunch time.

1426 00:46:57,750 --> 00:46:59,640 Did your father come

home for your main meal?

1427

00:46:59,640 --> 00:47:04,320 Yes, my father came home for lunch, for the meal.

1428 00:47:04,320 --> 00:47:07,510 And then rested a few min--

1429 00:47:07,510 --> 00:47:09,840 that's how the Europeans did.

1430 00:47:09,840 --> 00:47:11,940 Lay down a while, and then went back again.

1431 00:47:11,940 --> 00:47:15,840 He had about 15 minutes by car, I think, from downtown

1432

00:47:15,840 --> 00:47:17,100 to uptown.

1433 00:47:17,100 --> 00:47:17,760 Yes.

1434 00:47:17,760 --> 00:47:20,200 What a nice tradition that they had, though,

1435 00:47:20,200 --> 00:47:22,145 that she would go and meet him every evening.

1436 00:47:22,145 --> 00:47:23,710 Yeah, she loved to do that. 1437 00:47:23,710 --> 00:47:24,900 Yeah, that was her life.

1438 00:47:24,900 --> 00:47:26,980 She was not a card player.

1439 00:47:26,980 --> 00:47:28,952 And she was-- yeah, she had friends.

1440 00:47:28,952 --> 00:47:29,910 They had friends there.

1441 00:47:29,910 --> 00:47:31,410 Was she a quiet person, your mother?

1442 00:47:31,410 --> 00:47:33,410 Or more extroverted?

1443 00:47:33,410 --> 00:47:38,250 Yeah, I would say she was, to a certain extent, maybe shy.

1444

00:47:38,250 --> 00:47:41,250 But yet, you know, she was outspoken, and she was--

1445 00:47:41,250 --> 00:47:43,080 but she--

1446 00:47:43,080 --> 00:47:45,270 she had friends, intimate friends.

1447 00:47:45,270 --> 00:47:46,200 And they had friends.

1448 00:47:46,200 --> 00:47:48,390 But not otherwise.

00:47:48,390 --> 00:47:51,580 She didn't like, for instance, organizations.

1450

00:47:51,580 --> 00:47:55,230 In Germany it wasn't so much, but here, no, no, no, no, no.

1451

00:47:55,230 --> 00:47:57,520 There were a lot of people didn't like that.

1452

00:47:57,520 --> 00:48:00,365 To a certain extent, yet people said she was haughty

1453

00:48:00,365 --> 00:48:01,530 because she was--

1454

00:48:01,530 --> 00:48:04,530 she knew what she was doing, you know, and she didn't--

1455 00:48:04,530 --> 00:48:05,746 She knew what she wanted.

1456 00:48:05,746 --> 00:48:06,496 She wasn't really.

1457 00:48:06,496 --> 00:48:06,996 She wasn't.

1458 00:48:06,996 --> 00:48:09,180 Yeah, she was very kind, and she was very--

1459 00:48:09,180 --> 00:48:11,010 she did a lot for people, you know.

1460 00:48:11,010 --> 00:48:13,560 When people came here from Germany after the war, Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

1461 00:48:13,560 --> 00:48:18,180 they stayed with us at first, and she was always very giving.

1462 00:48:18,180 --> 00:48:20,880 What about your father's personality?

1463 00:48:20,880 --> 00:48:21,960 What was he like?

1464 00:48:21,960 --> 00:48:28,020 My father was quiet, but he also was he knew what was right.

1465 00:48:28,020 --> 00:48:30,360 Even though he didn't have much education.

1466 00:48:30,360 --> 00:48:32,445 For instance, my mother loved the theater.

1467 00:48:32,445 --> 00:48:33,570 They used to go to theater.

1468 00:48:33,570 --> 00:48:37,410 And he developed a very wonderful knowledge

1469 00:48:37,410 --> 00:48:41,190 of the theater, and he judged the actors, and he was very--

1470 00:48:41,190 --> 00:48:43,820 and a fine man.

1471 00:48:43,820 --> 00:48:45,690 And what can I say?

1472 00:48:45,690 --> 00:48:50,100 Did they-- were they a good match?

1473 00:48:50,100 --> 00:48:51,360 Were they a happy couple?

1474 00:48:51,360 --> 00:48:53,240 I think as happy as-- yeah.

1475 00:48:53,240 --> 00:48:56,880 I mean, the match was, my mother was much more educated,

1476 00:48:56,880 --> 00:48:58,770 but he was not uned--

1477 00:48:58,770 --> 00:49:00,360 he learned, you know?

1478 00:49:00,360 --> 00:49:02,490 And I think perhaps--

1479 00:49:02,490 --> 00:49:05,370 I don't know how happy they were.

1480 00:49:05,370 --> 00:49:07,150 Did you have a favorite?

1481 00:49:07,150 --> 00:49:07,650 What?

1482 00:49:07,650 --> 00:49:07,890 My favorite?

1483 00:49:07,890 --> 00:49:08,557 Did you have a--

1484 00:49:08,557 --> 00:49:10,320 Well, I was very close with my mother, 1485 00:49:10,320 --> 00:49:11,910 because I was an only child.

1486 00:49:11,910 --> 00:49:15,600 But my mother was very strict, and I had to be perfect.

1487 00:49:15,600 --> 00:49:16,740 And I wasn't perfect.

1488 00:49:16,740 --> 00:49:18,330 I mean, I wasn't the perfect type.

1489 00:49:18,330 --> 00:49:19,560 She wasn't perfection.

1490 00:49:19,560 --> 00:49:20,810 I wasn't.

1491 00:49:20,810 --> 00:49:24,150 I was more like my father, easygoing, you know?

1492 00:49:24,150 --> 00:49:25,680 But we got-- we were--

1493 00:49:25,680 --> 00:49:29,970 and well, later on in life, too, I always felt I owed her that.

1494 00:49:29,970 --> 00:49:33,480 I was an only child, and she was-- when my father but rather

1495 00:49:33,480 --> 00:49:36,180 young, she was lonely.

1496 00:49:36,180 --> 00:49:37,410 She needed some company then.

00:49:37,410 --> 00:49:38,880 She needed, yeah, yeah.

1498 00:49:38,880 --> 00:49:41,082 And she expected me to be.

1499 00:49:41,082 --> 00:49:42,540 She gave me everything, everything.

1500 00:49:42,540 --> 00:49:45,780 Much too much and material things, which I didn't want,

1501 00:49:45,780 --> 00:49:46,350 you know?

1502 00:49:46,350 --> 00:49:47,250 I didn't need that.

1503 00:49:47,250 --> 00:49:49,080 I said let it--

1504 00:49:49,080 --> 00:49:51,910 but then on the other hand, we often had discussions,

1505 00:49:51,910 --> 00:49:52,710 you know?

1506 00:49:52,710 --> 00:49:55,170 We were very different.

1507 00:49:55,170 --> 00:49:56,790 Going back to your own childhood,

1508 00:49:56,790 --> 00:50:00,380 did you feel like you had a lot of toys, a lot of--

1509 00:50:00,380 --> 00:50:01,670 were you spoiled?

1510

00:50:01,670 --> 00:50:03,540 Or had more of a strict--

1511

00:50:03,540 --> 00:50:06,180 I would say, mother always gave me--

1512

00:50:06,180 --> 00:50:11,280 not that she overdid it in toys and everything,

1513

00:50:11,280 --> 00:50:14,790 but she obviously-- all my life, she was-- she liked to give.

1514

00:50:14,790 --> 00:50:16,980 She liked to give, you know?

1515

00:50:16,980 --> 00:50:19,740 And I wish she would have been not so strict

1516

00:50:19,740 --> 00:50:22,020 and I was not expecting so much of me.

1517

00:50:22,020 --> 00:50:24,582 That was a little bit hard to live with her.

1518 00:50:24,582 --> 00:50:26,430

Yeah.

1519 00:50:26,430 --> 00:50:29,008 Well, give me an example of what she expected.

1520 00:50:29,008 --> 00:50:29,800 Give me an example.

00:50:29,800 --> 00:50:31,850 She expected me to be perfect, you know?

1522 00:50:31,850 --> 00:50:32,970 To be perfect.

1523 00:50:32,970 --> 00:50:34,230 And I wasn't.

1524 00:50:34,230 --> 00:50:36,900 I think later on I came out much more.

1525 00:50:36,900 --> 00:50:39,930 You know, when my mother died, I was in my 70s.

1526 00:50:39,930 --> 00:50:41,490 She became 96.

1527 00:50:41,490 --> 00:50:42,060 Wow.

1528 00:50:42,060 --> 00:50:45,070 And there wasn't a day hardly that I didn't see her,

1529 00:50:45,070 --> 00:50:45,570 you know?

1530 00:50:45,570 --> 00:50:49,112 We lived very close, the same street and everything.

1531 00:50:49,112 --> 00:50:50,195 Here in the United States.

1532 00:50:50,195 --> 00:50:50,695 Yeah, yeah.

1533 00:50:50,695 --> 00:50:53,610

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She did everything, but she expected me to be there.

1534 00:50:53,610 --> 00:50:55,177 So--

1535 00:50:55,177 --> 00:50:56,760 Where did you live on the same street?

1536 00:50:56,760 --> 00:50:58,500 What town was this?

1537 00:50:58,500 --> 00:51:01,230 We lived in Williamstown, because we

1538 00:51:01,230 --> 00:51:02,555 went-- you know Williamstown?

1539 00:51:02,555 --> 00:51:03,180 Tell me where--

1540 00:51:03,180 --> 00:51:04,080 It's in the West.

1541 00:51:04,080 --> 00:51:06,070 It's in the Berkshires.

1542 00:51:06,070 --> 00:51:06,570 Right.

1543 00:51:06,570 --> 00:51:07,530 Williams College.

1544 00:51:07,530 --> 00:51:10,230 It's a beautiful town, beautiful to live in.

1545 00:51:10,230 --> 00:51:13,590 And my father, my father was-- 1546 00:51:13,590 --> 00:51:16,230 he had a tannery later in Woburn.

1547 00:51:16,230 --> 00:51:18,570 First he worked for them, and then he could take it

1548 00:51:18,570 --> 00:51:20,190 over because a man died.

1549 00:51:20,190 --> 00:51:24,300 And then we had to expand, so we went to North Adams, founded

1550 00:51:24,300 --> 00:51:25,800 a bigger one.

1551 00:51:25,800 --> 00:51:29,610 And my husband, who was a chemical engineer, studied

1552 00:51:29,610 --> 00:51:32,760 chemical engineering, went into business with him.

1553 00:51:32,760 --> 00:51:37,540 Because that was a lot with chemicals, was making leather.

1554 00:51:37,540 --> 00:51:39,530 And then we were 10 years in Williamstown.

1555 00:51:39,530 --> 00:51:40,620 And then he died.

1556 00:51:40,620 --> 00:51:43,900 And then my husband led the business.

1557 00:51:43,900 --> 00:51:45,180

1558 00:51:45,180 --> 00:51:46,260 OK.

1559 00:51:46,260 --> 00:51:47,520 So I was just jumping--

1560 00:51:47,520 --> 00:51:48,060 Going off.

1561 00:51:48,060 --> 00:51:48,822 No, it's OK.

1562 00:51:48,822 --> 00:51:51,280 I was jumping ahead a little bit to ask where in the United

1563 00:51:51,280 --> 00:51:52,590 States you had lived.

1564 00:51:52,590 --> 00:51:54,300 And you gave me a picture.

1565 00:51:54,300 --> 00:51:56,530 Now I'll go back to Koenigsberg.

1566 00:51:56,530 --> 00:51:57,030 Yes.

1567 00:51:57,030 --> 00:52:01,660 And did your parents read newspapers?

1568 00:52:01,660 --> 00:52:02,160 Did they--

1569 00:52:02,160 --> 00:52:02,660 Oh, yes.

1570 00:52:02,660 --> 00:52:05,400

What newspapers did they generally read?

1571 00:52:05,400 --> 00:52:09,085 It was a Berliner Illustrator I think was one of them.

1572 00:52:09,085 --> 00:52:09,960 Berliner Illustrator.

1573 00:52:09,960 --> 00:52:12,540 There must have been a Koenigsberg paper, maybe two.

1574 00:52:12,540 --> 00:52:13,410 Oh, yes, they did.

1575 00:52:13,410 --> 00:52:16,350 My mother, my mother was very political.

1576 00:52:16,350 --> 00:52:17,400 She read a lot of it.

1577 00:52:17,400 --> 00:52:17,910 Yeah.

1578 00:52:17,910 --> 00:52:20,010 So this is what I'd like to find out.

1579 00:52:20,010 --> 00:52:24,930 When Hitler comes to power, and you are seven, eight years old,

1580 00:52:24,930 --> 00:52:27,780 what kind of discussions are going on at home?

1581 00:52:27,780 --> 00:52:30,960 Oh, you know, they were always--

Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection 00:52:30,960 --> 00:52:32,820

my mother always saw the light.

1583 00:52:32,820 --> 00:52:34,140 She said, let's go out.

1584 00:52:34,140 --> 00:52:38,880 Maybe by '36 at least or '35, let's go out of Germany.

1585 00:52:38,880 --> 00:52:41,560 But my father's business was good, you know.

1586 00:52:41,560 --> 00:52:43,320 And you lived there all your life,

1587 00:52:43,320 --> 00:52:46,830 and it was a decision with the language and everything,

1588 00:52:46,830 --> 00:52:49,080 and to reestablish yourself.

1589 00:52:49,080 --> 00:52:51,050 And they said, oh, you know, obviously

1590 00:52:51,050 --> 00:52:52,560 Hitler wasn't like everyone.

1591 00:52:52,560 --> 00:52:54,420 You know, those that stayed said Hitler

1592 00:52:54,420 --> 00:52:55,800 wasn't going to last very long.

1593 00:52:55,800 --> 00:52:59,190 They're not going to last, you know?

1594 00:52:59,190 --> 00:53:00,648 So you know, that's what they said.

1595 00:53:00,648 --> 00:53:01,648 That was the discussion.

1596 00:53:01,648 --> 00:53:02,850 My mother said let's go.

1597 00:53:02,850 --> 00:53:06,600 And then she said, we had friends who went to Belgium.

1598 00:53:06,600 --> 00:53:10,140 Now their children-their children

1599 00:53:10,140 --> 00:53:11,430 are here in Woburn now.

1600 00:53:11,430 --> 00:53:13,680 And they went to Belgium.

1601 00:53:13,680 --> 00:53:15,990 My mother said, let's go to Belgium, you know?

1602 00:53:15,990 --> 00:53:18,180 And she went over there to visit them.

1603 00:53:18,180 --> 00:53:22,350 My father-- if I go out of Germany, I go out of Europe.

1604 00:53:22,350 --> 00:53:26,520 I don't see the future very well good for--

1605 00:53:26,520 --> 00:53:28,910 I don't have any hope for Europe.

1606

00:53:28,910 --> 00:53:30,690 And that was a smart thing.

1607

00:53:30,690 --> 00:53:31,570 Well, that's true.

1608

00:53:31,570 --> 00:53:32,970 That was smart, and we did.

1609

00:53:32,970 --> 00:53:34,740 Yeah, yeah.

1610

00:53:34,740 --> 00:53:38,700 So as you're growing up, they're having conversations

1611

00:53:38,700 --> 00:53:40,920 about whether to stay or to go.

1612 00:53:40,920 --> 00:53:42,030 Yes, of course.

1613 00:53:42,030 --> 00:53:45,960 I think everybody did more or less, if they had the means.

1614 00:53:45,960 --> 00:53:49,560 And so was this the same conversation going on

1615 00:53:49,560 --> 00:53:50,670 in your friend's homes?

1616 00:53:50,670 --> 00:53:51,420 Oh, yes.

1617 00:53:51,420 --> 00:53:52,712 I'm sure everybody.

00:53:52,712 --> 00:53:54,420 You know, some went earlier, Some didn't.

1619

00:53:54,420 --> 00:53:59,860 But most of my friends didn't go until '38 at least, you know?

1620

00:53:59,860 --> 00:54:00,360 Uh-huh.

1621 00:54:00,360 --> 00:54:03,060 My father's brothers left in--

1622 00:54:03,060 --> 00:54:06,410 two brothers left in '36.

1623 00:54:06,410 --> 00:54:08,190 Oh, the other-- no, no.

1624 00:54:08,190 --> 00:54:11,668 The two brothers left, and one went to Palestine at that time.

1625

00:54:11,668 --> 00:54:12,210 That's right.

1626

00:54:12,210 --> 00:54:13,410 All three left.

1627 00:54:13,410 --> 00:54:15,270 Only my father didn't.

1628 00:54:15,270 --> 00:54:16,890 He said no, I'm not going yet.

1629 00:54:16,890 --> 00:54:18,330 I'm not going.

1630 00:54:18,330 --> 00:54:20,190 So he was the last holdout. 1631 00:54:20,190 --> 00:54:22,860 Yeah, and they could take all their money out.

1632 00:54:22,860 --> 00:54:25,110 In '36, they could still take them.

1633 00:54:25,110 --> 00:54:26,400 After that, you couldn't.

1634 00:54:26,400 --> 00:54:29,520 So one of the brothers lived in Amsterdam already.

1635 00:54:29,520 --> 00:54:30,780 No, that was a sister.

1636 00:54:30,780 --> 00:54:31,530 That was a sister.

1637 00:54:31,530 --> 00:54:34,350 Yeah, she lived there already, in a married life.

1638 00:54:34,350 --> 00:54:36,760 Yes, but they were deported later.

1639 00:54:36,760 --> 00:54:37,260 Were they?

1640 00:54:37,260 --> 00:54:40,500 They're the ones who died in a concentration camp.

1641 00:54:40,500 --> 00:54:42,117 Well, that was one of my questions.

1642 00:54:42,117 --> 00:54:43,200 From Amsterdam, of course. 1643 00:54:43,200 --> 00:54:45,948 You know, they sent them to--

1644 00:54:45,948 --> 00:54:47,400 they were, I think, Bergen-Belsen.

1645 00:54:47,400 --> 00:54:48,060 I think.

1646 00:54:48,060 --> 00:54:48,840 Yeah, yeah.

1647 00:54:48,840 --> 00:54:49,740 OK.

1648 00:54:49,740 --> 00:54:52,890 And did they have children?

1649 00:54:52,890 --> 00:54:55,920 Yes, they had one daughter was married-- no, both of them.

1650 00:54:55,920 --> 00:54:58,080 Of course, both of them were married.

1651 00:54:58,080 --> 00:55:03,780 One daughter also was killed.

1652 00:55:03,780 --> 00:55:08,725 The other, they had a husband that was a real smart--

1653 00:55:08,725 --> 00:55:11,430 forgot to mention-he finagled, I think.

1654 00:55:11,430 --> 00:55:14,770 And he was-- he had one child they left behind. 1655 00:55:14,770 --> 00:55:16,110 They had a little boy.

1656 00:55:16,110 --> 00:55:19,320 They left him with a Christian family in Amsterdam.

1657 00:55:19,320 --> 00:55:20,460 The other girl was--

1658 00:55:20,460 --> 00:55:23,640 I don't know-- maybe five, six years old.

1659 00:55:23,640 --> 00:55:27,690 And the three of them were saved because, you know how--

1660 00:55:27,690 --> 00:55:28,510 who knows?

1661 00:55:28,510 --> 00:55:29,400 I don't know.

1662 00:55:29,400 --> 00:55:31,770 That was her husband, my cousin's husband.

1663 00:55:31,770 --> 00:55:32,820 Your cousin's husband.

1664 00:55:32,820 --> 00:55:34,170 So they survived, they survived.

1665 00:55:34,170 --> 00:55:35,250 In hiding.

1666 00:55:35,250 --> 00:55:38,040 In hiding-- no, they were in the concentration camp, 1667 00:55:38,040 --> 00:55:40,110 and they survived.

1668 00:55:40,110 --> 00:55:41,820 That was-- I don't know.

1669 00:55:41,820 --> 00:55:43,020 What he did, I don't know.

1670 00:55:43,020 --> 00:55:43,560 You know?

1671 00:55:43,560 --> 00:55:44,940 Yeah, who knows?

1672

00:55:44,940 --> 00:55:48,790 But they survived, and then they did very well after the war.

1673 00:55:48,790 --> 00:55:51,210 But my cousin died young.

1674 00:55:51,210 --> 00:55:52,105 She died young.

1675 00:55:52,105 --> 00:55:52,730 She had cancer.

1676 00:55:52,730 --> 00:55:53,920 She died young.

1677 00:55:53,920 --> 00:55:55,120 [? So ?] destination.

1678 00:55:55,120 --> 00:55:57,100 So I knew her daughter.

1679 00:55:57,100 --> 00:55:59,220 And she went to Israel later.

00:55:59,220 --> 00:56:02,100 Yeah, the daughter went to Israel.

1681 00:56:02,100 --> 00:56:05,130 And she came to me, visiting with me.

1682 00:56:05,130 --> 00:56:08,700 Remind me again, which sister did this family branch

1683 00:56:08,700 --> 00:56:09,310 come from?

1684 00:56:09,310 --> 00:56:10,380 What was her name?

1685 00:56:10,380 --> 00:56:12,720 The sister who married the man in Amsterdam.

1686 00:56:12,720 --> 00:56:14,820 Oh, they came from my father's.

1687 00:56:14,820 --> 00:56:16,290 I know, your father's sister.

1688 00:56:16,290 --> 00:56:16,890 Yes.

1689 00:56:16,890 --> 00:56:18,930 What was the sister's name, that sister?

1690 00:56:18,930 --> 00:56:20,190 Her name was Rosie.

1691 00:56:20,190 --> 00:56:24,458 Rosie, and she's-- and these are the daughters of Rosie who

00:56:24,458 --> 00:56:25,500 married different people.

1693

00:56:25,500 --> 00:56:26,170 That's right.

1694

00:56:26,170 --> 00:56:27,318 Yes, yes.

1695

00:56:27,318 --> 00:56:29,070 OK.

1696 00:56:29,070 --> 00:56:33,570 And so the three brothers, your father's three brothers leave.

1697

00:56:33,570 --> 00:56:36,300 Yeah, two brothers went to France, to Southern France.

1698

00:56:36,300 --> 00:56:37,290 They were in Nice.

1699

00:56:37,290 --> 00:56:37,830 OK.

1700

00:56:37,830 --> 00:56:40,440 And they were very well off, because the brothers

1701

00:56:40,440 --> 00:56:42,360 was the uncle who was a millionaire.

1702

00:56:42,360 --> 00:56:43,980 And they lived very well, but they

1703 00:56:43,980 --> 00:56:46,140 helped us later to get out of--

1704 00:56:46,140 --> 00:56:48,930 because we couldn't come to America right away.

1705 00:56:48,930 --> 00:56:50,400 We'll talk about that in a minute.

1706 00:56:50,400 --> 00:56:52,980 Yeah, OK.

1707 00:56:52,980 --> 00:56:55,230 And one brother went to Palestine.

1708 00:56:55,230 --> 00:56:56,280 That's right, yes.

1709 00:56:56,280 --> 00:56:57,000 OK.

1710 00:56:57,000 --> 00:57:01,560 The other sisters who stay in Germany, the three sisters.

1711 00:57:01,560 --> 00:57:02,870 What happens with them?

1712 00:57:02,870 --> 00:57:04,830 One was dead already.

1713 00:57:04,830 --> 00:57:06,210 There was only two left.

1714 00:57:06,210 --> 00:57:06,840 That's right.

1715 00:57:06,840 --> 00:57:07,380 Two left.

1716 00:57:07,380 --> 00:57:07,880 Right. 1717 00:57:07,880 --> 00:57:08,550 Two others.

1718 00:57:08,550 --> 00:57:12,780 One was her husband left for America.

1719 00:57:12,780 --> 00:57:16,360 And she had a little boy, was a year younger than I.

1720 00:57:16,360 --> 00:57:18,600 And they're hoping that she would get,

1721 00:57:18,600 --> 00:57:21,430 but they couldn't get there before the war, you know?

1722 00:57:21,430 --> 00:57:22,860 And so they were sent away.

1723 00:57:22,860 --> 00:57:24,100 I don't know where--

1724 00:57:24,100 --> 00:57:25,500 I think they went to Riga.

1725 00:57:25,500 --> 00:57:29,970 Yes, because we looked it up in the Holocaust Museum that time.

1726 00:57:29,970 --> 00:57:30,930 Yeah.

1727 00:57:30,930 --> 00:57:32,250 And what's the other one?

1728 00:57:32,250 --> 00:57:34,920 So did she perish in Riga?

00:57:34,920 --> 00:57:36,600 Yes, yes.

1730 00:57:36,600 --> 00:57:39,570 sent her and that little boy.

1731 00:57:39,570 --> 00:57:44,640 And yeah, the other, the oldest sister, Elsa, they went to--

1732 00:57:44,640 --> 00:57:49,860 the whole family went to Africa, South Africa, to Johannesburg.

1733 00:57:49,860 --> 00:57:51,490 And they all are dead now.

1734 00:57:51,490 --> 00:57:53,250 Even the cousins, they're all gone.

1735 00:57:53,250 --> 00:57:54,720 Yeah, yeah.

1736 00:57:54,720 --> 00:57:55,920 But they survived.

1737 00:57:55,920 --> 00:57:56,730 They survived.

1738 00:57:56,730 --> 00:57:58,110 They survived war, the Holocaust.

1739 00:57:58,110 --> 00:58:01,640 They and their children, their three boys.

1740 00:58:01,640 --> 00:58:04,410 No, the third boy stayed in Germany.

00:58:04,410 --> 00:58:06,600 And I don't know what he did during the war.

1742 00:58:06,600 --> 00:58:08,250 Maybe he was in a concen--

1743 00:58:08,250 --> 00:58:11,010 but he survived, the third boy.

1744 00:58:11,010 --> 00:58:11,890 He survived.

1745 00:58:11,890 --> 00:58:14,320 He stayed here in Germany after the war.

1746 00:58:14,320 --> 00:58:18,900 So it was one sister who survives--

1747 00:58:18,900 --> 00:58:19,590 excuse me.

1748 00:58:19,590 --> 00:58:24,030 One sister who perishes in Riga on your father's side.

1749 00:58:24,030 --> 00:58:27,210 And the other sister in Amsterdam, who is

1750 00:58:27,210 --> 00:58:30,090 deported and dies in a concentration camp.

1751 00:58:30,090 --> 00:58:30,900 That's right.

1752 00:58:30,900 --> 00:58:34,530 And every other sibling on your father's side 1753 00:58:34,530 --> 00:58:36,150 survives the Holocaust.

1754 00:58:36,150 --> 00:58:37,590 Is that correct?

1755 00:58:37,590 --> 00:58:39,720 Yes. no, they were--

1756 00:58:39,720 --> 00:58:43,100 the brother, that's [? Zali, ?] the oldest one, and Julius.

1757 00:58:43,100 --> 00:58:45,330 [? Zali ?] was with them all the time,

1758 00:58:45,330 --> 00:58:46,560 because he was a bachelor.

1759 00:58:46,560 --> 00:58:47,880 So they lived together.

1760 00:58:47,880 --> 00:58:54,300 And then during the war, in France, they were interned.

1761 00:58:54,300 --> 00:58:55,767 Let's say interned in Gurs.

1762 00:58:55,767 --> 00:58:57,100 Oh, there were interned in Gurs.

1763 00:58:57,100 --> 00:58:57,610 Yes.

1764 00:58:57,610 --> 00:58:58,110 OK.

1765 00:58:58,110 --> 00:59:03,003 And then somehow they could-- but he had some kind

1766 00:59:03,003 --> 00:59:07,380 of a-- some kind of a wound.

1767 00:59:07,380 --> 00:59:10,770 I don't know what happened to the oldest one, [? Zali. ?]

1768 00:59:10,770 --> 00:59:13,170 And he got out, and he died, you know?

1769 00:59:13,170 --> 00:59:16,600 It was part of what happened in Gurs.

1770 00:59:16,600 --> 00:59:17,200 In Gurs.

1771 00:59:17,200 --> 00:59:17,700 Yeah.

1772 00:59:17,700 --> 00:59:18,660 OK.

1773 00:59:18,660 --> 00:59:20,360 And the other one survived.

1774 00:59:20,360 --> 00:59:21,480 The other one survived.

1775 00:59:21,480 --> 00:59:22,260 OK.

1776 00:59:22,260 --> 00:59:24,150 So they weren't untouched.

1777 00:59:24,150 --> 00:59:25,090 They--

00:59:25,090 --> 00:59:26,880

Yeah, not quite, not quite.

1779 00:59:26,880 --> 00:59:29,550 And then later they came to America, the other couple.

1780 00:59:29,550 --> 00:59:30,510 Yeah.

1781 00:59:30,510 --> 00:59:31,740 So that was Julius?

1782 00:59:31,740 --> 00:59:32,880 That was Julius, yeah.

1783 00:59:32,880 --> 00:59:33,810 Julius and his wife.

1784 00:59:33,810 --> 00:59:35,520 And his wife, Marianna, yeah.

1785 00:59:35,520 --> 00:59:37,950 OK.

1786 00:59:37,950 --> 00:59:41,460 And so your father is a holdout.

1787 00:59:41,460 --> 00:59:44,188 Your father is saying, I don't want to leave.

1788 00:59:44,188 --> 00:59:44,730 That's right.

1789 00:59:44,730 --> 00:59:49,290 I've got my business here, and Hitler will come and pass.

1790 00:59:49,290 --> 00:59:50,040 That's right. 1791 00:59:50,040 --> 00:59:53,010 That's what the ones who stayed thought, you know?

1792 00:59:53,010 --> 00:59:58,260 But I think it must have been that my mother--

1793

00:59:58,260 --> 01:00:02,730 my mother's uncle, the one in Memel, he had--

1794

01:00:02,730 --> 01:00:05,010 his wife had relatives here in America.

1795

01:00:05,010 --> 01:00:07,320 And my mother knew the women.

1796

01:00:07,320 --> 01:00:09,000 She married an American.

1797

01:00:09,000 --> 01:00:13,650 And he said, why don't you ask her to give you an affidavit,

1798

01:00:13,650 --> 01:00:14,250 you know?

1799

01:00:14,250 --> 01:00:15,690 That was very good.

1800

01:00:15,690 --> 01:00:20,380 And then that was maybe before Kristallnacht,

1801 01:00:20,380 --> 01:00:21,510 but not much before.

1802 01:00:21,510 --> 01:00:25,350 My mother just filled out the papers at that time, 1803 01:00:25,350 --> 01:00:29,610 because the Nazis threw it all over the place when

1804 01:00:29,610 --> 01:00:30,300 they came in.

1805 01:00:30,300 --> 01:00:30,800 Yeah.

1806 01:00:30,800 --> 01:00:32,110 We'll talk about that now.

1807 01:00:32,110 --> 01:00:36,940 The uncle that you're talking about is Edith's husband.

1808 01:00:36,940 --> 01:00:37,620 The uncle--

1809 01:00:37,620 --> 01:00:39,040 No, Ina's father.

1810 01:00:39,040 --> 01:00:39,800 Ida-- Edith's.

1811 01:00:39,800 --> 01:00:40,390 Ina.

1812 01:00:40,390 --> 01:00:41,440 Oh, not Edith.

1813 01:00:41,440 --> 01:00:46,077 No, Edith was-- the uncle was her mother's brother, the one

1814 01:00:46,077 --> 01:00:47,285 in Memel, who lived in Memel.

1815 01:00:47,285 --> 01:00:48,590 Ah, her mother's brother.

1816 01:00:48,590 --> 01:00:49,730 Her mother's brother. 1817 01:00:49,730 --> 01:00:50,230 Yeah. 1818 01:00:50,230 --> 01:00:51,580 OK, OK. 1819 01:00:51,580 --> 01:00:55,610 And what was his name? 1820 01:00:55,610 --> 01:00:57,612 Arthur Rosenthal. 1821 01:00:57,612 --> 01:00:58,320 Arthur Rosenthal. 1822 01:00:58,320 --> 01:00:58,840 Yeah. 1823 01:00:58,840 --> 01:01:01,450 And did he have a business in Memel? 1824 01:01:01,450 --> 01:01:04,670 Yeah, he had-- he was in the lumber business. 1825 01:01:04,670 --> 01:01:05,170 Lumber. 1826 01:01:05,170 --> 01:01:06,170 Did very well, yes, yes. 1827 01:01:06,170 --> 01:01:06,670 OK.

1828 01:01:06,670 --> 01:01:07,240 All right.

1829 01:01:07,240 --> 01:01:12,060 And he is the one who had relatives from his wife?

1830 01:01:12,060 --> 01:01:13,360 His wife had relatives.

1831 01:01:13,360 --> 01:01:14,440 In the United States.

1832 01:01:14,440 --> 01:01:16,580 It was a cousin who had married--

1833 01:01:16,580 --> 01:01:19,630 I think she married a cousin in America.

1834 01:01:19,630 --> 01:01:21,190 And they lived in Detroit.

1835 01:01:21,190 --> 01:01:23,500 And they gave us the affidavit.

1836 01:01:23,500 --> 01:01:26,260 Now, what happened to that branch, all of them,

1837 01:01:26,260 --> 01:01:29,110 the branch of the family that--

1838 01:01:29,110 --> 01:01:32,290 your mother's side-that was in Memel?

1839 01:01:32,290 --> 01:01:33,350 What happened to them?

1840 01:01:33,350 --> 01:01:36,460 You know, I don't know Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

whether you know that story.

1841

01:01:36,460 --> 01:01:39,670 They know that Hitler was coming into Memel in March.

1842

01:01:39,670 --> 01:01:41,110 I think it was '38, wasn't it?

1843

01:01:41,110 --> 01:01:41,660 I think so.

1844

01:01:41,660 --> 01:01:42,790 Yeah.

1845

01:01:42,790 --> 01:01:45,850 And there wasn't a Jew left when Hitler came in.

1846

01:01:45,850 --> 01:01:46,960 They all fled.

1847

01:01:46,960 --> 01:01:49,480 All through the night the day before.

1848

01:01:49,480 --> 01:01:50,170 Was amazing.

1849 01:01:50,170 --> 01:01:50,920

Where did they do?

1850

01:01:50,920 --> 01:01:52,540 And most of them were killed later.

1851 01:01:52,540 --> 01:01:54,360 They went to Kovno.

1852 01:01:54,360 --> 01:01:54,860 To Kovno. 1853 01:01:54,860 --> 01:01:55,590 To Kaunas.

1854 01:01:55,590 --> 01:01:56,215 Yes, to Kaunas.

1855 01:01:56,215 --> 01:01:57,250 Yes, yes.

1856 01:01:57,250 --> 01:02:01,840 And But he didn't go there.

1857 01:02:01,840 --> 01:02:04,270 He went to Finland because of his business.

1858 01:02:04,270 --> 01:02:06,190 He had business, lumber business.

1859 01:02:06,190 --> 01:02:10,840 And from Finland, and before the war even, he went to Sweden.

1860 01:02:10,840 --> 01:02:13,900 That whole family is now in Sweden.

1861 01:02:13,900 --> 01:02:15,520 Ah.

1862 01:02:15,520 --> 01:02:17,740 His children and grandchildren.

1863 01:02:17,740 --> 01:02:19,690 So Arthur Rosenthal and his family,

1864 01:02:19,690 --> 01:02:21,173 they ended up in Sweden.

1865

01:02:21,173 --> 01:02:22,840 Yes, during the war they were in Sweden.

1866 01:02:22,840 --> 01:02:25,900 And your Aunt Edith left.

1867 01:02:25,900 --> 01:02:28,030 Well, she left.

1868 01:02:28,030 --> 01:02:31,600 They left with my mom, my grandmother and the child,

1869 01:02:31,600 --> 01:02:33,500 and went to Kaunas.

1870 01:02:33,500 --> 01:02:34,000 OK.

1871 01:02:34,000 --> 01:02:37,300 But in Kaunas they couldn't live as German citizens.

1872 01:02:37,300 --> 01:02:38,770 Again, they were German.

1873 01:02:38,770 --> 01:02:39,370 They couldn't.

1874 01:02:39,370 --> 01:02:41,680 So they had to live outside of Kaunas.

1875 01:02:41,680 --> 01:02:43,510 It was a small town.

1876 01:02:43,510 --> 01:02:45,160 A lot of Jews in that town.

1877 01:02:45,160 --> 01:02:46,280 Called Kazlu Ruda. 1878 01:02:46,280 --> 01:02:47,447 Oh, yeah, Kazlu Ruda.

1879 01:02:47,447 --> 01:02:48,030 You know that.

1880 01:02:48,030 --> 01:02:48,450 Yeah.

1881 01:02:48,450 --> 01:02:48,950 Yeah.

1882 01:02:48,950 --> 01:02:52,330 Yes, and there you don't know what happened there.

1883 01:02:52,330 --> 01:02:52,960 Tell me.

1884 01:02:52,960 --> 01:02:58,110 They were taken out the night before by the Lithuanians,

1885 01:02:58,110 --> 01:03:02,530 and then they were shot in the woods.

1886 01:03:02,530 --> 01:03:03,220 Yes.

1887 01:03:03,220 --> 01:03:06,670 We heard that from a witness who was a baby then,

1888 01:03:06,670 --> 01:03:08,310 but who knew all about it.

1889 01:03:08,310 --> 01:03:13,010 They saved this baby, and the rest went to the ghetto. 1890 01:03:13,010 --> 01:03:15,430 So the night before what?

1891 01:03:15,430 --> 01:03:16,420 Before everyone else--

1892 01:03:16,420 --> 01:03:19,030 Before Hitler came in, in 1941.

1893 01:03:19,030 --> 01:03:19,707 Got it.

1894 01:03:19,707 --> 01:03:20,290 Yeah, in June.

1895 01:03:20,290 --> 01:03:22,010

OK, in June 1941.

1896

01:03:22,010 --> 01:03:22,510 Yeah.

1897

01:03:22,510 --> 01:03:25,750 So during those few days in June,

1898

01:03:25,750 --> 01:03:28,120 before he arrives in Kaunas--

1899

01:03:28,120 --> 01:03:30,520 That night before Hitler marched in, I think.

1900

01:03:30,520 --> 01:03:32,650 Yeah, that's what they said.

1901 01:03:32,650 --> 01:03:34,420 This wouldn't be accurate.

1902 01:03:34,420 --> 01:03:36,250 Hitler never marched into Lithuania, 1903 01:03:36,250 --> 01:03:37,485 but the German army did.

1904 01:03:37,485 --> 01:03:38,110 Yeah, the army.

1905 01:03:38,110 --> 01:03:39,160 The German army.

1906 01:03:39,160 --> 01:03:40,780 That was the war, during the war.

1907 01:03:40,780 --> 01:03:42,730 But he did come to Memel.

1908 01:03:42,730 --> 01:03:43,930 He did, when Memel was--

1909 01:03:43,930 --> 01:03:45,400 Then he marched-- yes, Memel.

1910 01:03:45,400 --> 01:03:47,230 That was in '38, I think.

1911 01:03:47,230 --> 01:03:48,680 When he annexes Memel.

1912 01:03:48,680 --> 01:03:49,450 That's right.

1913 01:03:49,450 --> 01:03:50,350 Yes, yes.

1914 01:03:50,350 --> 01:03:55,450 And that's why Germans were not very popular in the rest

1915 01:03:55,450 --> 01:03:56,320 of Lithuania. 1916 01:03:56,320 --> 01:03:57,130 Yeah, yeah.

1917 01:03:57,130 --> 01:03:59,920 And ironically, then, your relatives

1918 01:03:59,920 --> 01:04:05,140 having German citizenship got the brunt of that,

1919 01:04:05,140 --> 01:04:07,340 if they tried to live in Kaunas.

1920 01:04:07,340 --> 01:04:10,510 That's right, yes.

1921 01:04:10,510 --> 01:04:16,260 So Aunt Edith and your grandmother perish.

1922 01:04:16,260 --> 01:04:17,960 There, you know, with the child.

1923 01:04:17,960 --> 01:04:19,000 And with the child.

1924 01:04:19,000 --> 01:04:19,625 With the child.

1925 01:04:19,625 --> 01:04:20,680 She was eight years old.

1926 01:04:20,680 --> 01:04:23,160

1927 01:04:23,160 --> 01:04:23,660 And--

1928 01:04:23,660 --> 01:04:27,690 And her husband, too, Edith's husband.

1929 01:04:27,690 --> 01:04:29,010 And Edith's husband.

1930 01:04:29,010 --> 01:04:31,390 And who told you about this?

1931 01:04:31,390 --> 01:04:33,970 We never knew for sure what happened.

1932 01:04:33,970 --> 01:04:35,100 We didn't know.

1933 01:04:35,100 --> 01:04:36,880 A synagogue or something.

1934 01:04:36,880 --> 01:04:39,120 We knew that they were not in the ghetto,

1935 01:04:39,120 --> 01:04:41,550 not in the Kaunas Ghetto, that they were--

1936 01:04:41,550 --> 01:04:45,720 and then I heard a speech.

1937 01:04:45,720 --> 01:04:48,360 I lived in the Berkshires in Pittsfield.

1938 01:04:48,360 --> 01:04:50,490 In the synagogue, they had a woman

1939 01:04:50,490 --> 01:04:54,060 speak who came from that area, who came from Kaunas.

1940

01:04:54,060 --> 01:04:55,920 And she spoke about this.

1941 01:04:55,920 --> 01:04:59,160 And I asked her, do you know the name Kazlu Ruda?

1942 01:04:59,160 --> 01:05:01,020 "Of course I know," she said.

1943 01:05:01,020 --> 01:05:03,690 And then she said she was saved as a baby,

1944 01:05:03,690 --> 01:05:05,880 but she knows the whole history now.

1945 01:05:05,880 --> 01:05:08,280 And the parents went into the ghetto,

1946 01:05:08,280 --> 01:05:13,080 and they saved her by giving her to a Gentile family.

1947 01:05:13,080 --> 01:05:16,470 And she said they were all killed right way.

1948 01:05:16,470 --> 01:05:18,030 You know, that night before.

1949 01:05:18,030 --> 01:05:18,570 You know?

1950 01:05:18,570 --> 01:05:19,070 I see.

```
1951
01:05:19,070 --> 01:05:19,570
I see.
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01:05:19,570 --> 01:05:20,580 They were all in Kazlu--

1953 01:05:20,580 --> 01:05:21,993 All of Kazlu Ruda, all the Jews.

1954 01:05:21,993 --> 01:05:23,160 There were quite a few Jews.

1955 01:05:23,160 --> 01:05:26,430 And like I said, a lot of Jews lived in those small towns.

1956 01:05:26,430 --> 01:05:27,550 Yeah, it's true.

1957 01:05:27,550 --> 01:05:28,380 Yes, yes.

1958 01:05:28,380 --> 01:05:31,280 It's true.

1959 01:05:31,280 --> 01:05:33,140 And what about your grandfather who

1960 01:05:33,140 --> 01:05:35,540 was difficult to live with in Tilsit?

1961 01:05:35,540 --> 01:05:38,940 My grandfather then stayed in Tilsit.

1962 01:05:38,940 --> 01:05:39,440 OK.

1963 01:05:39,440 --> 01:05:43,340 Until '42, I think.

1964 01:05:43,340 --> 01:05:44,510 They sent him. 1965 01:05:44,510 --> 01:05:47,480 And then he was sent with the Koenigsberg people

1966 01:05:47,480 --> 01:05:49,403 to Theresienstadt.

1967 01:05:49,403 --> 01:05:50,486 Is that what happened to--

1968 01:05:50,486 --> 01:05:51,890 He was the one who died in Theresienstadt.

1969 01:05:51,890 --> 01:05:53,510 Your grandfather died in Theresienstadt.

1970 01:05:53,510 --> 01:05:54,020 Yes, yes.

1971 01:05:54,020 --> 01:05:57,440 And his brother was there who lived in-- that Samuel, who

1972 01:05:57,440 --> 01:05:59,150 was my father's partner.

1973 01:05:59,150 --> 01:06:00,026 [SNEEZES]

1974 01:06:00,026 --> 01:06:01,085 Bless you.

1975 01:06:01,085 --> 01:06:03,540 He was also sent at the same time

1976 01:06:03,540 --> 01:06:05,540 to Theresienstadt with his wife. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

1977 01:06:05,540 --> 01:06:08,930 And the wife, what I found out not too long ago,

1978 01:06:08,930 --> 01:06:11,360 was sent to Auschwitz.

1979

01:06:11,360 --> 01:06:15,410 But he died in Theresienstadt before my grandfather.

1980

01:06:15,410 --> 01:06:17,030 So the two of them die there.

1981 01:06:17,030 --> 01:06:20,780 Died in Theresienstadt, yeah.

1982

01:06:20,780 --> 01:06:23,810 So your father's partner, basically.

1983 01:06:23,810 --> 01:06:24,440 Yes, yes.

1984

01:06:24,440 --> 01:06:27,270 As well as your uncle and great-uncle--

1985 01:06:27,270 --> 01:06:29,240 Yeah.

1986 01:06:29,240 --> 01:06:31,447 --perishes because he stays.

1987 01:06:31,447 --> 01:06:32,405 Yes, because he stayed.

1988 01:06:32,405 --> 01:06:33,620 Yeah.

1989 01:06:33,620 --> 01:06:35,420 And your grandfather as well.

1990

01:06:35,420 --> 01:06:36,860 Yeah, he wanted to stay.

1991 01:06:36,860 --> 01:06:38,870

He wanted to stay, so he stayed.

1992

01:06:38,870 --> 01:06:40,370 OK.

1993

01:06:40,370 --> 01:06:44,450 And in the meantime, your uncle Arthur,

1994

01:06:44,450 --> 01:06:47,210 your grandmother's brother, is the one

1995

01:06:47,210 --> 01:06:51,920 who secures the connection for your parents

1996

01:06:51,920 --> 01:06:56,040 to be able to leave Germany and be sponsored into the United

1997

01:06:56,040 --> 01:06:56,540 States.

1998

01:06:56,540 --> 01:06:57,082 That's right.

1999

01:06:57,082 --> 01:06:58,030 That's right.

2000

01:06:58,030 --> 01:06:59,120 OK.

2001 01:06:59,120 --> 01:07:06,600 Now, you are-- when you stop going those three

2002 01:07:06,600 --> 01:07:12,120 years to public school, where do you continue your education?

2003 01:07:12,120 --> 01:07:16,320 There was a Jewish school was established '35.

2004 01:07:16,320 --> 01:07:18,870 They know then it was necessary.

2005 01:07:18,870 --> 01:07:22,510 And it was-- it was that we had a beautiful synagogue,

2006 01:07:22,510 --> 01:07:24,210 a big synagogue.

2007 01:07:24,210 --> 01:07:27,720 And there was enough room for a school there, too.

2008 01:07:27,720 --> 01:07:29,700 So that was where we went.

2009 01:07:29,700 --> 01:07:32,470 And it was downtown.

2010 01:07:32,470 --> 01:07:34,050 And--

2011 01:07:34,050 --> 01:07:36,180 Did you travel there by trolley?

2012 01:07:36,180 --> 01:07:37,580 Yes, yes.

2013 01:07:37,580 --> 01:07:39,220 OK.

2014

01:07:39,220 --> 01:07:41,700 And also, you know, you wonder as a Jewish child.

2015 01:07:41,700 --> 01:07:43,290 You were out on the street.

2016 01:07:43,290 --> 01:07:45,480 And I know one thing, that we never wanted

2017 01:07:45,480 --> 01:07:48,310 to go alone on a side street.

2018 01:07:48,310 --> 01:07:50,110 We lived on a sort of a main street.

2019 01:07:50,110 --> 01:07:53,130 There was side street right around my corner.

2020 01:07:53,130 --> 01:07:55,440 You were usually chased by kids, you know?

2021 01:07:55,440 --> 01:07:56,160 By other kids.

2022 01:07:56,160 --> 01:07:57,450 Chased and Jews.

2023 01:07:57,450 --> 01:07:58,140 Yeah.

2024 01:07:58,140 --> 01:07:59,127 So you would hear this?

2025 01:07:59,127 --> 01:08:00,710 So you went always on the main street.

2026

01:08:00,710 --> 01:08:02,820 Yeah, but on the trolley it was fine.

2027

01:08:02,820 --> 01:08:06,660 You know, and I usually met my girlfriend on the next stop,

2028

01:08:06,660 --> 01:08:07,800 and we went down.

2029

01:08:07,800 --> 01:08:08,340 And--

2030

01:08:08,340 --> 01:08:09,507 You'd go to school that way.

2031

01:08:09,507 --> 01:08:12,330 Yeah, we went to school that way.

2032

01:08:12,330 --> 01:08:15,620 Do remember the street the synagogue was on?

2033

01:08:15,620 --> 01:08:16,189 The street?

2034 01:08:16,189 --> 01:08:17,979 Yes, Lindenstrasse.

2035 01:08:17,979 --> 01:08:18,899 Lindenstrasse?

2036 01:08:18,899 --> 01:08:20,939 Yeah, yeah, a beautiful synagogue.

2037 01:08:20,939 --> 01:08:22,950 And we had the best--

2038 01:08:22,950 --> 01:08:27,390 the cantors who composed were well-known, Lewendowski

2039 01:08:27,390 --> 01:08:28,770 and Birnbaum.

2040 01:08:28,770 --> 01:08:32,670 They all started in Koenigsberg, yeah.

2041 01:08:32,670 --> 01:08:35,220 It was a well known synagogue.

2042 01:08:35,220 --> 01:08:37,200 And they're rebuilding it now.

2043 01:08:37,200 --> 01:08:38,640 They actually rebuilt it.

2044 01:08:38,640 --> 01:08:39,220 Really?

2045 01:08:39,220 --> 01:08:41,310 Yes, there a lot of Jews, Russian Jews

2046 01:08:41,310 --> 01:08:43,450 now who live in Koenigsberg.

2047 01:08:43,450 --> 01:08:43,950 OK.

2048 01:08:43,950 --> 01:08:45,069 And they rebuilt it.

2049 01:08:45,069 --> 01:08:49,200 And a man who has a lot of money sponsored it.

2050 01:08:49,200 --> 01:08:52,260 They want to make it just like it was. 2051 01:08:52,260 --> 01:08:56,630 Did-- oh, what was I going to ask?

2052 01:08:56,630 --> 01:09:01,180 So you continued at this Jewish school now in the synagogue.

2053 01:09:01,180 --> 01:09:02,710 Yes.

2054 01:09:02,710 --> 01:09:03,790 Until I left.

2055 01:09:03,790 --> 01:09:04,660 Until you left.

2056 01:09:04,660 --> 01:09:06,819 And that's for about how many years?

2057 01:09:06,819 --> 01:09:07,450 A lot.

2058 01:09:07,450 --> 01:09:12,487 Well, I think I went in '36, so that would be 3 years.

2059 01:09:12,487 --> 01:09:13,029 That's right.

2060 01:09:13,029 --> 01:09:15,145 But it was what seemed like an eternity.

2061 01:09:15,145 --> 01:09:17,720 I was always there for a long time.

2062 01:09:17,720 --> 01:09:18,220 Yes. 2063 01:09:18,220 --> 01:09:22,540 And did this school then-- was this school

2064 01:09:22,540 --> 01:09:25,737 for all the Jewish children of Koenigsberg, when they could

2065 01:09:25,737 --> 01:09:27,029 no longer go to German schools?

2066 01:09:27,029 --> 01:09:28,689 Yes, but the younger children.

2067 01:09:28,689 --> 01:09:31,240 It only went up to the sixth grade,

2068 01:09:31,240 --> 01:09:34,859 because then they would go on to the Lyceum.

2069 01:09:34,859 --> 01:09:35,359 Gymnasium?

2070 01:09:35,359 --> 01:09:35,920 Ah, Lyceum.

2071 01:09:35,920 --> 01:09:38,939 And they were allowed to go until the war, I think.

2072 01:09:38,939 --> 01:09:42,939 The older children could go to the Lyceum and to Gymnasium.

2073 01:09:42,939 --> 01:09:44,890 And there was no school that--

2074 01:09:44,890 --> 01:09:47,319 yeah, it was strange. 2075 01:09:47,319 --> 01:09:52,060 There was no-- there was no school, no classes for them.

2076 01:09:52,060 --> 01:09:55,090 You know, so it was just till sixth grade, I think.

2077 01:09:55,090 --> 01:09:58,810 And about how large was the student body?

2078 01:09:58,810 --> 01:10:00,340 How large?

2079 01:10:00,340 --> 01:10:01,240 Hard to tell.

2080 01:10:01,240 --> 01:10:03,460 Maybe 150.

2081 01:10:03,460 --> 01:10:04,030 OK.

2082 01:10:04,030 --> 01:10:07,090 Yes, and they did wonderful for us.

2083 01:10:07,090 --> 01:10:08,590 Made us feel so at home.

2084 01:10:08,590 --> 01:10:14,570 And that's where we had our entertainment and everything.

2085 01:10:14,570 --> 01:10:16,730 Were families leaving Koenigsberg?

2086 01:10:16,730 --> 01:10:19,820 Were Jewish families leaving Koenigsberg as this was going--

2087

01:10:19,820 --> 01:10:24,650 as you were in the mid-'30s, as time was going on?

2088

01:10:24,650 --> 01:10:25,760 Did you know of many?

2089

01:10:25,760 --> 01:10:26,580 Of course.

2090

01:10:26,580 --> 01:10:29,510 Yeah, my circle that my parents-- and then of course I

2091

01:10:29,510 --> 01:10:32,780 met many, when I went to that Jewish school,

2092

01:10:32,780 --> 01:10:35,145 especially the ones who lived downtown,

2093

01:10:35,145 --> 01:10:38,220 who we didn't know so well.

2094

01:10:38,220 --> 01:10:40,143 And so I met--

2095

01:10:40,143 --> 01:10:41,060 I met a lot of people.

2096

01:10:41,060 --> 01:10:43,580 I was always interested.

2097

01:10:43,580 --> 01:10:47,060 Being an only child, you like to have a lot of friends.

2098 01:10:47,060 --> 01:10:48,020 Yes, of course.

2099 01:10:48,020 --> 01:10:48,530 Of course.

2100 01:10:48,530 --> 01:10:49,340 Yes.

2101 01:10:49,340 --> 01:10:54,200 And what did I want to ask now?

2102 01:10:54,200 --> 01:10:58,040 I'd like to get a sense, if you know,

2103 01:10:58,040 --> 01:11:03,050 of how many Jews stayed in Koenigsberg.

2104 01:11:03,050 --> 01:11:03,970 I don't know.

2105 01:11:03,970 --> 01:11:06,530 There were-- most of them were downtown,

2106 01:11:06,530 --> 01:11:08,360 didn't have the money anymore to go.

2107 01:11:08,360 --> 01:11:10,580 They could have gone to Shanghai.

2108 01:11:10,580 --> 01:11:13,970 There was nothing open, not much open at the end.

2109 01:11:13,970 --> 01:11:15,600 And therefore they didn't-- you know,

2110 01:11:15,600 --> 01:11:18,515

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

so most of the poor ones stayed.

```
2111
01:11:18,515 --> 01:11:19,245
I see.
2112
01:11:19,245 --> 01:11:22,910
Very few, I think who had money,
they went the last minute.
2113
01:11:22,910 --> 01:11:24,950
They went, like we went, in '39.
2114
01:11:24,950 --> 01:11:26,870
You know, '39 in June.
2115
01:11:26,870 --> 01:11:30,230
So that means you were--
2116
01:11:30,230 --> 01:11:33,540
that means you were in
Germany during Kristallnacht.
2117
01:11:33,540 --> 01:11:34,365
During?
2118
01:11:34,365 --> 01:11:35,240
You were in Germany--
2119
01:11:35,240 --> 01:11:35,930
Kristallnacht?
2120
01:11:35,930 --> 01:11:36,830
Yes, of course.
2121
01:11:36,830 --> 01:11:38,520
That's what I remember the most.
2122
01:11:38,520 --> 01:11:39,770
Then tell me about that.
2123
01:11:39,770 --> 01:11:41,510
```

What happened during Kristallnacht?

2124

01:11:41,510 --> 01:11:43,948 Well, I can tell you what happened to us.

2125

01:11:43,948 --> 01:11:44,990 That's what I would like.

2126

01:11:44,990 --> 01:11:47,780 Yeah, yes.

2127

01:11:47,780 --> 01:11:51,110 The evening before, which was the 9th of November--

2128

01:11:51,110 --> 01:11:53,900 the afternoon, I guess I went to--

2129

01:11:53,900 --> 01:11:55,490 I had a girlfriend who was leaving

2130

01:11:55,490 --> 01:11:58,260 the night-- was supposed to, and then she didn't get out.

2131 01:11:58,260 --> 01:11:59,960 Leaving the next day for Canada.

2132 01:11:59,960 --> 01:12:02,210 They went out later, but not then.

2133 01:12:02,210 --> 01:12:04,040 And she said, let's celebrate.

2134 01:12:04,040 --> 01:12:05,030 Let's go to movies.

01:12:05,030 --> 01:12:06,680 They won't know that we're Jewish.

2136 01:12:06,680 --> 01:12:07,580 And we did go.

2137 01:12:07,580 --> 01:12:09,200 My parents didn't know that, you know?

2138 01:12:09,200 --> 01:12:10,400 So you went to the movies?

2139 01:12:10,400 --> 01:12:11,900 We went to a movie in the afternoon.

2140 01:12:11,900 --> 01:12:12,250 The one downstairs?

2141 01:12:12,250 --> 01:12:13,460 That I remember so well.

2142 01:12:13,460 --> 01:12:14,120 No, no.

2143 01:12:14,120 --> 01:12:16,300 It was more of the further downtown.

2144 01:12:16,300 --> 01:12:17,240 It was a good movie.

2145 01:12:17,240 --> 01:12:18,620 I don't know what it was.

2146 01:12:18,620 --> 01:12:20,240 And so we went.

2147 01:12:20,240 --> 01:12:22,160 And then I said goodbye. 2148 01:12:22,160 --> 01:12:24,680 And that evening on Wednesday was always

2149 01:12:24,680 --> 01:12:27,370 the day off for our Liesel.

2150 01:12:27,370 --> 01:12:28,080 Oh, she went off.

2151 01:12:28,080 --> 01:12:30,200 And my father was in Berlin on business.

2152 01:12:30,200 --> 01:12:34,460 He went every four weeks to buy, you know, whatever he needed.

2153 01:12:34,460 --> 01:12:38,210 And so we were alone on that night.

2154 01:12:38,210 --> 01:12:40,330 And then she came home early.

2155 01:12:40,330 --> 01:12:41,610 Liesel came home early.

2156 01:12:41,610 --> 01:12:42,110 Liesel came.

2157 01:12:42,110 --> 01:12:43,850 She always visited friends, you know.

2158 01:12:43,850 --> 01:12:44,840 She had friends.

2159 01:12:44,840 --> 01:12:46,850 And she said, I don't know but there's 2160 01:12:46,850 --> 01:12:48,290 something on the streets.

2161 01:12:48,290 --> 01:12:51,260 It's very-- people-the Nazis are out there.

2162 01:12:51,260 --> 01:12:53,480 And it's loud and [INAUDIBLE] he doesn't

2163 01:12:53,480 --> 01:12:55,200 know what's going on there.

2164 01:12:55,200 --> 01:12:59,840 And then, during the night, my mother heard steps.

2165 01:12:59,840 --> 01:13:02,570 You know, people walking up and down with boots.

2166 01:13:02,570 --> 01:13:05,870 And she said it was those boys I've talked about, that they

2167 01:13:05,870 --> 01:13:07,640 have company, and they were--

2168 01:13:07,640 --> 01:13:08,270 [INAUDIBLE]

2169 01:13:08,270 --> 01:13:10,550 Then at 7 o'clock in the morning, the bell,

2170 01:13:10,550 --> 01:13:11,990 doorbell rang.

2171 01:13:11,990 --> 01:13:14,510 And Liesel went to the door. 2172 01:13:14,510 --> 01:13:19,490 And there were three Nazis, a Gestapo and two SS men.

2173 01:13:19,490 --> 01:13:23,990 A young Gestapo, a student, young guy, you know?

2174 01:13:23,990 --> 01:13:25,588 "And is Mr. Bahr?

2175 01:13:25,588 --> 01:13:26,630 We want to see Mr. Bahr."

2176 01:13:26,630 --> 01:13:27,860 "No, he's not home."

2177 01:13:27,860 --> 01:13:28,670 "Where is he?"

2178 01:13:28,670 --> 01:13:31,100 "He's in Berlin, out of town."

2179 01:13:31,100 --> 01:13:32,270 "Is Mrs. Bahr home?"

2180 01:13:32,270 --> 01:13:34,010 "Yeah, she's still in bed."

2181 01:13:34,010 --> 01:13:35,210 So they went in.

2182 01:13:35,210 --> 01:13:35,990 She let them.

2183 01:13:35,990 --> 01:13:39,530 And then she said, "don't come in until you wipe your feet."

2184 01:13:39,530 --> 01:13:40,490 Who said this?

2185 01:13:40,490 --> 01:13:41,090 Liesel.

2186 01:13:41,090 --> 01:13:41,690 Liesel?

2187 01:13:41,690 --> 01:13:43,290 Oh, she was another daring one.

2188 01:13:43,290 --> 01:13:45,680 And she said-- and they said, "are you Jewish?"

2189 01:13:45,680 --> 01:13:48,410 She said, "no, I'm what you call Aryan."

2190 01:13:48,410 --> 01:13:49,760 They were quiet, you know.

2191 01:13:49,760 --> 01:13:50,750 So they went.

2192 01:13:50,750 --> 01:13:53,120 They went, and they were more or less decent.

2193 01:13:53,120 --> 01:13:54,710 [INAUDIBLE]

2194 01:13:54,710 --> 01:13:56,570 They wouldn't have to take my mother if they

2195 01:13:56,570 --> 01:13:58,010 wouldn't have been decent.

2196 01:13:58,010 --> 01:13:59,510 And then my mother-in the meantime 2197 01:13:59,510 --> 01:14:00,420 they were in the living room.

2198 01:14:00,420 --> 01:14:01,795 Then she came in the living room,

2199

 $01:14:01,795 \rightarrow 01:14:04,580$ and they had thrown all the papers off her desk.

2200 01:14:04,580 --> 01:14:06,410 And she said, "pick up those papers.

2201

01:14:06,410 --> 01:14:09,620 Those are the ones that were going to the application

2202

01:14:09,620 --> 01:14:11,780 to leave this country."

2203

01:14:11,780 --> 01:14:13,490 So they did it.

2204

01:14:13,490 --> 01:14:14,040 They did it?

2205

01:14:14,040 --> 01:14:14,563 They did it.

2206

01:14:14,563 --> 01:14:15,230 Can you imagine?

2207

01:14:15,230 --> 01:14:16,280 She was lucky.

2208 01:14:16,280 --> 01:14:17,870 They could have shot her. 01:14:17,870 --> 01:14:21,230 And then they looked at the bookcase

2210 01:14:21,230 --> 01:14:23,533 and said, "Oh, you have these books by Jewish authors.

2211 01:14:23,533 --> 01:14:24,950 You're not supposed to have that."

2212 01:14:24,950 --> 01:14:28,780 "Oh, yes, in homes, in private homes, you can have them."

2213 01:14:28,780 --> 01:14:31,040 Left them alone.

2214 01:14:31,040 --> 01:14:32,300 So she argued with them.

2215 01:14:32,300 --> 01:14:33,890 She, did , she did.

2216 01:14:33,890 --> 01:14:35,060 You know, she was lucky.

2217 01:14:35,060 --> 01:14:36,830 I mean, that they were decent.

2218 01:14:36,830 --> 01:14:37,897 And then they--

2219 01:14:37,897 --> 01:14:39,980 Well, they weren't as bad as they could have been.

2220 01:14:39,980 --> 01:14:41,270 They looked all over.

2221 01:14:41,270 --> 01:14:43,350 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

And they looked under a chair.

2222

01:14:43,350 --> 01:14:45,410 She said, "do you think he's a dwarf?"

2223 01:14:45,410 --> 01:14:47,930

2224

01:14:47,930 --> 01:14:51,430 Anyway, and then in the meantime, I got myself--

2225

01:14:51,430 --> 01:14:55,850 you know German duty, getting myself ready to go to school.

2226

01:14:55,850 --> 01:14:58,100 You know, we didn't know what was happening all over,

2227

01:14:58,100 --> 01:14:59,060 you know?

2228

01:14:59,060 --> 01:15:01,130 And I went.

2229

01:15:01,130 --> 01:15:02,560 I went on the street car.

2230

01:15:02,560 --> 01:15:04,610 And the next-- at the next stop, I

2231

01:15:04,610 --> 01:15:06,740 met my girlfriend who always went with me.

2232 01:15:06,740 --> 01:15:10,610 And we whispered, and she said her father was picked up early

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01:15:10,610 --> 01:15:12,530 in the morning or during night.

2234

01:15:12,530 --> 01:15:16,450 And then we went on, and we thought we'd go to school.

2235

01:15:16,450 --> 01:15:19,570 And on the way, we were halfway down,

2236

01:15:19,570 --> 01:15:22,660 we heard somebody say the synagogue is burning.

2237

01:15:22,660 --> 01:15:23,650 Oh, my God.

2238 01:15:23,650 --> 01:15:25,060 And that's where your school is.

2239 01:15:25,060 --> 01:15:26,350 That's where the school was.

2240

01:15:26,350 --> 01:15:28,450 So we said, let's not-we don't want to see that.

2241

01:15:28,450 --> 01:15:31,270 So we went, got off, and went home.

2242

 $01:15:31,270 \rightarrow 01:15:33,510$ And then I came home, and they were still there,

2243

01:15:33,510 --> 01:15:36,880 had ransacked everything, and the drawers, thrown them out,

2244 01:15:36,880 --> 01:15:37,960 and everything looking--

2245 01:15:37,960 --> 01:15:40,090 My mother said, what are you looking for?

2246 01:15:40,090 --> 01:15:44,020 We're looking for correspondence with Grynszpan.

2247 01:15:44,020 --> 01:15:44,650 You know?

2248 01:15:44,650 --> 01:15:45,490 The one who killed--

2249 01:15:45,490 --> 01:15:46,350 Who is Grynszpan?

2250 01:15:46,350 --> 01:15:51,040 You know, the one who killed-that so-called started the--

2251 01:15:51,040 --> 01:15:52,070 Kristallnacht.

2252 01:15:52,070 --> 01:15:52,610 But didn't.

2253 01:15:52,610 --> 01:15:54,310 They had something in mind, anyway.

2254 01:15:54,310 --> 01:15:57,040 But he killed that secretary that--

2255 01:15:57,040 --> 01:15:58,060 That was in France.

2256 01:15:58,060 --> 01:15:59,020 Vom Rath in France.

2257

01:15:59,020 --> 01:16:00,100 Yeah, yeah.

2258

01:16:00,100 --> 01:16:04,180 We're looking for correspondence with--

2259

01:16:04,180 --> 01:16:07,990 anyway, so and then I came home.

2260

01:16:07,990 --> 01:16:09,040 And then I broke down.

2261

01:16:09,040 --> 01:16:10,360 I started to cry, you know?

2262

01:16:10,360 --> 01:16:11,200 Well, of course.

2263

01:16:11,200 --> 01:16:12,690 And then my Liesel--

2264

01:16:12,690 --> 01:16:15,383 and my mother was busy with them, so Liesel was in.

2265

01:16:15,383 --> 01:16:16,550 She said, what's the matter?

2266

01:16:16,550 --> 01:16:18,370 I said the synagogue's burning.

2267

01:16:18,370 --> 01:16:20,890 And one of the SS men was standing near me.

2268

01:16:20,890 --> 01:16:22,432 He said why is she crying?

2269 01:16:22,432 --> 01:16:23,140 And she told him.

2270 01:16:23,140 --> 01:16:26,500 He sort of shook his head, you know?

2271 01:16:26,500 --> 01:16:30,430 And then finally they left, and then they said,

2272

01:16:30,430 --> 01:16:34,120 your husband, to my mother, when he comes,

2273

01:16:34,120 --> 01:16:36,430 we'll arrest him when he comes home, you know.

2274

01:16:36,430 --> 01:16:39,280 And don't warn him and what, you know?

2275

01:16:39,280 --> 01:16:42,160 So she did call him, and he was still in the hotel.

2276

01:16:42,160 --> 01:16:43,390 It was early at that time.

2277

01:16:43,390 --> 01:16:45,850 They left, it was maybe 9:00, 9:30.

2278

01:16:45,850 --> 01:16:47,200 And he didn't know anything.

2279

01:16:47,200 --> 01:16:50,080 And already things were going on in Berlin on the streets,

2280

01:16:50,080 --> 01:16:51,980 but he hadn't heard done anything. 01:16:51,980 --> 01:16:54,070 So she said and she couldn't tell him.

2282

01:16:54,070 --> 01:16:54,672 So she said--

2283

01:16:54,672 --> 01:16:56,380 Why couldn't she tell him over the phone?

2284

01:16:56,380 --> 01:16:57,172 She didn't want to.

2285

01:16:57,172 --> 01:16:59,255 She was afraid they watched the telephone or what.

2286

01:16:59,255 --> 01:17:00,297 Or she thought they were.

2287

01:17:00,297 --> 01:17:02,500 Oh, so the telephone, someone's listening in.

2288

01:17:02,500 --> 01:17:03,615 Listening in.

2289

01:17:03,615 --> 01:17:04,330 You know?

2290

01:17:04,330 --> 01:17:08,080 So she said, go to the American consulate

2291

01:17:08,080 --> 01:17:09,730 and stay there all day.

2292 01:17:09,730 --> 01:17:12,760 So he thought she was crazy.

2293 01:17:12,760 --> 01:17:15,490 Said, "what are you--" "Don't come home," you know?

2294

01:17:15,490 --> 01:17:18,610 And he said, "of course I'm coming tonight on the train,"

2295

01:17:18,610 --> 01:17:19,580 you know.

2296

01:17:19,580 --> 01:17:22,570 So my mother was worried that they would arrest him

2297

01:17:22,570 --> 01:17:24,460 when he comes in on the train.

2298

01:17:24,460 --> 01:17:25,780 So she sent Liesel.

2299

01:17:25,780 --> 01:17:28,870 Liesel was very willing to go down, pick him up, and go home

2300

01:17:28,870 --> 01:17:31,540 with him in the taxi, and nobody was there.

2301

01:17:31,540 --> 01:17:34,360 Do you remember Liesel's last name?

2302

01:17:34,360 --> 01:17:35,230 Whose last name?

2303

01:17:35,230 --> 01:17:35,990 Liesel's.

2304 01:17:35,990 --> 01:17:37,000 Liesel Heske.

2305 01:17:37,000 --> 01:17:39,490

2306

01:17:39,490 --> 01:17:40,460 H-E-S-K-E.

2307 01:17:40,460 --> 01:17:40,960 Yeah.

2308

01:17:40,960 --> 01:17:42,275 Liesel Heske.

2309

01:17:42,275 --> 01:17:43,700 Yeah, it was Lieschen, you know?

2310 01:17:43,700 --> 01:17:45,070 But we called her Liesel.

2311 01:17:45,070 --> 01:17:49,340 So were there many Liesels, or was she an exception?

2312 01:17:49,340 --> 01:17:49,840 What?

2313

01:17:49,840 --> 01:17:53,740 Were there many Liesels in your world, in your life?

2314

01:17:53,740 --> 01:17:55,070 Or was she an exception?

2315

01:17:55,070 --> 01:17:55,570 No.

2316

01:17:55,570 --> 01:17:57,220 I'm asking about Germans.

2317

01:17:57,220 --> 01:17:59,665 You know, were there many people like Liesel? 01:17:59,665 --> 01:18:00,490 Like her?

2319 01:18:00,490 --> 01:18:02,770 There was another, her good friend.

2320 01:18:02,770 --> 01:18:06,130 As a matter-- a good friend, was the sister

2321

01:18:06,130 --> 01:18:10,270 of a woman who married a distant cousin of ours,

2322 01:18:10,270 --> 01:18:13,990 distant cousin, who was Jewish, of course.

2323

01:18:13,990 --> 01:18:16,060 And she became Jewish at that time.

2324 01:18:16,060 --> 01:18:18,280 A lot of intermarriages in Germany

2325 01:18:18,280 --> 01:18:20,485 already, like it is here now.

2326 01:18:20,485 --> 01:18:22,840 Yes, because they were already so established,

2327 01:18:22,840 --> 01:18:24,050 you know, and integrated.

2328 01:18:24,050 --> 01:18:24,550 Integrated.

2329 01:18:24,550 --> 01:18:26,290 Yes.

2330

01:18:26,290 --> 01:18:31,750 So you're saying so there were more people who didn't-- who

2331

01:18:31,750 --> 01:18:33,790 were German, who didn't like what was going on.

2332

01:18:33,790 --> 01:18:34,020 Yeah, who were decent.

2333

01:18:34,020 --> 01:18:36,080 I know the man who had the shoe store

2334

01:18:36,080 --> 01:18:40,270 downstairs, he was so decent, and Liesel and I often were

2335

01:18:40,270 --> 01:18:42,415 invited to his house, you know?

2336 01:18:42,415 --> 01:18:43,390 No, they were so--

2337 01:18:43,390 --> 01:18:45,670 they cried when we left, you know?

2338 01:18:45,670 --> 01:18:48,200 Yeah, there were many decent people.

2339 01:18:48,200 --> 01:18:48,700 Many.

2340 01:18:48,700 --> 01:18:49,408 Did Liesel have--

2341 01:18:49,408 --> 01:18:51,280 They were afraid, you know, of course.

2342 01:18:51,280 --> 01:18:54,340 We would be, too.

2343 01:18:54,340 --> 01:18:56,240 Did Liesel have a family of her own?

2344 01:18:56,240 --> 01:18:58,405 Yeah, but I never heard much about them.

2345 01:18:58,405 --> 01:19:01,030 I never heard-- I don't remember that she went home or anything

2346 01:19:01,030 --> 01:19:01,980 or for Christmas.

2347 01:19:01,980 --> 01:19:02,730 I don't know.

2348 01:19:02,730 --> 01:19:03,970 She was always with us.

2349 01:19:03,970 --> 01:19:05,350 Yeah.

2350 01:19:05,350 --> 01:19:07,540 So she brings your father home?

2351 01:19:07,540 --> 01:19:08,860 Yeah, she brings him home.

2352 01:19:08,860 --> 01:19:12,710 And then my mother didn't let him go out for a week.

2353 01:19:12,710 --> 01:19:14,020 She said, just stay here. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

01:19:14,020 --> 01:19:15,550 And nobody came.

2355

01:19:15,550 --> 01:19:17,110 Everything was fine.

2356

01:19:17,110 --> 01:19:19,950 The other, the men they arrested,

2357

01:19:19,950 --> 01:19:22,630 the police station wasn't far from us.

2358 01:19:22,630 --> 01:19:24,130 They were in the police station.

2359

01:19:24,130 --> 01:19:26,440 They must have had a prison there in the back.

2360

01:19:26,440 --> 01:19:28,000 And they were there about a week,

2361

01:19:28,000 --> 01:19:29,140 and then they let them go.

2362

01:19:29,140 --> 01:19:30,980 They weren't sent to concentration camps.

2363

01:19:30,980 --> 01:19:33,070 So they weren't sent to Dachau like so many were.

2364 01:19:33,070 --> 01:19:33,580 No, no.

2365 01:19:33,580 --> 01:19:34,300 OK. 01:19:34,300 --> 01:19:34,800 Yeah.

2367 01:19:34,800 --> 01:19:38,410

2368 01:19:38,410 --> 01:19:41,780 Oh, I just had a question in my mind about that.

2369

01:19:41,780 --> 01:19:42,370 Ah-hah.

2370 01:19:42,370 --> 01:19:43,750 Here's my question.

2371

01:19:43,750 --> 01:19:47,710 You say that the soldiers-- no, no, no.

2372

01:19:47,710 --> 01:19:52,610 The Gestapo and the SS men knock on the door at 7:00 AM.

2373

01:19:52,610 --> 01:19:53,110 Yes.

2374

01:19:53,110 --> 01:19:54,490 In the morning.

2375

01:19:54,490 --> 01:19:58,540 I want to make sure that I understand that-- is

2376

01:19:58,540 --> 01:20:00,670 this the day of Kristallnacht?

2377 01:20:00,670 --> 01:20:01,420 Yes, the day.

2378 01:20:01,420 --> 01:20:04,660 Or is it the day-- night after Kristallnacht?

2379 01:20:04,660 --> 01:20:09,303 Kristallnacht-- it's the night after, but you know, I 2380 01:20:09,303 --> 01:20:11,470 don't know how much happened that evening, you know? 2381 01:20:11,470 --> 01:20:12,350 A lot. 2382 01:20:12,350 --> 01:20:12,970 A lot. 2383 01:20:12,970 --> 01:20:13,480 A lot. 2384 01:20:13,480 --> 01:20:14,590 Yeah, but of course. 2385 01:20:14,590 --> 01:20:16,540 They went into the orphanage, which 2386 01:20:16,540 --> 01:20:19,000 was next door to the synagogue. 2387 01:20:19,000 --> 01:20:19,500 OK. 2388 01:20:19,500 --> 01:20:21,417 And I knew all the children from the orphanage 2389 01:20:21,417 --> 01:20:22,600 because of school. 2390 01:20:22,600 --> 01:20:23,980 And they drove them out here.

2391 01:20:23,980 --> 01:20:26,150 Of course it was during the night already.

2392 01:20:26,150 --> 01:20:26,650 OK.

2393 01:20:26,650 --> 01:20:27,740 They drove them out.

2394 01:20:27,740 --> 01:20:31,150 They were there in the night, in the middle of the night,

2395 01:20:31,150 --> 01:20:34,090 in the nightgowns and pajamas.

2396 01:20:34,090 --> 01:20:36,970 And some had family that you go to.

2397 01:20:36,970 --> 01:20:37,600 OK.

2398 01:20:37,600 --> 01:20:38,575 Let's cut for a second.

2399 01:20:38,575 --> 01:20:41,770

2400 01:20:41,770 --> 01:20:44,253 OK, so it's the night.

2401 01:20:44,253 --> 01:20:44,920 Yeah, the night.

2402 01:20:44,920 --> 01:20:45,900 If they knock on your door--

2403 01:20:45,900 --> 01:20:47,958 But that was after the night was [? attacked ?]

2404

01:20:47,958 --> 01:20:48,500 That's right.

2405

01:20:48,500 --> 01:20:49,150 --in the morning.

2406

01:20:49,150 --> 01:20:49,650 Yes.

2407

01:20:49,650 --> 01:20:51,698 And then some people there, they were the night.

2408

01:20:51,698 --> 01:20:52,240 You're right.

2409

01:20:52,240 --> 01:20:53,180 I forgot.

2410 01:20:53,180 --> 01:20:54,220 OK.

2411

01:20:54,220 --> 01:21:01,250 So it was after the main events of the night.

2412

01:21:01,250 --> 01:21:03,110 Your father comes home.

2413

01:21:03,110 --> 01:21:04,040 He stays.

2414

01:21:04,040 --> 01:21:06,290 Your mother doesn't let him out for a week.

2415

01:21:06,290 --> 01:21:09,590 Does his opinion change about leaving Germany? 2416 01:21:09,590 --> 01:21:11,150 Yeah, by that time.

2417 01:21:11,150 --> 01:21:13,880 And he must have already admitted it,

2418 01:21:13,880 --> 01:21:16,130 because she already was starting to fill out papers.

2419 01:21:16,130 --> 01:21:18,680 So shortly before that that.

2420 01:21:18,680 --> 01:21:19,430 OK.

2421 01:21:19,430 --> 01:21:22,705 And right after that, they took his business, you know.

2422 01:21:22,705 --> 01:21:24,455 Right after that, they took this business?

2423 01:21:24,455 --> 01:21:25,550 Right after that, I think.

2424 01:21:25,550 --> 01:21:27,110 Yes, yes.

2425 01:21:27,110 --> 01:21:28,340 They took this business.

2426 01:21:28,340 --> 01:21:29,900 And [INAUDIBLE].

2427 01:21:29,900 --> 01:21:30,960 Then, of course, he knew.

2428 01:21:30,960 --> 01:21:33,800 When he didn't have business, he couldn't live.

2429

01:21:33,800 --> 01:21:34,310 Yeah.

2430

01:21:34,310 --> 01:21:35,540 What to stay for?

2431

01:21:35,540 --> 01:21:36,420 Yeah, that's right.

2432

01:21:36,420 --> 01:21:39,540 And he was the one who had to work all the time.

2433

01:21:39,540 --> 01:21:42,810 He wouldn't be happy not doing anything.

2434

01:21:42,810 --> 01:21:50,610 So at that point, how long does it take for you to leave?

2435

01:21:50,610 --> 01:21:53,620 Well, it took a long time, because everybody at that time

2436

01:21:53,620 --> 01:21:54,740 want to go.

2437

01:21:54,740 --> 01:21:56,470 So when it was--

2438

01:21:56,470 --> 01:21:58,293 we were lucky.

2439

01:21:58,293 --> 01:21:59,710 My parents didn't want-- then they

2440 01:21:59,710 --> 01:22:03,220

didn't want-- it looked like war, I guess, already.

2441 01:22:03,220 --> 01:22:05,290 So we were trying to go to England.

2442 01:22:05,290 --> 01:22:10,780 Somebody said, if you have money to put their money, to deposit.

2443

01:22:10,780 --> 01:22:13,870 So my father's brothers who were there,

2444 01:22:13,870 --> 01:22:15,460 said will you lend me the money?

2445

01:22:15,460 --> 01:22:17,740 When things are better, I'll pay it back.

2446 01:22:17,740 --> 01:22:18,730 And he did.

2447 01:22:18,730 --> 01:22:23,140 And they did so and so much, what they had to deposit there,

2448 01:22:23,140 --> 01:22:24,730 so that we could live there.

2449 01:22:24,730 --> 01:22:26,680 Because you couldn't work when you

2450 01:22:26,680 --> 01:22:28,270 didn't get the permission to work.

2451 01:22:28,270 --> 01:22:30,430 You were just there temporary. 2452 01:22:30,430 --> 01:22:34,720 So we went to England in June 1939.

2453 01:22:34,720 --> 01:22:36,340 How did you leave?

2454 01:22:36,340 --> 01:22:37,870 By what means did you leave?

2455 01:22:37,870 --> 01:22:38,470 By what means?

2456 01:22:38,470 --> 01:22:40,300 By the train.

2457 01:22:40,300 --> 01:22:44,560 And we wanted-- he wanted to see his mother once more.

2458 01:22:44,560 --> 01:22:47,230 So we went to Holland and stayed there a week.

2459 01:22:47,230 --> 01:22:49,150 And from Holland, we went by boat.

2460 01:22:49,150 --> 01:22:49,780 Utrecht.

2461 01:22:49,780 --> 01:22:52,260 Utrecht to Harwich, England.

2462 01:22:52,260 --> 01:22:53,240 Yes, yes.

2463 01:22:53,240 --> 01:22:53,980 OK.

2464 01:22:53,980 --> 01:22:58,570 And you say that when you leave, at least the people downstairs,

2465

01:22:58,570 --> 01:23:00,040 the shoemaker cries.

2466

01:23:00,040 --> 01:23:01,610 Oh, yes, yes, yes.

2467

01:23:01,610 --> 01:23:02,110 OK.

2468 01:23:02,110 --> 01:23:04,930 Was there anybody else there to say goodbye?

2469

01:23:04,930 --> 01:23:07,660 No, but yeah, my father's secretary.

2470

01:23:07,660 --> 01:23:11,050 My father's-- of course, Catholics didn't have too well

2471

01:23:11,050 --> 01:23:12,820 either there under Hitler.

2472

01:23:12,820 --> 01:23:15,010 But she was always with him, and always.

2473

01:23:15,010 --> 01:23:17,760 And then after the war, we reconnected again.

2474 01:23:17,760 --> 01:23:19,540 Yes, yes.

2475 01:23:19,540 --> 01:23:22,460 They all had to flee Koenigsberg when the Russians came in, 01:23:22,460 --> 01:23:22,960 of course.

2477

01:23:22,960 --> 01:23:23,590 They all fled.

2478

01:23:23,590 --> 01:23:25,810 There wasn't a person left there.

2479

01:23:25,810 --> 01:23:26,540 Yeah.

2480

01:23:26,540 --> 01:23:27,670 Yes, yes.

2481

01:23:27,670 --> 01:23:28,760 And Liesel?

2482

01:23:28,760 --> 01:23:30,460 Was she still there when you--

2483

01:23:30,460 --> 01:23:34,210 Yes, we heard from her as long as we could.

2484

01:23:34,210 --> 01:23:36,700 The war wasn't here in America yet,

2485

01:23:36,700 --> 01:23:38,800 so we could still hear the beginning.

2486

 $01:23:38,800 \rightarrow 01:23:42,310$ And then she had to work for a munitions factories.

2487 01:23:42,310 --> 01:23:42,850 She had to.

2488 01:23:42,850 --> 01:23:43,350 She had to.

2489

01:23:43,350 --> 01:23:46,510 They drafted her to do that.

2490 01:23:46,510 --> 01:23:47,810 They bombed that factory.

2491

01:23:47,810 --> 01:23:52,060 She was killed in the raid.

2492

01:23:52,060 --> 01:23:53,590 Where was the factory?

2493

01:23:53,590 --> 01:23:54,790 Was that in Koenigsberg?

2494

01:23:54,790 --> 01:23:56,230 Yeah, yeah, in Koenigsberg.

2495

01:23:56,230 --> 01:24:00,610 More towards downtown, midtown, I would say.

2496

01:24:00,610 --> 01:24:01,300 OK.

2497 01:24:01,300 --> 01:24:02,560

So yes.

2498

01:24:02,560 --> 01:24:03,850 A lot of Jews worked there.

2499

01:24:03,850 --> 01:24:10,060 I know I have a good friend that, also of a distant cousin,

2500 01:24:10,060 --> 01:24:11,440 who went to--

2501 01:24:11,440 --> 01:24:13,990 oh, they survived because their mother--

2502

01:24:13,990 --> 01:24:15,850 did I talk about their mother?

2503 01:24:15,850 --> 01:24:17,500 Yeah, their mother was--

2504 01:24:17,500 --> 01:24:18,820 I think I did.

2505 01:24:18,820 --> 01:24:23,620 I said Liesel's friend was a sister of theirs,

2506 01:24:23,620 --> 01:24:25,480 and those were the children.

2507 01:24:25,480 --> 01:24:27,640 And we didn't have too much to do with them,

2508 01:24:27,640 --> 01:24:31,370 but then I got close with her after the war.

2509 01:24:31,370 --> 01:24:35,320 So she survived because the mother was Jewish but not

2510 01:24:35,320 --> 01:24:36,460 born Jewish.

2511 01:24:36,460 --> 01:24:36,970 They left.

2512 01:24:36,970 --> 01:24:39,310 You know, they left those people alone, more or less.

2513 01:24:39,310 --> 01:24:41,890 They had restrictions, but they weren't

2514 01:24:41,890 --> 01:24:43,780 sent to concentration camps.

2515 01:24:43,780 --> 01:24:44,560 They didn't--

2516 01:24:44,560 --> 01:24:45,490 And do you know why?

2517 01:24:45,490 --> 01:24:46,090 Why?

2518 01:24:46,090 --> 01:24:50,440 Because in Berlin, they started to send them away,

2519 01:24:50,440 --> 01:24:53,650 and these women

and these women revolted, and they

2520

01:24:53,650 --> 01:24:57,790 had relatives who were all Nazis or they were Christians.

2521 01:24:57,790 --> 01:24:58,730 They were afraid.

2522 01:24:58,730 --> 01:25:01,450 You know, they wanted to keep this a secret.

2523 01:25:01,450 --> 01:25:03,320 So they could survive.

2524 01:25:03,320 --> 01:25:04,450 They had restrictions.

2525 01:25:04,450 --> 01:25:07,060 And yeah, she didn't have Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

to wear-- for instance,

2526

01:25:07,060 --> 01:25:10,030 she didn't have to wear a star, but the daughter did.

2527 01:25:10,030 --> 01:25:12,340 And she went on the street one day,

2528 01:25:12,340 --> 01:25:16,390 and a policeman came and said, what are you doing with a Jew?

2529 01:25:16,390 --> 01:25:17,590 And she was there.

2530 01:25:17,590 --> 01:25:20,770 And then [INAUDIBLE].

2531 01:25:20,770 --> 01:25:24,970 So she said, my daughter's Jewish.

2532

01:25:24,970 --> 01:25:26,410 You know, my daughter's Jewish.

2533 01:25:26,410 --> 01:25:30,390 And so you know, because [INAUDIBLE] they

2534 01:25:30,390 --> 01:25:31,180 left her alone.

2535 01:25:31,180 --> 01:25:32,030 Yeah.

2536 01:25:32,030 --> 01:25:32,530 Uh-huh.

2537 01:25:32,530 --> 01:25:33,550 Uh-huh. 2538 01:25:33,550 --> 01:25:37,930 So these are all things you hear about later, not at that time.

2539 01:25:37,930 --> 01:25:38,605 That's right.

2540 01:25:38,605 --> 01:25:39,105 Of course.

2541 01:25:39,105 --> 01:25:42,930

2542 01:25:42,930 --> 01:25:44,850 Was Koenigsberg a pretty city?

2543 01:25:44,850 --> 01:25:45,820 Very nice.

2544 01:25:45,820 --> 01:25:51,120 You know, we had the big castle, the big castle

2545 01:25:51,120 --> 01:25:54,270 where the kings were all crowned in Koenigsberg.

2546 01:25:54,270 --> 01:25:55,950 No wonder it's called Koenigsberg.

2547 01:25:55,950 --> 01:25:57,000 That's right.

2548 01:25:57,000 --> 01:25:57,840 Yeah, yeah.

2549 01:25:57,840 --> 01:26:00,525 And of course, all of that was bombed out. 2550 01:26:00,525 --> 01:26:02,610 but yeah, it was a lovely city.

2551 01:26:02,610 --> 01:26:06,240 And the people were--

2552 01:26:06,240 --> 01:26:07,020 I don't know.

2553 01:26:07,020 --> 01:26:10,620 The East Prussians were more-- a very little bit

2554 01:26:10,620 --> 01:26:11,910 like the English.

2555 01:26:11,910 --> 01:26:15,210 They were very not right away sweet, and not

2556 01:26:15,210 --> 01:26:16,500 right away friends.

2557 01:26:16,500 --> 01:26:18,750 But once they were friends, they were forever.

2558 01:26:18,750 --> 01:26:19,290 You know?

2559 01:26:19,290 --> 01:26:20,220 Friends for life.

2560 01:26:20,220 --> 01:26:23,700 Yeah, but not right away they love you.

2561 01:26:23,700 --> 01:26:29,820 Do you think Nazism was as strongly entrenched 01:26:29,820 --> 01:26:33,990 in East Prussia as it was in other parts of Germany?

2563

01:26:33,990 --> 01:26:35,220 I always thought no.

2564

01:26:35,220 --> 01:26:39,270 You know, my mother always said that--

2565

01:26:39,270 --> 01:26:40,170 what was he?

2566

01:26:40,170 --> 01:26:44,130 He was the-- his name was Koch, Erich Koch.

2567

01:26:44,130 --> 01:26:45,990 Have you heard of Erich Koch?

2568

01:26:45,990 --> 01:26:50,010 Later on, he was in Russia, and was terrible, they say.

2569

01:26:50,010 --> 01:26:52,095 But in the beginning, he was the--

2570 01:26:52,095 --> 01:26:52,845

like the governor.

2571 01:26:52,845 --> 01:26:54,270 It wasn't governor.

2572 01:26:54,270 --> 01:26:55,920 Whatever they called them.

2573 01:26:55,920 --> 01:26:57,210 He was very decent.

2574 01:26:57,210 --> 01:26:59,160 My mother said he was very decent.

2575 01:26:59,160 --> 01:27:02,040 And that's why people weren't sent to the concentration

2576 01:27:02,040 --> 01:27:02,580 camps.

2577 01:27:02,580 --> 01:27:05,820 They stayed in Koenigsberg, at first.

2578 01:27:05,820 --> 01:27:09,450 And then they got after him, and he wasn't-- you know.

2579 01:27:09,450 --> 01:27:10,000 I see.

2580 01:27:10,000 --> 01:27:12,600 And then he got himself

a different-- he changed,

2581

01:27:12,600 --> 01:27:13,530 you know?

2582 01:27:13,530 --> 01:27:17,340 OK, so was he the Gauleiter?

2583 01:27:17,340 --> 01:27:19,740 She thought the East Prussians were more decent

2584 01:27:19,740 --> 01:27:20,460 than the others.

2585 01:27:20,460 --> 01:27:21,326 I don't know.

2586 01:27:21,326 --> 01:27:22,040 2587 01:27:22,040 --> 01:27:22,150 OK.

2588 01:27:22,150 --> 01:27:22,980 I just wondered.

2589 01:27:22,980 --> 01:27:23,130 Yeah.

2590 01:27:23,130 --> 01:27:24,463 I just wondered whether or not--

2591 01:27:24,463 --> 01:27:25,540 She felt that.

2592 01:27:25,540 --> 01:27:28,620 Well, you see, because many of the aristocrats, like Doenhoff.

2593 01:27:28,620 --> 01:27:30,660 Yeah, they were against him.

2594 01:27:30,660 --> 01:27:31,700 They were against him.

2595 01:27:31,700 --> 01:27:32,580 Of course you.

2596 01:27:32,580 --> 01:27:33,580 They looked down on him.

2597 01:27:33,580 --> 01:27:34,500 Yes, yes.

2598 01:27:34,500 --> 01:27:36,570 That's [INAUDIBLE] too, I think.

2599 01:27:36,570 --> 01:27:37,770 Yeah. 2600 01:27:37,770 --> 01:27:41,940 So as far as you are concerned, your family

2601 01:27:41,940 --> 01:27:46,240 is allowed to leave in June 1939.

2602 01:27:46,240 --> 01:27:47,680 Yeah, allowed to leave.

2603 01:27:47,680 --> 01:27:50,430 I [INAUDIBLE] never understand that.

2604 01:27:50,430 --> 01:27:53,880 I think you could leave if you found a place to get into.

2605 01:27:53,880 --> 01:27:57,900 Did you have to get a visa to leave Germany

2606 01:27:57,900 --> 01:28:00,060 from the Nazi authorities?

2607 01:28:00,060 --> 01:28:01,110 No, we didn't.

2608 01:28:01,110 --> 01:28:05,010 Actually, you had to have a visa to get into England.

2609 01:28:05,010 --> 01:28:06,060 OK, so maybe I misspoke.

2610 01:28:06,060 --> 01:28:08,910 I think they were glad when you left, I think.

2611 01:28:08,910 --> 01:28:11,220 I misspoke.

2612 01:28:11,220 --> 01:28:13,480 No, a lot of people ask me that. 2613 01:28:13,480 --> 01:28:14,777 "Oh, you were allowed to go?" 2614 01:28:14,777 --> 01:28:16,110 It wasn't that you were allowed. 2615 01:28:16,110 --> 01:28:18,390 You were allowed to get into a country. 2616 01:28:18,390 --> 01:28:18,900 That's it. 2617 01:28:18,900 --> 01:28:19,680 Nobody wanted you. 2618 01:28:19,680 --> 01:28:20,310 Yes. 2619 01:28:20,310 --> 01:28:21,150 OK. 2620 01:28:21,150 --> 01:28:25,380 So your Uncle Saul and Julius deposit some money 2621 01:28:25,380 --> 01:28:26,380 for your father. 2622 01:28:26,380 --> 01:28:26,880 Yes. 2623 01:28:26,880 --> 01:28:30,120 In England, so that the family can at least go to England.

2624

01:28:30,120 --> 01:28:33,150 Go to England and not have to work.

2625 01:28:33,150 --> 01:28:36,850 Of course, we had outside support from organizations.

2626 01:28:36,850 --> 01:28:43,080 And so you get to the UK, first by train, then by ferry.

2627 01:28:43,080 --> 01:28:43,590 Yes.

2628 01:28:43,590 --> 01:28:44,700 Then by boat.

2629 01:28:44,700 --> 01:28:46,080 And what happens there?

2630 01:28:46,080 --> 01:28:47,570 Where do you stay in the UK?

2631 01:28:47,570 --> 01:28:49,530 We went to London.

2632 01:28:49,530 --> 01:28:51,210 And we stayed in a boarding house.

2633 01:28:51,210 --> 01:28:53,970 Because we had to make it as reasonable as possible.

2634 01:28:53,970 --> 01:28:57,360 10 marks each one could leave--

2635 01:28:57,360 --> 01:28:59,490 could take when they really left.

2636

01:28:59,490 --> 01:29:02,850 And so we stayed in a boarding house.

2637 01:29:02,850 --> 01:29:05,520 I slept with the owner's daughter,

2638 01:29:05,520 --> 01:29:09,990 who was a teen-- was older than I. She was 19 or so.

2639 01:29:09,990 --> 01:29:12,400 Upstairs in an attic there.

2640 01:29:12,400 --> 01:29:14,850 And my parents had a big room, where they lived,

2641 01:29:14,850 --> 01:29:16,830 and where they slept, and--

2642 01:29:16,830 --> 01:29:17,700 Everything else.

2643 01:29:17,700 --> 01:29:20,130 Yeah, but there were a lot of refugees

2644 01:29:20,130 --> 01:29:21,960 that were in the same boat.

2645 01:29:21,960 --> 01:29:24,310 What part of London was this?

2646 01:29:24,310 --> 01:29:25,140 In Northwest.

2647 01:29:25,140 --> 01:29:27,870 It was called Willesden Green.

2648 01:29:27,870 --> 01:29:28,810

2649 01:29:28,810 --> 01:29:29,310

Yeah.

2650 01:29:29,310 --> 01:29:30,210 OK.

2651 01:29:30,210 --> 01:29:33,400 So Willesden Green is where you found a boarding house.

2652 01:29:33,400 --> 01:29:36,840 It was not so expensive, and it was next from Golders Green.

2653 01:29:36,840 --> 01:29:38,260 That was a little more expensive.

2654 01:29:38,260 --> 01:29:39,180 That's right.

2655 01:29:39,180 --> 01:29:40,800 And there were a lot of refugees,

2656 01:29:40,800 --> 01:29:42,180 and you had a good time.

2657 01:29:42,180 --> 01:29:45,480 Even if you had no money.

2658 01:29:45,480 --> 01:29:50,185 I liked it, because I could put my feet on the--

2659 01:29:50,185 --> 01:29:51,340 You could fit your feet?

2660 01:29:51,340 --> 01:29:54,330 On the chair or something like that, which I couldn't do when

2661

01:29:54,330 --> 01:29:56,670 we had the good furniture.

2662

01:29:56,670 --> 01:29:58,692 I thought it was great.

2663

01:29:58,692 --> 01:29:59,400 Freedom, freedom.

2664

01:29:59,400 --> 01:30:02,400 And I had a lot of wonderful friends there.

2665

01:30:02,400 --> 01:30:03,270 Yeah.

2666

01:30:03,270 --> 01:30:04,710 And how long did you stay there?

2667

01:30:04,710 --> 01:30:06,570 We stayed there a year and a half.

2668

01:30:06,570 --> 01:30:10,440 We stayed till October 1940.

2669 01:30:10,440 --> 01:30:12,630 From '39 in June to October '40.

2670 01:30:12,630 --> 01:30:14,700 But in the meantime, we had the Blitz.

2671 01:30:14,700 --> 01:30:16,710 And my father was interned.

2672 01:30:16,710 --> 01:30:17,280 Was he? 01:30:17,280 --> 01:30:19,290 As a German.

2674

01:30:19,290 --> 01:30:22,230 You were German, they thought that they would bring spies.

2675

01:30:22,230 --> 01:30:23,220 I don't blame them.

2676

01:30:23,220 --> 01:30:24,810 It was a war already.

2677 01:30:24,810 --> 01:30:26,010

They thought that spies--

2678

01:30:26,010 --> 01:30:29,550 and they might have sent spies among the Jews there.

2679

01:30:29,550 --> 01:30:31,590 So they treated them well.

2680

01:30:31,590 --> 01:30:33,540 He was on the Isle of Man.

2681

01:30:33,540 --> 01:30:35,658 And they lived in hotels.

2682

01:30:35,658 --> 01:30:37,200 I don't know if they were all hotels,

2683

01:30:37,200 --> 01:30:38,670 but everything was fine.

2684

01:30:38,670 --> 01:30:43,010 But he couldn't come home until the day before we left.

2685 01:30:43,010 --> 01:30:43,670 Really?

2686 01:30:43,670 --> 01:30:45,110 Yeah, they couldn't come home.

2687 01:30:45,110 --> 01:30:45,980 No, no.

2688

01:30:45,980 --> 01:30:48,440 So my mother and I-- and then we were in the boarding--

2689

01:30:48,440 --> 01:30:51,140 and then my father said, if I have to go,

2690

01:30:51,140 --> 01:30:55,280 I don't want to leave you with-the people weren't too nice.

2691

01:30:55,280 --> 01:30:57,830 So we had-- there was an apartment house

2692

01:30:57,830 --> 01:30:59,870 where a lot of refugees lived.

2693

01:30:59,870 --> 01:31:03,320 And the one woman was renting out a room, you know?

2694 01:31:03,320 --> 01:31:06,650 So we rented that room, my mother and I.

2695 01:31:06,650 --> 01:31:08,420 And they thought we were safe there.

2696 01:31:08,420 --> 01:31:12,440 And it was good when the bombs started, you know?

2697

2698 01:31:15,490 --> 01:31:17,330 They had the first two floors.

2699 01:31:17,330 --> 01:31:19,920 The first two floors and the halls, you know?

2700

01:31:19,920 --> 01:31:22,400 And you could have a space, or you could

2701 01:31:22,400 --> 01:31:23,690 have a long, narrow space.

2702 01:31:23,690 --> 01:31:25,310 And we had a camp bed.

2703

01:31:25,310 --> 01:31:27,410 And the two of us slept on a camp bed.

2704

01:31:27,410 --> 01:31:28,510 You know how big that is.

2705

01:31:28,510 --> 01:31:29,210 Oh, my goodness.

2706

01:31:29,210 --> 01:31:29,480 But we slept.

2707

01:31:29,480 --> 01:31:30,063 We were tired.

2708

01:31:30,063 --> 01:31:31,160 We slept.

2709 01:31:31,160 --> 01:31:32,300 Wow.

2710 01:31:32,300 --> 01:31:35,600 Every night, we would go down in the evening.

2711 01:31:35,600 --> 01:31:36,690 It was summer.

2712 01:31:36,690 --> 01:31:38,160 It was the summertime.

2713 01:31:38,160 --> 01:31:41,720 And at 8 o'clock or so, 9 o'clock, we would go down.

2714 01:31:41,720 --> 01:31:42,530 It was dark.

2715 01:31:42,530 --> 01:31:46,220 And then they were all around us.

2716 01:31:46,220 --> 01:31:47,990 One day I was coming home from school,

2717 01:31:47,990 --> 01:31:51,960 and a plane was real low, shooting at children.

2718 01:31:51,960 --> 01:31:54,050 I sort of went into--

2719 01:31:54,050 --> 01:31:55,850 into a garden there behind a bush.

2720 01:31:55,850 --> 01:31:57,990 And terrible, terrible.

2721 01:31:57,990 --> 01:32:00,170 Yeah, yeah. 2722 01:32:00,170 --> 01:32:01,367 It was bad.

2723 01:32:01,367 --> 01:32:02,200 So you experienced--

2724 01:32:02,200 --> 01:32:04,490 But at least everybody was in the same boat, you know?

2725 01:32:04,490 --> 01:32:05,783 It wasn't like in--

2726 01:32:05,783 --> 01:32:06,950 everybody went through that.

2727 01:32:06,950 --> 01:32:08,630 It's not like you were singled out.

2728 01:32:08,630 --> 01:32:10,005 That's right, you know?

2729 01:32:10,005 --> 01:32:10,505 Yeah.

2730 01:32:10,505 --> 01:32:13,160

2731 01:32:13,160 --> 01:32:17,120 So it's a year and a half that you are in London.

2732 01:32:17,120 --> 01:32:19,700 And during that time, the war begins.

2733 01:32:19,700 --> 01:32:20,610 Yes, yes.

2734 01:32:20,610 --> 01:32:23,943 You get out, really, at the 11th hour.

2735 01:32:23,943 --> 01:32:24,485 Just in time.

2736 01:32:24,485 --> 01:32:25,027 That's right.

2737 01:32:25,027 --> 01:32:27,410 It was end of June, and then September.

2738 01:32:27,410 --> 01:32:28,400 It starts.

2739 01:32:28,400 --> 01:32:30,950 And I hadn't gone to school yet, because the summer,

2740 01:32:30,950 --> 01:32:33,240 they weren't going to start in September.

2741 01:32:33,240 --> 01:32:35,750 So there were a couple of days before the war,

2742 01:32:35,750 --> 01:32:37,580 where everybody knew something was coming,

2743 01:32:37,580 --> 01:32:41,330 and they were evacuating the children from each school.

2744 01:32:41,330 --> 01:32:42,530 My father came home.

2745 01:32:42,530 --> 01:32:43,460 And he said you heard. 01:32:43,460 --> 01:32:44,630 He said, you must go.

2747 01:32:44,630 --> 01:32:46,880 It might not be safe for you.

2748 01:32:46,880 --> 01:32:47,450 So I went.

2749 01:32:47,450 --> 01:32:48,820 I didn't know anybody.

2750 01:32:48,820 --> 01:32:52,130 But thank God there were some German refugees,

2751 01:32:52,130 --> 01:32:53,130 and we were together.

2752 01:32:53,130 --> 01:32:53,870 Yeah, yeah.

2753 01:32:53,870 --> 01:32:57,110 So we were about maybe couple of months.

2754 01:32:57,110 --> 01:32:58,760 And nothing happened at that time.

2755 01:32:58,760 --> 01:33:00,470 There was no raids.

2756 01:33:00,470 --> 01:33:02,865 There were no raids, air raids, you know?

2757 01:33:02,865 --> 01:33:03,740 Not until the spring.

2758 01:33:03,740 --> 01:33:04,880 Did you speak English? 2759 01:33:04,880 --> 01:33:06,350 The following spring.

2760 01:33:06,350 --> 01:33:08,420 I had a little school, you know?

2761 01:33:08,420 --> 01:33:10,940 But you know, as a child you learn it, yes.

2762 01:33:10,940 --> 01:33:13,030 But there with all my friends there, the Germans,

2763 01:33:13,030 --> 01:33:14,150 we spoke German.

2764 01:33:14,150 --> 01:33:15,040 Of course, of course.

2765 01:33:15,040 --> 01:33:16,340 Yes.

2766 01:33:16,340 --> 01:33:20,660 And do you remember the trip over to the United States?

2767 01:33:20,660 --> 01:33:21,320 Oh, yes.

2768 01:33:21,320 --> 01:33:22,940 We had a very dangerous one.

2769 01:33:22,940 --> 01:33:23,480 Did you?

2770 01:33:23,480 --> 01:33:24,500 Tell me about it.

2771 01:33:24,500 --> 01:33:28,730 Well, we left from Liverpool and with a convoy.

2772 01:33:28,730 --> 01:33:30,845 And it was 1940 in October.

2773 01:33:30,845 --> 01:33:32,480 It took three weeks to go.

2774 01:33:32,480 --> 01:33:34,290 Because you had to go all around.

2775 01:33:34,290 --> 01:33:34,790 Wow.

2776 01:33:34,790 --> 01:33:38,400 We went up to Newfoundland and came home, came down.

2777 01:33:38,400 --> 01:33:39,740 And we landed in Boston.

2778 01:33:39,740 --> 01:33:41,810 That's how we stayed in Boston.

2779 01:33:41,810 --> 01:33:43,160 OK.

2780 01:33:43,160 --> 01:33:46,190 And we left with a convoy.

2781 01:33:46,190 --> 01:33:49,010 And a couple of days later-- we left on a Friday.

2782 01:33:49,010 --> 01:33:54,050 On Sunday, German planes came, bombed

2783 01:33:54,050 --> 01:33:56,810 a couple of those warships. 2784 01:33:56,810 --> 01:33:58,370 But nothing happened to the people.

2785 01:33:58,370 --> 01:33:59,600 They were saved.

2786 01:33:59,600 --> 01:34:01,745 And then of course you had to go on, on.

2787 01:34:01,745 --> 01:34:02,810 You couldn't stop.

2788 01:34:02,810 --> 01:34:07,760 In the middle of the ocean, suddenly we had engine trouble.

2789 01:34:07,760 --> 01:34:08,960 And we had to stop.

2790 01:34:08,960 --> 01:34:10,800 And they had to go along.

2791 01:34:10,800 --> 01:34:15,500 So we were all alone in this big ocean full of submarines.

2792 01:34:15,500 --> 01:34:16,340 Oh my goodness.

2793 01:34:16,340 --> 01:34:20,150 As we were standing there, a submarine was sighted.

2794 01:34:20,150 --> 01:34:21,590 And we had one gunner.

2795 01:34:21,590 --> 01:34:24,560 You know, it was a small boat, 4,000 tons. 2796 01:34:24,560 --> 01:34:25,730 Terrible.

2797 01:34:25,730 --> 01:34:29,320 My mother again, when we were waiting for the boat,

2798 01:34:29,320 --> 01:34:30,290 the boat was there.

2799 01:34:30,290 --> 01:34:32,210 And she said, oh, that must be the boat that

2800 01:34:32,210 --> 01:34:34,730 takes us to a bigger boat.

2801 01:34:34,730 --> 01:34:35,690 So the captain heard.

2802 01:34:35,690 --> 01:34:38,920 He said, "yes, for you we'll hire the Queen Mary."

2803 01:34:38,920 --> 01:34:41,260 [LAUGHTER]

2804 01:34:41,260 --> 01:34:42,555

2805 01:34:42,555 --> 01:34:43,520 Oh, boy.

2806 01:34:43,520 --> 01:34:44,330 Yes.

2807 01:34:44,330 --> 01:34:47,570 So, anyway, it was-- and then we sighted a submarine,

2808

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01:34:47,570 --> 01:34:50,450 and we all had to go down to the bottom of the boat.

2809 01:34:50,450 --> 01:34:52,550 There were English children, the first class.

2810 01:34:52,550 --> 01:34:55,850 And we had to be in second class, third class.

2811 01:34:55,850 --> 01:34:57,930 We were in the bottom of the boat.

2812 01:34:57,930 --> 01:34:59,840 And it was very close, you know.

2813 01:34:59,840 --> 01:35:02,778 And then suddenly, he must have hit them.

2814 01:35:02,778 --> 01:35:03,695 He must have hit them.

2815 01:35:03,695 --> 01:35:06,050 They were gone, you know?

2816 01:35:06,050 --> 01:35:07,490 Who hit?

2817 01:35:07,490 --> 01:35:08,900 The submarine was gone.

2818 01:35:08,900 --> 01:35:11,030 It didn't come up anymore.

2819 01:35:11,030 --> 01:35:13,430 And I think that he hit it.

2820 01:35:13,430 --> 01:35:15,723 So the one gunner that was on the boat?

2821 01:35:15,723 --> 01:35:16,640 Yeah, can you imagine?

2822 01:35:16,640 --> 01:35:17,890 You know what they said?

2823 01:35:17,890 --> 01:35:19,640 They said, "it couldn't have been Germans.

2824 01:35:19,640 --> 01:35:22,240 It must have been Italians."

2825 01:35:22,240 --> 01:35:24,060 They're not warriors.

2826 01:35:24,060 --> 01:35:25,790 Oh, that's mean.

2827 01:35:25,790 --> 01:35:27,290 No, not mean, in a way.

2828 01:35:27,290 --> 01:35:29,860 It's nice, because they're not such warriors.

2829 01:35:29,860 --> 01:35:31,370 That's right.

2830 01:35:31,370 --> 01:35:35,570 Yeah, but when I think of it now, more I think,

2831 01:35:35,570 --> 01:35:37,880 that was the closest I ever was to death.

2832 01:35:37,880 --> 01:35:39,860 You know, because it was really a miracle

2833

01:35:39,860 --> 01:35:41,540 that we came out of that.

2834

01:35:41,540 --> 01:35:42,860 Yeah.

2835

01:35:42,860 --> 01:35:46,970 Well, it is lucky also that you left.

2836

01:35:46,970 --> 01:35:47,720 Oh, yes.

2837

01:35:47,720 --> 01:35:48,260 Of course.

2838 01:35:48 260 ---

01:35:48,260 --> 01:35:49,140 That's another.

2839

01:35:49,140 --> 01:35:51,830 Because if you hadn't, you would have come very close.

2840

01:35:51,830 --> 01:35:52,640 That's right.

2841

01:35:52,640 --> 01:35:53,990 And would have, yes.

2842

01:35:53,990 --> 01:35:55,550 Yeah.

2843 01:35:55,550 --> 01:35:57,360 So you arrive in Boston.

2844 01:35:57,360 --> 01:35:58,580 We arrived in Boston.

2845 01:35:58,580 --> 01:36:00,860 And my father knew that the leather business,

2846 01:36:00,860 --> 01:36:04,540 hide and leather and all that, was in Boston.

2847 01:36:04,540 --> 01:36:05,040 OK.

2848 01:36:05,040 --> 01:36:06,470 Well, in the old days, there used

2849 01:36:06,470 --> 01:36:07,720 to be a lot of shoe factories.

2850 01:36:07,720 --> 01:36:08,720 Oh, yes, shoe factories.

2851 01:36:08,720 --> 01:36:09,320 --around here.

2852 01:36:09,320 --> 01:36:11,600 And there were a lot of hide dealers.

2853 01:36:11,600 --> 01:36:13,460 And he knew, you know?

2854 01:36:13,460 --> 01:36:14,630 So he said, let's stay here.

2855 01:36:14,630 --> 01:36:17,690 And we-- and my mother had an uncle.

2856 01:36:17,690 --> 01:36:20,360 There was a brother of this one from Memel.

2857 01:36:20,360 --> 01:36:21,590 He came from Berlin.

2858

01:36:21,590 --> 01:36:24,605 And they had been there about one or two years.

2859

01:36:24,605 --> 01:36:25,970 In the Boston area?

2860

01:36:25,970 --> 01:36:28,120 Yes, in Brookline.

2861

01:36:28,120 --> 01:36:32,000 And they knew we were coming, but of course,

2862

01:36:32,000 --> 01:36:33,410 that we were coming to America.

2863

01:36:33,410 --> 01:36:35,480 I don't know what-what it was, how it was.

2864

01:36:35,480 --> 01:36:37,180 But anyway, we stayed.

2865

01:36:37,180 --> 01:36:40,340 And she got us an apartment-- not an apartment.

2866 01:36:40,340 --> 01:36:42,300 First we had a room.

2867 01:36:42,300 --> 01:36:44,360 Then we had an apartment.

2868

01:36:44,360 --> 01:36:47,870 And my father, it took him a while to find a position.

2869 01:36:47,870 --> 01:36:49,370 Yes, yes.

2870 01:36:49,370 --> 01:36:55,280 And when did you start learning about the fates of all

2871 01:36:55,280 --> 01:36:57,800 your relatives?

2872 01:36:57,800 --> 01:37:00,680 Not really-- I mean, you heard rumors.

2873 01:37:00,680 --> 01:37:02,330 You heard them, but you didn't know,

2874 01:37:02,330 --> 01:37:05,600 and my mother never believed it.

2875 01:37:05,600 --> 01:37:06,420 "It can't be.

2876 01:37:06,420 --> 01:37:06,920 It can't.

2877 01:37:06,920 --> 01:37:09,290 How can they do that?"

2878 01:37:09,290 --> 01:37:11,210 She wouldn't believe it, you know?

2879 01:37:11,210 --> 01:37:12,020 Yeah.

2880 01:37:12,020 --> 01:37:16,370 And then she heard after the war about her mother

2881 01:37:16,370 --> 01:37:18,995 and later on the grandfather, her father. 2882 01:37:18,995 --> 01:37:21,820

2883 01:37:21,820 --> 01:37:26,220 And then when she was older, she got a little dementia

2884

01:37:26,220 --> 01:37:30,490 when she was about my age now, and she later lived till 96.

2885 01:37:30,490 --> 01:37:32,410 And then one day

she said, "oh, I

2886

01:37:32,410 --> 01:37:35,410 hear that my mother and Edith are here.

2887

01:37:35,410 --> 01:37:36,370 They arrived here.

2888

01:37:36,370 --> 01:37:36,910 They come.

2889

01:37:36,910 --> 01:37:37,840 You go to them."

2890 01:37:37,840 --> 01:37:39,310 [INAUDIBLE]

2891 01:37:39,310 --> 01:37:40,420 constantly.

2892 01:37:40,420 --> 01:37:42,580 It was very hard for her to--

2893 01:37:42,580 --> 01:37:43,330 How sad.

2894

01:37:43,330 --> 01:37:44,890 Believe it, that they were gone.

2895

01:37:44,890 --> 01:37:46,030 Yeah.

2896 01:37:46,030 --> 01:37:49,300 And you-- nevertheless you went back to Koenigsberg.

2897

01:37:49,300 --> 01:37:50,710 Yeah, I want to see it.

2898

01:37:50,710 --> 01:37:51,860 Was this the first time?

2899

01:37:51,860 --> 01:37:52,360 Yeah.

2900

01:37:52,360 --> 01:37:54,360 And the only time when you went?

2901

01:37:54,360 --> 01:37:57,230 Oh, yes, because then the Soviet--

2902

01:37:57,230 --> 01:38:00,030 it was communistic, so you couldn't look back anyway.

2903

01:38:00,030 --> 01:38:02,760 But once it was, in 2007, we went.

2904 01·38·02 760 -

01:38:02,760 --> 01:38:03,850 We were here already.

2905

01:38:03,850 --> 01:38:04,360 OK.

2906 01:38:04,360 --> 01:38:05,080 Yeah.

2907 01:38:05,080 --> 01:38:05,860 And--

2908 01:38:05,860 --> 01:38:09,830 And what impression did you have from what you saw?

2909 01:38:09,830 --> 01:38:10,750 Yeah.

2910 01:38:10,750 --> 01:38:14,560 Well, you know, I feel sorry, but I don't feel [INAUDIBLE]..

2911 01:38:14,560 --> 01:38:15,940 Because they were all Russians.

2912 01:38:15,940 --> 01:38:16,660 No Germans.

2913 01:38:16,660 --> 01:38:18,574 The Germans were visiting, you know?

2914 01:38:18,574 --> 01:38:19,390 They were visiting.

2915 01:38:19,390 --> 01:38:20,560 There were no Germans?

2916 01:38:20,560 --> 01:38:23,410 Germans who maybe their parents lived there, you know?

2917 01:38:23,410 --> 01:38:26,440 And they visit there, but there were no German--

2918 01:38:26,440 --> 01:38:30,010 you can't-- in the hotel, they talked very little German, 2919 01:38:30,010 --> 01:38:30,790 you know?

2920 01:38:30,790 --> 01:38:32,150 And there was one--

2921 01:38:32,150 --> 01:38:34,660 a man, he heard us talk German.

2922 01:38:34,660 --> 01:38:36,120 So he said, I--

2923 01:38:36,120 --> 01:38:38,660 he was Russian, but he talked a little German.

2924 01:38:38,660 --> 01:38:40,690 And he was-- he showed you around.

2925 01:38:40,690 --> 01:38:42,340 He was a guide.

2926 01:38:42,340 --> 01:38:44,710 And we took him that one day that we were there.

2927 01:38:44,710 --> 01:38:46,090 We went all over the place.

2928 01:38:46,090 --> 01:38:49,090 I knew more than he did what was--

2929 01:38:49,090 --> 01:38:50,590 And this was that street?

2930 01:38:50,590 --> 01:38:52,600 No, no, it was another street. 01:38:52,600 --> 01:38:55,030 And I found my--

2932

01:38:55,030 --> 01:39:00,875 two apartment-- two houses we lived in were unharmed.

2933

01:39:00,875 --> 01:39:01,375 Really?

2934

01:39:01,375 --> 01:39:03,340 A little changed, you know?

2935 01:39:03,340 --> 01:39:04,910

Yes, yes.

2936

01:39:04,910 --> 01:39:06,880 And so you found--

2937

01:39:06,880 --> 01:39:08,870 what was it, Litzmann-Strasse?

2938 01:39:08,870 --> 01:39:09,668 Yeah, yeah.

2939 01:39:09,668 --> 01:39:10,710 General-Litzmann-Strasse.

2940 01:39:10,710 --> 01:39:13,550 General-- you have a good memory.

2941 01:39:13,550 --> 01:39:16,150 And so your house was still standing there, the apartment?

2942 01:39:16,150 --> 01:39:18,150 The house was just a little bit different.

2943 01:39:18,150 --> 01:39:19,360 The stores were gone. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

2944 01:39:19,360 --> 01:39:21,550 They changed the house somehow.

2945 01:39:21,550 --> 01:39:25,010 Maybe it was bombed out partly, partly.

2946 01:39:25,010 --> 01:39:27,280 But it was there, and then the other one

2947 01:39:27,280 --> 01:39:30,310 was almost the same, the one that I lived there before.

2948 01:39:30,310 --> 01:39:32,450 And the zoo was still there.

2949 01:39:32,450 --> 01:39:34,040 Too bad we only spent one day.

2950 01:39:34,040 --> 01:39:35,290 It wasn't enough, you know?

2951 01:39:35,290 --> 01:39:38,200 We should have-- I saw a lot.

2952 01:39:38,200 --> 01:39:41,020 And the synagogue, they had a circus there

2953 01:39:41,020 --> 01:39:42,880 where the synagogue was.

2954 01:39:42,880 --> 01:39:47,350 And now they rebuild it, and they had a circus there.

2955 01:39:47,350 --> 01:39:49,065 I had heard about that, yes. 2956 01:39:49,065 --> 01:39:52,440

2957

01:39:52,440 --> 01:39:54,600 And you said the city was bombed.

2958

01:39:54,600 --> 01:39:56,460 Was this-- who bombed it?

2959

01:39:56,460 --> 01:39:56,960 The city?

2960

01:39:56,960 --> 01:39:57,700 [INAUDIBLE]

2961

01:39:57,700 --> 01:39:58,200 Koenig--

2962

01:39:58,200 --> 01:39:59,367 [INAUDIBLE] by the Russians.

2963

01:39:59,367 --> 01:40:00,430 Yes, yes.

2964

01:40:00,430 --> 01:40:03,810 It's all rebuilt in Russian style, mostly, you know?

2965

01:40:03,810 --> 01:40:06,480 But then where we lived was a little bit out of town, out

2966

01:40:06,480 --> 01:40:09,870 of downtown, so that part might have been [INAUDIBLE]..

2967

01:40:09,870 --> 01:40:13,262 From what you saw, you could recognize the old Koenigsberg

2968

01:40:13,262 --> 01:40:13,845 that you knew?

2969 01:40:13,845 --> 01:40:14,160 Oh, yeah, yeah.

2970 01:40:14,160 --> 01:40:14,820 More or less.

2971 01:40:14,820 --> 01:40:16,050 I could have found my way.

2972 01:40:16,050 --> 01:40:20,110 We were near the castle, up there on the hill.

2973 01:40:20,110 --> 01:40:21,360 That was all gone.

2974 01:40:21,360 --> 01:40:23,460 There's a hotel, the hotel.

2975 01:40:23,460 --> 01:40:27,330 And then I know my way, how to walk up there.

2976 01·40·27

01:40:27,330 --> 01:40:29,640 Walked longer than I thought it was.

2977 01:40:29,640 --> 01:40:31,123 And it was hot.

2978 01:40:31,123 --> 01:40:32,040 We were there in June.

2979 01:40:32,040 --> 01:40:33,420 Very, very hot.

2980 01:40:33,420 --> 01:40:35,450 And I got there. 2981 01:40:35,450 --> 01:40:35,950 Yeah.

2982 01:40:35,950 --> 01:40:38,370 OK.

2983 01:40:38,370 --> 01:40:42,750 Was there any sign of life during the war there?

2984 01:40:42,750 --> 01:40:44,580 That is, were there any memorials?

2985 01:40:44,580 --> 01:40:47,190 Were there any-- was there anything about what

2986 01:40:47,190 --> 01:40:48,520 the Jewish world had been?

2987 01:40:48,520 --> 01:40:49,020 No, no.

2988 01:40:49,020 --> 01:40:52,350 I think later they did it, because this friend of mine,

2989 01:40:52,350 --> 01:40:55,710 which is a little bit related to me, went to Israel in the end.

2990 01:40:55,710 --> 01:41:00,870 She went to-- when the war ended, she was in Koenigsberg.

2991 01:41:00,870 --> 01:41:05,490 Her mother died from starvation under the Russians.

2992 01:41:05,490 --> 01:41:06,450 But that was later. 2993

01:41:06,450 --> 01:41:08,790 She left before with her sister.

2994

01:41:08,790 --> 01:41:14,020 They walked towards Russia, and they ended up in Kishinev.

2995

01:41:14,020 --> 01:41:14,520 OK.

2996

01:41:14,520 --> 01:41:18,510 And then met two Jewish men, and married them.

2997

01:41:18,510 --> 01:41:20,490 And from there they went to Israel.

2998

01:41:20,490 --> 01:41:21,660 OK.

2999

01:41:21,660 --> 01:41:25,680 And she-- and what is it that-she's the one who told you

3000

01:41:25,680 --> 01:41:26,940 about the--

3001

01:41:26,940 --> 01:41:29,145 Koenigsberg was there.

3002

01:41:29,145 --> 01:41:30,300 Yes, yes, you know?

3003

01:41:30,300 --> 01:41:34,380 Was very difficult. Yeah.

3004

01:41:34,380 --> 01:41:38,070 I mean, of course it was changed. 3005 01:41:38,070 --> 01:41:40,860 Did it-- did it move you at all, what you saw?

```
3006
01:41:40,860 --> 01:41:41,460
Was it--
```

3007 01:41:41,460 --> 01:41:43,320 Did it move you at all, or was it

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3008
01:41:43,320 --> 01:41:45,180
something very distant for you?
```

3009 01:41:45,180 --> 01:41:46,720 It didn't move me too much.

3010 01:41:46,720 --> 01:41:49,380 No, no, no, no.

3011 01:41:49,380 --> 01:41:51,100 Distant, yeah.

3012 01:41:51,100 --> 01:41:51,600 No.

3013 01:41:51,600 --> 01:41:54,610

3014 01:41:54,610 --> 01:41:57,710 Is there something I have not asked you?

3015 01:41:57,710 --> 01:41:58,930 Can't think of anything.

3016 01:41:58,930 --> 01:42:02,090 I mean, I have the story of my mother on the train.

3017 01:42:02,090 --> 01:42:02,590 Oh, yeah.

3018

01:42:02,590 --> 01:42:03,530 Let's talk about that.

3019 01:42:03,530 --> 01:42:04,030 Yes.

3020

01:42:04,030 --> 01:42:06,640 Because we didn't mention on that.

3021 01:42:06,640 --> 01:42:10,240 This is something about your mother's chutzpah.

3022 01:42:10,240 --> 01:42:12,070 That's it.

3023 01:42:12,070 --> 01:42:13,380 An example of that.

3024 01:42:13,380 --> 01:42:17,210 And again, she could have gotten into trouble.

3025 01:42:17,210 --> 01:42:19,685 So what ha-- she was on a train?

3026 01:42:19,685 --> 01:42:22,060 She came from-- I told you we went to Hanover every year,

3027 01:42:22,060 --> 01:42:23,530 but this time I wasn't with her.

3028 01:42:23,530 --> 01:42:27,040 It was during school time that she went, not [INAUDIBLE]..

3029 01:42:27,040 --> 01:42:30,390 And she was on a platform waiting for the train.

3030

01:42:30,390 --> 01:42:34,120 And the porter, you know, her baggage.

3031

01:42:34,120 --> 01:42:35,320 OK, here's the train.

3032

01:42:35,320 --> 01:42:36,280 Let's get on it.

3033 01:42:36,280 --> 01:42:37,390

It was the wrong train.

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01:42:37,390 --> 01:42:41,480 It was a train that came back from the Nazi convention.

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01:42:41,480 --> 01:42:42,880 I don't know if it was Nuremberg.

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01:42:42,880 --> 01:42:43,620 I don't know how they would have--

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01:42:43,620 --> 01:42:45,550 Nuremberg up there and then to Berlin.

3038

01:42:45,550 --> 01:42:47,140 No, it must have been somewhere else.

3039 01:42:47,140 --> 01:42:47,640 OK.

3040 01:42:47,640 --> 01:42:50,918 But and in Europe, they have these compartments. 01:42:50,918 --> 01:42:51,460 That's right.

3042 01:42:51,460 --> 01:42:53,402

So there was a room and one compartment.

3043 01:42:53,402 --> 01:42:54,860 And all of a sudden, she was there.

3044 01:42:54,860 --> 01:42:55,527 It was too late.

3045 01:42:55,527 --> 01:42:58,060 She looked around, all these Nazis there.

3046 01:42:58,060 --> 01:43:00,170 And she was sitting there alone.

3047 01:43:00,170 --> 01:43:02,240 But they were very--

3048 01:43:02,240 --> 01:43:04,460 she said he was-- she was a very good-looking woman

3049 01:43:04,460 --> 01:43:05,530 and charming.

3050 01:43:05,530 --> 01:43:08,030 So they were delighted to have her.

3051 01:43:08,030 --> 01:43:09,490 Never saw that she was-- she didn't

3052 01:43:09,490 --> 01:43:10,810 look particularly Jewish.

3053

01:43:10,810 --> 01:43:13,750 She had dark hair, but people, when we went to Berlin once,

3054 01:43:13,750 --> 01:43:15,550 we went to a store.

3055 01:43:15,550 --> 01:43:17,230 All of a sudden, she ran away.

3056 01:43:17,230 --> 01:43:19,420 We thought she wasn't going to wait on us.

3057 01:43:19,420 --> 01:43:22,960 No, she went to get somebody who can talk French with us.

3058 01:43:22,960 --> 01:43:24,340 French.

3059 01:43:24,340 --> 01:43:24,850 OK.

3060 01:43:24,850 --> 01:43:29,030 Anyway, and then they said, "Oh, let's sing something."

3061 01:43:29,030 --> 01:43:29,530 You know?

3062 01:43:29,530 --> 01:43:30,460 They say that?

3063 01:43:30,460 --> 01:43:31,210 They said it.

3064 01:43:31,210 --> 01:43:32,320 "Let's sing a song.

3065 01:43:32,320 --> 01:43:34,110 What would you like to hear?" 3066 01:43:34,110 --> 01:43:38,410 So she said sarcastically "Wenn Judenblut vom Messer Spritzt."

3067 01:43:38,410 --> 01:43:39,550 Do you know that song?

3068 01:43:39,550 --> 01:43:41,200 Well, translate for us what it means.

3069 01:43:41,200 --> 01:43:44,440 "When Jewish blood spurts from the knife."

3070 01:43:44,440 --> 01:43:45,120 Oh, gosh.

3071 01:43:45,120 --> 01:43:46,400 What a song.

3072 01:43:46,400 --> 01:43:46,900 Yeah.

3073 01:43:46,900 --> 01:43:49,900 She said very sarcastically, but they didn't notice that.

3074 01:43:49,900 --> 01:43:51,500 But they were decent.

3075 01:43:51,500 --> 01:43:53,050 So they said, "Oh, you don't want

3076 01:43:53,050 --> 01:43:57,140 to hear that," or something like that.

3077 01:43:57,140 --> 01:43:58,840 And then they talked. 3078 01:43:58,840 --> 01:44:01,390 And they said "we're going in the dining car.

3079 01:44:01,390 --> 01:44:02,710 Would you like to join us?"

3080

01:44:02,710 --> 01:44:04,990 She says, "No, she couldn't go anymore.

3081

01:44:04,990 --> 01:44:07,000 No, I have my food with me."

3082

01:44:07,000 --> 01:44:07,750 Thank you."

3083

01:44:07,750 --> 01:44:10,188 And then another man said, "I'm staying, too.

3084 01:44:10,188 --> 01:44:10,980 I don't want to go.

3085

01:44:10,980 --> 01:44:12,110 I'm not hungry."

3086

01:44:12,110 --> 01:44:15,270 So when they went out, she said, "I know you.

3087

01:44:15,270 --> 01:44:18,750 You came from Koenigsberg, and your daughter was in my--"

3088 01:44:18,750 --> 01:44:21,250 And he was a teacher in that school,

3089 01:44:21,250 --> 01:44:23,110 in the [? Christian ?] school. 3090 01:44:23,110 --> 01:44:24,770 Can you imagine?

3091 01:44:24,770 --> 01:44:25,433 She said--

3092 01:44:25,433 --> 01:44:26,100 Oh, my goodness.

3093

01:44:26,100 --> 01:44:27,767 "--I know who you are, and I know Amely.

3094

01:44:27,767 --> 01:44:29,320 I remember her."

3095

01:44:29,320 --> 01:44:32,020 And he said, "be careful.

3096 01:44:32,020 --> 01:44:33,310 They're big people, bigshots.

3097

01:44:33,310 --> 01:44:35,870 You know, big Nazis."

3098

01:44:35,870 --> 01:44:41,110 And then he said, "one's that Baldur von Schirac."

3099

01:44:41,110 --> 01:44:44,050 Baldur von Schirac, who was one of the most--

3100 01:44:44,050 --> 01:44:44,890 yeah, yeah.

3101 01:44:44,890 --> 01:44:46,570 Yeah, and he was very into it.

3102 01:44:46,570 --> 01:44:49,330 And then before they got to Berlin, they all got off.

3103 01:44:49,330 --> 01:44:51,040 My mother also stayed in Berlin.

3104 01:44:51,040 --> 01:44:53,390 It was at the time of the Olympics.

3105 01:44:53,390 --> 01:44:54,400 So 1930s--

3106 01:44:54,400 --> 01:44:55,090 Yeah.

3107 01:44:55,090 --> 01:44:56,110 OK, now we can go.

3108 01:44:56,110 --> 01:44:58,570 Yeah, before they came to Berlin,

3109 01·44·58

01:44:58,570 --> 01:45:01,060 he said, "would you like to join me?

3110 01:45:01,060 --> 01:45:04,540 I'm going to be with our Fuhrer in the booth at the Olympics

3111 01:45:04,540 --> 01:45:05,685 tonight."

3112 01:45:05,685 --> 01:45:07,060 So my mother said, "I don't think

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3113
01:45:07,060 --> 01:45:10,520
my Fuhrer would like that."
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3114 01:45:10,520 --> 01:45:14,780 I don't know about that, that he knew by then or what, you know? 3115 01:45:14,780 --> 01:45:17,000 She said this to Baldur von Schirac? 3116 01:45:17,000 --> 01:45:18,334 Yeah. 3117 01:45:18,334 --> 01:45:21,260 [LAUGHTER] 3118 01:45:21,260 --> 01:45:22,340 She had chutzpah. 3119 01:45:22,340 --> 01:45:23,030 She had. 3120 01:45:23,030 --> 01:45:24,110 She wasn't afraid. 3121 01:45:24,110 --> 01:45:25,710 She was-- I don't know. 3122 01:45:25,710 --> 01:45:27,140 This was amazing, you know? 3123 01:45:27,140 --> 01:45:28,070 Yeah.

3124 01:45:28,070 --> 01:45:30,530 She was always very truthful, you know?

3125 01:45:30,530 --> 01:45:32,540 She told everybody what she thought.

3126 01:45:32,540 --> 01:45:34,820 "I don't like that on you."

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3127
01:45:34,820 --> 01:45:37,220
I said, "you can't do
that in this country."
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3128
01:45:37,220 --> 01:45:38,060
[LAUGHTER]
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3129

01:45:38,060 --> 01:45:40,960 "That's European, Mother."

3130

01:45:40,960 --> 01:45:42,080 Oh, my.

3131

01:45:42,080 --> 01:45:43,250 Oh, my.

3132

01:45:43,250 --> 01:45:46,040 Well, thank you very much.

3133

01:45:46,040 --> 01:45:50,330 Well, thank you thank you for hearing, listening to me.

3134

01:45:50,330 --> 01:45:51,770 Is there something that you would

3135

01:45:51,770 --> 01:45:54,500 want to share with us at the very end, your thoughts,

3136 01:45:54,500 --> 01:45:55,910 your final thoughts?

3137 01:45:55,910 --> 01:45:58,790 What you would want people to take away from this interview?

3138 01:45:58,790 --> 01:46:01,160 I'm so glad that you interviewed me.

3139 01:46:01,160 --> 01:46:03,020 I was a little nervous last night.

3140 01:46:03,020 --> 01:46:04,820 I got panicky, even though I've spoken.

3141 01:46:04,820 --> 01:46:07,730 But I thought my age, and I might forget.

3142 01:46:07,730 --> 01:46:08,690 Oh, no, no.

3143 01:46:08,690 --> 01:46:10,610 That was-- yes, but I'm very happy,

3144 01:46:10,610 --> 01:46:13,190 because I can do it for posterity.

3145 01:46:13,190 --> 01:46:13,940 Thank you.

3146 01:46:13,940 --> 01:46:16,050 Thank you very, very much.

3147 01:46:16,050 --> 01:46:19,730 So what I will say now is that this concludes

3148 01:46:19,730 --> 01:46:23,060 the interview, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

3149 01:46:23,060 --> 01:46:30,050 interview with Mrs. Amely Baer-Smith on September 26,

3150 01:46:30,050 --> 01:46:34,250

3151 01:46:34,250 --> 01:46:34,820 Thank you.

3152 01:46:34,820 --> 01:46:37,180 Thank you so much.