1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:16,920

2 00:00:16,920 --> 00:00:19,380 Now I want to go back, and I want

3 00:00:19,380 --> 00:00:25,140 you to tell me what you think happened to Raoul Wallenberg.

4 00:00:25,140 --> 00:00:29,280 Well, what happened to Raoul Wallenberg?

5 00:00:29,280 --> 00:00:35,760 As I probably told you that he wanted to help the people whom

6 00:00:35,760 --> 00:00:37,560 he helped already.

7 00:00:37,560 --> 00:00:40,890 And he figured that the Soviet is our ally,

8 00:00:40,890 --> 00:00:45,540 so we have to go to them to get some help.

9 00:00:45,540 --> 00:00:47,640 And everybody told him not to do it,

10 00:00:47,640 --> 00:00:50,730 because let's wait how the Soviet will be with us

11 00:00:50,730 --> 00:00:52,020 the embassy said. 00:00:52,020 --> 00:00:53,610 But Raoul said, no, no, no.

13 00:00:53,610 --> 00:00:57,870 I have to go, and I have a five year plan for the Soviet

14 00:00:57,870 --> 00:01:01,170 how to help these people to get back their homes,

15 00:01:01,170 --> 00:01:04,319 and how we feed them, and we need medication.

16 00:01:04,319 --> 00:01:05,670 So nobody could talk to him.

17 00:01:05,670 --> 00:01:11,790 And he went with his driver, Wilmer Schlangfelder, together.

18 00:01:11,790 --> 00:01:14,520 And they went to that little city called Debrecen.

19 00:01:14,520 --> 00:01:18,000 That was the headquarters of the Soviet.

20 00:01:18,000 --> 00:01:21,030 In a week, he came back.

21 00:01:21,030 --> 00:01:24,600 And that's how I know the story, because the Red Cross head,

22 00:01:24,600 --> 00:01:28,740 the Swedish Cross head I met later on in Sweden.

23 00:01:28,740 --> 00:01:32,100 And he said Raoul came back, and behind him there

24 00:01:32,100 --> 00:01:35,310 were two Russian officers on motorbikes.

25 00:01:35,310 --> 00:01:40,110 And he said, as you can see, I have some Russians behind me,

26 00:01:40,110 --> 00:01:45,090 and I am invited back and I have no idea if I am invited back

27 00:01:45,090 --> 00:01:48,480 as a visitor or as a prisoner.

28 00:01:48,480 --> 00:01:52,350 But he said, I had a wonderful meeting on the way back.

29 00:01:52,350 --> 00:01:57,360 I saw an old lady carrying bread in a basket,

30 00:01:57,360 --> 00:01:59,670 and she still had a star on.

31 00:01:59,670 --> 00:02:02,250 And I got out of the car, and I went over,

32 00:02:02,250 --> 00:02:06,360 and I said, how wonderful to see that somebody is alive.

33 00:02:06,360 --> 00:02:07,860 My name is Raoul Wallenberg.

34 00:02:07,860 --> 00:02:10,110 And the lady pulled out the Schutz-Pass. 35 00:02:10,110 --> 00:02:11,790

She says, I know.

36 00:02:11,790 --> 00:02:14,370 I got one of your papers.

37 00:02:14,370 --> 00:02:18,120 And he said it was a very emotional moment for him, too.

38 00:02:18,120 --> 00:02:21,330 And then he emptied his pockets and he

39 00:02:21,330 --> 00:02:26,220 said to Mr. Langfelder, who was the head of the Red Cross.

40 00:02:26,220 --> 00:02:29,580 And he said, here I give you all the money and all the diamonds,

41 00:02:29,580 --> 00:02:33,990 because you will need it to feed the people whom we saved.

42 00:02:33,990 --> 00:02:36,270 But I keep \$1,000, and I tell you

43 00:02:36,270 --> 00:02:38,280 that because in a few minutes I tell you

44 00:02:38,280 --> 00:02:39,970 what happened to the \$1,000.

45 00:02:39,970 --> 00:02:45,090 Said I keep this just in case my trip takes long.

46 00:02:45,090 --> 00:02:48,870 And then he said goodbye and disappeared.

47 00:02:48,870 --> 00:02:53,670 Now, in 1945, the mother in Stockholm

48 00:02:53,670 --> 00:02:59,250 got a phone call from the Russian ambassador,

49 00:02:59,250 --> 00:03:03,300 Mrs. Kollontai telling her not to worry about Raoul.

50 00:03:03,300 --> 00:03:10,180 Raoul is in, uh, not captivity.

51 00:03:10,180 --> 00:03:16,020 She said he is in Russia, and we are taking care of him.

52 00:03:16,020 --> 00:03:19,510 So the mother was very happy.

53 00:03:19,510 --> 00:03:24,190 But Mrs. Kollontai wasn't happy, because every day she

54 00:03:24,190 --> 00:03:26,560 got phone calls, and she kept on saying,

55 00:03:26,560 --> 00:03:29,090 you better don't ask so much.

56 00:03:29,090 --> 00:03:30,070 He is all right.

57 00:03:30,070 --> 00:03:32,350 We're protecting him. 00:03:32,350 --> 00:03:35,320 But after a little while, Mrs. Kollontai was called back,

59 00:03:35,320 --> 00:03:40,360 and miraculously she died in a heart attack in no time.

60 00:03:40,360 --> 00:03:43,600 And then they started to ask where is Raoul?

61 00:03:43,600 --> 00:03:48,220 In the meantime, the whole embassy got back to Stockholm,

62 00:03:48,220 --> 00:03:51,310 and I arrived to Stockholm in 1945.

63 00:03:51,310 --> 00:03:52,630 And I said, where is Raoul?

64 00:03:52,630 --> 00:03:55,840 And they said, we don't know.

65 00:03:55,840 --> 00:03:59,440 They knew nothing about Raoul.

66 00:03:59,440 --> 00:04:03,340 And the Russian answer was that we never heard of him.

67 00:04:03,340 --> 00:04:04,900 He's not there.

68 00:04:04,900 --> 00:04:09,490 In '47, however, suddenly they said that, yes, he was there,

69 00:04:09,490 --> 00:04:13,630 and in Lubyanka Prison, he died in a heart attack. 70 00:04:13,630 --> 00:04:16,630 The heart attack they described is for a big, fat man.

71 00:04:16,630 --> 00:04:19,089 And Raoul Wallenberg was really not fat.

72 00:04:19,089 --> 00:04:24,160 And besides, I'm sure he didn't get fat in prison.

73 00:04:24,160 --> 00:04:27,910 So they ask for the autopsy papers, and they disappeared.

74 00:04:27,910 --> 00:04:29,230 They asked for the doctor.

75 00:04:29,230 --> 00:04:30,640 He wasn't alive anymore.

76 00:04:30,640 --> 00:04:32,560 So we knew that they lying.

77 00:04:32,560 --> 00:04:35,230 Then as you know, in '57, Mr. Gromyko

78 00:04:35,230 --> 00:04:39,130 said that he's very sorry, but yes, he's dead,

79 00:04:39,130 --> 00:04:41,050 and that's that.

80 00:04:41,050 --> 00:04:44,560 Now, the terrible thing is that we know now,

81 00:04:44,560 --> 00:04:46,360 and we can imagine why.

82 00:04:46,360 --> 00:04:50,830 I told you before that Stockholm was sort of a spy center.

83 00:04:50,830 --> 00:04:53,440 And this Mr. Olson, what even we didn't know,

84 00:04:53,440 --> 00:04:55,780 and I'm sure that Raoul had no idea, that he

85 00:04:55,780 --> 00:04:59,550 worked for the OSS.

86 00:04:59,550 --> 00:05:04,080 And when Raoul told the Russians that he

87 00:05:04,080 --> 00:05:07,320 was paid by the Americans, they must

88 00:05:07,320 --> 00:05:09,450 have had people in Stockholm to see

89 00:05:09,450 --> 00:05:12,990 him sitting with Mr. Olson, whom the Russians knew very well who

90 00:05:12,990 --> 00:05:13,890 he was.

91 00:05:13,890 --> 00:05:18,340 So they said, aha, Raoul Wallenberg is a spy.

92 00:05:18,340 --> 00:05:21,460 They also came up with stories what is not true, 93 00:05:21,460 --> 00:05:26,630 that Raoul once flew back home to Sweden while he was there,

94 00:05:26,630 --> 00:05:29,110 and he discussed things with the Germans,

95 00:05:29,110 --> 00:05:31,480 what was an absolute lie.

96 00:05:31,480 --> 00:05:32,380 He could not.

97 00:05:32,380 --> 00:05:34,360 The only person who ever went back

98 00:05:34,360 --> 00:05:37,540 was Per Anger, because his wife was pregnant.

99 00:05:37,540 --> 00:05:44,020 And the last train going, he went with her, and also a lady

100 00:05:44,020 --> 00:05:46,150 with her two little boys who was hidden with me.

101 00:05:46,150 --> 00:05:46,780 They went.

102 00:05:46,780 --> 00:05:50,320 And then Anger came back, and then they closed the curtain.

103 00:05:50,320 --> 00:05:51,490 That was it.

104 00:05:51,490 --> 00:05:52,810 Raoul never left.

105 00:05:52,810 --> 00:05:54,340 So he was not a spy.

106 00:05:54,340 --> 00:05:56,170 But the Russians took it in their head

107 00:05:56,170 --> 00:06:01,120 that he was an American spy, and also they didn't like the Jews

108 00:06:01,120 --> 00:06:02,560 more than the Nazis.

109 00:06:02,560 --> 00:06:06,940 So why this spy goes to Hungary to save the Jews?

110 00:06:06,940 --> 00:06:10,100 This was to save--

111 00:06:10,100 --> 00:06:13,360 So we don't know, as Mr. Wiesenthal said,

112 00:06:13,360 --> 00:06:17,430 the Russian mind, the Soviet mind, he said that time,

113 00:06:17,430 --> 00:06:22,330 is something you don't know what they thinking.

114 00:06:22,330 --> 00:06:27,640 And then the whole world really just didn't care about him.

115 00:06:27,640 --> 00:06:30,430 His own country didn't care. 00:06:30,430 --> 00:06:37,990 And I remember how people did not believe in 1945, September.

117

00:06:37,990 --> 00:06:41,750 I was already in Switzerland.

118

00:06:41,750 --> 00:06:44,620 And I was so excited to tell that story,

119

00:06:44,620 --> 00:06:46,840 because that wasn't a sorrowful story.

120

00:06:46,840 --> 00:06:49,240 This was a wonderful story.

121

00:06:49,240 --> 00:06:54,010 And my own family, my uncle, who was a very prominent gentleman,

122

00:06:54,010 --> 00:06:56,800 he turned to my aunt when he thought I don't hear,

123

00:06:56,800 --> 00:07:00,250 and they said, we better take this child to a psychiatrist.

124

00:07:00,250 --> 00:07:02,620 She's lying through her teeth.

125

00:07:02,620 --> 00:07:06,200 She's coming up with stories what are not true.

126

00:07:06,200 --> 00:07:08,430 And I was hurt.

127

00:07:08,430 --> 00:07:11,650 And every time the phone rang and my uncle gave it to me, 128 00:07:11,650 --> 00:07:14,190 and he said Oh, this must be the Russian--

129 00:07:14,190 --> 00:07:18,180 the Swedish ambassador.

130 00:07:18,180 --> 00:07:19,950 And they were very surprised when

131 00:07:19,950 --> 00:07:23,220 finally the Norwegian ambassador called and said that there

132 00:07:23,220 --> 00:07:26,340 was a Red Cross tank--

133 00:07:26,340 --> 00:07:31,650 truck what are going to take me and many other people away.

134 00:07:31,650 --> 00:07:32,550 And it was--

135 00:07:32,550 --> 00:07:34,410 I talked to newspaper people.

136 00:07:34,410 --> 00:07:36,160 And they thought I was lying.

137 00:07:36,160 --> 00:07:38,970 Such a person didn't exist.

138 00:07:38,970 --> 00:07:41,610 Then when I arrived to Sweden, I thought, well,

139 00:07:41,610 --> 00:07:44,220 now I can talk about Raoul.

00:07:44,220 --> 00:07:47,280 Nobody wanted to hear it.

141

00:07:47,280 --> 00:07:50,580 I was a lecturer in the camps where Count Bernadotte, who

142

00:07:50,580 --> 00:07:53,070 was also killed unfortunately.

143

00:07:53,070 --> 00:07:56,880 Count Bernadotte brought these very, very sick people

144

00:07:56,880 --> 00:08:00,780 in from Belsen-Bergen, from Auschwitz, from Treblinka,

145

00:08:00,780 --> 00:08:03,330 you name it, those who were still alive.

146

00:08:03,330 --> 00:08:07,890 He opened the most beautiful sanatoriums and schools

147

00:08:07,890 --> 00:08:10,320 to have these people.

148

00:08:10,320 --> 00:08:13,470 And I asked permission if I at least there

149

00:08:13,470 --> 00:08:15,930 can talk, at least to the Hungarians,

150

00:08:15,930 --> 00:08:18,240 about Raoul Wallenberg.

151

00:08:18,240 --> 00:08:20,415 Well, they gave me the

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

permission to do that.

152

00:08:20,415 --> 00:08:22,990

153

00:08:22,990 --> 00:08:24,760 And nobody listened.

154

00:08:24,760 --> 00:08:30,380 Absolutely didn't want to listen to the story.

155

00:08:30,380 --> 00:08:32,539 And I didn't know what happened to Raoul.

156

00:08:32,539 --> 00:08:36,770 And I-- then everybody was scared from the Russians.

157

00:08:36,770 --> 00:08:39,220 Everybody was learning Russian in Sweden.

158

00:08:39,220 --> 00:08:41,059 That was the only country there, and it

159

00:08:41,059 --> 00:08:44,730 looked like the Russians will run them over any moment.

160

00:08:44,730 --> 00:08:45,980 So I wanted to get out.

161

00:08:45,980 --> 00:08:48,270 I had enough from the Nazis and the Russians.

162

00:08:48,270 --> 00:08:50,630 And I brought my parents out.

163

00:08:50,630 --> 00:08:51,630 And they were in Sweden.

164

00:08:51,630 --> 00:08:55,910 And I went to Australia, because they didn't let me in here.

165

00:08:55,910 --> 00:08:58,880 And there I tried to talk about Raoul.

166

00:08:58,880 --> 00:09:02,290 And there some people listened.

167

00:09:02,290 --> 00:09:04,930 But still nothing happened.

168

00:09:04,930 --> 00:09:08,470 Then I came over here, and nobody did anything.

169

00:09:08,470 --> 00:09:13,740 And finally, in the beginning-- in '80,

170

00:09:13,740 --> 00:09:17,460 there was Congressman Lantos, who

171

00:09:17,460 --> 00:09:21,480 started to look for Raoul Wallenberg, he and his wife.

172

00:09:21,480 --> 00:09:24,060 And I told you that his wife was my little student

173

00:09:24,060 --> 00:09:24,840 back in Hungary.

174

00:09:24,840 --> 00:09:29,490 But I didn't know that until 40 years after that's her. 175 00:09:29,490 --> 00:09:31,950 And then they started to listen.

176 00:09:31,950 --> 00:09:34,770 My husband, whom I married in '60,

177 00:09:34,770 --> 00:09:36,550 we went on a three week honeymoon.

178 00:09:36,550 --> 00:09:39,660 And I told him the story, and he was crying for three weeks.

179 00:09:39,660 --> 00:09:42,960 He was the only one who ever listened.

180 00:09:42,960 --> 00:09:45,540 And from then on, we are trying, and trying,

181 00:09:45,540 --> 00:09:46,930 and nothing happened.

182 00:09:46,930 --> 00:09:50,260 Now they're working on it.

183 00:09:50,260 --> 00:09:52,770 And why I brought the \$1,000 up for you,

184 00:09:52,770 --> 00:09:56,760 two years ago was the first time that his half-sister

185 00:09:56,760 --> 00:09:59,760 and half-brother was invited to go to Russia 00:09:59,760 --> 00:10:02,940 and help them look for Raoul Wallenberg.

187

00:10:02,940 --> 00:10:07,480 Before they arrived there, the Russian television,

188

00:10:07,480 --> 00:10:10,030 what is like our Good Morning America,

189

00:10:10,030 --> 00:10:11,920 but it's only on Saturday, goes out

190

00:10:11,920 --> 00:10:14,920 to something like 50 million people.

191

00:10:14,920 --> 00:10:17,410 They suddenly had Raoul Wallenberg's picture

192

00:10:17,410 --> 00:10:21,190 on the screen and a phone number under it.

193

00:10:21,190 --> 00:10:26,360 And it said, anyone who has any information about this person,

194

00:10:26,360 --> 00:10:30,370 and gave his name, please call this number.

195

00:10:30,370 --> 00:10:33,460 And every five minutes they showed that.

196

00:10:33,460 --> 00:10:37,570 The Swedish embassy was absolutely beside themselves.

00:10:37,570 --> 00:10:40,670 And from then on, they cared.

198

00:10:40,670 --> 00:10:44,470 They suddenly allowed to talk about Raoul Wallenberg.

199

00:10:44,470 --> 00:10:49,780 They renamed the only burn center in Leningrad.

200

00:10:49,780 --> 00:10:54,910 They renamed it the Raoul Wallenberg Medical Center.

201

00:10:54,910 --> 00:10:56,620 They now have documentaries.

202

00:10:56,620 --> 00:10:57,700 They have films.

203

00:10:57,700 --> 00:10:59,950 They have books.

204

00:10:59,950 --> 00:11:01,870 They came out with everything, and then they

205

00:11:01,870 --> 00:11:05,350 invited Guy and Nina.

206

00:11:05,350 --> 00:11:07,420 And they took Per Anger with them.

207

00:11:07,420 --> 00:11:11,620 Because after all, Per was the nearest one working with Raoul.

208

00:11:11,620 --> 00:11:14,920

And also they have a secretary who

00:11:14,920 --> 00:11:18,940 called Sonja [? Sonnenfeld, ?] who is Russian-born.

210

00:11:18,940 --> 00:11:21,640 And they took her, so that nobody can cheat

211

00:11:21,640 --> 00:11:23,320 when they talk in Russian.

212

00:11:23,320 --> 00:11:25,810 Sakharov was still alive.

213

00:11:25,810 --> 00:11:28,990 So he offered the family to help because he speaks English,

214

00:11:28,990 --> 00:11:30,937 and he speaks Russian.

215

00:11:30,937 --> 00:11:33,300 [BEEP]

216

00:11:33,300 --> 00:11:33,800

217

00:11:33,800 --> 00:11:35,284 OK.

218

00:11:35,284 --> 00:11:36,260 If you can finish.

219

00:11:36,260 --> 00:11:44,360 OK, so the family arrived, and there was a tremendous crowd

220

00:11:44,360 --> 00:11:46,340 already at the airport.

221

00:11:46,340 --> 00:11:48,650 From the whole world, all the newspaper people

222

00:11:48,650 --> 00:11:50,630 came, because this was really the first time

223

00:11:50,630 --> 00:11:52,820 that they allowed them to come.

224

00:11:52,820 --> 00:11:55,370 And they went first to the Swedish embassy.

225

00:11:55,370 --> 00:12:02,030 And then they went to a part of where the KGB is.

226

00:12:02,030 --> 00:12:04,760 And Sakharov went with them everywhere.

227

00:12:04,760 --> 00:12:09,290 The KGB's question was, from Sakharov, how do we find?

228

00:12:09,290 --> 00:12:10,760 Where do we start?

229

00:12:10,760 --> 00:12:13,230 They have no idea, today's KGB.

230

00:12:13,230 --> 00:12:15,170 They are also all young people.

231

00:12:15,170 --> 00:12:17,340 So Sakharov said, as far as I know,

232

00:12:17,340 --> 00:12:21,050 there is a key what opens a big vault,

00:12:21,050 --> 00:12:25,010 a huge vault in the Kremlin.

234

00:12:25,010 --> 00:12:27,210 When you find the key and you open it,

235

00:12:27,210 --> 00:12:31,250 you will find little sacks, on each of them the people's name.

236

00:12:31,250 --> 00:12:32,900 You will find Wallenberg.

237

00:12:32,900 --> 00:12:34,910 They found it.

238

00:12:34,910 --> 00:12:36,950 They brought out.

239

00:12:36,950 --> 00:12:39,470 And what they gave back to the family

240

00:12:39,470 --> 00:12:45,860 was Raoul's passport, Raoul's personal papers,

241

00:12:45,860 --> 00:12:47,330 and the \$1,000.

242

00:12:47,330 --> 00:12:50,000 That's why I mentioned the \$1,000 before.

243

00:12:50,000 --> 00:12:51,920 They didn't even take that away from him.

244

00:12:51,920 --> 00:12:55,370 And in 1945, that was a lot of money.

245

00:12:55,370 --> 00:12:59,360 But that \$1,000 was with him.

246

00:12:59,360 --> 00:13:02,510 Now, what the KGB man did, he wrote out the receipt,

247

00:13:02,510 --> 00:13:04,300 and he wanted Nina to sign it.

248

00:13:04,300 --> 00:13:06,640 And Sakharov got very angry.

249

00:13:06,640 --> 00:13:08,870 He said, hey, wait a minute.

250

00:13:08,870 --> 00:13:12,300 You arresting a man without any reason,

251

00:13:12,300 --> 00:13:18,070 you keep him in prison for 46 years, and you want a receipt?

252

00:13:18,070 --> 00:13:21,720 So the KGB man said sorry, and took the receipt

253

00:13:21,720 --> 00:13:24,740 and just gave everything back.

254

00:13:24,740 --> 00:13:30,290 And now we have an international committee in there, including

255

00:13:30,290 --> 00:13:36,470 two humanitarian Russians.

256

00:13:36,470 --> 00:13:39,980 We have a Canadian professor,

a mathematics professor

257

00:13:39,980 --> 00:13:41,750 from Toronto.

258

00:13:41,750 --> 00:13:46,250 We have-- and I'm sure you heard his name, Dr. Martin Makinen.

259

00:13:46,250 --> 00:13:51,350 That was the young man who was taken in prison in Russia

260

00:13:51,350 --> 00:13:52,580 when Powell was there.

261

00:13:52,580 --> 00:13:53,750 Remember Powell?

262

00:13:53,750 --> 00:13:55,010 And they exchanged them.

263

00:13:55,010 --> 00:13:57,500 He went to-- and Powell came out.

264

00:13:57,500 --> 00:13:58,970 Two years he was in prison.

265

00:13:58,970 --> 00:13:59,750 He did nothing.

266

00:13:59,750 --> 00:14:03,260 He went to visit Moscow, but they said he was a spy.

267

00:14:03,260 --> 00:14:07,310 But today he's a professor in Chicago.

268

00:14:07,310 --> 00:14:13,250 And he is one of the men who is on this committee.

269

00:14:13,250 --> 00:14:16,640

And they found out fantastic things.

270

 $00:14:16,640 \longrightarrow 00:14:19,340$

Number one, every Russian citizen

271

00:14:19,340 --> 00:14:23,780

is now allowed to look

for their dead person.

272

00:14:23,780 --> 00:14:26,810

It was written, they are also dead like Raoul.

273

00:14:26,810 --> 00:14:30,440

Now by the thousands

they are walking home,

274

00:14:30,440 --> 00:14:33,050

the dead people walking home.

275

00:14:33,050 --> 00:14:36,500

So nobody believes

that Raoul is dead.

276

00:14:36,500 --> 00:14:39,170

Somewhere he must be alive.

277

00:14:39,170 --> 00:14:41,390

They established

absolutely for sure

278

00:14:41,390 --> 00:14:44,690

that he was never

cremated, because they

279

00:14:44,690 --> 00:14:49,370

have one crematoria in the whole

Soviet Union, or Russia today.

280 00:14:49,370 --> 00:14:54,020 And their paper is as long as from here to Manhattan.

281

00:14:54,020 --> 00:14:57,920 And that took about four months to go through all the names.

282

00:14:57,920 --> 00:14:59,900 It's like a long toilet paper.

283

00:14:59,900 --> 00:15:03,050 Raoul Wallenberg's name is nowhere on.

284

00:15:03,050 --> 00:15:05,750 So he was not cremated.

285

00:15:05,750 --> 00:15:09,860 If he was killed, they must find somewhere his bones.

286

00:15:09,860 --> 00:15:12,470 That's how they found these Polish officers.

287

00:15:12,470 --> 00:15:13,430 They opened one.

288

00:15:13,430 --> 00:15:15,010 They thought Raoul is there.

289

00:15:15,010 --> 00:15:18,320 They found all those Polish officers.

290

00:15:18,320 --> 00:15:20,120 So we don't give up.

291

00:15:20,120 --> 00:15:22,290 He must be somewhere.

00:15:22,290 --> 00:15:29,240 And as you know, this August he will be 80-year-old.

293

00:15:29,240 --> 00:15:33,470 And we want to make this year a Raoul Wallenberg

294

00:15:33,470 --> 00:15:37,190 international humanitarian year.

295

00:15:37,190 --> 00:15:39,860 And this idea come from a lady, whose name

296

00:15:39,860 --> 00:15:43,940 is Dr. Vera Parnes, who is Russian,

297

00:15:43,940 --> 00:15:50,370 who is a doctor of neurosurgery, who wrote lots of papers.

298

00:15:50,370 --> 00:15:54,350 And she never heard of Raoul Wallenberg until two years ago.

299

00:15:54,350 --> 00:15:56,090 And he made a Wallenberg Committee,

300

00:15:56,090 --> 00:15:58,310 and he also has a museum.

301

00:15:58,310 --> 00:16:02,570 And he's in this country now, medically and not medically.

302

00:16:02,570 --> 00:16:04,400 And now she doesn't have to rush back.

00:16:04,400 --> 00:16:05,370 It's a new country.

304

00:16:05,370 --> 00:16:08,240 But when she came out, it was still a communist country.

305

00:16:08,240 --> 00:16:10,190 Now it's free.

306

00:16:10,190 --> 00:16:14,090 And she is trying to ask the whole world

307

00:16:14,090 --> 00:16:21,050 for sending poems, essays, paintings, songs, anything what

308

00:16:21,050 --> 00:16:23,740 can make Raoul happy.

309

00:16:23,740 --> 00:16:25,500 And--

310

00:16:25,500 --> 00:16:28,420 Let me ask you something, generally.

311

00:16:28,420 --> 00:16:31,750 How important are heroes?

312

00:16:31,750 --> 00:16:37,330 And how important are heroes in connection with the Holocaust?

313

00:16:37,330 --> 00:16:41,230 Very, very, very important, especially

314

00:16:41,230 --> 00:16:42,730 for our American youth.

00:16:42,730 --> 00:16:45,970 As you know, we do not have any heroes.

316

00:16:45,970 --> 00:16:49,210 Because I don't believe that the great sports figures

317

00:16:49,210 --> 00:16:50,290 are heroes.

318

00:16:50,290 --> 00:16:54,640 They can be idols, but they're certainly not heroes.

319

00:16:54,640 --> 00:16:57,820 Hero is a man who does something for humanity

320

00:16:57,820 --> 00:17:00,170 without getting paid for it.

321

00:17:00,170 --> 00:17:02,480 And there are very few.

322

00:17:02,480 --> 00:17:06,400 And I think I could name just a few who

323

00:17:06,400 --> 00:17:08,770 were like Raoul Wallenberg.

324

00:17:08,770 --> 00:17:12,970 And these heroes are important because the whole youth

325

00:17:12,970 --> 00:17:17,770 of the world don't see the importance of being

326

00:17:17,770 --> 00:17:20,599 wonderful and caring people.

00:17:20,599 --> 00:17:22,480

And the only way they can learn when

328

00:17:22,480 --> 00:17:26,050

they listen to these

stories about Wallenberg.

329

00:17:26,050 --> 00:17:29,080

I know I had the

experience what children

330

00:17:29,080 --> 00:17:34,420 can do when they realize what

one single person can do.

331

 $00:17:34,420 \longrightarrow 00:17:39,340$

If you're interested, I can tell you two wonderful stories.

332

 $00:17:39,340 \longrightarrow 00:17:42,550$

The one was we have a

Raoul Wallenberg School,

333

00:17:42,550 --> 00:17:46,070

a public school in Brooklyn.

334

00:17:46,070 --> 00:17:49,930

And one little boy is--

335

 $00:17:49,930 \longrightarrow 00:17:52,510$

well, most of them are

already in junior high school.

336

00:17:52,510 --> 00:17:57,490

And two years ago, I was invited

to see Fiddler on the Roof.

337

00:17:57,490 --> 00:17:58,520

The teacher called me.

00:17:58,520 --> 00:18:00,430 She says it's all Wallenberg children

339

00:18:00,430 --> 00:18:02,510 from the school are playing it.

340

00:18:02,510 --> 00:18:06,430 And there was one little boy who was-- two hours he was Tevye.

341

00:18:06,430 --> 00:18:07,360 He sang.

342

00:18:07,360 --> 00:18:08,290 He ad libbed.

343

00:18:08,290 --> 00:18:09,730 He spoke Hebrew.

344

00:18:09,730 --> 00:18:10,690 He did everything.

345

00:18:10,690 --> 00:18:12,670 He was absolutely magnificent.

346

00:18:12,670 --> 00:18:15,220 Two hours nonstop.

347

00:18:15,220 --> 00:18:17,290 And when it was over, I knew I remembered

348

00:18:17,290 --> 00:18:19,270 something of the boy, but I didn't know what.

349

00:18:19,270 --> 00:18:23,440 So when the teacher called me, she said you remember Johnny?

350

00:18:23,440 --> 00:18:25,610

And I said, I do, but what do I remember?

351

00:18:25,610 --> 00:18:28,120 Well, I said first of all, the boy is a Christian,

352

00:18:28,120 --> 00:18:30,910 and look how beautiful he speaks Hebrew.

353

00:18:30,910 --> 00:18:35,070 The second is, he has a terrible asthma condition.

354

00:18:35,070 --> 00:18:39,720 And when he said to me, Mrs. Shapiro, I want to be Tevye,

355

00:18:39,720 --> 00:18:41,310 I didn't know how to answer him.

356

00:18:41,310 --> 00:18:43,670 And I said, but what's going to happen, Johnny,

357

00:18:43,670 --> 00:18:45,990 if you get a coughing fit?

358

00:18:45,990 --> 00:18:49,110 And he said, Aggie, the kid was like Wallenberg.

359

00:18:49,110 --> 00:18:50,790 He was not four feet.

360

00:18:50,790 --> 00:18:51,780 He was seven feet.

361

00:18:51,780 --> 00:18:52,650

And he looked at me.

00:18:52,650 --> 00:18:55,810 He said, if Raoul Wallenberg could do what he did,

363

00:18:55,810 --> 00:18:59,090 I can do it.

364

00:18:59,090 --> 00:19:00,750 You see what a mind?

365

00:19:00,750 --> 00:19:04,430 And if you can tell the children the right way what it means

366

00:19:04,430 --> 00:19:07,740 to be a person who cares--

367

00:19:07,740 --> 00:19:09,870 he wanted to make other people happy.

368

00:19:09,870 --> 00:19:13,250 So for two years, he never coughed for two hours.

369

00:19:13,250 --> 00:19:16,520 The other one happened when I was a school librarian

370

00:19:16,520 --> 00:19:18,860 in another public school.

371

00:19:18,860 --> 00:19:21,770 And in the last half an hour of the day,

372

00:19:21,770 --> 00:19:24,560 the teacher came up with a class and he said,

373

00:19:24,560 --> 00:19:26,270

I can do nothing with these kids.

374 00:19:26,270 --> 00:19:28,550 Maybe you tell them the Wallenberg story.

375 00:19:28 550.

00:19:28,550 --> 00:19:30,440 So I did.

376

00:19:30,440 --> 00:19:33,350 And when the bell went, everybody just sat there.

377

00:19:33,350 --> 00:19:36,090 And the teacher said, don't you kids want to go home?

378

00:19:36,090 --> 00:19:38,900 And they said, no, could Miss Adachi talk a little longer?

379

00:19:38,900 --> 00:19:42,140 So I said, if you don't hurry, I don't hurry.

380

00:19:42,140 --> 00:19:45,870 And I told them that getting involved doesn't mean,

381

00:19:45,870 --> 00:19:47,780 if two people on the street killing

382

00:19:47,780 --> 00:19:50,600 each other that you go in the middle, because you get killed.

383

00:19:50,600 --> 00:19:53,180 Because use your noodles like Raoul used to.

384

00:19:53,180 --> 00:19:55,280 What can I do immediately?

00:19:55,280 --> 00:19:56,660 OK, they went.

386

00:19:56,660 --> 00:19:58,820 I forgot about the story.

387

00:19:58,820 --> 00:20:03,830 Three weeks after I'm sitting security at lunchtime,

388

00:20:03,830 --> 00:20:07,760 and suddenly I see one little boy coming in,

389

00:20:07,760 --> 00:20:09,920 takes my pencil and paper.

390

00:20:09,920 --> 00:20:12,510 The other one comes in, hands it to the secretary.

391

00:20:12,510 --> 00:20:14,130 And I said, what's going on?

392

00:20:14,130 --> 00:20:17,000 The secretary I hear calling the police.

393

00:20:17,000 --> 00:20:20,030 And before the principal walks out,

394

00:20:20,030 --> 00:20:22,610 I can hear the police arriving.

395

00:20:22,610 --> 00:20:25,100 Suddenly, three kids come in from this class.

396

00:20:25,100 --> 00:20:26,630 They all sixth graders.

00:20:26,630 --> 00:20:27,740

One is scratched.

398

00:20:27,740 --> 00:20:30,200

His shirt is all torn.

399

00:20:30,200 --> 00:20:32,010

I said, what happened?

400

 $00:20:32,010 \longrightarrow 00:20:33,860$

Well, the ball-- they

were playing ball.

401

00:20:33,860 --> 00:20:35,450

The ball went out on the street.

402

 $00:20:35,450 \longrightarrow 00:20:37,970$

The boy went out to the street to pick up the ball,

403

00:20:37,970 --> 00:20:39,170

and there was a log.

404

 $00:20:39,170 \longrightarrow 00:20:41,660$

And he wants to pick up the log when a car comes,

405

00:20:41,660 --> 00:20:43,010

and a man opens the window.

406

00:20:43,010 --> 00:20:45,170

And he said, leave that log there!

407

 $00:20:45,170 \longrightarrow 00:20:47,270$

And the kid, like you

would do or I would do,

408

 $00:20:47,270 \longrightarrow 00:20:49,370$

pulled up his

shoulder and says OK.

409 00:20:49,370 --> 00:20:52,370 For this OK, the man came out of the car

410 00:20:52,370 --> 00:20:56,560 and brutally started to hit him, because he answered back.

411 00:20:56,560 --> 00:20:58,180 Now, what are my children doing?

412 00:20:58,180 --> 00:20:58,817 He came in.

413 00:20:58,817 --> 00:21:00,400 He picked up the paper and the pencil.

414 00:21:00,400 --> 00:21:02,500 He put down the license number.

415 00:21:02,500 --> 00:21:04,930 The other one ran and gave it to the thing.

416 00:21:04,930 --> 00:21:08,110 By the time, as I said, the principal went out,

417 00:21:08,110 --> 00:21:10,180 the man was arrested.

418 00:21:10,180 --> 00:21:12,730 Stolen car, crazy man.

419 00:21:12,730 --> 00:21:15,170 And then all three kids look at me and said,

420 00:21:15,170 --> 00:21:19,160 would Wallenberg be proud of us? 421 00:21:19,160 --> 00:21:22,250 So you see, I am sure that these three kids,

422 00:21:22,250 --> 00:21:25,100 whenever they will go out anywhere

423 00:21:25,100 --> 00:21:28,850 and they are now high school or maybe already in college, they

424 00:21:28,850 --> 00:21:30,980 will never do anything wrong.

425 00:21:30,980 --> 00:21:35,130 They will always look, how can I help other people?

426 00:21:35,130 --> 00:21:40,440 And that's why my committee is every year giving

427 00:21:40,440 --> 00:21:46,010 senior high school student Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian awards.

428 00:21:46,010 --> 00:21:48,680 I don't want a child who has high grades.

429 00:21:48,680 --> 00:21:50,330 I don't care what they do in school.

430 00:21:50,330 --> 00:21:52,460 I want to know what they have done

431 00:21:52,460 --> 00:21:55,010 four years outside the school.

00:21:55,010 --> 00:21:58,220 And you'll be surprised, the most magnificent things

433

00:21:58,220 --> 00:21:59,870 these children do.

434

00:21:59,870 --> 00:22:01,970 Looking after AIDS children.

435

00:22:01,970 --> 00:22:05,360 These are 16, 17-year-old kids.

436

00:22:05,360 --> 00:22:07,310 They are going to nursing homes.

437

00:22:07,310 --> 00:22:08,600 They are reading to people.

438

00:22:08,600 --> 00:22:11,900 They doing the most fascinating things.

439

00:22:11,900 --> 00:22:13,580 They walking blind people.

440

00:22:13,580 --> 00:22:16,760 They-- it is wonderful.

441

00:22:16,760 --> 00:22:21,260 I wish I could give them instead of just the frame, something I

442

00:22:21,260 --> 00:22:23,030 could give them, at least \$100.

443

00:22:23,030 --> 00:22:25,360 But I don't have the money.

444

00:22:25,360 --> 00:22:28,540 But there again, I know

that these children

445 00:22:28,540 --> 00:22:31,480 look for that every year, who can be the best.

446 00:22:31,480 --> 00:22:33,260 And they do work four years.

447 00:22:33,260 --> 00:22:36,824 That is the importance of a hero, if you ask me.

448 00:22:36,824 --> 00:22:39,716 OK, let's go.

449 00:22:39,716 --> 00:22:42,126 [BEEP]

450 00:22:42,126 --> 00:22:46,960

451 00:22:46,960 --> 00:22:49,810 I want you to tell me what it feels

452 00:22:49,810 --> 00:22:54,190 like to have been a rescuer, and what it felt like then

453 00:22:54,190 --> 00:22:57,660 to be involved in this.

454 00:22:57,660 --> 00:22:58,590 I'll be glad to.

455 00:22:58,590 --> 00:23:01,240 For you personally, not for Raoul.

456 00:23:01,240 --> 00:23:01,740 Yeah. 457

00:23:01,740 --> 00:23:02,700 For you.

458

00:23:02,700 --> 00:23:09,040 Well, I-- when I was that young and I

459

00:23:09,040 --> 00:23:12,290 had someone like Raoul Wallenberg, it was nothing.

460

00:23:12,290 --> 00:23:14,590 It was a natural thing.

461

00:23:14,590 --> 00:23:16,240 Like it must have been for him.

462

00:23:16,240 --> 00:23:22,360 It was a wonderful feeling that I could save my parents,

463

00:23:22,360 --> 00:23:25,780 that I could save my cousins.

464

00:23:25,780 --> 00:23:29,560 Again, it was a miracle, because as I said,

465

00:23:29,560 --> 00:23:33,310 many people with the same papers died.

466

00:23:33,310 --> 00:23:34,450 But we were lucky.

467

00:23:34,450 --> 00:23:39,400 But it was a tremendous feeling to be there and be

468

00:23:39,400 --> 00:23:42,350 able to do something.

469

00:23:42,350 --> 00:23:44,080 I didn't know the meaning.

470

00:23:44,080 --> 00:23:48,560

I just knew that now I have the power to do it.

471

00:23:48,560 --> 00:23:51,520

And I did it.

472

 $00:23:51,520 \longrightarrow 00:23:54,070$

And because I was

young, and because I

473

00:23:54,070 --> 00:23:59,440 wanted to live so badly, because

the life was so short then,

474

00:23:59,440 --> 00:24:01,720

and we hadn't lived yet.

475

00:24:01,720 --> 00:24:06,370

So it was so important to

be able to be doing this.

476

 $00:24:06,370 \longrightarrow 00:24:10,180$

And it was the most

fantastic feeling

477

00:24:10,180 --> 00:24:13,480

that you know that you

can hold somebody's hand,

478

00:24:13,480 --> 00:24:15,700

and that you saved it.

479

00:24:15,700 --> 00:24:19,330

Like a friend of mine trusted me with her child once,

480

00:24:19,330 --> 00:24:22,360

and that was when the

Russians were already in,

481 00:24:22,360 --> 00:24:24,010 but they were still fighting.

482 00:24:24,010 --> 00:24:25,750 The Germans went to the Buda side.

483 00:24:25,750 --> 00:24:29,140 And from Buda they were shooting.

484 00:24:29,140 --> 00:24:31,390 And my friends came to me, and they

485 00:24:31,390 --> 00:24:34,880 said would you take our little girl to the nuns?

486 00:24:34,880 --> 00:24:38,330 And here we were walking on the street,

487 00:24:38,330 --> 00:24:40,280 where they were shooting.

488 00:24:40,280 --> 00:24:42,090 And the little girl was so frightened.

489 00:24:42,090 --> 00:24:43,670 And I said, well, what did Raoul do?

490 00:24:43,670 --> 00:24:44,790 He said stories.

491 00:24:44,790 --> 00:24:46,640 So I started a children's story.

492

00:24:46,640 --> 00:24:48,110 And in the meantime, we ducked.

493

00:24:48,110 --> 00:24:50,210 And somehow we survived.

494

00:24:50,210 --> 00:24:53,270 And I took the children, that child to the nuns.

495

00:24:53,270 --> 00:24:56,030 And next day, the parents went back, and under the window

496

00:24:56,030 --> 00:24:57,260 they brought her out.

497

00:24:57,260 --> 00:24:59,690 But you never thought of being afraid,

498

00:24:59,690 --> 00:25:02,180 because that was the strength.

499

00:25:02,180 --> 00:25:04,730 That was the most wonderful feeling,

500

00:25:04,730 --> 00:25:07,130 that you can do something.

501

00:25:07,130 --> 00:25:09,830 You never thought of it that you get paid for it

502

00:25:09,830 --> 00:25:11,220 or praised for it.

503

00:25:11,220 --> 00:25:13,350 It was a natural thing.

504

00:25:13,350 --> 00:25:15,890

But sometimes it was a horrifying thing, too.

505

00:25:15,890 --> 00:25:19,370 Like when as I said, they were already bombing--

506

00:25:19,370 --> 00:25:21,590 I mean, shooting each other.

507

00:25:21,590 --> 00:25:24,320 And we had shortage of water.

508

00:25:24,320 --> 00:25:30,620 And I remember that two houses from us there were a courtyard,

509

00:25:30,620 --> 00:25:33,850 and they had a--

510

00:25:33,850 --> 00:25:37,980 a-- what do you call it?

511

00:25:37,980 --> 00:25:38,480 A well.

512

00:25:38,480 --> 00:25:39,020 A well.

513

00:25:39,020 --> 00:25:39,590 Thank you.

514

00:25:39,590 --> 00:25:41,570 Sometimes I don't come to the words.

515

00:25:41,570 --> 00:25:43,610 And I wanted my

father to be shaved,

516

00:25:43,610 --> 00:25:47,670

so I went down to get the water.

517 00:25:47,670 --> 00:25:52,000 And again, who cares what's coming around?

518 00:25:52,000 --> 00:25:53,760 You don't hear it, really.

519 00:25:53,760 --> 00:25:56,755 Only the last minute that shhh.

520 00:25:56,755 --> 00:25:59,130 And there was an old gentleman who came out of the house.

521 00:25:59,130 --> 00:26:02,100 And up there was his wife, and waving.

522 00:26:02,100 --> 00:26:03,300 And he came with the water.

523 00:26:03,300 --> 00:26:05,220 And suddenly we hear this.

524 00:26:05,220 --> 00:26:08,880 And the man besides me fell.

525 00:26:08,880 --> 00:26:10,020 And I was so shocked.

526 00:26:10,020 --> 00:26:10,770 Why not me?

527 00:26:10,770 --> 00:26:12,150 Why him?

528 00:26:12,150 --> 00:26:15,680 And he was killed right there before my eyes. 00:26:15,680 --> 00:26:17,640 And yet I had to go on.

530

00:26:17,640 --> 00:26:19,040 And his wife came down.

531

00:26:19,040 --> 00:26:20,870 There was-- we couldn't really stop.

532

00:26:20,870 --> 00:26:22,700 And I brought the water home.

533

00:26:22,700 --> 00:26:26,500 And I couldn't tell my parents because I was shaking.

534

00:26:26,500 --> 00:26:28,060 But then you had to go again.

535

00:26:28,060 --> 00:26:29,410 You know, and again.

536

00:26:29,410 --> 00:26:32,710 And you had to save a child here, a child there.

537

00:26:32,710 --> 00:26:35,380 Even when the Russians were in already.

538

00:26:35,380 --> 00:26:39,680 Now today it is a far more difficult thing.

539

00:26:39,680 --> 00:26:41,210 It upsets me much more.

540

00:26:41,210 --> 00:26:44,690 Why was I so strong?

541

00:26:44,690 --> 00:26:47,060

Why didn't I do it?

542 00:26:47,060 --> 00:26:50,480 Or how dare I was to do it, rather?

543

 $00:26:50,480 \longrightarrow 00:26:52,500$ That's a question.

544

00:26:52,500 --> 00:26:54,780 But I always come back to the same answer.

545

00:26:54,780 --> 00:26:57,960 Because we had such a wonderful hero,

546

00:26:57,960 --> 00:27:01,240 who wouldn't like it today if somebody would call him a hero.

547

00:27:01,240 --> 00:27:03,090 He was just a regular young man.

548

00:27:03,090 --> 00:27:07,340 But he was full of pranks and jokes.

549

00:27:07,340 --> 00:27:11,910 But he gave us that enormous strength.

550

00:27:11,910 --> 00:27:17,400 And I am trying today, even if I couldn't do such things anymore

551

00:27:17,400 --> 00:27:20,040 as jumping to the cold water--

552

00:27:20,040 --> 00:27:23,740 today if I just see cold water, I get frozen.

553 00:27:23,740 --> 00:27:25,830 That's viby mayba I

That's why maybe I always need the boots.

554

00:27:25,830 --> 00:27:32,780 But what you have to go on teaching our children to be

555

00:27:32,780 --> 00:27:37,100 that strong, and that caring, and that their eyes

556

00:27:37,100 --> 00:27:41,790 should be open what they can do to others without prejudice,

557

00:27:41,790 --> 00:27:45,390 what also Raoul Wallenberg taught us.

558

00:27:45,390 --> 00:27:49,090 And I think I took that over.

559

00:27:49,090 --> 00:27:51,430 And I will always do it.

560

00:27:51,430 --> 00:27:55,660 And I am proud of it, if I can.

561

00:27:55,660 --> 00:27:59,080 I know my children had lots of wonderful Black friends

562

00:27:59,080 --> 00:28:00,680 who slept over in my house.

563

00:28:00,680 --> 00:28:05,380 And they all became lawyers and doctors and whatever.

564

00:28:05,380 --> 00:28:06,850

They're great kids.

565 00:28:06,850 --> 00:28:09,880 And my neighbor, who unfortunately came out

566 00:28:09,880 --> 00:28:10,960 with a terrible word.

567 00:28:10,960 --> 00:28:13,990 She's an Arab Jew from Persia, and she came and says,

568 00:28:13,990 --> 00:28:17,090 why do you let that nigger into your house?

569 00:28:17,090 --> 00:28:18,320 And I looked at her.

570 00:28:18,320 --> 00:28:21,960 I said, you of all people asking me this?

571 00:28:21,960 --> 00:28:24,450 And I said, besides I don't see their color.

572 00:28:24,450 --> 00:28:26,910 And then when I was at my door, I turned around

573 00:28:26,910 --> 00:28:28,860 and I said, interestingly enough,

574 00:28:28,860 --> 00:28:31,980 they put their slacks on the same way as my sons.

575 00:28:31,980 --> 00:28:33,750 And I banged the door.

576

00:28:33,750 --> 00:28:35,580 But this all what we have to.

577

00:28:35,580 --> 00:28:37,410 That's what Raoul said to us.

578

00:28:37,410 --> 00:28:39,810 He always talked about, I want to save the young,

579

00:28:39,810 --> 00:28:43,790 because only the young can make peace.

580

00:28:43,790 --> 00:28:48,530 And finally, once, while we were waiting for a Red Cross truck,

581

00:28:48,530 --> 00:28:49,190 I ask him.

582

00:28:49,190 --> 00:28:50,660 I say, Raoul, explain.

583

00:28:50,660 --> 00:28:51,740 I am young.

584

00:28:51,740 --> 00:28:54,230 What do you want us young people to do?

585

00:28:54,230 --> 00:28:56,000 Not that he was so much older.

586

00:28:56,000 --> 00:28:57,870 10 years or something.

587

00:28:57,870 --> 00:28:59,870 And he said, Oh,

Aggie, it's so easy.

588

00:28:59,870 --> 00:29:02,610

Prejudice has to disappear.

589

00:29:02,610 --> 00:29:04,680 In my book, I am colorblind.

590

00:29:04,680 --> 00:29:06,150 I am religious-blind.

591

00:29:06,150 --> 00:29:08,130 I only know two kinds of people--

592

00:29:08,130 --> 00:29:10,020 the good and the bad.

593

00:29:10,020 --> 00:29:13,860 And if you good, try to make the bad better.

594

00:29:13,860 --> 00:29:15,990 That was all he said.

595

00:29:15,990 --> 00:29:19,170 But his dream was always that one day all the children

596

00:29:19,170 --> 00:29:22,140 will come out and hold hands.

597

00:29:22,140 --> 00:29:27,090 But you see, we can't do this unless we teach our children.

598

00:29:27,090 --> 00:29:31,440 Two years ago, I was invited to Brooklyn,

599

00:29:31,440 --> 00:29:34,390 in a junior high school.

600

00:29:34,390 --> 00:29:36,620

The principal called me.

601 00:29:36,620 --> 00:29:39,820 And he said, now, Agnes, I want you to know

602 00:29:39,820 --> 00:29:43,360 we have 99% Black children.

603 00:29:43,360 --> 00:29:46,570 The rest of it is kids in wheelchairs, Jews,

604 00:29:46,570 --> 00:29:48,790 and Orientals.

605 00:29:48,790 --> 00:29:50,410 I said, fine.

606 00:29:50,410 --> 00:29:52,300 Can I speak of all Holocaust?

607 00:29:52,300 --> 00:29:53,920 He said, what all Holocaust?

608 00:29:53,920 --> 00:29:56,710 I said, well, don't you know what they're doing in Africa?

609 00:29:56,710 --> 00:29:58,780 What happens in Central America?

610 00:29:58,780 --> 00:30:01,870 What happened to the 3 million people who Hitler killed

611 00:30:01,870 --> 00:30:03,850 besides the six million Jews?

612 00:30:03,850 --> 00:30:04,975 Well, he didn't know. 00:30:04,975 --> 00:30:07,660 I says, Can I or can I not talk?

614

00:30:07,660 --> 00:30:09,220 He said, yes, you can.

615

00:30:09,220 --> 00:30:10,180 OK.

616

00:30:10,180 --> 00:30:11,950 Now, what I didn't know that he invited

617

00:30:11,950 --> 00:30:15,070 the whole ward, Ward 22.

618

00:30:15,070 --> 00:30:17,050 And when-- the kids were wonderful,

619

00:30:17,050 --> 00:30:21,610 300 of them in a huge, big auditorium.

620

00:30:21,610 --> 00:30:25,950 And everybody looked at me, and when

621

00:30:25,950 --> 00:30:28,410 I was finished with the story, nobody moved.

622

00:30:28,410 --> 00:30:30,210 The kids were wonderful.

623

00:30:30,210 --> 00:30:32,130 And then I asked the Black children,

624

00:30:32,130 --> 00:30:35,620 do you know about the Ku Klux Klan?

625

00:30:35,620 --> 00:30:37,170 Blank.

626

00:30:37,170 --> 00:30:40,173 And I looked back at the board, and everybody pulls up

627

00:30:40,173 --> 00:30:40,715 the shoulder.

628

00:30:40,715 --> 00:30:43,270

629

00:30:43,270 --> 00:30:45,070 I thought that's terrible.

630

00:30:45,070 --> 00:30:47,650 Then I looked at the little Jewish kids,

631

00:30:47,650 --> 00:30:51,010 whom I thought I said, did you hear about neo-Nazis?

632

00:30:51,010 --> 00:30:53,080 Blank.

633

00:30:53,080 --> 00:30:58,880 So I explained to the kids that they are both very bad people.

634

00:30:58,880 --> 00:31:01,420 And they are against us all.

635

00:31:01,420 --> 00:31:05,360 And if you kids don't look out for each other,

636

00:31:05,360 --> 00:31:06,400 then we all perish.

637

00:31:06,400 --> 00:31:08,920 But you can do it together.

638

00:31:08,920 --> 00:31:11,980 You can all do it together, and you can love each other,

639

00:31:11,980 --> 00:31:15,490 and forget colors, religions, anything.

640

00:31:15,490 --> 00:31:19,270 You will have to be just standing up very proud.

641

00:31:19,270 --> 00:31:22,570 And suddenly I see a Black and a white kid hugging,

642

00:31:22,570 --> 00:31:25,920 two boys holding their hands.

643

00:31:25,920 --> 00:31:29,520 And then suddenly, the 300 kids got up

644

00:31:29,520 --> 00:31:31,320 and gave me a standing ovation.

645

00:31:31,320 --> 00:31:33,780 And I cried.

646

00:31:33,780 --> 00:31:35,700 And the board says they had never seen this.

647

00:31:35,700 --> 00:31:37,200 I said, what is with you people?

648

00:31:37,200 --> 00:31:40,193

You teach nothing, absolutely nothing.

649 00:31:40,193 --> 00:31:41,610 You come to the Holocaust, and you

650 00:31:41,610 --> 00:31:44,490 say that many people were killed, and how they killed.

651 00:31:44,490 --> 00:31:46,800 Children are not interested that way.

652 00:31:46,800 --> 00:31:49,380 But teach them who else is out there.

653 00:31:49,380 --> 00:31:52,060 And if they don't look out for each other,

654 00:31:52,060 --> 00:31:54,030 they all get killed, because they're Black

655 00:31:54,030 --> 00:31:55,638 and because they're Jewish.

656 00:31:55,638 --> 00:31:57,180 Then the little boy in the wheelchair

657 00:31:57,180 --> 00:31:58,730 came up to and said, Miss Adachi,

658 00:31:58,730 --> 00:32:00,030 will you come to my ball game?

659 00:32:00,030 --> 00:32:01,350 I am great in playing.

660 00:32:01,350 --> 00:32:03,660 I said, of course I will.

661 00:32:03,660 --> 00:32:05,100 And you see, this is what--

662

00:32:05,100 --> 00:32:08,070 I am getting too old, and I wish a lot of young people

663 00:32:08,070 --> 00:32:10,500 would go out and talk to the children.

664

00:32:10,500 --> 00:32:13,320 I'm asking children to talk to other kids,

665 00:32:13,320 --> 00:32:15,570 to tell them that we are all one.

666 00:32:15,570 --> 00:32:17,640 And especially junior high school kids,

667 00:32:17,640 --> 00:32:19,320 they are really thinking themselves.

668 00:32:19,320 --> 00:32:20,610 They have a mind.

669 00:32:20,610 --> 00:32:23,640 The parents tell them, don't talk to him because he's this,

670 00:32:23,640 --> 00:32:25,860 and don't talk to him because he's that.

671 00:32:25,860 --> 00:32:26,850 And that's no good. 672 00:32:26,850 --> 00:32:30,910 And that was not Raoul Wallenberg's dream.

673 00:32:30,910 --> 00:32:33,560 But I think we do reach a lot of children.

674 00:32:33,560 --> 00:32:37,420 And if we don't reach more than five kid in every class

675 00:32:37,420 --> 00:32:42,680 at every school, then there is 5 better children in the world.

676 00:32:42,680 --> 00:32:45,750 And I think it's so important.

677 00:32:45,750 --> 00:32:49,460 And I'm going to meet--

678 00:32:49,460 --> 00:32:52,490 by chance, this Hungarian ambassador to the United

679 00:32:52,490 --> 00:32:57,560 Nations, and we ask him to try to have the United Nations

680 00:32:57,560 --> 00:33:02,030 accept this year as Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian year,

681 00:33:02,030 --> 00:33:05,930 and help us to read those poems, grown-ups and children will

682 00:33:05,930 --> 00:33:12,020 write, or have our beautiful symphonic poetry,

683

00:33:12,020 --> 00:33:15,950 what is written by an American com--

684 00:33:15,950 --> 00:33:20,690 American playwright and a Swedish composer.

685 00:33:20,690 --> 00:33:24,900 They should play that, because it's for Raoul.

686 00:33:24,900 --> 00:33:29,930 They are also trying to build a very great,

687 00:33:29,930 --> 00:33:32,810 the first in the world, a Raoul Wallenberg

688 00:33:32,810 --> 00:33:36,830 Center for the Arts in Florida, what we already

689 00:33:36,830 --> 00:33:39,920 started many years ago, and then all our money was stolen.

690 00:33:39,920 --> 00:33:42,000 I don't want to get into that.

691 00:33:42,000 --> 00:33:43,040 But these things happen.

692 00:33:43,040 --> 00:33:45,660 But now the Senate wants to help.

693 00:33:45,660 --> 00:33:49,230 So this would be one of the greatest 80th birthday

694 00:33:49,230 --> 00:33:52,610

| present to Raoul Wallenberg. | Contact reference@ushimm.org for further information about this collection |
|------------------------------|--|
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection