

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,380

2
00:00:02,380 --> 00:00:06,250
This is a United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3
00:00:06,250 --> 00:00:10,330
interview with Mrs.
Yvette Nahmias,

4
00:00:10,330 --> 00:00:16,720
on September 26, 2019 in
Peabody, Massachusetts.

5
00:00:16,720 --> 00:00:19,540
Thank you very, very
much, Mrs. Nahmias

6
00:00:19,540 --> 00:00:22,330
for agreeing to
meet with us today

7
00:00:22,330 --> 00:00:27,130
to share your story, to
participate in this interview.

8
00:00:27,130 --> 00:00:30,430
I'm going to start with
basic, basic questions,

9
00:00:30,430 --> 00:00:31,990
and then we'll go from there.

10
00:00:31,990 --> 00:00:32,840
OK?

11
00:00:32,840 --> 00:00:33,820
OK.

12
00:00:33,820 --> 00:00:37,690

Can you tell me, what
was your name at birth?

13
00:00:37,690 --> 00:00:39,430
Yvette Carmona.

14
00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:41,050
Yvette Carmona.

15
00:00:41,050 --> 00:00:44,140
And what was the
date of your birth?

16
00:00:44,140 --> 00:00:47,380
May 1, 1922.

17
00:00:47,380 --> 00:00:50,080
May 1, 1922.

18
00:00:50,080 --> 00:00:51,700
And where were you born?

19
00:00:51,700 --> 00:00:54,850
In Salonika, Greece.

20
00:00:54,850 --> 00:00:56,320
OK.

21
00:00:56,320 --> 00:01:00,160
Can you tell me a little
bit about your parents

22
00:01:00,160 --> 00:01:02,000
and their families?

23
00:01:02,000 --> 00:01:03,910
And I'll start with your mother.

24
00:01:03,910 --> 00:01:07,000
What was her name,
including her maiden name?

25

00:01:07,000 --> 00:01:11,750

Marguerite [? Faraji. ?]

26

00:01:11,750 --> 00:01:12,560

[? Faraji? ?]

27

00:01:12,560 --> 00:01:13,490

[? Faraji. ?]

28

00:01:13,490 --> 00:01:17,630

[? Faraji. ?] And do you know
the year your mother was born?

29

00:01:17,630 --> 00:01:18,560

Not really.

30

00:01:18,560 --> 00:01:19,640

OK.

31

00:01:19,640 --> 00:01:20,660

I can't remember.

32

00:01:20,660 --> 00:01:25,400

Was she also from
Salonika, or did she

33

00:01:25,400 --> 00:01:26,510

come from somewhere else?

34

00:01:26,510 --> 00:01:29,480

She was born in Serres, Greece.

35

00:01:29,480 --> 00:01:31,520

Is that far from Salonika?

36

00:01:31,520 --> 00:01:32,690

It's a couple of hours.

37

00:01:32,690 --> 00:01:33,800

OK.

38

00:01:33,800 --> 00:01:37,580

So and did she have
brothers and sisters?

39

00:01:37,580 --> 00:01:39,980

She had one brother
and one sister.

40

00:01:39,980 --> 00:01:42,080

And do their names?

41

00:01:42,080 --> 00:01:45,980

The brother was David
and the sister was Sol.

42

00:01:45,980 --> 00:01:46,850

Sola?

43

00:01:46,850 --> 00:01:48,470

Sol, S-O-L.

44

00:01:48,470 --> 00:01:49,500

S-O-L?

45

00:01:49,500 --> 00:01:51,650

Sol.

46

00:01:51,650 --> 00:01:54,160

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

47

00:01:54,160 --> 00:01:54,680

Yes.

48

00:01:54,680 --> 00:01:57,980

And do you know their names?

49

00:01:57,980 --> 00:01:59,960

Joseph and Leah.

50

00:01:59,960 --> 00:02:01,310

Joseph and Leah--

51

00:02:01,310 --> 00:02:02,210

[? Faraji. ?]

52

00:02:02,210 --> 00:02:05,090

[? Faraji. ?] And

they lived in Serres?

53

00:02:05,090 --> 00:02:06,410

In Salonika.

54

00:02:06,410 --> 00:02:08,419

Oh, they also lived in Salonika?

55

00:02:08,419 --> 00:02:12,110

So they moved from where your
mother was born to Salonika.

56

00:02:12,110 --> 00:02:12,830

Salonika.

57

00:02:12,830 --> 00:02:14,900

OK.

58

00:02:14,900 --> 00:02:19,160

And David and Sol were
her brother and sister.

59

00:02:19,160 --> 00:02:21,860

Were they older or
younger than she was?

60

00:02:21,860 --> 00:02:23,390

Older.

61

00:02:23,390 --> 00:02:25,130

So she was the
youngest in the family?

62

00:02:25,130 --> 00:02:26,540

Right.

63
00:02:26,540 --> 00:02:31,340
And do you know how your
grandfather supported

64
00:02:31,340 --> 00:02:33,200
his family?

65
00:02:33,200 --> 00:02:37,820
He was working in
the tobacco fields,

66
00:02:37,820 --> 00:02:40,250
collecting tobacco leaves.

67
00:02:40,250 --> 00:02:44,060
And then little by little,
he went up the scale,

68
00:02:44,060 --> 00:02:46,730
and he became the
president of the company,

69
00:02:46,730 --> 00:02:51,230
of the tobacco company,
which was an Austrian tobacco

70
00:02:51,230 --> 00:02:52,070
company.

71
00:02:52,070 --> 00:02:54,290
Do you remember its name?

72
00:02:54,290 --> 00:02:55,790
I can't remember.

73
00:02:55,790 --> 00:02:58,040
OK, OK.

74
00:02:58,040 --> 00:02:59,740
And his name again was Joseph?

75

00:02:59,740 --> 00:03:00,380

Joseph.

76

00:03:00,380 --> 00:03:01,160

[? Faraji. ?]

77

00:03:01,160 --> 00:03:03,770

[? Faraji. ?]

78

00:03:03,770 --> 00:03:09,830

Did any of the children, that
is your aunt, uncle, or mother;

79

00:03:09,830 --> 00:03:12,200

did they go for
higher education?

80

00:03:12,200 --> 00:03:14,270

Did they have higher
education schooling?

81

00:03:14,270 --> 00:03:15,410

Just high school.

82

00:03:15,410 --> 00:03:16,470

Just high school.

83

00:03:16,470 --> 00:03:17,390

OK.

84

00:03:17,390 --> 00:03:20,540

And what language did
they speak at home?

85

00:03:20,540 --> 00:03:21,911

Ladino.

86

00:03:21,911 --> 00:03:23,360

Ladino.

87

00:03:23,360 --> 00:03:25,760

Is that the language
you spoke at home?

88
00:03:25,760 --> 00:03:27,470
We spoke French at home.

89
00:03:27,470 --> 00:03:32,840
And I spoke German, because
I had a German fraulein.

90
00:03:32,840 --> 00:03:33,930
Oh, you had a nanny?

91
00:03:33,930 --> 00:03:34,640
Nanny.

92
00:03:34,640 --> 00:03:35,240
I see.

93
00:03:35,240 --> 00:03:38,870
I spoke fluently German,
better than any other language.

94
00:03:38,870 --> 00:03:40,100
Isn't that interesting?

95
00:03:40,100 --> 00:03:41,520
In Salonika, Greece?

96
00:03:41,520 --> 00:03:42,980
In Salonika, Greece.

97
00:03:42,980 --> 00:03:43,760
OK.

98
00:03:43,760 --> 00:03:45,440
Do you know Ladino?

99
00:03:45,440 --> 00:03:46,360
Yes.

100

00:03:46,360 --> 00:03:47,870
I still speak it.

101
00:03:47,870 --> 00:03:50,750
OK.

102
00:03:50,750 --> 00:03:53,180
All right, let's turn
now to your father's side

103
00:03:53,180 --> 00:03:54,500
of the family.

104
00:03:54,500 --> 00:03:56,780
Did he have brothers
and sisters?

105
00:03:56,780 --> 00:03:57,893
He had one sister.

106
00:03:57,893 --> 00:03:58,810
And what was her name?

107
00:03:58,810 --> 00:04:00,020
And one brother.

108
00:04:00,020 --> 00:04:01,760
I never met the brother.

109
00:04:01,760 --> 00:04:04,130
He was killed in World War I.

110
00:04:04,130 --> 00:04:05,810
Ah, OK.

111
00:04:05,810 --> 00:04:07,460
What was your father's name?

112
00:04:07,460 --> 00:04:08,330
Albert.

113

00:04:08,330 --> 00:04:08,990
Albert?

114
00:04:08,990 --> 00:04:09,920
Carmona.

115
00:04:09,920 --> 00:04:11,270
Carmona.

116
00:04:11,270 --> 00:04:14,180
And his sister's name?

117
00:04:14,180 --> 00:04:19,317

118
00:04:19,317 --> 00:04:20,690
I can't remember.

119
00:04:20,690 --> 00:04:21,529
It's OK.

120
00:04:21,529 --> 00:04:22,370
It's OK.

121
00:04:22,370 --> 00:04:24,260
And you know the
name of the brother

122
00:04:24,260 --> 00:04:25,620
who was killed in World War I.

123
00:04:25,620 --> 00:04:26,720
No, I never met him.

124
00:04:26,720 --> 00:04:27,870
Did you meet the sister?

125
00:04:27,870 --> 00:04:28,370
Yes.

126
00:04:28,370 --> 00:04:32,530

I met this the sister, and I
met my paternal grandmother.

127
00:04:32,530 --> 00:04:33,200
OK.

128
00:04:33,200 --> 00:04:35,910
Your paternal grandfather
was no longer living?

129
00:04:35,910 --> 00:04:37,160
No.

130
00:04:37,160 --> 00:04:38,580
Do you know his name?

131
00:04:38,580 --> 00:04:39,230
No.

132
00:04:39,230 --> 00:04:39,920
OK.

133
00:04:39,920 --> 00:04:42,650
And your grandmother's name?

134
00:04:42,650 --> 00:04:43,400
Esther.

135
00:04:43,400 --> 00:04:44,330
Hester?

136
00:04:44,330 --> 00:04:44,880
Carmona.

137
00:04:44,880 --> 00:04:45,590
Carmona.

138
00:04:45,590 --> 00:04:48,550
Would that be an
Esther or Hester?

139

00:04:48,550 --> 00:04:49,050
No.

140
00:04:49,050 --> 00:04:49,760
E-S.

141
00:04:49,760 --> 00:04:51,050
So Esther.

142
00:04:51,050 --> 00:04:52,520
Esther Carmona.

143
00:04:52,520 --> 00:04:56,240
And was his family
from Salonika?

144
00:04:56,240 --> 00:04:58,690
No, they were from
Paris, France.

145
00:04:58,690 --> 00:05:00,350
No, really?

146
00:05:00,350 --> 00:05:01,940
They were from Paris?

147
00:05:01,940 --> 00:05:04,830
And how did they
end up in Salonika?

148
00:05:04,830 --> 00:05:07,790
They never-- my paternal
grandparents never

149
00:05:07,790 --> 00:05:09,260
came to Salonika.

150
00:05:09,260 --> 00:05:11,120
They stayed in Paris.

151
00:05:11,120 --> 00:05:15,950
So then how did your

father come to Salonika?

152

00:05:15,950 --> 00:05:19,550

Well, he was born in Turkey.

153

00:05:19,550 --> 00:05:23,160

And then he emigrated
to Salonika.

154

00:05:23,160 --> 00:05:25,470

OK, how did it--

155

00:05:25,470 --> 00:05:29,430

how did it end up that
he was born in Turkey

156

00:05:29,430 --> 00:05:31,490

and grew up in Paris?

157

00:05:31,490 --> 00:05:32,150

Right.

158

00:05:32,150 --> 00:05:38,040

After he was born in Turkey,
his parents went to France.

159

00:05:38,040 --> 00:05:42,260

And that's where they stayed
until they both passed away.

160

00:05:42,260 --> 00:05:45,260

161

00:05:45,260 --> 00:05:48,710

Was the family
originally from Turkey?

162

00:05:48,710 --> 00:05:49,490

His family?

163

00:05:49,490 --> 00:05:50,510

His family, yes.

164
00:05:50,510 --> 00:05:53,277
And how far-- how many
generations back do

165
00:05:53,277 --> 00:05:54,110
you think that went?

166
00:05:54,110 --> 00:05:54,943
I really don't know.

167
00:05:54,943 --> 00:05:55,980
You don't know.

168
00:05:55,980 --> 00:05:56,480
No.

169
00:05:56,480 --> 00:05:59,090
Did they-- were there
still relatives in Turkey

170
00:05:59,090 --> 00:06:00,030
when they left?

171
00:06:00,030 --> 00:06:00,560
No, no.

172
00:06:00,560 --> 00:06:01,770
No relatives.

173
00:06:01,770 --> 00:06:02,270
OK.

174
00:06:02,270 --> 00:06:08,300

175
00:06:08,300 --> 00:06:11,900
Do you know anything
of your father's family

176
00:06:11,900 --> 00:06:14,280

in Turkey, any family history?

177
00:06:14,280 --> 00:06:15,300
No.

178
00:06:15,300 --> 00:06:15,800
Nothing.

179
00:06:15,800 --> 00:06:16,490
OK.

180
00:06:16,490 --> 00:06:21,590
Do you know why they left
Turkey to go to Paris?

181
00:06:21,590 --> 00:06:25,130
Well, when the immigration
started from Turkey

182
00:06:25,130 --> 00:06:28,910
to the Balkan
countries, they just

183
00:06:28,910 --> 00:06:31,955
went back to what was the
closest place, I suppose.

184
00:06:31,955 --> 00:06:35,100

185
00:06:35,100 --> 00:06:37,070
I'm talking when
your father was born.

186
00:06:37,070 --> 00:06:37,800
Yeah.

187
00:06:37,800 --> 00:06:40,590
There was an immigration
from Turkey--

188
00:06:40,590 --> 00:06:41,520

To Greece.

189
00:06:41,520 --> 00:06:45,660
To Greece, but his
parents go to France?

190
00:06:45,660 --> 00:06:46,500
Right.

191
00:06:46,500 --> 00:06:47,364
Why?

192
00:06:47,364 --> 00:06:48,228
Why there?

193
00:06:48,228 --> 00:06:50,290
Why not somewhere else?

194
00:06:50,290 --> 00:06:50,850
Do you know?

195
00:06:50,850 --> 00:06:51,960
No, I don't.

196
00:06:51,960 --> 00:06:53,760
OK, all right.

197
00:06:53,760 --> 00:06:55,680
It's very confusing.

198
00:06:55,680 --> 00:06:56,370
That's OK.

199
00:06:56,370 --> 00:07:00,480
I mean I'm asking you a lot
of questions about things

200
00:07:00,480 --> 00:07:02,380
before you were born.

201
00:07:02,380 --> 00:07:07,020

But the purpose is to try to
establish what was that world.

202
00:07:07,020 --> 00:07:10,050
Who were the people in it.

203
00:07:10,050 --> 00:07:13,740
As much of your family
history that you know.

204
00:07:13,740 --> 00:07:18,150
And not every-- some people know
back five, six, 10 generations,

205
00:07:18,150 --> 00:07:20,070
because they've done genealogy.

206
00:07:20,070 --> 00:07:24,810
And sometimes there are no
papers, no documents for that.

207
00:07:24,810 --> 00:07:26,860
But at any rate--

208
00:07:26,860 --> 00:07:30,480
Let me tell you that my father
had a Spanish citizenship.

209
00:07:30,480 --> 00:07:31,957
How did that happen?

210
00:07:31,957 --> 00:07:32,790
How did that happen?

211
00:07:32,790 --> 00:07:39,330
Because the influx of people
coming from Spain to the Balkan

212
00:07:39,330 --> 00:07:42,200
countries.

213
00:07:42,200 --> 00:07:44,960

Are you including Turkey
into the Balkan countries?

214
00:07:44,960 --> 00:07:45,500
Yes.

215
00:07:45,500 --> 00:07:47,690
OK, I generally exclude it.

216
00:07:47,690 --> 00:07:50,370
But that may not-- that
may not be correct.

217
00:07:50,370 --> 00:07:53,990
So when you're talking
about Spanish citizenship

218
00:07:53,990 --> 00:07:56,480
and the influx of,
I would take it,

219
00:07:56,480 --> 00:08:01,955
Jews from Spain to the Balkans,
when did this influx occur?

220
00:08:01,955 --> 00:08:04,640

221
00:08:04,640 --> 00:08:05,810
I really don't know.

222
00:08:05,810 --> 00:08:08,150
This is part of history
which I don't know.

223
00:08:08,150 --> 00:08:12,110
Would it be part
of the Inquisition?

224
00:08:12,110 --> 00:08:13,640
It could be.

225

00:08:13,640 --> 00:08:14,150
Yeah.

226
00:08:14,150 --> 00:08:16,910
So could it be that
your father had

227
00:08:16,910 --> 00:08:25,400
Spanish citizenship due to
a 500-year-old tie to Spain?

228
00:08:25,400 --> 00:08:27,340
It could be.

229
00:08:27,340 --> 00:08:30,190
And that's what saved
us in the concentration

230
00:08:30,190 --> 00:08:32,770
camp, his Spanish citizenship.

231
00:08:32,770 --> 00:08:34,090
Was it automatic?

232
00:08:34,090 --> 00:08:36,429
Did you always know him
having Spanish citizenship?

233
00:08:36,429 --> 00:08:38,260
Spanish citizenship, right.

234
00:08:38,260 --> 00:08:40,240
And how did he--

235
00:08:40,240 --> 00:08:41,830
because he wasn't born in Spain.

236
00:08:41,830 --> 00:08:43,240
He never lived in Spain.

237
00:08:43,240 --> 00:08:44,590
No.

238
00:08:44,590 --> 00:08:45,790
Did he speak Spanish?

239
00:08:45,790 --> 00:08:48,880
Oh, yeah.

240
00:08:48,880 --> 00:08:50,750
Spanish Ladino.

241
00:08:50,750 --> 00:08:51,250
Yeah.

242
00:08:51,250 --> 00:08:55,420

243
00:08:55,420 --> 00:08:56,800
Well, that's something.

244
00:08:56,800 --> 00:08:58,900
That's part of history
that I don't know.

245
00:08:58,900 --> 00:09:02,180
You know, the only thing influx
I can think of is that one.

246
00:09:02,180 --> 00:09:03,580
Maybe there was another.

247
00:09:03,580 --> 00:09:05,080
Maybe there was
another immigration.

248
00:09:05,080 --> 00:09:07,450
Yeah.

249
00:09:07,450 --> 00:09:08,320
OK.

250
00:09:08,320 --> 00:09:11,110

You know, we took
it for granted.

251
00:09:11,110 --> 00:09:12,400
We all do.

252
00:09:12,400 --> 00:09:12,970
We all do.

253
00:09:12,970 --> 00:09:16,030
In our families, when it's just
sort of that's the way it is.

254
00:09:16,030 --> 00:09:18,220
That's the norm.

255
00:09:18,220 --> 00:09:22,000
And that's what saved us that
he kept his Spanish citizenship.

256
00:09:22,000 --> 00:09:23,290
We'll come to that.

257
00:09:23,290 --> 00:09:26,470
We'll come to that.

258
00:09:26,470 --> 00:09:31,390
And so do you know
how your parents met?

259
00:09:31,390 --> 00:09:35,580

260
00:09:35,580 --> 00:09:38,595
At that time the weddings were--

261
00:09:38,595 --> 00:09:41,310
the matchmaker.

262
00:09:41,310 --> 00:09:42,270
They were arranged.

263

00:09:42,270 --> 00:09:43,590

Yeah, arranged.

264

00:09:43,590 --> 00:09:44,550

OK.

265

00:09:44,550 --> 00:09:47,970

And my father was much
older than my mother.

266

00:09:47,970 --> 00:09:50,790

Do you know when he was born?

267

00:09:50,790 --> 00:09:53,340

No, but I have the
birth certificate.

268

00:09:53,340 --> 00:09:54,270

That's OK.

269

00:09:54,270 --> 00:09:56,970

About-- was he 10
years, 20 years older?

270

00:09:56,970 --> 00:09:59,130

He was 12 years older.

271

00:09:59,130 --> 00:10:01,110

He was 12 years
older than your mom.

272

00:10:01,110 --> 00:10:02,370

OK.

273

00:10:02,370 --> 00:10:07,845

And did they ever talk about
how this marriage was arranged?

274

00:10:07,845 --> 00:10:11,000

At that time it was
arranged, arranged wedding.

275
00:10:11,000 --> 00:10:11,860
OK.

276
00:10:11,860 --> 00:10:13,440
OK.

277
00:10:13,440 --> 00:10:15,330
And you were born in 1922.

278
00:10:15,330 --> 00:10:16,890
Mm-hmm, in Salonika.

279
00:10:16,890 --> 00:10:18,490
And you have
brothers and sisters?

280
00:10:18,490 --> 00:10:19,410
No.

281
00:10:19,410 --> 00:10:20,740
You were an only child?

282
00:10:20,740 --> 00:10:21,540
Only child.

283
00:10:21,540 --> 00:10:23,070
OK.

284
00:10:23,070 --> 00:10:26,820
And tell me, what are some
of your earliest memories?

285
00:10:26,820 --> 00:10:27,960
What is?

286
00:10:27,960 --> 00:10:32,050
What are some of your
earliest memories?

287
00:10:32,050 --> 00:10:35,380
Well, I had a

wonderful childhood.

288

00:10:35,380 --> 00:10:38,020

I was brought up very strict.

289

00:10:38,020 --> 00:10:39,730

Were they orthodox?

290

00:10:39,730 --> 00:10:44,650

No, brought up very
strict, religiously no.

291

00:10:44,650 --> 00:10:46,820

No religious background.

292

00:10:46,820 --> 00:10:52,540

My father would go to just on
the holidays to that synagogue.

293

00:10:52,540 --> 00:10:57,280

And his religion was be
good, spread the good around,

294

00:10:57,280 --> 00:10:58,280

and help people.

295

00:10:58,280 --> 00:10:59,770

And that was his--

296

00:10:59,770 --> 00:11:00,430

OK.

297

00:11:00,430 --> 00:11:05,920

So it wasn't-- he wasn't
really tied to the religious

298

00:11:05,920 --> 00:11:06,580

tradition?

299

00:11:06,580 --> 00:11:07,330

No.

300
00:11:07,330 --> 00:11:08,080
OK.

301
00:11:08,080 --> 00:11:10,930
He would go to synagogue
on the holidays.

302
00:11:10,930 --> 00:11:11,470
OK.

303
00:11:11,470 --> 00:11:14,425
And you and your
mother, did you go too?

304
00:11:14,425 --> 00:11:15,610
I went with him.

305
00:11:15,610 --> 00:11:17,590
OK.

306
00:11:17,590 --> 00:11:18,380
I had to go.

307
00:11:18,380 --> 00:11:22,780
So tell me, what did strict
mean when you were growing up?

308
00:11:22,780 --> 00:11:27,070
How was that implemented,
a strict upbringing?

309
00:11:27,070 --> 00:11:28,020
The German fraulein.

310
00:11:28,020 --> 00:11:30,780

311
00:11:30,780 --> 00:11:33,030
The German fraulein.

312
00:11:33,030 --> 00:11:39,630

Did she have more of a
say in your growing up?

313
00:11:39,630 --> 00:11:40,770
Oh, definitely.

314
00:11:40,770 --> 00:11:41,360
Oh, yeah?

315
00:11:41,360 --> 00:11:42,480
Oh, yeah.

316
00:11:42,480 --> 00:11:44,070
What was her name?

317
00:11:44,070 --> 00:11:46,200
Irmgard Moser.

318
00:11:46,200 --> 00:11:48,210
Irmgard Moser.

319
00:11:48,210 --> 00:11:48,840
All right.

320
00:11:48,840 --> 00:11:52,050
And I spoke German
without an accent.

321
00:11:52,050 --> 00:11:54,240
And now I can't
speak it anymore.

322
00:11:54,240 --> 00:11:55,060
It's funny.

323
00:11:55,060 --> 00:11:56,100
I understand it.

324
00:11:56,100 --> 00:11:58,480
But I don't speak it.

325

00:11:58,480 --> 00:12:03,390

And how soon after you were born
did she come into your life?

326

00:12:03,390 --> 00:12:06,510

Oh, I think I started
having her here since I

327

00:12:06,510 --> 00:12:08,340

was two or three years old.

328

00:12:08,340 --> 00:12:09,300

Oh, wow.

329

00:12:09,300 --> 00:12:11,010

And so did she live
with your family?

330

00:12:11,010 --> 00:12:12,000

Yes, she did.

331

00:12:12,000 --> 00:12:13,500

OK.

332

00:12:13,500 --> 00:12:17,700

And you say your
father rose to become

333

00:12:17,700 --> 00:12:19,510

president of the company?

334

00:12:19,510 --> 00:12:20,490

The company, yeah.

335

00:12:20,490 --> 00:12:23,060

OK.

336

00:12:23,060 --> 00:12:26,450

Tell me a little
bit about your home.

337

00:12:26,450 --> 00:12:28,480

What did it look like?

338

00:12:28,480 --> 00:12:37,070

Oh, it was a beautiful home overlooking the Atlantic Ocean.

339

00:12:37,070 --> 00:12:39,092

And--

340

00:12:39,092 --> 00:12:40,550

It couldn't have been the Atlantic.

341

00:12:40,550 --> 00:12:41,600

Was it the Mediterranean?

342

00:12:41,600 --> 00:12:43,670

The Mediterranean, yeah.

343

00:12:43,670 --> 00:12:44,480

OK.

344

00:12:44,480 --> 00:12:45,410

Yeah.

345

00:12:45,410 --> 00:12:47,930

Yeah, it was in Salonika.

346

00:12:47,930 --> 00:12:49,550

And--

347

00:12:49,550 --> 00:12:50,870

Was it a villa.

348

00:12:50,870 --> 00:12:51,410

No, no.

349

00:12:51,410 --> 00:12:54,260

It was an apartment building.

350

00:12:54,260 --> 00:12:55,370

OK.

351
00:12:55,370 --> 00:12:59,030
And about how many
stories did it have?

352
00:12:59,030 --> 00:13:01,082
About six, I think,
if I remember.

353
00:13:01,082 --> 00:13:01,790
Do you remember--

354
00:13:01,790 --> 00:13:03,200
And we were on the fourth.

355
00:13:03,200 --> 00:13:04,640
You were on the fourth floor?

356
00:13:04,640 --> 00:13:05,720
So you had a view?

357
00:13:05,720 --> 00:13:08,510
Yes, we had a view.

358
00:13:08,510 --> 00:13:11,870
Did you-- was it
a modern building?

359
00:13:11,870 --> 00:13:13,280
A modern building, yes.

360
00:13:13,280 --> 00:13:15,260
So it had modern conveniences?

361
00:13:15,260 --> 00:13:15,950
Yeah.

362
00:13:15,950 --> 00:13:17,990
It had everything.

363

00:13:17,990 --> 00:13:19,530
Electricity, plumbing?

364
00:13:19,530 --> 00:13:20,030
Oh, yeah.

365
00:13:20,030 --> 00:13:20,750
Yeah.

366
00:13:20,750 --> 00:13:23,970
How was it heated?

367
00:13:23,970 --> 00:13:27,420
Each apartment had their
own heating system.

368
00:13:27,420 --> 00:13:30,750
Coal or wood, or
generate-- like central--

369
00:13:30,750 --> 00:13:32,250
I think if I remember
correctly, it

370
00:13:32,250 --> 00:13:35,300
was electric, because we had--

371
00:13:35,300 --> 00:13:37,590
we could lower it, and--

372
00:13:37,590 --> 00:13:40,190
OK.

373
00:13:40,190 --> 00:13:45,020
So from the little you say,
it sounds like your family

374
00:13:45,020 --> 00:13:46,220
was well-to-do?

375
00:13:46,220 --> 00:13:47,120
Yes.

376
00:13:47,120 --> 00:13:48,110
OK.

377
00:13:48,110 --> 00:13:50,420
Did your father
have an automobile?

378
00:13:50,420 --> 00:13:51,000
No.

379
00:13:51,000 --> 00:13:51,920
OK.

380
00:13:51,920 --> 00:13:52,520
Do you know?

381
00:13:52,520 --> 00:13:55,790
The company where he
worked for, they had a car.

382
00:13:55,790 --> 00:13:57,140
OK.

383
00:13:57,140 --> 00:14:03,160
And was that close to where
you lived, his workplace?

384
00:14:03,160 --> 00:14:04,660
Not too close, no.

385
00:14:04,660 --> 00:14:08,780
Because they had to pick
him up, and it was downtown.

386
00:14:08,780 --> 00:14:09,280
OK.

387
00:14:09,280 --> 00:14:10,870
Did you ever visit him there?

388

00:14:10,870 --> 00:14:11,530
Oh, yeah.

389
00:14:11,530 --> 00:14:12,160
Yeah?

390
00:14:12,160 --> 00:14:17,890
Yeah, I would go and I always
wanted to use the typewriter,

391
00:14:17,890 --> 00:14:20,290
and the adding machine.

392
00:14:20,290 --> 00:14:21,700
Did they let you?

393
00:14:21,700 --> 00:14:25,090
Well, sometimes they
did, and sometimes they

394
00:14:25,090 --> 00:14:26,290
didn't let me do it.

395
00:14:26,290 --> 00:14:29,740

396
00:14:29,740 --> 00:14:38,110
And I mean Irmgard Moser was
responsible for raising you,

397
00:14:38,110 --> 00:14:38,710
I guess?

398
00:14:38,710 --> 00:14:39,210
Right.

399
00:14:39,210 --> 00:14:40,960
And teaching you German.

400
00:14:40,960 --> 00:14:43,120
Who told her how to do it?

401

00:14:43,120 --> 00:14:45,610

Was it your mother
or was it your father

402

00:14:45,610 --> 00:14:48,820

who influenced the way
you would be brought up?

403

00:14:48,820 --> 00:14:50,830

I think she influenced them.

404

00:14:50,830 --> 00:14:51,640

Oh, really?

405

00:14:51,640 --> 00:14:55,630

[LAUGHTER]

406

00:14:55,630 --> 00:14:56,840

Well, that's interesting.

407

00:14:56,840 --> 00:14:58,090

Tell me about her personality.

408

00:14:58,090 --> 00:15:00,190

The only thing my
father used to say

409

00:15:00,190 --> 00:15:04,180

when he would hire somebody,
never strike my daughter

410

00:15:04,180 --> 00:15:05,410

on the face.

411

00:15:05,410 --> 00:15:07,350

You can strike her on the hand.

412

00:15:07,350 --> 00:15:10,900

You can strike her on the
behind, but never on the face.

413

00:15:10,900 --> 00:15:15,590
So before Irmgard,
I had somebody else.

414
00:15:15,590 --> 00:15:16,930
And she struck me.

415
00:15:16,930 --> 00:15:20,140
So I put my hand
on my face, waiting

416
00:15:20,140 --> 00:15:23,770
for my father to come back
from work, to show him.

417
00:15:23,770 --> 00:15:24,670
What happened.

418
00:15:24,670 --> 00:15:26,500
Out she was.

419
00:15:26,500 --> 00:15:28,992
So you held that hand there
for a while, didn't you?

420
00:15:28,992 --> 00:15:31,890

421
00:15:31,890 --> 00:15:34,450
Yeah.

422
00:15:34,450 --> 00:15:38,560
And so Irmgard, did she ever
strike you anywhere else?

423
00:15:38,560 --> 00:15:39,480
No.

424
00:15:39,480 --> 00:15:41,090
On the behind sometimes.

425
00:15:41,090 --> 00:15:42,050

OK.

426

00:15:42,050 --> 00:15:42,550

What kind--

427

00:15:42,550 --> 00:15:47,350

She was very strict but
very sweet, very, very nice.

428

00:15:47,350 --> 00:15:50,320

When I grew up, she
even tried sometimes

429

00:15:50,320 --> 00:15:53,680

to hide if I wanted to
go out with a boyfriend.

430

00:15:53,680 --> 00:15:55,630

She would hide that
from your parents?

431

00:15:55,630 --> 00:15:59,500

[LAUGHS]

432

00:15:59,500 --> 00:16:00,410

That's kind of fun.

433

00:16:00,410 --> 00:16:00,910

Yeah.

434

00:16:00,910 --> 00:16:04,780

Yeah, and do you know
anything of her history, where

435

00:16:04,780 --> 00:16:05,620

she came from?

436

00:16:05,620 --> 00:16:10,414

437

00:16:10,414 --> 00:16:13,380

No, I can't remember right now.

438
00:16:13,380 --> 00:16:13,880
OK.

439
00:16:13,880 --> 00:16:15,160
Was it Austria or Germany?

440
00:16:15,160 --> 00:16:15,770
No, Germany.

441
00:16:15,770 --> 00:16:16,900
She came from Germany?

442
00:16:16,900 --> 00:16:17,600
From Germany.

443
00:16:17,600 --> 00:16:19,200
OK.

444
00:16:19,200 --> 00:16:23,810
Did she talk much about her own
family or life back in Germany?

445
00:16:23,810 --> 00:16:24,860
No, no.

446
00:16:24,860 --> 00:16:26,374
OK.

447
00:16:26,374 --> 00:16:27,320
Not at all.

448
00:16:27,320 --> 00:16:28,460
Not at all?

449
00:16:28,460 --> 00:16:30,440
Not at all.

450
00:16:30,440 --> 00:16:33,650
And-- on how she
ended up in Salonika,

451

00:16:33,650 --> 00:16:35,680

did she ever explain
how that happened?

452

00:16:35,680 --> 00:16:39,890

There was an agency where
you would put your name down,

453

00:16:39,890 --> 00:16:43,580

and to request a nanny.

454

00:16:43,580 --> 00:16:46,035

And that's how we got her.

455

00:16:46,035 --> 00:16:47,530

OK, through that agency.

456

00:16:47,530 --> 00:16:48,200

Yeah.

457

00:16:48,200 --> 00:16:49,850

All right.

458

00:16:49,850 --> 00:16:53,390

Did your mother have
any other help at home?

459

00:16:53,390 --> 00:16:54,410

We had a maid.

460

00:16:54,410 --> 00:16:55,580

You had a maid.

461

00:16:55,580 --> 00:16:59,720

And was the maid as
much of your life as--

462

00:16:59,720 --> 00:17:00,420

Oh, yeah.

463

00:17:00,420 --> 00:17:00,920
Yeah?

464
00:17:00,920 --> 00:17:02,210
What was her name?

465
00:17:02,210 --> 00:17:03,260
Stella.

466
00:17:03,260 --> 00:17:05,729
And was she--
where was she from?

467
00:17:05,729 --> 00:17:08,930
From a village in
Greece, Komotini.

468
00:17:08,930 --> 00:17:10,190
Komotini.

469
00:17:10,190 --> 00:17:12,410
And what language did
she speak with you?

470
00:17:12,410 --> 00:17:13,342
Greek.

471
00:17:13,342 --> 00:17:14,119
Greek.

472
00:17:14,119 --> 00:17:19,069
So I spoke Greek, French,
German, and Ladino.

473
00:17:19,069 --> 00:17:20,099
That's quite a lot.

474
00:17:20,099 --> 00:17:20,599
Yeah.

475
00:17:20,599 --> 00:17:22,057
That's quite a lot

for little girl.

476

00:17:22,057 --> 00:17:27,079

And then I took English in school, and of course French.

477

00:17:27,079 --> 00:17:29,500

It was a French school.

478

00:17:29,500 --> 00:17:30,000

Yeah.

479

00:17:30,000 --> 00:17:34,140

Well we had to be multilingual in Europe.

480

00:17:34,140 --> 00:17:38,970

Yeah, I wish we had it more here in the United States.

481

00:17:38,970 --> 00:17:43,465

Because you are introduced to another world when

482

00:17:43,465 --> 00:17:44,590

you speak another language.

483

00:17:44,590 --> 00:17:45,358

Right, right.

484

00:17:45,358 --> 00:17:49,270

485

00:17:49,270 --> 00:17:50,460

What was your mother like?

486

00:17:50,460 --> 00:17:55,370

Tell me a little bit about her personality and her interests.

487

00:17:55,370 --> 00:18:00,770

She was a very simple woman,

dedicated to her husband

488
00:18:00,770 --> 00:18:03,410
and to me.

489
00:18:03,410 --> 00:18:08,240
And she didn't have
any real education.

490
00:18:08,240 --> 00:18:10,340
She went to elementary school.

491
00:18:10,340 --> 00:18:14,540
And I don't even know
if she finished it.

492
00:18:14,540 --> 00:18:22,280
But she was very loving,
compassionate, helping people.

493
00:18:22,280 --> 00:18:26,690
There were lots of poor
people in Greece, in Salonika.

494
00:18:26,690 --> 00:18:31,970
And she would cook for
them, and help them.

495
00:18:31,970 --> 00:18:34,700
And how did she--

496
00:18:34,700 --> 00:18:38,540
how was she involved in your
upbringing and your life

497
00:18:38,540 --> 00:18:40,700
as you were a little girl?

498
00:18:40,700 --> 00:18:42,680
Did you go places with her?

499
00:18:42,680 --> 00:18:43,550

Did you--

500
00:18:43,550 --> 00:18:44,060
Oh, yeah.

501
00:18:44,060 --> 00:18:44,560
Yeah?

502
00:18:44,560 --> 00:18:45,900
Yeah, we traveled a lot.

503
00:18:45,900 --> 00:18:48,890
We went to Paris
once or twice a year

504
00:18:48,890 --> 00:18:52,940
to visit my grandmother,
paternal grandmother.

505
00:18:52,940 --> 00:18:55,410
And those were just to Paris.

506
00:18:55,410 --> 00:18:55,980
OK.

507
00:18:55,980 --> 00:18:57,320
Yeah.

508
00:18:57,320 --> 00:19:01,490
And how involved was her
side of the family with you

509
00:19:01,490 --> 00:19:02,810
and you with them?

510
00:19:02,810 --> 00:19:04,520
Very much so.

511
00:19:04,520 --> 00:19:09,240
We would see my grandparents
two or three times a week.

512
00:19:09,240 --> 00:19:09,840
That's a lot.

513
00:19:09,840 --> 00:19:10,550
Oh, yeah.

514
00:19:10,550 --> 00:19:15,390
Yeah, they were--
we lived very close.

515
00:19:15,390 --> 00:19:20,930
And her sister didn't
live in Salonika.

516
00:19:20,930 --> 00:19:22,790
She lived in Athens.

517
00:19:22,790 --> 00:19:26,120
So we didn't have a chance
to see them too often.

518
00:19:26,120 --> 00:19:28,740
Only if we would go to Athens.

519
00:19:28,740 --> 00:19:31,380
Was that far, Athens
from Salonika?

520
00:19:31,380 --> 00:19:33,770
Well, it's an hour flight.

521
00:19:33,770 --> 00:19:34,580
By flight.

522
00:19:34,580 --> 00:19:35,480
By flight.

523
00:19:35,480 --> 00:19:38,400
So much, much longer
if you go by train?

524

00:19:38,400 --> 00:19:39,730
By train, yeah.

525
00:19:39,730 --> 00:19:40,830
Not that much.

526
00:19:40,830 --> 00:19:41,910
I can't even remember.

527
00:19:41,910 --> 00:19:42,410
OK.

528
00:19:42,410 --> 00:19:44,060
Yeah, we used to go by train.

529
00:19:44,060 --> 00:19:45,725
Yeah.

530
00:19:45,725 --> 00:19:47,850
It's so long ago.

531
00:19:47,850 --> 00:19:52,200
Do you remember the address
that your home was on?

532
00:19:52,200 --> 00:19:53,850
What street it was?

533
00:19:53,850 --> 00:19:56,910
Nikiforou Foka number 1.

534
00:19:56,910 --> 00:20:00,360
Nikiforou Foka number 1.

535
00:20:00,360 --> 00:20:01,920
And you were on
the fourth floor?

536
00:20:01,920 --> 00:20:03,030
Fourth floor.

537

00:20:03,030 --> 00:20:05,250
Did you have a balcony
out to the sea?

538
00:20:05,250 --> 00:20:06,510
No, no balcony.

539
00:20:06,510 --> 00:20:07,870
Just the windows.

540
00:20:07,870 --> 00:20:08,910
OK.

541
00:20:08,910 --> 00:20:09,490
And--

542
00:20:09,490 --> 00:20:09,990
Oh, yeah.

543
00:20:09,990 --> 00:20:15,270
We had a balcony in the front
overlooking the white tower.

544
00:20:15,270 --> 00:20:16,580
There was a white tower?

545
00:20:16,580 --> 00:20:18,450
Yeah, in front of
the ocean, there

546
00:20:18,450 --> 00:20:24,180
was a big white towers,
which was used as a prison.

547
00:20:24,180 --> 00:20:24,690
Really?

548
00:20:24,690 --> 00:20:25,500
Yeah.

549
00:20:25,500 --> 00:20:28,180
And it's still standing.

550
00:20:28,180 --> 00:20:28,780
Today?

551
00:20:28,780 --> 00:20:29,480
Yeah.

552
00:20:29,480 --> 00:20:32,020
Oh, wow.

553
00:20:32,020 --> 00:20:35,560
And how would you
describe the neighborhood

554
00:20:35,560 --> 00:20:38,510
that you lived in, as
you were growing up?

555
00:20:38,510 --> 00:20:40,540
Was it a residential
neighborhood?

556
00:20:40,540 --> 00:20:42,840
Was it in the city center?

557
00:20:42,840 --> 00:20:45,130
Was it further out
from the city center?

558
00:20:45,130 --> 00:20:49,460

559
00:20:49,460 --> 00:20:51,010
Close to the city center.

560
00:20:51,010 --> 00:20:51,680
Was it?

561
00:20:51,680 --> 00:20:52,330
Yeah, yeah.

562

00:20:52,330 --> 00:20:53,120
OK.

563
00:20:53,120 --> 00:20:54,080
Could you walk?

564
00:20:54,080 --> 00:20:55,130
Oh yes, yeah.

565
00:20:55,130 --> 00:20:56,450
OK.

566
00:20:56,450 --> 00:21:02,840
And was it one of the better
neighborhoods in Salonika?

567
00:21:02,840 --> 00:21:04,660
Yes, yes.

568
00:21:04,660 --> 00:21:05,180
OK.

569
00:21:05,180 --> 00:21:05,680
Yes.

570
00:21:05,680 --> 00:21:08,200

571
00:21:08,200 --> 00:21:12,980
The whole K in
front of the ocean,

572
00:21:12,980 --> 00:21:16,520
had all high-rise apartments.

573
00:21:16,520 --> 00:21:17,560
OK.

574
00:21:17,560 --> 00:21:22,330
Do if it was a new high-rise
apartment that is built?

575

00:21:22,330 --> 00:21:23,390

Yes, it was new.

576

00:21:23,390 --> 00:21:23,890

It was?

577

00:21:23,890 --> 00:21:24,580

Yes.

578

00:21:24,580 --> 00:21:25,540

OK.

579

00:21:25,540 --> 00:21:26,320

OK.

580

00:21:26,320 --> 00:21:29,374

It was one of the
newest and it was built,

581

00:21:29,374 --> 00:21:32,980

and we had a park in
front of it, a nice park.

582

00:21:32,980 --> 00:21:34,210

It sounds beautiful.

583

00:21:34,210 --> 00:21:35,500

Yeah, it was.

584

00:21:35,500 --> 00:21:37,870

OK.

585

00:21:37,870 --> 00:21:39,970

Did you have friends
in the neighborhood?

586

00:21:39,970 --> 00:21:40,510

Oh, yes.

587

00:21:40,510 --> 00:21:41,020

Yeah.

588
00:21:41,020 --> 00:21:43,490
OK.

589
00:21:43,490 --> 00:21:46,210
Were they the same as
school friends or different?

590
00:21:46,210 --> 00:21:47,538
No, school friends.

591
00:21:47,538 --> 00:21:48,580
They were school friends.

592
00:21:48,580 --> 00:21:49,420
School friends.

593
00:21:49,420 --> 00:21:55,885
And would these also be children
of other rather well-to-do

594
00:21:55,885 --> 00:21:56,385
families?

595
00:21:56,385 --> 00:21:57,130
Yes.

596
00:21:57,130 --> 00:21:58,700
OK.

597
00:21:58,700 --> 00:22:00,340
Were they Jewish as well or not?

598
00:22:00,340 --> 00:22:01,120
Jewish, yes.

599
00:22:01,120 --> 00:22:02,980
OK.

600
00:22:02,980 --> 00:22:04,600
We attended the French school.

601
00:22:04,600 --> 00:22:09,880
So most of the families
were Jewish families.

602
00:22:09,880 --> 00:22:10,420
Really?

603
00:22:10,420 --> 00:22:11,080
Yeah.

604
00:22:11,080 --> 00:22:13,155
For the French school?

605
00:22:13,155 --> 00:22:13,738
French school.

606
00:22:13,738 --> 00:22:15,370
Yeah.

607
00:22:15,370 --> 00:22:16,600
Can we cut for a second?

608
00:22:16,600 --> 00:22:22,320

609
00:22:22,320 --> 00:22:25,870
Did you live in a
Jewish community or not?

610
00:22:25,870 --> 00:22:26,370
No.

611
00:22:26,370 --> 00:22:28,735
No it was a mixed community.

612
00:22:28,735 --> 00:22:30,610
Did you have any friends
who were not Jewish?

613
00:22:30,610 --> 00:22:32,790

Oh, definitely, lots of friends.

614
00:22:32,790 --> 00:22:34,650
OK.

615
00:22:34,650 --> 00:22:37,980
Do you remember any of them,
and what their names were?

616
00:22:37,980 --> 00:22:43,500
The only one I remember is
Ritsa who hid me for two days

617
00:22:43,500 --> 00:22:47,868
until we went back to Athens.

618
00:22:47,868 --> 00:22:48,660
She was hiding me--

619
00:22:48,660 --> 00:22:49,285
So you're talking
during the war.

620
00:22:49,285 --> 00:22:49,993
--during the war.

621
00:22:49,993 --> 00:22:51,150
Yeah.

622
00:22:51,150 --> 00:22:52,320
Well that means something.

623
00:22:52,320 --> 00:22:55,410
Yeah, that apartment we lived in
was beautiful until the day we

624
00:22:55,410 --> 00:23:00,445
heard the German step.

625
00:23:00,445 --> 00:23:01,840
Boots?

626
00:23:01,840 --> 00:23:06,090
Walking around along the K.

627
00:23:06,090 --> 00:23:06,750
OK.

628
00:23:06,750 --> 00:23:08,340
We'll come to that.

629
00:23:08,340 --> 00:23:12,480
I want to get a sense still
of pre-war, your pre-war life.

630
00:23:12,480 --> 00:23:15,480

631
00:23:15,480 --> 00:23:18,510
You were growing up
in the 1920s and were

632
00:23:18,510 --> 00:23:22,570
a teenager in the 1930s.

633
00:23:22,570 --> 00:23:28,170
And so I'd like to get
through the teenager's eyes

634
00:23:28,170 --> 00:23:33,690
a picture of what your life
was, your daily life was like.

635
00:23:33,690 --> 00:23:35,250
You went to a French school.

636
00:23:35,250 --> 00:23:37,290
And I take it that
was elementary school.

637
00:23:37,290 --> 00:23:38,100
Elementary.

638

00:23:38,100 --> 00:23:39,450
What about high school?

639
00:23:39,450 --> 00:23:40,582
High school also.

640
00:23:40,582 --> 00:23:41,082
Also?

641
00:23:41,082 --> 00:23:41,994
Also.

642
00:23:41,994 --> 00:23:44,460
Also the same.

643
00:23:44,460 --> 00:23:47,220
Did Salonika have any
other foreigners there

644
00:23:47,220 --> 00:23:50,880
that would send their children
to the French school, that

645
00:23:50,880 --> 00:23:55,620
is foreign international
people or diplomats, or things

646
00:23:55,620 --> 00:23:56,160
like that?

647
00:23:56,160 --> 00:23:57,280
No, no. no.

648
00:23:57,280 --> 00:23:57,930
OK.

649
00:23:57,930 --> 00:24:01,600
They were almost people
who were born in Greece.

650
00:24:01,600 --> 00:24:02,100
OK.

651
00:24:02,100 --> 00:24:05,160

652
00:24:05,160 --> 00:24:10,500
Did you travel, besides visiting
your paternal grandmother

653
00:24:10,500 --> 00:24:15,660
in Paris, did you
travel anywhere

654
00:24:15,660 --> 00:24:16,695
else with your parents?

655
00:24:16,695 --> 00:24:17,660
No. no.

656
00:24:17,660 --> 00:24:18,620
No?

657
00:24:18,620 --> 00:24:22,230
Just inside Greece,
to the islands,

658
00:24:22,230 --> 00:24:28,356
or from Salonika to Athens,
but no foreign countries, just

659
00:24:28,356 --> 00:24:29,970
Paris, I mean France.

660
00:24:29,970 --> 00:24:32,460
Yeah, but within
Greece, would you

661
00:24:32,460 --> 00:24:36,060
go on holidays
with your parents,

662
00:24:36,060 --> 00:24:38,170
to, as you mentioned

to the islands?

663
00:24:38,170 --> 00:24:38,670
No.

664
00:24:38,670 --> 00:24:39,570
No?

665
00:24:39,570 --> 00:24:40,180
Nothing.

666
00:24:40,180 --> 00:24:41,080
OK.

667
00:24:41,080 --> 00:24:46,290
OK, and what were some of
your parents interests?

668
00:24:46,290 --> 00:24:49,500
Did they have a
large social circle?

669
00:24:49,500 --> 00:24:50,070
No.

670
00:24:50,070 --> 00:24:53,370
No, it was just
family-oriented mostly.

671
00:24:53,370 --> 00:24:56,170
But we had lots
of Greek friends.

672
00:24:56,170 --> 00:24:57,160
OK.

673
00:24:57,160 --> 00:24:58,810
They would come to visit us.

674
00:24:58,810 --> 00:25:01,480
We would go and visit them.

675
00:25:01,480 --> 00:25:01,990
OK.

676
00:25:01,990 --> 00:25:04,810
But not really a
big social life.

677
00:25:04,810 --> 00:25:08,950
Was this part of the
connections your father had,

678
00:25:08,950 --> 00:25:10,120
or your mother--

679
00:25:10,120 --> 00:25:10,870
these friends?

680
00:25:10,870 --> 00:25:12,260
Mostly my mother's.

681
00:25:12,260 --> 00:25:13,390
OK.

682
00:25:13,390 --> 00:25:14,890
OK.

683
00:25:14,890 --> 00:25:21,310
And what were some of
her other interests?

684
00:25:21,310 --> 00:25:23,240
You mentioned a lot
of charity work--

685
00:25:23,240 --> 00:25:23,740
Yes.

686
00:25:23,740 --> 00:25:25,810
--that she did.

687
00:25:25,810 --> 00:25:29,874

Did she have leisure time?

688
00:25:29,874 --> 00:25:31,720
Yeah.

689
00:25:31,720 --> 00:25:34,503
Well, some ladies
would go to cafes.

690
00:25:34,503 --> 00:25:35,920
They liked to visit
their friends.

691
00:25:35,920 --> 00:25:35,980
Oh, no.

692
00:25:35,980 --> 00:25:36,630
No, no.

693
00:25:36,630 --> 00:25:38,090
No, she didn't have.

694
00:25:38,090 --> 00:25:38,590
OK.

695
00:25:38,590 --> 00:25:42,190
But during the war,
she had a group

696
00:25:42,190 --> 00:25:43,870
of women come to the house.

697
00:25:43,870 --> 00:25:47,650
And they would knit
for the soldiers.

698
00:25:47,650 --> 00:25:52,030
They would knit the
socks, or vests.

699
00:25:52,030 --> 00:25:52,810
OK.

700
00:25:52,810 --> 00:25:56,035
So that was her social
life, I would say.

701
00:25:56,035 --> 00:25:58,850
So, she sounds like she
was a serious person.

702
00:25:58,850 --> 00:26:04,890
Yes, serious, but no
education at that time.

703
00:26:04,890 --> 00:26:08,560
And which of your parents was
the more outgoing, the more--

704
00:26:08,560 --> 00:26:09,130
My mother.

705
00:26:09,130 --> 00:26:09,730
Your mother?

706
00:26:09,730 --> 00:26:10,620
Yes.

707
00:26:10,620 --> 00:26:13,480
Yeah, so your father
was more reserved?

708
00:26:13,480 --> 00:26:16,150
Yeah.

709
00:26:16,150 --> 00:26:19,570
As an arranged
marriage, did it work?

710
00:26:19,570 --> 00:26:22,120
Yes, very well.

711
00:26:22,120 --> 00:26:23,020
That's nice to hear.

712
00:26:23,020 --> 00:26:23,600
I'm glad.

713
00:26:23,600 --> 00:26:25,420
Yeah.

714
00:26:25,420 --> 00:26:29,440
So as you're growing
up, it sounds like you

715
00:26:29,440 --> 00:26:30,940
have a very comfortable life.

716
00:26:30,940 --> 00:26:32,200
Yes, we did.

717
00:26:32,200 --> 00:26:37,120
And which parent would you
say you were closer to?

718
00:26:37,120 --> 00:26:37,990
My father.

719
00:26:37,990 --> 00:26:39,820
Yeah?

720
00:26:39,820 --> 00:26:44,210
What was the
particular tie to him?

721
00:26:44,210 --> 00:26:47,630
I don't know if he was not
as tough as my mother was.

722
00:26:47,630 --> 00:26:51,180
He was a little bit--

723
00:26:51,180 --> 00:26:53,030
I can't describe him really.

724

00:26:53,030 --> 00:26:54,950
He was such a sweet man.

725
00:26:54,950 --> 00:26:56,750
My mother was more--

726
00:26:56,750 --> 00:26:59,420
she would sometimes hit me.

727
00:26:59,420 --> 00:27:04,040
But my father was
very sweet with me.

728
00:27:04,040 --> 00:27:08,000
And were your mother
and Irmgard a team?

729
00:27:08,000 --> 00:27:08,877
Yes.

730
00:27:08,877 --> 00:27:10,190
Oh, yeah.

731
00:27:10,190 --> 00:27:12,400
So it was two against one?

732
00:27:12,400 --> 00:27:13,748
Not really.

733
00:27:13,748 --> 00:27:16,820
Not really.

734
00:27:16,820 --> 00:27:19,970
What did you learn,
aside from language,

735
00:27:19,970 --> 00:27:26,120
but what were some of
Irmgard's I guess values?

736
00:27:26,120 --> 00:27:30,410
If she was really the one

responsible for bringing you

737

00:27:30,410 --> 00:27:33,950

up, what is some of the
influence that she had on you?

738

00:27:33,950 --> 00:27:36,520

739

00:27:36,520 --> 00:27:40,210

Number one, not to be jealous.

740

00:27:40,210 --> 00:27:40,930

OK.

741

00:27:40,930 --> 00:27:44,850

Sometimes I would be
jealous of my cousins.

742

00:27:44,850 --> 00:27:45,350

Why?

743

00:27:45,350 --> 00:27:50,150

And she would teach me, they
can have more than you do.

744

00:27:50,150 --> 00:27:52,470

And so she really taught me.

745

00:27:52,470 --> 00:27:53,210

OK.

746

00:27:53,210 --> 00:27:59,180

One thing, another thing
too, to respect older people.

747

00:27:59,180 --> 00:28:00,380

OK.

748

00:28:00,380 --> 00:28:05,600

Sometimes not to answer
back, hold onto to your--

749
00:28:05,600 --> 00:28:07,112
OK.

750
00:28:07,112 --> 00:28:07,820
Hold your tongue.

751
00:28:07,820 --> 00:28:09,890
So she was a
wonderful influence.

752
00:28:09,890 --> 00:28:12,980
I really owed to
her what I am today.

753
00:28:12,980 --> 00:28:14,180
Really?

754
00:28:14,180 --> 00:28:15,680
That's quite a big compliment.

755
00:28:15,680 --> 00:28:16,668
Yeah.

756
00:28:16,668 --> 00:28:19,140
Yeah.

757
00:28:19,140 --> 00:28:23,970
As you were growing up, were
your parents at all interested

758
00:28:23,970 --> 00:28:27,060
in the political world?

759
00:28:27,060 --> 00:28:28,770
No, not that I know.

760
00:28:28,770 --> 00:28:29,653
OK.

761
00:28:29,653 --> 00:28:30,420

No.

762

00:28:30,420 --> 00:28:32,040

Did you have a radio at home?

763

00:28:32,040 --> 00:28:33,330

Yes.

764

00:28:33,330 --> 00:28:35,760

Do do you remember
the broadcasts

765

00:28:35,760 --> 00:28:37,320

that were on the radio?

766

00:28:37,320 --> 00:28:38,840

Did you listen to it much?

767

00:28:38,840 --> 00:28:41,980

No, I don't remember
about that at all.

768

00:28:41,980 --> 00:28:45,700

I know we had a record player,
and we would play the records.

769

00:28:45,700 --> 00:28:48,120

OK.

770

00:28:48,120 --> 00:28:51,330

Was there ever any
conversation in your home

771

00:28:51,330 --> 00:28:54,750

about the politics of Greece?

772

00:28:54,750 --> 00:28:56,100

No.

773

00:28:56,100 --> 00:28:59,460

What about when Adolf Hitler
came to power in Germany?

774
00:28:59,460 --> 00:29:01,440
Oh, my God.

775
00:29:01,440 --> 00:29:02,820
Was there talk about that?

776
00:29:02,820 --> 00:29:06,520
And how, lots of
talk about that.

777
00:29:06,520 --> 00:29:10,560
What do you remember being said?

778
00:29:10,560 --> 00:29:13,320
That he was a tyrant.

779
00:29:13,320 --> 00:29:14,550
OK.

780
00:29:14,550 --> 00:29:19,350
That he didn't respect anybody.

781
00:29:19,350 --> 00:29:22,990
At that time there, was no
question about Jews yet.

782
00:29:22,990 --> 00:29:23,790
OK.

783
00:29:23,790 --> 00:29:25,440
So this was 1933.

784
00:29:25,440 --> 00:29:26,550
You're 11.

785
00:29:26,550 --> 00:29:28,080
He comes to power.

786
00:29:28,080 --> 00:29:34,080
And so your parents talk

about his dictatorial--

787
00:29:34,080 --> 00:29:35,490
Not in front of me.

788
00:29:35,490 --> 00:29:36,780
OK.

789
00:29:36,780 --> 00:29:37,350
OK.

790
00:29:37,350 --> 00:29:40,710
That was one subject
that was avoided.

791
00:29:40,710 --> 00:29:41,220
Really?

792
00:29:41,220 --> 00:29:44,970
Yeah, well I was a young child.

793
00:29:44,970 --> 00:29:49,740
As you grow up though,
and you become a teenager,

794
00:29:49,740 --> 00:29:55,110
do you hear more about
what's going on in Germany?

795
00:29:55,110 --> 00:29:58,110
We didn't have much time,
because the only thing I

796
00:29:58,110 --> 00:30:04,860
remember is when the German
army invaded Salonika,

797
00:30:04,860 --> 00:30:06,300
came to Salonika.

798
00:30:06,300 --> 00:30:06,930
And when was--

799
00:30:06,930 --> 00:30:09,540
That's the only
thing I remember.

800
00:30:09,540 --> 00:30:10,590
OK.

801
00:30:10,590 --> 00:30:13,050
Do you remember when that was?

802
00:30:13,050 --> 00:30:13,590
Let's see.

803
00:30:13,590 --> 00:30:19,090

804
00:30:19,090 --> 00:30:22,260
Let's see, when
did we go to camp?

805
00:30:22,260 --> 00:30:24,300
Do you remember what
year we went to camp?

806
00:30:24,300 --> 00:30:28,960

807
00:30:28,960 --> 00:30:30,320
I can't remember it really.

808
00:30:30,320 --> 00:30:31,690
OK.

809
00:30:31,690 --> 00:30:35,720
Well, do you remember hearing
about the beginning of--

810
00:30:35,720 --> 00:30:40,300
well, first of all, the
Anschluss of Austria,

811
00:30:40,300 --> 00:30:44,080
the annexation of
Czechoslovakia?

812
00:30:44,080 --> 00:30:45,640
Yeah, yeah.

813
00:30:45,640 --> 00:30:46,390
Vaguely.

814
00:30:46,390 --> 00:30:47,200
Vaguely?

815
00:30:47,200 --> 00:30:48,730
It was still far away.

816
00:30:48,730 --> 00:30:50,140
It's not Greece.

817
00:30:50,140 --> 00:30:51,010
Right.

818
00:30:51,010 --> 00:30:53,920
Was there an Italian
presence in Greece?

819
00:30:53,920 --> 00:30:55,018
Oh, yeah.

820
00:30:55,018 --> 00:30:55,810
Tell me about that.

821
00:30:55,810 --> 00:30:56,740
They were good people.

822
00:30:56,740 --> 00:30:57,250
Were they?

823
00:30:57,250 --> 00:31:01,210
Oh, what a difference.

824

00:31:01,210 --> 00:31:03,500

But they came before
the Germans, yes?

825

00:31:03,500 --> 00:31:04,060

Oh, yes.

826

00:31:04,060 --> 00:31:04,900

OK.

827

00:31:04,900 --> 00:31:09,430

So can you tell me about what
was that like in your life?

828

00:31:09,430 --> 00:31:11,170

Like did you see
Italian soldiers?

829

00:31:11,170 --> 00:31:12,850

Did you interact with anybody?

830

00:31:12,850 --> 00:31:13,630

Unfortunately no.

831

00:31:13,630 --> 00:31:15,190

We didn't see them,
because they were

832

00:31:15,190 --> 00:31:18,700

busy on the Albanian front.

833

00:31:18,700 --> 00:31:20,410

So they were not--

834

00:31:20,410 --> 00:31:24,430

we didn't see them
too much in Salonika.

835

00:31:24,430 --> 00:31:28,040

Was there a change in
daily life in Salonika?

836
00:31:28,040 --> 00:31:30,220
Not during the
Italian occupation.

837
00:31:30,220 --> 00:31:32,390
So things went on like they had?

838
00:31:32,390 --> 00:31:33,370
Right.

839
00:31:33,370 --> 00:31:37,780
And life wasn't
impacted or changed,

840
00:31:37,780 --> 00:31:39,850
or no new rules, anything?

841
00:31:39,850 --> 00:31:40,540
No.

842
00:31:40,540 --> 00:31:43,390
Not as far as my family.

843
00:31:43,390 --> 00:31:44,150
OK.

844
00:31:44,150 --> 00:31:45,630
I wouldn't know.

845
00:31:45,630 --> 00:31:48,460
Politically I wasn't involved.

846
00:31:48,460 --> 00:31:51,350
At that time, I was too young.

847
00:31:51,350 --> 00:31:52,330
OK.

848
00:31:52,330 --> 00:31:59,260
So when you're attending
gymnasium, sort of high school,

849
00:31:59,260 --> 00:32:00,640
is that a French Lycee?

850
00:32:00,640 --> 00:32:01,630
French Lycee.

851
00:32:01,630 --> 00:32:02,450
OK.

852
00:32:02,450 --> 00:32:04,510
[FRENCH]

853
00:32:04,510 --> 00:32:05,750
Is that what it was called?

854
00:32:05,750 --> 00:32:06,280
Yes.

855
00:32:06,280 --> 00:32:09,550
[FRENCH]

856
00:32:09,550 --> 00:32:14,800
[FRENCH] And when
did you finish?

857
00:32:14,800 --> 00:32:15,880
I didn't finish.

858
00:32:15,880 --> 00:32:16,780
You didn't finish?

859
00:32:16,780 --> 00:32:19,507
I didn't finish,
because the war started.

860
00:32:19,507 --> 00:32:20,590
You said the war started--

861
00:32:20,590 --> 00:32:23,800
I got my first baccalaureate,

and then that was it.

862
00:32:23,800 --> 00:32:25,060
[KNOCKS]

863
00:32:25,060 --> 00:32:25,870
Can we cut?

864
00:32:25,870 --> 00:32:28,420
What was that?

865
00:32:28,420 --> 00:32:29,530
OK.

866
00:32:29,530 --> 00:32:37,970
So the war starts in Europe
on September 1, 1939.

867
00:32:37,970 --> 00:32:42,100
That's when Germany
invades Poland.

868
00:32:42,100 --> 00:32:46,210
But on September 1, 1939,
was there anything new

869
00:32:46,210 --> 00:32:48,550
at that point going
on in Salonika?

870
00:32:48,550 --> 00:32:49,840
No.

871
00:32:49,840 --> 00:32:53,320
Do you know when the
Italians arrived?

872
00:32:53,320 --> 00:32:55,620
'43?

873
00:32:55,620 --> 00:32:58,290
The Italians in 1943?

874
00:32:58,290 --> 00:33:02,520
Or was that already the
Germans who arrived in 1943?

875
00:33:02,520 --> 00:33:04,830
The Italians were a year before.

876
00:33:04,830 --> 00:33:05,400
OK.

877
00:33:05,400 --> 00:33:06,270
Yeah.

878
00:33:06,270 --> 00:33:06,870
OK.

879
00:33:06,870 --> 00:33:07,690
Yeah.

880
00:33:07,690 --> 00:33:10,560
'42 then.

881
00:33:10,560 --> 00:33:13,690
At that time I wasn't
interested in politics.

882
00:33:13,690 --> 00:33:16,900
The only thing, as I said,
is when the German occupation

883
00:33:16,900 --> 00:33:17,400
came.

884
00:33:17,400 --> 00:33:21,790
That was when really it hit me.

885
00:33:21,790 --> 00:33:25,150
Was-- so you were
taken by surprise.

886

00:33:25,150 --> 00:33:25,780
Yes?

887
00:33:25,780 --> 00:33:26,800
Surprise?

888
00:33:26,800 --> 00:33:30,040
By the German
occupation, or not?

889
00:33:30,040 --> 00:33:30,700
Not really.

890
00:33:30,700 --> 00:33:32,200
We were prepared.

891
00:33:32,200 --> 00:33:36,880
Because the Italians had
asked the help of Germany.

892
00:33:36,880 --> 00:33:38,300
Oh, is that what happened?

893
00:33:38,300 --> 00:33:40,025
I think so.

894
00:33:40,025 --> 00:33:40,525
OK.

895
00:33:40,525 --> 00:33:44,920

896
00:33:44,920 --> 00:33:46,330
Let me see.

897
00:33:46,330 --> 00:33:50,750
So when the war starts in
'39, you're not affected?

898
00:33:50,750 --> 00:33:51,400
No.

899

00:33:51,400 --> 00:33:53,890

And you're not affected
then for a couple of years?

900

00:33:53,890 --> 00:33:55,000

Right.

901

00:33:55,000 --> 00:34:01,100

And so Greece, did Greece
fight at any point?

902

00:34:01,100 --> 00:34:01,990

Yes, they fought?

903

00:34:01,990 --> 00:34:03,190

Who do they fight?

904

00:34:03,190 --> 00:34:05,590

They fought the Italians.

905

00:34:05,590 --> 00:34:08,290

And it was at this
point that your mother

906

00:34:08,290 --> 00:34:12,320

was helping with other
ladies to knit socks--

907

00:34:12,320 --> 00:34:12,820

Right.

908

00:34:12,820 --> 00:34:13,880

--and things like that.

909

00:34:13,880 --> 00:34:14,409

Right.

910

00:34:14,409 --> 00:34:16,270

OK.

911

00:34:16,270 --> 00:34:18,010

At this point, did
your parents start

912
00:34:18,010 --> 00:34:20,739
talking more about
the war and what's

913
00:34:20,739 --> 00:34:21,969
going on in other countries?

914
00:34:21,969 --> 00:34:23,050
Not in front of me.

915
00:34:23,050 --> 00:34:24,580
They tried not to.

916
00:34:24,580 --> 00:34:25,420
Even then?

917
00:34:25,420 --> 00:34:26,260
Even then.

918
00:34:26,260 --> 00:34:29,320
Because by that point,
you're already 19.

919
00:34:29,320 --> 00:34:32,650
18-19, not in '39.

920
00:34:32,650 --> 00:34:34,810
But if you're born in '22--

921
00:34:34,810 --> 00:34:35,380
Yeah.

922
00:34:35,380 --> 00:34:37,330
In 1940, you're an
18-year-old girl.

923
00:34:37,330 --> 00:34:39,363
Yeah, they didn't talk too much.

924
00:34:39,363 --> 00:34:39,863
Uh-huh.

925
00:34:39,863 --> 00:34:47,080

926
00:34:47,080 --> 00:34:50,500
And so what happens
with the Greek fight

927
00:34:50,500 --> 00:34:51,400
against the Italians?

928
00:34:51,400 --> 00:34:54,150

929
00:34:54,150 --> 00:34:55,260
What we thought?

930
00:34:55,260 --> 00:34:57,180
No, no, no.

931
00:34:57,180 --> 00:34:59,950
The Greeks fought
against the Italians.

932
00:34:59,950 --> 00:35:00,450
Yes.

933
00:35:00,450 --> 00:35:01,860
Who won?

934
00:35:01,860 --> 00:35:03,130
Who won?

935
00:35:03,130 --> 00:35:05,260
Unfortunately the Italians.

936
00:35:05,260 --> 00:35:05,850
OK.

937

00:35:05,850 --> 00:35:09,930

Well then the Germans came,
and helped the Italians

938

00:35:09,930 --> 00:35:12,600

because the Italians
were losing.

939

00:35:12,600 --> 00:35:14,770

Greeks were winning.

940

00:35:14,770 --> 00:35:15,270

OK.

941

00:35:15,270 --> 00:35:17,820

And then Germany came
and helped the Italians,

942

00:35:17,820 --> 00:35:21,510

and that was the end of--

943

00:35:21,510 --> 00:35:22,740

Greek independence.

944

00:35:22,740 --> 00:35:23,605

Greek independence.

945

00:35:23,605 --> 00:35:24,105

OK.

946

00:35:24,105 --> 00:35:27,390

947

00:35:27,390 --> 00:35:34,410

So am I correct in saying that
the first time you really it

948

00:35:34,410 --> 00:35:37,330

impacts you, is when you
hear those German boots?

949

00:35:37,330 --> 00:35:38,250
Boots.

950
00:35:38,250 --> 00:35:39,270
OK.

951
00:35:39,270 --> 00:35:40,960
And on the radio.

952
00:35:40,960 --> 00:35:42,270
What did you hear on the radio?

953
00:35:42,270 --> 00:35:46,500
That they were
coming to Salonika.

954
00:35:46,500 --> 00:35:49,800
And who were the radio
broadcasts by, do you know?

955
00:35:49,800 --> 00:35:50,340
Greek.

956
00:35:50,340 --> 00:35:51,213
Greeks.

957
00:35:51,213 --> 00:35:51,960
Greek radio.

958
00:35:51,960 --> 00:35:55,505
So it wasn't that the Germans
had taken over the radio?

959
00:35:55,505 --> 00:35:56,176
No, no.

960
00:35:56,176 --> 00:35:57,480
No, not yet.

961
00:35:57,480 --> 00:35:59,130
All right.

962

00:35:59,130 --> 00:36:00,780

And what happened--
do you know what

963

00:36:00,780 --> 00:36:03,580

happened with the
independent Greek government?

964

00:36:03,580 --> 00:36:04,610

No.

965

00:36:04,610 --> 00:36:05,120

OK.

966

00:36:05,120 --> 00:36:05,620

They just--

967

00:36:05,620 --> 00:36:07,700

I don't know much
about politics.

968

00:36:07,700 --> 00:36:08,200

OK.

969

00:36:08,200 --> 00:36:10,010

OK, that's fair enough.

970

00:36:10,010 --> 00:36:12,220

The reason I ask all
these other questions

971

00:36:12,220 --> 00:36:17,800

is again to place what
happens to you in the context

972

00:36:17,800 --> 00:36:19,540

of the larger situation.

973

00:36:19,540 --> 00:36:21,800

And sometimes people know it.

974

00:36:21,800 --> 00:36:25,690
And sometimes they
don't know it.

975
00:36:25,690 --> 00:36:27,970
It's not a test.

976
00:36:27,970 --> 00:36:32,570
It's just trying to paint
a picture with words.

977
00:36:32,570 --> 00:36:34,870
Right.

978
00:36:34,870 --> 00:36:39,050
So what did you see when
you heard those boots?

979
00:36:39,050 --> 00:36:42,350
Well, first we knew that
they had invaded Athens.

980
00:36:42,350 --> 00:36:42,850
OK.

981
00:36:42,850 --> 00:36:44,392
Because that's where
they were first.

982
00:36:44,392 --> 00:36:47,650
Then from Athens,
they came to Salonika.

983
00:36:47,650 --> 00:36:49,930
And of course, the
radio was telling us

984
00:36:49,930 --> 00:36:53,120
that the Germans were
coming towards Salonika.

985
00:36:53,120 --> 00:36:53,620
OK.

986
00:36:53,620 --> 00:36:54,495
And so what did you--

987
00:36:54,495 --> 00:36:56,560
And the first time
we saw them is

988
00:36:56,560 --> 00:37:02,410
when they started marching in
front of the ocean of the K,

989
00:37:02,410 --> 00:37:06,190
and with their
boats making noise.

990
00:37:06,190 --> 00:37:10,090
And that's when we
started getting scared.

991
00:37:10,090 --> 00:37:12,520
At that time, we really
didn't know that they

992
00:37:12,520 --> 00:37:15,370
were so much against the Jews.

993
00:37:15,370 --> 00:37:16,610
Even then, huh?

994
00:37:16,610 --> 00:37:17,110
Yeah.

995
00:37:17,110 --> 00:37:17,980
OK.

996
00:37:17,980 --> 00:37:25,270
We didn't know until the
rabbi called everybody,

997
00:37:25,270 --> 00:37:27,760
or we had a meeting,

I don't remember,

998
00:37:27,760 --> 00:37:32,380
and told us about
the anti-Semitic

999
00:37:32,380 --> 00:37:35,050
views of the Germans.

1000
00:37:35,050 --> 00:37:38,600
Because until then, we didn't
know anything about that.

1001
00:37:38,600 --> 00:37:40,030
OK.

1002
00:37:40,030 --> 00:37:46,960
And as a result of
that meeting, was there

1003
00:37:46,960 --> 00:37:51,580
any change in how your
family was operating?

1004
00:37:51,580 --> 00:37:54,130
Everybody went in hiding.

1005
00:37:54,130 --> 00:37:57,990
So what happened with you,
with you and your parents?

1006
00:37:57,990 --> 00:37:59,790
We were Spanish citizens.

1007
00:37:59,790 --> 00:38:00,330
So?

1008
00:38:00,330 --> 00:38:06,240
So the Spanish consulate
told us as a foreign entity,

1009
00:38:06,240 --> 00:38:07,860

we should not--

1010
00:38:07,860 --> 00:38:13,480
we should hide,
but not be afraid.

1011
00:38:13,480 --> 00:38:14,190
So we--

1012
00:38:14,190 --> 00:38:17,460
So you had Spanish citizenship
as well as your mother?

1013
00:38:17,460 --> 00:38:18,300
Yeah.

1014
00:38:18,300 --> 00:38:19,790
You all got it from your father?

1015
00:38:19,790 --> 00:38:20,986
From my father.

1016
00:38:20,986 --> 00:38:22,610
Uh-huh.

1017
00:38:22,610 --> 00:38:23,700
OK.

1018
00:38:23,700 --> 00:38:26,190
And there was a
consulate in Salonika?

1019
00:38:26,190 --> 00:38:29,640
No, there was a consulate,
an embassy in Athens.

1020
00:38:29,640 --> 00:38:31,860
No consulate in Salonika.

1021
00:38:31,860 --> 00:38:37,020
So your father must have
gone there to ask what to do.

1022
00:38:37,020 --> 00:38:38,550
We weren't told anything.

1023
00:38:38,550 --> 00:38:41,070
And my father didn't
go there either.

1024
00:38:41,070 --> 00:38:45,600
We just stayed in our
apartment until the Germans

1025
00:38:45,600 --> 00:38:49,110
came to our apartment.

1026
00:38:49,110 --> 00:38:52,260
And they didn't get us yet.

1027
00:38:52,260 --> 00:38:54,480
They just came.

1028
00:38:54,480 --> 00:38:56,130
We were on the sixth floor.

1029
00:38:56,130 --> 00:38:57,810
I can still see them.

1030
00:38:57,810 --> 00:38:59,430
They knocked on the door.

1031
00:38:59,430 --> 00:39:00,540
We opened the door.

1032
00:39:00,540 --> 00:39:01,740
Heil Hitler.

1033
00:39:01,740 --> 00:39:04,110
We had a piano on
the entrance where

1034
00:39:04,110 --> 00:39:05,970

I used to take piano lessons.

1035
00:39:05,970 --> 00:39:06,750
[GERMAN] Raus.

1036
00:39:06,750 --> 00:39:08,580
Right away, take the piano out.

1037
00:39:08,580 --> 00:39:10,290
That was the first
thing they did.

1038
00:39:10,290 --> 00:39:13,780

1039
00:39:13,780 --> 00:39:17,500
That was my first
experience with the Germans.

1040
00:39:17,500 --> 00:39:18,940
And did they--

1041
00:39:18,940 --> 00:39:20,200
And then they left.

1042
00:39:20,200 --> 00:39:21,370
They took the piano.

1043
00:39:21,370 --> 00:39:22,870
They left.

1044
00:39:22,870 --> 00:39:24,470
And of course we were scared.

1045
00:39:24,470 --> 00:39:26,890
And then some of
the Greek friends

1046
00:39:26,890 --> 00:39:30,700
told us, you should
come and hide with us,

1047

00:39:30,700 --> 00:39:35,670

because they are really
attacking the Jewish people.

1048

00:39:35,670 --> 00:39:36,470

So we went.

1049

00:39:36,470 --> 00:39:38,540

We left our apartment.

1050

00:39:38,540 --> 00:39:39,620

You said sixth floor.

1051

00:39:39,620 --> 00:39:41,870

Did you mean fourth floor?

1052

00:39:41,870 --> 00:39:44,060

You said you lived--

1053

00:39:44,060 --> 00:39:47,600

the first time you see them is
they come to the sixth floor.

1054

00:39:47,600 --> 00:39:48,950

They came to all the floors.

1055

00:39:48,950 --> 00:39:50,660

But when they
arrived to my floor,

1056

00:39:50,660 --> 00:39:52,423

our floor was the sixth floor.

1057

00:39:52,423 --> 00:39:53,840

I thought it was
the fourth floor.

1058

00:39:53,840 --> 00:39:54,455

No sixth.

1059

00:39:54,455 --> 00:39:55,430

Sixth, sorry.

1060
00:39:55,430 --> 00:39:56,240
OK.

1061
00:39:56,240 --> 00:40:03,120
And and so is that when you
went to your friend Ritsi?

1062
00:40:03,120 --> 00:40:03,880
Rita.

1063
00:40:03,880 --> 00:40:04,730
Rita.

1064
00:40:04,730 --> 00:40:05,760
Oh that's--

1065
00:40:05,760 --> 00:40:06,260
Rita.

1066
00:40:06,260 --> 00:40:06,830
Rita?

1067
00:40:06,830 --> 00:40:07,430
Rita.

1068
00:40:07,430 --> 00:40:09,110
Rita, OK.

1069
00:40:09,110 --> 00:40:11,870
And where did she
live, close by?

1070
00:40:11,870 --> 00:40:16,040
She lived not too far
from us, in the city.

1071
00:40:16,040 --> 00:40:18,440
OK, and did she have
an apartment too?

1072
00:40:18,440 --> 00:40:19,700
Yes.

1073
00:40:19,700 --> 00:40:22,250
She lived with her parents.

1074
00:40:22,250 --> 00:40:24,680
And so they hid us.

1075
00:40:24,680 --> 00:40:25,700
We went there.

1076
00:40:25,700 --> 00:40:26,630
All three of you?

1077
00:40:26,630 --> 00:40:27,740
All three of us.

1078
00:40:27,740 --> 00:40:28,240
OK.

1079
00:40:28,240 --> 00:40:30,885

1080
00:40:30,885 --> 00:40:35,750
And then we got ready
to go to Athens.

1081
00:40:35,750 --> 00:40:39,800
Where Athens was occupied
only by the Italians, and not

1082
00:40:39,800 --> 00:40:42,620
the Germans yet.

1083
00:40:42,620 --> 00:40:44,930
I thought you said the
Germans occupied it and came

1084
00:40:44,930 --> 00:40:45,770
to Salonika.

1085
00:40:45,770 --> 00:40:51,430

1086
00:40:51,430 --> 00:40:52,180
Yeah, yeah.

1087
00:40:52,180 --> 00:40:55,170
Yeah, I think that's how it was.

1088
00:40:55,170 --> 00:40:58,000
But then I know that my father--

1089
00:40:58,000 --> 00:41:00,400
some Greek friends
told us that we

1090
00:41:00,400 --> 00:41:03,360
had to leave Salonika
and go to Athens.

1091
00:41:03,360 --> 00:41:05,110
OK.

1092
00:41:05,110 --> 00:41:08,915
The Spanish embassy
got in touch with us.

1093
00:41:08,915 --> 00:41:09,415
I see.

1094
00:41:09,415 --> 00:41:13,270
And said, make sure you have
your Spanish citizenship

1095
00:41:13,270 --> 00:41:14,620
papers with you.

1096
00:41:14,620 --> 00:41:15,190
OK.

1097

00:41:15,190 --> 00:41:18,460
So we went on a train.

1098
00:41:18,460 --> 00:41:22,930
My father was dressed as a
coal worker, working with coal,

1099
00:41:22,930 --> 00:41:25,480
to put coal on the trains.

1100
00:41:25,480 --> 00:41:32,350
And we went on the train maybe
a day and a half to Athens.

1101
00:41:32,350 --> 00:41:36,250
When we got to Athens, and my
father came out of the train,

1102
00:41:36,250 --> 00:41:37,660
kissed the floor.

1103
00:41:37,660 --> 00:41:43,030
Thank God, not knowing what
to expect now in Athens.

1104
00:41:43,030 --> 00:41:47,590
So in Athens we went to stay
with some Jewish friends.

1105
00:41:47,590 --> 00:41:51,160
And then when the
Germans started

1106
00:41:51,160 --> 00:41:53,650
going after the
Jewish community,

1107
00:41:53,650 --> 00:41:56,770
we had to hide with
a Greek family.

1108
00:41:56,770 --> 00:41:59,030
Did you know the Greek

family you were hiding with?

1109
00:41:59,030 --> 00:41:59,530
Yes, yes.

1110
00:41:59,530 --> 00:42:00,920
OK.

1111
00:42:00,920 --> 00:42:05,540
And then we got the Spanish
embassy got in touch

1112
00:42:05,540 --> 00:42:08,150
with all Spanish
people, telling them

1113
00:42:08,150 --> 00:42:12,590
that the Spanish
citizens were not--

1114
00:42:12,590 --> 00:42:17,060
that we can go freely
to concentration camp.

1115
00:42:17,060 --> 00:42:18,160
You can freely go.

1116
00:42:18,160 --> 00:42:20,060
Go, yeah.

1117
00:42:20,060 --> 00:42:21,710
So we all went.

1118
00:42:21,710 --> 00:42:24,050
My father didn't want to hide.

1119
00:42:24,050 --> 00:42:27,870
He said, I'll do whatever
the Spanish embassy tells us.

1120
00:42:27,870 --> 00:42:28,790
So we went.

1121
00:42:28,790 --> 00:42:33,300
And we were waited
in a gathering place.

1122
00:42:33,300 --> 00:42:36,170
And the Germans came,
put us in a truck,

1123
00:42:36,170 --> 00:42:40,250
took us to the railroad station,
put us in the same train

1124
00:42:40,250 --> 00:42:42,500
as everybody else.

1125
00:42:42,500 --> 00:42:45,770
Well, it sounds like a very
strange message to say,

1126
00:42:45,770 --> 00:42:48,740
you can freely go to
a concentration camp.

1127
00:42:48,740 --> 00:42:49,550
Yeah.

1128
00:42:49,550 --> 00:42:52,400
Does that mean they knew
where you were going?

1129
00:42:52,400 --> 00:42:53,840
They didn't-- I don't know.

1130
00:42:53,840 --> 00:42:56,660
But they said,
you can go freely.

1131
00:42:56,660 --> 00:42:59,070
Don't be afraid.

1132
00:42:59,070 --> 00:43:02,130

So my father didn't
want to hide.

1133
00:43:02,130 --> 00:43:03,150
OK.

1134
00:43:03,150 --> 00:43:07,110
And we said to him, let's hide.

1135
00:43:07,110 --> 00:43:07,950
He said, no, no.

1136
00:43:07,950 --> 00:43:09,060
I cannot.

1137
00:43:09,060 --> 00:43:11,760
Every time I hear a
noise, I'll be afraid

1138
00:43:11,760 --> 00:43:13,080
that the Germans are coming.

1139
00:43:13,080 --> 00:43:18,615
So they told us that we
would have special treatment,

1140
00:43:18,615 --> 00:43:19,115
Spanish.

1141
00:43:19,115 --> 00:43:21,080
OK.

1142
00:43:21,080 --> 00:43:21,920
So we went.

1143
00:43:21,920 --> 00:43:23,660
I put us on the train.

1144
00:43:23,660 --> 00:43:25,940
We went to Bergen-Belsen.

1145

00:43:25,940 --> 00:43:29,240
You went all the way up to
Bergen-Belsen in Germany?

1146
00:43:29,240 --> 00:43:32,960
All the way on that train,
suffocating with one

1147
00:43:32,960 --> 00:43:37,890
on top of the other, no water,
no latrines, no nothing.

1148
00:43:37,890 --> 00:43:41,250
And then we got off the train.

1149
00:43:41,250 --> 00:43:45,060
Of course, in many
stations, we got off.

1150
00:43:45,060 --> 00:43:47,350
And then when we got
to Bergen-Belsen,

1151
00:43:47,350 --> 00:43:49,680
we come in front of the door.

1152
00:43:49,680 --> 00:43:52,230
Arbeit Macht Frei.

1153
00:43:52,230 --> 00:43:54,840
And then they put
us in barracks.

1154
00:43:54,840 --> 00:43:57,390
And they didn't divide us.

1155
00:43:57,390 --> 00:44:01,260
My father, my mother, and
I were always together.

1156
00:44:01,260 --> 00:44:04,320
What had happened to
Irmgard by this point?

1157
00:44:04,320 --> 00:44:07,590
Oh, she had left
already, long ago.

1158
00:44:07,590 --> 00:44:09,810
When did she leave your life?

1159
00:44:09,810 --> 00:44:14,100
She left a few years
before the war started.

1160
00:44:14,100 --> 00:44:15,960
And she returned to Germany?

1161
00:44:15,960 --> 00:44:17,400
She returned to Germany.

1162
00:44:17,400 --> 00:44:19,530
Did she ever talk
about the Nazis?

1163
00:44:19,530 --> 00:44:21,040
Never.

1164
00:44:21,040 --> 00:44:22,360
Did you ever see her again?

1165
00:44:22,360 --> 00:44:24,750
No.

1166
00:44:24,750 --> 00:44:26,160
Isn't that interesting?

1167
00:44:26,160 --> 00:44:27,990
OK.

1168
00:44:27,990 --> 00:44:31,560
So you're in the barracks,
the three of you.

1169

00:44:31,560 --> 00:44:34,080

And do you have your
documentation with you?

1170

00:44:34,080 --> 00:44:37,400

Do you have the papers that say
that you're Spanish citizens?

1171

00:44:37,400 --> 00:44:37,910

Oh, yes.

1172

00:44:37,910 --> 00:44:38,410

Yeah.

1173

00:44:38,410 --> 00:44:39,270

You have that still?

1174

00:44:39,270 --> 00:44:39,690

Yeah.

1175

00:44:39,690 --> 00:44:40,190

OK.

1176

00:44:40,190 --> 00:44:42,750

1177

00:44:42,750 --> 00:44:43,650

So this must have--

1178

00:44:43,650 --> 00:44:45,710

But now we are American.

1179

00:44:45,710 --> 00:44:46,210

OK.

1180

00:44:46,210 --> 00:44:49,350

1181

00:44:49,350 --> 00:44:50,920

Take me from there.

1182

00:44:50,920 --> 00:44:52,350
So you enter these barracks.

1183
00:44:52,350 --> 00:44:54,960
You see what they look like.

1184
00:44:54,960 --> 00:44:57,450
I can't imagine what
kind of a shock it was.

1185
00:44:57,450 --> 00:44:59,430
It was a shock,
but we were happy

1186
00:44:59,430 --> 00:45:04,410
that they didn't separate us,
that we were still together.

1187
00:45:04,410 --> 00:45:07,860
We didn't know for how long.

1188
00:45:07,860 --> 00:45:14,220
So they put us in the barracks,
and they gave us our beds,

1189
00:45:14,220 --> 00:45:18,660
three beds, one on
top of the other.

1190
00:45:18,660 --> 00:45:22,000
And that's all I remember.

1191
00:45:22,000 --> 00:45:25,420
Then I remember how
they would call us

1192
00:45:25,420 --> 00:45:28,960
every morning at 6 o'clock.

1193
00:45:28,960 --> 00:45:30,670
We were half asleep.

1194

00:45:30,670 --> 00:45:33,520
[GERMAN] Raus, raus, raus.

1195
00:45:33,520 --> 00:45:37,480
And my father was
already an older man.

1196
00:45:37,480 --> 00:45:39,730
And we would go and stand.

1197
00:45:39,730 --> 00:45:42,670
But they never hit us.

1198
00:45:42,670 --> 00:45:47,420
They were not aggressive to us.

1199
00:45:47,420 --> 00:45:49,460
So was this the
special treatment,

1200
00:45:49,460 --> 00:45:51,110
the protection as being--

1201
00:45:51,110 --> 00:45:54,410
A special treatment if you
can call it special treatment.

1202
00:45:54,410 --> 00:45:56,570
I mean they didn't kill us.

1203
00:45:56,570 --> 00:45:59,170
They didn't hit us.

1204
00:45:59,170 --> 00:46:03,270
They didn't abuse us.

1205
00:46:03,270 --> 00:46:05,870
What did you get to eat?

1206
00:46:05,870 --> 00:46:07,880
Same as everybody else.

1207

00:46:07,880 --> 00:46:11,510

Every morning a cup of
coffee, if you could call it

1208

00:46:11,510 --> 00:46:16,700

coffee, a little piece of bread,
and the little bit of butter.

1209

00:46:16,700 --> 00:46:19,100

I remember that the
butter, I would save it

1210

00:46:19,100 --> 00:46:21,620

for lunch, when they
would give us a potato.

1211

00:46:21,620 --> 00:46:25,460

And they would put the
butter on the potato.

1212

00:46:25,460 --> 00:46:25,960

OK.

1213

00:46:25,960 --> 00:46:30,050

1214

00:46:30,050 --> 00:46:36,810

And then they brought
another group in.

1215

00:46:36,810 --> 00:46:38,850

I don't know where
they were from.

1216

00:46:38,850 --> 00:46:41,300

But it was a couple
with a little girl.

1217

00:46:41,300 --> 00:46:46,090

1218

00:46:46,090 --> 00:46:48,970

My father saw that little girl.

1219
00:46:48,970 --> 00:46:52,540
And every time we
would get our meals,

1220
00:46:52,540 --> 00:46:56,500
he would save some, and
give it to the parents

1221
00:46:56,500 --> 00:46:58,090
to feed the little girl.

1222
00:46:58,090 --> 00:47:01,434
Because the little
girl was already--

1223
00:47:01,434 --> 00:47:07,930
After almost a year,
they took this couple

1224
00:47:07,930 --> 00:47:10,300
and they were
going to Palestine.

1225
00:47:10,300 --> 00:47:13,180

1226
00:47:13,180 --> 00:47:13,970
We don't know.

1227
00:47:13,970 --> 00:47:16,960
They must have been some
kind of refugees that were

1228
00:47:16,960 --> 00:47:19,480
entitled to go to Palestine.

1229
00:47:19,480 --> 00:47:24,600
They left, and the father--

1230
00:47:24,600 --> 00:47:27,600

I can't get it off my finger.

1231
00:47:27,600 --> 00:47:28,240
It's OK.

1232
00:47:28,240 --> 00:47:32,670
Wanted to thank my
father for everything

1233
00:47:32,670 --> 00:47:38,400
he did to save his little
girl, and gave him this ring.

1234
00:47:38,400 --> 00:47:39,660
Oh, my goodness.

1235
00:47:39,660 --> 00:47:41,130
My father didn't want it.

1236
00:47:41,130 --> 00:47:42,890
He said, you're
going to Palestine.

1237
00:47:42,890 --> 00:47:43,680
You need it.

1238
00:47:43,680 --> 00:47:44,700
Oh, my goodness.

1239
00:47:44,700 --> 00:47:47,790
If you could hold it up like
that, so we could focus on it.

1240
00:47:47,790 --> 00:47:50,955
Put it on that finger and
Gus will focus on it to--

1241
00:47:50,955 --> 00:47:53,470

1242
00:47:53,470 --> 00:47:55,240
excuse me, can we cut.

1243
00:47:55,240 --> 00:47:56,210
What is it?

1244
00:47:56,210 --> 00:47:56,710
Yeah.

1245
00:47:56,710 --> 00:47:57,940
So this was the ring?

1246
00:47:57,940 --> 00:47:59,680
Yes, this was the ring.

1247
00:47:59,680 --> 00:48:02,380
And you have worn it on
your fingers ever since?

1248
00:48:02,380 --> 00:48:04,930
Yes, my father didn't
want to accept it,

1249
00:48:04,930 --> 00:48:06,850
and gave it back to them.

1250
00:48:06,850 --> 00:48:08,860
When my father woke
up in the morning

1251
00:48:08,860 --> 00:48:12,740
he found it in a little piece
of toilet paper under his--

1252
00:48:12,740 --> 00:48:15,360
Oh, OK.

1253
00:48:15,360 --> 00:48:15,860
All right.

1254
00:48:15,860 --> 00:48:17,020
Let's cut.

1255

00:48:17,020 --> 00:48:19,600

Do you remember the
name of these people?

1256

00:48:19,600 --> 00:48:20,380

No.

1257

00:48:20,380 --> 00:48:21,310

No.

1258

00:48:21,310 --> 00:48:24,640

But their little girl
survived that year?

1259

00:48:24,640 --> 00:48:25,390

Is that so?

1260

00:48:25,390 --> 00:48:26,410

Yes.

1261

00:48:26,410 --> 00:48:26,950

OK.

1262

00:48:26,950 --> 00:48:29,650

They were supposed to go
to Palestine at that time.

1263

00:48:29,650 --> 00:48:31,090

And you never knew
what happened?

1264

00:48:31,090 --> 00:48:33,760

Didn't happen.

1265

00:48:33,760 --> 00:48:37,930

Were you in a special kind
of barracks in Bergen-Belsen,

1266

00:48:37,930 --> 00:48:40,100

or were you together
with other prisoners?

1267

00:48:40,100 --> 00:48:40,600
No.

1268
00:48:40,600 --> 00:48:44,170
We had a special section
for the Spanish citizens.

1269
00:48:44,170 --> 00:48:46,720
But we had to share
the same toilets,

1270
00:48:46,720 --> 00:48:52,090
and the toilets were outside
holes, and men and women,

1271
00:48:52,090 --> 00:48:53,630
everybody together.

1272
00:48:53,630 --> 00:48:55,720
And so we had to go
from the barracks

1273
00:48:55,720 --> 00:49:00,920
into those toilets,
whatever they called them.

1274
00:49:00,920 --> 00:49:03,920
Did you have prisoners' clothes?

1275
00:49:03,920 --> 00:49:05,810
Were you able to wear
your own clothes?

1276
00:49:05,810 --> 00:49:06,770
Our own clothes.

1277
00:49:06,770 --> 00:49:08,090
Your own clothes.

1278
00:49:08,090 --> 00:49:10,160
And what about the
others in Bergen-Belsen?

1279

00:49:10,160 --> 00:49:12,150

Were they wearing
different kinds?

1280

00:49:12,150 --> 00:49:14,360

We didn't see any other people.

1281

00:49:14,360 --> 00:49:18,380

The only thing I saw,
we saw, is every morning

1282

00:49:18,380 --> 00:49:22,220

or every other morning, in
front of our little window

1283

00:49:22,220 --> 00:49:29,130

a big truck with
dead people going by.

1284

00:49:29,130 --> 00:49:29,790

OK.

1285

00:49:29,790 --> 00:49:30,975

So you would see that?

1286

00:49:30,975 --> 00:49:32,100

We would see that.

1287

00:49:32,100 --> 00:49:33,070

But we didn't know.

1288

00:49:33,070 --> 00:49:34,310

We thought they were sick.

1289

00:49:34,310 --> 00:49:36,640

We didn't know
what was going on.

1290

00:49:36,640 --> 00:49:38,400

I see.

1291

00:49:38,400 --> 00:49:42,780
And do you remember
when you arrived,

1292
00:49:42,780 --> 00:49:46,620
when it was that you
arrived in Bergen-Belsen?

1293
00:49:46,620 --> 00:49:49,860
Oh, it was early in the
morning, because it was clear.

1294
00:49:49,860 --> 00:49:53,790
We could see that
Arbeit Macht Frei.

1295
00:49:53,790 --> 00:49:55,620
I meant more by
the time of year,

1296
00:49:55,620 --> 00:49:58,680
was it springtime, winter, fall?

1297
00:49:58,680 --> 00:50:02,820

1298
00:50:02,820 --> 00:50:04,010
October.

1299
00:50:04,010 --> 00:50:05,190
It was about October?

1300
00:50:05,190 --> 00:50:05,690
Yeah.

1301
00:50:05,690 --> 00:50:06,500
OK.

1302
00:50:06,500 --> 00:50:09,910
October 1943?

1303
00:50:09,910 --> 00:50:11,210

'43, yeah.

1304
00:50:11,210 --> 00:50:13,060
All right.

1305
00:50:13,060 --> 00:50:15,940
And so you're there.

1306
00:50:15,940 --> 00:50:19,560
Yeah, because we were
liberated in 1944.

1307
00:50:19,560 --> 00:50:20,460
In '44?

1308
00:50:20,460 --> 00:50:22,260
'45.

1309
00:50:22,260 --> 00:50:26,460
'45, so so it was '44, not '43.

1310
00:50:26,460 --> 00:50:30,430
We were liberated
April 13, Friday.

1311
00:50:30,430 --> 00:50:33,250
April 13, 1945.

1312
00:50:33,250 --> 00:50:38,280
Well, who said that Friday
the 13th is unlucky?

1313
00:50:38,280 --> 00:50:41,850
So how long were
you in the camp?

1314
00:50:41,850 --> 00:50:43,390
A year.

1315
00:50:43,390 --> 00:50:49,140
So that would make it a year and
a half if it was October '43.

1316
00:50:49,140 --> 00:50:50,190
Maybe.

1317
00:50:50,190 --> 00:50:52,440
Or half a year if
it was October '44.

1318
00:50:52,440 --> 00:50:54,030
No, not half a year.

1319
00:50:54,030 --> 00:50:58,560
Then it was October '43
that you were taken there.

1320
00:50:58,560 --> 00:51:03,430
Because a year and a half
later, it would be April '45.

1321
00:51:03,430 --> 00:51:03,930
'45, yeah.

1322
00:51:03,930 --> 00:51:05,050
Yeah.

1323
00:51:05,050 --> 00:51:05,550
All right.

1324
00:51:05,550 --> 00:51:07,490
So a year and a half
you're in this camp.

1325
00:51:07,490 --> 00:51:08,460
Right.

1326
00:51:08,460 --> 00:51:10,990
And what was daily life like?

1327
00:51:10,990 --> 00:51:11,490
Boring.

1328

00:51:11,490 --> 00:51:14,740

1329

00:51:14,740 --> 00:51:15,710

We'd sit around.

1330

00:51:15,710 --> 00:51:16,450

We were lucky.

1331

00:51:16,450 --> 00:51:21,700

We had a woman who was a very well-educated lady.

1332

00:51:21,700 --> 00:51:26,860

And she would talk to us about history,

1333

00:51:26,860 --> 00:51:31,180

and a little bit about politics that she knew from then.

1334

00:51:31,180 --> 00:51:33,770

1335

00:51:33,770 --> 00:51:37,370

But otherwise, there was nothing to do.

1336

00:51:37,370 --> 00:51:38,150

OK.

1337

00:51:38,150 --> 00:51:39,950

So no one was put to work?

1338

00:51:39,950 --> 00:51:40,760

No.

1339

00:51:40,760 --> 00:51:41,650

No.

1340

00:51:41,650 --> 00:51:42,150

You just--

1341
00:51:42,150 --> 00:51:44,540
None of the Spanish
citizens were put to work.

1342
00:51:44,540 --> 00:51:45,830
We were privileged.

1343
00:51:45,830 --> 00:51:47,810
In that way.

1344
00:51:47,810 --> 00:51:52,940
In that way, no beating,
nobody got hurt.

1345
00:51:52,940 --> 00:51:54,140
OK.

1346
00:51:54,140 --> 00:51:58,890
About how many Spanish
citizens were there?

1347
00:51:58,890 --> 00:52:01,470
Oh, quite a few.

1348
00:52:01,470 --> 00:52:02,790
I really don't know.

1349
00:52:02,790 --> 00:52:05,100
Well, an estimate sort of?

1350
00:52:05,100 --> 00:52:07,260
Would it have been
more than 100?

1351
00:52:07,260 --> 00:52:08,100
No.

1352
00:52:08,100 --> 00:52:10,610
Was it 50?

1353

00:52:10,610 --> 00:52:13,310
Maybe 80 or so, families.

1354
00:52:13,310 --> 00:52:13,810
Families.

1355
00:52:13,810 --> 00:52:15,260
Families, not people.

1356
00:52:15,260 --> 00:52:15,890
OK.

1357
00:52:15,890 --> 00:52:19,730
Because they all had
husbands, and no--

1358
00:52:19,730 --> 00:52:21,440
there were no children.

1359
00:52:21,440 --> 00:52:23,040
No children.

1360
00:52:23,040 --> 00:52:24,830
OK.

1361
00:52:24,830 --> 00:52:27,220
But were there other young
people about your age?

1362
00:52:27,220 --> 00:52:28,310
Yes.

1363
00:52:28,310 --> 00:52:29,630
OK.

1364
00:52:29,630 --> 00:52:32,730
And my parents' age.

1365
00:52:32,730 --> 00:52:36,370
And you all lived in
this one large barracks?

1366

00:52:36,370 --> 00:52:37,320

Yes.

1367

00:52:37,320 --> 00:52:39,670

One large barrack, one.

1368

00:52:39,670 --> 00:52:40,380

One.

1369

00:52:40,380 --> 00:52:42,660

So all the Spanish
citizens there.

1370

00:52:42,660 --> 00:52:43,170

Yes.

1371

00:52:43,170 --> 00:52:45,510

Were they from different
parts of Greece,

1372

00:52:45,510 --> 00:52:47,910

or were they from
different parts of Europe?

1373

00:52:47,910 --> 00:52:48,840

Oh, no, no.

1374

00:52:48,840 --> 00:52:49,920

Only Greece.

1375

00:52:49,920 --> 00:52:50,650

Only Greece.

1376

00:52:50,650 --> 00:52:51,610

Only Greece.

1377

00:52:51,610 --> 00:52:52,710

OK.

1378

00:52:52,710 --> 00:52:54,300

And--

1379
00:52:54,300 --> 00:52:55,620
As far as I know.

1380
00:52:55,620 --> 00:52:58,500
OK, no, no, no.

1381
00:52:58,500 --> 00:53:02,340
What language did you hear
in the barracks most often?

1382
00:53:02,340 --> 00:53:03,840
Mostly Ladino.

1383
00:53:03,840 --> 00:53:05,460
Mostly Ladino.

1384
00:53:05,460 --> 00:53:07,590
OK.

1385
00:53:07,590 --> 00:53:11,880
And was there anybody there
that you knew from Salonika?

1386
00:53:11,880 --> 00:53:12,390
No.

1387
00:53:12,390 --> 00:53:13,410
Yes.

1388
00:53:13,410 --> 00:53:19,930
There was a professor, and
his daughter, and his wife;

1389
00:53:19,930 --> 00:53:21,700
and another couple,
and that's it.

1390
00:53:21,700 --> 00:53:23,800
I didn't know anybody else.

1391

00:53:23,800 --> 00:53:25,150
OK.

1392
00:53:25,150 --> 00:53:27,550
And the others were from
other parts of the country?

1393
00:53:27,550 --> 00:53:28,900
Of the country, that's right.

1394
00:53:28,900 --> 00:53:30,330
OK.

1395
00:53:30,330 --> 00:53:34,030
Most of the people were
smart, and they were hiding.

1396
00:53:34,030 --> 00:53:36,160
But my father was
afraid of hiding.

1397
00:53:36,160 --> 00:53:41,542
So that's why there were not
too many people that we knew.

1398
00:53:41,542 --> 00:53:44,400
Oh.

1399
00:53:44,400 --> 00:53:46,870
Was that something that--

1400
00:53:46,870 --> 00:53:48,250
I don't want to put it this way.

1401
00:53:48,250 --> 00:53:50,140
But I don't know
how else to put it.

1402
00:53:50,140 --> 00:53:51,850
Did you ever hold
that against him,

1403

00:53:51,850 --> 00:53:53,245
that you didn't stay in hiding?

1404
00:53:53,245 --> 00:53:55,820

1405
00:53:55,820 --> 00:53:56,360
Sure.

1406
00:53:56,360 --> 00:54:03,130
I blamed my father many
times whilst we were in camp.

1407
00:54:03,130 --> 00:54:08,020
Because unfortunately my father
died the day of the liberation.

1408
00:54:08,020 --> 00:54:13,050
He contracted typhus fever
on the train, and he died.

1409
00:54:13,050 --> 00:54:13,980
So it took a year.

1410
00:54:13,980 --> 00:54:20,340
It took a year and a half for
this to get him, the typhus.

1411
00:54:20,340 --> 00:54:23,950
The typhus, he got on
the train, the train

1412
00:54:23,950 --> 00:54:26,080
that left Bergen-Belsen.

1413
00:54:26,080 --> 00:54:27,910
You're talking the
liberation train.

1414
00:54:27,910 --> 00:54:29,050
The liberation train.

1415

00:54:29,050 --> 00:54:30,250
We'll come to that.

1416
00:54:30,250 --> 00:54:31,580
We'll come to that.

1417
00:54:31,580 --> 00:54:37,930
But while you're
in the camp, did

1418
00:54:37,930 --> 00:54:40,300
you did you say to your
father, I told you so.

1419
00:54:40,300 --> 00:54:41,470
We shouldn't have left.

1420
00:54:41,470 --> 00:54:45,830
Oh, many times,
especially my mother.

1421
00:54:45,830 --> 00:54:48,160
[LAUGHS]

1422
00:54:48,160 --> 00:54:51,190
And how did he react to that?

1423
00:54:51,190 --> 00:54:54,650
He said, I think I made
the right decision.

1424
00:54:54,650 --> 00:54:57,115
Even then he said, I
couldn't live in hiding.

1425
00:54:57,115 --> 00:55:00,610

1426
00:55:00,610 --> 00:55:06,040
He was quite older than
my mother, so at that time

1427

00:55:06,040 --> 00:55:10,060
it was arranged
weddings, marriages.

1428
00:55:10,060 --> 00:55:19,180
And well you know, people
made decisions really

1429
00:55:19,180 --> 00:55:22,525
not knowing the implications
of those decisions.

1430
00:55:22,525 --> 00:55:23,500
True.

1431
00:55:23,500 --> 00:55:25,480
You know?

1432
00:55:25,480 --> 00:55:30,430
And so many destinies
were determined

1433
00:55:30,430 --> 00:55:32,020
because of such a decision.

1434
00:55:32,020 --> 00:55:32,520
Right.

1435
00:55:32,520 --> 00:55:37,560

1436
00:55:37,560 --> 00:55:39,850
You said daily life was boring.

1437
00:55:39,850 --> 00:55:42,300
Yeah.

1438
00:55:42,300 --> 00:55:46,650
Was there a little
bit more food that you

1439
00:55:46,650 --> 00:55:49,050

got than, let's say,
other prisoners might get?

1440
00:55:49,050 --> 00:55:50,100
Oh, we didn't know.

1441
00:55:50,100 --> 00:55:50,820
You didn't know.

1442
00:55:50,820 --> 00:55:51,570
We couldn't know.

1443
00:55:51,570 --> 00:55:53,220
OK.

1444
00:55:53,220 --> 00:55:56,520
And aside from the lady who
was knowledgeable and would

1445
00:55:56,520 --> 00:56:00,420
talk about history, what
other kinds of activities

1446
00:56:00,420 --> 00:56:01,890
would take place
in these barracks?

1447
00:56:01,890 --> 00:56:02,910
Nothing.

1448
00:56:02,910 --> 00:56:08,820
We would have our little books,
read, and talk to each other.

1449
00:56:08,820 --> 00:56:11,880
But dull life, thank god.

1450
00:56:11,880 --> 00:56:16,020
So it was whatever you took with
you, you were allowed to keep?

1451
00:56:16,020 --> 00:56:16,770

Yes.

1452
00:56:16,770 --> 00:56:19,140
It wasn't that
when you came there

1453
00:56:19,140 --> 00:56:20,850
the suitcases are given away?

1454
00:56:20,850 --> 00:56:21,720
No.

1455
00:56:21,720 --> 00:56:22,860
OK.

1456
00:56:22,860 --> 00:56:23,730
OK.

1457
00:56:23,730 --> 00:56:25,620
Did you take anything
special with you?

1458
00:56:25,620 --> 00:56:26,910
Do you remember what you had?

1459
00:56:26,910 --> 00:56:33,030
No, nothing special,
just the everyday--

1460
00:56:33,030 --> 00:56:35,670
The same and the same.

1461
00:56:35,670 --> 00:56:39,240
Did anybody in the barracks
seem to have news of what's

1462
00:56:39,240 --> 00:56:41,020
going on in the outside world?

1463
00:56:41,020 --> 00:56:43,260
Unfortunately not.

1464

00:56:43,260 --> 00:56:46,740

So they didn't know is
Germany winning, losing?

1465

00:56:46,740 --> 00:56:48,120

Nothing.

1466

00:56:48,120 --> 00:56:49,500

OK.

1467

00:56:49,500 --> 00:56:51,510

How much did you
think you knew of what

1468

00:56:51,510 --> 00:56:55,380

was going on in the part of
Bergen-Belsen that was not

1469

00:56:55,380 --> 00:56:56,370

protected?

1470

00:56:56,370 --> 00:56:59,520

The only thing, as I said,
I think I said before.

1471

00:56:59,520 --> 00:57:07,590

Is in the morning, they would
come by with the trains or--

1472

00:57:07,590 --> 00:57:08,100

Trucks?

1473

00:57:08,100 --> 00:57:08,910

Trucks.

1474

00:57:08,910 --> 00:57:13,680

Trucks full of dead bodies
in front of my little window

1475

00:57:13,680 --> 00:57:14,970

that we had.

1476

00:57:14,970 --> 00:57:16,350

And that's all we knew.

1477

00:57:16,350 --> 00:57:18,210

So we thought,
well, they got sick.

1478

00:57:18,210 --> 00:57:19,470

They died.

1479

00:57:19,470 --> 00:57:21,840

And we didn't know
what was going on.

1480

00:57:21,840 --> 00:57:22,470

Nobody knew.

1481

00:57:22,470 --> 00:57:23,840

I see.

1482

00:57:23,840 --> 00:57:25,970

Isn't that amazing?

1483

00:57:25,970 --> 00:57:27,475

Right there, and no knowledge.

1484

00:57:27,475 --> 00:57:29,630

No, nobody knew.

1485

00:57:29,630 --> 00:57:33,590

Was the barracks outside
the regular camp,

1486

00:57:33,590 --> 00:57:38,930

or was it separated in some way
from the rest of Bergen-Belsen?

1487

00:57:38,930 --> 00:57:39,920

We don't know.

1488

00:57:39,920 --> 00:57:41,720

Because our barracks were there.

1489

00:57:41,720 --> 00:57:42,680

And that's it.

1490

00:57:42,680 --> 00:57:45,620

We never got around it
to see what's going on.

1491

00:57:45,620 --> 00:57:47,600

Were you allowed
outside the barracks?

1492

00:57:47,600 --> 00:57:48,890

No, oh no.

1493

00:57:48,890 --> 00:57:50,270

No.

1494

00:57:50,270 --> 00:57:52,150

So you couldn't take a walk?

1495

00:57:52,150 --> 00:57:54,290

Oh yeah, around the
barracks we could

1496

00:57:54,290 --> 00:57:55,460

walk, around the barracks.

1497

00:57:55,460 --> 00:57:58,180

And then we had to
walk to the latrines.

1498

00:57:58,180 --> 00:57:59,750

OK.

1499

00:57:59,750 --> 00:58:03,110

So and they fed you then,
would you stand in line

1500

00:58:03,110 --> 00:58:04,305

and get some food that way?

1501
00:58:04,305 --> 00:58:04,805
Right.

1502
00:58:04,805 --> 00:58:07,940
Right, they would
give us a little bowl.

1503
00:58:07,940 --> 00:58:10,100
And then they would
come back and pick up

1504
00:58:10,100 --> 00:58:13,880
the bowls that were empty.

1505
00:58:13,880 --> 00:58:15,360
And you ate in the barracks?

1506
00:58:15,360 --> 00:58:16,640
In the barracks, oh yeah.

1507
00:58:16,640 --> 00:58:19,190
Was there a table
for this or was it

1508
00:58:19,190 --> 00:58:21,035
everyone went to their bunk bed?

1509
00:58:21,035 --> 00:58:22,100
On the bed.

1510
00:58:22,100 --> 00:58:23,010
OK.

1511
00:58:23,010 --> 00:58:23,510
OK.

1512
00:58:23,510 --> 00:58:29,210

1513
00:58:29,210 --> 00:58:32,500

Did you make any friends there?

1514

00:58:32,500 --> 00:58:34,180

Well, we knew some people.

1515

00:58:34,180 --> 00:58:36,410

So we stayed friends
with those people.

1516

00:58:36,410 --> 00:58:37,150

OK.

1517

00:58:37,150 --> 00:58:40,073

But not really something
that was a close friendship

1518

00:58:40,073 --> 00:58:40,990

or anything like that?

1519

00:58:40,990 --> 00:58:43,140

No, no.

1520

00:58:43,140 --> 00:58:46,705

What was most of the talk that
was going on in those barracks?

1521

00:58:46,705 --> 00:58:52,080

1522

00:58:52,080 --> 00:58:55,340

Not-- really, I can't remember.

1523

00:58:55,340 --> 00:58:56,400

You can't remember?

1524

00:58:56,400 --> 00:58:57,240

OK.

1525

00:58:57,240 --> 00:58:58,350

That's OK.

1526

00:58:58,350 --> 00:59:00,120
I mean it's not a happy memory.

1527
00:59:00,120 --> 00:59:02,880
No, not so-- then
my mother got sick.

1528
00:59:02,880 --> 00:59:04,170
What did she get sick from?

1529
00:59:04,170 --> 00:59:07,500
Oh, she had diarrhea
and throwing up,

1530
00:59:07,500 --> 00:59:11,460
and then of course,
she couldn't eat.

1531
00:59:11,460 --> 00:59:15,270
And that's where my German
language helped me a little.

1532
00:59:15,270 --> 00:59:16,320
OK.

1533
00:59:16,320 --> 00:59:18,870
So what happened?

1534
00:59:18,870 --> 00:59:22,470
When they brought in the food I
said unfortunately, my mother--

1535
00:59:22,470 --> 00:59:24,440
in German of course--

1536
00:59:24,440 --> 00:59:26,560
cannot eat, that
she's very sick.

1537
00:59:26,560 --> 00:59:30,410
And is there anything
you can do for her?

1538

00:59:30,410 --> 00:59:32,960

So he didn't say-- he said, oh.

1539

00:59:32,960 --> 00:59:34,470

I don't know.

1540

00:59:34,470 --> 00:59:37,970

But the following day, they
came with a special little soup

1541

00:59:37,970 --> 00:59:40,010

for my mother.

1542

00:59:40,010 --> 00:59:42,560

That's where my
German helped me.

1543

00:59:42,560 --> 00:59:43,190

Yeah.

1544

00:59:43,190 --> 00:59:46,040

So for 2-3 days
until she got better,

1545

00:59:46,040 --> 00:59:49,280

she had that special treatment.

1546

00:59:49,280 --> 00:59:52,225

That also sounds
unusual, very unusual.

1547

00:59:52,225 --> 00:59:53,210

Yeah, yeah.

1548

00:59:53,210 --> 00:59:56,120

And were there many guards--

1549

00:59:56,120 --> 00:59:59,700

were there many guards
around your barracks?

1550

00:59:59,700 --> 01:00:02,310
Especially during the night.

1551
01:00:02,310 --> 01:00:03,090
OK.

1552
01:00:03,090 --> 01:00:08,260
Because apparently
somebody tried to escape.

1553
01:00:08,260 --> 01:00:09,420
So they had at night.

1554
01:00:09,420 --> 01:00:14,610
During the day we saw
a few walking around

1555
01:00:14,610 --> 01:00:16,320
to make sure that nobody--

1556
01:00:16,320 --> 01:00:18,850
but you didn't see too many.

1557
01:00:18,850 --> 01:00:21,930
But at nighttime
there were more?

1558
01:00:21,930 --> 01:00:25,320
And did you have any
interaction with those guards?

1559
01:00:25,320 --> 01:00:26,210
No.

1560
01:00:26,210 --> 01:00:27,750
OK.

1561
01:00:27,750 --> 01:00:30,570
So when you spoke German
to this person who's

1562
01:00:30,570 --> 01:00:34,320

distributing the food,
was that a rare occasion

1563
01:00:34,320 --> 01:00:36,550
when you were speaking German?

1564
01:00:36,550 --> 01:00:38,370
Yes.

1565
01:00:38,370 --> 01:00:39,450
OK.

1566
01:00:39,450 --> 01:00:41,580
Did you have any
other interaction?

1567
01:00:41,580 --> 01:00:45,780
Yes, my father got quite
sick, and he couldn't get up

1568
01:00:45,780 --> 01:00:48,040
in the morning to go--

1569
01:00:48,040 --> 01:00:49,680
To appell.

1570
01:00:49,680 --> 01:00:52,350
To go and say, I'm here, yeah.

1571
01:00:52,350 --> 01:00:53,820
So I asked.

1572
01:00:53,820 --> 01:00:56,280
I said my father is sick.

1573
01:00:56,280 --> 01:00:57,900
[GERMAN] Raus, raus.

1574
01:00:57,900 --> 01:01:01,950
They took him out with his
pajama, whatever he had on.

1575

01:01:01,950 --> 01:01:04,460

He had to wait, and
it was a snowy day.

1576

01:01:04,460 --> 01:01:06,570

It was cold.

1577

01:01:06,570 --> 01:01:08,640

So they were quite rough.

1578

01:01:08,640 --> 01:01:09,810

OK.

1579

01:01:09,810 --> 01:01:13,480

So that's another occasion when
you were talking with them.

1580

01:01:13,480 --> 01:01:17,730

So that means that there
wasn't much communication

1581

01:01:17,730 --> 01:01:20,740

between the keepers
and the prisoners.

1582

01:01:20,740 --> 01:01:22,140

No.

1583

01:01:22,140 --> 01:01:23,430

OK.

1584

01:01:23,430 --> 01:01:24,600

Who dared?

1585

01:01:24,600 --> 01:01:27,978

Just look at them,
you were scared.

1586

01:01:27,978 --> 01:01:28,478

OK.

1587

01:01:28,478 --> 01:01:32,960

1588

01:01:32,960 --> 01:01:40,120
So take me through April 1945.

1589

01:01:40,120 --> 01:01:43,570
Did you sense
something in April 1945

1590

01:01:43,570 --> 01:01:45,760
that life is going to change?

1591

01:01:45,760 --> 01:01:47,980
OK.

1592

01:01:47,980 --> 01:01:53,050
We got order in the
morning to vacate the camp.

1593

01:01:53,050 --> 01:01:53,590
OK.

1594

01:01:53,590 --> 01:01:55,600
So they put us in line.

1595

01:01:55,600 --> 01:01:58,180
We started walking,
walking, walking.

1596

01:01:58,180 --> 01:02:01,090
My poor mother was very weak.

1597

01:02:01,090 --> 01:02:02,740
She could hardly walk.

1598

01:02:02,740 --> 01:02:05,140
And my father and
I were in front,

1599

01:02:05,140 --> 01:02:06,940
and every time we

would look, make

1600

01:02:06,940 --> 01:02:08,510
sure that my mother is coming.

1601

01:02:08,510 --> 01:02:10,132
And of course, the
Germans would say,

1602

01:02:10,132 --> 01:02:11,590
[GERMAN] schnell,
schnell, schnell.

1603

01:02:11,590 --> 01:02:12,100
You know?

1604

01:02:12,100 --> 01:02:13,450
Yeah.

1605

01:02:13,450 --> 01:02:16,960
So finally, we got to a spot.

1606

01:02:16,960 --> 01:02:17,950
They put us on a train.

1607

01:02:17,950 --> 01:02:20,920

1608

01:02:20,920 --> 01:02:24,160
Both my father, my
mother, and myself.

1609

01:02:24,160 --> 01:02:27,660
And we didn't know
where we were going.

1610

01:02:27,660 --> 01:02:32,490
That trip lasted, I think, maybe
two days or so on the train.

1611

01:02:32,490 --> 01:02:33,660
No water.

1612
01:02:33,660 --> 01:02:36,780
Sometimes they would
bring us a little water.

1613
01:02:36,780 --> 01:02:41,430
And then all of a sudden one
morning the train stopped.

1614
01:02:41,430 --> 01:02:43,920
The Germans got off the train.

1615
01:02:43,920 --> 01:02:46,590
No German to be seen.

1616
01:02:46,590 --> 01:02:49,650
So we got off the train.

1617
01:02:49,650 --> 01:02:50,460
And we sat.

1618
01:02:50,460 --> 01:02:53,520
The picture I have,
we went and sat there.

1619
01:02:53,520 --> 01:02:56,220
And then no water.

1620
01:02:56,220 --> 01:02:57,930
We got thirsty.

1621
01:02:57,930 --> 01:03:02,220
So a couple of young
kids, kids and myself,

1622
01:03:02,220 --> 01:03:04,770
started going
toward the village.

1623
01:03:04,770 --> 01:03:06,480
We're walking
towards the village,

1624
01:03:06,480 --> 01:03:10,764
and we see all of a sudden a
big tank coming in front of us.

1625
01:03:10,764 --> 01:03:12,420
Every time I think of it.

1626
01:03:12,420 --> 01:03:14,400
And we start, we are Jews.

1627
01:03:14,400 --> 01:03:15,840
We are Jews.

1628
01:03:15,840 --> 01:03:19,950
And here is a black fellow,
his head coming out.

1629
01:03:19,950 --> 01:03:20,680
Go back.

1630
01:03:20,680 --> 01:03:21,750
Go back.

1631
01:03:21,750 --> 01:03:22,800
We are Americans.

1632
01:03:22,800 --> 01:03:24,300
We are Americans.

1633
01:03:24,300 --> 01:03:25,740
And that was it.

1634
01:03:25,740 --> 01:03:27,600
And that's liberation.

1635
01:03:27,600 --> 01:03:29,160
Liberation Day.

1636
01:03:29,160 --> 01:03:31,690
So it was Americans

who liberated you.

1637

01:03:31,690 --> 01:03:32,836

They liberated us.

1638

01:03:32,836 --> 01:03:36,540

1639

01:03:36,540 --> 01:03:39,450

I always forget his name.

1640

01:03:39,450 --> 01:03:40,920

I have written it down.

1641

01:03:40,920 --> 01:03:42,180

You know, I'm getting older.

1642

01:03:42,180 --> 01:03:44,925

1643

01:03:44,925 --> 01:03:49,990

I'll tell you the name of
the general who liberated us.

1644

01:03:49,990 --> 01:03:51,060

OK.

1645

01:03:51,060 --> 01:03:52,390

Was it General Patton?

1646

01:03:52,390 --> 01:03:53,910

No, no.

1647

01:03:53,910 --> 01:03:56,670

And it wasn't Eisenhower?

1648

01:03:56,670 --> 01:03:57,760

I can't remember.

1649

01:03:57,760 --> 01:03:58,260

OK.

1650
01:03:58,260 --> 01:04:01,470
So anyway, they put
us in German homes.

1651
01:04:01,470 --> 01:04:03,850
They took the people out.

1652
01:04:03,850 --> 01:04:06,000
And unfortunately
in our apartment

1653
01:04:06,000 --> 01:04:08,340
was a beautiful piano.

1654
01:04:08,340 --> 01:04:11,880
And two of the men were so
mad, they took the piano

1655
01:04:11,880 --> 01:04:14,200
and threw the piano
out the window.

1656
01:04:14,200 --> 01:04:18,150
That is two of the Germans
threw the piano out the window?

1657
01:04:18,150 --> 01:04:18,750
Or--

1658
01:04:18,750 --> 01:04:19,350
No, no.

1659
01:04:19,350 --> 01:04:20,460
The Americans?

1660
01:04:20,460 --> 01:04:21,210
Oh, the prisoners.

1661
01:04:21,210 --> 01:04:24,090
The prisoners took the piano.

1662

01:04:24,090 --> 01:04:27,660

They were so happy
to be liberated,

1663

01:04:27,660 --> 01:04:31,470

and happy to do something
bad to the Germans.

1664

01:04:31,470 --> 01:04:33,340

So they took the piano
and threw it out.

1665

01:04:33,340 --> 01:04:35,910

I can't forget that.

1666

01:04:35,910 --> 01:04:37,610

It wasn't right.

1667

01:04:37,610 --> 01:04:40,750

It wasn't right to do. but
young people with young blood.

1668

01:04:40,750 --> 01:04:41,250

Yeah.

1669

01:04:41,250 --> 01:04:44,390

1670

01:04:44,390 --> 01:04:47,910

And then unfortunately the
following day, my father

1671

01:04:47,910 --> 01:04:50,460

got sick, high temperature.

1672

01:04:50,460 --> 01:04:53,190

They took him to the hospital.

1673

01:04:53,190 --> 01:04:54,540

The American field hospital?

1674

01:04:54,540 --> 01:04:56,050
Yeah American Hospital.

1675
01:04:56,050 --> 01:04:59,700
And the name of the
doctor was Dr. Carmen.

1676
01:04:59,700 --> 01:05:04,620
And he said to me, we'll try
and take care of your father.

1677
01:05:04,620 --> 01:05:07,080
Unfortunately, he passed away.

1678
01:05:07,080 --> 01:05:09,770
He was buried and is
buried in Germany.

1679
01:05:09,770 --> 01:05:12,960

1680
01:05:12,960 --> 01:05:14,692
Do you know where?

1681
01:05:14,692 --> 01:05:19,450
Yeah, I have the picture
of where he's buried.

1682
01:05:19,450 --> 01:05:21,610
Hillersleben.

1683
01:05:21,610 --> 01:05:22,818
Hillersleben?

1684
01:05:22,818 --> 01:05:23,360
Hillersleben.

1685
01:05:23,360 --> 01:05:23,860
OK.

1686
01:05:23,860 --> 01:05:26,890

1687
01:05:26,890 --> 01:05:30,400
In the barracks that you lived
in, in that year and a half,

1688
01:05:30,400 --> 01:05:34,120
were there any people who passed
away while they were There

1689
01:05:34,120 --> 01:05:36,400
No.

1690
01:05:36,400 --> 01:05:36,940
OK.

1691
01:05:36,940 --> 01:05:40,750
So in your barracks
everyone stays alive.

1692
01:05:40,750 --> 01:05:44,050
Maybe on the other
side, I don't know.

1693
01:05:44,050 --> 01:05:44,740
OK.

1694
01:05:44,740 --> 01:05:45,950
But that's unusual.

1695
01:05:45,950 --> 01:05:46,450
Yeah.

1696
01:05:46,450 --> 01:05:48,100
That's very unusual.

1697
01:05:48,100 --> 01:05:52,450
And so it's particularly bitter,
now that the war is ended,

1698
01:05:52,450 --> 01:05:55,450
your father catches typhus.

1699

01:05:55,450 --> 01:05:58,808

How many days did it last
then until he passed away?

1700

01:05:58,808 --> 01:05:59,350

In the train?

1701

01:05:59,350 --> 01:06:00,010

No, no, no.

1702

01:06:00,010 --> 01:06:03,490

He catches typhus and
then he passes away.

1703

01:06:03,490 --> 01:06:04,290

How many days?

1704

01:06:04,290 --> 01:06:05,740

Or day or two.

1705

01:06:05,740 --> 01:06:06,490

Two?

1706

01:06:06,490 --> 01:06:08,950

Yeah, we were just liberated.

1707

01:06:08,950 --> 01:06:11,320

And we went to this house.

1708

01:06:11,320 --> 01:06:14,800

And then they took my
father to the hospital.

1709

01:06:14,800 --> 01:06:18,880

And the day after the
hospital, after they took him,

1710

01:06:18,880 --> 01:06:21,890

they came and told us
that he had passed away.

1711

01:06:21,890 --> 01:06:25,550
So he went through
all that and didn't--

1712
01:06:25,550 --> 01:06:27,740
he didn't even know
that we were liberated,

1713
01:06:27,740 --> 01:06:29,530
because he was so sick.

1714
01:06:29,530 --> 01:06:30,640
Oh.

1715
01:06:30,640 --> 01:06:33,020
Oh.

1716
01:06:33,020 --> 01:06:35,180
Was he was he
delirious or something,

1717
01:06:35,180 --> 01:06:36,150
when he was that sick?

1718
01:06:36,150 --> 01:06:36,980
No, no.

1719
01:06:36,980 --> 01:06:40,670
He was sitting on the
train, like everybody else.

1720
01:06:40,670 --> 01:06:44,990
Just he was an
older man already.

1721
01:06:44,990 --> 01:06:48,845
And they took him
from the train,

1722
01:06:48,845 --> 01:06:50,720
and they took him right
away to the hospital.

1723

01:06:50,720 --> 01:06:53,300

1724

01:06:53,300 --> 01:06:55,340

So not even to the
house with the piano?

1725

01:06:55,340 --> 01:06:56,580

No.

1726

01:06:56,580 --> 01:06:58,500

That was just where you
and your mother lived.

1727

01:06:58,500 --> 01:06:59,100

My mother.

1728

01:06:59,100 --> 01:07:01,420

How long did you stay there?

1729

01:07:01,420 --> 01:07:06,945

Well, from there they took
us to a big movie theater.

1730

01:07:06,945 --> 01:07:10,050

1731

01:07:10,050 --> 01:07:12,790

We stayed there for two days.

1732

01:07:12,790 --> 01:07:16,570

And then they gave
us order to assemble

1733

01:07:16,570 --> 01:07:19,230

in front of that building.

1734

01:07:19,230 --> 01:07:23,610

They took us in big
trucks to a train station,

1735

01:07:23,610 --> 01:07:26,450
put us back on a train.

1736
01:07:26,450 --> 01:07:27,620
And what was it?

1737
01:07:27,620 --> 01:07:29,570
The liberation train.

1738
01:07:29,570 --> 01:07:33,155
We were completely--
we were going to--

1739
01:07:33,155 --> 01:07:36,290

1740
01:07:36,290 --> 01:07:38,180
it was called the
liberation train,

1741
01:07:38,180 --> 01:07:41,030
although we were
already liberated.

1742
01:07:41,030 --> 01:07:48,330
We went to-- what's the country?

1743
01:07:48,330 --> 01:07:55,300

1744
01:07:55,300 --> 01:07:58,740
Are you thinking
of a place name?

1745
01:07:58,740 --> 01:07:59,910
No.

1746
01:07:59,910 --> 01:08:01,920
Two countries in the North.

1747
01:08:01,920 --> 01:08:04,380
Well, there's

Sweden and Denmark,

1748
01:08:04,380 --> 01:08:06,900
or the Netherlands, Belgium?

1749
01:08:06,900 --> 01:08:07,560
Belgium.

1750
01:08:07,560 --> 01:08:08,670
You were going to Belgium.

1751
01:08:08,670 --> 01:08:10,130
They took us to Belgium.

1752
01:08:10,130 --> 01:08:10,630
OK.

1753
01:08:10,630 --> 01:08:15,150
And they put us in some
homes, different homes,

1754
01:08:15,150 --> 01:08:18,555
waiting for our ships to
be shipped back to Greece.

1755
01:08:18,555 --> 01:08:21,720

1756
01:08:21,720 --> 01:08:23,768
And of course, you could
speak with everyone,

1757
01:08:23,768 --> 01:08:24,810
because you spoke French.

1758
01:08:24,810 --> 01:08:25,770
Any language.

1759
01:08:25,770 --> 01:08:28,890
Anywhere we went, I
could speak French.

1760

01:08:28,890 --> 01:08:32,240

I could speak German.

1761

01:08:32,240 --> 01:08:35,540

English, not that fluently yet.

1762

01:08:35,540 --> 01:08:39,529

Your mother, was she as
multilingual as you were?

1763

01:08:39,529 --> 01:08:40,109

Your mother?

1764

01:08:40,109 --> 01:08:40,939

No, no.

1765

01:08:40,939 --> 01:08:42,740

So you did translating for her?

1766

01:08:42,740 --> 01:08:43,460

Yeah.

1767

01:08:43,460 --> 01:08:44,779

OK.

1768

01:08:44,779 --> 01:08:49,479

My father knew more languages.

1769

01:08:49,479 --> 01:08:53,529

So do you remember the place,
the homes you stayed in,

1770

01:08:53,529 --> 01:08:55,760

in Belgium, where you stayed?

1771

01:08:55,760 --> 01:08:56,260

No.

1772

01:08:56,260 --> 01:09:01,779

It was where they have the
people that go through--

1773
01:09:01,779 --> 01:09:02,649
Transit camps.

1774
01:09:02,649 --> 01:09:03,950
Transit camps.

1775
01:09:03,950 --> 01:09:04,810
But not a camp.

1776
01:09:04,810 --> 01:09:08,290
It was really a nice place.

1777
01:09:08,290 --> 01:09:10,517
More like a hotel or a
guesthouse or something.

1778
01:09:10,517 --> 01:09:11,600
Yeah, something like that.

1779
01:09:11,600 --> 01:09:13,060
OK.

1780
01:09:13,060 --> 01:09:15,779
And you stayed there
only a little bit?

1781
01:09:15,779 --> 01:09:19,240
A little bit, until the
ship was ready for us

1782
01:09:19,240 --> 01:09:21,620
to be shipped back to Greece.

1783
01:09:21,620 --> 01:09:22,120
OK.

1784
01:09:22,120 --> 01:09:23,319
And you got on that ship?

1785
01:09:23,319 --> 01:09:24,812

We got on that ship.

1786

01:09:24,812 --> 01:09:26,770

And how long did it take
to get back to Greece.

1787

01:09:26,770 --> 01:09:28,970

It took us about 12-14 days.

1788

01:09:28,970 --> 01:09:29,470

OK.

1789

01:09:29,470 --> 01:09:30,670

Where did you land?

1790

01:09:30,670 --> 01:09:34,250

In Piraeus, Greece.

1791

01:09:34,250 --> 01:09:39,710

We got out there, and I'm with
a little bag with nothing in it.

1792

01:09:39,710 --> 01:09:41,460

We go through customs.

1793

01:09:41,460 --> 01:09:44,479

So the girl says,
anything in there?

1794

01:09:44,479 --> 01:09:47,300

I took my bag, I
threw it at her.

1795

01:09:47,300 --> 01:09:50,510

I say, we're coming from
a concentration camp,

1796

01:09:50,510 --> 01:09:54,905

and you ask what's in that
bag, instead of welcoming us?

1797

01:09:54,905 --> 01:09:56,660

I starting crying, you know.

1798
01:09:56,660 --> 01:09:57,590
I threw the bag.

1799
01:09:57,590 --> 01:10:02,030
I said, take the bag, and look
for yourself what's in there.

1800
01:10:02,030 --> 01:10:06,560
My uncle was waiting
for us at the station.

1801
01:10:06,560 --> 01:10:08,331
And he said, good for you.

1802
01:10:08,331 --> 01:10:11,037
[LAUGHS]

1803
01:10:11,037 --> 01:10:11,940

1804
01:10:11,940 --> 01:10:15,385
And so in Piraeus, he
was waiting for you.

1805
01:10:15,385 --> 01:10:15,920
Yeah, right.

1806
01:10:15,920 --> 01:10:18,140
And then what happened?

1807
01:10:18,140 --> 01:10:21,050
Then-- where did
they take you to?

1808
01:10:21,050 --> 01:10:23,450
They took us to their place.

1809
01:10:23,450 --> 01:10:26,600
And then we rented a small--

1810

01:10:26,600 --> 01:10:28,153

Where did they live?

1811

01:10:28,153 --> 01:10:29,570

They live in Athens,
and they were

1812

01:10:29,570 --> 01:10:33,410

hiding during the occupation.

1813

01:10:33,410 --> 01:10:37,280

Yeah, my uncle, my
two uncles, two aunts,

1814

01:10:37,280 --> 01:10:40,130

my grandparents;
everybody was hiding.

1815

01:10:40,130 --> 01:10:41,630

That's on your mother's side?

1816

01:10:41,630 --> 01:10:42,650

On my mother's side.

1817

01:10:42,650 --> 01:10:44,330

So these were all her relatives?

1818

01:10:44,330 --> 01:10:45,470

All her relatives.

1819

01:10:45,470 --> 01:10:47,300

It was Uncle David, was it?

1820

01:10:47,300 --> 01:10:47,810

Yes.

1821

01:10:47,810 --> 01:10:48,860

OK.

1822

01:10:48,860 --> 01:10:51,230

And so did they survive the war?

1823
01:10:51,230 --> 01:10:53,090
Yes.

1824
01:10:53,090 --> 01:10:53,900
They all did.

1825
01:10:53,900 --> 01:10:57,350
My grandfather, my grandmother,
they all survived the war.

1826
01:10:57,350 --> 01:10:59,240
Oh, that's good news.

1827
01:10:59,240 --> 01:11:00,740
That's very happy news.

1828
01:11:00,740 --> 01:11:05,160

1829
01:11:05,160 --> 01:11:08,690
But then they died.

1830
01:11:08,690 --> 01:11:10,170
When was this?

1831
01:11:10,170 --> 01:11:11,880
When did they die?

1832
01:11:11,880 --> 01:11:13,210
Soon afterwards?

1833
01:11:13,210 --> 01:11:14,250
Old age.

1834
01:11:14,250 --> 01:11:16,170
Oh, OK.

1835
01:11:16,170 --> 01:11:17,845
You're talking about
your grandparents?

1836
01:11:17,845 --> 01:11:18,750
Grandparents.

1837
01:11:18,750 --> 01:11:19,680
All right.

1838
01:11:19,680 --> 01:11:25,760
My uncle died of cancer.

1839
01:11:25,760 --> 01:11:30,680
He was a big shot in his
company, and he was in Austria.

1840
01:11:30,680 --> 01:11:33,800
Because the company, their
headquarters were in Austria.

1841
01:11:33,800 --> 01:11:35,100
Like your father's company?

1842
01:11:35,100 --> 01:11:35,750
Yeah.

1843
01:11:35,750 --> 01:11:36,440
OK.

1844
01:11:36,440 --> 01:11:38,766
And no, father's
was in Switzerland.

1845
01:11:38,766 --> 01:11:40,820
Ah, OK.

1846
01:11:40,820 --> 01:11:44,960
And did you ever go
back to Salonika?

1847
01:11:44,960 --> 01:11:46,010
Oh, yeah.

1848

01:11:46,010 --> 01:11:47,780

Did you go back
to your apartment?

1849

01:11:47,780 --> 01:11:49,880

No, just on the outside.

1850

01:11:49,880 --> 01:11:50,570

Really?

1851

01:11:50,570 --> 01:11:51,290

Yeah.

1852

01:11:51,290 --> 01:11:54,230

You never-- so any of the
items that you had there,

1853

01:11:54,230 --> 01:11:55,760

did you lose them all?

1854

01:11:55,760 --> 01:12:00,180

Some of them we lost, and
some we gave to our neighbors.

1855

01:12:00,180 --> 01:12:01,100

OK.

1856

01:12:01,100 --> 01:12:03,530

And so they returned those?

1857

01:12:03,530 --> 01:12:06,210

We didn't ask for them.

1858

01:12:06,210 --> 01:12:06,900

OK.

1859

01:12:06,900 --> 01:12:10,805

So you never got back any
of your household goods?

1860

01:12:10,805 --> 01:12:13,540

No, not really.

1861
01:12:13,540 --> 01:12:16,150
Did you continue to
live in Salonika,

1862
01:12:16,150 --> 01:12:19,270
or was this just a visit
when you went back?

1863
01:12:19,270 --> 01:12:20,560
No, just a visit.

1864
01:12:20,560 --> 01:12:21,820
Just a visit.

1865
01:12:21,820 --> 01:12:24,850
So you never lived
in Salonika again?

1866
01:12:24,850 --> 01:12:25,960
No.

1867
01:12:25,960 --> 01:12:27,190
My mother did.

1868
01:12:27,190 --> 01:12:28,640
But I didn't.

1869
01:12:28,640 --> 01:12:29,590
OK.

1870
01:12:29,590 --> 01:12:31,630
So when you returned--

1871
01:12:31,630 --> 01:12:34,720
OK, tell me tell me how things
progressed when you returned.

1872
01:12:34,720 --> 01:12:41,050
OK, when I returned, we stayed
with my uncle and my aunt

1873

01:12:41,050 --> 01:12:42,460
for a while.

1874

01:12:42,460 --> 01:12:50,810
And then they got me
a little job, where I

1875

01:12:50,810 --> 01:12:55,220
would tell my story, you know.

1876

01:12:55,220 --> 01:13:02,990
And then we went to
Friday night services.

1877

01:13:02,990 --> 01:13:03,920
OK.

1878

01:13:03,920 --> 01:13:08,660
And a cousin of
my mother met me.

1879

01:13:08,660 --> 01:13:12,200
And said, and asked my mother.

1880

01:13:12,200 --> 01:13:16,100
We have a young man here who
would like to get married.

1881

01:13:16,100 --> 01:13:20,220
You know, at that time it
was an arranged marriages.

1882

01:13:20,220 --> 01:13:24,560
So would you like
to meet with him?

1883

01:13:24,560 --> 01:13:26,570
My mother said, right
now I don't have time

1884

01:13:26,570 --> 01:13:29,610
to think about that.

1885
01:13:29,610 --> 01:13:31,440
Was this for you or for herself?

1886
01:13:31,440 --> 01:13:32,100
For me.

1887
01:13:32,100 --> 01:13:34,050
For you, OK.

1888
01:13:34,050 --> 01:13:39,540
So the temple organized
an excursion somewhere,

1889
01:13:39,540 --> 01:13:42,720
so we'd have to
take a bus to go.

1890
01:13:42,720 --> 01:13:44,880
On the way back
from that excursion,

1891
01:13:44,880 --> 01:13:47,900
I started singing on the bus.

1892
01:13:47,900 --> 01:13:51,330
At that time I had a
very beautiful voice.

1893
01:13:51,330 --> 01:13:56,734
So my husband got in love first,
I think, with my voice and then

1894
01:13:56,734 --> 01:13:58,470
with me.

1895
01:13:58,470 --> 01:14:00,360
Well, that's nice.

1896
01:14:00,360 --> 01:14:03,458
Was this the person that they
had wanted to meet you with?

1897
01:14:03,458 --> 01:14:04,000
Right, right.

1898
01:14:04,000 --> 01:14:04,500
OK.

1899
01:14:04,500 --> 01:14:07,230

1900
01:14:07,230 --> 01:14:10,030
So your life then
moved to Athens.

1901
01:14:10,030 --> 01:14:13,020
Yes, I didn't go
back to Salonika.

1902
01:14:13,020 --> 01:14:16,080
Your family was
well-to-do before the war.

1903
01:14:16,080 --> 01:14:17,010
Yes.

1904
01:14:17,010 --> 01:14:18,690
Did any of that remain?

1905
01:14:18,690 --> 01:14:19,350
Yes.

1906
01:14:19,350 --> 01:14:23,220
OK, so your mother had some
kind of assets to live on?

1907
01:14:23,220 --> 01:14:23,730
Yeah.

1908
01:14:23,730 --> 01:14:25,940
All right, all right.

1909

01:14:25,940 --> 01:14:29,430
Yeah, at that time, people
would send their money

1910
01:14:29,430 --> 01:14:31,800
to Switzerland.

1911
01:14:31,800 --> 01:14:34,000
And that's where it was secure.

1912
01:14:34,000 --> 01:14:34,770
I see.

1913
01:14:34,770 --> 01:14:35,880
OK.

1914
01:14:35,880 --> 01:14:37,800
It wasn't allowed to do it.

1915
01:14:37,800 --> 01:14:38,940
But it happened.

1916
01:14:38,940 --> 01:14:39,850
It happened.

1917
01:14:39,850 --> 01:14:41,590
And it was secure?

1918
01:14:41,590 --> 01:14:42,090
Yes.

1919
01:14:42,090 --> 01:14:44,055
Because in many
places it was lost.

1920
01:14:44,055 --> 01:14:47,740

1921
01:14:47,740 --> 01:14:51,310
So you didn't live with your
uncle and aunt for long?

1922

01:14:51,310 --> 01:14:54,880

Did you find your own place
then with your mother?

1923

01:14:54,880 --> 01:14:56,650

Our own place?

1924

01:14:56,650 --> 01:14:57,520

It was occupied.

1925

01:14:57,520 --> 01:14:58,450

We didn't go to--

1926

01:14:58,450 --> 01:14:59,140

No, no, no.

1927

01:14:59,140 --> 01:15:02,980

In Athens, did you find
a separate apartment

1928

01:15:02,980 --> 01:15:05,090

for your mother and yourself?

1929

01:15:05,090 --> 01:15:06,550

No, no, no.

1930

01:15:06,550 --> 01:15:09,040

No, we stayed with my relatives.

1931

01:15:09,040 --> 01:15:09,970

OK.

1932

01:15:09,970 --> 01:15:13,450

Until we immigrated.

1933

01:15:13,450 --> 01:15:17,060

Now you say you got a little
job telling your story.

1934

01:15:17,060 --> 01:15:19,665

It's very unusual at

that time that people

1935

01:15:19,665 --> 01:15:20,790
were telling their stories.

1936

01:15:20,790 --> 01:15:21,290
Oh, yeah.

1937

01:15:21,290 --> 01:15:21,850
Oh, yeah.

1938

01:15:21,850 --> 01:15:25,370
Yeah, it was a little
Jewish community.

1939

01:15:25,370 --> 01:15:28,270
And so they knew that I
had come back from camp.

1940

01:15:28,270 --> 01:15:32,550
And they wanted to know
what our life was there.

1941

01:15:32,550 --> 01:15:34,050
I see.

1942

01:15:34,050 --> 01:15:36,750
And did you speak
with many groups?

1943

01:15:36,750 --> 01:15:37,650
No.

1944

01:15:37,650 --> 01:15:38,925
Did you speak just one time?

1945

01:15:38,925 --> 01:15:44,420
No, I didn't want to, just at
this gathering at the temple.

1946

01:15:44,420 --> 01:15:48,960
And I didn't want--

1947
01:15:48,960 --> 01:15:51,990
I'm not a person of interviews.

1948
01:15:51,990 --> 01:15:53,650
I became one here.

1949
01:15:53,650 --> 01:15:54,418
OK.

1950
01:15:54,418 --> 01:15:56,130
[LAUGHS]

1951
01:15:56,130 --> 01:15:57,840
Well I'm very, I'm very--

1952
01:15:57,840 --> 01:16:03,390
And every time I tell, I
said, that's the last one.

1953
01:16:03,390 --> 01:16:07,336
So you-- you know, that
that will be the last one.

1954
01:16:07,336 --> 01:16:11,010
And you're referring to
Anna Smulowitz who arranged

1955
01:16:11,010 --> 01:16:12,240
this interview with us.

1956
01:16:12,240 --> 01:16:15,120
And I'm very grateful
that you agreed to do it.

1957
01:16:15,120 --> 01:16:18,000
Thank you for coming.

1958
01:16:18,000 --> 01:16:19,900
We're almost finished,
but not quite.

1959

01:16:19,900 --> 01:16:20,400

OK.

1960

01:16:20,400 --> 01:16:21,420

Not quite.

1961

01:16:21,420 --> 01:16:25,890

I would like to ask

then, you stay then.

1962

01:16:25,890 --> 01:16:29,070

You're 23 years old

when the war ends.

1963

01:16:29,070 --> 01:16:35,430

If May 1 is your birthday,

then may 1 1945 you turned 23,

1964

01:16:35,430 --> 01:16:39,120

and you had just been

liberated, the April before.

1965

01:16:39,120 --> 01:16:41,640

So you returned to

Greece, no longer a child,

1966

01:16:41,640 --> 01:16:44,520

no longer a teenager,

but a young woman.

1967

01:16:44,520 --> 01:16:50,310

How long did you stay in Athens

before you met your husband?

1968

01:16:50,310 --> 01:16:51,840

How long did you get married?

1969

01:16:51,840 --> 01:16:54,520

When did you leave, and

how could you leave?

1970

01:16:54,520 --> 01:16:56,400

And that is, what
were the circumstances

1971
01:16:56,400 --> 01:16:57,870
that allowed you to leave?

1972
01:16:57,870 --> 01:17:00,750
Tell me a little bit about that.

1973
01:17:00,750 --> 01:17:06,630
My cousin works for the American
Joint Distribution Committee.

1974
01:17:06,630 --> 01:17:15,290
And she told us that we could
come to the United States,

1975
01:17:15,290 --> 01:17:19,250
emigrate, if we wanted to.

1976
01:17:19,250 --> 01:17:22,690
So my husband said at the
beginning, he said no.

1977
01:17:22,690 --> 01:17:24,220
I was just-- I had--

1978
01:17:24,220 --> 01:17:25,330
I got married.

1979
01:17:25,330 --> 01:17:29,890
I had a little boy, and he was
three years old, 2 and a 1/2,

1980
01:17:29,890 --> 01:17:30,550
almost three.

1981
01:17:30,550 --> 01:17:31,750
His name?

1982
01:17:31,750 --> 01:17:35,320
What was his name, your child?

1983
01:17:35,320 --> 01:17:37,090
His name is Albert.

1984
01:17:37,090 --> 01:17:38,830
Albert, OK.

1985
01:17:38,830 --> 01:17:41,260
And your husband's name?

1986
01:17:41,260 --> 01:17:42,070
Jack.

1987
01:17:42,070 --> 01:17:43,450
And his last name?

1988
01:17:43,450 --> 01:17:44,500
Nahmias.

1989
01:17:44,500 --> 01:17:46,030
So it was Jack Nahmias.

1990
01:17:46,030 --> 01:17:46,600
OK.

1991
01:17:46,600 --> 01:17:48,520
I was Carmona.

1992
01:17:48,520 --> 01:17:52,780
My maiden name Carmona,
which is a Spanish name.

1993
01:17:52,780 --> 01:17:56,500
Did your Spanish citizenship
make a difference in your--

1994
01:17:56,500 --> 01:17:57,310
In Greece?

1995
01:17:57,310 --> 01:17:59,120
In Greece to emigrate, OK.

1996
01:17:59,120 --> 01:18:02,350
My father had to renew
every year his work permit.

1997
01:18:02,350 --> 01:18:03,025
Oh, really?

1998
01:18:03,025 --> 01:18:03,525
Oh, yeah.

1999
01:18:03,525 --> 01:18:05,080
Yeah.

2000
01:18:05,080 --> 01:18:07,330
Now to emigrate to
the United States,

2001
01:18:07,330 --> 01:18:10,570
did it make a difference that
you had Spanish citizenship?

2002
01:18:10,570 --> 01:18:11,170
No.

2003
01:18:11,170 --> 01:18:11,860
No.

2004
01:18:11,860 --> 01:18:12,910
OK.

2005
01:18:12,910 --> 01:18:15,910
And your husband I take
it also was Jewish?

2006
01:18:15,910 --> 01:18:16,900
Yes.

2007
01:18:16,900 --> 01:18:20,540
What was, in brief,
did he hide in Greece?

2008

01:18:20,540 --> 01:18:21,310

Yes.

2009

01:18:21,310 --> 01:18:22,310

OK.

2010

01:18:22,310 --> 01:18:24,530

My husband was
hiding in a hospital.

2011

01:18:24,530 --> 01:18:26,890

He was a dentist.

2012

01:18:26,890 --> 01:18:32,230

And when the war started,
he spoke Greek fluently.

2013

01:18:32,230 --> 01:18:37,310

So he was working as a nurse,
or somebody in the hospital,

2014

01:18:37,310 --> 01:18:38,900

and that saved him.

2015

01:18:38,900 --> 01:18:39,400

OK.

2016

01:18:39,400 --> 01:18:42,550

His sister and his
family was deported.

2017

01:18:42,550 --> 01:18:44,180

To where?

2018

01:18:44,180 --> 01:18:47,180

To Dachau or one of the--

2019

01:18:47,180 --> 01:18:48,542

Did they perish?

2020

01:18:48,542 --> 01:18:49,250

Did they survive?

2021

01:18:49,250 --> 01:18:49,820

No.

2022

01:18:49,820 --> 01:18:51,070

They did not.

2023

01:18:51,070 --> 01:18:52,690

OK.

2024

01:18:52,690 --> 01:18:54,880

His parents, his
sister was hiding.

2025

01:18:54,880 --> 01:18:56,330

And then she passed away.

2026

01:18:56,330 --> 01:18:58,630

But his parents were deported.

2027

01:18:58,630 --> 01:19:00,790

OK.

2028

01:19:00,790 --> 01:19:03,970

So did he at some
point change his mind

2029

01:19:03,970 --> 01:19:06,220

about immigrating to
the United States?

2030

01:19:06,220 --> 01:19:08,502

Oh no, he was ready immediately.

2031

01:19:08,502 --> 01:19:10,210

Oh, I thought you said
he didn't want to.

2032

01:19:10,210 --> 01:19:11,050

Oh no, no.

2033

01:19:11,050 --> 01:19:14,040
No, he was willing immediately.

2034

01:19:14,040 --> 01:19:19,020
He sold his practice,
and he was ready.

2035

01:19:19,020 --> 01:19:19,840
OK.

2036

01:19:19,840 --> 01:19:21,790
So under what conditions
did you come here?

2037

01:19:21,790 --> 01:19:25,390
Was there a quota or
something, or did you

2038

01:19:25,390 --> 01:19:26,770
have to have sponsors?

2039

01:19:26,770 --> 01:19:28,060
How did you--

2040

01:19:28,060 --> 01:19:31,900
The American Joint Distribution
Committee was the sponsor.

2041

01:19:31,900 --> 01:19:33,340
OK.

2042

01:19:33,340 --> 01:19:37,030
And where did you come to what,
part of the United States?

2043

01:19:37,030 --> 01:19:39,010
Boston.

2044

01:19:39,010 --> 01:19:44,500
So we had two weeks on the ship
with a two-year-old little boy

2045

01:19:44,500 --> 01:19:46,970
running around.

2046

01:19:46,970 --> 01:19:47,950
It wasn't fun.

2047

01:19:47,950 --> 01:19:51,860
But we arrived.

2048

01:19:51,860 --> 01:19:53,990
We saw the Statue of Liberty.

2049

01:19:53,990 --> 01:19:55,340
So you arrived in New York.

2050

01:19:55,340 --> 01:19:56,070
New York.

2051

01:19:56,070 --> 01:19:59,870
OK through Canada.

2052

01:19:59,870 --> 01:20:01,580
We stopped in Canada first.

2053

01:20:01,580 --> 01:20:04,248
And there were people
getting off in Canada.

2054

01:20:04,248 --> 01:20:05,540
And then we came to the States.

2055

01:20:05,540 --> 01:20:08,170
What year, what year
did you come to the US?

2056

01:20:08,170 --> 01:20:12,770

2057

01:20:12,770 --> 01:20:17,420
19-- I can't remember.

2058

01:20:17,420 --> 01:20:18,890

OK.

2059

01:20:18,890 --> 01:20:21,620

What kind of a ship was it?

2060

01:20:21,620 --> 01:20:23,840

Oh it's like a cruise ship.

2061

01:20:23,840 --> 01:20:24,466

OK.

2062

01:20:24,466 --> 01:20:26,000

Not a military ship?

2063

01:20:26,000 --> 01:20:26,520

No, no.

2064

01:20:26,520 --> 01:20:27,020

No.

2065

01:20:27,020 --> 01:20:27,520

OK.

2066

01:20:27,520 --> 01:20:30,300

OK, so it was a
regular passenger?

2067

01:20:30,300 --> 01:20:30,800

Yeah.

2068

01:20:30,800 --> 01:20:31,940

OK.

2069

01:20:31,940 --> 01:20:35,270

And from New York, did
you stay in New York,

2070

01:20:35,270 --> 01:20:37,280

or did you come up to Boston?

2071

01:20:37,280 --> 01:20:38,540

We came to Boston.

2072

01:20:38,540 --> 01:20:40,070

And what was the
reason for that?

2073

01:20:40,070 --> 01:20:41,000

Why come to Boston?

2074

01:20:41,000 --> 01:20:43,610

Because my husband had a
cousin who had already had

2075

01:20:43,610 --> 01:20:48,720

immigrated before us, and
he was living in Brooklyn.

2076

01:20:48,720 --> 01:20:53,420

So he got us a little
apartment in Brooklyn.

2077

01:20:53,420 --> 01:20:58,040

We lived with another gentleman
who had given permission,

2078

01:20:58,040 --> 01:21:00,290

to live with him.

2079

01:21:00,290 --> 01:21:01,250

We stayed there.

2080

01:21:01,250 --> 01:21:03,990

My husband was a dentist.

2081

01:21:03,990 --> 01:21:08,850

So then we got our
place, our own place.

2082

01:21:08,850 --> 01:21:15,000

And then he said he wanted of
course to renew his license.

2083
01:21:15,000 --> 01:21:17,250
He applied to
different colleges.

2084
01:21:17,250 --> 01:21:20,310
And he was accepted
somewhere in Canada.

2085
01:21:20,310 --> 01:21:24,390
He was on his way to
Canada, he had landed.

2086
01:21:24,390 --> 01:21:27,790
I got a call from the
University of Minnesota

2087
01:21:27,790 --> 01:21:29,880
that he was accepted there.

2088
01:21:29,880 --> 01:21:32,160
So he had to come back.

2089
01:21:32,160 --> 01:21:34,020
We had to pack up
the little things

2090
01:21:34,020 --> 01:21:38,260
we had with my Little Albert.

2091
01:21:38,260 --> 01:21:40,540
So he left first from Canada.

2092
01:21:40,540 --> 01:21:46,510
He went direct to enroll
in a dental school,

2093
01:21:46,510 --> 01:21:49,690
to get back his diploma.

2094
01:21:49,690 --> 01:21:53,870
So it took two years.

2095
01:21:53,870 --> 01:21:55,440
I worked.

2096
01:21:55,440 --> 01:21:59,870
I put my little boy
into a nursery school.

2097
01:21:59,870 --> 01:22:08,030
And in Boston, until he
started working, for a while.

2098
01:22:08,030 --> 01:22:10,610
We put him in a nursery
school in Boston.

2099
01:22:10,610 --> 01:22:14,820
And then every night he
would be screaming, crying.

2100
01:22:14,820 --> 01:22:17,780
So I went to the school
and I asked, is anything

2101
01:22:17,780 --> 01:22:18,950
wrong with my son?

2102
01:22:18,950 --> 01:22:19,610
He said, no.

2103
01:22:19,610 --> 01:22:20,330
Why?

2104
01:22:20,330 --> 01:22:23,270
I said, he screams every night.

2105
01:22:23,270 --> 01:22:24,080
He says, yes.

2106
01:22:24,080 --> 01:22:25,370
He doesn't drink his milk.

2107

01:22:25,370 --> 01:22:29,110

We put him in that closet.

2108

01:22:29,110 --> 01:22:32,230

So I took my Albert out.

2109

01:22:32,230 --> 01:22:33,370

I went to my office.

2110

01:22:33,370 --> 01:22:35,400

I told my--

2111

01:22:35,400 --> 01:22:38,380

Rosenthal, his
name was Rosenthal.

2112

01:22:38,380 --> 01:22:39,370

I said, I'm sorry.

2113

01:22:39,370 --> 01:22:40,120

I can't work.

2114

01:22:40,120 --> 01:22:42,820

Because my son I have
to take care of my son.

2115

01:22:42,820 --> 01:22:45,030

Bring your son with you.

2116

01:22:45,030 --> 01:22:46,070

I brought my son.

2117

01:22:46,070 --> 01:22:50,300

I had my little room
by myself with my son.

2118

01:22:50,300 --> 01:22:52,580

Of course, it didn't
last too long, because he

2119

01:22:52,580 --> 01:22:57,800

wanted-- the phone would ring,
he wanted to answer the phone.

2120
01:22:57,800 --> 01:22:58,940
What was your job?

2121
01:22:58,940 --> 01:22:59,930
What were you doing?

2122
01:22:59,930 --> 01:23:02,870
He was a certified
public accountant,

2123
01:23:02,870 --> 01:23:04,610
so I would answer the phone.

2124
01:23:04,610 --> 01:23:06,260
OK.

2125
01:23:06,260 --> 01:23:10,250
And then we got notice that
the University of Minnesota

2126
01:23:10,250 --> 01:23:11,670
accepted him.

2127
01:23:11,670 --> 01:23:14,900
I had told my boss.

2128
01:23:14,900 --> 01:23:16,970
So my husband flew directly--

2129
01:23:16,970 --> 01:23:17,810
To Minnesota.

2130
01:23:17,810 --> 01:23:20,720
To Minnesota, and
enrolled in college.

2131
01:23:20,720 --> 01:23:22,220
Then I came.

2132

01:23:22,220 --> 01:23:24,140

Got a little apartment.

2133

01:23:24,140 --> 01:23:26,450

I worked, put him in a nursery.

2134

01:23:26,450 --> 01:23:29,510

Thank God that nursery was nice.

2135

01:23:29,510 --> 01:23:35,950

And that was it.

2136

01:23:35,950 --> 01:23:39,650

And then you came back to Boston
after your husband finished?

2137

01:23:39,650 --> 01:23:40,290

OK.

2138

01:23:40,290 --> 01:23:42,400

And so did he
practice as a dentist?

2139

01:23:42,400 --> 01:23:42,900

Yes.

2140

01:23:42,900 --> 01:23:44,070

Again, in Waltham.

2141

01:23:44,070 --> 01:23:45,930

In Waltham.

2142

01:23:45,930 --> 01:23:48,210

And that's where you lived--

2143

01:23:48,210 --> 01:23:49,770

Yes.

2144

01:23:49,770 --> 01:23:52,860

Until you retired--
until he retired.

2145
01:23:52,860 --> 01:23:54,600
And then I got a job.

2146
01:23:54,600 --> 01:23:59,130
I worked for a bank for
the Harvard trust company.

2147
01:23:59,130 --> 01:24:02,550
I got trained as a teller.

2148
01:24:02,550 --> 01:24:05,220
And then I had my own office.

2149
01:24:05,220 --> 01:24:10,630
And then little by
little, I went up.

2150
01:24:10,630 --> 01:24:13,540
And then we retired.

2151
01:24:13,540 --> 01:24:15,220
We went to Florida.

2152
01:24:15,220 --> 01:24:17,070
Did you ever go back to Greece?

2153
01:24:17,070 --> 01:24:19,090
Oh, yeah, a couple of times.

2154
01:24:19,090 --> 01:24:22,240
And did your mother
stay in Greece?

2155
01:24:22,240 --> 01:24:22,810
Your mother?

2156
01:24:22,810 --> 01:24:23,430
No.

2157
01:24:23,430 --> 01:24:24,880

No my mother came with us.

2158

01:24:24,880 --> 01:24:25,580

Oh, she did.

2159

01:24:25,580 --> 01:24:26,080

Yeah.

2160

01:24:26,080 --> 01:24:29,800

So she was with you when
you were working when he

2161

01:24:29,800 --> 01:24:34,240

was going to school, and so on?

2162

01:24:34,240 --> 01:24:35,090

Yes.

2163

01:24:35,090 --> 01:24:35,960

OK.

2164

01:24:35,960 --> 01:24:36,970

OK.

2165

01:24:36,970 --> 01:24:39,300

So she moved to the
United States as well?

2166

01:24:39,300 --> 01:24:39,800

Yeah.

2167

01:24:39,800 --> 01:24:41,200

All right.

2168

01:24:41,200 --> 01:24:44,050

And she moved in with
us, of course, to Florida

2169

01:24:44,050 --> 01:24:48,820

and one night she
didn't feel great.

2170

01:24:48,820 --> 01:24:49,920

She was in bed.

2171

01:24:49,920 --> 01:24:53,840

She started having the hiccups.

2172

01:24:53,840 --> 01:24:56,920

So I came and caressed her
and I said, mommy, mommy.

2173

01:24:56,920 --> 01:24:57,710

Don't worry.

2174

01:24:57,710 --> 01:24:59,580

I'm here.

2175

01:24:59,580 --> 01:25:00,820

She was gone.

2176

01:25:00,820 --> 01:25:01,420

Oh my.

2177

01:25:01,420 --> 01:25:03,010

99 years old.

2178

01:25:03,010 --> 01:25:05,200

99.

2179

01:25:05,200 --> 01:25:08,110

Wow, what year was
this, do you remember?

2180

01:25:08,110 --> 01:25:09,610

I can't remember the years.

2181

01:25:09,610 --> 01:25:10,540

It's OK.

2182

01:25:10,540 --> 01:25:12,220

That's OK.

2183

01:25:12,220 --> 01:25:14,620

And then my husband
got sick, and then he

2184

01:25:14,620 --> 01:25:16,955

died also in Florida.

2185

01:25:16,955 --> 01:25:20,710

2186

01:25:20,710 --> 01:25:24,070

So I had a full life.

2187

01:25:24,070 --> 01:25:27,880

We've come now to the
end of our interview.

2188

01:25:27,880 --> 01:25:33,610

And I'd like to close it with
some final thoughts from you.

2189

01:25:33,610 --> 01:25:37,150

When somebody would
listen to your interview,

2190

01:25:37,150 --> 01:25:40,330

what would you want them
to take away from it?

2191

01:25:40,330 --> 01:25:42,700

What would you want
them to understand

2192

01:25:42,700 --> 01:25:45,430

about the experiences
that you had?

2193

01:25:45,430 --> 01:25:49,710

2194

01:25:49,710 --> 01:25:53,970

Not to despair,

that's number one.

2195

01:25:53,970 --> 01:25:55,090

OK.

2196

01:25:55,090 --> 01:25:57,460

Always hope.

2197

01:25:57,460 --> 01:26:04,495

No matter how much you are suffering, hope and pray.

2198

01:26:04,495 --> 01:26:07,150

That's what I want people to--

2199

01:26:07,150 --> 01:26:08,470

not to despair.

2200

01:26:08,470 --> 01:26:10,270

There's always a God.

2201

01:26:10,270 --> 01:26:11,860

Did that sustain you?

2202

01:26:11,860 --> 01:26:13,840

Yeah, I think so.

2203

01:26:13,840 --> 01:26:14,890

OK.

2204

01:26:14,890 --> 01:26:17,680

And did you become more religious afterwards?

2205

01:26:17,680 --> 01:26:18,730

No.

2206

01:26:18,730 --> 01:26:19,570

No.

2207

01:26:19,570 --> 01:26:20,500

OK.

2208

01:26:20,500 --> 01:26:21,010

All right.

2209

01:26:21,010 --> 01:26:22,990

No, I didn't become religious.

2210

01:26:22,990 --> 01:26:25,380

I enjoy my services.

2211

01:26:25,380 --> 01:26:26,470

I go to it.

2212

01:26:26,470 --> 01:26:30,770

But I wasn't brought
up religious.

2213

01:26:30,770 --> 01:26:31,940

OK.

2214

01:26:31,940 --> 01:26:33,290

Well, thank you.

2215

01:26:33,290 --> 01:26:35,120

Thank you very, very much.

2216

01:26:35,120 --> 01:26:35,870

Thank you.

2217

01:26:35,870 --> 01:26:39,530

And I will say that this
concludes the United States

2218

01:26:39,530 --> 01:26:43,880

Holocaust Memorial Museum
interview with Mrs. Yvette

2219

01:26:43,880 --> 01:26:53,420

Carmona Nahmias on September 26,
2019 in Peabody, Massachusetts.

2220

01:26:53,420 --> 01:26:54,110

Thanks again.

2221

01:26:54,110 --> 01:26:55,370

Thank you very much.

2222

01:26:55,370 --> 01:26:55,870

Thank you.

2223

01:26:55,870 --> 01:26:56,960

You're welcome.

2224

01:26:56,960 --> 01:26:59,300

Can I tell you a quick
story about that picture?

2225

01:26:59,300 --> 01:27:02,330

OK, Mrs. Nahmias,
please tell me what

2226

01:27:02,330 --> 01:27:04,520

is this photograph
of that we see?

2227

01:27:04,520 --> 01:27:11,660

This was the day of liberation
on a Friday April 13, 1944.

2228

01:27:11,660 --> 01:27:13,130

'45 you mean.

2229

01:27:13,130 --> 01:27:14,480

'45, yeah.

2230

01:27:14,480 --> 01:27:18,370

April 13, 1945.

2231

01:27:18,370 --> 01:27:20,210

And that's the train we were on.

2232

01:27:20,210 --> 01:27:22,280

And that's the train
also where my father

2233

01:27:22,280 --> 01:27:24,180
contracted the typhus fever.

2234

01:27:24,180 --> 01:27:27,260
So this is the train
that the Germans put you

2235

01:27:27,260 --> 01:27:30,230
on after you had to
walk and walk and walk.

2236

01:27:30,230 --> 01:27:30,980
Right.

2237

01:27:30,980 --> 01:27:33,410
And then they
suddenly disappear.

2238

01:27:33,410 --> 01:27:36,260
And then everybody
leaves that train.

2239

01:27:36,260 --> 01:27:40,110
Who took this
picture, do you know?

2240

01:27:40,110 --> 01:27:42,750
Villagers, people
from the village.

2241

01:27:42,750 --> 01:27:43,750
People from the village.

2242

01:27:43,750 --> 01:27:45,290
And then they gave this to you?

2243

01:27:45,290 --> 01:27:47,740
And then I went to that little--

2244

01:27:47,740 --> 01:27:49,600
there was a little store there.

2245
01:27:49,600 --> 01:27:51,640
I went to buy some
milk or something.

2246
01:27:51,640 --> 01:27:55,250
I don't remember, not buy,
because we didn't have money.

2247
01:27:55,250 --> 01:27:57,950
And so this picture was there.

2248
01:27:57,950 --> 01:28:01,600
And the German said,
this is the one.

2249
01:28:01,600 --> 01:28:03,290
This is the one
sitting up there.

2250
01:28:03,290 --> 01:28:04,810
That's the one.

2251
01:28:04,810 --> 01:28:06,850
And they gave me the picture.

2252
01:28:06,850 --> 01:28:09,130
Oh, so they had taken it.

2253
01:28:09,130 --> 01:28:10,390
They had developed it.

2254
01:28:10,390 --> 01:28:12,080
And they recognized you.

2255
01:28:12,080 --> 01:28:12,580
Right.

2256
01:28:12,580 --> 01:28:13,990
And they gave you this.

2257

01:28:13,990 --> 01:28:17,020

And do you remember the
name of the village?

2258

01:28:17,020 --> 01:28:18,010

Hillersleben.

2259

01:28:18,010 --> 01:28:19,510

Hillersleben.

2260

01:28:19,510 --> 01:28:25,750

H-I-L-L-E-R-S-L-E-B-E-N. And
that must have been not so far

2261

01:28:25,750 --> 01:28:27,400

from Bergen-Belsen.

2262

01:28:27,400 --> 01:28:29,100

Was it?

2263

01:28:29,100 --> 01:28:30,223

Far?

2264

01:28:30,223 --> 01:28:32,640

Do you know how far it might
have been from Bergen-Belsen?

2265

01:28:32,640 --> 01:28:33,630

We were on the train.

2266

01:28:33,630 --> 01:28:34,470

We didn't know.

2267

01:28:34,470 --> 01:28:35,430

You didn't know.

2268

01:28:35,430 --> 01:28:36,630

OK.

2269

01:28:36,630 --> 01:28:40,590

Well that's-- it's unusual to
be able to have a photograph

2270
01:28:40,590 --> 01:28:45,210
of one's liberation, isn't it?

2271
01:28:45,210 --> 01:28:45,750
OK.

2272
01:28:45,750 --> 01:28:49,170
Thank you for
showing that to us.

2273
01:28:49,170 --> 01:28:49,950
Yes.

2274
01:28:49,950 --> 01:28:53,910
Tell me about this photograph
here, Mrs. Nahmias.

2275
01:28:53,910 --> 01:28:57,420
Tell me what is
this photograph of?

2276
01:28:57,420 --> 01:28:58,450
Can you hear it?

2277
01:28:58,450 --> 01:28:58,710
Can you hear it?

2278
01:28:58,710 --> 01:28:59,377
Can you hear me?

2279
01:28:59,377 --> 01:29:00,000
Yeah.

2280
01:29:00,000 --> 01:29:02,100
Can you tell me what
is this photograph of?

2281
01:29:02,100 --> 01:29:06,360
This photograph is the

house where they put us

2282
01:29:06,360 --> 01:29:08,250
in after liberation.

2283
01:29:08,250 --> 01:29:09,360
In Hillersleben?

2284
01:29:09,360 --> 01:29:10,800
In Hillersleben.

2285
01:29:10,800 --> 01:29:14,380
And about how long
did you stay there?

2286
01:29:14,380 --> 01:29:17,020
Just a couple of days,
because from there

2287
01:29:17,020 --> 01:29:21,970
they took us to another shelter,
an old, old movie theater.

2288
01:29:21,970 --> 01:29:23,800
We stayed there for one night.

2289
01:29:23,800 --> 01:29:25,600
And then the following
day they put us

2290
01:29:25,600 --> 01:29:27,850
on the train that took us--

2291
01:29:27,850 --> 01:29:30,190
To Belgium.

2292
01:29:30,190 --> 01:29:35,200
That took us to liberate
home in Belgium.

2293
01:29:35,200 --> 01:29:37,150
OK, OK.

2294
01:29:37,150 --> 01:29:41,110
And how who took
this photograph?

2295
01:29:41,110 --> 01:29:43,930
Was it the same people who
gave you the other photograph?

2296
01:29:43,930 --> 01:29:46,480
I really don't
remember how I got it.

2297
01:29:46,480 --> 01:29:47,050
OK.

2298
01:29:47,050 --> 01:29:48,370
I can't remember.

2299
01:29:48,370 --> 01:29:49,450
OK.

2300
01:29:49,450 --> 01:29:50,470
All right, thank you.

2301
01:29:50,470 --> 01:29:57,270

2302
01:29:57,270 --> 01:30:01,770
Mrs. Nahmias, you are
holding open a book.

2303
01:30:01,770 --> 01:30:06,090
And please tell us what is
this book that you are holding.

2304
01:30:06,090 --> 01:30:08,760
What does it have in it?

2305
01:30:08,760 --> 01:30:11,430
This book, what is this
book that you are holding?

2306
01:30:11,430 --> 01:30:12,000
This book?

2307
01:30:12,000 --> 01:30:12,540
Yes.

2308
01:30:12,540 --> 01:30:17,010
It's the list of all the people
who were in Bergen-Belsen.

2309
01:30:17,010 --> 01:30:20,280
So it's a list of all
prisoners of Bergen-Belsen.

2310
01:30:20,280 --> 01:30:23,940
And this is volume one?

2311
01:30:23,940 --> 01:30:26,430
Yeah, it's all the
people in Bergen-Belsen.

2312
01:30:26,430 --> 01:30:27,270
OK.

2313
01:30:27,270 --> 01:30:30,630
And I saw that there were
two volumes of this book.

2314
01:30:30,630 --> 01:30:31,950
And this is volume one.

2315
01:30:31,950 --> 01:30:33,090
That's right.

2316
01:30:33,090 --> 01:30:37,570
And on the top, across the top,
it has the name, [NON-ENGLISH],,

2317
01:30:37,570 --> 01:30:41,830
which means first name, when a
person was born, [NON-ENGLISH],.

2318
01:30:41,830 --> 01:30:44,730
The [NON-ENGLISH],, when
a person was liberated.

2319
01:30:44,730 --> 01:30:48,660
And [NON-ENGLISH] if
somebody has passed away.

2320
01:30:48,660 --> 01:30:52,510
And when we look down, in
the middle of the page,

2321
01:30:52,510 --> 01:30:54,840
we see three Carmonas.

2322
01:30:54,840 --> 01:30:58,800
So three Carmonas, that's my
father, my mother, and myself.

2323
01:30:58,800 --> 01:30:59,460
That's right.

2324
01:30:59,460 --> 01:31:01,630
And it lists the
dates of your birth.

2325
01:31:01,630 --> 01:31:02,130
Yes.

2326
01:31:02,130 --> 01:31:05,130
The dates of your
liberation, and the date

2327
01:31:05,130 --> 01:31:07,110
that your father passes away.

2328
01:31:07,110 --> 01:31:10,980
No, the day of my father's
birthday and mother's birthday,

2329
01:31:10,980 --> 01:31:12,850

and also the day he passes away.

2330

01:31:12,850 --> 01:31:13,350

Passed away.

2331

01:31:13,350 --> 01:31:14,220

Yeah.

2332

01:31:14,220 --> 01:31:15,870

Yeah.

2333

01:31:15,870 --> 01:31:18,870

And if you could
close the book now,

2334

01:31:18,870 --> 01:31:22,440

so that we could
get the front cover.

2335

01:31:22,440 --> 01:31:23,715

That's what that is.

2336

01:31:23,715 --> 01:31:29,819

It is called Gedenkbuch Book
of Remembrance, Bergen-Belsen.

2337

01:31:29,819 --> 01:31:36,050

2338

01:31:36,050 --> 01:31:37,880

How they mail those to me?

2339

01:31:37,880 --> 01:31:38,690

Hang on a minute.

2340

01:31:38,690 --> 01:31:40,160

Hang on a minute.

2341

01:31:40,160 --> 01:31:42,650

OK, you say you remember
you when you got

2342

01:31:42,650 --> 01:31:44,440
those books at the post office.

2343

01:31:44,440 --> 01:31:45,380
Yes, yeah.

2344

01:31:45,380 --> 01:31:48,080
Such big heavy books,
how they mail them to me,

2345

01:31:48,080 --> 01:31:52,040
I mean they could have said,
we can't mail you the books.

2346

01:31:52,040 --> 01:31:53,640
But they were
willing to mail them.

2347

01:31:53,640 --> 01:31:54,140
They did.

2348

01:31:54,140 --> 01:31:56,340
And who did this Bergen-Belsen?

2349

01:31:56,340 --> 01:31:58,230
The people who
put this together?

2350

01:31:58,230 --> 01:31:59,640
This particular volume?

2351

01:31:59,640 --> 01:32:00,140
No, no.

2352

01:32:00,140 --> 01:32:02,120
I called Germany.

2353

01:32:02,120 --> 01:32:03,450
Not Bergen-Belsen.

2354

01:32:03,450 --> 01:32:06,260

Ah, OK.

2355

01:32:06,260 --> 01:32:08,600

And then they mailed them.

2356

01:32:08,600 --> 01:32:10,940

And I were surprised.

2357

01:32:10,940 --> 01:32:14,990

I never expected that they
would make such big books.

2358

01:32:14,990 --> 01:32:17,388

And when did they arrive,
what year did you get these?

2359

01:32:17,388 --> 01:32:17,930

Oh, long ago.

2360

01:32:17,930 --> 01:32:19,450

I can't remember years.

2361

01:32:19,450 --> 01:32:20,150

OK.

2362

01:32:20,150 --> 01:32:20,940

Thank you.

2363

01:32:20,940 --> 01:32:22,520

Thank you very much.

2364

01:32:22,520 --> 01:32:23,380

Thank you.

2365

01:32:23,380 --> 01:32:24,950

OK.

2366

01:32:24,950 --> 01:32:28,040

OK, tell me Mrs.
Nahmias, tell me

2367

01:32:28,040 --> 01:32:31,190
what is this picture
that we see here

2368
01:32:31,190 --> 01:32:33,350
of this lovely little girl?

2369
01:32:33,350 --> 01:32:37,030
This is me at age two or three.

2370
01:32:37,030 --> 01:32:39,470
I don't remember.

2371
01:32:39,470 --> 01:32:45,530
And I'm wearing an outfit that
my paternal grandmother sent me

2372
01:32:45,530 --> 01:32:46,620
from Paris.

2373
01:32:46,620 --> 01:32:51,710
I was always dressed
up in Parisian couture.

2374
01:32:51,710 --> 01:32:53,090
It's so cute.

2375
01:32:53,090 --> 01:32:54,110
Yeah, it is.

2376
01:32:54,110 --> 01:32:55,790
It's really so cute.

2377
01:32:55,790 --> 01:32:59,750
And what our friend Anna
said to us off camera,

2378
01:32:59,750 --> 01:33:02,810
is that this poster
was made when

2379
01:33:02,810 --> 01:33:09,110

the film that she had your
excerpt of an interview in

2380
01:33:09,110 --> 01:33:10,170
was shown.

2381
01:33:10,170 --> 01:33:13,310
So this was one of the posters
that was created for that.

2382
01:33:13,310 --> 01:33:14,040
Correct.

2383
01:33:14,040 --> 01:33:15,290
OK.

2384
01:33:15,290 --> 01:33:16,760
In Brooksby Village.

2385
01:33:16,760 --> 01:33:18,440
Yes.

2386
01:33:18,440 --> 01:33:22,670
All right, and then we see
this beautiful, beautiful blue

2387
01:33:22,670 --> 01:33:23,450
bedspread.

2388
01:33:23,450 --> 01:33:25,130
Tell us about that.

2389
01:33:25,130 --> 01:33:27,050
My mother loved to crochet.

2390
01:33:27,050 --> 01:33:31,340
So when she had time,
she crocheted this one.

2391
01:33:31,340 --> 01:33:33,290
It's made out of wool.

2392

01:33:33,290 --> 01:33:37,730

And when she came to
America to stay with me,

2393

01:33:37,730 --> 01:33:41,720

she made the same one in thread.

2394

01:33:41,720 --> 01:33:42,950

In a thread, OK.

2395

01:33:42,950 --> 01:33:45,200

So this one is wool, it's blue.

2396

01:33:45,200 --> 01:33:46,060

And the other?

2397

01:33:46,060 --> 01:33:48,290

And the other one cream color.

2398

01:33:48,290 --> 01:33:50,990

Yeah, I have it right here,
if you want to look at it.

2399

01:33:50,990 --> 01:33:51,740

This is fine.

2400

01:33:51,740 --> 01:33:54,040

Thank you so much.