

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,335
Camera roll six.

2
00:00:01,335 --> 00:00:03,320
Sync take nine is up.

3
00:00:03,320 --> 00:00:12,840

4
00:00:12,840 --> 00:00:15,150
Mrs. Page, I want
you to tell me again

5
00:00:15,150 --> 00:00:18,420
about roll call and
your legs getting weak,

6
00:00:18,420 --> 00:00:21,360
and I want you to say I was
on a roll call in Birkenau,

7
00:00:21,360 --> 00:00:23,410
it was cold.

8
00:00:23,410 --> 00:00:23,910
OK.

9
00:00:23,910 --> 00:00:28,050
OK, during one of the
roll calls in Birkenau--

10
00:00:28,050 --> 00:00:32,070
we always had to stand on
roll call early in the morning

11
00:00:32,070 --> 00:00:33,960
and in the evening.

12
00:00:33,960 --> 00:00:35,440
And I was standing.

13

00:00:35,440 --> 00:00:38,820

Weather was freezing,
November in Poland.

14

00:00:38,820 --> 00:00:44,340

And we were standing by
fives, and I had the feeling

15

00:00:44,340 --> 00:00:46,650

that something is wrong with me.

16

00:00:46,650 --> 00:00:49,080

My legs started to--

17

00:00:49,080 --> 00:00:54,090

my knees bent under me, my
back started to hurt terribly,

18

00:00:54,090 --> 00:00:56,880

and I felt I will fall.

19

00:00:56,880 --> 00:01:02,250

And falling down meant
being taken out of the group

20

00:01:02,250 --> 00:01:06,780

and put in a separate barrack
supposedly unfit for work

21

00:01:06,780 --> 00:01:09,130

or unfit to live or whatever.

22

00:01:09,130 --> 00:01:12,540

So two of my friends, one who
was standing in front of me,

23

00:01:12,540 --> 00:01:17,310

one who was standing in the
back of me, were supporting me.

24

00:01:17,310 --> 00:01:20,700

And somehow-- sometimes we

had to rouge our cheeks.

25

00:01:20,700 --> 00:01:23,250

We took the beets
from our soup and we

26

00:01:23,250 --> 00:01:28,890

rouged the cheeks a little
bit not to look very pale.

27

00:01:28,890 --> 00:01:32,790

We really helped one
another in little ways

28

00:01:32,790 --> 00:01:35,820

trying to be human
beings, not getting angry,

29

00:01:35,820 --> 00:01:41,580

even though everybody
was very nervous,

30

00:01:41,580 --> 00:01:44,490

at the edge of their
rope, so to say.

31

00:01:44,490 --> 00:01:46,980

And I remember in
Bruennlitz, my husband

32

00:01:46,980 --> 00:01:49,260

prepared some gifts for me.

33

00:01:49,260 --> 00:01:53,130

He gave me a toothbrush,
which was made, I think,

34

00:01:53,130 --> 00:01:55,620

from horse's hair or
something like this,

35

00:01:55,620 --> 00:01:58,560

and that toothbrush I

shared with my bunk mate

36
00:01:58,560 --> 00:02:01,740
because, of course,
we had no toothbrush.

37
00:02:01,740 --> 00:02:04,230
Later in Schindler's
camp we had some kind

38
00:02:04,230 --> 00:02:08,005
of a soap which was like
not soap like a soda,

39
00:02:08,005 --> 00:02:08,880
you know what I mean?

40
00:02:08,880 --> 00:02:11,610
This is the powder.

41
00:02:11,610 --> 00:02:14,010
And of course cold
water, but we didn't

42
00:02:14,010 --> 00:02:18,610
have lice because we were
deloused when we came.

43
00:02:18,610 --> 00:02:22,960
Not right away, but later
because of the lousing chamber

44
00:02:22,960 --> 00:02:25,750
was built after we came.

45
00:02:25,750 --> 00:02:31,850
How do you see goodness of
humanity being resistance?

46
00:02:31,850 --> 00:02:32,810
I'm sorry?

47

00:02:32,810 --> 00:02:37,190
How do you see that goodness
being a form of resistance?

48
00:02:37,190 --> 00:02:38,130
You talked about--

49
00:02:38,130 --> 00:02:42,650
Well, we unfortunately
had no opportunity

50
00:02:42,650 --> 00:02:47,760
to resist in any other way
because what happened to us,

51
00:02:47,760 --> 00:02:50,960
first of all, was
unprecedented in history.

52
00:02:50,960 --> 00:02:54,170
We were very gradually--

53
00:02:54,170 --> 00:02:56,330
you know, the Germans
did it gradually.

54
00:02:56,330 --> 00:03:00,620
Like in my city
they took away, you

55
00:03:00,620 --> 00:03:03,290
know, our right
walking on the streets,

56
00:03:03,290 --> 00:03:05,720
then the children
could not go to school,

57
00:03:05,720 --> 00:03:09,230
the doctors could not
practice and so on slowly.

58
00:03:09,230 --> 00:03:13,790

And we hoped-- everybody said
the war will be over in two,

59
00:03:13,790 --> 00:03:15,270
three months, you know?

60
00:03:15,270 --> 00:03:18,050
We believed in that
wholeheartedly.

61
00:03:18,050 --> 00:03:20,480
And then slowly they
tightened the screws

62
00:03:20,480 --> 00:03:23,600
and deported to one place,
deported to the next.

63
00:03:23,600 --> 00:03:34,940
This was absolutely a plan
very designed for annihilation

64
00:03:34,940 --> 00:03:37,410
of people, of the whole people.

65
00:03:37,410 --> 00:03:41,750
So any means of
trying to survive,

66
00:03:41,750 --> 00:03:44,660
even being good to one
another, especially

67
00:03:44,660 --> 00:03:50,180
being good to one another,
meant some form of resistance.

68
00:03:50,180 --> 00:03:51,540
Not giving up.

69
00:03:51,540 --> 00:03:53,750
It was very easy to
give up, you know?

70
00:03:53,750 --> 00:03:54,890
Many people did.

71
00:03:54,890 --> 00:03:57,860

72
00:03:57,860 --> 00:04:00,170
You told something
about a child who

73
00:04:00,170 --> 00:04:02,180
saved a potato for his father.

74
00:04:02,180 --> 00:04:03,170
Can you tell me that?

75
00:04:03,170 --> 00:04:10,070
Yes, this was-- that happened
when we were leaving Birkenau,

76
00:04:10,070 --> 00:04:15,590
as I told you, our train was
standing on some side station.

77
00:04:15,590 --> 00:04:20,600
And all of a sudden, a very dear
friend of mine who lives now

78
00:04:20,600 --> 00:04:24,680
in New York heard a whistle,
familiar whistle, which

79
00:04:24,680 --> 00:04:27,050
she realized was her husband.

80
00:04:27,050 --> 00:04:29,270
And she thought,
my god, what is--

81
00:04:29,270 --> 00:04:32,120
and it came from a

direction of the camp.

82

00:04:32,120 --> 00:04:34,640

There was a fence near
that side station.

83

00:04:34,640 --> 00:04:37,880

And on the other
side of that fence

84

00:04:37,880 --> 00:04:44,300

there was a group of people
standing in striped uniforms,

85

00:04:44,300 --> 00:04:46,860

and she realized that one
of them was her husband.

86

00:04:46,860 --> 00:04:49,640

She couldn't understand
what happened.

87

00:04:49,640 --> 00:04:51,290

He's supposed to
be in Bruennlitz.

88

00:04:51,290 --> 00:04:52,700

How come he's not in Bruennlitz?

89

00:04:52,700 --> 00:04:55,100

He's in Birkenau.

90

00:04:55,100 --> 00:04:58,790

And they started-- she asked
for permission to step down

91

00:04:58,790 --> 00:05:02,600

the train just in front of
it and they started to shout

92

00:05:02,600 --> 00:05:07,190

to one another, and she found
out that Leopold made her

93
00:05:07,190 --> 00:05:08,030
husband--

94
00:05:08,030 --> 00:05:11,870
he didn't want children so her
husband and her little boy,

95
00:05:11,870 --> 00:05:13,670
who at the time--

96
00:05:13,670 --> 00:05:16,910
when the war was
over he was about 13

97
00:05:16,910 --> 00:05:20,210
so he could have
been maybe eight.

98
00:05:20,210 --> 00:05:22,550
No, no, this was 1944.

99
00:05:22,550 --> 00:05:24,410
Maybe 12, maybe 11.

100
00:05:24,410 --> 00:05:25,310
Something like that.

101
00:05:25,310 --> 00:05:27,990

102
00:05:27,990 --> 00:05:31,320
So her little boy and her
husband came to Birkenau.

103
00:05:31,320 --> 00:05:34,050
And somehow they
found out, you know,

104
00:05:34,050 --> 00:05:36,270
through the grapevine--
in camp the grapevine

105
00:05:36,270 --> 00:05:37,710
goes all the time.

106
00:05:37,710 --> 00:05:41,280
They found out that the
transport of woman is leaving

107
00:05:41,280 --> 00:05:45,390
and they went to
that particular point

108
00:05:45,390 --> 00:05:47,820
and they realized that
the transport the woman

109
00:05:47,820 --> 00:05:49,440
were the familiar
woman, you know?

110
00:05:49,440 --> 00:05:51,690
He realized it's his wife.

111
00:05:51,690 --> 00:05:55,500
So they started to talk to
one another, shout rather.

112
00:05:55,500 --> 00:05:57,480
And her little boy said, Mommy-

113
00:05:57,480 --> 00:05:58,830
Wait, let's cut.

114
00:05:58,830 --> 00:06:00,330
This motor is too much.

115
00:06:00,330 --> 00:06:01,220
[BEEP]

116
00:06:01,220 --> 00:06:04,340

117
00:06:04,340 --> 00:06:07,730
OK, so they're yelling
through the fence.

118
00:06:07,730 --> 00:06:09,410
They're yelling
through the fence.

119
00:06:09,410 --> 00:06:10,560
And the little boy--

120
00:06:10,560 --> 00:06:15,560
his name is Alexander,
Olek diminutive--

121
00:06:15,560 --> 00:06:19,490
says Mommy, Mommy, I am
taking care of daddy.

122
00:06:19,490 --> 00:06:22,730
I saved a potato
for him, you know?

123
00:06:22,730 --> 00:06:26,540
And there was another
lady who was the mother

124
00:06:26,540 --> 00:06:30,830
apropos of the little boy that
my husband told you about,

125
00:06:30,830 --> 00:06:33,390
Richard Horowitz,
the photographer.

126
00:06:33,390 --> 00:06:36,920
And she saw her little boy
with his father over there

127
00:06:36,920 --> 00:06:39,080
when she expected them
to be in Bruennlitz.

128

00:06:39,080 --> 00:06:41,820

Of course these women were
terribly, terribly devastated,

129

00:06:41,820 --> 00:06:42,320

you know?

130

00:06:42,320 --> 00:06:46,590

They thought they would be
reunited with their family,

131

00:06:46,590 --> 00:06:50,320

and it didn't happen.

132

00:06:50,320 --> 00:06:54,770

So that little boy who later
was liberated in Auschwitz

133

00:06:54,770 --> 00:06:55,970

was Richard Horowitz.

134

00:06:55,970 --> 00:06:59,090

He was also on the
other side of the fence.

135

00:06:59,090 --> 00:07:02,450

They were cousin Al Rozner
and Richard Horowitz.

136

00:07:02,450 --> 00:07:04,520

They are cousins.

137

00:07:04,520 --> 00:07:08,980

OK, is that noise all right?

138

00:07:08,980 --> 00:07:10,480

Yeah, it's all right.

139

00:07:10,480 --> 00:07:12,460

I want you to tell me again--

140

00:07:12,460 --> 00:07:14,380

I'm sorry to ask you
to do this again--

141

00:07:14,380 --> 00:07:14,880

That's OK.

142

00:07:14,880 --> 00:07:17,590

--but I want to tell me again
the Germans coming and knocking

143

00:07:17,590 --> 00:07:19,415

on the door to take
your mother away

144

00:07:19,415 --> 00:07:21,040

because there was so
much noise before.

145

00:07:21,040 --> 00:07:22,090

OK, all right.

146

00:07:22,090 --> 00:07:24,860

Tell it as though you
haven't told me before.

147

00:07:24,860 --> 00:07:30,220

OK, in November 1939,
Poland, of course,

148

00:07:30,220 --> 00:07:34,390

was under German
occupation and we had

149

00:07:34,390 --> 00:07:37,510

some restrictions in the city.

150

00:07:37,510 --> 00:07:39,430

We had to wear the
yellow armbands,

151

00:07:39,430 --> 00:07:43,780

we couldn't go walk on

certain streets, and so on.

152
00:07:43,780 --> 00:07:48,100
But we still lived in the
city, not in the ghetto,

153
00:07:48,100 --> 00:07:50,840
in our pre-war apartment.

154
00:07:50,840 --> 00:07:55,570
And one night in early
November my mother

155
00:07:55,570 --> 00:07:58,780
went downstairs to
attend to a sick patient

156
00:07:58,780 --> 00:08:02,950
in the same building, and
I heard a strong knock

157
00:08:02,950 --> 00:08:04,480
on the door.

158
00:08:04,480 --> 00:08:10,810
When I opened the door
I saw three Germans, one

159
00:08:10,810 --> 00:08:14,440
in the green uniform
of the SS I think,

160
00:08:14,440 --> 00:08:22,360
it must have been SS, and two
black uniforms of local Germans

161
00:08:22,360 --> 00:08:26,050
who already were part
of the German Army

162
00:08:26,050 --> 00:08:27,910
and who before the
war were traitors--

163
00:08:27,910 --> 00:08:29,270
Let's just stop.

164
00:08:29,270 --> 00:08:29,810
Oh.

165
00:08:29,810 --> 00:08:30,310
This plane--

166
00:08:30,310 --> 00:08:31,254
[BEEP]

167
00:08:31,254 --> 00:08:34,090

168
00:08:34,090 --> 00:08:36,140
OK, let's just pick it up there.

169
00:08:36,140 --> 00:08:43,250
I opened the door and I saw
those three Germans, one

170
00:08:43,250 --> 00:08:46,310
in the green uniform
of the German SS,

171
00:08:46,310 --> 00:08:50,540
and the two other
ones in black uniforms

172
00:08:50,540 --> 00:08:53,060
of the so-called
Volksdeutsche which

173
00:08:53,060 --> 00:08:56,300
were the local Germans
who sympathized

174
00:08:56,300 --> 00:09:01,100
with Hitler before the war and
they were traitors to Poland.

175
00:09:01,100 --> 00:09:04,400
And when Germans
occupied Poland,

176
00:09:04,400 --> 00:09:11,750
they all joined the German army
or whatever unit they wanted.

177
00:09:11,750 --> 00:09:13,640
And the German in
the green uniforms

178
00:09:13,640 --> 00:09:17,120
said, you are arrested
on political grounds.

179
00:09:17,120 --> 00:09:22,490
Put together some a few warm
clothes and all the valuables,

180
00:09:22,490 --> 00:09:27,060
your jewelry, your
money, put on the table.

181
00:09:27,060 --> 00:09:28,850
And as my mother--
in the meantime.

182
00:09:28,850 --> 00:09:30,000
Let's stop.

183
00:09:30,000 --> 00:09:31,166
This plane is--

184
00:09:31,166 --> 00:09:32,152
[BEEP]

185
00:09:32,152 --> 00:09:34,130

186
00:09:34,130 --> 00:09:35,930

So what did he say?

187

00:09:35,930 --> 00:09:38,690

He said, you are arrested
on political grounds.

188

00:09:38,690 --> 00:09:41,930

In the meantime, my mother
came upstairs running.

189

00:09:41,930 --> 00:09:44,030

Somebody notified
her that the Germans

190

00:09:44,030 --> 00:09:47,870

are in the apartment,
which was bad by itself

191

00:09:47,870 --> 00:09:51,150

without knowing what's
going to happen.

192

00:09:51,150 --> 00:09:56,290

And he said, you are arrested
on political grounds.

193

00:09:56,290 --> 00:10:00,490

Put together some warm things,
and put all your jewelry

194

00:10:00,490 --> 00:10:05,880

and all the valuables
on the table, otherwise

195

00:10:05,880 --> 00:10:08,100

that will be a death penalty.

196

00:10:08,100 --> 00:10:09,820

You'll be shot.

197

00:10:09,820 --> 00:10:13,080

And he also told my mother
that I was not on the list

198
00:10:13,080 --> 00:10:14,520
if I want to stay.

199
00:10:14,520 --> 00:10:19,080
So I remember now, it dawned
on me that my mother asked,

200
00:10:19,080 --> 00:10:20,560
can I stay in the apartment?

201
00:10:20,560 --> 00:10:21,480
He said, no.

202
00:10:21,480 --> 00:10:23,760
The apartment will be sealed.

203
00:10:23,760 --> 00:10:26,100
Anyway, I prefer to
go with my mother.

204
00:10:26,100 --> 00:10:28,590
I didn't want to part with her.

205
00:10:28,590 --> 00:10:32,080
And as we were putting
our things together,

206
00:10:32,080 --> 00:10:36,360
my mother had her jewelry put in
a little sack which she carried

207
00:10:36,360 --> 00:10:42,810
because those are very dangerous
and one never knew what

208
00:10:42,810 --> 00:10:45,460
the next minute will bring.

209
00:10:45,460 --> 00:10:49,020
So she carried that with
her and she handed it to me

210
00:10:49,020 --> 00:10:52,800
and she said, throw it in the
toilet and flush the water.

211
00:10:52,800 --> 00:10:54,120
So I did.

212
00:10:54,120 --> 00:11:00,310
Then they took us out,
they sealed the apartment,

213
00:11:00,310 --> 00:11:05,070
and we went to a
building which used

214
00:11:05,070 --> 00:11:10,710
to be my high school before
the war from which I graduated.

215
00:11:10,710 --> 00:11:13,920
And there, to my
great astonishment,

216
00:11:13,920 --> 00:11:18,150
I realized there were many,
many people, many of whom

217
00:11:18,150 --> 00:11:22,690
I knew, some of my teachers,
some of my friends.

218
00:11:22,690 --> 00:11:25,460
We have to stop.

219
00:11:25,460 --> 00:11:26,960
Let's put one more roll on.

220
00:11:26,960 --> 00:11:27,930
[BEEP]

221
00:11:27,930 --> 00:11:31,330

222

00:11:31,330 --> 00:11:37,430

OK, after they took us
to a building, which

223

00:11:37,430 --> 00:11:41,200

was my pre-war high
school building,

224

00:11:41,200 --> 00:11:45,460

and as we walked to the
big tremendous gym hall,

225

00:11:45,460 --> 00:11:50,240

I realized that I see
many, many people there

226

00:11:50,240 --> 00:11:55,190

because there was no precedent
before as far as deportations.

227

00:11:55,190 --> 00:11:57,100

We didn't know about it.

228

00:11:57,100 --> 00:12:00,350

This was the first one that we
heard accordingly to the list,

229

00:12:00,350 --> 00:12:02,210

especially by names.

230

00:12:02,210 --> 00:12:05,510

And I realized there were
many people that I knew.

231

00:12:05,510 --> 00:12:10,190

There were doctors, there were
my teachers and my friends.

232

00:12:10,190 --> 00:12:13,850

And afterwards we found
out this was a transport

233
00:12:13,850 --> 00:12:16,010
of about 1,000 people.

234
00:12:16,010 --> 00:12:22,130
It was a selected group
Polish, Catholics,

235
00:12:22,130 --> 00:12:28,880
and Polish Jews selected,
probably the elite of the city

236
00:12:28,880 --> 00:12:31,490
because the Germans
always did that.

237
00:12:31,490 --> 00:12:34,280
They considered
the intelligentsia,

238
00:12:34,280 --> 00:12:38,270
the leaders of the
eventual resistance,

239
00:12:38,270 --> 00:12:40,620
and they tried to prevent that.

240
00:12:40,620 --> 00:12:44,390
So they transported-- they
divided the transport.

241
00:12:44,390 --> 00:12:47,300
The one transport
went to Czestochowa

242
00:12:47,300 --> 00:12:51,170
and the other one
went to Krakow.

243
00:12:51,170 --> 00:12:54,230
I was taken to Krakow
with my mother.

244

00:12:54,230 --> 00:12:57,400

245

00:12:57,400 --> 00:13:00,270

All right, let's cut and--

246

00:13:00,270 --> 00:13:03,130

Also my husband because
that happened when he--

247

00:13:03,130 --> 00:13:07,020

in his barrack, you know, in
Plaszow when the Germans came

248

00:13:07,020 --> 00:13:09,445

in and during the
prayers or something--

249

00:13:09,445 --> 00:13:11,070

All right, tell me
about what you know.

250

00:13:11,070 --> 00:13:14,630

Yeah, but I don't know
that much about it, no.

251

00:13:14,630 --> 00:13:15,630

Well, tell me about it--

252

00:13:15,630 --> 00:13:16,740

Yeah, I tell you.

253

00:13:16,740 --> 00:13:17,730

OK, go ahead.

254

00:13:17,730 --> 00:13:19,140

Oh, OK.

255

00:13:19,140 --> 00:13:26,730

First of all, you know, I come
from a very assimilated family.

256

00:13:26,730 --> 00:13:30,510

And before the war,
I never, you know,

257

00:13:30,510 --> 00:13:34,710

had an occasion to meet
very religious Jews.

258

00:13:34,710 --> 00:13:37,140

And I remember-- never forget--

259

00:13:37,140 --> 00:13:43,380

when we were leaving our
barrack in Birkenau, two of my--

260

00:13:43,380 --> 00:13:45,660

we were always kept
in fives, you know?

261

00:13:45,660 --> 00:13:48,300

And two of my
friends were twins.

262

00:13:48,300 --> 00:13:50,310

They didn't look alike at all.

263

00:13:50,310 --> 00:13:53,340

They were from a small
town near Krakow,

264

00:13:53,340 --> 00:13:57,510

and I remember when we
were leaving the barrack,

265

00:13:57,510 --> 00:14:01,410

one of them started to pray,
you know, Shema Yisrael.

266

00:14:01,410 --> 00:14:04,935

At that time I didn't even
know what it meant, you know?

267

00:14:04,935 --> 00:14:08,370
God is great, you
know, and so on.

268
00:14:08,370 --> 00:14:10,560
They were very
religious all the time.

269
00:14:10,560 --> 00:14:11,790
They always prayed.

270
00:14:11,790 --> 00:14:16,440
And there were many Jews
who, in those circumstances,

271
00:14:16,440 --> 00:14:19,860
kept their prayers and tried--

272
00:14:19,860 --> 00:14:22,380
for instance, during
Yom Kippur many of them

273
00:14:22,380 --> 00:14:26,600
wouldn't eat as hungry
as they were, you see?

274
00:14:26,600 --> 00:14:29,830
Because you're supposed
to fast that day.

275
00:14:29,830 --> 00:14:36,130
So that was-- many people showed
a tremendous moral strength

276
00:14:36,130 --> 00:14:39,920
in the face of what was
happening all around them.

277
00:14:39,920 --> 00:14:42,500
Was it punishable, praying?

278
00:14:42,500 --> 00:14:45,380
Oh yes, that was not

allowed absolutely.

279

00:14:45,380 --> 00:14:47,820

This had to be done
in a clandestine way,

280

00:14:47,820 --> 00:14:50,510

and that means that the
Germans should not know.

281

00:14:50,510 --> 00:14:53,996

Always somebody stood outside
and watched, you know,

282

00:14:53,996 --> 00:14:55,310

if they are approaching.

283

00:14:55,310 --> 00:14:59,182

284

00:14:59,182 --> 00:15:01,610

OK, let's cut.

285

00:15:01,610 --> 00:15:04,820

Now we should maybe get
quiet room tone or room tone

286

00:15:04,820 --> 00:15:06,580

with sheet metal?

287

00:15:06,580 --> 00:15:12,299