1 00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:11,280

2

00:00:11,280 --> 00:00:14,400 Once we start, they're going to look at you for a while

3

00:00:14,400 --> 00:00:15,495 and adjust the lights.

4

00:00:15,495 --> 00:00:19,370

5 00:00:19,370 --> 00:00:21,430 This one, what do you think?

6

00:00:21,430 --> 00:00:23,370 Sandy, is it distracting?

7

00:00:23,370 --> 00:00:25,610 This is our roll one with Leo Bretholz.

8

00:00:25,610 --> 00:00:26,750 And this is camera one?

9

00:00:26,750 --> 00:00:31,750 [INDISTINCT CONVERSATION]

10

00:00:31,750 --> 00:00:32,250 [BEEP]

11

00:00:32,250 --> 00:00:34,090 Take one.

12

00:00:34,090 --> 00:00:35,590 Should I just lean back?

13 00:00:35,590 --> 00:00:37,390 Yeah, you do whatever you want.

14 00:00:37,390 --> 00:00:40,610 But you can look at me.

15 00:00:40,610 --> 00:00:44,490 Can you briefly and simply tell me

16 00:00:44,490 --> 00:00:47,065 what the underground was like in France?

17 00:00:47,065 --> 00:00:50,920

18 00:00:50,920 --> 00:00:53,050 The French underground movement was made up

19 00:00:53,050 --> 00:00:57,220 of two major organizations.

20 00:00:57,220 --> 00:01:00,815 One was what was called the FFI.

21 00:01:00,815 --> 00:01:05,830 That was the abbreviation for Forces francaises de

22 00:01:05,830 --> 00:01:08,515 l'IIntérieur, the French Forces of the Interior.

23 00:01:08,515 --> 00:01:11,020

24 00:01:11,020 --> 00:01:16,300 And the other one was FTPF, Francs-Tireurs et Partisans

25 00:01:16,300 --> 00:01:22,120 Francais, Snipers and Partisans--

26

00:01:22,120 --> 00:01:23,270 what you might call a--

27 00:01:23,270 --> 00:01:26,850

28

00:01:26,850 --> 00:01:28,410 what do you call these organizations

29

00:01:28,410 --> 00:01:33,870 that fight the governments and the establishment?

30 00:01:33,870 --> 00:01:38,230

31

00:01:38,230 --> 00:01:41,730 Francs-Tireurs-- what do call them in the Middle East?

32

00:01:41,730 --> 00:01:42,570 They're called the--

33

00:01:42,570 --> 00:01:43,350 The guerillas?

34

00:01:43,350 --> 00:01:46,380 The guerillas, right.

35

00:01:46,380 --> 00:01:47,930 That was the second group.

36

00:01:47,930 --> 00:01:52,920 The difference between these two groups were very fundamental.

37 00:01:52,920 --> 00:01:59,180 FFI was under the direction of the exiled French government

38 00:01:59,180 --> 00:02:02,180 in London.

39 00:02:02,180 --> 00:02:06,380 Charles de Gaulle was the man who gave the instructions

40

00:02:06,380 --> 00:02:10,110 and gave the directives.

41

00:02:10,110 --> 00:02:12,600 The others were Francs-Tireurs Partisans guerrillas.

42

00:02:12,600 --> 00:02:14,200 And they worked on their own.

43

00:02:14,200 --> 00:02:15,900 They had their own command and did not

44

00:02:15,900 --> 00:02:22,630 listen to the directives that came from London because they

45

00:02:22,630 --> 00:02:24,510 had a special interest.

46

00:02:24,510 --> 00:02:25,950 They had an interest to maintain,

47

00:02:25,950 --> 00:02:29,530 for instance, the French infrastructure.

48

00:02:29,530 --> 00:02:31,450 Because once they were coming back as victors,

49 00:02:31,450 --> 00:02:34,510

they wouldn't want to have to rebuild so much.

50 00:02:34,510 --> 00:02:38,170 Or they had an interest to protect, namely in properties.

51 00:02:38,170 --> 00:02:40,000 Let's say there was an English-owned--

52 00:02:40,000 --> 00:02:42,760 British-owned-- property somewhere in the center

53 00:02:42,760 --> 00:02:44,260 of France.

54 00:02:44,260 --> 00:02:46,090 And in that factory--

55 00:02:46,090 --> 00:02:48,100 and that factory was now producing

56 00:02:48,100 --> 00:02:49,840 raw materials for the Germans.

57 00:02:49,840 --> 00:02:52,530

58 00:02:52,530 --> 00:02:56,220 Now the FTPF would go after those places

59 00:02:56,220 --> 00:02:58,740 and bomb them or destroy them.

60 00:02:58,740 --> 00:03:01,170 The French Forces of the Interior 00:03:01,170 --> 00:03:05,370 would be interested in not having these factories produce

62

00:03:05,370 --> 00:03:07,710 those tanks or those weapons, but they

63

00:03:07,710 --> 00:03:11,060 would like to maintain the property as an entity.

64

00:03:11,060 --> 00:03:14,820 So how to do one and not do the other without destroying?

65

00:03:14,820 --> 00:03:18,330 So there were these dichotomies.

66

00:03:18,330 --> 00:03:23,280 But FTPF didn't listen to it and did their own.

67

00:03:23,280 --> 00:03:26,040 The French Forces of the Interior had a command,

68

00:03:26,040 --> 00:03:28,860 and that, as I said, came out of London.

69

00:03:28,860 --> 00:03:33,000 And they had their military or paramilitary commanders

70 00:03:33,000 --> 00:03:33,960 here and there.

71 00:03:33,960 --> 00:03:38,280 The FTPF chose their leaders from within their ranks

72 00:03:38,280 --> 00:03:40,440

who were ragtag people.

73

00:03:40,440 --> 00:03:44,900 Now what did the FTPF include?

74

00:03:44,900 --> 00:03:48,410 This was 1941, '42.

75

00:03:48,410 --> 00:03:51,560 That was just six years after the end of the Spanish Civil

76

00:03:51,560 --> 00:03:52,520 War.

77

00:03:52,520 --> 00:03:56,570 So they had people who had come from Spain as refugees

78

00:03:56,570 --> 00:04:00,380 and were glad to take up arms against the German fascists

79

00:04:00,380 --> 00:04:01,130 again.

80

00:04:01,130 --> 00:04:05,690 There were deserters, to be sure, from the German Army.

81

00:04:05,690 --> 00:04:08,300 Now the Germans had incorporated into their army

82

00:04:08,300 --> 00:04:11,930 some people from Russia, from the Eastern Occupied

83

00:04:11,930 --> 00:04:14,990 Territories-- the Georgians especially, and Ukrainians. 00:04:14,990 --> 00:04:18,140 They were rabidly pro German, in fact.

85

00:04:18,140 --> 00:04:20,060 So some of them, after having been

86

00:04:20,060 --> 00:04:22,400 incorporated into the German Army

87

00:04:22,400 --> 00:04:25,820 and were then taken prisoners, escaped from the prison camps

88 00:04:25,820 --> 00:04:27,920 maybe and joined the FTPF.

89

00:04:27,920 --> 00:04:30,590 Or they were disenchanted with the German Army

90

00:04:30,590 --> 00:04:34,100 and decided, well, this is not for us, and deserted.

91

00:04:34,100 --> 00:04:35,900 And then there were real German deserters.

92 00:04:35,900 --> 00:04:38,900 Then there were a lot of people from Alsace-Lorraine,

93 00:04:38,900 --> 00:04:41,970 those people who had been--

94 00:04:41,970 --> 00:04:44,910 quite a few pro-German but many anti-German.

95 00:04:44,910 --> 00:04:46,890 So when the Lorraine people, who were

96

00:04:46,890 --> 00:04:51,630 taken into the German Army, refused

97

00:04:51,630 --> 00:04:54,540 to go along with them because at heart they were French.

98

00:04:54,540 --> 00:04:57,240 That reason had changed hands so many times.

99

00:04:57,240 --> 00:04:58,380 They were deserters.

100

00:04:58,380 --> 00:05:02,820 And then last but not least, there were the Jews.

101 00:05:02,820 --> 00:05:07,560 And the Jews had formed a group that was called Arm \tilde{A} ©e Juive,

102

00:05:07,560 --> 00:05:10,060 the Jewish Army.

103

00:05:10,060 --> 00:05:13,360 That group was not so much into fighting

104

00:05:13,360 --> 00:05:17,230 as into more harassing.

105

00:05:17,230 --> 00:05:22,510 Roadblocks, blowing up tracks, going into little villages

106

00:05:22,510 --> 00:05:27,760 and attack gendarmerie station and get some arms 107 00:05:27,760 --> 00:05:29,410 if they were available.

108 00:05:29,410 --> 00:05:32,140 But mainly to produce false identification

109 00:05:32,140 --> 00:05:34,690 cards and administrative things that

110 00:05:34,690 --> 00:05:38,440 would help people hide out safely, escape safely,

111 00:05:38,440 --> 00:05:41,050 children to be transported to Spain--

112 00:05:41,050 --> 00:05:43,480 to Portugal through Spain-perhaps to North Africa

113 00:05:43,480 --> 00:05:44,290 or to Switzerland.

114 00:05:44,290 --> 00:05:50,110 Now the group that I finally wound up with in Limoges was

115 00:05:50,110 --> 00:05:54,010 one of those Armée Juive.

116 00:05:54,010 --> 00:05:55,660 The group was called--

117 00:05:55,660 --> 00:05:59,680 the whole Armée Juive was really called the Sixth.

118 00:05:59,680 --> 00:06:05,740 Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

That was a nomenclature that was given, that we adopted.

119 00:06:05,740 --> 00:06:11,550 Or whoever was in charge decided that's what it will be called,

120 00:06:11,550 --> 00:06:13,290 the Sixth.

121 00:06:13,290 --> 00:06:14,730 The Sixth didn't mean much.

122 00:06:14,730 --> 00:06:16,030 Didn't mean anything, in fact.

123 00:06:16,030 --> 00:06:18,180 It was just drawn out of the air.

124 00:06:18,180 --> 00:06:20,880 But to the French Milice especially-- that

125 00:06:20,880 --> 00:06:29,640 was the French collaborationist paramilitary group

126 00:06:29,640 --> 00:06:32,520 that was under Vichy.

127 00:06:32,520 --> 00:06:36,650 And they did the dirty work for the Gestapo, in fact.

128 00:06:36,650 --> 00:06:39,870 But to them the Sixth was something ominous,

129 00:06:39,870 --> 00:06:43,710 something to be watched, looked out for, watched for, 130 00:06:43,710 --> 00:06:46,620 or be afraid of perhaps.

131 00:06:46,620 --> 00:06:48,120 Why?

132 00:06:48,120 --> 00:06:51,270 Because in their mind, if we were called the Sixth,

133 00:06:51,270 --> 00:06:53,730 there must have been a first, and a second, and a third,

134 00:06:53,730 --> 00:06:55,720 and a fourth, and a fifth.

135 00:06:55,720 --> 00:06:58,170 So to them the Sixth was something

136 00:06:58,170 --> 00:07:01,830 that was sixth in succession of a series.

137 00:07:01,830 --> 00:07:04,030 And to us it didn't mean much.

138 00:07:04,030 --> 00:07:07,080 This was mainly what I, personally,

139 00:07:07,080 --> 00:07:11,010 was engaged in after my various escapes,

140 00:07:11,010 --> 00:07:17,430 and when I finally acquired that nom de guerre, that French name

141 00:07:17,430 --> 00:07:20,010 Max Henri Lefevre. 142 00:07:20,010 --> 00:07:24,480 And our group did this, produced these false identification

143 00:07:24,480 --> 00:07:25,860 cards.

144

00:07:25,860 --> 00:07:28,620 To be sure, the French Resistance, the Maquis,

145 00:07:28,620 --> 00:07:34,440 was formed in the southeast of France in the French Alps,

146

 $00:07:34,440 \rightarrow 00:07:38,520$ and in the area where I first was, in the Rhone Valley.

147

00:07:38,520 --> 00:07:41,280 But that resistance group in northern part,

148

00:07:41,280 --> 00:07:43,140 in the northern part of France, above--

149

00:07:43,140 --> 00:07:45,660 north of the demarcation line--

150

00:07:45,660 --> 00:07:49,200 did not really mean much until shortly

151

00:07:49,200 --> 00:07:54,780 after the landing in Normandy in June of 1944.

152

00:07:54,780 --> 00:07:56,800 That's when they got more into action. Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

153 00:07:56,800 --> 00:07:59,250 And that's when the police in France joined up.

154 00:07:59,250 --> 00:08:02,040 Up to that moment in the northern part of France,

155

00:08:02,040 --> 00:08:05,340 the Maquis and the Resistance was not so much organized

156

00:08:05,340 --> 00:08:10,860 as mainly people individually started resisting and grouping

157

00:08:10,860 --> 00:08:12,840 because in the northern part of France,

158

00:08:12,840 --> 00:08:16,980 the Germans had pretty much the run of things,

159

00:08:16,980 --> 00:08:20,740 if not the collaboration of many people

160

00:08:20,740 --> 00:08:24,670 in Paris, including perhaps the police.

161

00:08:24,670 --> 00:08:32,710 And there's an interesting book out by Davy Jones.

162

00:08:32,710 --> 00:08:37,120 The book is called Paris in the Third Reich.

163

00:08:37,120 --> 00:08:44,059 Not "and" the Third Reich, in which he propounds 164 00:08:44,059 --> 00:08:46,400 the idea that had Germany won that war,

165 00:08:46,400 --> 00:08:48,860 Paris would have become the capital of his New Europe

166 00:08:48,860 --> 00:08:58,130 because that was the main gem in the crown of his conquests.

167 00:08:58,130 --> 00:09:00,530 He always wanted--Hitler always wanted

168 00:09:00,530 --> 00:09:03,570 Paris to be the showpiece.

169 00:09:03,570 --> 00:09:10,420 So he propounds the idea that the French may have even

170 00:09:10,420 --> 00:09:12,835 gone along with the New Order.

171 00:09:12,835 --> 00:09:14,210 So in the northern part of France

172 00:09:14,210 --> 00:09:17,065 there wasn't much resistance, to make a long story short.

173 00:09:17,065 --> 00:09:20,080 Our-- the southern part was where the beginning was.

174 00:09:20,080 --> 00:09:25,060 And this was basically what the resistance did. 175 00:09:25,060 --> 00:09:27,100 There many arrests, many people killed,

176 00:09:27,100 --> 00:09:29,680 many people executed-summarily executed.

177

00:09:29,680 --> 00:09:31,480 Very good friend of mine, Eugene Bass

178 00:09:31,480 --> 00:09:34,720 was killed in Saint-Junien

in southern France

179

00:09:34,720 --> 00:09:37,420 when he delivered a pack of ID cards

180

00:09:37,420 --> 00:09:39,790 and was arrested at the train station by the Germans,

181

00:09:39,790 --> 00:09:41,830 and two shots into the head.

182 00:09:41,830 --> 00:09:45,130 He's listed in that book Déportation des Juifs as one

183 00:09:45,130 --> 00:09:48,610 summarily executed.

184 00:09:48,610 --> 00:09:52,660

185 00:09:52,660 --> 00:09:56,290 It was hit and miss.

186 00:09:56,290 --> 00:10:00,000 It was run-- what it amounted to be

187

00:10:00,000 --> 00:10:03,630 one step ahead of your pursuers then you had it made.

188 00:10:03,630 --> 00:10:05,130 It was not something that we could

189

00:10:05,130 --> 00:10:08,100 say was so well organized that if it

190

00:10:08,100 --> 00:10:10,650 had endured for much longer that we would

191

00:10:10,650 --> 00:10:11,880 have come out the winners.

192

00:10:11,880 --> 00:10:14,420 I don't think so.

193

00:10:14,420 --> 00:10:16,320 Armies-- the German armies were defeated.

194

00:10:16,320 --> 00:10:18,870 And that spelled the end of it.

195

00:10:18,870 --> 00:10:25,710 But as an outfit, in hindsight, it was an adventure.

196

00:10:25,710 --> 00:10:29,250 But I don't think, as the outfit was constituted

197

00:10:29,250 --> 00:10:31,620 or the whole movement was constituted, 198 00:10:31,620 --> 00:10:33,900 they could have fought the Germans

199 00:10:33,900 --> 00:10:38,070 on an even playing field.

200 00:10:38,070 --> 00:10:39,120 They had all the tanks.

201 00:10:39,120 --> 00:10:40,350 They had all the ammunition.

202 00:10:40,350 --> 00:10:44,110 But things turned out differently.

203 00:10:44,110 --> 00:10:46,478 How did your group get away with things?

204 00:10:46,478 --> 00:10:51,260

205 00:10:51,260 --> 00:10:51,850 Roll two.

206 00:10:51,850 --> 00:10:52,350 Take two.

207 00:10:52,350 --> 00:11:03,174

208 00:11:03,174 --> 00:11:05,150 [BEEP]

209 00:11:05,150 --> 00:11:10,010 And I want to go back to your specific resistance activities

210 00:11:10,010 --> 00:11:10,850 in your group.

211

00:11:10,850 --> 00:11:13,010 And I want you to tell a little bit about how you

212 00:11:13,010 --> 00:11:14,450 were able to get away with it.

213 00:11:14,450 --> 00:11:18,090

214 00:11:18,090 --> 00:11:20,040 After my various escapes--

215

00:11:20,040 --> 00:11:25,620 the one from the train in motion, the deportation

216

00:11:25,620 --> 00:11:33,480 train, and later a jail sentence and I served nine months.

217

00:11:33,480 --> 00:11:36,920 And again a forced labor camp, and again being

218

00:11:36,920 --> 00:11:40,580 taken to a train to a work detail,

219

00:11:40,580 --> 00:11:45,440 escaping again this time from a standing train.

220

00:11:45,440 --> 00:11:50,510 I was contacted by my friend, a young fellow,

221

00:11:50,510 --> 00:11:52,460 who had escaped with me.

00:11:52,460 --> 00:11:53,540 We had communicated.

223

00:11:53,540 --> 00:11:56,150 And he knew where I was hiding after my last escape.

224 00:11:56,150 --> 00:12:00,940 And he sent me false identification papers.

225 00:12:00,940 --> 00:12:04,640 What he sent me, basically, was a birth certificate,

226 00:12:04,640 --> 00:12:10,040 which served later to establish an identity and identification

227 00:12:10,040 --> 00:12:13,100 cards and ration cards and everything

228 00:12:13,100 --> 00:12:15,500 that was connected with legalizing your--

229 00:12:15,500 --> 00:12:20,430 legalizing as it were, my false identity.

230 00:12:20,430 --> 00:12:23,160 And I could live with that under the regime.

231 00:12:23,160 --> 00:12:26,350 And after the war, if I would have wanted to,

232 00:12:26,350 --> 00:12:29,460 I could have continued that particular identity-- 00:12:29,460 --> 00:12:31,860 in that identity.

234

00:12:31,860 --> 00:12:34,470 So after my last escape and hiding out,

235 00:12:34,470 --> 00:12:38,040 I was sent these papers with a letter of recommendation

236

00:12:38,040 --> 00:12:41,160 to join up with a group in the Rhone

237

00:12:41,160 --> 00:12:46,590 Valley in a little town called Saint-Vallier, south of Lyon,

238

00:12:46,590 --> 00:12:51,540 which at the time was a hotbed of Gestapo activity

239 00:12:51,540 --> 00:12:55,980 under the aegis of Klaus Barbie.

240

00:12:55,980 --> 00:13:01,550 I joined with that group in November of 1943

241

00:13:01,550 --> 00:13:05,090 not really knowing what that group was.

242

00:13:05,090 --> 00:13:08,418 To me it was a place where I'm going to go to hide out with

243 00:13:08,418 --> 00:13:10,460 other young people who had run away, with other--

244 00:13:10,460 --> 00:13:12,290 not just young people--

245

00:13:12,290 --> 00:13:14,120 men who had run away.

246

00:13:14,120 --> 00:13:16,440 It had nothing to do with children or women.

247

00:13:16,440 --> 00:13:20,750 But when I got there, I knew after a few hours what it was.

248

00:13:20,750 --> 00:13:23,610 Speaking to people who they were, where they came from,

249

00:13:23,610 --> 00:13:25,550 and I realized I had just been sent

250 00:13:25,550 --> 00:13:35,610 to a place where we will do illegal underground activities.

251

00:13:35,610 --> 00:13:39,780 What happened in that particular area or in this particular camp

252

00:13:39,780 --> 00:13:44,930 was mainly instructions.

253

00:13:44,930 --> 00:13:50,060 How to circulate with our papers without being detected.

254 00:13:50,060 --> 00:13:55,910

What to say if we were in a place like a restaurant

255

 $00:13:55,910 \rightarrow 00:14:00,260$ and an inspection team came in, a patrol came in. 256 00:14:00,260 --> 00:14:05,060 How to act, and act natural, and to never speak or let

257 00:14:05,060 --> 00:14:08,540 on that you speak the language other than what you are,

258 00:14:08,540 --> 00:14:09,740 a Frenchmen.

259 00:14:09,740 --> 00:14:11,990 Don't fall into traps.

260 00:14:11,990 --> 00:14:18,370 And they were teaching some of us young people certain trades

261 00:14:18,370 --> 00:14:22,030 there too, so that the time should not go entirely

262 00:14:22,030 --> 00:14:25,600 with the knowledge that within some time,

263 00:14:25,600 --> 00:14:28,240 we will be sent to certain areas where

264 00:14:28,240 --> 00:14:32,970 they can use our services--

265 00:14:32,970 --> 00:14:35,860 underground activity.

266 00:14:35,860 --> 00:14:38,380 Little did we know at the time when I got there

267 00:14:38,380 --> 00:14:40,570 that in a few months later, we would

268

00:14:40,570 --> 00:14:43,930 be notified by the mayor of that village

269 00:14:43,930 --> 00:14:45,280 that there will be a raid.

270 00:14:45,280 --> 00:14:50,080 Evidently that mayor knew what this camp was all about.

271 00:14:50,080 --> 00:14:55,120 But we were notified that there will be a raid on the centre de

272

 $00:14:55,120 \rightarrow 00:14:58,720$ pré-apprentissage, a center for pre-apprenticeship.

273 00:14:58,720 --> 00:14:59,980 That's what it was called.

274

00:14:59,980 --> 00:15:02,800 A name that was innocuous.

275 00:15:02,800 --> 00:15:04,660 Didn't mean much.

276

00:15:04,660 --> 00:15:07,630 They gave us the uniforms of the Compagnon de France

277

00:15:07,630 --> 00:15:11,050 so that we were incorporated into that whole image of New

278

00:15:11,050 --> 00:15:13,840 Europe. 00:15:13,840 --> 00:15:18,190 And the majority of the people in this camp were Jewish.

280

00:15:18,190 --> 00:15:23,140 My friend who had sent me to that camp with a letter

281

00:15:23,140 --> 00:15:25,950 had that from his brother.

282

00:15:25,950 --> 00:15:31,720 And his brother had a friend of his--

283

00:15:31,720 --> 00:15:33,160 as he explained to me--

284

00:15:33,160 --> 00:15:34,975 had already had a contact.

285 00:15:34,975 --> 00:15:36,100 That's what they did there.

286

00:15:36,100 --> 00:15:39,010 And little did we know that when that mayor notified us

287

00:15:39,010 --> 00:15:41,710 that we will-- this is the time when we would have to disband.

288

00:15:41,710 --> 00:15:43,870 And the whole thing was disbanded.

289

00:15:43,870 --> 00:15:49,260 And 60 or 80 of us who were there--

290

00:15:49,260 --> 00:15:52,500 that was less than 100--

291 00:15:52,500 --> 00:15:59,080 were sent into various areas of Vichy France.

292 00:15:59,080 --> 00:16:03,830 And I was sent into an area near Limoges,

293 00:16:03,830 --> 00:16:06,230 a little town called Chalus.

294 00:16:06,230 --> 00:16:13,540 And in Chalus, I connected with the Jewish underground.

295 00:16:13,540 --> 00:16:16,510 And we were there to produce false identification cards.

296 00:16:16,510 --> 00:16:19,600 That was our main endeavor.

297 00:16:19,600 --> 00:16:21,400 Very good friend of mine who was part

298 00:16:21,400 --> 00:16:28,433 of this group, a young lady by the name of Marianne Cohn,

299 00:16:28,433 --> 00:16:30,350 just a couple of weeks-three or four weeks--

300 00:16:30,350 --> 00:16:37,750 before the liberation, had been put in charge of a children's

301 00:16:37,750 --> 00:16:41,197 convoy to Switzerland.

302 00:16:41,197 --> 00:16:43,030 And arriving near the border of Switzerland,

303

00:16:43,030 --> 00:16:47,170 near the town of Annemasse, she and her truck driver

304

00:16:47,170 --> 00:16:52,420 in the truck were stopped by a Nazi patrol that materialized

305

00:16:52,420 --> 00:16:53,380 at the last moment.

306

00:16:53,380 --> 00:16:59,770 And the kids were actually in plain view of the Swiss border.

307

00:16:59,770 --> 00:17:01,600 Soon freedom would be theirs.

308

00:17:01,600 --> 00:17:05,470 But that never came because they were arrested.

309

00:17:05,470 --> 00:17:07,750 They were beaten about, not the kids.

310

00:17:07,750 --> 00:17:10,990 The kids were then handled by the mayor of Annemasse

311

00:17:10,990 --> 00:17:13,660 who said he was going to put himself

312

00:17:13,660 --> 00:17:16,660 in charge of these kids.

313 00:17:16,660 --> 00:17:19,140 Marianne Cohn was arrested.

314 00:17:19,140 --> 00:17:21,770 The truck driver was arrested.

315 00:17:21,770 --> 00:17:24,880 She was interrogated.

316 00:17:24,880 --> 00:17:26,560 She didn't divulge anything.

317 00:17:26,560 --> 00:17:28,540 And then the henchman from Lyon came

318 00:17:28,540 --> 00:17:31,680 to interrogate her in her cell.

319 00:17:31,680 --> 00:17:38,550 The story wound up with her being killed with a spade

320 00:17:38,550 --> 00:17:40,860 to her skull.

321 00:17:40,860 --> 00:17:44,760 And for a week-- a few weeks later, after the liberation,

322 00:17:44,760 --> 00:17:47,520 her body was found in a shallow grave

323 00:17:47,520 --> 00:17:50,830 together with another prisoner lady

324 00:17:50,830 --> 00:17:52,480 who was with her in the cell.

325 00:17:52,480 --> 00:17:58,630 And then a poem was found in her pocket of a jacket-- Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

326 00:17:58,630 --> 00:18:01,150 of a bloodstained jacket-where she had written about

327 00:18:01,150 --> 00:18:05,740 the hobnailed booth and the--

328 00:18:05,740 --> 00:18:10,000 you have key chains in your fists and you are--

329 00:18:10,000 --> 00:18:12,440 but I am not giving in and all that sort of thing.

330 00:18:12,440 --> 00:18:13,780 And I'm not going to speak.

331 00:18:13,780 --> 00:18:15,790 I'll talk tomorrow but not today.

332 00:18:15,790 --> 00:18:18,910 And she never had a chance to talk or to not

333 00:18:18,910 --> 00:18:20,260 to talk because she was--

334 00:18:20,260 --> 00:18:23,170

335 00:18:23,170 --> 00:18:26,650 she said, tomorrow I will be betray, not today.

336 00:18:26,650 --> 00:18:29,890 You can't get me to betray today, tomorrow.

337 00:18:29,890 --> 00:18:32,740 I know what you are doing, but Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

I know what I am going to do.

338

00:18:32,740 --> 00:18:39,030 And then she was going to slit her wrists with a file,

339

00:18:39,030 --> 00:18:40,470 but she never got to that.

340

00:18:40,470 --> 00:18:41,160 She was killed.

341

00:18:41,160 --> 00:18:46,080 Anyway, that was the tragic story of one of our people.

342

00:18:46,080 --> 00:18:50,370 And when you go on the war front and you shoot it out

343

00:18:50,370 --> 00:18:53,340 with the Milice or the Germans, that's a quick thing.

344

00:18:53,340 --> 00:18:55,500 It's either them or us.

345

00:18:55,500 --> 00:18:59,670 And that's sort of action out in the field.

346

00:18:59,670 --> 00:19:02,470 But there is more to the underground than the field

347

00:19:02,470 --> 00:19:05,280 and the confrontations.

348 00:19:05,280 --> 00:19:08,010 There is that resistance of--

349 00:19:08,010 --> 00:19:11,460 350 00:19:11,460 --> 00:19:15,270 sacrifice, and doing what you think is right.

351 00:19:15,270 --> 00:19:19,470 And this, Marianne Cohn really personified

352

00:19:19,470 --> 00:19:24,330 everything that was good in a person, that

353 00:19:24,330 --> 00:19:25,330 knew what she was doing.

354 00:19:25,330 --> 00:19:26,490 She was very studious.

355 00:19:26,490 --> 00:19:32,730

She was very pert little person, loved children, and loved life.

356

00:19:32,730 --> 00:19:34,950 A poet a musician.

357

00:19:34,950 --> 00:19:41,030 And that was also part of that underground, that resistance,

358 00:19:41,030 --> 00:19:46,060 that had to be there because documentation

359 00:19:46,060 --> 00:19:48,330 was very important.

360 00:19:48,330 --> 00:19:52,730 In fact, it was on the 10th of June 1944 that

361

00:19:52,730 --> 00:19:56,870 was the destruction of the village of Oradour--

362

00:19:56,870 --> 00:20:00,740 that I was on my way to Oradour with a pack of cards,

363

00:20:00,740 --> 00:20:02,540 identification cards.

364

00:20:02,540 --> 00:20:05,630 And my friend Eugene Bass took a batch of cards

365

00:20:05,630 --> 00:20:08,570 to go to Saint-Junien, a village beyond.

366

00:20:08,570 --> 00:20:09,500 Why did he do that?

367

00:20:09,500 --> 00:20:12,050 Because his mother was in that village hiding out.

368

00:20:12,050 --> 00:20:15,320 So he took that area because at the same time

369 00:20:15,320 --> 00:20:16,910 he could visit with his mother.

370 00:20:16,910 --> 00:20:19,370 So when he arrived at the train station,

371 00:20:19,370 --> 00:20:21,410 they caught him with these cards and killed him.

372 00:20:21,410 --> 00:20:25,280 And when we were on the train, on that commuter train between

373

00:20:25,280 --> 00:20:28,220 Limoges and Oradour-sur-Glane--

374

00:20:28,220 --> 00:20:30,350 that's the village that on the 10th of May

375

00:20:30,350 --> 00:20:33,752 was burned to the ground, 900-some people.

376 00:20:33,752 --> 00:20:36,340 You may have heard of it.

377

00:20:36,340 --> 00:20:40,400 Women and children put into a church to be photographed.

378

00:20:40,400 --> 00:20:42,550 And then the church was burned down

379

00:20:42,550 --> 00:20:45,735 to the ground with straw and hay on the outside and gasoline

380 00:20:45,735 --> 00:20:46,360 poured over it.

381 00:20:46,360 --> 00:20:49,100 And that was the tragedy of Oradour.

382

00:20:49,100 --> 00:20:51,490 And when we were on that train going to Oradour

383

00:20:51,490 --> 00:20:53,470 and we saw the German column proceed 384 00:20:53,470 --> 00:20:57,030 alongside on the country road next to the train,

385 00:20:57,030 --> 00:21:00,580 next to the railroad track, we knew

386

00:21:00,580 --> 00:21:03,650 that they're going somewhere for some sort of action.

387

00:21:03,650 --> 00:21:06,210 So some of us decided we are not going to go to Oradour.

388

00:21:06,210 --> 00:21:07,460 We're not going to go further.

389

00:21:07,460 --> 00:21:11,070 In fact, the next stop, we will get off

390

00:21:11,070 --> 00:21:13,070 because when the Germans go into that direction,

391

00:21:13,070 --> 00:21:16,300 we don't want to go in that same direction.

392

00:21:16,300 --> 00:21:18,940 That was also part of the learning process.

393

00:21:18,940 --> 00:21:22,610 When you see trouble that you cannot--

394

00:21:22,610 --> 00:21:28,120 don't want to be involved in, just find another way. 395 00:21:28,120 --> 00:21:29,140 Be one step ahead.

396 00:21:29,140 --> 00:21:31,310 Think ahead.

397 00:21:31,310 --> 00:21:32,810 So we got off a station before.

398 00:21:32,810 --> 00:21:35,850 We found out that whoever descended

399 00:21:35,850 --> 00:21:39,860 from the train in Oradour, from the train, was also arrested,

400 00:21:39,860 --> 00:21:43,430 was part of the killing--

401 00:21:43,430 --> 00:21:45,250 was killed right in Oradour.

402 00:21:45,250 --> 00:21:50,370 So there was another time when I escaped just by sheer luck

403 00:21:50,370 --> 00:21:53,710 because I decided not to go to Oradour.

404 00:21:53,710 --> 00:21:55,710 The first things were escapes.

405 00:21:55,710 --> 00:22:03,450 This was not an escape but just a preemptive sort of decision

406 00:22:03,450 --> 00:22:05,670 that had to be made. 00:22:05,670 --> 00:22:08,170 The cards were never delivered.

408

00:22:08,170 --> 00:22:11,380 And the people to whom they would have been delivered

409

00:22:11,380 --> 00:22:12,810 were no longer alive anyway.

410

00:22:12,810 --> 00:22:30,130

411 00:22:30,130 --> 00:22:33,850 --to deliver some cards when I collapsed

412 00:22:33,850 --> 00:22:36,880 because I had a hernia, a strangulation hernia.

413 00:22:36,880 --> 00:22:40,150 And I had an incident in a park where a nurse walked by

414

00:22:40,150 --> 00:22:42,730 and she says, you will have to be taken to the hospital.

415 00:22:42,730 --> 00:22:47,110 And I resisted that because they would recognize circumcision.

416 00:22:47,110 --> 00:22:49,930 And in France--

417 00:22:49,930 --> 00:22:52,450 French people do not get circumcised, you see--

418 00:22:52,450 --> 00:22:54,520 the non-Jews. 419 00:22:54,520 --> 00:22:57,060 And I wound up in the hospital.

420 00:22:57,060 --> 00:22:59,160 And it was an emergency operation.

421

00:22:59,160 --> 00:23:03,090 And when I woke up there was this nun, a Catholic hospital

422

00:23:03,090 --> 00:23:03,870 nun.

423

00:23:03,870 --> 00:23:08,490 Her name was Saint Joan of Arc, a beautiful black-eyed young

424

00:23:08,490 --> 00:23:12,180 nun, about maybe 19, 20, 21 years old.

425

00:23:12,180 --> 00:23:16,560 And she-- when I woke up and I had a hot [INAUDIBLE] of-- hot

426

00:23:16,560 --> 00:23:19,590 water bottle at my feet because I had that infection, you know,

427

00:23:19,590 --> 00:23:24,750 and I had a drain in my stomach there, groin--

428

00:23:24,750 --> 00:23:26,910 she said to me, you don't have to--

429

00:23:26,910 --> 00:23:28,620 as long as I'm in this ward, she says, 00:23:28,620 --> 00:23:31,060 you don't have to worry about anything.

431

00:23:31,060 --> 00:23:32,410 That's what she said to me.

432

00:23:32,410 --> 00:23:33,850 Later when I wrote to the hospital

433

00:23:33,850 --> 00:23:35,380 to get some documentation on that--

434 00:23:35,380 --> 00:23:38,770 I needed that for Germany for compensation,

435 00:23:38,770 --> 00:23:41,170 that sort of thing--

436 00:23:41,170 --> 00:23:44,100 I asked in that letter that I wrote to the administration,

437

00:23:44,100 --> 00:23:47,735 is Sister Joan of Arc by any chance still at your hospital?

438 00:23:47,735 --> 00:23:49,610 They said, no, she was transferred somewhere.

439

00:23:49,610 --> 00:23:51,760 They said, either Normandy or Brittany.

440 00:23:51,760 --> 00:23:53,080 I think it was Normandy.

441 00:23:53,080 --> 00:23:55,990 She's in another hospital, but if we have some communication

442

00:23:55,990 --> 00:23:58,480 with her, if we have a chance to speak to her,

443

00:23:58,480 --> 00:24:01,210 we'll tell her that you asked about her.

444

00:24:01,210 --> 00:24:03,640 And it's nice that you did ask about her.

445

00:24:03,640 --> 00:24:07,060 So that was-- there was a rabbi in--

446

00:24:07,060 --> 00:24:10,270 later was the Grand Rabbi of Strasbourg Abraham Deutsch.

447 00·24·1

00:24:10,270 --> 00:24:13,240 And he was the fellow through whose offices

448

00:24:13,240 --> 00:24:14,990 we always had our communication.

449

00:24:14,990 --> 00:24:21,700 But he was a rabbi in Limoges, but he had all this information

450

00:24:21,700 --> 00:24:26,850 and letters and instructions came through his office,

451 00:24:26,850 --> 00:24:27,350 really.

452 00:24:27,350 --> 00:24:29,858 And when I was in that hospital, I still 453 00:24:29,858 --> 00:24:31,900 made sure that I was in touch with Rabbi Deutsch,

454 00:24:31,900 --> 00:24:34,000 that he knew what was happening to me because I

455 00:24:34,000 --> 00:24:37,870 had gone to deliver some cards and dropped right in the--

456 00:24:37,870 --> 00:24:41,800 well, to get some information from kids in an orphanage

457 00:24:41,800 --> 00:24:43,960 to see what they needed to be done--

458 00:24:43,960 --> 00:24:46,900 and all of a sudden had disappeared off the street.

459

00:24:46,900 --> 00:24:49,390 So I had to send message to Rabbi Deutsch later

460 00:24:49,390 --> 00:24:52,750 after a couple of days after I had sort of gotten out

461 00:24:52,750 --> 00:24:54,490 of anesthesia.

462 00:24:54,490 --> 00:24:57,400 So these were all little incidents

463 00:24:57,400 --> 00:25:03,880 that were part of that whole mosaic of events, you know. 464 00:25:03,880 --> 00:25:06,190 All right, now let's not do the train now.

465 00:25:06,190 --> 00:25:07,540 Let's go back.

466 00:25:07,540 --> 00:25:12,130 And why don't you tell me how your distant cousin saved you

467 00:25:12,130 --> 00:25:13,810 when you were hiding.

468 00:25:13,810 --> 00:25:16,030 Just tell me that little story.

469 00:25:16,030 --> 00:25:20,720 Annie-- how she saved you when you were hiding in the attic.

470 00:25:20,720 --> 00:25:23,380 Oh, Annie, yeah.

471 00:25:23,380 --> 00:25:28,660 She's now a lady of 69 living in Belgium.

472 00:25:28,660 --> 00:25:33,260 What happened was that before we were--

473 00:25:33,260 --> 00:25:38,950 before I had my escape, I lived in this town Cauterets.

474 00:25:38,950 --> 00:25:40,670 You know, all these--

475 00:25:40,670 --> 00:25:43,750 all the information there-- Contact reference@ushmm.org for further information about this collection

476 00:25:43,750 --> 00:25:47,420 lived in this town Cauterets near the-- not I lived there.

477 00:25:47,420 --> 00:25:51,220 We were sent there as Jews to go into what was called forced

478 00:25:51,220 --> 00:25:55,480 residence, résidence assignée, assigned residence.

479 00:25:55,480 --> 00:25:57,940 Again there was a mayor responsible for letting

480 00:25:57,940 --> 00:25:59,980 us know that there will be a raid, so some of us

481 00:25:59,980 --> 00:26:00,970 took to the mountains.

482 00:26:00,970 --> 00:26:04,160

483 00:26:04,160 --> 00:26:07,520 About a handful of us took to the mountains to hide out.

484 00:26:07,520 --> 00:26:11,720 Annie, who was with her parents there, was a Belgian citizen.

485 00:26:11,720 --> 00:26:14,750 And Belgians and Luxembourgers and Dutch people,

486 00:26:14,750 --> 00:26:18,290 at first, were never as much affected by that

487 00:26:18,290 --> 00:26:21,800 as people who had come from Austria, Germany, Poland,

488

00:26:21,800 --> 00:26:25,220 the East, or apatride, meaning stateless people.

489

00:26:25,220 --> 00:26:27,140 And then she was a girl.

490

00:26:27,140 --> 00:26:29,570 And women were not immediately-- some of them

491

00:26:29,570 --> 00:26:32,960 were under some sort of dispensation there.

492

00:26:32,960 --> 00:26:36,260 But men and young men, of course, were taken.

493

00:26:36,260 --> 00:26:38,330 When we came back from the mountain,

494

00:26:38,330 --> 00:26:40,340 I knew that I was no longer able to live

495

00:26:40,340 --> 00:26:43,010 in this town of Cauterets, which was near the Spanish border,

496

00:26:43,010 --> 00:26:45,950 about two or three miles away from the Spanish border.

497

00:26:45,950 --> 00:26:49,040 An enclave from which it was very hard to get away 498 00:26:49,040 --> 00:26:49,838 and to get to.

499

00:26:49,838 --> 00:26:51,005 But that's what they wanted.

500 00:26:51,005 --> 00:26:52,455 Wanted us sort of captive.

501 00:26:52,455 --> 00:26:56,540

502 00:26:56,540 --> 00:26:58,310 I decided within a day or two we will

503 00:26:58,310 --> 00:26:59,990 have to get away from here.

504 00:26:59,990 --> 00:27:03,560 I will have to get away because I could no longer be there.

505

00:27:03,560 --> 00:27:05,540 Out of the 1,500 or so people who

506

00:27:05,540 --> 00:27:07,700 had been confined-the Jews-- there

507 00:27:07,700 --> 00:27:10,880 was just about maybe a couple hundred left.

508 00:27:10,880 --> 00:27:13,415 And I went up to the attic in the place where we lived.

509 00:27:13,415 --> 00:27:17,510 510 00:27:17,510 --> 00:27:20,180 My family, distant cousin, they said,

511 00:27:20,180 --> 00:27:22,970 you will stay up in the attic until a few days from now

512

00:27:22,970 --> 00:27:25,070 when you will be able to leave here.

513 00:27:25,070 --> 00:27:28,880 When all the tumult had died down and there's

514

00:27:28,880 --> 00:27:34,040 no longer maybe inspection or patrols.

515

00:27:34,040 --> 00:27:36,140 And I went up to that attic and stayed there

516

00:27:36,140 --> 00:27:39,350 with a little bit of provision that I took along.

517

00:27:39,350 --> 00:27:46,960 And there was a cot on the side that I was lying on,

518 00:27:46,960 --> 00:27:50,050 and a wooden door, as it is in attics,

519 00:27:50,050 --> 00:27:52,150 like a storage place with a lock--

520 00:27:52,150 --> 00:27:53,230 a padlock on the outside. 521 00:27:53,230 --> 00:27:55,420 And that wooden door had panels.

522

00:27:55,420 --> 00:27:57,820 And through these panels there were cracks.

523

00:27:57,820 --> 00:27:59,820 You could actually peep and see what's going on.

524

00:27:59,820 --> 00:28:04,180 So I had to be sure that I was out of the range of vision

525

00:28:04,180 --> 00:28:06,040 if somebody would look in, and was

526

00:28:06,040 --> 00:28:08,200 right on the side standing against the wall

527

00:28:08,200 --> 00:28:10,510 or lying down or sitting on that bed.

528

00:28:10,510 --> 00:28:15,340 At one point, I heard from time to time my cousin would come up

529

00:28:15,340 --> 00:28:16,152 anyway, would say--

530

00:28:16,152 --> 00:28:18,610 would find out if I'm all right, if I need anything, water,

531 00:28:18,610 --> 00:28:19,700 or anything like that.

532 00:28:19,700 --> 00:28:22,720

And they would supply me in these couple of days.

533

00:28:22,720 --> 00:28:27,220 But at one point one afternoon, I hear steps.

534

00:28:27,220 --> 00:28:28,780 And they were not the usual steps

535

00:28:28,780 --> 00:28:34,170 of that young woman or her mother.

536 00:28:34,170 --> 00:28:38,100 But there were several steps, and there were noises.

537 00:28:38,100 --> 00:28:42,840 And I was in there and moved my head to the crack,

538 00:28:42,840 --> 00:28:43,680 and peeped out.

539 00:28:43,680 --> 00:28:46,740 And there was Annie and two gendarmes with her.

540 00:28:46,740 --> 00:28:49,690

541 00:28:49,690 --> 00:28:57,456 And they wanted to know who had the key to that lock to the--

542 00:28:57,456 --> 00:28:58,920 that's what I heard them ask her.

543 00:28:58,920 --> 00:29:02,080 She says, I don't know, we just moved in here a few months ago

544

00:29:02,080 --> 00:29:03,950 and never had access to this.

545

00:29:03,950 --> 00:29:06,890 But the person, the landlord who owns this--

546

00:29:06,890 --> 00:29:08,900 what was called a villa or something like that,

547

00:29:08,900 --> 00:29:13,160 it was called la pergola, Spanish name--

548 00:29:13,160 --> 00:29:17,240

549

00:29:17,240 --> 00:29:19,550 they may have the key, but we would

550

00:29:19,550 --> 00:29:22,110 have to get in touch with them to get the key.

551 00:29:22,110 --> 00:29:24,170 But what is it?

552 00:29:24,170 --> 00:29:28,430 We are looking for this fellow that was living here with you--

553 00:29:28,430 --> 00:29:30,530 like they looked for others also.

554 00:29:30,530 --> 00:29:33,780 She says, well, he ran away. 00:29:33,780 --> 00:29:36,575 He ran away, never heard from him or some such excuse.

556 00:29:36,575 --> 00:29:39,902

557 00:29:39,902 --> 00:29:41,860 And when they were debating the issue, the key,

558 00:29:41,860 --> 00:29:49,900 whether to get in or go get the key, they try to get near her.

559 00:29:49,900 --> 00:29:55,650 And touched her and sort of told her

560 00:29:55,650 --> 00:30:00,300 that if she would give in to their wishes,

561 00:30:00,300 --> 00:30:03,360 they would just forget about the whole thing.

562 00:30:03,360 --> 00:30:08,100 And when I heard that, it just sent a shiver down my spine.

563 00:30:08,100 --> 00:30:11,840 And they bent down over her, and tried

564 00:30:11,840 --> 00:30:16,220 to caress her and fondle her and kiss her.

565 00:30:16,220 --> 00:30:20,030 And she resisted to some extent, but also

566

00:30:20,030 --> 00:30:24,440 didn't want to make it to annoy them too much

567

00:30:24,440 --> 00:30:28,650 or anger them too much, so that they shouldn't get back.

568

00:30:28,650 --> 00:30:31,940 And after a while, they just got down

569

00:30:31,940 --> 00:30:34,880 with her-- walked down the steps again with her.

570

00:30:34,880 --> 00:30:39,120 And I don't know really what happened after that.

571

00:30:39,120 --> 00:30:42,830 But there was Annie, and due to the fact

572

00:30:42,830 --> 00:30:46,190 that she sort of played along with them,

573

00:30:46,190 --> 00:30:48,470 I think they did not insist on getting the key

574

00:30:48,470 --> 00:30:51,110 or maybe breaking the door down.

575

00:30:51,110 --> 00:30:56,630 But in their perception, someone who just disappears overnight--

576

00:30:56,630 --> 00:30:59,840 because they had all our names and we 00:30:59,840 --> 00:31:02,960 had to register every two weeks with the mayor.

578 00:31:02,960 --> 00:31:06,450 Another thing, as a follow up to that.

579

00:31:06,450 --> 00:31:09,030 A couple of years ago, I sent a note

580

00:31:09,030 --> 00:31:13,230 to the city hall in Cauterets just

581

00:31:13,230 --> 00:31:14,970 to inquire about the name of the mayor

582

00:31:14,970 --> 00:31:17,520 because I never knew the name, telling him also

583

00:31:17,520 --> 00:31:21,060 that he had done some good for us by notifying us,

584

00:31:21,060 --> 00:31:22,630 and that I live now in America.

585

00:31:22,630 --> 00:31:27,060 And I might write some memoirs or just

586

00:31:27,060 --> 00:31:30,240 write some mementos on the-- and it would be good

587 00:31:30,240 --> 00:31:31,500 for me to know his name.

588 00:31:31,500 --> 00:31:33,870 And they said of course the mayor died since then

589 00:31:33,870 --> 00:31:38,310 but we have his son's name and he lives in Limoges, in fact.

590 00:31:38,310 --> 00:31:40,740 And he's about 80 years old now.

591 00:31:40,740 --> 00:31:45,480 So that was the story in the attic in Cauterets.

592 00:31:45,480 --> 00:31:48,210 See, when you first said Annie, it so

593 00:31:48,210 --> 00:31:50,790 happens I have a cousin Annie who lives here in America.

594 00:31:50,790 --> 00:31:53,070 And for a moment I didn't--

595

00:31:53,070 --> 00:31:53,852 Yeah.

596

00:31:53,852 --> 00:31:55,560 In fact, I'm going to see them in Belgium

597

00:31:55,560 --> 00:31:59,720 when I go there this May.

598 00:31:59,720 --> 00:32:00,220 OK.

599 00:32:00,220 --> 00:32:04,100 We're probably running out of [INAUDIBLE].. 00:32:04,100 --> 00:32:07,970 Can you [BEEP] that comical story you mentioned once about

601

00:32:07,970 --> 00:32:16,060 the flash [BEEP] when you were stopped to have your--

602

00:32:16,060 --> 00:32:21,270 God-- That was after my escape.

603

00:32:21,270 --> 00:32:22,410 It's interesting.

604

00:32:22,410 --> 00:32:25,900 You bring all that back, then you saw the film, naturally,

605

00:32:25,900 --> 00:32:26,440 the clip.

606 00:32:26,440 --> 00:32:30,550

607

00:32:30,550 --> 00:32:38,530 After my escape from the train in northern France,

608

00:32:38,530 --> 00:32:41,950 I made my way back to the southerns zone

609

00:32:41,950 --> 00:32:45,700 below the demarcation line into a town

610 00:32:45,700 --> 00:32:47,470 called Bagneres-de-Bigorre.

611 00:32:47,470 --> 00:32:52,360 That was also a town where we were sent on assigned 612 00:32:52,360 --> 00:32:54,385 residence, forced residence.

613 00:32:54,385 --> 00:32:55,610 Had many friends there.

614 00:32:55,610 --> 00:32:58,300 There were many of us Jewish families there.

615 00:32:58,300 --> 00:33:02,680 And we lived there for, oh, maybe close

616 00:33:02,680 --> 00:33:05,350 to a year, over half a year anyway.

617 00:33:05,350 --> 00:33:09,160 And from that town we were later sent to Cauterets.

618 00:33:09,160 --> 00:33:11,110 But when I came back, after my escape,

619 00:33:11,110 --> 00:33:13,242 I went down to Bagneres-de-Bigorre

620 00:33:13,242 --> 00:33:14,650 because there I had friends.

621 00:33:14,650 --> 00:33:17,950 And I knew the family Spierer, who lived there,

622 00:33:17,950 --> 00:33:21,430 would probably take me in because that's

623 00:33:21,430 --> 00:33:24,370

> 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.

the family I stayed with after I ran away from Cauterets.

624

00:33:24,370 --> 00:33:27,550 And then I was deported, and then I came back to them.

625

00:33:27,550 --> 00:33:28,780 OK, we got to stop.

626

00:33:28,780 --> 00:33:30,820 We got to change.

627 00:33:30,820 --> 00:33:33,020 Camera roll four, take six.

628 00:33:33,020 --> 00:33:35,000