

Till they started evacuating us. Like I said, I used to go out and helping smuggling food to the other barracks, to other friends. I had a lot of time then. I made a lot of friends in this hospital where I was going out, this laboratory. We became very close, all of them together.

And I remember when, one day, we heard that the German is losing the war, that the American and English are pushing on us, especially the Russian. The Russian were pushing. And they started evacuating us.

For instance, they took us [NON-ENGLISH]. You know these open wagons? Well, that's where they start that was a torture for me from this time, again. In Auschwitz, where were the most worst concentration camp, the death camp, I worked myself so hard that I could survive.

But now, when they start evacuating, everything was gone. They took us, around 120 people in one wagon. And they were open wagons, see, halfway open.

In each corner of the wagon was sitting a watchman. Most of them were Ukrainians. And whoever didn't feel good, they got-- they pulled a gun, shoot him, and throw him out.

It was freezing outside. What I did, I took with me three blankets, took my shoes off, and cover myself in these three blankets. And I was sitting like this.

They were giving us, I think, a portion, a little bread daily and water. I don't even know if they gave us water. Was raining, we have water. If not, we didn't have water. And they kept us in this wagon, I remember, from Auschwitz to Gross-Rosen.

For three nights, they barely were moving. And it was freezing outside. So each day, when I went, uncovered myself, I saw less people. I saw my [INAUDIBLE] taking somebody else and throwing out. Or if somebody didn't feel or complain, they just came straight to his head, shot him, and throw him out.

When we arrived in Gross-Rosen, they started taking us out. I don't think they took us 4, 5, or 6 alive out from this. Most of them who was still alive, they couldn't took their shoe off. Because it was frozen to their feet, just came off with their foot together often.

I will say again that I was [NON-ENGLISH], lucky. But I have sense. And I covered myself with these three blankets. That's what saved me.

They took us out. I don't know, 5 or 6. They put us in hospital. Then they took us out right away and put us in barracks.

Gross-Rosen was upside down. Still, they used to beat us, kick us, push us around. We didn't work there anymore. Just like prisoners, they used to take us out and just make appells.

And each time somebody came out and was shaky or was broken, shoot him. Put him away. Each day was less people.

I was in Gross-Rosen like this two weeks. After two weeks, I decide I'm going to run. I don't have what to lose now anymore. I still feel good. I escaped.

What's happened, one day they put me to work. And I-- so was a little dark. I just jumped in barrack somewhere else. And they couldn't count us because everything was upside down. They said they were telling that the Russian is moving on us.

And I start running. I walked into a German home. And they saw I was prisoner because I have the prison clothes. They said they will help me.

When I went to sleep, they wake me up. They called police, wake me up, and turned me over to the police. They

brought me back in.

You know what they did? Took my clothes off from back, put me behind the wall, and beat me with two Peitsches until I fainted. After I fainted, they put me in a small hospital. They cure me and then put me in a barrack for a week and cure me.

Then they took me outside and said we give you another lesson. You will never escape. They made a hole in ground and put me there, just like they bury people. Put me there for 24 hours and covered me with boards.

And after 24 hours, they took me out. They said you will never escape again.

They covered you with?

Boards, you see, they made just a hole, like, you putting a dead person.

Mhm.

They just push me in on this ground, was just about five feet, not even six feet. And then on top, they covered with two boards. Air was coming in because they were in between. But they covered me, keep me there, 24 hours.

With boards?

With boards. That's what I said, with boards. Keep me there 24 hours.

Then after 24 hours, they took me out. And they put me again to what they call a hospital. There wasn't a hospital. They just gave me some medicine. I don't even remember what they did to me.

Then they put me in barracks. Let me get to my strength again. And they said you will never escape again. Well, then start pushing us again.

Well, then, what do I care anymore? See, they couldn't kill anybody for me. Next day, I thought everything is upside down. Everything stopped moving. I run again.

And I run like this, but I run a couple miles. Then I felt I cannot run anymore. I notice wagons, trains. I walked in in a wagon.

When I walked in in the wagon, overnight, I waked up in the morning, I hear noise. When I opened the door, same time when I opened the door, they opened the door and start moving prisoner in to moving him somewhere else. [NON-ENGLISH], did you understood. And I went, again, on transport. This way they brought me to Buchenwald.

We came to Buchenwald. Everything was upside down. They were not afraid anymore Russian. But they were afraid now the Americans and Englishmen. Because they were pulling from both sides.

They put me on this, how you call it, beds. They were just shelves. You know, we're sleeping all but this long part, five people, four up. Just like animal, just like sheep, even worse than sheep.

And they took a group of about 40 people, just picked me, I ask something. I always was coming out with a question and answered it. They put me in charge. They used to bring soup and let me divide the soup to all people.

But wasn't enough food. And well, I don't know. Maybe if I took advantage and put away part for myself, I maybe would survive it. But I was not the kind. I first was giving to everybody.

And then I remember I have a friend. This is what you call a really friend. That's the only friend I have in my life, a really good friend. He was working with me laboratory.

And when we came to Buchenwald, we met. And we were together, sleeping. He was to me, like-- I was about 24. And he was about 38, 39. He was a chemist. He has a doctorate degree, a chemist.

And he liked me and we became friends. He was to me like my older brother. Big heavy fellow, he was about a half head taller. Weighed three times-- were big like me, he were a very heavy fellow.

And each time we were sitting, he was just talking about food. And it got me-- how could you live like this? What would he eat? What he's going to do? And how he is going to eat?

And I remember we used to get a little piece of bread, maybe a half pound. Now that's what you call a good friend. He tried to teach me. If you want to survive, you got to take this bread and divide it in three pieces and eat one for breakfast, one for lunch, one for dinner.

And I said yes, I'm going to try it. And first day I tried it, I just couldn't do it. I was just a young kid, hungry. He divided. I divided.

But before lunch came, I didn't have nothing to eat. And I remember lunch came. He took out his second piece of bread. Like I said, a big heavy fellow, and start eating it.

And my eyes must be popped up on him. I was watching him. And he liked me. He took his third piece bread, what his life depended on it, you see the point, what he put for dinner, and tried to give me this piece of bread.

And I wouldn't take it. I remember he used to try to convince me. He talked to me. But I wouldn't take it. And then he ate it by himself for dinner.

Can imagine? That's what I call a good friend. You see, last piece bread, what his life depended on it. And a big fellow, I was just skinny, small. But I was [INAUDIBLE] to him, I was a kid.

And we were till last minute together. And I remember one day, I just grabbed a potato. And it is potato with the skin. And I didn't notice it was dirty.

And I became diarrhea. I started losing weight. I couldn't eat. I couldn't drink. And I reached a point that I barely could walk.

And I remember they start evacuating. They ask everybody to stay in line. We're going to another place because the American are very close. There were American very close.

And I feel that I couldn't make it. I just decided I went into the barrack. Because I know if I go out, first step I do, they will shoot me.

How long I stayed there, I don't know. I think light turned twice, maybe. Then I felt that I'm dying. I just didn't care anymore.

At least-- a German, not German, I just start asking for help. American soldier came in. He took me out. And I don't know how they even got there. That's a true story.

Then they put me in bed. Now my luck, again. When they put me in bed, they brought us good food, tremendous good food, feeding. Most people throw themselves on food like animals and it killed them.

I couldn't eat. I hated food. I couldn't eat because of this whole sickness. They put me on a scale. You can imagine.

Well, I weigh now almost 190 pounds, 185, 190. You can imagine me weighing 69 pound, just a skeleton. They tried to put food in me. I couldn't eat. They feed me through my veins. Almost, I don't know, 5 or 6 weeks before they start

putting food in my mouth.

And that's what saved me. Most people throw themselves on food. Stomach couldn't take it. It killed them.

Well, when I stand on my feet, when the Americans were there ready, see they opened the doors. You couldn't do anything there. They put right now [INAUDIBLE] in your hand. You couldn't touch a German. You couldn't do nothing to a German. This was American law.

I remember I met this Dr. Maisel, which one I mentioned you, mentioned you that he made me his assistant, and he still liked me. I saw him. He was sick and I was sick. And I stand on my feet faster than him.

And I used to take care of him. He decided he wants to take me with him. But he just got a news from his daughter that his daughter is alive, that he wants me to be his son and go with him.

And I said, I can't. I have a wife. How I know she's alive, I said, I don't. But I look for her first.

And we decide together we're going back home. There was not a way to get back home. I took Dr. Maisel with me.

Well, I'm sorry. Just wait a second. In [PLACE NAME], we met a few girls, young girls, which one I took with me. There was another friend I met there. I took him with me.

Then I remember we went in a train. When we went in this train, we were traveling, I think, around 2 or 3 days. Then one day a couple women came in. And they were German.

See, when German used to have that train, he used to put signs on door-- Jews, Russian, and dogs out. Well, when we came on the Russian side. They changed the signs. They put German and dogs out, the Russian.

And this day I remember I was outside. There was a girl. And I just kind of-- she looked to me Jewish. And she approached me. I used to wear little Russian boots. Russian, you know, the tight pants, what they wearing and a Russian white shirt.

And ask me if I'm Russian. And I said no. I'm a Jew. I said I'm Jewish, too. And she joined our party.

And then on this train, two women came in on Russian side. They were German women. When they saw them come in, they approached them and told them in German, [GERMAN]. German and pigs out.

And when they throw them out, and I don't know what came over me, I just couldn't let him do it. In this minute, I just saw two women thrown. Young women, mother was maybe 40. Daughter was just still a teenager.

And then I fight him all the time until the train stop. When they stop train, they throw me out. They threw the women out. And they stop, train stop.

After they throw me out, Dr. Maisel went out with me. All these girls went with me. This friend went with me.

And then I was asking myself, why did I do it? See, I was dreaming when I get out, any German, I put my hands on. I do it. And then I have the first chance I remember, when they throw us out, we didn't have a way to go.

We were then in Breslau already on Polish side. Breslau was then Polish. Before was Germany. No, this was on outskirts on Breslau, in a small town.

They took us to a burgermeister. And we asked him for a wagon. I was the one speaking German. And I told him wagon. And he said we cannot give you a wagon. We need them take our kids to school.

And I give him-- right now I say you're lucky you have kids to take them to school. We don't even have kids to take

them to school. We like for him to then walk to school but we don't have it. And you did it to us.

And I gived him three hours. He start arguing with me. What's happened, this girl which one I met, met a Russian officer. And he liked her. And she introduce him me, that I was her brother, to him and told him that we need a carriage. He just told the burgermeister took our we'll have the carriage.

Went this way to Breslau. In Breslau, he took us to downtown. Told the girl which one house you want? And she just point him a house. He went to the house, old Deutschen house, threw them all out, and give us the whole house in the middle of downtown. We moved in.

I can tell you all story details what's happened there. But we moved in altogether, separate. Well. And then I was trying to explain her that I have a wife. I have to go. I have to find her.

She tries to keep me. Who knows? Maybe she's married. Who knows? Maybe she doesn't know that you exist if she is alive. And I said I'm still going to see, find her. And then I just packed and went, decide to go.

During this time when I was there, what made me decision come home, some girl saw me on street. And she looked at me and said William, gosh, you're alive. Rosalie is going to turn crazy when she finds out that you alive. Didn't act funny.

Because when she told me that she was alive, then I decided I'm going home. They still went with me, all of them, the whole group went with me thinking that I maybe don't find my wife. Especially the doctor wants me badly go with her.

We went to Krakow. Where are you going? When we came, I remember I came to the city. When you stand on the city where you were raised, born, you spend your time in being 20, you remember all details.

And I was a very advanced boy, very advanced when I was a kid. I already made money when I was 14 years old, 15. I already used to help home. I didn't have to, but I did it. I feel obligated.

Where are you going you will find the Jewish community center. They brought me to a Jewish community center, which one was in downtown now. Well, I started looking people for-- who are alive. I found one, only one. There is a man who was freed in Buchenwald. Rosalie, she found myself, that I'm alive.

And went down the same year and saw me. And told me Rosalie is there. And then she took me and brought me to her house. She already knew that I was-- she didn't know already that I was coming.

She fainted when I walked in. She lived there with about three girlfriends. Well, I hope she don't mind what I'm going to say.

First thing when she saw me, she said if we met, she wants us to have a child. How can you have a child? We didn't have nothing to live on.

All girls moved out from this room. I moved in with her. There wasn't a way to make a living. I didn't have. I just bought several old wrecks, which when I picked up here and there. And I went on all markets selling it. And that's the way we were making a living.

Then after two weeks, then I have an uncle, which one came from army. He used to bring his packages for army. He was a sergeant, I think. And then I decided we leave it.

And her father used to have a factory, which they were making insulation for buildings. And I have idea we picked up the engineer. We found him.

And he offered us a deal. Why don't you stay here? We open the factory. We start working in it.

But he-- right now, give me a point. You got to follow my rules. And I said OK. We made agreement that I follow his rules but I have to like his rules. And he agreed to it.

But then when we walked out of her, she decided she doesn't want anything. We will leave everything what you got here in Russia. I went to my dad's store.

The men who worked for him, I walked in, I recognize all the same furniture where my parents used to have. He didn't know where to put me. Put me on chair and give me a haircut, shaved me.

But he said it's mine. I got papers to prove it. Yeah, it was here. Because my daddy didn't have choices. I was there when he signed it to him.

I just walked out. I went to the home where I was living. There were strange people living. They didn't know me.

We were living with Rosalie in the house where her parents used to live before, but above her parents house. She recognized her parents' furniture, but what could she do about it? We both decided that we'll leave everything. Walked out.

I remember she was wearing wooden shoes when I met her. We just hitchhiked. We took a train and hitchhiked, on this- commercial trains.

We hitchhiked to Austria. And in Austria, we have to go on American side on border. And there wasn't a way out to get there.

You see, I have a passport that I was free on American side. But when I went to show him the passport, he wouldn't let me show the passport. He got mad and pulled a gun on us. American soldier wouldn't let us through, back.

And Rosalie cried. She was scared. She wouldn't go in.

Well, I just fooled him, what I did. The streetcar came. It was on border. I just took Rosalie and went around the streetcar. And I was pretending that I am coming from American side to there Russian side and showed him the American passport. He pushed me up and away. This way we crossed the border.

And there we were living in DP camp. Should I tell you all the story what happened there? Huh? You have time?

What you have to do, there were coming packages from UNRRA. First thing, we were living in [PLACE NAME], which was a small, small, small camp. This was not a camp, just a group of people living together.

And then we decided that she is going to get pregnant. We didn't have no money to live. And I used to go out, buy and sell, didn't work.

Then I made a tour to Poland. Came back. We made a little money.

And then she got pregnant. And then we moved into apartments already. They gave us three bedroom apartment, three families. It's just I have a small child. We have a small child. They gave us the biggest room.

And I remember there was a couple which one we're friends till today. They want to move in. They came with a small child. And they wouldn't let him in.

And I just kind of fight him and got him in. They let him stay in kitchen. We're crowded enough, but there was another Jewish family. We have to get him in. And I let him in in kitchen. We're friends till today, what a friend you are.

And from then, I have a chance to go to three countries. There was United States, Canada, and Australia. And I told myself which one get first, I take it.

My wife want to go to Israel. She even prepared herself for it. But in this time, I was the boss. I was making all decisions. And she was like a kid following me. Whatever I said was done.

I was changed a little. She got American now. But then she followed me blindly. And she prepared everything go to Israel.

But I wouldn't. I decided I have enough work. I like to live like a human being. And I take papers, whatever, I get it.

The first papers came to the United States. They ask me what part United States I pick up. And I said I don't care if it's United States.

Now the other thing what's happened, you see, whomever they assigned to United States after coming to New York, nobody would go south. Whoever they stopped in New York and they settled in New York. And this time this was in '49, beginning '50s. I came in '49.

And I got the papers in '48. But I have some little things to take care of, to straight out. And after I start out, go through with it.

We left in '49. This was in June. They brought us to Bremerhaven. Bremerhaven, we waited for a ship going to New Orleans.

See, they got smarter. Because I waited a year, they wouldn't send me to New York. They send me to New Orleans, preventing from stopping in New York. Was very close to Texas.

I was on ship three weeks. Now I put Rosalie in a cabin where the officers are. Because she has our son. He was exactly three years old. They put about 2, 3 women with three kids.

And where I was on a ship with a whole group of people working. I got myself in kitchen and became in charge of the kitchen. This time I was ready to push everywhere. I got in charge. Like I said, I never reached the top. I was really close to it always.

And she was sick all three weeks on the ship. All three weeks she was sick. I used to run between here and her and my work. This mean for my bringing to the United States, I was working on an army ship which one was coming with their soldier back to the United States. I was on the ship three weeks.

We arrived in New Orleans beginning August. And I left in June. Can imagine. They kept me there a month, and here almost three weeks.

We arrived there in the beginning August. We stayed overnight. And they brought us to Dallas in 1949 in August. We're now in August, passed about 42 years I'm in states now.

They brought us down. They put us in a hotel, if you call it a hotel. There was a little, little, little shaggy rooming house close to [PLACE NAME] South Dallas. Jews used to live there. South Dallas. All Jewish life used to be south Dallas.

We didn't have frigidaire. Frigidaire, you have to put ice in it, to have a frigidaire. But for me, this was luxury enough because I never saw a frigidaire before in my life. Who has them in Poland? In Germany, they have it. But in Poland, nobody has it. Even a bicycle was a luxury in Poland when I was raised.

We stayed in this hotel about around 2 or 3 weeks. I went on street and find me a job. How did I found the job?

I used to go to school studying being a machinist. And in day, I used to work on bicycles in the store. They asked me what a profession you have.

They ask me sewing machine. But that's all I understood, machine. And I said yeah.

They told me there are two stores in town they will take me down from Jewish community center. I waited and waited. They never did. I just walked on my feet to downtown and walked to the store.

What's happened, he understood Yiddish when I talk to him, Jewish. But when he talked to me, I understood badly a few words in between and couldn't get through with him.

I told him to call Jewish community center, Jewish family service. And somebody from Jewish family service came there. And then when they start asking him give me a job, he said, well, I have a porter.

They used to be, at this time, the Blacks were working for nothing then. They were second class citizens in the '50s. They couldn't go nowhere. They couldn't drink. I don't know you ever lived it through.

You can imagine how I feel after where I came to this kind of system. We're going in a streetcar. A Black man couldn't come in. He has to sit in back. You couldn't drink from the same faucet. And me, living through things like this, you can imagine how I feel.

I pay him \$25 bucks. We give him \$25 bucks. How many hours? Whatever hours we need him. And that's the way I started.

They give me-- told me, first day I came in, they give me a pot. I was exactly turn 30. They give me a pot, a broom.

And first thing, he took me in a toilet to clean it. I was working like this about around two weeks. After 2 or 3 weeks, he said I'm pretty quick, whatever he tells me.

He put me in shop being a sewing machine mechanic, helping. They have a mechanic there working for almost 40 years. Was an older man, about almost 70.

And when I walked in, I start helping him. Till about three months, I used to do a better job than he did. They try fire him.

When he found out they tried to fire him, he tried to talk me in to quit the job and go with him. He found somebody with him who was investing money in a store. And he was willing taking me on 1/3 partner without a penny and signed a contract just to work with him. And I wouldn't do it.

Because I told my boss. He start crying. Don't do it to me. I just bought this store.

I started with another man. I worked for him a year. Then he sold it to other people. And this man who bought it, he wouldn't let me go.

And I was on this job about six months for this guy. And then this first guy, I talked him in to send me on repairs. And my luck, his repairman got sick.

So he send me on repairs, I couldn't speak English. But he has all the men. I understood already, but I couldn't speak. He has an older man who understood Polish but couldn't speak.

He sent me with the old man, that he be the dolmetscher and I be the repairman. And I made first day 14 calls. He couldn't believe it.

And then when the older guy came back from work, he just plain quit him and put me in his place. And I became a repairman. Then I noticed that, well, you're making repair, you don't make money. I talked him in to make me a salesman.

And then, well, I started with \$35 a week. Then with this man till one year, he raised me till \$70. People used to make \$50 bucks a week there if you didn't have education.

Then I asked him for a raise \$100. If not, I quit. He gave me the \$100. Then I asked him for commission. He gave me commission.

Then I asked him that I can sell for better prices. But whatever I sell more, I want to be partner to it. And he went in and-- whatever I want, he give me.

And this was the only job I have. I worked with him 17 years, then quit. And this was the mistake I made. Because what's happened, wherever I used to go out, he used to take me with him, they talked to me. They didn't talk to him.

He start to tell me story. I don't know why they talking to you. You were handicapped in language.

And I told him, not a man is a handicapped in language who doesn't have a language. A man is handicapped in language who has that language but doesn't know how to use it. Then he told me I'm getting too smart in my britches.

I said fire me. He said I can't afford it. And I worked-- then not even this. He told me I am paying you. You're making twice so much what other people. I said you said it. I am making it. You're not paying me.

But whatever \$1 I make for me, I make for you \$5. He didn't say no. What could he say?

Then he built himself a commercial business. Put me in charge to it. And I helped him. I even lent him my [NON-ENGLISH]. You know what is [NON-ENGLISH]? What I saved up to have. And he promised me he's going to pay me commission.

But he didn't pay me like the bank pays. He paid me like he wants to. And I went for it. And then he start pushing me back. He wouldn't let me in and he sold the business.

And this what I made a decision. I quit. My son graduated from college. He took me into real estate. And I bought one building, which one was the Traveler's Lodge.

And then went to bank, bought another one and another one with that money. Just on credit. I don't know.

But it was tough. Hard, I couldn't keep up with him. You see, the building I have several of them, they didn't put enough money to pay employees.

But I was on the job 17 years before I quit. It's the only job I have in this country. I start from nothing.

And then when I have the several building, I didn't made enough money to pay employees. My wife became a beautician. This the first time she went to work.

Before I didn't let her work because we have three children. And I always believed if you have children-- and this time she listened to me, you know?

[LAUGHS]

Now let me put it this way. If you do have children, children need house. If not, don't have them. And she stayed home with children.

She started working. And she became a beautician. I don't know if she ever told you about it. Yeah? I mean, she was a beautician many years.

And we lived in a section where Jewish people didn't live at all. There was a bad time like now. We couldn't sell the

home. And we were stuck in it.

I bought a home. And I was here four years. I had bought a big house and I couldn't afford it. And I was by myself working. Was hard.

I worked from 8 o'clock in morning till 10 o'clock at night six days a week. And seventh day, I used to take my whole family in truck and go work with the whole family. This was our Sunday.

And after 10 years, we sold the house and moved into Richardson. Really it's not in Richardson, it's on border of Richardson and Dallas on Stagecoach. Yeah.

And then when I went in business. This is where we started in real estate, yeah. Then was a hard time. Then we did pretty well.

Well, really how it was, I retired first time in 1967. Rosalie decided she's not going to work anymore. And we have enough money for a possible life. And I retired.

And then I couldn't take it. I just figured out I didn't retired. I was just tired of working, but I was too young to retire.

I went in and then back, and then the break came, break came. And I just worked. Everything started going up. I started buying and buying and selling. And I made pretty good money then. Now I retired pretty well.

Oh. It just happened now. Well, I'm going to be funny about it. I don't do much anymore. I retired.

But well, like I just said, I don't get richer anymore. But I don't get poorer. It just mean I got a good life. And I'm content whatever I have. And life goes on.

Let us backtrack one, little one. Can you tell us a little bit about life in the DP camp?

Which one?

How many were you in?

In Auschwitz?

No, in the DP camp.

After war?

After the war.

Well, this were not really like-- it was a DP camp. But we were free people we could do what we want. Packages were coming from UNRRA, which one they sent from HIAS, most of them.

But you know, really there were most people working with it. Before it came to the people who needed it, there wasn't much left. And I wasn't the kind to stay in line to ask him.

What did you do there? Did you have a job?

I used to buy and sell, always peddling around and always make a living. And I used to buy the things. Whatever they brought, I bought it from the people they worked there.

That's way I used to earn my life. And that's the way we were several years. Yeah.

How long between the time that you crossed the border until you left for the United States or until you got papers?

I was in United States-- oh, there was another story in the United States. When I came to United States, you see, I really didn't have papers at all. And when I came here with my son-- good that you asked me about it-- my son was already 3 years old.

And I was already married. This was in 1949. We were already married seven years.

And they asked me that I cannot become a citizen if I don't prove with papers. I have paper, I have to marry her again. And I just put my principle on it. I cannot marry a woman which I never divorce.

And they said that doesn't matter, but still for the principle. I said there is another principle. You see, my son was born in '46.

[LAUGHTER]

And I'm not going to put a paper that I married in '49 or '50. They said it doesn't matter. I said matters to me. I have already a kid born. He was born four years after I got married, why should I put on a paper that he was [INAUDIBLE]. I just don't want to have a record like this. Why should I?

And what's happened, they ask me to take some witness. And I produce a couple witness. And then they put me on a list. I applied for papers.

And a year later, my uncle from Poland sent me the original paper. I have them now. And then when I took them back, they said they don't need it anymore.

[LAUGHTER]

And after being five years in this country, it was almost 5 and 1/2 years, they interview us. You know, in this time today, they asking for groups. But then, everyone by self was taken in. And you have to tell them the Constitution, what you know about the United States, about the King.

And you know, I have went to a examination. Then my wife went to examination. And when we got our papers, automatically our son became a citizen. Now our second daughter, well, she was produced and born in this country. We came here with one child just.

We were here in this country. We came here in August '49. But our daughter was born in September '50. This mean 1 and 1/2 years later.

We came here and I told my wife, a boy for you, a girl for me. It's just we have a problem with the son. The son was born with a clubfoot.

And some people told my wife that each child what is going to be born is going to be this way. And the doctor never gives us hope. They said that he be limping all his life.

I used to carry him to Vienna. Don't even ask me how hard it was. He was about 1 and 1/2 year old before we got him first time home.

But he works perfect. Big, husky, big fellow, he's 45 years old now, almost 46. Yeah.

You recently, or a few years ago, you had a big anniversary, didn't you?

We have our big anniversary. That's where the Holocaust started. You see, they tried to build the Holocaust. They couldn't get money.

You mean a Holocaust center?

Center, they tried talking about it, talking about it. I know you saw the movie [INAUDIBLE]. And then my son decide surprise us. And he made the party. And that's the party who really built the Holocaust.

Because everybody, we have about 300 people, everything what anybody was donated for the Holocaust, my son paid in, I think, first time \$20,000 or \$30,000. And then he added another \$25,000.

And then the donation, everything went for it. Then each time they need carpets or something, my son put it in. I mean, he did it. And they built a library, which was supposed to be called [INAUDIBLE] Memorial Library. But they don't call it this way. They never started. Yeah.

I know Rosalie speaks to groups.

Yeah.

Why won't you speak to groups?

Why don't speak to group? Well, I tell you why I don't speak to groups. They put a small sign in this Holocaust, which one is not-- and put it behind the door that is not visible at all.

Then they start putting signs how much everybody gives money. But put us in marker that we spend just less than \$5,000. And my son spent less than \$5. And I just didn't like it. Because I don't think anybody spends so much what we did.

How important do you think it is, then, to teach the next generation about the Holocaust?

Just like I said in beginning, it's very important. Because things like this happen. Now really happen not just to Jews, happened to gypsies just same way like to Jews. They didn't advertise.

And according to my opinion, most people died in this war was Russian people. Because each Russian, they cut, they murdered them, killed them, just like Jews. They hated Russians.

Statistics show off in this Second World War, there were killed 6 million Jews. Other nationalities were killed just 5 million, but Russia was killed over 20 millions. And things like this happen to Jewish people can happen to any people.

Because other people are still ignorant. Why they this way? It's hard to understand. See, we didn't ask to be born like we're born. But it's nothing wrong to be what you are. I'm proud that I'm Jewish.

And especially what I suffered makes me more Jewish. But it doesn't mean the other people are not people. They're human beings like everybody of us.

See, people are going in churches and preaching. But they don't practice what they preach. They believe that God knows and create the world. Why they don't live up to the respect everything He create?

But it doesn't work like this, just my opinion. And things like this can happen again. We never know. This is how we got to prevent from happening. This is our world has to know about it to educate the world, to people to see what's happening, and that they know how to prevent it in case when something would happen.

And then, you see, if we would have Israel, this wouldn't happen to Jewish people. Because we would have a place to go, which one is very important to start talking about it now.

What happened in the ghetto?

I am going to-- now what's happened to the ghetto. They used to come, soldiers, in houses, taking out women, raping them, picking out pregnant women and beating them. There had been a case when they took a knife stuck in a pregnant woman's stomach.

They used to take the kids, beat them over the walls. Or when they have just for fun, they came in, took out, just whomever they saw, pick up and pull them out and pile up people like this, just like a hill of people, dead bodies. Most of them they used to torture, the Hasidic Jews, the Orthodox.

They used to take them outside on street. They used to make them prayer on street and laugh about it. They used to cut off this-- how do you call it?

Payots.

Payots. They used to cut off make funny things of the beard. And they usually took the clothes off and making clowns of them. It's awful, awful, how they humiliated these people, specially Orthodox people. They used to push them to certain special works.

And this happened day after day after day. And like I said, most of them, each day people just disappear. You never know what's happened.

Or just came in, just pulled a gun, and shoot whoever he wants it. I remember one time when they were taking transport, there was a woman with seven kids. They used to beat the woman and beat each kid after her, about six kids after her, and put her out.

It's just things you-- it's hard even to forget what they did. And every little thing you told them they just pulled their gun and shoot. Beat you, beat you, they humiliate you, they start calling you name.

You used to tell him, yes, sir, no, sir. Nothing you could do about it. What could you do about it? Just made people out like puppet. It was just horrible, horrible what they did to people.

And then a lot of people, you know, losing their temper. But each time you lose the temper, they shot you. What did you get?

It just seemed like in today's life, somebody pulls a gun if you don't do what he tells you. What do you prove with it? You can do anything you got to do.

And my case it was I always was afraid. Because whatever I did, they took 30 people, most of them your family. Who could take a chance like this?

There were some people, I remember, they was in concentration camp, a man escaped. Because of him, they took up his family, they killed. And then they took 50 people whom they didn't like, killed. And each time they killed, they may pick up [NON-ENGLISH] on street. Everybody has to stand and watch them.

I remember once they brought a group of people. They caught them with something they didn't like. They just made the same people make a hole in ground. And then they told him go in in ground. And they started shooting. And then they called the closest family to bury them.

How could you live like this? It's awful. It's not way. If you would talk about what the torture they did, and the torture of people, that day-by-day things like this happen. And nobody could do about it.

Like I mentioned, I remember people used to leave their own kids and run away from kids. Where did you hear a case like this, that a woman is going to leave her kid. Most of them, mother went with the kids.

I remember there were cases that, when they took people out from ghetto, they told them to leave their kids. Some didn't. They just shoot her right away with the kid. The rest, they throw the kids in room. It's awful.

And they took off on each one's with the kids and just took them out and shoot them, just babies. Ways it was, like Germans said, you know, they tried to convince their people they're not fighting anybody. They're just fighting the Jew. This was war against the Jews. That's what they advertised.

Hitler even, one time I remember, he said that if he be in power another few years, if he sees a Jew once, that he's going to take his head and bow to him. Then I remember one time they were planning to send the Jews to Madagascar. Then they tried to send the Jews to Israel. But the English wouldn't lose their colony. Wouldn't let them in.

Then they decide they get rid of them this way. And I made a mistake. Because I never believed in it. I just couldn't believe in my deepest mind that any person, cultural person, they were [INAUDIBLE] culture, the Germans, very smart, intelligent, [INAUDIBLE] people, that they would do something like this.

And after war, nobody didn't know anything. And the biggest joke about is the Austrians said they didn't know they did anything. Well, I even go say about it, I even have a joke about it. You know, when they got to the table after war, Hitler, Himmler, Goebbels, used to say we're not guilty. I'm Austrian.

And Goebbel said, well, I'm going to jump to water. I can swim. The other one said I am go jump from a plane. The other one is go-- said I'm going to blow my brains out. Now they ask Hitler a question. What are you going to do about it? He said I'm not guilty. I'm Austrian.

And that's a good joke about it. And then declare Austria not guilty. But Austria was just guilty like the Germans. And if the people say they didn't know about it, each one of them did it.

Now I'll be honest about it. You know, in each crowd, you have people, they good. For instance, like in Poland, when the German came in, when said you Austrian, if the Jews didn't come out, Pollocks point us out.

This is Jew. This is Jew. This is Jew. This is Jew.

In French, when he came in and told them Jews out, when the Jews start coming out, French people start coming out with them. And then when they start coming out, all of them, he asked him a question. If you don't quit, I shoot you. And he said you have to shoot us all. Because we're all French people. It's just up to environment, where you lived with.

Now then you will see all Pollocks were this way. No. After the war, my wife came home and a Polish old man, Lithuanian house, he didn't touch her hand and helped her. But they were very small percentage of them.

What were some of the things you saw in the camp that you didn't tell us about?

In concentration camp what I did? Well, I told you what I saw, most of them in Auschwitz where they did. I saw how they were making experiments on people.

What kind of experiments?

Oh, like, I never saw. Just what I saw in the laboratory I work. They made experiment on people. They make connection.

They try all serums and things. A lot of people died on it. About the worst thing I saw was just once about this operation where I saw they did.

Where they tried to connect her hand to her elbow?

Yeah, that's the really thing. But I know that they try a lot of serums, a lot of things on people. And I saw people

crippled. And I saw people change. And most of them dying.

Did you see children?

No, I didn't see children there at all. No, I didn't see bring children there in this particular concentration camp, in this particular, just adults. A matter of fact, children, when they brought it, they killed them instantly.

You didn't see children in Auschwitz. Children were not allowed in Auschwitz. A child came in there in Auschwitz, shoot them.

Because there they were just keeping person in the place where I was, was a place where they used the people to perform certain work, could be useful for army. And most time I spend there.

Now when they took me from Auschwitz to Gross-Rosen, there were no children anymore. All children were killed. Killing children, I just saw in ghetto. And I saw it in first concentration we were.

[INAUDIBLE] were very few. Because they didn't give them permission to capture them. And if they caught, they shoot. But most killing of children, they used to do in ghetto.

There was no different children or adults. They killed children or adults, a woman, man. Doesn't matter. Whomever they could, they beat, they tortured, they killed.

It's just like I told you. So one time, in ghetto, caught a kid and knocked it over the wall. Throw it on floor.

There were many instances that they killed them. They just kill for fun, now let me put it this way. It was the Germans. And who did it? The most intelligent people in the whole world, Germans.

You know that before war you could go all over the world with the German language. That was English.

That's right.

Right? Am I right?

I gotta get back to work. OK?

Now there were a lot of instances happen what other people lived through. But I'm telling what I saw.

[COUGHS]