

OK. Following the war, did you search for any family members, and how--

This is [INAUDIBLE].

Yes, it is. Yes. Yeah. Did you search for any family members that might have survived or not, and how did you do that?

After being in Italy--

Either in Italy or from here in the--

Yeah, in 19-- in 1945, at the end of 1945, I found out that my brother's supposed to be in Germany. I found another friend of mine and ask him if he would like to join me to go to Germany to look for relatives. So we went to the Alps, to the-- we tried to go to the border and cross the Alps to be able to go to Germany. We went by train to the-- till about a few miles before the last station between Italy and the border, which the name is Brennero. And before the last stop, we jumped the train, and we start climbing the Alps, the mountains.

And after a few 100 yards climbing, the Italian border guard threw reflector lights on us. And they ordered us-- they shoot in the air. They was shooting in the air. And the loudspeakers, there was ordering us to come down.

So that ended that.

That we came down and they threw us in jail. And being-- I explained them my reason for being-- my reason for trying to cross the border to go to Germany to look for family. And they didn't want to believe it. They wanted to put me on trial. I come. I was objecting to it, and protesting, telling him that I am not a Italian citizen, and they have not right not-- not the right to try me.

But in that time, Italy was still occupied by the Allies. So all the foreigners was under the Allies' jurisdiction. So they transferred me from, after being in jail for a week, they transferred me to the Allied command. And there was three Allied officers-- an American, a Englishman, and a Frenchman. And they-- and I was telling them what's about.

They told me that it is illegal to cross borders. I told them the purpose, why I wanted to do it, and they told me that it's illegal to cross borders. I told them there is no-- there is no consulates, there is no embassies, there is no-- nothing is organized, yes. If I can get-- if I could have taken, find some kind of a way that I can go to Germany to look for my relatives. They told me I have to wait till everything will be settled, settled and be straightened out. And then there will be passports and visas. And they asked me to go back from the-- to the place where I came from.

Mm-hmm. And that was it. And from here, from the US, did you-- were you able to find anything out at all?

I found my brothers, two brothers, in the United States. And there is one-- my oldest brother, as I mentioned before, ran away to-- was running away to the Russian border. And he was taken over by the-- when the Russians came, the territories was taken over by the Russians. And he was in Lvov. And I was trying many times to try to find out something.

Then, when Khrushchev came to the United States for a visit, I sent a telegram to the Russian United Nation representation asking to be delivered to Khrushchev to help me to find my brother. And I gave him the-- I knew the address where he was. It was in Beloretsk, in Ural. And I begged him to help me to find my brother.

I never had any answer from him. But a few years later, my brother, my younger brother, went to Russia. And in Moscow, my telegram was in the Russian Red Cross. And he tried to go to the address what I gave him, but the Soviet authorities didn't allow him, didn't give him any permission to go to Beloretsk, which is the city, the last address what I had of my brother.

They told him that he can wait in the hotel, and they'll send over from there, which is a couple thousand miles from

Moscow, they'll send over the person which is living now-- which is occupies now the apartment where my brother was. And after a few days, the telephone rang, and a Russian came. And he spoke English. And he said that he is living in the apartment where my brother used to live. We don't-- till now, don't believe this is true. We believe it's a agent from Moscow.

And he came in, and he showed my brother a picture. And he said, this is a picture from a document. And with a stamp on it, like it looks like he took it off for some kind of official paper.

And he asked my brother, is this your-- is this your brother? And he said, yeah, that's it. That's my brother. He said, I spoke to all the neighbors there. And they, the people who knew him, told me that he just one day, he just picked up himself and just left without telling nobody where he is going. Which we don't believe, again, because in Russian was just leaving places, leaving his work and just going. No one know where he went.

So we tried. We tried a few more times, but there is no-- this is all what the Russian authorities are saying. He just left. They say, samowolnie. And there is no trace.

When you came here, where did you go, when you came to the US?

To Boston.

In Boston.

Yeah.

Family here. What sort of feelings did you have about your experiences in the war from that time? How did it-- what sort of feelings? How did it influence certain values that you had?

Well, one of the most important things what is on my mind all the time, that we should keep alive the memory of our people, and we should do anything to fight Nazis and Nazism wherever it shows up, with any means possible, legal or illegal. And not to come to the point that it should ever happen again.

What sort of things kept you going during the war? Where did you get your determination to keep on going?

The most important thing was the idea that I'll go out, that they're going away with murder, killing thousands and thousands of people every day. And I was scared that no one will be left. The way I, being in Auschwitz, and I seen the bodies every day, and the people going in that gas chamber, and the disappearing of the Jewish people, of the Jewish-- of the Jewish nation, just I knew that eventually, every Jew will go through that chimney. And this was the biggest scare that I had.

I just wanted just to survive and be able to tell the world-- especially when I was in Auschwitz, in the end of 1945, and when we took apart the gas chamber and the crematorium and tried to cover all of it, all the bestiality what they committed, it looked to me that they're going to kill to the last Jew, to clean everything away. That when the war will be over, there just be-- no one will know nothing about it, and they'll just be nice-- be a nice nation. And they just go away with murder without being punished.

How religious were you after the war compared to before the war? Did it have any effect at all? And what sort of feelings did you have about being Jewish?

Oh, I was more determined to be Jewish, but not too religious. The faith what I had, I lost.

I remember in Auschwitz, when working, I was working on the railroad station in Auschwitz-- in Birkenau, really. And transport was coming at that time from-- a transport came from-- I think it was from Hungary. And there was-- the people was from the train was yelling, what's the name of that place there? One woman asked, is this the-- is this the [INAUDIBLE] place, the vacation place, Auschwitz? And I didn't answer.

And later on, when they came down the train, on the first day, one of those Jews are a religious man. And he came in in the camp. And he seen that dust coming out from the chimneys. Said to me, such a huge bakery. Well, they're baking so much bread here. I told him I told him the truth. They're not baking any bread here.

And he said, oh, it cannot be. God wouldn't allow to do a thing like that. But he did.

And so I couldn't-- I just couldn't believe it. Could not-- could not understand it. And I couldn't-- that there could be a God, and he could allow murdering people, little children which didn't have any sin. I would say grown ups maybe they had some sin. But there was little babies that was killed there, and they didn't have any sin. They took away my belief.

Were you able to talk about your experiences at all when you came here, and to whom? Were you able to share any experiences?

In the beginning, not. But eventually I came to the conclusion that we should. We should tell as much as we can. We should spread it out, and we should let everybody know about it. Let the world know about it. Let it not be forgotten. And let's try, if we can catch any Nazis, maybe this will help, by finding Nazis is responsible for that too, that they should pay for it.

I went to certain schools, and I spoke to that to classes, and to anybody who is listening, and anybody who is interested, who wants to know, event if it hurts. But I'm but I'm doing it.

What sort of motivation was there in having your first child, and how did you feel? What sort of values did you try to transmit?

The Jewish people lost 6 million. It would be a crime just to-- the Germans wanted to liquidate us. It will be the second crime if we would allow-- if we will allow us to do that. We're supposed to build back the Jewish people.

Did you try to transmit any certain values to your children?

We don't ever think what we can to-- even I don't believe that, to do everything to my children. They should believe. I believe it is a wonderful thing when people can believe. So my children went to Hebrew school, and in Hebrew Teachers College, and they speak Hebrew. I've done everything I could to bring them up in Jewish tradition.

What sort of reception was there from the non-survivors in the community? Were you able to share any experiences with non-survivors here when you got here?

Oh, yeah. I was-- the first year when I came here, this was sort of-- no one really didn't know much about it. No one didn't talked about it. I mean, the American people.

And I remember in the streets where I lived, there was there Professor Sarna. He was professor in the Brandeis University. When he heard about being in Auschwitz, he asked me if I would be willing to come to his house, and he's going to invite a lot of people. If I would be able to, willing to--

Talk about it.

--talk about it, and they could ask questions. And I done that. I done that in that house and many other places. And I told him what really happened.

So you had no problems with speaking about it to non-survivors [INAUDIBLE].

No, not at all. I do it. I do it for a purpose.

You joined a survivors organization when you came here?

Yes.

What sort of reasons? Why did you do that?

The New Americans.

The New-- when I came, my brother and another few people organized the newcomers association. He become the first president. And the purpose was to do things, to what I believe in. And in this, the-- let's never forget it. Do everything not to forget it, and to fight Nazism.

I remember there was the leader of the Nazi party, Rockwell, American Nazi party, Rockwell came to Boston to demonstrate here. And at that time, he had just organized that New Americans association. And hundreds of us, with equipment, we went to demonstrate. And we practically almost killed him. We attacked him with anything we could. And there was a lot of police there, and they rescued his life.

When they dragged him in the lobby in the theater, he said, for the first time in his life, he was scared that he will get killed. Rockwell said it. He got killed later.

And we believe that Israel is the place for-- that Israel is a necessity for the Jewish people, for all the Jewish people. We believe that-- I believe if there would have been a Israel at the time of the-- before the war and during the war, that most of these people, of the Jewish people, would be alive.

The Jewish people was killed, the way I understand, because there was no place for them. If the-- in the first years of the war, the Nazis did not plan the murder of Jews. They wanted just to get rid of them.

And there was talk about it, about Madagascar, about Kenya, about different places. And they was ready to let the people go, to let the Jews go. But there is no one, no country, no one wanted to--

Accept them.

Accept them. As a matter of fact, that there was-- the Germans let Jews go on ships, and the ships were sent-- were sent back to-- like, one of the ships by the name Patria, was sent back to Germany. And the people was killed by the Germans in that.

And so this was-- so we believe that the Jews, for their own survival, before our generations still coming, the Jews must have a land. And as Israel is the land of our--

Ancestors.

--of the ancestors, this is the place. And we should do everything to protect it, and to support it, and to-- any way we can. And the newcomers association is doing a lot of work to support Israel by going there, by supporting Histadrut, by sending an ambulance, by supporting Israel in many, many ways.

Did you apply for reparations from the German government? Reparations?

I did.

And why?

I got some injuries from in the concentration camp. And at that time, the German government was sending over-- have here doctors which was examining. And they was supposed to pay for injuries, yeah.

It was a justified move.

For the injuries.

And losses of the family members, or--

This, I-- this is not a-- they can never pay. They can never pay for lost life, and they can never pay for five years in Auschwitz. There is no money that can pay for that.

But what were you able to communicate to each other about the Holocaust?

And they know everything. I told him everything.

You always were able to communicate with him about it, what--

Yeah, yeah. Whatever they ask, I told them.

There were no questions about it, though?

No, I was told.

What sort of feelings do you have about living here, about the US? About possibilities of something else like the Holocaust happening again? Do you feel safer here?

I feel safe. The make-up of the United States is-- is such, with so many minorities, that I believe it's a safe place. But we have to be vigilant, and we have to be alert, and not to-- and not to listen to those Jewish leaders, which talking about quarantine. But whenever we see a Nazi, that hit them back. Just don't wait for--

We had a quarantine. They quarantined the Nazis in Europe. And we are the witnesses what the quarantine done. So I believe people which went through the Holocaust believe that we wouldn't not allow any more quarantine. We're going to hit Nazis wherever we see them. No matter what kind of Nazis are-- are American Nazis, or German Nazis, or any Nazi.

Nazism is murder. So we're not going to wait till they're going to murder us. We're going to protect ourselves ahead of time.

Do you think it's possible that it could happen again, something like the Holocaust?

It's all possible. Who could believe that it could ever happen? Just murdering innocent people? Apparently you never know-- if you can see now Nazis and all and in many countries in the world. But people are still going out idea of murdering others, and grab their-- grabbed their-- everything what they own. So--

It's possible.

--it's possible. Especially when I'm listening to what's going on in Argentina. I think Argentina is a very dangerous place. And in other places too. So we have to be vigilant, and just fight back. Just don't take that stupidity from quarantine, what are some Jews who had never wented through-- are talking about.

How's the Holocaust affected the course of your life? In what ways?

It's just never, never out of my mind. It's with me during the day and during the night. It's always. And I'm trying to, the best I can, to make up certain things, certain ways what I didn't-- I lost during the years under the Nazis, which I missed the Nazis, which is reading, and other things, and in food too.

I remember that in Auschwitz once, I said to a friend of mine-- he asked me, when you'll be liberated, what is the first

thing what you would like to do? And I told him, I would like to get in my hands a whole bread, and to be able to eat it up, the whole thing. Because I never seen a white piece of bread, for years.

And I'm trying to make up in other cultural things, which I-- films and books and other things. Traveling.

Is there anything which you'd like to add at this time, which we didn't cover, perhaps missed?

Yeah, I probably would mention the uprising in Auschwitz.

What was that like?

In Auschwitz, the work of-- in the gas chambers and in the crematorium was performed by Jews which was picked by the Nazis. And they called them the Sonderkommando. It's like "Special Commando." So their job was, when the Jews was in the gas chamber and they got gassed, they was taking out the bodies from there, and they was transferring the bodies to the crematorium. And they was working in the ovens, and burning them, and cleaning out the ashes, and putting them on trucks, and put it in [INAUDIBLE]. They done on all this under SS guards.

And so they know all-- they know the secret. The Germans tortured the people in the camp. This place was surrounded with a fence, which was covered with blankets, that people shouldn't be able to see what's going in inside. So they thought that most of the people which wasn't existing too long in the camps, because they was getting killed, that they didn't know much about it, what's going on inside.

But they knew, those people working inside, they know everything what's going on. And they didn't want none of them should be able to survive or should run away. So every six months they was changing them. They killed those inside, and they took in a new group.

But they didn't-- was not killing them in Auschwitz. They told them that they worked long enough that they entitled to a rest, that they going for a vacation, or to go to Germany for working in other places, or to-- told them to open up another place and another camp in another place in Germany. But they were-- took them to another place, and they killed them there.

And in 1945, they took out a-- they took out half of the-- the business was getting slower, and the war was coming to an end, and not too many transports was coming. So they decided they're going to take away half from the-- I think there was 160 people in the Sonderkommando. They decided, like, 80, and get rid of them. And the other 80 would be enough to do the work. I think this is was the number. 160 I think it was.

And so they told the people in the Sonderkommando that they don't need so many now in the-- to the work. The business is slow. But anyone who wants to go to work to Germany could-- will tell we go. And they'll get some other work in Germany.

So they took half of the-- they took, I think 80 of those people. And they went. They gave them there, they gave them some bread and some food right in the crematorium there. And the other people seeing that they going on a transport. And they took them someplace and they killed them.

But they made a mistake, that the naked bodies, they sent back to be burned, to be burned in the crematoriums. And some of the people, they recognized. Even there was-- there was blue from gas, and disfigured. But some recognized some bodies, that this thought they was working there before. So they realized what-- they realized now what's happened, that there is no-- they don't go on any vacation. And they--

--they talked about it. They have decided that that's it. They're not going to volunteer to go to [INAUDIBLE]. They're going to fight back. And they'll take every Nazi with them.

So they decided that the next time, when they're going to call for volunteers, no one's going to go. It didn't take long. And there the SS men which has the challenge of the crematorium, of that-- came again, and he said, OK, we don't need

so many people here. Half will be enough. The things are slowing down. The war is coming to an end. And so we don't need. We just going to-- And he said, whoever wants to, he can volunteer, and you'll go to Germany, to work in Germany, or rest up.

The older people was lined up in front of the crematorium. And he was standing there, that SS officer. And three of them. And they was waiting. And no one volunteered.

He got very upset. He got very mad. And he started to scream. He said, OK, if you don't volunteer, we don't need so many of you here. We need to-- and he took a-- he had a list of the number of the people by the number, and he started to call out numbers, that any number who call up, he just step in front. And those people are going on the-- to Germany.

He called up the first number and no one stepped out. He called the second. No one stepped down-- stepped out. He pulled out a gun. And he just-- should those the people should have stepped out. [NON-ENGLISH], I'll kill you.

Then the older bunch, the 80 what was there, they just jumped at him, and just grabbed those three guys, and just the crematorium was working. And just with the boots and whatever, and they just took away their guns. And wherever it was, with the boots and whatever, then they just shoveled them in in the oven.

There were three guards?

What?

There were three guards there?

Yeah. But there was their guard standing on--

On top.

On top. And they started to-- and the rest. Then they started to run against the fences. They started to break the fences to run out.

And the guards started to use the machine guns from the-- from that. But there was running. They just blocked to different places of the-- different parts of the fence. They run out and started to run on the field.

So more SS came, and they make an alarm. And hundreds of SS came from all directions. I was just happened that I was not far from that place.

You witnessed this whole thing?

Yeah, I didn't-- I was inside. I was from the outside. But I was working not far away. And they ordered us to lay down, to lay down on the ground. I was with a group maybe of 500 or so. To lay down on the ground. And because some of us, of our people, from the group, the working, started to run too.

And they started the machine gun. And everybody who was running, open those machine gun. And the rest was laying on the ground. I was laying on the ground. And they was staying with machine guns over us. And they was just running, chasing the people, which was running away in the fields.

I don't know if anybody escaped. I don't believe. I don't know if anybody escaped. And those who-- those who were not killed, when they grabbed them, they brought them back to the-- in front of the gas, of the crematorium. And they laid them. They asked them to stretch out on the ground face down. And they machine gun them. They machine gun them in the heads. This was the end of the Sonderkommando.

This was the end of the war? This was the--

This is the end of--

'45.

'44.

'44.

Yeah.

How did you feel about answering all these questions.

I feel that it's a purpose. I'm not doing it with any pleasure. It hurts any time you start to go back to those things. But it has a purpose. And I think it's an important purpose. We wouldn't be here for forever. I think in another 20, 30 years, then no one will be left of this generation.

And we wanted to-- that no one no antisemite should be able to come and say it's a made-up story, that nothing what-- nothing bad. This never happened. But now, in our lifetime, when there's still thousands of-- tens of thousands of survivors in the world, And some antisemites are still coming out and telling now, telling us that there never-- a Holocaust never existed.

We have to witness that. And that's what the reason why we went to Jerusalem for the gathering of the Holocaust survivors, which I attended, and to say to the world, here, you got witnesses. That's the way it was, and it's there for generations. And so maybe this will help another Holocaust should not-- People should be educated, should see the truth.

How did you feel about the conference? How was that?

I think it was great. It was very important that so many thousands of newcomers came. And we, in front of the Western Wall, we was listening to Prime Minister Menachem Begin. And he was saying that Jews will now fight again back more than they did. We now had a Jewish country, and they are going to fight anybody who will try to kill Jews, and they will not allow any more Holocaust.

He was talking at that time about-- this was a few weeks. But then the Israelis destroyed the atom installation in Iraq. And he mentioned, in connection with the Iraqi, he said that time that the Iraqis was making-- they're trying to make atom bombs to make another Holocaust of the Jewish people in Palestine, Israel.

And we had a lesson once, what enemies of the Jews can do. So we're going to destroy. Any time anybody will try to raise our hand or do something to Holocaust, to Jewish people, we're just going to fight back, and we're going to destroy them.

It was-- and it was very pleasureful to see, to find some friends there which we didn't see for so many years, 40 years or so. I seen people there I didn't see since 1938, 1939. They lived in Israel. They came from other places. It was very interesting reunions there. It was a worthwhile trip.

Well, I thank you on behalf of one generation after for participating in our oral history project.

You're welcome.

Thank you so much.

You're welcome.

The qualifications for the two jobs are quite different, and you've got to know the range of ability that you have at your



disposal. That's one part of it.

The second part of it is knowing enough about the internal politics of all the countries around the world, to be able to make an informed judgment as to whether a proposed political action operation is worth undertaking, is feasible, it can be carried off. In other words, the man who has that job has to have in his head a computer file of a great many facts and judgments. It's not a place for on-the-job training.

Meyer and other intelligence officers interviewed today said it would take at least 10 years in the agency to acquire the depth of knowledge Hugel would have needed for his job. Hugel was not entirely lacking in intelligence experience. He was a junior Army intelligence officer in World War II, and he had three months' experience as a middle level administrator at CIA headquarters.

But Hugel's strongest asset was apparently his friendship with CIA Director William Casey. It was Casey who apparently saved Hugel from being fired from the Reagan campaign during the New Hampshire primary.

Some insight into Hugel is provided in his 278-page unpublished autobiography, called, quote, The Making of a President, Brooklyn-Style. Yugel cites numerous misrepresentations he made to banks as well as his customers. He also wrote that during World War II he evaded infantry duty by telling a recruiter he spoke Japanese when in fact he didn't.

Among his post-war exploits, Hugel describes how he sold 30 DeSoto taxicabs that were quote, "so rusty you could put your fist through a door without any effort," after he told the purchaser they were in fine shape. Hugel later became a multimillionaire electronics company executive with operations in more than 100 countries.

Hugel's past record is perhaps most significant because of what it says about the CIA's own security investigations. The world's most sophisticated spy operation apparently failed to cover all the bases, and apparently never contacted the McNell brothers, who, if they are to be believed, say they were ready, indeed eager to tell their story to the government before they went to the press. The CIA's background investigations are likely to come up for some review. I'm Alan Berlow in Washington.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

All of the delegates to this week's special Congress of the Polish Communist Party passed through an entrance adorned with a huge portrait of Lenin, and that's about the only similarity between this meeting and the usual Communist Party Congress. For instance, these delegates were chosen by popular vote, not picked for their years of loyal service to the party. Most of them have never even been to a meeting like this before. And they're expected to ratify the reforms won by Polish workers during the last year, reforms that drastically reduced the power of the Party itself. More on today's session from Nina Darnton in Warsaw.

The Party Congress opened today with a wrangle behind closed doors over what procedure to use to elect the First Secretary. Three propositions were before the delegates-- to elect the First Secretary today, in a vote by all the nearly 2,000 party delegates, to elect the Central Committee and have those members choose the Party Secretary, as has always been done in the past, or to elect the Central Committee, have them present nominees from among their ranks for Party Secretary, and then take a vote of all the delegates.

The first proposal seemed the most likely to succeed, and observers were predicting an easy victory for Mr. Kania, who would then be in control of the rest of the Congress. The catch is that the delegates voted for the third proposal, which delays the election and weakens Mr. Kania's hand, although it probably does not change the outcome.

The third proposal is said to have won by 50 votes. But 100 delegates were not present, because of separate meetings. These delegates are now being rounded up, and there is a possibility of yet another vote on this issue.

Mr. Kania officially opened the Congress with a three-hour speech, delivered in a droning monotone. It contained no surprises, and repeated many themes he has struck before. He attacked extremist forces in the party and in Solidarity, laid heavy emphasis on close relations with the Soviet Union, and attacked by name Poland's two dissident

organizations-- KOR and the KPN. But he also reaffirmed his commitment to Democratic renewal, a concept that has become as necessary to Polish politicians as defending freedom is in the United States.

An interesting aspect of this Party Congress is the openness with which the differing factions in the party are described. This has never happened before-- not that factions and power struggle didn't exist, but that they were never so open. The discussions here these days are startlingly similar to questions of parliamentary coalitions, and as of right now it is still not clear who will win. Perhaps the delegates who have never attended a party Congress before will deliver some surprises. For National Public Radio, this is Nina Darnton in Warsaw.

The United Nations Conference on Cambodia, or Kampuchea, continued for a second day. The goal, to find a solution to the Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea and the continued fighting there. Mike Shuster has more from the UN.

From the start, there was no chance that any real negotiating could take place at this conference. Vietnam refused to take part, as did the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh. The only ones here who are directly involved in the fighting in Kampuchea are the representatives of the Khmer Rouge, the ousted government of Pol Pot, who have continued to receive official UN recognition since they were overthrown by the Vietnamese invasion in late 1978. None of Vietnam's allies or close friends, such as the Soviet Union, are participating either. So the debate is somewhat one-sided.

Still, criticism of Hanoi has generally been muted. The foreign minister of Singapore, one of the five Southeast Asian Nations that has organized the conference, told the delegates that they had not gathered to put Vietnam on trial.

It is not our intention to bring Vietnam to its knees. We only want to bring it to its senses.

And in order to do that, most of the speakers have emphasized the need for negotiations, a political rather than a military solution. Hanoi so far has shown little willingness to negotiate, and one of the reasons is the UN's continued recognition of the Khmer Rouge. So far, though, more and more delegates, such as the foreign ministers of Singapore, and Australia, are disavowing support for the Pol Pot forces.

The Vietnamese claim that their invasion and occupation have saved the Kampuchean people from the barbarous Pol Pot regime. No one here condones or excuses the acts of the Pol Pot regime.

Australia does not deny that Vietnam has certain legitimate security interests of its own. However, that is no justification for their invasion of a neighboring country. Even so, we do not insist on an immediate withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. A phased withdrawal would avoid the creation of a power vacuum, which could result in a return to power of the Pol Pot regime.

The position of the United States in all this is unclear. When Secretary of State Alexander Haig addressed the conference yesterday, he seemed to be supporting the goal of a political settlement.

Vietnam is paying a price for its blindness in the form of an ever-deepening diplomatic and economic isolation from the world community. Vietnam must recognize that participation in this conference provides the best opportunity to escape the dead end of international reproach and economic repression.

And Haig also implied that if the Vietnamese showed some willingness to negotiate, they might expect eventual recognition from Washington, as well as renewed Western aid for their severely strained economy.

We will also continue to question seriously any economic assistance to Vietnam from whatever source, as long as Vietnam continues to squander its scarce resources on aggression.

But Haig made no mention of the UN's continued support for the Khmer Rouge. The United States has backed that position for the past two and a half years, and there appears to be little chance that position will change any time soon. For National Public Radio, this is Mike Shuster at the United Nations.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

It was 4:00 PM, and the sirens wailed today in the Palestinian refugee camps and guerrilla-controlled shantytowns along the southern edge of Beirut. Then the bombs began to fall, as Israeli jets carried out their third raid into Lebanon in five days. During the attack, a Syrian jet was shot down. The Israeli military command said the Syrian plane had tried to interfere.

All this happened one day after the United States and Israel issued a statement saying the misunderstanding over Israel's use of American weapons to bomb Iraq's nuclear reactor had been cleared up. All Things Considered commentator Daniel Schorr says this statement was a prelude to the release of four F-16 fighters to Israel. Their shipment had been held up after the raid into Iraq.

The suspension was never intended to be more than temporary, but little thought was given to how the lifting of the embargo would be orchestrated. That became urgent as July 17 neared, the scheduled date for transfer of the next six F-16s. It would be manifestly silly to hold onto the four after that. What was wanted was some commitment from Israel that would appear to justify lifting the embargo. On instructions from Secretary of State Haig, Ambassador Samuel Lewis met with Prime Minister Begin and asked for a promise of future consultation with the United States before American-made weapons were used outside Israel's borders. Begin told them that was absurd.

Still, last week, Secretary Haig decided to send his ex-Marine officer friend, State Department Counselor Robert McFarlane to Jerusalem to try to extract some face-saving commitment from Begin. In executive session, Haig asked support for the McFarlane mission from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Chairman Charles Percy circulated a draft resolution calling for consultation with the US in the future. That ran into concerted opposition. Democratic Whip Alan Cranston put together an opposing resolution justifying the attack on the reactor. And that appeared to command a bipartisan majority. The maneuvering of Foreign Relations Committee having failed, MacFarlane flew to Jerusalem with no leverage at all, since resumption of plane deliveries appeared certain. MacFarlane will report on his "mission impossible" to the Foreign Relations Committee, but he appears to have achieved little more than Begin's acknowledgment of a misunderstanding.

Meanwhile, the administration, having several times postponed submitting to Congress the sale of AWACS surveillance planes to Saudi Arabia, was planning to send up the plan this week, inevitably suggesting a link with the F-16s which the administration has denied. Now the AWACS program, still being strongly opposed, is being postponed once more. All in all, not a very good week for demonstrating steadiness and consistency of Reagan foreign policy in the Middle East.

The comments of Daniel Schorr are a regular feature of All Things Considered.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

One part of the Reagan Mideast policy held over from the Carter administration is the so-called Rapid Deployment Force, an elite military unit designed to operate on a moment's notice in trouble spots, especially in the Middle East and Persian Gulf. Well, as it happens, history has a little-known model for such a force. Julius Caesar at the peak of his empire maintained military power with advanced units in Gaul, then divided into three parts, now known as France, Switzerland, and Germany.

Allan Goodman, an associate dean of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, says the success of Caesar's rapid deployment force depended on more than just brute strength.

What most people don't know about Caesar was that he was a superb diplomat as well as a strategist. In retrospect, he probably negotiated the most secure base rights agreements in history.

Uh-huh. Base rights. That's--

And the bases were really what led Caesar to stay as long in inhospitable Gaul as possible, to cross the Rhine about midway in his campaigns, and also to cross the Channel and invade Britain.

Now that becomes quite relevant for the considerations at the moment with the development of an American rapid deployment force. Are there any lessons for the United States from Caesar's experience in establishing bases?

I think there are, especially in the diplomatic realm. The critical issue with Caesar's experience was did the people with whom he was allied, did the people with whom he had the base rights agreements, find themselves more secure or more threatened by Caesar's presence, more vulnerable by his troops? I think uniformly the experience of those who were allied with Caesar was that they found themselves more vulnerable.

I think that goes a lot to explaining how leaders in the Third World today might look at American bases, especially for a rapid deployment force, in their own territory. And I think they question, from the standpoint of vulnerability, the costs and benefits of having a US presence.

There is another aspect to the question of base rights-- how close do you need to be to operate effectively in a combat area, a sensitive area, a contingency area? And I think our experience has been very, very close. The problem with the bases that we're looking at now in Egypt, and Somalia, and Oman, and Kenya is that they're still much too far away from, let's say, the oil fields of Saudi Arabia that we might, in a contingency, want to protect.

Too far for Caesar, maybe, but with F-15s and things like that, the United States is able to move very far very fast, isn't it?

Well, I'm surprised at how this is not the case. In fact, the Congressional Budget Office looked at the number of troops that the Rapid Deployment Force could move into the Persian Gulf in a crisis. And it's 1,000 troops a day in the first through the second, almost up to the ninth day of any kind of contingency. Only after the ninth day does the rapid deployment force concept really move substantial numbers of troops.

How many troops could Caesar move in what period of time with his force troops?

He could move-- his probably, his most famous campaign against tribes in Belgium occurred, and he moved a legion of troops in about 24 hours.

A legion being how big?

Gosh, 9,000 troops, I think.

Well, then he could move them faster than we can now.

Not the same distance. His predecessors, the people with whom he was fighting, could move troops. Oh, it would take them two or three weeks to move in the space of a day, what he moved in the space of a day.

Allan Goodman is Associate Dean of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

This is NPR, National Public Radio.

Earlier today, Secretary of State Alexander Haig delivered a major foreign policy address that was covered and recorded by National Public Radio. We'll be bringing that address to you in its entirety starting at 6 o'clock. That's a half hour from now here on WBUR. We'll be preempting the third half hour of All Things Considered this evening in order to bring you that special broadcast. Once again, that's coming up at 6 o'clock, an address by Alexander Haig here on WBUR in Boston.

[THEME MUSIC]

Aerial pesticide spraying has begun in California, sending some local residents to what they hope will be safe shelter. I'm Sanford Ungar.

I'm Jackie Judd. Also in this part of All Things Considered, Florida officials defend the use of the pesticide malathion. That state has been using it for years.

More on the ethical fight over genetic screening in abortion.

The baseball strike. It may still be on, but there was an all-star game anyway-- sort of.

No spikes, but dancing shoes for the baseball boogie--

--on All Things Considered.

[THEME MUSIC]

At midnight, helicopters will start a second night of spraying against Mediterranean fruit fly infestation in California's Santa Clara Valley. Last night's aerial operation was cut short when the pump spraying the controversial pesticide malathion malfunctioned. Today, the federal government extended a quarantine of agricultural products to include three full counties south of San Francisco, as 11 southern states imposed a ban on the sale of fruits and vegetables from the infested areas.

Amanda Hawes lives in San Jose with her husband, a new baby, and two older children. And her family plans to stay with relatives when the spraying begins in her neighborhood at the end of this week.

What they've talked about doing is spraying in each spray area a total of six times at intervals of seven to 10 days. What we're thinking we'll do is be away each time for at least a day.

The kinds of effects that concern me most are those that threaten very, very young children, the possibility that this material is carcinogenic to people, that it's capable of causing mutations, birth defects. That's not a problem for our family at this time, although, believe me, during the last six months, every time they talked about aerial spraying, and I was carrying a child, I thought about that. Those are the things I don't want to be a Guinea pig over.

What are your neighbors planning on doing?

One of my neighbors is an asthmatic. I would assume she's going to be leaving whenever they're spraying, including ground spraying. Another of our neighbors is a very, very old man who likes to be outdoors, and bicycles around when he can. My assumption is that he's not going to be doing that.

But by the same token, because he doesn't drive, doesn't have a car, he's not really, unless someone can assist him, not going to be able to go anywhere. And--

So you didn't--

--these are not hysterical people. These are sane people who are trying to live their lives free of an unnecessary danger, an unnecessary risk.

Where can you do that nowadays, though?

Good question.

Is there any safe place?

Well, where we lived used to be called the Garden of Heart's Delight. And it really was. About 20 years ago the Santa Clara Valley was an orchard, a beautiful place. It's not that way anymore. There's an awful lot of bitter talk about the federal government promising to get government off our backs. Well, now it's coming down on our heads.

The notion that local control means something-- People are somewhat puzzled over what in the world it does mean. If all of our cities, as they have, had opposed aerial spraying in our county government, only to find out that if you go higher up, that effort to exert some local controls had no meaning.

Amanda, you sound tired to me.

I'm exhausted. It's very wearing to be in the middle of this. Last night, everyone was on the edge of his or her seat while the court proceedings wound down, which is exactly where they ended up. No restraining order was issued. That meant that the legal avenues had been exhausted. And that then meant a watch or a vigil overnight, as the first round of aerial spraying was about to begin.

Amanda Hawes. She's a lawyer and a community activist in San Jose, California.

Although the use of malathion has caused a controversy in California, a number of southern states have used the chemical to kill mosquitoes for years. Charlie Wade of member station WFSU filed this report from Tallahassee.

[ENGINE STARTING]

In 1980, over 1,300,000 pounds of malathion were sprayed in Florida to control mosquitoes, most of it sprayed in residential neighborhoods from pumps on the backs of pickup trucks. The rest is sprayed from World War II bombers flying in formation over suburban rooftops. Mosquitoes are often a health hazard in Florida, carrying diseases like yellow fever and encephalitis. Controlling them is a priority for health officials, and malathion is the pesticide of choice, according to Florida's Office of Entomology director, Dr. John Mulrennan.

I think it's safe. I think their record of use in Florida would pretty well substantiate its safety. We've been using it to control mosquitoes in Florida for nearly 30 years. And to my knowledge, we have never had any problems and health problems associated with its use.

And while some Californians are now upset over the use of malathion, Gene Baker, the director of Leon County's mosquito control in North Florida says residents here get upset when the pesticide isn't used.

The majority of our work is responding to complaints that mosquitoes are bothering them, and they would request a spray truck. I think when the malathion crisis is over and reviewed in California, that it will be to everyone's advantage, working in the area of applying the malathion, because I think they're going to find out that it's unwarranted hysteria. There are a lot of chemicals that should not be--