

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,670

2

00:00:01,670 --> 00:00:04,820

So good morning, Mr. Cohn.

3

00:00:04,820 --> 00:00:09,170

And it's nice to be able  
to speak this morning to be

4

00:00:09,170 --> 00:00:11,660

able to wrap up our interview.

5

00:00:11,660 --> 00:00:16,219

And if I recall, we  
were coming close

6

00:00:16,219 --> 00:00:21,320

to the end of your  
service in Germany

7

00:00:21,320 --> 00:00:24,230

after the war had ended.

8

00:00:24,230 --> 00:00:28,670

And you had been responsible for  
a number of different documents

9

00:00:28,670 --> 00:00:30,770

to be sent back to the States.

10

00:00:30,770 --> 00:00:33,410

And you also shed a  
little bit of light

11

00:00:33,410 --> 00:00:35,960

on some of the black  
marketeering that

12

00:00:35,960 --> 00:00:40,290

was taking place at the

time, and spoke a little bit

13

00:00:40,290 --> 00:00:43,830

about your post-war  
duty stations

14

00:00:43,830 --> 00:00:47,610

when you were back in Germany.

15

00:00:47,610 --> 00:00:53,940

But I want to go back right  
now to returning home in 1946,

16

00:00:53,940 --> 00:00:57,810

and the point at which you  
finally knock on the door

17

00:00:57,810 --> 00:01:00,060

after having walked  
around the block

18

00:01:00,060 --> 00:01:03,750

and see your parents again.

19

00:01:03,750 --> 00:01:06,960

It was a sad  
occasion in that you

20

00:01:06,960 --> 00:01:11,220

had your father for only a  
couple of weeks after that.

21

00:01:11,220 --> 00:01:15,320

Was he already doing  
poorly when you returned?

22

00:01:15,320 --> 00:01:15,820

No.

23

00:01:15,820 --> 00:01:23,020

I had no idea that the end  
stage was coming so quickly.

24

00:01:23,020 --> 00:01:25,900

He had always had  
some heart problems,

25

00:01:25,900 --> 00:01:29,230

but he didn't seem  
that different to me

26

00:01:29,230 --> 00:01:30,790

when I came back.

27

00:01:30,790 --> 00:01:34,510

I certainly hadn't  
expected that within a week

28

00:01:34,510 --> 00:01:40,180

or so after my return, he would  
have his fatal heart attack.

29

00:01:40,180 --> 00:01:43,030

I see, that's what it was.

30

00:01:43,030 --> 00:01:45,550

Did you, in that  
time, have any chance

31

00:01:45,550 --> 00:01:50,920

to talk to him about any  
aspect of your experiences

32

00:01:50,920 --> 00:01:52,600

after being in Europe?

33

00:01:52,600 --> 00:01:56,860

I mean, from the time that  
you were deployed to the time

34

00:01:56,860 --> 00:01:59,370

that you came back.

35

00:01:59,370 --> 00:02:02,170

I just never talked about it.

36

00:02:02,170 --> 00:02:06,390

The only thing that happened  
was that I had come back

37

00:02:06,390 --> 00:02:12,240

with a 45 caliber  
pistol that I had,

38

00:02:12,240 --> 00:02:15,160

you might say  
liberated, overseas.

39

00:02:15,160 --> 00:02:18,990

And he was very aghast about it  
and asked me to get rid of it.

40

00:02:18,990 --> 00:02:20,890

And I did get rid of it.

41

00:02:20,890 --> 00:02:24,510

So we were at peace  
in that regard.

42

00:02:24,510 --> 00:02:28,500

But I never talked  
about it at all.

43

00:02:28,500 --> 00:02:30,870

And I never talked about  
it to my mother either.

44

00:02:30,870 --> 00:02:32,850

Well that was my next question.

45

00:02:32,850 --> 00:02:34,950

OK.

46

00:02:34,950 --> 00:02:37,470

Do you remember the  
first time you did start

47

00:02:37,470 --> 00:02:40,260  
talking about these  
experiences, and to whom?

48  
00:02:40,260 --> 00:02:42,843

49  
00:02:42,843 --> 00:02:44,010  
Well that's a good question.

50  
00:02:44,010 --> 00:02:47,030

51  
00:02:47,030 --> 00:02:51,480  
Once in a while,  
some item came up.

52  
00:02:51,480 --> 00:02:56,670  
I remember the time  
when a friend of mine

53  
00:02:56,670 --> 00:02:59,008  
suddenly told me he  
was an anti-Semite.

54  
00:02:59,008 --> 00:02:59,550  
That's right.

55  
00:02:59,550 --> 00:03:04,990  
Those little things did come up  
in conversation over the years.

56  
00:03:04,990 --> 00:03:07,560  
But as far as sitting  
down and talking

57  
00:03:07,560 --> 00:03:11,580  
about my entire experience,  
that didn't happen

58  
00:03:11,580 --> 00:03:14,970  
until I was interviewed  
by the Shoah people,

59  
00:03:14,970 --> 00:03:18,990  
Spielberg's debriefing.

60  
00:03:18,990 --> 00:03:21,720  
So that was the first time?

61  
00:03:21,720 --> 00:03:25,110  
Yes, that was the first time  
I talked about it in full.

62  
00:03:25,110 --> 00:03:28,410  
And that would have  
been what year?

63  
00:03:28,410 --> 00:03:29,840  
Goodness, I don't know.

64  
00:03:29,840 --> 00:03:32,390  
It was probably 30  
years ago or more.

65  
00:03:32,390 --> 00:03:35,000  
Well it could be that--  
most of those interviews

66  
00:03:35,000 --> 00:03:37,617  
took place in the 1990s.

67  
00:03:37,617 --> 00:03:40,080  
I think that's probably correct.

68  
00:03:40,080 --> 00:03:40,580  
Yes.

69  
00:03:40,580 --> 00:03:41,570  
OK.

70  
00:03:41,570 --> 00:03:45,500  
So that means almost a  
half century, not quite

71

00:03:45,500 --> 00:03:48,620  
a half century, but almost.

72

00:03:48,620 --> 00:03:49,190  
Yes.

73

00:03:49,190 --> 00:03:56,360  
Or indeed about that much time  
because '45 to '95 is 50 years.

74

00:03:56,360 --> 00:03:59,120  
And I don't know exactly  
when your interview

75

00:03:59,120 --> 00:04:00,170  
would have taken place.

76

00:04:00,170 --> 00:04:02,300  
But if it's during  
that decade, it easily

77

00:04:02,300 --> 00:04:05,460  
could have been more  
than 50 years later.

78

00:04:05,460 --> 00:04:08,730  
Did you ever talk to your  
kids about any aspect

79

00:04:08,730 --> 00:04:11,210  
of this experience?

80

00:04:11,210 --> 00:04:12,740  
I only have one daughter.

81

00:04:12,740 --> 00:04:15,080  
I see.

82

00:04:15,080 --> 00:04:18,560  
Over time, yes, we had  
certain discussions

83

00:04:18,560 --> 00:04:21,630  
because she heard me--

84

00:04:21,630 --> 00:04:25,430  
in the last 10 years,  
I've been asked

85

00:04:25,430 --> 00:04:28,910  
to talk about it in  
almost every place,

86

00:04:28,910 --> 00:04:33,770  
both on the Holocaust portion as  
well as my army career portion.

87

00:04:33,770 --> 00:04:36,350  
And she listened in on  
many of these things,

88

00:04:36,350 --> 00:04:38,910  
just as my wife listened in.

89

00:04:38,910 --> 00:04:44,420  
But I really never sat down  
with either one of them

90

00:04:44,420 --> 00:04:47,390  
to give my story  
because I know they

91

00:04:47,390 --> 00:04:50,780  
had heard what I've said  
before, and it would just

92

00:04:50,780 --> 00:04:52,070  
be repetitive.

93

00:04:52,070 --> 00:04:52,650  
I see.

94

00:04:52,650 --> 00:04:56,720  
So I mean that is-- it's



after the Spielberg interview

95

00:04:56,720 --> 00:05:01,510

that you start  
speaking more publicly.

96

00:05:01,510 --> 00:05:02,760

That's correct, yes.

97

00:05:02,760 --> 00:05:05,660

And particularly  
in the last decade,

98

00:05:05,660 --> 00:05:11,690

so that would be like from  
2010 to now, which is 2020.

99

00:05:11,690 --> 00:05:14,540

Approximately, I'm not holding  
you strictly to those dates.

100

00:05:14,540 --> 00:05:15,980

Actually, it was  
a little earlier

101

00:05:15,980 --> 00:05:21,110

because my first trip  
to Russia was in 2005,

102

00:05:21,110 --> 00:05:23,240

and that's when it all started.

103

00:05:23,240 --> 00:05:24,540

Really?

104

00:05:24,540 --> 00:05:25,040

Really?

105

00:05:25,040 --> 00:05:28,070

And you spoke publicly  
at that commemoration

106

00:05:28,070 --> 00:05:31,970  
of the meeting of the  
American and Soviet soldiers

107  
00:05:31,970 --> 00:05:33,870  
at the Elbe.

108  
00:05:33,870 --> 00:05:40,860  
Well in 2005, I think I told  
you that a Russian speaking

109  
00:05:40,860 --> 00:05:45,120  
person went with me,  
and he made the speech.

110  
00:05:45,120 --> 00:05:50,650  
But in 2010, I was  
sitting comfortably,

111  
00:05:50,650 --> 00:05:53,940  
then one of the ladies that  
were chaperoning me said--

112  
00:05:53,940 --> 00:05:58,110  
she said, oh, by the way,  
why don't you make the talk

113  
00:05:58,110 --> 00:06:01,750  
and tell him as to what  
happened at the Elbe.

114  
00:06:01,750 --> 00:06:07,230  
So I had a napkin and I had to  
scratch out a couple of things

115  
00:06:07,230 --> 00:06:09,000  
that I was going to say.

116  
00:06:09,000 --> 00:06:11,340  
And then I got up  
and started to talk,

117  
00:06:11,340 --> 00:06:14,040

but it was very easy  
because I could only

118  
00:06:14,040 --> 00:06:17,380  
talk one sentence because  
they had to translate it.

119  
00:06:17,380 --> 00:06:17,880  
Exactly.

120  
00:06:17,880 --> 00:06:21,790  
So I had lots of time to  
think about the next sentence.

121  
00:06:21,790 --> 00:06:22,290  
OK.

122  
00:06:22,290 --> 00:06:24,210  
So that went--

123  
00:06:24,210 --> 00:06:27,600  
Do you remember some  
of what you said?

124  
00:06:27,600 --> 00:06:33,090  
Well, I told them the story  
of how we got to the Elbe

125  
00:06:33,090 --> 00:06:36,060  
and how we were received  
on the Russian side,

126  
00:06:36,060 --> 00:06:41,760  
and that I was 19 years old  
and had never had any vodka.

127  
00:06:41,760 --> 00:06:43,920  
But when I put it  
on the paper, they

128  
00:06:43,920 --> 00:06:49,590  
said that he was 19 years old,  
and when they offered vodka,

129  
00:06:49,590 --> 00:06:53,160  
he was very anxious to get it.

130  
00:06:53,160 --> 00:06:56,190  
They turned it all around.

131  
00:06:56,190 --> 00:06:57,190  
That's life.

132  
00:06:57,190 --> 00:06:57,790  
Yes.

133  
00:06:57,790 --> 00:07:00,360  
Yes, it is.

134  
00:07:00,360 --> 00:07:04,140  
So that's in 2010, yes?

135  
00:07:04,140 --> 00:07:05,520  
Yes, that was 2010.

136  
00:07:05,520 --> 00:07:08,190  
OK.

137  
00:07:08,190 --> 00:07:12,600  
When did you come to the museum  
for the first time to visit it?

138  
00:07:12,600 --> 00:07:17,625  
And I'm referring now to our  
US Holocaust Memorial Museum.

139  
00:07:17,625 --> 00:07:21,170

140  
00:07:21,170 --> 00:07:22,520  
To visit where?

141  
00:07:22,520 --> 00:07:23,480  
The museum.

142  
00:07:23,480 --> 00:07:26,200  
The Holocaust Museum.

143  
00:07:26,200 --> 00:07:31,730  
You know, I don't really  
remember how many years back

144  
00:07:31,730 --> 00:07:32,330  
it was.

145  
00:07:32,330 --> 00:07:37,400  
But there were people who  
knew that I was a refugee

146  
00:07:37,400 --> 00:07:40,580  
and they asked me to  
take them to the museum.

147  
00:07:40,580 --> 00:07:44,180  
And I took them to the museum  
and I explained certain things

148  
00:07:44,180 --> 00:07:48,080  
as we went along, so  
I was sort of a docent

149  
00:07:48,080 --> 00:07:52,190  
to take them through the museum  
without being trained as such.

150  
00:07:52,190 --> 00:07:56,600  
And that happened probably  
over a dozen times

151  
00:07:56,600 --> 00:07:59,550  
that I took people through  
the museum over the years.

152  
00:07:59,550 --> 00:08:00,050  
Wow.

153

00:08:00,050 --> 00:08:03,290  
Now how many times--

154  
00:08:03,290 --> 00:08:07,250  
it must have been  
around 2,000 or so.

155  
00:08:07,250 --> 00:08:08,360  
OK.

156  
00:08:08,360 --> 00:08:12,490  
And had you, yourself,  
visited it before then?

157  
00:08:12,490 --> 00:08:21,250  
Well, yes, I had visited  
it before with my wife.

158  
00:08:21,250 --> 00:08:22,630  
We went through it.

159  
00:08:22,630 --> 00:08:26,890  
And that was before the turn  
of the century, I guess.

160  
00:08:26,890 --> 00:08:28,520  
In the '90s?

161  
00:08:28,520 --> 00:08:29,380  
Yeah.

162  
00:08:29,380 --> 00:08:33,080  
Of course, I ended  
up making a donation,

163  
00:08:33,080 --> 00:08:36,980  
a monthly donation  
to the museum,

164  
00:08:36,980 --> 00:08:38,650  
so they always sent me tickets.

165

00:08:38,650 --> 00:08:39,970

I see.

166

00:08:39,970 --> 00:08:45,970

And I use these tickets to take friends through the museum.

167

00:08:45,970 --> 00:08:49,960

And had you ever visited any other Holocaust

168

00:08:49,960 --> 00:08:56,350

related museums or expositions or installations or things

169

00:08:56,350 --> 00:08:59,210

like that?

170

00:08:59,210 --> 00:09:04,910

Only when I went back to Germany one time.

171

00:09:04,910 --> 00:09:07,310

I went to Dachau.

172

00:09:07,310 --> 00:09:08,330

I'm sure of that.

173

00:09:08,330 --> 00:09:09,380

Oh, yes.

174

00:09:09,380 --> 00:09:09,950

Oh, yes.

175

00:09:09,950 --> 00:09:14,840

Dachau was made into a Memorial site, I believe.

176

00:09:14,840 --> 00:09:16,160

Yes, yes.

177

00:09:16,160 --> 00:09:18,380

Yeah.

178

00:09:18,380 --> 00:09:21,070

Have you ever been to Auschwitz?

179

00:09:21,070 --> 00:09:21,770

No.

180

00:09:21,770 --> 00:09:22,270

OK.

181

00:09:22,270 --> 00:09:25,080

No, I never went to Poland.

182

00:09:25,080 --> 00:09:26,710

OK.

183

00:09:26,710 --> 00:09:30,730

And when you visited  
the museum, did you

184

00:09:30,730 --> 00:09:33,820

feel any kind of special  
connection to it?

185

00:09:33,820 --> 00:09:37,450

I mean, clearly if you  
brought visitors and acted

186

00:09:37,450 --> 00:09:42,750

as their guide for a  
dozen times, that's a lot.

187

00:09:42,750 --> 00:09:44,870

Yes, of course.

188

00:09:44,870 --> 00:09:47,950

But for lots of  
luck that we had,

189

00:09:47,950 --> 00:09:49,910

I could have been



right in there.

190  
00:09:49,910 --> 00:09:55,660  
So it certainly shakes  
you because you identify

191  
00:09:55,660 --> 00:10:00,910  
that with any little  
misstep, and I

192  
00:10:00,910 --> 00:10:03,010  
could have been eliminated.

193  
00:10:03,010 --> 00:10:03,510  
Yeah.

194  
00:10:03,510 --> 00:10:10,150  
I remember reading that  
the last Jews of Breslau

195  
00:10:10,150 --> 00:10:14,200  
were taken out into a  
field in Poland and shot.

196  
00:10:14,200 --> 00:10:18,940  
And that was just  
before Pearl Harbor.

197  
00:10:18,940 --> 00:10:21,250  
It was in December, 19--

198  
00:10:21,250 --> 00:10:25,300  
I guess it was the  
last of November, 1941.

199  
00:10:25,300 --> 00:10:28,600  
So that's just over  
three years after you

200  
00:10:28,600 --> 00:10:29,770  
have left the country--

201

00:10:29,770 --> 00:10:32,110  
after you leave  
with your mother.

202  
00:10:32,110 --> 00:10:34,060  
So had you stayed--

203  
00:10:34,060 --> 00:10:36,400  
I would have been six years old.

204  
00:10:36,400 --> 00:10:37,580  
Yeah.

205  
00:10:37,580 --> 00:10:38,080  
Yeah.

206  
00:10:38,080 --> 00:10:41,370

207  
00:10:41,370 --> 00:10:44,480  
You know, those are the  
things that shake you up--

208  
00:10:44,480 --> 00:10:44,980  
Yeah.

209  
00:10:44,980 --> 00:10:48,280  
--and make you a believer.

210  
00:10:48,280 --> 00:10:50,030  
Yeah.

211  
00:10:50,030 --> 00:10:53,120  
Did you ever encounter,  
in post-war years,

212  
00:10:53,120 --> 00:10:55,550  
people who doubted  
the Holocaust?

213  
00:10:55,550 --> 00:10:57,980  
I mean, personally

encountered them.

214

00:10:57,980 --> 00:11:00,710

I never had a  
discussion with anybody

215

00:11:00,710 --> 00:11:04,730

who said that this  
didn't happen, no.

216

00:11:04,730 --> 00:11:09,980

Of course, I read a lot of  
items of people being that way

217

00:11:09,980 --> 00:11:15,080

and being challenged, and  
even in court in some places.

218

00:11:15,080 --> 00:11:17,540

But no, I never  
encountered anyone

219

00:11:17,540 --> 00:11:23,150

who said that to me because  
even if they thought that,

220

00:11:23,150 --> 00:11:26,900

they probably wouldn't bring it  
up to me when if they knew what

221

00:11:26,900 --> 00:11:28,400

my background was.

222

00:11:28,400 --> 00:11:32,840

Well, there is a spectrum  
of Holocaust denial,

223

00:11:32,840 --> 00:11:38,300

from outright it never happened  
to it's not as bad as they say,

224

00:11:38,300 --> 00:11:40,430

which is like on a continuum.

225  
00:11:40,430 --> 00:11:42,830  
That yes, there something  
going on, but not

226  
00:11:42,830 --> 00:11:44,960  
as bad, not as much, not as--

227  
00:11:44,960 --> 00:11:46,330  
all of that.

228  
00:11:46,330 --> 00:11:47,020  
Yeah.

229  
00:11:47,020 --> 00:11:47,840  
Yeah.

230  
00:11:47,840 --> 00:11:51,350  
Did you ever come across  
that kind of spectrum?

231  
00:11:51,350 --> 00:11:53,720  
No, nobody argued  
that with me at all.

232  
00:11:53,720 --> 00:11:54,620  
OK.

233  
00:11:54,620 --> 00:11:55,730  
OK.

234  
00:11:55,730 --> 00:11:58,310  
And when--

235  
00:11:58,310 --> 00:12:02,210  
The numbers don't really  
come up most of the time.

236  
00:12:02,210 --> 00:12:05,930  
But even the idea  
of oh, this thing

237

00:12:05,930 --> 00:12:07,970  
wasn't quite as bad as they say.

238

00:12:07,970 --> 00:12:09,950  
Nobody ever said  
that to me either.

239

00:12:09,950 --> 00:12:11,100  
OK.

240

00:12:11,100 --> 00:12:12,660  
OK.

241

00:12:12,660 --> 00:12:15,960  
Well, that's good to know.

242

00:12:15,960 --> 00:12:17,430  
Well, I may have  
been just lucky.

243

00:12:17,430 --> 00:12:18,090  
I don't know.

244

00:12:18,090 --> 00:12:18,590  
Yeah.

245

00:12:18,590 --> 00:12:22,720

246

00:12:22,720 --> 00:12:27,690  
When did your connection to  
the museum become closer?

247

00:12:27,690 --> 00:12:30,750  
That only happened very  
recently, only about a year

248

00:12:30,750 --> 00:12:32,790  
or so ago.

249

00:12:32,790 --> 00:12:39,570

I had plans to get to  
the museum and help them,

250  
00:12:39,570 --> 00:12:44,850  
particularly I thought I could  
do some speeches in support

251  
00:12:44,850 --> 00:12:51,420  
of the program that the  
museum had to advise people

252  
00:12:51,420 --> 00:12:52,800  
about the Holocaust.

253  
00:12:52,800 --> 00:12:56,700  
Because I was asked to make a  
lot of speeches along the way

254  
00:12:56,700 --> 00:13:00,450  
by the various religious  
groups, temples.

255  
00:13:00,450 --> 00:13:05,970  
And the Jewish Community  
Center got a hold of me

256  
00:13:05,970 --> 00:13:11,100  
and sent me out to schools  
and various other places.

257  
00:13:11,100 --> 00:13:13,710  
And I thought I should  
do it at the museum,

258  
00:13:13,710 --> 00:13:18,240  
and I probably started thinking  
about it over five years ago.

259  
00:13:18,240 --> 00:13:20,610  
But at that time,  
I was told I had

260  
00:13:20,610 --> 00:13:27,780

to have put in time at the  
museum for about once a week

261  
00:13:27,780 --> 00:13:28,990  
or so.

262  
00:13:28,990 --> 00:13:31,580  
And I just didn't have  
the time to do that.

263  
00:13:31,580 --> 00:13:33,480  
So that discouraged me.

264  
00:13:33,480 --> 00:13:42,450  
And it was just about a year ago  
that I finally enrolled myself.

265  
00:13:42,450 --> 00:13:45,570  
And I do have some  
problems hearing

266  
00:13:45,570 --> 00:13:50,520  
so while I would  
have enjoyed meeting

267  
00:13:50,520 --> 00:13:52,950  
the people in the  
museum, I would

268  
00:13:52,950 --> 00:13:56,550  
have had lots of trouble  
hearing certain people

269  
00:13:56,550 --> 00:13:59,560  
with a certain pitch  
of their voice.

270  
00:13:59,560 --> 00:14:02,460  
So I discouraged  
that for myself.

271  
00:14:02,460 --> 00:14:08,160  
And I ended up taking audio--

272  
00:14:08,160 --> 00:14:12,510  
just what we're doing right now,  
and summarizing it for them.

273  
00:14:12,510 --> 00:14:15,490  
And that's what I've been  
doing over the last year.

274  
00:14:15,490 --> 00:14:15,990  
OK.

275  
00:14:15,990 --> 00:14:17,130  
So explain that to me.

276  
00:14:17,130 --> 00:14:20,100  
Does that mean you acted  
as a guide for groups

277  
00:14:20,100 --> 00:14:23,798  
or for individuals  
at the museum?

278  
00:14:23,798 --> 00:14:24,340  
I don't know.

279  
00:14:24,340 --> 00:14:25,900  
I do this at home.

280  
00:14:25,900 --> 00:14:31,060  
I receive-- it's a video,  
but it's not a video.

281  
00:14:31,060 --> 00:14:32,150  
You don't see anything.

282  
00:14:32,150 --> 00:14:36,160  
It's just a voice  
recording, and I summarize.

283  
00:14:36,160 --> 00:14:38,920  
The voice recording



might be about an hour,

284

00:14:38,920 --> 00:14:45,190  
and I put it all in one or two  
paragraphs and send it back.

285

00:14:45,190 --> 00:14:47,710  
And what kind of voice  
recording is this?

286

00:14:47,710 --> 00:14:49,210  
I mean, is it--

287

00:14:49,210 --> 00:14:52,270  
Done in 1994.

288

00:14:52,270 --> 00:14:59,140  
Interviews with military,  
usually military personnel

289

00:14:59,140 --> 00:15:02,110  
who were liberating  
a concentration camp.

290

00:15:02,110 --> 00:15:05,590  
But then there were  
also a few of POWs

291

00:15:05,590 --> 00:15:11,380  
who were in German POW camps  
and how they survived that.

292

00:15:11,380 --> 00:15:14,350  
Those are the type of  
interviews that I summarize.

293

00:15:14,350 --> 00:15:15,190  
OK.

294

00:15:15,190 --> 00:15:17,080  
And do you know--  
are they exactly

295

00:15:17,080 --> 00:15:21,190

the same kind of interviews  
that we're conducting now?

296

00:15:21,190 --> 00:15:24,880

Or were they part of, let's  
say, some kind of museum program

297

00:15:24,880 --> 00:15:27,790

that was a public program?

298

00:15:27,790 --> 00:15:29,530

Well, I think it's  
the same thing what

299

00:15:29,530 --> 00:15:30,500

you're doing right now.

300

00:15:30,500 --> 00:15:31,000

OK.

301

00:15:31,000 --> 00:15:32,800

But it was '94.

302

00:15:32,800 --> 00:15:33,860

OK.

303

00:15:33,860 --> 00:15:34,760

OK.

304

00:15:34,760 --> 00:15:36,070

Well that's very valuable.

305

00:15:36,070 --> 00:15:38,470

And it makes an  
awful lot of sense

306

00:15:38,470 --> 00:15:43,390

to kind of take advantage  
of your military background

307

00:15:43,390 --> 00:15:49,600  
and have you summarize the  
US military, let's say,

308  
00:15:49,600 --> 00:15:52,000  
themed interviews.

309  
00:15:52,000 --> 00:15:52,660  
Because--

310  
00:15:52,660 --> 00:15:55,660  
Yeah, that makes  
sense because I could

311  
00:15:55,660 --> 00:15:59,650  
tell what they were saying as  
to whether we're scientists

312  
00:15:59,650 --> 00:16:02,060  
or whatever, and I knew what  
they were talking about.

313  
00:16:02,060 --> 00:16:03,520  
They would talk  
about a battalion

314  
00:16:03,520 --> 00:16:06,080  
or they were talking about  
a regiment or whatever.

315  
00:16:06,080 --> 00:16:07,420  
So that was helpful.

316  
00:16:07,420 --> 00:16:09,700  
On the other hand, there  
were some interviews

317  
00:16:09,700 --> 00:16:13,390  
that I just couldn't understand  
what they were saying,

318  
00:16:13,390 --> 00:16:15,670  
and then she just

gave me another one.

319  
00:16:15,670 --> 00:16:16,930  
OK.

320  
00:16:16,930 --> 00:16:17,920  
[INAUDIBLE]

321  
00:16:17,920 --> 00:16:20,875  
Is this done through the  
Survivor Affairs Office?

322  
00:16:20,875 --> 00:16:24,310

323  
00:16:24,310 --> 00:16:25,900  
I guess so.

324  
00:16:25,900 --> 00:16:32,390  
I'm not sure what the  
structure was of the people.

325  
00:16:32,390 --> 00:16:32,890  
Yeah.

326  
00:16:32,890 --> 00:16:33,390  
That's OK.

327  
00:16:33,390 --> 00:16:34,240  
[INAUDIBLE]

328  
00:16:34,240 --> 00:16:37,450  
I don't know if you know  
her, but she does not

329  
00:16:37,450 --> 00:16:38,900  
work at the museum.

330  
00:16:38,900 --> 00:16:40,240  
She's out of town.

331

00:16:40,240 --> 00:16:41,830  
Oh, I know who this.

332  
00:16:41,830 --> 00:16:43,360  
This is our colleague.

333  
00:16:43,360 --> 00:16:44,050  
Yes.

334  
00:16:44,050 --> 00:16:45,160  
Yes, I know her.

335  
00:16:45,160 --> 00:16:46,190  
Yes, thank you.

336  
00:16:46,190 --> 00:16:48,755  
She's the one who  
gets all my material.

337  
00:16:48,755 --> 00:16:49,255  
OK.

338  
00:16:49,255 --> 00:16:52,550

339  
00:16:52,550 --> 00:16:55,510  
Has your museum  
connection also evolved

340  
00:16:55,510 --> 00:17:00,235  
to actually being there,  
if not once a week

341  
00:17:00,235 --> 00:17:03,850  
how they were originally  
suggesting it, but let's say,

342  
00:17:03,850 --> 00:17:08,440  
meeting some of  
the other survivors

343  
00:17:08,440 --> 00:17:12,580

or taking part in any of the  
interactions with the public?

344  
00:17:12,580 --> 00:17:15,630

345  
00:17:15,630 --> 00:17:18,599  
I started going to the  
meetings that they had once

346  
00:17:18,599 --> 00:17:20,730  
a month at the museum.

347  
00:17:20,730 --> 00:17:22,920  
And then of course,  
the virus came

348  
00:17:22,920 --> 00:17:26,520  
and now we do it  
virtually once a week.

349  
00:17:26,520 --> 00:17:30,480  
And on Friday, they have  
an hour and a half--

350  
00:17:30,480 --> 00:17:32,960  
and most of the time,  
I try to participate.

351  
00:17:32,960 --> 00:17:33,460  
OK.

352  
00:17:33,460 --> 00:17:36,210  
But sometimes it interferes  
with some other things.

353  
00:17:36,210 --> 00:17:37,650  
Oh, OK.

354  
00:17:37,650 --> 00:17:39,600  
And--

355

00:17:39,600 --> 00:17:41,250  
It's a funny thing.

356  
00:17:41,250 --> 00:17:46,350  
Here we're all  
isolated and somehow

357  
00:17:46,350 --> 00:17:48,990  
it all gets very, very busy.

358  
00:17:48,990 --> 00:17:51,090  
I got so involved  
with a lot of things,

359  
00:17:51,090 --> 00:17:54,060  
like the Russians  
still come with me.

360  
00:17:54,060 --> 00:17:58,740  
Tomorrow they want me to have an  
interview outside because they

361  
00:17:58,740 --> 00:17:59,590  
can't come in.

362  
00:17:59,590 --> 00:18:02,640  
So I go to the gate  
and interview me.

363  
00:18:02,640 --> 00:18:04,200  
How interesting.

364  
00:18:04,200 --> 00:18:06,060  
They have a medal that  
they want to give me,

365  
00:18:06,060 --> 00:18:08,700  
and they're still  
waiting for an occasion

366  
00:18:08,700 --> 00:18:10,380  
when they can give it to me.

367

00:18:10,380 --> 00:18:12,120

It's amazing how  
you get involved

368

00:18:12,120 --> 00:18:13,470

in some of these things.

369

00:18:13,470 --> 00:18:17,100

Well you know,  
when I hear things

370

00:18:17,100 --> 00:18:19,360

like that it sounds all good.

371

00:18:19,360 --> 00:18:25,240

Because it means we still  
keep busy, we're relevant.

372

00:18:25,240 --> 00:18:25,900

Yes.

373

00:18:25,900 --> 00:18:27,300

Yes.

374

00:18:27,300 --> 00:18:28,890

I don't sit in a rocking chair.

375

00:18:28,890 --> 00:18:30,240

That's what's good about it.

376

00:18:30,240 --> 00:18:30,810

Yeah.

377

00:18:30,810 --> 00:18:31,380

Yeah.

378

00:18:31,380 --> 00:18:34,950

And the technology has  
allowed us to still keep

379

00:18:34,950 --> 00:18:39,300



doing things, which  
is the upside of it

380  
00:18:39,300 --> 00:18:42,390  
despite all the  
complications that can exist.

381  
00:18:42,390 --> 00:18:46,626  
This is one of the  
benefits, that technology--

382  
00:18:46,626 --> 00:18:48,930  
The museum is very  
good about it.

383  
00:18:48,930 --> 00:18:51,900  
They're presenting  
all kinds of programs.

384  
00:18:51,900 --> 00:18:54,090  
You can't really  
participate in all of them

385  
00:18:54,090 --> 00:18:56,400  
because there's that much of it.

386  
00:18:56,400 --> 00:19:00,270  
But it's a wonderful thing  
because they tell you

387  
00:19:00,270 --> 00:19:02,490  
what it is that they  
are going to present

388  
00:19:02,490 --> 00:19:04,900  
and then you decide  
if you can do it,

389  
00:19:04,900 --> 00:19:08,590  
and if you've got  
the time and whatnot.

390  
00:19:08,590 --> 00:19:12,660

They would keep me  
busy just doing things

391  
00:19:12,660 --> 00:19:14,550  
that the museum is presenting.

392  
00:19:14,550 --> 00:19:20,190  
But I got requirements here  
in the retirement community

393  
00:19:20,190 --> 00:19:23,430  
and various other things.

394  
00:19:23,430 --> 00:19:27,750  
My old military police  
organization in this area

395  
00:19:27,750 --> 00:19:29,280  
keeps me busy.

396  
00:19:29,280 --> 00:19:33,270  
So there are a  
lot of other items

397  
00:19:33,270 --> 00:19:37,110  
that interfere with dedicating  
my work to the museum.

398  
00:19:37,110 --> 00:19:40,080  
There's nothing like being  
busy when you're retired.

399  
00:19:40,080 --> 00:19:41,520  
You know?

400  
00:19:41,520 --> 00:19:45,270  
You were never so busy  
when you were working, huh?

401  
00:19:45,270 --> 00:19:46,050  
That's right.

402

00:19:46,050 --> 00:19:47,940  
That's what I hear  
from a lot of people,

403  
00:19:47,940 --> 00:19:51,840  
that they thought that  
there'd be oodles of time.

404  
00:19:51,840 --> 00:19:54,360  
The point is, I'm so  
busy, I would just never

405  
00:19:54,360 --> 00:19:56,490  
have time to go back to work.

406  
00:19:56,490 --> 00:19:57,990  
Exactly.

407  
00:19:57,990 --> 00:19:59,190  
Exactly.

408  
00:19:59,190 --> 00:20:01,500  
So let me ask you this then.

409  
00:20:01,500 --> 00:20:05,400  
After having such a  
long connection, even

410  
00:20:05,400 --> 00:20:08,460  
if it might not have  
been a formal connection

411  
00:20:08,460 --> 00:20:11,760  
to the volunteer  
network at the museum,

412  
00:20:11,760 --> 00:20:14,730  
but nevertheless if you  
started visiting soon

413  
00:20:14,730 --> 00:20:18,300  
after it opened in the  
'90s, and on your own

414  
00:20:18,300 --> 00:20:21,540  
took over a dozen groups  
of people or individuals

415  
00:20:21,540 --> 00:20:24,420  
through the exhibit,  
I'd like to ask you,

416  
00:20:24,420 --> 00:20:29,520  
what do you think about  
the purpose of this museum?

417  
00:20:29,520 --> 00:20:31,810  
How do you understand that?

418  
00:20:31,810 --> 00:20:35,740  
Well it's simply don't forget.

419  
00:20:35,740 --> 00:20:40,390  
Remember what the heck  
happened and how bad it was.

420  
00:20:40,390 --> 00:20:46,090  
To tell people how it  
originated and to be careful

421  
00:20:46,090 --> 00:20:50,140  
that you don't want to duplicate  
that ever again in the future.

422  
00:20:50,140 --> 00:20:53,650  
I think that's the  
purpose of the museum.

423  
00:20:53,650 --> 00:20:57,070  
And I'm all in favor  
of that, believe me.

424  
00:20:57,070 --> 00:20:58,428  
Do you think they do it well?

425

00:20:58,428 --> 00:20:59,720  
Do you think they achieve that?

426  
00:20:59,720 --> 00:21:01,020  
Oh, yeah.

427  
00:21:01,020 --> 00:21:02,520  
It's an excellent museum.

428  
00:21:02,520 --> 00:21:05,280

429  
00:21:05,280 --> 00:21:09,000  
It historically provides  
the whole progression

430  
00:21:09,000 --> 00:21:12,780  
of how it was before  
they even got to power,

431  
00:21:12,780 --> 00:21:18,960  
and how the power was used to  
inflict the damage that they

432  
00:21:18,960 --> 00:21:24,960  
were inflicting, not only on the  
Jews but on the world really.

433  
00:21:24,960 --> 00:21:31,330  
This one guy, this maniac who  
was supported by one country.

434  
00:21:31,330 --> 00:21:38,620  
And when you understand what a  
dictator can do to the world,

435  
00:21:38,620 --> 00:21:42,340  
I think it should have  
everyone pay attention

436  
00:21:42,340 --> 00:21:44,560  
to their own government.

437

00:21:44,560 --> 00:21:47,650

That's a powerful message.

438

00:21:47,650 --> 00:21:48,940

It is.

439

00:21:48,940 --> 00:21:51,140

Yeah.

440

00:21:51,140 --> 00:21:54,180

And they're doing it well.

441

00:21:54,180 --> 00:21:58,350

Did you ever follow  
the controversies

442

00:21:58,350 --> 00:22:02,880

before the museum even opened  
and soon afterwards about,

443

00:22:02,880 --> 00:22:05,790

well this didn't happen  
in the United States.

444

00:22:05,790 --> 00:22:09,330

Why should we have a  
museum in Washington

445

00:22:09,330 --> 00:22:13,960

that is, let's say close  
to the National Mall?

446

00:22:13,960 --> 00:22:17,220

It doesn't reflect US history.

447

00:22:17,220 --> 00:22:24,450

And so why have this rather  
than any other thing that

448

00:22:24,450 --> 00:22:25,860

happened around the world?

449

00:22:25,860 --> 00:22:28,530

Had you ever heard  
of this argument?

450

00:22:28,530 --> 00:22:37,710

Yes, I did hear that when they  
were debating about whether

451

00:22:37,710 --> 00:22:40,440

or not to put a  
museum up on the mall.

452

00:22:40,440 --> 00:22:41,700

Yes, I did hear that.

453

00:22:41,700 --> 00:22:45,410

And how do you react  
to it as somebody who--

454

00:22:45,410 --> 00:22:50,100

Well, in one sense,  
I think there

455

00:22:50,100 --> 00:22:54,630

were some honest people who  
really thought this was not

456

00:22:54,630 --> 00:22:55,920

an American problem.

457

00:22:55,920 --> 00:22:58,890

This was a problem overseas.

458

00:22:58,890 --> 00:23:00,810

And they were a  
little shortsighted

459

00:23:00,810 --> 00:23:03,510

that they didn't recognize  
that even though it

460

00:23:03,510 --> 00:23:06,270

was a problem overseas,  
it kicked right

461  
00:23:06,270 --> 00:23:10,950  
back into the United  
States when even overtly

462  
00:23:10,950 --> 00:23:17,130  
you had a Nazi party over here  
before World War II started.

463  
00:23:17,130 --> 00:23:21,580  
Kuhn, I believe, was the  
man who was in charge of it.

464  
00:23:21,580 --> 00:23:25,410  
So it did in fact hit  
the United States.

465  
00:23:25,410 --> 00:23:30,480  
And it certainly got us into  
the war because of this maniac,

466  
00:23:30,480 --> 00:23:34,800  
and killed a lot of  
Americans because of it.

467  
00:23:34,800 --> 00:23:42,120  
So when somebody really made  
others stop and think of how,

468  
00:23:42,120 --> 00:23:45,170  
in fact did affect  
the Americans,

469  
00:23:45,170 --> 00:23:48,080  
and when they of course,  
made the wise decision

470  
00:23:48,080 --> 00:23:52,100  
to put this museum on the mall.

471  
00:23:52,100 --> 00:23:59,420



I think that once the  
rationale of everything

472  
00:23:59,420 --> 00:24:08,300  
seemed to win over these other  
honest people who were wrong.

473  
00:24:08,300 --> 00:24:12,200  
And I think it all  
worked out very well.

474  
00:24:12,200 --> 00:24:14,420  
Well, it is true.

475  
00:24:14,420 --> 00:24:19,220  
I believe it is either the  
first or the second most visited

476  
00:24:19,220 --> 00:24:22,520  
museum in Washington DC.

477  
00:24:22,520 --> 00:24:27,500  
So clearly something's  
being done right.

478  
00:24:27,500 --> 00:24:28,040  
Yes.

479  
00:24:28,040 --> 00:24:28,700  
Yeah.

480  
00:24:28,700 --> 00:24:30,590  
You're completely right.

481  
00:24:30,590 --> 00:24:36,580  
What relevance do you  
think it has for Americans?

482  
00:24:36,580 --> 00:24:39,700  
Well, I wouldn't want to  
get into the politics.

483

00:24:39,700 --> 00:24:47,080

But there are things that  
are happening today right

484

00:24:47,080 --> 00:24:50,140

here in the United States  
where you all start

485

00:24:50,140 --> 00:24:51,550

to think, hey, wait a second.

486

00:24:51,550 --> 00:24:52,790

Be careful.

487

00:24:52,790 --> 00:24:56,120

You may be going on  
the wrong track here.

488

00:24:56,120 --> 00:25:01,040

So let's just stop and think  
and see what we want to do.

489

00:25:01,040 --> 00:25:01,620

I see.

490

00:25:01,620 --> 00:25:11,210

It absolutely has relevance  
for us, even just today.

491

00:25:11,210 --> 00:25:16,870

Not necessarily just yesterday,  
but it's relevant today.

492

00:25:16,870 --> 00:25:18,450

Well, unfortunately so.

493

00:25:18,450 --> 00:25:20,940

I guess many people  
would say it would

494

00:25:20,940 --> 00:25:27,720

be good if the kinds of  
developments that resulted

495

00:25:27,720 --> 00:25:33,360

in the Holocaust, that  
those types of processes

496

00:25:33,360 --> 00:25:42,900

or dangers or other forces  
were really historical rather

497

00:25:42,900 --> 00:25:44,410

than current.

498

00:25:44,410 --> 00:25:49,650

Oh that's a foolish  
thought because history

499

00:25:49,650 --> 00:25:53,340

can very definitely  
repeat itself,

500

00:25:53,340 --> 00:25:57,270

contingent on what the  
situation is on the ground.

501

00:25:57,270 --> 00:26:00,570

Now if you have a good  
economy and everything

502

00:26:00,570 --> 00:26:03,300

is blooming and  
whatnot, sure that

503

00:26:03,300 --> 00:26:06,420

would be very, very  
difficult to get

504

00:26:06,420 --> 00:26:08,470

into that kind of situation.

505

00:26:08,470 --> 00:26:14,820

But remember, Germany was  
in a very bad economic state

506

00:26:14,820 --> 00:26:16,260  
when all this happened.

507

00:26:16,260 --> 00:26:18,500  
Yes.

508

00:26:18,500 --> 00:26:21,240  
When you have a  
bad economy, that's

509

00:26:21,240 --> 00:26:23,760  
when the real danger comes in.

510

00:26:23,760 --> 00:26:27,150  
But even before  
that, you should know

511

00:26:27,150 --> 00:26:29,160  
that you don't want  
to lay the groundwork

512

00:26:29,160 --> 00:26:34,410  
to make it easy for a  
dictator to come in and grab

513

00:26:34,410 --> 00:26:37,740  
it and exploit it if  
the economy turns sour.

514

00:26:37,740 --> 00:26:41,820  
So action needs to  
be taken at any time

515

00:26:41,820 --> 00:26:46,710  
to preclude the  
various steps that

516

00:26:46,710 --> 00:26:50,760  
had been taken in Germany  
to get to the point

517

00:26:50,760 --> 00:26:53,640

before Hitler even  
took the power.

518  
00:26:53,640 --> 00:26:58,640  
That's where you have  
to focus your attention.

519  
00:26:58,640 --> 00:27:04,250  
What happened in Germany before  
the power grab by Hitler?

520  
00:27:04,250 --> 00:27:09,060  
And that is the type of thing  
that we're debating today,

521  
00:27:09,060 --> 00:27:11,150  
whether it should be  
done or should not

522  
00:27:11,150 --> 00:27:14,660  
be done, whether  
this is a mistake

523  
00:27:14,660 --> 00:27:18,230  
and could lead  
towards a dictatorship

524  
00:27:18,230 --> 00:27:22,100  
or whether this is  
really nothing at all

525  
00:27:22,100 --> 00:27:27,110  
and can be disregarded as just  
one of these political blips

526  
00:27:27,110 --> 00:27:29,220  
that occurs.

527  
00:27:29,220 --> 00:27:33,140  
So if I understand it, you're  
talking about the weakening

528  
00:27:33,140 --> 00:27:35,600

of Democratic institutions.

529

00:27:35,600 --> 00:27:36,750

Absolutely.

530

00:27:36,750 --> 00:27:37,250

OK.

531

00:27:37,250 --> 00:27:39,980

You're putting it  
very well, yes.

532

00:27:39,980 --> 00:27:42,200

Yeah.

533

00:27:42,200 --> 00:27:46,610

And what happens when Democratic  
institutions are weakened?

534

00:27:46,610 --> 00:27:48,920

And do we want to go there?

535

00:27:48,920 --> 00:27:50,100

That's right.

536

00:27:50,100 --> 00:27:50,600

Yeah.

537

00:27:50,600 --> 00:27:54,350

That's precisely what  
the museum is doing.

538

00:27:54,350 --> 00:27:57,530

It showed exactly  
what happened and how

539

00:27:57,530 --> 00:28:01,170

it could happen any place.

540

00:28:01,170 --> 00:28:06,270

So that speaks much more to the  
universality of the message,

541  
00:28:06,270 --> 00:28:09,840  
of the universality  
of the danger.

542  
00:28:09,840 --> 00:28:12,210  
I think it is a universality.

543  
00:28:12,210 --> 00:28:15,840  
It can happen anyplace,  
and it can happen to us

544  
00:28:15,840 --> 00:28:18,690  
even though lots of people  
say, no, it could never

545  
00:28:18,690 --> 00:28:20,340  
happen in the United States.

546  
00:28:20,340 --> 00:28:23,610  
I am not a subscriber to that.

547  
00:28:23,610 --> 00:28:28,610  
I think there's a danger  
always, every place,

548  
00:28:28,610 --> 00:28:32,685  
unless people take  
care and remember

549  
00:28:32,685 --> 00:28:36,210  
that there is a value--

550  
00:28:36,210 --> 00:28:42,270  
not only a value, it's an  
existential requirement

551  
00:28:42,270 --> 00:28:46,380  
to preserve the  
Democratic process.

552  
00:28:46,380 --> 00:28:48,330

Couldn't have said it better.

553

00:28:48,330 --> 00:28:50,420

Couldn't have said it better.

554

00:28:50,420 --> 00:28:52,760

Thank you, Mr. Cohn.

555

00:28:52,760 --> 00:28:54,890

Is there anything  
else that you'd

556

00:28:54,890 --> 00:28:57,290

like to add to all  
that we've talked

557

00:28:57,290 --> 00:29:01,280

about today and yesterday?

558

00:29:01,280 --> 00:29:05,150

To our interview, any  
thoughts that you'd

559

00:29:05,150 --> 00:29:07,970

like to leave for those  
who would be listening

560

00:29:07,970 --> 00:29:11,060

to this in the future?

561

00:29:11,060 --> 00:29:15,760

Well, I think we had  
just summarized it.

562

00:29:15,760 --> 00:29:21,130

The thought is listen,  
politics is very important.

563

00:29:21,130 --> 00:29:24,720

And particularly for  
the young people,

564



00:29:24,720 --> 00:29:30,110  
they think we can make things  
easier by just ignoring

565  
00:29:30,110 --> 00:29:32,270  
the Democratic process.

566  
00:29:32,270 --> 00:29:36,320  
But making it easy  
is not the idea

567  
00:29:36,320 --> 00:29:38,730  
and the reason for government.

568  
00:29:38,730 --> 00:29:41,480  
The reason for government  
is to make sure

569  
00:29:41,480 --> 00:29:44,180  
that everybody's  
included, that there's

570  
00:29:44,180 --> 00:29:50,300  
care taken to include  
everybody into the economy,

571  
00:29:50,300 --> 00:29:53,870  
into the Democratic  
process, into the politics,

572  
00:29:53,870 --> 00:29:56,090  
into the vote.

573  
00:29:56,090 --> 00:30:02,930  
The universality of this is what  
is important and not the ease.

574  
00:30:02,930 --> 00:30:08,990  
So be careful when  
you make decisions.

575  
00:30:08,990 --> 00:30:12,050  
Think of things,

not how you can get

576

00:30:12,050 --> 00:30:16,280

it done real quick  
and fast, but how

577

00:30:16,280 --> 00:30:20,750

you get it done by bringing  
everybody along and starting

578

00:30:20,750 --> 00:30:22,880

to talk to each other.

579

00:30:22,880 --> 00:30:27,140

The unfortunate part of what  
is happening today, in my mind,

580

00:30:27,140 --> 00:30:30,680

is that the Republicans  
and the Democrats

581

00:30:30,680 --> 00:30:32,370

don't talk to each  
other anymore.

582

00:30:32,370 --> 00:30:35,870

Each one has their own  
agenda and they go their way

583

00:30:35,870 --> 00:30:37,850

and they forget  
that the only way

584

00:30:37,850 --> 00:30:43,580

things get done is when you get  
the plurality working together

585

00:30:43,580 --> 00:30:45,050

towards a goal.

586

00:30:45,050 --> 00:30:49,310

And the country is  
50/50, more or less.

587  
00:30:49,310 --> 00:30:52,010  
Sometimes it's a little bit more  
on one side, a little bit more

588  
00:30:52,010 --> 00:30:55,670  
on the other, but the country  
is pretty well divided 50/50.

589  
00:30:55,670 --> 00:30:58,260  
And that is seen by the parties.

590  
00:30:58,260 --> 00:31:01,580  
So any party can't  
just go plowing ahead

591  
00:31:01,580 --> 00:31:03,230  
and do what they want to do.

592  
00:31:03,230 --> 00:31:06,920  
They got to talk to each other  
and come up to a consensus,

593  
00:31:06,920 --> 00:31:09,890  
and then move ahead  
slowly and get things

594  
00:31:09,890 --> 00:31:11,810  
done with everybody behind it.

595  
00:31:11,810 --> 00:31:14,870  
And everybody may  
not be completely

596  
00:31:14,870 --> 00:31:17,690  
happy and hilarious  
that they won,

597  
00:31:17,690 --> 00:31:20,330  
but rather they are  
going to be content

598

00:31:20,330 --> 00:31:25,380  
because they have accomplished  
something and it's working

599  
00:31:25,380 --> 00:31:27,908  
and people are happy overall.

600  
00:31:27,908 --> 00:31:29,580  
And that's all I got.

601  
00:31:29,580 --> 00:31:31,140  
Thank you.

602  
00:31:31,140 --> 00:31:31,740  
Thank you.

603  
00:31:31,740 --> 00:31:35,550  
And I will say then  
with those words,

604  
00:31:35,550 --> 00:31:39,990  
this concludes the United  
States Holocaust Memorial Museum

605  
00:31:39,990 --> 00:31:43,960  
interview with Mr Frank Cohn.

606  
00:31:43,960 --> 00:31:50,980  
Conducted over two days  
June 24 and June 25, 2020.

607  
00:31:50,980 --> 00:31:57,460  
With you, Mr. Cohn, being in  
Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and I

608  
00:31:57,460 --> 00:31:59,230  
in Falls Church, Virginia.

609  
00:31:59,230 --> 00:32:03,670  
But both of us in the  
Washington Metropolitan area

610

00:32:03,670 --> 00:32:07,420  
and both of us with a connection  
to the US Holocaust Memorial

611  
00:32:07,420 --> 00:32:08,440  
Museum.

612  
00:32:08,440 --> 00:32:10,180  
Thank you, again.

613  
00:32:10,180 --> 00:32:14,200  
The only thing I could add  
is that over the years,

614  
00:32:14,200 --> 00:32:15,760  
I did get promoted.

615  
00:32:15,760 --> 00:32:18,670  
I didn't get out of the  
army as a Staff Sergeant.

616  
00:32:18,670 --> 00:32:21,070  
I ended up as a Colonel.

617  
00:32:21,070 --> 00:32:23,080  
Then in that case,  
thank you, Colonel.

618  
00:32:23,080 --> 00:32:24,450  
Thank you, Colonel Cohn.

619  
00:32:24,450 --> 00:32:27,160

620  
00:32:27,160 --> 00:32:28,660  
All right, then.

621  
00:32:28,660 --> 00:32:30,930  
Bye, bye for now.