

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,590

2
00:00:06,590 --> 00:00:11,240
The following is an interview
with Ruth Dahl Greifer.

3
00:00:11,240 --> 00:00:14,690
The interview is being conducted
on behalf of the United States

4
00:00:14,690 --> 00:00:21,170
Holocaust Memorial Museum
on December 15, 1994

5
00:00:21,170 --> 00:00:22,070
by Gail Schwartz.

6
00:00:22,070 --> 00:00:25,840

7
00:00:25,840 --> 00:00:29,020
Could you give us your
full name, please?

8
00:00:29,020 --> 00:00:31,270
Ruth Dahl Greifer.

9
00:00:31,270 --> 00:00:32,870
And where were you born?

10
00:00:32,870 --> 00:00:36,110
I was born in
Geilenkirchen, Germany.

11
00:00:36,110 --> 00:00:37,510
And when were you born?

12
00:00:37,510 --> 00:00:42,340
May 30, 1922.

13

00:00:42,340 --> 00:00:45,190

Who made up your family
that you lived with?

14

00:00:45,190 --> 00:00:49,465

My mother, my father, my
brother, sister, and myself.

15

00:00:49,465 --> 00:00:51,440

And what were your
parents' names.

16

00:00:51,440 --> 00:00:55,510

My dad's name is Isidor Dahl.

17

00:00:55,510 --> 00:00:59,200

And my mother's name
was Sophia Dahl,

18

00:00:59,200 --> 00:01:01,780

but her maiden name was Beesman.

19

00:01:01,780 --> 00:01:03,620

And where did they come from?

20

00:01:03,620 --> 00:01:06,010

Well, Mother was
born in Holland,

21

00:01:06,010 --> 00:01:09,310

and Dad was born in Germany.

22

00:01:09,310 --> 00:01:10,350

Where in Germany?

23

00:01:10,350 --> 00:01:11,920

In Geilenkirchen.

24

00:01:11,920 --> 00:01:13,500

And what kind of work did he do?

25

00:01:13,500 --> 00:01:16,840
Oh, my father was
a cattle dealer.

26
00:01:16,840 --> 00:01:19,240
I lived in a small town.

27
00:01:19,240 --> 00:01:24,160
And most of the Jewish
people were cattle dealers.

28
00:01:24,160 --> 00:01:27,170
There was a couple butchers.

29
00:01:27,170 --> 00:01:29,500
There was a painter.

30
00:01:29,500 --> 00:01:33,250
We had a wonderful synagogue.

31
00:01:33,250 --> 00:01:37,480
We had even a rabbi, Mr. Fulman.

32
00:01:37,480 --> 00:01:42,910
And he had a wife and
a couple of children.

33
00:01:42,910 --> 00:01:47,920
And it was a very
warm Jewish community.

34
00:01:47,920 --> 00:01:50,422
About how large was the town?

35
00:01:50,422 --> 00:01:51,790
That I don't know.

36
00:01:51,790 --> 00:01:52,830
I don't remember.

37
00:01:52,830 --> 00:01:53,720
Where was it near?

38
00:01:53,720 --> 00:01:54,830
It's in the Rhineland.

39
00:01:54,830 --> 00:01:56,420
It's near Aachen.

40
00:01:56,420 --> 00:01:59,480
And it was a small community.

41
00:01:59,480 --> 00:02:02,480
And the Jewish community
was small, but large enough

42
00:02:02,480 --> 00:02:04,940
to provide us with a
wonderful synagogue.

43
00:02:04,940 --> 00:02:12,350
In fact, the synagogue had
an apartment for caretaker.

44
00:02:12,350 --> 00:02:14,330
And it was orthodox.

45
00:02:14,330 --> 00:02:17,000
My father would go to
minyan in the morning.

46
00:02:17,000 --> 00:02:20,480
And my father would go
to minyan in the evening.

47
00:02:20,480 --> 00:02:25,620
And Mother kept a kosher home.

48
00:02:25,620 --> 00:02:30,440
And I remember sitting
upstairs with the women,

49
00:02:30,440 --> 00:02:33,500
and men were downstairs

in our synagogue.

50

00:02:33,500 --> 00:02:35,690

And during the high
holidays my father

51

00:02:35,690 --> 00:02:38,450

would go to synagogue
with a top hat on.

52

00:02:38,450 --> 00:02:39,680

And I think--

53

00:02:39,680 --> 00:02:42,680

I don't remember-- what if
he wore a tuxedo or not,

54

00:02:42,680 --> 00:02:46,340

but I remember the top hat.

55

00:02:46,340 --> 00:02:48,570

And how much religious
training did you have?

56

00:02:48,570 --> 00:02:51,360

Oh, I went to Sunday
school, absolutely.

57

00:02:51,360 --> 00:02:54,690

I went to Sunday school
on Sunday morning

58

00:02:54,690 --> 00:02:57,240

and on Tuesday
afternoons after school.

59

00:02:57,240 --> 00:03:00,210

And when I moved here,
I could read and write

60

00:03:00,210 --> 00:03:04,890

Hebrew, which I was amazed
that a lot of the women

61
00:03:04,890 --> 00:03:07,480
here did not.

62
00:03:07,480 --> 00:03:09,870
And what was the name
of your siblings?

63
00:03:09,870 --> 00:03:13,350
Oh, my brother's name--
he was the oldest one.

64
00:03:13,350 --> 00:03:15,000
He's 11 years older than I am.

65
00:03:15,000 --> 00:03:16,560
His name was Carl.

66
00:03:16,560 --> 00:03:19,040
And my sister's name was Edith.

67
00:03:19,040 --> 00:03:20,250
And was she younger or older?

68
00:03:20,250 --> 00:03:21,430
No, eight years older.

69
00:03:21,430 --> 00:03:22,680
I'm the baby in the family.

70
00:03:22,680 --> 00:03:23,930
You're the baby in the family.

71
00:03:23,930 --> 00:03:25,080
Right.

72
00:03:25,080 --> 00:03:26,970
What kind of neighborhood
do you live in?

73
00:03:26,970 --> 00:03:28,740

Oh, we had a beautiful home.

74

00:03:28,740 --> 00:03:31,960

We lived in a beautiful home.

75

00:03:31,960 --> 00:03:33,870

In fact, at that time when--

76

00:03:33,870 --> 00:03:38,290

I can tell people
that we had a car.

77

00:03:38,290 --> 00:03:41,400

I remember the car had to be
cranked up in the morning.

78

00:03:41,400 --> 00:03:43,980

I remember we had a telephone.

79

00:03:43,980 --> 00:03:49,150

We had full-time help in the
house living in all the time.

80

00:03:49,150 --> 00:03:56,320

And we had a coal heat that
would heat up the whole house.

81

00:03:56,320 --> 00:03:58,140

So we lived in a lovely home.

82

00:03:58,140 --> 00:03:59,830

Was it in a Jewish neighborhood?

83

00:03:59,830 --> 00:04:00,510

No.

84

00:04:00,510 --> 00:04:01,020

No.

85

00:04:01,020 --> 00:04:04,180

There was no such thing
as a Jewish neighborhood.

86
00:04:04,180 --> 00:04:08,010
Yes, we did have one Jewish
family three doors over.

87
00:04:08,010 --> 00:04:13,590
And here again, he
dealt with horses.

88
00:04:13,590 --> 00:04:20,290
And he had a chicken farm and
lovely, just a lovely family,

89
00:04:20,290 --> 00:04:22,440
the Lichtensteins.

90
00:04:22,440 --> 00:04:26,550
And that family is no longer.

91
00:04:26,550 --> 00:04:29,700
In fact, the little
girl was eight years

92
00:04:29,700 --> 00:04:31,590
old when she was taken away.

93
00:04:31,590 --> 00:04:34,580
And now, they have
named a school after her

94
00:04:34,580 --> 00:04:36,870
in this little German town.

95
00:04:36,870 --> 00:04:38,670
So your neighbors
were not Jewish--

96
00:04:38,670 --> 00:04:39,548
Oh, no, no, no, no--

97
00:04:39,548 --> 00:04:40,590
--except for this family.

98

00:04:40,590 --> 00:04:43,170

And as a young child, you
played with non-Jewish children?

99

00:04:43,170 --> 00:04:44,130

All the time.

100

00:04:44,130 --> 00:04:46,080

I have a couple
of Jewish friends

101

00:04:46,080 --> 00:04:50,400

that I played with that
were my close friends.

102

00:04:50,400 --> 00:04:53,490

But I'm the only one
that has survived.

103

00:04:53,490 --> 00:04:56,460

None of my Jewish
friends have survived.

104

00:04:56,460 --> 00:04:58,650

And tell me about
your schooling.

105

00:04:58,650 --> 00:04:59,160

Oh, I went--

106

00:04:59,160 --> 00:05:00,840

You began at which school?

107

00:05:00,840 --> 00:05:02,380

I went to private school.

108

00:05:02,380 --> 00:05:06,360

My father was able to that we
went to an Ursuline academy.

109

00:05:06,360 --> 00:05:08,312

And we went to private school.

110
00:05:08,312 --> 00:05:09,780
It was Ursuline academy.

111
00:05:09,780 --> 00:05:13,230
It was run by the Catholic nuns.

112
00:05:13,230 --> 00:05:15,040
But that was the
best school in town.

113
00:05:15,040 --> 00:05:18,150
And my father-- my sister
and myself, we also went to--

114
00:05:18,150 --> 00:05:20,340
And how did you feel
as a young Jewish child

115
00:05:20,340 --> 00:05:21,720
going to a Catholic school?

116
00:05:21,720 --> 00:05:22,440
Fine.

117
00:05:22,440 --> 00:05:25,230
I didn't feel any different
than anybody else.

118
00:05:25,230 --> 00:05:28,620
When they had
religious classes, I

119
00:05:28,620 --> 00:05:34,380
would go and do something
else, help the nuns

120
00:05:34,380 --> 00:05:37,290
with photography or anything.

121
00:05:37,290 --> 00:05:38,220

I didn't stay in.

122
00:05:38,220 --> 00:05:40,420
It didn't bother me.

123
00:05:40,420 --> 00:05:42,060
I was raised among Catholics.

124
00:05:42,060 --> 00:05:43,650
It didn't bother me.

125
00:05:43,650 --> 00:05:46,990
So you never experienced
any uncomfortable incidents

126
00:05:46,990 --> 00:05:47,490
as a child?

127
00:05:47,490 --> 00:05:48,852
Not until Hitler came.

128
00:05:48,852 --> 00:05:49,560
Yeah, as a child.

129
00:05:49,560 --> 00:05:50,810
Right, absolutely.

130
00:05:50,810 --> 00:05:52,852
With your neighbors and
with your school friends?

131
00:05:52,852 --> 00:05:54,880
Oh, yes, everything was
very, very, very fine.

132
00:05:54,880 --> 00:05:57,580
And do you remember if your
father, when you were young,

133
00:05:57,580 --> 00:06:00,960
if your father expressed any
problems in business being

134
00:06:00,960 --> 00:06:01,460
a Jew?

135
00:06:01,460 --> 00:06:01,960
No.

136
00:06:01,960 --> 00:06:02,470
No.

137
00:06:02,470 --> 00:06:04,200
No, no, he dealt--

138
00:06:04,200 --> 00:06:08,530
my father dealt mostly with
either butchers or farmers.

139
00:06:08,530 --> 00:06:10,385
And, no, there was nothing.

140
00:06:10,385 --> 00:06:13,170
It was all very well.

141
00:06:13,170 --> 00:06:18,600
And you went to Ursuline
Academy until what age?

142
00:06:18,600 --> 00:06:19,950
Until we moved to Holland.

143
00:06:19,950 --> 00:06:21,850
Oh, OK, so that's
where you stayed.

144
00:06:21,850 --> 00:06:22,620
Right.

145
00:06:22,620 --> 00:06:24,780
And you said you came
from an observant home?

146

00:06:24,780 --> 00:06:25,650

Oh, yes, very.

147

00:06:25,650 --> 00:06:28,470

My mother was very kosher.

148

00:06:28,470 --> 00:06:31,020

Did you have any
hobbies as a young girl?

149

00:06:31,020 --> 00:06:33,150

Yes, I played the piano.

150

00:06:33,150 --> 00:06:35,040

I played by ear.

151

00:06:35,040 --> 00:06:38,040

I started playing
when I was very young.

152

00:06:38,040 --> 00:06:41,640

And I took piano lessons.

153

00:06:41,640 --> 00:06:49,290

But after the war,
I've never gone back.

154

00:06:49,290 --> 00:06:52,410

I just wasn't in any mood.

155

00:06:52,410 --> 00:06:56,520

Barney even bought me a piano,
but it has never materialized.

156

00:06:56,520 --> 00:06:57,780

I don't want to play.

157

00:06:57,780 --> 00:06:59,920

Any other hobbies
that you have--

158

00:06:59,920 --> 00:07:00,870

--no--

159
00:07:00,870 --> 00:07:01,420
As a child?

160
00:07:01,420 --> 00:07:01,920
No.

161
00:07:01,920 --> 00:07:04,620
Were you interested in sports?

162
00:07:04,620 --> 00:07:10,290
Well, we did sports
during Hitler time.

163
00:07:10,290 --> 00:07:12,330
There were some
of these young men

164
00:07:12,330 --> 00:07:16,200
that took the youth together
and did sports with us.

165
00:07:16,200 --> 00:07:17,030
But otherwise no.

166
00:07:17,030 --> 00:07:18,210
No sports.

167
00:07:18,210 --> 00:07:21,010
Were you a member of
any youth groups with--

168
00:07:21,010 --> 00:07:21,600
No.

169
00:07:21,600 --> 00:07:22,860
No.

170
00:07:22,860 --> 00:07:24,270
Our town was too small.

171

00:07:24,270 --> 00:07:27,760

I would have had to go
to a different town.

172

00:07:27,760 --> 00:07:30,630

Aachen had youth groups.

173

00:07:30,630 --> 00:07:33,070

But I was too young
for that at the time.

174

00:07:33,070 --> 00:07:34,960

So you had a very
pleasant child.

175

00:07:34,960 --> 00:07:35,460

Oh, yes.

176

00:07:35,460 --> 00:07:37,800

Did you have extended
family in town?

177

00:07:37,800 --> 00:07:40,230

Grandparents, aunts,
uncles, cousins?

178

00:07:40,230 --> 00:07:43,260

Yes, I had one aunt and uncle.

179

00:07:43,260 --> 00:07:45,780

The uncle was in
business with my dad.

180

00:07:45,780 --> 00:07:46,830

And that's about it.

181

00:07:46,830 --> 00:07:49,320

So you had cousins
that you would be with?

182

00:07:49,320 --> 00:07:51,550

No, they were all

older than I was.

183
00:07:51,550 --> 00:07:53,220
They were more my sister's age.

184
00:07:53,220 --> 00:07:54,340
I was the youngest one.

185
00:07:54,340 --> 00:07:54,840
Right.

186
00:07:54,840 --> 00:07:57,910
I'm pretty much the
youngest one in our family.

187
00:07:57,910 --> 00:08:00,330
Do you remember
holiday celebrations?

188
00:08:00,330 --> 00:08:01,900
Oh, absolutely.

189
00:08:01,900 --> 00:08:03,810
Hanukkah I remember.

190
00:08:03,810 --> 00:08:06,690
Passover I remember.

191
00:08:06,690 --> 00:08:09,210
Oh, yes, my mother and
dad were very observant.

192
00:08:09,210 --> 00:08:13,320
And we celebrated
wonderfully, absolutely.

193
00:08:13,320 --> 00:08:14,700
This was great.

194
00:08:14,700 --> 00:08:16,006
Did your mother work?

195
00:08:16,006 --> 00:08:16,700
No.

196
00:08:16,700 --> 00:08:19,740
No, my mother never worked.

197
00:08:19,740 --> 00:08:22,500
My mother worked
before she got married.

198
00:08:22,500 --> 00:08:25,950
My mother learned
to be a modista.

199
00:08:25,950 --> 00:08:29,640
That means she had she
learned to make hats.

200
00:08:29,640 --> 00:08:33,929
And she went out of town
to learn to make hats.

201
00:08:33,929 --> 00:08:37,140
And then she had a
store on her own.

202
00:08:37,140 --> 00:08:42,090
And she would tell us
stories about her store.

203
00:08:42,090 --> 00:08:45,000
In olden days when
people would get married,

204
00:08:45,000 --> 00:08:47,760
they had a trousseau
made of hats.

205
00:08:47,760 --> 00:08:50,260
And then when we
were sick in bed,

206

00:08:50,260 --> 00:08:53,100
she would give us the cards
that these brides would

207
00:08:53,100 --> 00:08:57,360
send her and thank her for
all the beautiful stuff

208
00:08:57,360 --> 00:08:58,140
that she had made.

209
00:08:58,140 --> 00:09:00,050
And she let us play
with those cards.

210
00:09:00,050 --> 00:09:02,280
I remember that.

211
00:09:02,280 --> 00:09:03,420
Were you a healthy child?

212
00:09:03,420 --> 00:09:05,040
Yes.

213
00:09:05,040 --> 00:09:05,760
Yes.

214
00:09:05,760 --> 00:09:11,460
So things went along quietly
and calmly until 1933?

215
00:09:11,460 --> 00:09:13,200
That's right.

216
00:09:13,200 --> 00:09:14,100
My brother--

217
00:09:14,100 --> 00:09:17,867
What's the first change
that you remember that life

218
00:09:17,867 --> 00:09:18,825

was a little different?

219

00:09:18,825 --> 00:09:21,060

It started out in 1933.

220

00:09:21,060 --> 00:09:24,870

And I think that when Hitler came to power, at that time

221

00:09:24,870 --> 00:09:27,030

I remember my mother had to go to the hospital

222

00:09:27,030 --> 00:09:28,620

with an appendectomy.

223

00:09:28,620 --> 00:09:30,240

You were 11 years old now?

224

00:09:30,240 --> 00:09:31,830

Yes.

225

00:09:31,830 --> 00:09:38,520

And, well, things didn't go very fast in '33.

226

00:09:38,520 --> 00:09:40,920

Nothing really happened.

227

00:09:40,920 --> 00:09:44,800

I was still going to school.

228

00:09:44,800 --> 00:09:46,860

My father still did his business.

229

00:09:46,860 --> 00:09:49,500

It was just in the later years, you

230

00:09:49,500 --> 00:09:53,910

know, that they

began to extinguish

231

00:09:53,910 --> 00:09:56,880

between the Jews
and the non-Jews.

232

00:09:56,880 --> 00:10:00,130

And I remember going to school.

233

00:10:00,130 --> 00:10:03,810

So they let me go to
school when other kids that

234

00:10:03,810 --> 00:10:08,280

were not in my school would
spit at me, because I was a Jew.

235

00:10:08,280 --> 00:10:11,400

They would call me dirty Jew,
and they would spit on me.

236

00:10:11,400 --> 00:10:12,690

Well, you don't do anything.

237

00:10:12,690 --> 00:10:13,990

You just keep on walking.

238

00:10:13,990 --> 00:10:15,130

You don't do very much.

239

00:10:15,130 --> 00:10:18,240

Do you remember being
very frightened when

240

00:10:18,240 --> 00:10:19,530

that would happen?

241

00:10:19,530 --> 00:10:20,280

No.

242

00:10:20,280 --> 00:10:25,300

I don't think so, because

you have to be strong.

243
00:10:25,300 --> 00:10:26,740
And I was not frightened.

244
00:10:26,740 --> 00:10:27,630
No.

245
00:10:27,630 --> 00:10:28,840
Not at all.

246
00:10:28,840 --> 00:10:33,790
You just go through it
this like nothing happens.

247
00:10:33,790 --> 00:10:35,310
What language did you speak--

248
00:10:35,310 --> 00:10:35,910
German--

249
00:10:35,910 --> 00:10:36,450
At home?

250
00:10:36,450 --> 00:10:36,950
Yes.

251
00:10:36,950 --> 00:10:39,280

252
00:10:39,280 --> 00:10:41,700
And what subjects did
you study in school?

253
00:10:41,700 --> 00:10:44,020
Oh, everything.

254
00:10:44,020 --> 00:10:44,950
Languages.

255
00:10:44,950 --> 00:10:49,930

I remember our first
foreign language was French.

256
00:10:49,930 --> 00:10:53,800
And then a couple of
years later English.

257
00:10:53,800 --> 00:10:56,620
And English was always
much easier for me

258
00:10:56,620 --> 00:10:58,120
than the French language.

259
00:10:58,120 --> 00:11:01,900
It almost came just
like a natural language.

260
00:11:01,900 --> 00:11:05,650
So I was very
fortunate that way.

261
00:11:05,650 --> 00:11:07,990
All right, now to get
back, it was 1933.

262
00:11:07,990 --> 00:11:11,140
And you started to
say, when I asked you

263
00:11:11,140 --> 00:11:14,140
when did you first notice the
changes that your father had

264
00:11:14,140 --> 00:11:15,540
gone in for an appendectomy--

265
00:11:15,540 --> 00:11:16,690
No, that was my mother.

266
00:11:16,690 --> 00:11:18,250
I'm sorry, your mother.

267

00:11:18,250 --> 00:11:19,290

But the first change--

268

00:11:19,290 --> 00:11:21,010

Why do you remember that?

269

00:11:21,010 --> 00:11:22,480

Because that was
the time I think

270

00:11:22,480 --> 00:11:23,575

when Hitler came to power.

271

00:11:23,575 --> 00:11:24,710

Oh, I see.

272

00:11:24,710 --> 00:11:26,060

But did she get good treatment?

273

00:11:26,060 --> 00:11:26,560

Oh, yes.

274

00:11:26,560 --> 00:11:28,450

So there wasn't a problem
because she was Jewish?

275

00:11:28,450 --> 00:11:28,530

No.

276

00:11:28,530 --> 00:11:30,220

No, she went to
Catholic hospital, which

277

00:11:30,220 --> 00:11:32,950

was just a few doors down.

278

00:11:32,950 --> 00:11:36,790

And the nuns were absolutely
wonderful to my mother.

279

00:11:36,790 --> 00:11:39,480

280
00:11:39,480 --> 00:11:41,600
In fact, they always came
to visit in our house.

281
00:11:41,600 --> 00:11:43,810
So they got along very well.

282
00:11:43,810 --> 00:11:50,560
Well, one of the first
things that we saw

283
00:11:50,560 --> 00:11:53,770
was when one morning
my father had

284
00:11:53,770 --> 00:11:56,500
a plaque on the
door with his name

285
00:11:56,500 --> 00:11:58,200
and his profession on there.

286
00:11:58,200 --> 00:11:59,860
It was shattered.

287
00:11:59,860 --> 00:12:06,070
And I think that might have
been the time that they told us

288
00:12:06,070 --> 00:12:07,820
that he couldn't do
his business anymore.

289
00:12:07,820 --> 00:12:12,850
Well, once you had
forbidden to have an income,

290
00:12:12,850 --> 00:12:15,940
you have to look to
go somewhere else.

291

00:12:15,940 --> 00:12:20,380

Well, since my mother
was born in Holland

292

00:12:20,380 --> 00:12:26,410

and her family still
lived in Maastricht,

293

00:12:26,410 --> 00:12:29,950

we were able to move to Holland.

294

00:12:29,950 --> 00:12:31,690

Now, what year are
we talking about?

295

00:12:31,690 --> 00:12:33,020

1938.

296

00:12:33,020 --> 00:12:33,910

Spring 1938.

297

00:12:33,910 --> 00:12:37,640

OK, let's do a little
bit between 1933 and 1938

298

00:12:37,640 --> 00:12:39,440

before you move.

299

00:12:39,440 --> 00:12:42,660

Any other memories of that time?

300

00:12:42,660 --> 00:12:45,820

But do you know when your
father's business was ended?

301

00:12:45,820 --> 00:12:49,000

That was probably 1938,
because we were able to--

302

00:12:49,000 --> 00:12:50,310

So your father stayed--

303

00:12:50,310 --> 00:12:51,340

Well, we all stayed.

304

00:12:51,340 --> 00:12:53,200

No, I meant stayed
in business until--

305

00:12:53,200 --> 00:12:54,370

Oh, yes, absolutely.

306

00:12:54,370 --> 00:12:55,450

And you went to school?

307

00:12:55,450 --> 00:12:56,135

Mm, hmm.

308

00:12:56,135 --> 00:12:57,760

And you stayed at
the Ursuline academy.

309

00:12:57,760 --> 00:12:58,300

Right.

310

00:12:58,300 --> 00:13:01,690

Any other incidents that you
remember besides children

311

00:13:01,690 --> 00:13:02,980

spitting at you?

312

00:13:02,980 --> 00:13:04,120

No, not really.

313

00:13:04,120 --> 00:13:08,620

And the attitude of the nuns
toward you did not change?

314

00:13:08,620 --> 00:13:09,270

No.

315

00:13:09,270 --> 00:13:09,770

No.

316

00:13:09,770 --> 00:13:12,460

They were absolutely wonderful.

317

00:13:12,460 --> 00:13:16,990

So life for you
went on until 1938?

318

00:13:16,990 --> 00:13:18,744

Pretty much, yes.

319

00:13:18,744 --> 00:13:19,244

Right.

320

00:13:19,244 --> 00:13:20,650

OK.

321

00:13:20,650 --> 00:13:24,430

Did you ever hear your
parents talking about Hitler?

322

00:13:24,430 --> 00:13:25,930

No, not really.

323

00:13:25,930 --> 00:13:28,420

Maybe they're talking,
but I wasn't aware.

324

00:13:28,420 --> 00:13:29,672

You weren't aware of it.

325

00:13:29,672 --> 00:13:30,970

No.

326

00:13:30,970 --> 00:13:34,050

So now you're 16 years
old right, and it's 1938.

327

00:13:34,050 --> 00:13:34,780

Right.

328

00:13:34,780 --> 00:13:36,910

And you said your
father's business was--

329

00:13:36,910 --> 00:13:37,510

Taken away--

330

00:13:37,510 --> 00:13:38,590

Taken away.

331

00:13:38,590 --> 00:13:41,000

Do you remember what
he said about that?

332

00:13:41,000 --> 00:13:41,650

No.

333

00:13:41,650 --> 00:13:43,000

Did he tell you anything?

334

00:13:43,000 --> 00:13:44,030

No.

335

00:13:44,030 --> 00:13:44,530

No.

336

00:13:44,530 --> 00:13:45,496

Not at all.

337

00:13:45,496 --> 00:13:46,900

OK.

338

00:13:46,900 --> 00:13:48,493

At least I don't remember that--

339

00:13:48,493 --> 00:13:51,160

Do you remember being frightened
when your father's business was

340

00:13:51,160 --> 00:13:51,700

taken away?

341
00:13:51,700 --> 00:13:52,060
No.

342
00:13:52,060 --> 00:13:52,560
No.

343
00:13:52,560 --> 00:13:53,290
Not at all.

344
00:13:53,290 --> 00:13:54,880
I mean, everything
went very smooth.

345
00:13:54,880 --> 00:13:56,810
We sold our house.

346
00:13:56,810 --> 00:13:57,310
We went--

347
00:13:57,310 --> 00:13:58,720
Who did you sell your house to?

348
00:13:58,720 --> 00:14:01,180
The doctor across the street.

349
00:14:01,180 --> 00:14:02,650
He bought our house.

350
00:14:02,650 --> 00:14:07,330
And the house was
absolutely beautiful.

351
00:14:07,330 --> 00:14:14,440
And we always had a gardener
come in and-- two gardeners,

352
00:14:14,440 --> 00:14:17,560
one that shaped
the trees and one

353

00:14:17,560 --> 00:14:19,270
that would do all the planting.

354
00:14:19,270 --> 00:14:22,090
We had vegetables in our yard.

355
00:14:22,090 --> 00:14:28,720
And we had every imaginable
flowers and fruits.

356
00:14:28,720 --> 00:14:31,060
And my father would never
let us pick the fruit,

357
00:14:31,060 --> 00:14:33,430
because when he
came home from work,

358
00:14:33,430 --> 00:14:36,010
he wanted to go into the yard
and just pick it right off

359
00:14:36,010 --> 00:14:38,005
the vine.

360
00:14:38,005 --> 00:14:39,910
Oh, one thing I
remember, my mother

361
00:14:39,910 --> 00:14:43,480
did a lot of canning,
a lot of canning

362
00:14:43,480 --> 00:14:46,370
of fresh fruit and vegetables.

363
00:14:46,370 --> 00:14:53,350
And all winter long we had
fresh vegetables and fruit.

364
00:14:53,350 --> 00:14:58,840
And I remember potatoes for the
whole winter in the basement.

365
00:14:58,840 --> 00:15:04,390
And something that
I do remember,

366
00:15:04,390 --> 00:15:06,393
and one doesn't have it here--

367
00:15:06,393 --> 00:15:07,810
you know, you don't
have the room.

368
00:15:07,810 --> 00:15:09,610
You don't have the space.

369
00:15:09,610 --> 00:15:10,560
And--

370
00:15:10,560 --> 00:15:11,660
How big a house was it?

371
00:15:11,660 --> 00:15:12,370
Oh, it was big.

372
00:15:12,370 --> 00:15:15,030

373
00:15:15,030 --> 00:15:18,130
The house was above the ground.

374
00:15:18,130 --> 00:15:21,070
And we did have a garage.

375
00:15:21,070 --> 00:15:26,860
And we had room for
cows in the wintertime.

376
00:15:26,860 --> 00:15:29,760
And we had a nut tree--

377
00:15:29,760 --> 00:15:31,010

Cows in the basement you mean?

378

00:15:31,010 --> 00:15:34,580

No, cows on the side,
next to the garage.

379

00:15:34,580 --> 00:15:35,080

No.

380

00:15:35,080 --> 00:15:36,970

In a barn?

381

00:15:36,970 --> 00:15:39,400

No, it was all
made out of brick.

382

00:15:39,400 --> 00:15:40,390

It was quite sturdy.

383

00:15:40,390 --> 00:15:41,890

So your house was
made out of brick?

384

00:15:41,890 --> 00:15:46,670

Oh, absolutely, absolutely.

385

00:15:46,670 --> 00:15:48,340

We walked up the stairs.

386

00:15:48,340 --> 00:15:50,140

And then we went into the foyer.

387

00:15:50,140 --> 00:15:54,730

And the foyer was
made out of mosaic.

388

00:15:54,730 --> 00:15:57,410

And the kitchen floor
was made out of mosaic.

389

00:15:57,410 --> 00:16:00,790

And I remember then I

would walk on stilts.

390
00:16:00,790 --> 00:16:02,290
And the maid had scrubbed it.

391
00:16:02,290 --> 00:16:04,100
And it was so shiny.

392
00:16:04,100 --> 00:16:07,510
And then I fell.

393
00:16:07,510 --> 00:16:14,770
We had a living room, big
kitchen with two tables.

394
00:16:14,770 --> 00:16:20,050
And we had another room
where the seamstress

395
00:16:20,050 --> 00:16:22,650
used to come and sew.

396
00:16:22,650 --> 00:16:25,180
And we had one room
where we never went in.

397
00:16:25,180 --> 00:16:28,780
Only the piano and the real
good furniture were there.

398
00:16:28,780 --> 00:16:35,750
And then upstairs, we
had how many bedrooms?

399
00:16:35,750 --> 00:16:38,230
Probably three or four.

400
00:16:38,230 --> 00:16:41,930
And then upstairs, we
had an attic and a room

401
00:16:41,930 --> 00:16:44,210

where the maid slept.

402

00:16:44,210 --> 00:16:46,430

So you were considered
very upper class?

403

00:16:46,430 --> 00:16:47,470

Pretty much.

404

00:16:47,470 --> 00:16:49,670

Yeah, yeah, a very nice living.

405

00:16:49,670 --> 00:16:53,180

My mother, after she got
married, she never worked.

406

00:16:53,180 --> 00:16:56,800

OK, your father's business
you said was taken away.

407

00:16:56,800 --> 00:16:57,440

Right.

408

00:16:57,440 --> 00:16:58,790

He sold the house.

409

00:16:58,790 --> 00:16:59,990

And then what happened?

410

00:16:59,990 --> 00:17:02,540

Then we moved to Holland.

411

00:17:02,540 --> 00:17:04,369

Because your mother's
family was there.

412

00:17:04,369 --> 00:17:07,220

Well, we had an entrance
because Mother had been Dutch.

413

00:17:07,220 --> 00:17:09,940

It was easier for

us to get in than--

414

00:17:09,940 --> 00:17:14,000
[PHONE RINGING]

415

00:17:14,000 --> 00:17:16,970
You said you had no problems
getting papers to go into--

416

00:17:16,970 --> 00:17:18,980
Holland, because
Mother had been Dutch.

417

00:17:18,980 --> 00:17:24,319
And we rented a house.

418

00:17:24,319 --> 00:17:28,050
How did you get from
one place to another?

419

00:17:28,050 --> 00:17:32,480
Well, we just rented
a furniture truck.

420

00:17:32,480 --> 00:17:34,690
I mean a moving van.

421

00:17:34,690 --> 00:17:36,150
And I remember it was small.

422

00:17:36,150 --> 00:17:38,330
It just kept going
back and forth.

423

00:17:38,330 --> 00:17:41,150
I don't even know how we
got all this furniture

424

00:17:41,150 --> 00:17:42,470
in that little house.

425

00:17:42,470 --> 00:17:45,320

Did you did you travel
in the truck yourself?

426
00:17:45,320 --> 00:17:45,830
No.

427
00:17:45,830 --> 00:17:47,460
How did you get--

428
00:17:47,460 --> 00:17:49,250
I guess my dad drove us.

429
00:17:49,250 --> 00:17:49,750
You drove--

430
00:17:49,750 --> 00:17:50,250
Yeah.

431
00:17:50,250 --> 00:17:51,100
My dad.

432
00:17:51,100 --> 00:17:52,410
And there was no problem--

433
00:17:52,410 --> 00:17:52,910
--no--

434
00:17:52,910 --> 00:17:53,510
--with papers?

435
00:17:53,510 --> 00:17:54,110
No.

436
00:17:54,110 --> 00:17:55,850
And what town in
Holland did you--

437
00:17:55,850 --> 00:17:56,530
Valkenburg.

438
00:17:56,530 --> 00:18:00,200

And where it that?

439

00:18:00,200 --> 00:18:04,930

It's a little summer
resort town in--

440

00:18:04,930 --> 00:18:07,610

well, it's near Maastricht.

441

00:18:07,610 --> 00:18:11,260

And I tell you nobody ever
hears about these little towns

442

00:18:11,260 --> 00:18:12,860

I come from.

443

00:18:12,860 --> 00:18:16,550

Anyway, it was
also a small town.

444

00:18:16,550 --> 00:18:21,680

But my dad absolutely had to
start business all over again,

445

00:18:21,680 --> 00:18:25,610

which was very hard, because
he wasn't that young anymore.

446

00:18:25,610 --> 00:18:28,940

He had to start with
new clients and new--

447

00:18:28,940 --> 00:18:33,680

just can you imagine
at his age to have

448

00:18:33,680 --> 00:18:35,120

to start a new business?

449

00:18:35,120 --> 00:18:41,010

But, you know, when you have to
do things, you're very strong.

450

00:18:41,010 --> 00:18:44,680

And when there's a
will, there's a way.

451

00:18:44,680 --> 00:18:50,243

We had a Jewish neighbor
there next door.

452

00:18:50,243 --> 00:18:52,940

He lived two doors over.

453

00:18:52,940 --> 00:18:55,980

He also had come
in from Germany.

454

00:18:55,980 --> 00:18:59,390

And he also was a cattle dealer.

455

00:18:59,390 --> 00:19:01,500

But everybody did
their own thing.

456

00:19:01,500 --> 00:19:04,385

They were not in
business together.

457

00:19:04,385 --> 00:19:05,510

Let's back up a little bit.

458

00:19:05,510 --> 00:19:08,480

When you had to leave
your town, did you

459

00:19:08,480 --> 00:19:11,000

say goodbye to your friends?

460

00:19:11,000 --> 00:19:14,860

No, not the Catholic friends.

461

00:19:14,860 --> 00:19:16,760

The Jewish friends, yes.

462

00:19:16,760 --> 00:19:20,380

Do you remember feeling
upset that you had to leave?

463

00:19:20,380 --> 00:19:22,088

How was I--

464

00:19:22,088 --> 00:19:22,588

16.

465

00:19:22,588 --> 00:19:25,370

466

00:19:25,370 --> 00:19:26,810

I guess so.

467

00:19:26,810 --> 00:19:29,910

I mean, look, you had to go.

468

00:19:29,910 --> 00:19:33,240

There was no way that we
could stay in Germany.

469

00:19:33,240 --> 00:19:36,530

So I don't really remember this.

470

00:19:36,530 --> 00:19:38,140

Yes, it was sad, but--

471

00:19:38,140 --> 00:19:39,590

Were you frightened?

472

00:19:39,590 --> 00:19:40,700

No.

473

00:19:40,700 --> 00:19:44,210

No, because I was used to
going to Holland, because--

474

00:19:44,210 --> 00:19:46,000

Had you been there before?

475
00:19:46,000 --> 00:19:46,820
Yes.

476
00:19:46,820 --> 00:19:49,640
My grandfather
lived in Maastricht

477
00:19:49,640 --> 00:19:53,180
with my grandmother
and two maiden aunts.

478
00:19:53,180 --> 00:19:57,240
And we would go on weekends,
like in our Sunday morning,

479
00:19:57,240 --> 00:19:59,020
we would get in
the car and visit

480
00:19:59,020 --> 00:20:02,580
with grandma and grandpa and my
aunts, stayed there for dinner,

481
00:20:02,580 --> 00:20:04,370
and come home.

482
00:20:04,370 --> 00:20:09,440
And that was a natural for us.

483
00:20:09,440 --> 00:20:11,530
I mean, we were used
to going to Holland.

484
00:20:11,530 --> 00:20:14,540
And when I was little,
I would go on vacation

485
00:20:14,540 --> 00:20:19,850
and stay with my grandparents
and my two maiden aunts

486

00:20:19,850 --> 00:20:20,830
in Maastricht.

487
00:20:20,830 --> 00:20:24,710
And for me, it was
just nothing special.

488
00:20:24,710 --> 00:20:26,490
Did you tell the nuns
you were leaving?

489
00:20:26,490 --> 00:20:26,990
Yes.

490
00:20:26,990 --> 00:20:28,640
What did they say?

491
00:20:28,640 --> 00:20:33,030
They would have liked to go with
us because they felt just as

492
00:20:33,030 --> 00:20:36,340
unsafe as we did.

493
00:20:36,340 --> 00:20:40,210
And, oh, yes, they would
have loved to go to Holland.

494
00:20:40,210 --> 00:20:43,780
But at that time to go to
Holland, it was like a haven.

495
00:20:43,780 --> 00:20:48,640
It was a safety, not knowing
that they came after us.

496
00:20:48,640 --> 00:20:51,590
But at that time,
for us, it was haven.

497
00:20:51,590 --> 00:20:55,270
And for us to go to Holland,
we used to going to Holland.

498
00:20:55,270 --> 00:20:58,900
Were you a witness to any
anti-Semitic incidents

499
00:20:58,900 --> 00:20:59,740
in Germany?

500
00:20:59,740 --> 00:21:01,300
Not to yourself,
you said you didn't.

501
00:21:01,300 --> 00:21:01,800
No.

502
00:21:01,800 --> 00:21:03,758
You didn't even witness
anything on the street?

503
00:21:03,758 --> 00:21:04,500
Or in school?

504
00:21:04,500 --> 00:21:05,300
No.

505
00:21:05,300 --> 00:21:06,280
No.

506
00:21:06,280 --> 00:21:08,660
OK, now you're in
the town in Holland.

507
00:21:08,660 --> 00:21:09,160
Right.

508
00:21:09,160 --> 00:21:11,290
It's another small town.

509
00:21:11,290 --> 00:21:12,670
And--

510

00:21:12,670 --> 00:21:15,010
Where was your father's
family at that point?

511
00:21:15,010 --> 00:21:21,320
My father's family in 1938--

512
00:21:21,320 --> 00:21:25,073
all 11 of them, OK.

513
00:21:25,073 --> 00:21:27,240
You tell us a little bit
about your father's family.

514
00:21:27,240 --> 00:21:31,206
OK, my father came
of a family of 11.

515
00:21:31,206 --> 00:21:35,970
2, 4, 6-- um, seven
brothers, there

516
00:21:35,970 --> 00:21:39,540
were seven brothers
and four sisters.

517
00:21:39,540 --> 00:21:45,970
And one died, Wilbert,
died of a natural death.

518
00:21:45,970 --> 00:21:47,760
He just got sick.

519
00:21:47,760 --> 00:21:49,800
I don't remember
what he died of.

520
00:21:49,800 --> 00:21:52,620
But he died in Germany
of a natural death.

521
00:21:52,620 --> 00:21:56,310

522
00:21:56,310 --> 00:21:59,880
The others were all
still in Germany.

523
00:21:59,880 --> 00:22:03,070
My father always said,
I've never done anything.

524
00:22:03,070 --> 00:22:05,560
I'm an honest citizen.

525
00:22:05,560 --> 00:22:08,730
He was in World War
I. He was a soldier.

526
00:22:08,730 --> 00:22:10,200
I don't want to leave.

527
00:22:10,200 --> 00:22:12,540
He absolutely did
not want to leave.

528
00:22:12,540 --> 00:22:14,900
And none of them
wanted to leave.

529
00:22:14,900 --> 00:22:18,345
They were all very--

530
00:22:18,345 --> 00:22:20,390
they were merchants.

531
00:22:20,390 --> 00:22:23,140
None of these people ever
went to college or school.

532
00:22:23,140 --> 00:22:26,400
In fact, my father only had
a seventh grade education.

533
00:22:26,400 --> 00:22:31,290

He had to go to work, because
he was an orphan at that time

534
00:22:31,290 --> 00:22:32,910
already.

535
00:22:32,910 --> 00:22:39,090
And very few left Germany
because why should we leave?

536
00:22:39,090 --> 00:22:41,520
We haven't done anything.

537
00:22:41,520 --> 00:22:45,030
And we'll just stay.

538
00:22:45,030 --> 00:22:48,180
There was only one aunt--

539
00:22:48,180 --> 00:22:51,200
she was a widow,
because her husband

540
00:22:51,200 --> 00:22:55,410
got killed in World War I.
She and three of her children

541
00:22:55,410 --> 00:22:58,260
went to Brazil.

542
00:22:58,260 --> 00:23:03,780
And that is really one of the
few families that stayed intact

543
00:23:03,780 --> 00:23:06,540
because they left Germany.

544
00:23:06,540 --> 00:23:08,887
So your father was
now in this town.

545
00:23:08,887 --> 00:23:10,470

And he had to start
up a new business.

546
00:23:10,470 --> 00:23:11,340
Right.

547
00:23:11,340 --> 00:23:13,440
What did he do?

548
00:23:13,440 --> 00:23:16,260
Well, I don't know if he
never conferred with us.

549
00:23:16,260 --> 00:23:19,850
He started to do business
as a cattle dealer.

550
00:23:19,850 --> 00:23:23,370
I don't know if he had friends,
if he went with somebody.

551
00:23:23,370 --> 00:23:25,680
But he made a living.

552
00:23:25,680 --> 00:23:27,580
What month in 1938
did you get there?

553
00:23:27,580 --> 00:23:28,080
Spring.

554
00:23:28,080 --> 00:23:28,920
Spring of '38.

555
00:23:28,920 --> 00:23:30,270
Yes.

556
00:23:30,270 --> 00:23:35,760
And in the meantime, my
sister had gotten married.

557
00:23:35,760 --> 00:23:38,340

She stayed in Germany.

558
00:23:38,340 --> 00:23:41,940
My brother came to Holland.

559
00:23:41,940 --> 00:23:44,640
And he lived with us part time.

560
00:23:44,640 --> 00:23:48,000
And he lived with my
maiden aunts at the time.

561
00:23:48,000 --> 00:23:53,400
And my sister got married
just before we left Germany.

562
00:23:53,400 --> 00:23:59,250
And she stayed in Germany
with her husband in Duren--

563
00:23:59,250 --> 00:24:01,230
D-U-R-E-N.

564
00:24:01,230 --> 00:24:05,410
Did you see any German soldiers
on the street in Germany?

565
00:24:05,410 --> 00:24:08,610
Not in 1938 I
didn't see anything.

566
00:24:08,610 --> 00:24:12,390
Well, you saw the Hitler
Youth and you saw the SS

567
00:24:12,390 --> 00:24:16,920
and you saw the SR. And
I couldn't participate

568
00:24:16,920 --> 00:24:19,440
in anything, absolutely.

569

00:24:19,440 --> 00:24:20,027

But--

570

00:24:20,027 --> 00:24:22,110

Did you have friends who
were in the Hitler Youth?

571

00:24:22,110 --> 00:24:23,060

Absolutely, yes.

572

00:24:23,060 --> 00:24:24,900

And what were they like to you?

573

00:24:24,900 --> 00:24:27,493

Well, they wouldn't
look at me anymore.

574

00:24:27,493 --> 00:24:29,160

They just would not
look at me any more.

575

00:24:29,160 --> 00:24:30,827

These were people who
had been friends--

576

00:24:30,827 --> 00:24:32,720

Yes, that I used to play with.

577

00:24:32,720 --> 00:24:36,370

And how did you feel about that?

578

00:24:36,370 --> 00:24:37,080

Well, I was hurt.

579

00:24:37,080 --> 00:24:39,030

But I couldn't-- I
mean, if they tell you,

580

00:24:39,030 --> 00:24:41,970

you can't play with
somebody, you just don't go.

581

00:24:41,970 --> 00:24:44,550
You just don't
play with anybody.

582
00:24:44,550 --> 00:24:48,140
I had my little Jewish
friends to play with.

583
00:24:48,140 --> 00:24:51,400
And we were the
first ones to leave

584
00:24:51,400 --> 00:24:55,050
because of my dad's business.

585
00:24:55,050 --> 00:24:59,530
And that's why-- none of
these people left Germany,

586
00:24:59,530 --> 00:25:03,740
and that's why none of
these people survived.

587
00:25:03,740 --> 00:25:06,500
I'm the only one that survived.

588
00:25:06,500 --> 00:25:07,450
OK.

589
00:25:07,450 --> 00:25:09,275
So your father started
up this business.

590
00:25:09,275 --> 00:25:10,430
Business, right.

591
00:25:10,430 --> 00:25:12,330
And did you go to school?

592
00:25:12,330 --> 00:25:14,023
Yes, I did go to school.

593

00:25:14,023 --> 00:25:15,440
What kind of school
did you go to?

594
00:25:15,440 --> 00:25:16,130
Just a regular--

595
00:25:16,130 --> 00:25:16,670
Public--

596
00:25:16,670 --> 00:25:19,040
Public school.

597
00:25:19,040 --> 00:25:26,300
And that was in
1938, spring 1938.

598
00:25:26,300 --> 00:25:28,016
That was before Kristallnacht.

599
00:25:28,016 --> 00:25:29,720
Right.

600
00:25:29,720 --> 00:25:30,980
And--

601
00:25:30,980 --> 00:25:32,790
The summer came.

602
00:25:32,790 --> 00:25:34,100
Well, the summer came.

603
00:25:34,100 --> 00:25:35,570
I went to school.

604
00:25:35,570 --> 00:25:41,180
And then at Kristallnacht
was when they took

605
00:25:41,180 --> 00:25:48,720
all the Jewish men in Germany.

606
00:25:48,720 --> 00:25:49,220
Right.

607
00:25:49,220 --> 00:25:53,590
They took my
brother-in-law to Dachau.

608
00:25:53,590 --> 00:25:58,550
And my sister was all
alone at that time.

609
00:25:58,550 --> 00:26:02,500
The only good thing was
that my brother-in-law

610
00:26:02,500 --> 00:26:07,410
had blood relatives
in America, whom

611
00:26:07,410 --> 00:26:11,160
they had been in contact with.

612
00:26:11,160 --> 00:26:16,800
And they started
to work on papers

613
00:26:16,800 --> 00:26:23,070
to get my brother-in-law and
my sister out of Germany.

614
00:26:23,070 --> 00:26:25,080
My brother spoke English.

615
00:26:25,080 --> 00:26:31,890
And he and the family here in
Brooklyn worked on the papers

616
00:26:31,890 --> 00:26:37,440
and got them ready just
before the war broke out.

617
00:26:37,440 --> 00:26:40,100

This is one of the
few cases that I

618
00:26:40,100 --> 00:26:45,960
have heard that the
Germans let a person leave

619
00:26:45,960 --> 00:26:49,440
the concentration camp
to come to America.

620
00:26:49,440 --> 00:26:52,530
And this happened to
my brother-in-law.

621
00:26:52,530 --> 00:26:53,820
They let--

622
00:26:53,820 --> 00:26:54,990
What was his name?

623
00:26:54,990 --> 00:26:57,240
Rudy Rose.

624
00:26:57,240 --> 00:27:04,140
And they let him out of Dachau
to come to the United States.

625
00:27:04,140 --> 00:27:06,148
How did you know
about Kristallnacht?

626
00:27:06,148 --> 00:27:10,330

627
00:27:10,330 --> 00:27:13,000
Well, the family kept
in touch, because we

628
00:27:13,000 --> 00:27:18,460
had all these brothers
and sisters in Germany.

629

00:27:18,460 --> 00:27:19,620

And--

630

00:27:19,620 --> 00:27:21,612

What did you feel like

when you heard about it?

631

00:27:21,612 --> 00:27:25,930

Well, it wasn't

absolutely dreadful.

632

00:27:25,930 --> 00:27:30,430

One of my aunts

lived in Solingen.

633

00:27:30,430 --> 00:27:35,770

And this is where my

grandmother was at the time.

634

00:27:35,770 --> 00:27:38,890

They destroyed--

the SS or whoever

635

00:27:38,890 --> 00:27:41,870

came in the house destroyed

everything in the house.

636

00:27:41,870 --> 00:27:43,620

There was not a chair to sit on.

637

00:27:43,620 --> 00:27:45,660

There was not a cup

to drink out of.

638

00:27:45,660 --> 00:27:47,830

They destroyed everything.

639

00:27:47,830 --> 00:27:53,920

But when they came to my

grandmother's bedroom,

640

00:27:53,920 --> 00:27:57,340

they opened the door
and saw this old lady,

641
00:27:57,340 --> 00:28:00,370
and they closed the door
and never touched her

642
00:28:00,370 --> 00:28:01,780
or touched that room.

643
00:28:01,780 --> 00:28:04,990

644
00:28:04,990 --> 00:28:09,010
Something else dreadful, my
grandmother was 93 years old.

645
00:28:09,010 --> 00:28:12,760
And she had sugar
diabetes for a long time.

646
00:28:12,760 --> 00:28:15,310
But that was old age,
which is not very bad.

647
00:28:15,310 --> 00:28:18,160
But in the meantime,
she developed gangrene

648
00:28:18,160 --> 00:28:21,670
in her toes, her
foot, whatever it was.

649
00:28:21,670 --> 00:28:26,800
And the family got
together on the phone

650
00:28:26,800 --> 00:28:30,430
and decided that
this was not the time

651
00:28:30,430 --> 00:28:35,080
to have grandma

operated on and have

652

00:28:35,080 --> 00:28:37,030

her sitting in a wheelchair.

653

00:28:37,030 --> 00:28:42,130

So they decided to let it
go and let Grandma die.

654

00:28:42,130 --> 00:28:45,130

She was 93 years old.

655

00:28:45,130 --> 00:28:48,070

One thing I remember, though,
coming back to grandma,

656

00:28:48,070 --> 00:28:53,710

before we left Germany, we had
a big, big party in Cologne

657

00:28:53,710 --> 00:28:56,830

and celebrated
Grandma's 90th birthday.

658

00:28:56,830 --> 00:28:58,160

What was her name?

659

00:28:58,160 --> 00:29:00,250

Her name was Helen.

660

00:29:00,250 --> 00:29:02,500

Helena Dahl.

661

00:29:02,500 --> 00:29:07,120

And that's one time when
I saw my whole family,

662

00:29:07,120 --> 00:29:09,220

probably never to see again.

663

00:29:09,220 --> 00:29:11,580

But this is when

we went to Cologne

664
00:29:11,580 --> 00:29:15,340
and celebrated
Grandma's birthday.

665
00:29:15,340 --> 00:29:17,050
You were in Holland.

666
00:29:17,050 --> 00:29:18,310
And you started school.

667
00:29:18,310 --> 00:29:19,640
And it was a public school.

668
00:29:19,640 --> 00:29:20,140
Yes.

669
00:29:20,140 --> 00:29:21,190
With non-Jews?

670
00:29:21,190 --> 00:29:22,090
Yes.

671
00:29:22,090 --> 00:29:23,080
Any problem?

672
00:29:23,080 --> 00:29:23,910
No.

673
00:29:23,910 --> 00:29:25,240
No problems at all.

674
00:29:25,240 --> 00:29:27,320
It was very, very--

675
00:29:27,320 --> 00:29:30,460
well, I had to start a
new language, you know.

676
00:29:30,460 --> 00:29:31,670

Did you know any Dutch?

677

00:29:31,670 --> 00:29:33,820

Yeah, I spoke it.

678

00:29:33,820 --> 00:29:35,980

I spoke it because

I would go and visit

679

00:29:35,980 --> 00:29:39,130

with my grandma and grandpa.

680

00:29:39,130 --> 00:29:42,190

And so what do you mean

you started a new language?

681

00:29:42,190 --> 00:29:45,880

Well, in school, I had

to learn to write it.

682

00:29:45,880 --> 00:29:50,110

And don't forget,

whatever I did was verbal.

683

00:29:50,110 --> 00:29:53,310

And I had to start

a new language.

684

00:29:53,310 --> 00:29:54,908

But, well--

685

00:29:54,908 --> 00:29:56,200

And the neighborhood was mixed?

686

00:29:56,200 --> 00:29:58,360

The neighborhood was

absolutely mixed.

687

00:29:58,360 --> 00:30:02,360

We did have a little synagogue

on the second floor of a store.

688

00:30:02,360 --> 00:30:05,000
And here again, it was
orthodox with the men

689
00:30:05,000 --> 00:30:07,720
sitting in the front and the
women sitting in the back.

690
00:30:07,720 --> 00:30:10,330
It was a very nice,
but a very small

691
00:30:10,330 --> 00:30:15,250
Jewish community, but enough
to have a little synagogue.

692
00:30:15,250 --> 00:30:16,270
And--

693
00:30:16,270 --> 00:30:18,910
Then Kristallnacht
happened and you heard--

694
00:30:18,910 --> 00:30:22,220
That they had taken my
brother-in-law away.

695
00:30:22,220 --> 00:30:25,629

696
00:30:25,629 --> 00:30:26,810
And then what?

697
00:30:26,810 --> 00:30:28,020
What was the next change?

698
00:30:28,020 --> 00:30:31,390
Let me think what happened to
Kristallnacht to other people.

699
00:30:31,390 --> 00:30:40,130

700

00:30:40,130 --> 00:30:41,340

How we doing?

701

00:30:41,340 --> 00:30:43,040

OK, let me get my
thought together.

702

00:30:43,040 --> 00:30:51,440

703

00:30:51,440 --> 00:30:54,660

We were talking about what
happened in Kristallnacht.

704

00:30:54,660 --> 00:30:55,880

Well, that was in Germany.

705

00:30:55,880 --> 00:30:57,410

Let me go back to Holland.

706

00:30:57,410 --> 00:31:01,210

Since we moved there,
everything went very smooth.

707

00:31:01,210 --> 00:31:04,790

I had my two maiden aunts
living in Maastricht,

708

00:31:04,790 --> 00:31:10,160

which is another city close to
where we lived in Valkenburg.

709

00:31:10,160 --> 00:31:12,200

And my brother lived with us.

710

00:31:12,200 --> 00:31:16,180

And he spent time with
my aunts, because they

711

00:31:16,180 --> 00:31:17,300

were by themselves.

712
00:31:17,300 --> 00:31:21,470

713
00:31:21,470 --> 00:31:29,780
Until May 10, 1940, that's
one morning, we woke up--

714
00:31:29,780 --> 00:31:31,100
All of 1939--

715
00:31:31,100 --> 00:31:31,985
Nothing happened.

716
00:31:31,985 --> 00:31:33,110
I mean everything was fine.

717
00:31:33,110 --> 00:31:34,030
You led a normal--

718
00:31:34,030 --> 00:31:35,060
Led normal life.

719
00:31:35,060 --> 00:31:37,700
Did you have any contact
with your friends back home

720
00:31:37,700 --> 00:31:38,790
in Germany?

721
00:31:38,790 --> 00:31:40,460
We had contact with the family.

722
00:31:40,460 --> 00:31:41,600
But not with your friends?

723
00:31:41,600 --> 00:31:42,790
No.

724
00:31:42,790 --> 00:31:45,100
No.

725

00:31:45,100 --> 00:31:51,800

We did have contact with the family, some that left Germany.

726

00:31:51,800 --> 00:31:54,860

And everybody that left Germany came through Holland,

727

00:31:54,860 --> 00:31:57,500

came to our house, and visited with us.

728

00:31:57,500 --> 00:32:02,990

Our house was like a haven for people that went from one place

729

00:32:02,990 --> 00:32:04,310

to another.

730

00:32:04,310 --> 00:32:05,150

And--

731

00:32:05,150 --> 00:32:07,100

Did you feel bad about being in touch

732

00:32:07,100 --> 00:32:11,990

with friends from Germany?

733

00:32:11,990 --> 00:32:14,550

734

00:32:14,550 --> 00:32:15,230

No.

735

00:32:15,230 --> 00:32:15,740

No.

736

00:32:15,740 --> 00:32:16,960

I don't know.

737

00:32:16,960 --> 00:32:19,550

738

00:32:19,550 --> 00:32:22,850

Not really, not really.

739

00:32:22,850 --> 00:32:25,100

Did you have any
social life in Germany?

740

00:32:25,100 --> 00:32:26,390

Any boyfriends?

741

00:32:26,390 --> 00:32:27,020

No.

742

00:32:27,020 --> 00:32:27,520

You didn't?

743

00:32:27,520 --> 00:32:28,350

No.

744

00:32:28,350 --> 00:32:29,090

No.

745

00:32:29,090 --> 00:32:31,350

So you weren't leaving
anybody you cared for?

746

00:32:31,350 --> 00:32:31,850

No.

747

00:32:31,850 --> 00:32:33,950

Nobody.

748

00:32:33,950 --> 00:32:34,450

No.

749

00:32:34,450 --> 00:32:37,880

750

00:32:37,880 --> 00:32:40,670

If you were raised by
a father like mine,

751

00:32:40,670 --> 00:32:43,820

you don't date till you are 18.

752

00:32:43,820 --> 00:32:48,530

I was not allowed to date
till I was 18 years old.

753

00:32:48,530 --> 00:32:50,720

And I remember not be able--

754

00:32:50,720 --> 00:32:53,450

when we live in Holland,
there was a dance.

755

00:32:53,450 --> 00:32:57,290

And my father wouldn't let me
go, not even with my brother.

756

00:32:57,290 --> 00:32:59,210

I wasn't 18 years.

757

00:32:59,210 --> 00:33:00,408

Very strict house.

758

00:33:00,408 --> 00:33:03,400

759

00:33:03,400 --> 00:33:06,810

So 1939 was relatively quiet.

760

00:33:06,810 --> 00:33:07,310

Yes.

761

00:33:07,310 --> 00:33:08,730

And your father was able
to conduct business.

762

00:33:08,730 --> 00:33:09,410

Right.

763

00:33:09,410 --> 00:33:11,050

And I went to school.

764

00:33:11,050 --> 00:33:12,080

And you went to school.

765

00:33:12,080 --> 00:33:17,560

Well, till May 10, 1940.

766

00:33:17,560 --> 00:33:18,560

And what was the first--

767

00:33:18,560 --> 00:33:21,080

We got up very early
in the morning,

768

00:33:21,080 --> 00:33:22,520

5 o'clock in the morning.

769

00:33:22,520 --> 00:33:28,730

And the sky was dark, dark
with airplanes that had come,

770

00:33:28,730 --> 00:33:36,260

and the Germans were coming in
and trying to overrun Holland,

771

00:33:36,260 --> 00:33:38,480

which they did in five days.

772

00:33:38,480 --> 00:33:43,093

I remember the soldiers
walking down our street.

773

00:33:43,093 --> 00:33:43,760

German soldiers.

774

00:33:43,760 --> 00:33:45,140

German soldiers.

775

00:33:45,140 --> 00:33:49,510

My mother was in the
hospital in Maastricht.

776

00:33:49,510 --> 00:33:51,260

My mother had angina.

777

00:33:51,260 --> 00:33:55,010

And she was there for
her heart condition.

778

00:33:55,010 --> 00:33:57,980

And they sent her
home, because they

779

00:33:57,980 --> 00:34:05,210

needed the room for their
own soldiers that got hurt.

780

00:34:05,210 --> 00:34:06,980

The Dutch soldiers?

781

00:34:06,980 --> 00:34:08,150

The German soldiers.

782

00:34:08,150 --> 00:34:09,230

Oh, the German soldiers.

783

00:34:09,230 --> 00:34:10,460

German soldiers.

784

00:34:10,460 --> 00:34:12,770

I mean, the German
soldiers needed that room

785

00:34:12,770 --> 00:34:17,630

and sent anybody that was
able to leave the hospital,

786

00:34:17,630 --> 00:34:20,060

she had to come home.

787

00:34:20,060 --> 00:34:21,500

That was devastating.

788

00:34:21,500 --> 00:34:25,550

I mean, here this poor woman
that had a heart condition

789

00:34:25,550 --> 00:34:26,330

had to come home.

790

00:34:26,330 --> 00:34:29,030

791

00:34:29,030 --> 00:34:30,300

We were scared.

792

00:34:30,300 --> 00:34:33,469

We knew what was going to
be-- we knew what was coming.

793

00:34:33,469 --> 00:34:38,090

And here, we just
left Germany in 1938

794

00:34:38,090 --> 00:34:41,389

to be overrun again in 5 days.

795

00:34:41,389 --> 00:34:45,260

And that was the most
frightening experience-- one

796

00:34:45,260 --> 00:34:47,810

of the most frightening
experiences in my lifetime.

797

00:34:47,810 --> 00:34:50,719

Where did you stay
during those five days?

798

00:34:50,719 --> 00:34:53,060

Oh, we stayed in our--
oh, no, no, no, we

799
00:34:53,060 --> 00:34:56,389
had catacombs across the street.

800
00:34:56,389 --> 00:35:01,220
And sometimes during
those attacks,

801
00:35:01,220 --> 00:35:05,030
we stayed in the catacombs.

802
00:35:05,030 --> 00:35:07,730
There were people that
died in the catacombs.

803
00:35:07,730 --> 00:35:09,950
There were babies
born in the catacombs.

804
00:35:09,950 --> 00:35:13,250

805
00:35:13,250 --> 00:35:21,620
But that was just across the
street from our house in the--

806
00:35:21,620 --> 00:35:24,260
there were small mountains.

807
00:35:24,260 --> 00:35:26,150
Holland doesn't
have any mountains.

808
00:35:26,150 --> 00:35:28,090
And the little town
where I used to live,

809
00:35:28,090 --> 00:35:32,270
Valkenburg, had the biggest
mountain there is in Holland.

810
00:35:32,270 --> 00:35:34,220

If you look it up
in the dictionary,

811
00:35:34,220 --> 00:35:36,350
it's called the Cauberg.

812
00:35:36,350 --> 00:35:37,250
I mean you walk up.

813
00:35:37,250 --> 00:35:39,800
It's absolutely nothing to it.

814
00:35:39,800 --> 00:35:42,500
But it's the biggest
mountain in Holland.

815
00:35:42,500 --> 00:35:46,070
And Valkenburg has catacombs.

816
00:35:46,070 --> 00:35:48,282
And it's very damp in there.

817
00:35:48,282 --> 00:35:49,490
This was in the mountainside?

818
00:35:49,490 --> 00:35:52,460
In the mountainside, absolutely.

819
00:35:52,460 --> 00:35:53,520
And--

820
00:35:53,520 --> 00:35:55,120
So you and your family went in--

821
00:35:55,120 --> 00:35:55,645
--oh, yes--

822
00:35:55,645 --> 00:35:56,770
--when there would be raid?

823
00:35:56,770 --> 00:35:57,850

When there would be raids.

824
00:35:57,850 --> 00:35:59,267
We'd just went
into the mountains.

825
00:35:59,267 --> 00:36:00,055
Did you take food?

826
00:36:00,055 --> 00:36:01,810
Take food and
blankets and all that.

827
00:36:01,810 --> 00:36:03,802
And when it was clear,
we just went out.

828
00:36:03,802 --> 00:36:05,260
And how long did
you stay in there?

829
00:36:05,260 --> 00:36:08,050
Well, Holland was
overrun in five days.

830
00:36:08,050 --> 00:36:09,520
So it didn't last long.

831
00:36:09,520 --> 00:36:11,890
Did you stay the
five days in that--

832
00:36:11,890 --> 00:36:13,310
Not quite.

833
00:36:13,310 --> 00:36:13,940
In and out.

834
00:36:13,940 --> 00:36:14,440
In and out.

835
00:36:14,440 --> 00:36:15,170

In and out.

836
00:36:15,170 --> 00:36:16,660
In and out, yes.

837
00:36:16,660 --> 00:36:18,380
Because we didn't
have to stay there.

838
00:36:18,380 --> 00:36:19,747
It was just across the street.

839
00:36:19,747 --> 00:36:21,580
If we would have lived
far away, we probably

840
00:36:21,580 --> 00:36:22,997
would've stayed
there for a while.

841
00:36:22,997 --> 00:36:24,700
But we stayed.

842
00:36:24,700 --> 00:36:27,250
Anyway, we were very scared.

843
00:36:27,250 --> 00:36:28,030
And--

844
00:36:28,030 --> 00:36:29,700
What did you do when
you were scared?

845
00:36:29,700 --> 00:36:31,170
By this time,
you're 18 years old.

846
00:36:31,170 --> 00:36:33,000
18 years old.

847
00:36:33,000 --> 00:36:41,330
Well, I was-- you know,

I was out of school.

848

00:36:41,330 --> 00:36:45,310

And what did we do?

849

00:36:45,310 --> 00:36:50,090

I really-- oh, no, no, no,

I started to learn to sew.

850

00:36:50,090 --> 00:36:54,130

I went to a seamstress and
started to learn to sew.

851

00:36:54,130 --> 00:36:56,530

That's what I did.

852

00:36:56,530 --> 00:36:59,590

Everybody did this
because, one didn't

853

00:36:59,590 --> 00:37:02,530

know if you had to go
to a different country,

854

00:37:02,530 --> 00:37:04,420

you couldn't speak
the language, at least

855

00:37:04,420 --> 00:37:08,930

you had an occupation that
you could support yourself,

856

00:37:08,930 --> 00:37:12,610

and which I had to do when
I came to this country.

857

00:37:12,610 --> 00:37:15,610

I was a seamstress.

858

00:37:15,610 --> 00:37:21,190

And that happened to
most of my family.

859

00:37:21,190 --> 00:37:23,410

Some became cooks.

860

00:37:23,410 --> 00:37:26,400

Some became bakers.

861

00:37:26,400 --> 00:37:29,770

The girls all

became seamstresses,

862

00:37:29,770 --> 00:37:31,810

because with the

idea that if you

863

00:37:31,810 --> 00:37:34,270

had to leave the country

that you had somewhere

864

00:37:34,270 --> 00:37:35,002

to make a living.

865

00:37:35,002 --> 00:37:36,460

You had graduated

from high school?

866

00:37:36,460 --> 00:37:37,670

Yes.

867

00:37:37,670 --> 00:37:40,062

So now, it's those five days.

868

00:37:40,062 --> 00:37:41,020

And then what happened?

869

00:37:41,020 --> 00:37:44,680

And, well, nothing

happened immediately.

870

00:37:44,680 --> 00:37:47,570

But we're here we are in 1940.

871

00:37:47,570 --> 00:37:52,570
But things became changed
very, very rapidly.

872
00:37:52,570 --> 00:37:58,930
We had to go and
sign up, I guess--

873
00:37:58,930 --> 00:37:59,660
To register.

874
00:37:59,660 --> 00:38:02,710
To register who were Jews.

875
00:38:02,710 --> 00:38:07,300
And so they knew exactly who
lived where and how many Jews

876
00:38:07,300 --> 00:38:09,620
there were in this little town.

877
00:38:09,620 --> 00:38:15,040
Then we had to
give up our radios.

878
00:38:15,040 --> 00:38:19,294
We had to give up our bicycles.

879
00:38:19,294 --> 00:38:21,820
Were you angry?

880
00:38:21,820 --> 00:38:23,390
Scared.

881
00:38:23,390 --> 00:38:23,890
Angry.

882
00:38:23,890 --> 00:38:25,660
Why me?

883
00:38:25,660 --> 00:38:27,070
Why am I different?

884
00:38:27,070 --> 00:38:28,990
I'm not different
than anybody else.

885
00:38:28,990 --> 00:38:31,890

886
00:38:31,890 --> 00:38:34,395
I think they took my
dad's business away again.

887
00:38:34,395 --> 00:38:38,380

888
00:38:38,380 --> 00:38:41,530
They gave us stars to wear.

889
00:38:41,530 --> 00:38:42,420
And--

890
00:38:42,420 --> 00:38:43,710
Where did you wear your star?

891
00:38:43,710 --> 00:38:46,460
On my left side.

892
00:38:46,460 --> 00:38:50,020
And we had to secure the
star on every corner,

893
00:38:50,020 --> 00:38:54,790
because if a wind would blow,
then the star would fall over.

894
00:38:54,790 --> 00:38:57,910
And it had to be clear
that it had to be secured

895
00:38:57,910 --> 00:38:59,275
on every corner of the star.

896
00:38:59,275 --> 00:39:00,460
All six points.

897
00:39:00,460 --> 00:39:02,260
All six points.

898
00:39:02,260 --> 00:39:03,070
And--

899
00:39:03,070 --> 00:39:04,650
Did you sew your own stars on?

900
00:39:04,650 --> 00:39:06,340
No, my mother did all that.

901
00:39:06,340 --> 00:39:07,930
I didn't do anything.

902
00:39:07,930 --> 00:39:13,450
My mother lined it so
it would be more sturdy.

903
00:39:13,450 --> 00:39:15,790
And then she put
all the pins on.

904
00:39:15,790 --> 00:39:17,065
I was a spoiled child.

905
00:39:17,065 --> 00:39:18,500
I didn't do any of that.

906
00:39:18,500 --> 00:39:20,270
Were you upset to
have to wear a star?

907
00:39:20,270 --> 00:39:21,340
Yes.

908
00:39:21,340 --> 00:39:24,550
Why would I be different

than anybody else.

909

00:39:24,550 --> 00:39:27,910

I just didn't want
to be different.

910

00:39:27,910 --> 00:39:30,800

Why should I be different
than everybody else?

911

00:39:30,800 --> 00:39:33,250

Oh, we had curfews.

912

00:39:33,250 --> 00:39:36,430

We could not be out in the dark.

913

00:39:36,430 --> 00:39:39,430

We could not leave town.

914

00:39:39,430 --> 00:39:41,240

We had to stay in town.

915

00:39:41,240 --> 00:39:43,930

We couldn't move around.

916

00:39:43,930 --> 00:39:50,650

And it was absolutely
frightening.

917

00:39:50,650 --> 00:39:53,170

You had no more liberty.

918

00:39:53,170 --> 00:39:56,650

You had no more way
of earning a living.

919

00:39:56,650 --> 00:39:59,610

You were different
than everybody else.

920

00:39:59,610 --> 00:40:05,230

And scary, very, very scary.

921
00:40:05,230 --> 00:40:08,000
Did you talk this over
with your parents?

922
00:40:08,000 --> 00:40:09,490
Yes, we talked about it.

923
00:40:09,490 --> 00:40:11,560
But what could we do?

924
00:40:11,560 --> 00:40:13,660
There was nothing
that we could do.

925
00:40:13,660 --> 00:40:18,010
In the meantime, I got
postcards from my girlfriends

926
00:40:18,010 --> 00:40:22,450
from Germany, who had been
taken to concentration camps.

927
00:40:22,450 --> 00:40:27,700
And what the postcard
always said--

928
00:40:27,700 --> 00:40:30,130
it said only one
or two sentences,

929
00:40:30,130 --> 00:40:33,370
but the sentences
were always the same.

930
00:40:33,370 --> 00:40:36,790
So we knew that there were--
if they wanted to write,

931
00:40:36,790 --> 00:40:40,940
they were forced to
write the same thing.

932
00:40:40,940 --> 00:40:43,540
But we didn't know
where they were.

933
00:40:43,540 --> 00:40:45,020
There was no address.

934
00:40:45,020 --> 00:40:46,240
There was nothing on it.

935
00:40:46,240 --> 00:40:49,360
I could never return
their postcards.

936
00:40:49,360 --> 00:40:54,650
And we were very, very
scared and frightened.

937
00:40:54,650 --> 00:40:58,750

938
00:40:58,750 --> 00:41:06,250
A lot of my dad's family was
taken to a concentration camp

939
00:41:06,250 --> 00:41:10,720
and never heard from again.

940
00:41:10,720 --> 00:41:13,360
But these were all
older people already,

941
00:41:13,360 --> 00:41:17,340
people that didn't want to
leave Germany, people that

942
00:41:17,340 --> 00:41:22,590
were of means, people that
didn't have anywhere to go

943
00:41:22,590 --> 00:41:26,950
or never even tried to go

anywhere, because they felt

944

00:41:26,950 --> 00:41:31,840

that this is where I live and
have never done anything wrong,

945

00:41:31,840 --> 00:41:35,230

and I don't want to go anywhere.

946

00:41:35,230 --> 00:41:40,980

Well, here we are in 1941.

947

00:41:40,980 --> 00:41:44,550

And we had all these
liberties taken away.

948

00:41:44,550 --> 00:41:45,850

Did you have enough food?

949

00:41:45,850 --> 00:41:46,770

Yes.

950

00:41:46,770 --> 00:41:47,400

Yes.

951

00:41:47,400 --> 00:41:48,070

That we had.

952

00:41:48,070 --> 00:41:50,528

We always had enough
food in our house.

953

00:41:50,528 --> 00:41:51,570

How did you get the food?

954

00:41:51,570 --> 00:41:53,570

Your father wasn't working.

955

00:41:53,570 --> 00:41:59,580

Imagine we had enough
money to buy food.

956

00:41:59,580 --> 00:42:02,190

I don't remember what
happened to our car.

957

00:42:02,190 --> 00:42:04,350

I couldn't tell you that.

958

00:42:04,350 --> 00:42:17,280

But we were told to get ready
and pack knapsacks for I

959

00:42:17,280 --> 00:42:19,650

don't know how many days--

960

00:42:19,650 --> 00:42:22,520

clothing, food, and everything.

961

00:42:22,520 --> 00:42:26,340

So when the Germans
come to our house

962

00:42:26,340 --> 00:42:28,660

that we were ready
to be taken away.

963

00:42:28,660 --> 00:42:31,660

964

00:42:31,660 --> 00:42:32,530

One--

965

00:42:32,530 --> 00:42:33,820

Who told you this?

966

00:42:33,820 --> 00:42:36,050

The Germans did.

967

00:42:36,050 --> 00:42:36,840

One--

968

00:42:36,840 --> 00:42:38,290

How?

969

00:42:38,290 --> 00:42:41,590

I guess we got notices
in the mail probably.

970

00:42:41,590 --> 00:42:44,740

It's not all very
clear to me anymore.

971

00:42:44,740 --> 00:42:51,370

But I do remember
one day in 1942--

972

00:42:51,370 --> 00:42:57,850

I think it was about
June or July 1942.

973

00:42:57,850 --> 00:43:01,240

There was a knock on our door.

974

00:43:01,240 --> 00:43:07,550

And they would come to get me.

975

00:43:07,550 --> 00:43:12,200

In the meantime, I was sick.

976

00:43:12,200 --> 00:43:14,790

I got sick.

977

00:43:14,790 --> 00:43:19,970

I don't know how lucky I
was that the doctor that we

978

00:43:19,970 --> 00:43:23,965

had in Holland told them
that I could not be moved.

979

00:43:23,965 --> 00:43:27,180

980

00:43:27,180 --> 00:43:35,285

And by a miracle,
they let me stay.

981
00:43:35,285 --> 00:43:38,990

982
00:43:38,990 --> 00:43:46,580
I stayed in bed for months at
a time putting white powder

983
00:43:46,580 --> 00:43:52,770
on my face to tell
people that I was sick.

984
00:43:52,770 --> 00:43:56,630
I had to be afraid
of my neighbors,

985
00:43:56,630 --> 00:44:02,150
because some of my Jewish
neighbors were taken away.

986
00:44:02,150 --> 00:44:04,580
And here I was,
as a young girl--

987
00:44:04,580 --> 00:44:05,400
20.

988
00:44:05,400 --> 00:44:09,260
20, in bed.

989
00:44:09,260 --> 00:44:11,810
My mother did everything.

990
00:44:11,810 --> 00:44:14,210
I would not get out of the bed.

991
00:44:14,210 --> 00:44:18,260
My mother took care of the
house as sick as she was.

992

00:44:18,260 --> 00:44:23,960
And like I said, it's a
miracle that they didn't

993
00:44:23,960 --> 00:44:26,660
come after me at another time.

994
00:44:26,660 --> 00:44:32,330
But in the meantime,
my two maiden aunts

995
00:44:32,330 --> 00:44:35,630
were taken away in Maastricht.

996
00:44:35,630 --> 00:44:38,780
My brother said,
I'm not going to let

997
00:44:38,780 --> 00:44:40,790
these ladies go by themselves.

998
00:44:40,790 --> 00:44:42,290
They're very frail.

999
00:44:42,290 --> 00:44:43,540
They're old.

1000
00:44:43,540 --> 00:44:46,520
They're absolutely the
most wonderful people

1001
00:44:46,520 --> 00:44:49,460
who never hurt a fly.

1002
00:44:49,460 --> 00:44:51,720
They were ladies of means.

1003
00:44:51,720 --> 00:44:55,940
My grandfather was
an antique dealer.

1004
00:44:55,940 --> 00:44:58,460

And I will go with them.

1005

00:44:58,460 --> 00:45:04,940
He volunteered to go with them
not knowing that he was never

1006

00:45:04,940 --> 00:45:10,100
with them, because I found out
later through the Red Cross

1007

00:45:10,100 --> 00:45:14,300
that as soon as they came to
Auschwitz that they were killed

1008

00:45:14,300 --> 00:45:15,080
immediately.

1009

00:45:15,080 --> 00:45:17,870

1010

00:45:17,870 --> 00:45:23,810
But my brother, who was young--

1011

00:45:23,810 --> 00:45:27,240
he was 11 years
older than I was--

1012

00:45:27,240 --> 00:45:30,710
he was sent to a work camp.

1013

00:45:30,710 --> 00:45:36,110
And I don't know where he died.

1014

00:45:36,110 --> 00:45:40,790
But I know that he lived
through, I guess, work camps,

1015

00:45:40,790 --> 00:45:44,540
concentration
camps till the end.

1016

00:45:44,540 --> 00:45:49,730

And he died either
in Bad Warmbrunn,

1017
00:45:49,730 --> 00:45:52,970
which I guess is a work
camp, or in Auschwitz.

1018
00:45:52,970 --> 00:45:54,240
I am not sure.

1019
00:45:54,240 --> 00:45:58,820
But he died of typhoid
probably two days

1020
00:45:58,820 --> 00:46:02,300
before he was liberated.

1021
00:46:02,300 --> 00:46:05,250
So that was our oldest
one in the family.

1022
00:46:05,250 --> 00:46:08,278

1023
00:46:08,278 --> 00:46:11,840
So here you are in bed
with white powder--

1024
00:46:11,840 --> 00:46:14,910
With white powder on my face.

1025
00:46:14,910 --> 00:46:19,560
Another time, they
came to get my mother.

1026
00:46:19,560 --> 00:46:23,070
Well, you should hear the
screaming and carrying on,

1027
00:46:23,070 --> 00:46:26,100
and she was sick.

1028

00:46:26,100 --> 00:46:29,070
And they did not
take her either.

1029
00:46:29,070 --> 00:46:30,830
I don't know what happened.

1030
00:46:30,830 --> 00:46:37,350
They must've felt so sorry
for us that they let us stay.

1031
00:46:37,350 --> 00:46:41,200
People were taken away,
and people disappeared.

1032
00:46:41,200 --> 00:46:43,680
We did not know what happened.

1033
00:46:43,680 --> 00:46:47,040
My father had a friend in
another city, who also was

1034
00:46:47,040 --> 00:46:49,830
a cattle dealer, and he said--

1035
00:46:49,830 --> 00:46:52,080
I don't know how
they got together--

1036
00:46:52,080 --> 00:46:57,370
he said, how come that
people are disappearing?

1037
00:46:57,370 --> 00:47:02,940
And he said, if you
go to the post office,

1038
00:47:02,940 --> 00:47:05,610
and there is a
gentleman, and you

1039
00:47:05,610 --> 00:47:11,010
ask for his fictitious

name, Mr Jansen.

1040
00:47:11,010 --> 00:47:13,750
You tell him that you
want to speak with him.

1041
00:47:13,750 --> 00:47:16,760

1042
00:47:16,760 --> 00:47:21,980
We had been moved
from our single house

1043
00:47:21,980 --> 00:47:32,000
to a house that had a lot of
stores and a lot of rooms.

1044
00:47:32,000 --> 00:47:36,270
And they put all of us
Jewish people there together.

1045
00:47:36,270 --> 00:47:39,200
So if they had another
raid, that they

1046
00:47:39,200 --> 00:47:41,290
didn't have to go
from house to house,

1047
00:47:41,290 --> 00:47:43,220
that we were just all there.

1048
00:47:43,220 --> 00:47:44,900
I don't know how they moved me.

1049
00:47:44,900 --> 00:47:46,730
I don't remember anything.

1050
00:47:46,730 --> 00:47:50,960
But I remember having been
moved to this house where

1051

00:47:50,960 --> 00:47:54,650
all these store fronts were
change into places for us

1052
00:47:54,650 --> 00:47:57,210
to live.

1053
00:47:57,210 --> 00:48:00,440
Well, my father
went to Mr. Jansen.

1054
00:48:00,440 --> 00:48:04,480
And he told us that
he could help us,

1055
00:48:04,480 --> 00:48:09,410
that he would help us to go in
hiding if we were willing to.

1056
00:48:09,410 --> 00:48:15,350
And my father said, anything,
anything you can do for us,

1057
00:48:15,350 --> 00:48:16,160
he did.

1058
00:48:16,160 --> 00:48:19,580
Well, of course, it was very
difficult to find houses,

1059
00:48:19,580 --> 00:48:23,480
to find places for us to go.

1060
00:48:23,480 --> 00:48:27,720
He got in touch with us.

1061
00:48:27,720 --> 00:48:31,980
It must've been before
another transport came.

1062
00:48:31,980 --> 00:48:37,020
And he had found one
place for the three of us.

1063
00:48:37,020 --> 00:48:39,030
But we never wanted
to be together,

1064
00:48:39,030 --> 00:48:41,310
because if we were found,
the whole family would

1065
00:48:41,310 --> 00:48:44,520
have been destroyed.

1066
00:48:44,520 --> 00:48:50,820
The man came to our house
at night and got some--

1067
00:48:50,820 --> 00:48:55,290
I guess my mother had suitcases
ready with a few little things

1068
00:48:55,290 --> 00:48:57,030
for us to wear.

1069
00:48:57,030 --> 00:49:00,780
I don't even remember
what I wore, what I had.

1070
00:49:00,780 --> 00:49:02,760
I can't tell you.

1071
00:49:02,760 --> 00:49:04,690
I really don't remember.

1072
00:49:04,690 --> 00:49:08,970
But I know that he came the
night before or a couple

1073
00:49:08,970 --> 00:49:12,360
of nights before and picked
up a couple suitcases.

1074
00:49:12,360 --> 00:49:17,640

And he said, yes, he had
secured a place for us.

1075
00:49:17,640 --> 00:49:23,400
We had to leave
early in the morning.

1076
00:49:23,400 --> 00:49:24,330
I don't remember.

1077
00:49:24,330 --> 00:49:26,260
We had to go up the hill.

1078
00:49:26,260 --> 00:49:28,530
But that was during a
time that we were not

1079
00:49:28,530 --> 00:49:30,810
allowed on the street.

1080
00:49:30,810 --> 00:49:33,750
We had to wear our star.

1081
00:49:33,750 --> 00:49:38,520
And we walked up the hill
where he came with a car

1082
00:49:38,520 --> 00:49:41,220
and took us away.

1083
00:49:41,220 --> 00:49:42,480
You left everything.

1084
00:49:42,480 --> 00:49:45,300
Everything you owned,
everything you had,

1085
00:49:45,300 --> 00:49:50,430
you just left behind, because
all you had what you wore

1086
00:49:50,430 --> 00:49:55,770

and a few things, I guess,
clothing that he took.

1087
00:49:55,770 --> 00:50:00,480
I remember coming to this place.

1088
00:50:00,480 --> 00:50:05,820
And it was a coal miner
where he wanted us to stay.

1089
00:50:05,820 --> 00:50:08,460
It was a very small town house.

1090
00:50:08,460 --> 00:50:12,060
And the person made secure
to tell the neighbors

1091
00:50:12,060 --> 00:50:17,010
that she was getting
company for the weekend.

1092
00:50:17,010 --> 00:50:18,510
This is 1942?

1093
00:50:18,510 --> 00:50:20,420
That's 1942 already.

1094
00:50:20,420 --> 00:50:22,136
And what month?

1095
00:50:22,136 --> 00:50:24,320
Or what time of year?

1096
00:50:24,320 --> 00:50:28,240
Oh, this was 19--

1097
00:50:28,240 --> 00:50:32,830
I don't if this was already
the end of 1942, already 1943.

1098
00:50:32,830 --> 00:50:34,120
So it's wintertime.

1099
00:50:34,120 --> 00:50:35,340
Wintertime.

1100
00:50:35,340 --> 00:50:37,860
And, well, everybody
was indoors.

1101
00:50:37,860 --> 00:50:42,540
So they just snuck
us into this house.

1102
00:50:42,540 --> 00:50:45,440
But it was a very small house.

1103
00:50:45,440 --> 00:50:49,710
This person was a coal miner.

1104
00:50:49,710 --> 00:50:54,150
And my father had
the hardest time.

1105
00:50:54,150 --> 00:50:58,110
Having been an outdoor
person all his life,

1106
00:50:58,110 --> 00:51:02,040
it was like you had
a lion in a cage.

1107
00:51:02,040 --> 00:51:04,740
My mother had a
terrible time with him,

1108
00:51:04,740 --> 00:51:07,140
because he had to be quiet.

1109
00:51:07,140 --> 00:51:09,120
He couldn't speak loud.

1110
00:51:09,120 --> 00:51:14,190
I guess-- I don't even remember,

he was used to smoking.

1111
00:51:14,190 --> 00:51:15,780
I guess he couldn't smoke--

1112
00:51:15,780 --> 00:51:17,190
I don't remember.

1113
00:51:17,190 --> 00:51:21,760
My mother really had an
awful, awful time with him.

1114
00:51:21,760 --> 00:51:24,780
But we stayed in
this one house--

1115
00:51:24,780 --> 00:51:27,270
he stayed-- they stayed
in this one house

1116
00:51:27,270 --> 00:51:31,740
I guess just for a few days
until they found somewhere

1117
00:51:31,740 --> 00:51:34,330
else for them to go.

1118
00:51:34,330 --> 00:51:37,080
And Mother and Dad--

1119
00:51:37,080 --> 00:51:41,220
I really never saw them after
that until after the war.

1120
00:51:41,220 --> 00:51:43,770
What were your feelings
when they had to leave?

1121
00:51:43,770 --> 00:51:47,160
Scared, frightened.

1122
00:51:47,160 --> 00:51:50,970

What did they say to you
when they had to leave?

1123
00:51:50,970 --> 00:51:52,650
Well, we cried.

1124
00:51:52,650 --> 00:51:53,820
We hugged each other.

1125
00:51:53,820 --> 00:51:55,710
But we had no other choice.

1126
00:51:55,710 --> 00:52:00,990
You have-- you have no
idea how hardened you

1127
00:52:00,990 --> 00:52:03,900
are during that time.

1128
00:52:03,900 --> 00:52:11,010
All you do is think about
your safety, yourself,

1129
00:52:11,010 --> 00:52:15,450
that you make it till the
end, if there is an end.

1130
00:52:15,450 --> 00:52:25,720
And you just live from minute
to minute, and day to day.

1131
00:52:25,720 --> 00:52:29,140
You don't know if you get
caught while being transported,

1132
00:52:29,140 --> 00:52:34,180
you don't know if you
get caught in the house.

1133
00:52:34,180 --> 00:52:37,180
If the neighbors would
hear something and they

1134
00:52:37,180 --> 00:52:39,610
would go and squeal on you.

1135
00:52:39,610 --> 00:52:43,030
You really lived in fright--

1136
00:52:43,030 --> 00:52:47,500
you were frightened 24
hours a day at all times.

1137
00:52:47,500 --> 00:52:50,710
But so were the people
that you stayed with.

1138
00:52:50,710 --> 00:52:52,540
Don't forget, if they
would have found us,

1139
00:52:52,540 --> 00:52:53,830
they would have killed me.

1140
00:52:53,830 --> 00:52:55,180
They would have killed them.

1141
00:52:55,180 --> 00:52:57,370
They would have killed
the whole family.

1142
00:52:57,370 --> 00:52:58,570
And--

1143
00:52:58,570 --> 00:52:59,890
Do you remember their names?

1144
00:52:59,890 --> 00:53:01,750
No.

1145
00:53:01,750 --> 00:53:02,620
Absolutely not.

1146
00:53:02,620 --> 00:53:05,260

1147
00:53:05,260 --> 00:53:08,060
That's what frightening
about being old.

1148
00:53:08,060 --> 00:53:10,420
I should have written it
down, which I did not.

1149
00:53:10,420 --> 00:53:11,400
I neglected to do that.

1150
00:53:11,400 --> 00:53:13,150
They did give you their
names at the time.

1151
00:53:13,150 --> 00:53:14,350
Oh, absolutely.

1152
00:53:14,350 --> 00:53:15,080
Oh, yes.

1153
00:53:15,080 --> 00:53:15,580
Oh, yes.

1154
00:53:15,580 --> 00:53:18,460
They knew my name.

1155
00:53:18,460 --> 00:53:20,320
I knew their name.

1156
00:53:20,320 --> 00:53:22,580
We lived a normal life.

1157
00:53:22,580 --> 00:53:26,260
The only thing is I had
to fit into this life.

1158
00:53:26,260 --> 00:53:33,340
I wasn't used to eating rabbits,
which were free of ration.

1159
00:53:33,340 --> 00:53:36,040
And I remember in
that particular house,

1160
00:53:36,040 --> 00:53:39,310
she made rabbit.

1161
00:53:39,310 --> 00:53:42,580
Just the thought of it
coming from a kosher home

1162
00:53:42,580 --> 00:53:44,350
to eating rabbits.

1163
00:53:44,350 --> 00:53:46,690
I wouldn't eat it.

1164
00:53:46,690 --> 00:53:52,420
And lo and behold, I
didn't get anything else.

1165
00:53:52,420 --> 00:53:54,070
I was hungry.

1166
00:53:54,070 --> 00:53:57,880
Just smelling this
rabbit and looking at it,

1167
00:53:57,880 --> 00:53:59,110
I couldn't do it.

1168
00:53:59,110 --> 00:54:03,000
But the next time when
she served rabbit,

1169
00:54:03,000 --> 00:54:06,730
I ate the rabbit,
because I was hungry.

1170
00:54:06,730 --> 00:54:09,610
We did get rations

from the underground.

1171
00:54:09,610 --> 00:54:14,590
The underground did
supply us with rations,

1172
00:54:14,590 --> 00:54:17,240
which was a big help.

1173
00:54:17,240 --> 00:54:26,440
But this one man helped us
during the time, all this time,

1174
00:54:26,440 --> 00:54:28,450
all the time we were in hiding.

1175
00:54:28,450 --> 00:54:32,950
And if we needed help, he would
help us to find another place.

1176
00:54:32,950 --> 00:54:38,080
And you know that this
man never got paid.

1177
00:54:38,080 --> 00:54:42,400
Never-- he did it
all on his own.

1178
00:54:42,400 --> 00:54:43,840
This was Mr. Jansen?

1179
00:54:43,840 --> 00:54:56,740
Mr. Jansen And he was a
single person who lived with--

1180
00:54:56,740 --> 00:55:00,410
he had a lady that
did his household.

1181
00:55:00,410 --> 00:55:04,760
And she was in this, because
sometimes if you had to go--

1182

00:55:04,760 --> 00:55:06,620

we knew where to go.

1183

00:55:06,620 --> 00:55:10,450

We knew where to go
overnight if we needed help.

1184

00:55:10,450 --> 00:55:16,330

So I tell you, you
were so hardened.

1185

00:55:16,330 --> 00:55:21,340

You had to live from minute to
minute that you don't think.

1186

00:55:21,340 --> 00:55:23,500

You absolutely don't think.

1187

00:55:23,500 --> 00:55:28,260

But there was a time
another girl came in after--

1188

00:55:28,260 --> 00:55:30,940

OK, your parents left and so
you're still in that first--

1189

00:55:30,940 --> 00:55:32,920

I'm still in that first house.

1190

00:55:32,920 --> 00:55:35,740

Then he needed the
room for somebody else.

1191

00:55:35,740 --> 00:55:36,990

Your room, he needed you room?

1192

00:55:36,990 --> 00:55:39,460

No, he needed to--

1193

00:55:39,460 --> 00:55:43,600

I was there, and then he
brought another single girl in.

1194
00:55:43,600 --> 00:55:46,540
You know, sometimes
you don't have places.

1195
00:55:46,540 --> 00:55:48,520
And so there were two of us.

1196
00:55:48,520 --> 00:55:51,310
But the people didn't
like this girl.

1197
00:55:51,310 --> 00:55:53,230
She was not clean.

1198
00:55:53,230 --> 00:55:56,150
She was not friendly.

1199
00:55:56,150 --> 00:55:57,730
She just didn't fit in.

1200
00:55:57,730 --> 00:56:00,792
And before we knew it,
they asked her to leave.

1201
00:56:00,792 --> 00:56:01,750
This was a Jewish girl?

1202
00:56:01,750 --> 00:56:04,990
Jewish girl from
Amsterdam, absolutely.

1203
00:56:04,990 --> 00:56:07,060
I stayed there for a while.

1204
00:56:07,060 --> 00:56:10,960
And it was hard.

1205
00:56:10,960 --> 00:56:13,930
The air raids
started to come in.

1206

00:56:13,930 --> 00:56:16,330

And every time there
was an air raid,

1207

00:56:16,330 --> 00:56:19,240

we had to be fully
dressed, fully

1208

00:56:19,240 --> 00:56:24,050

ready to leave the house,
run out for two reasons.

1209

00:56:24,050 --> 00:56:32,900

Number one, the air
raids were sometimes

1210

00:56:32,900 --> 00:56:35,270

airplanes would be shot down.

1211

00:56:35,270 --> 00:56:38,100

They would be shot.

1212

00:56:38,100 --> 00:56:46,040

And the pilots that
were in those airplanes

1213

00:56:46,040 --> 00:56:50,160

would try to hide,
and sometimes people

1214

00:56:50,160 --> 00:56:51,610

would give them hiding places.

1215

00:56:51,610 --> 00:56:54,440

So if there was an
airplane that was down

1216

00:56:54,440 --> 00:56:58,250

and the pilots were missing,
well, we were surrounded.

1217

00:56:58,250 --> 00:57:02,300

And if they would have
found us, it was just--

1218
00:57:02,300 --> 00:57:05,540
I mean, they would've
killed us immediately.

1219
00:57:05,540 --> 00:57:07,580
That went on for a while.

1220
00:57:07,580 --> 00:57:10,800
But then the people
got very nervous.

1221
00:57:10,800 --> 00:57:12,260
They had me for a while.

1222
00:57:12,260 --> 00:57:16,150
And they said, enough of it
already, you need to leave.

1223
00:57:16,150 --> 00:57:19,200

1224
00:57:19,200 --> 00:57:22,940
Where did they send me?

1225
00:57:22,940 --> 00:57:25,478
They sent me--

1226
00:57:25,478 --> 00:57:27,520
Before you left, did you
do anything specifically

1227
00:57:27,520 --> 00:57:28,145
during the day?

1228
00:57:28,145 --> 00:57:29,890
Not during air raids,
just generally.

1229
00:57:29,890 --> 00:57:30,760

What did you do?

1230
00:57:30,760 --> 00:57:34,360
Just helped them in the house.

1231
00:57:34,360 --> 00:57:36,400
But I had to be very
careful that I could not

1232
00:57:36,400 --> 00:57:41,290
be seen and not be heard.

1233
00:57:41,290 --> 00:57:44,380
The toughest thing is-- they
had to live a regular life.

1234
00:57:44,380 --> 00:57:46,330
I remember they were going--

1235
00:57:46,330 --> 00:57:51,400
for one day at a time, they
were going on a little vacation.

1236
00:57:51,400 --> 00:57:53,590
Then I had to sit in the attic.

1237
00:57:53,590 --> 00:57:55,450
I had my food in the attic.

1238
00:57:55,450 --> 00:57:58,060
And I had my little
potty in the attic.

1239
00:57:58,060 --> 00:57:59,440
And that's where I stayed.

1240
00:57:59,440 --> 00:58:00,590
I could not move.

1241
00:58:00,590 --> 00:58:05,260
I sat in the attic until
they were ready to come home.

1242
00:58:05,260 --> 00:58:10,130
Because if they would have heard
noise, then people would say,

1243
00:58:10,130 --> 00:58:12,820
well, they're gone for the day.

1244
00:58:12,820 --> 00:58:14,380
Who is in that house?

1245
00:58:14,380 --> 00:58:17,290
And by luck, maybe they would
have called the Germans.

1246
00:58:17,290 --> 00:58:19,920
By luck, they may have
called somebody and said,

1247
00:58:19,920 --> 00:58:21,520
well, let's go in there.

1248
00:58:21,520 --> 00:58:24,170
You never know what
other people's minds are.

1249
00:58:24,170 --> 00:58:26,740
So if they were going
shopping or they

1250
00:58:26,740 --> 00:58:30,110
were going somewhere or doing
anything, up in the attic

1251
00:58:30,110 --> 00:58:31,420
I went.

1252
00:58:31,420 --> 00:58:33,280
Did friends come
over to visit them?

1253
00:58:33,280 --> 00:58:34,170

No.

1254
00:58:34,170 --> 00:58:37,030
They never had any
friends come over.

1255
00:58:37,030 --> 00:58:39,820
I think they did have
some family come over.

1256
00:58:39,820 --> 00:58:43,640
But then they were aware
where I was and who I was.

1257
00:58:43,640 --> 00:58:47,460
No, they never had
any entertainment.

1258
00:58:47,460 --> 00:58:48,610
They were plain people.

1259
00:58:48,610 --> 00:58:51,820

1260
00:58:51,820 --> 00:58:55,890
So then they came to you and
said, you have to leave--

1261
00:58:55,890 --> 00:58:56,640
You have to leave.

1262
00:58:56,640 --> 00:58:57,630
So what did you do?

1263
00:58:57,630 --> 00:58:59,710
They had to contact Mr. Jansen.

1264
00:58:59,710 --> 00:59:02,160
And they had to
find a place for me.

1265
00:59:02,160 --> 00:59:03,670

Were they getting paid?

1266
00:59:03,670 --> 00:59:05,852
Yes.

1267
00:59:05,852 --> 00:59:06,560
From your father?

1268
00:59:06,560 --> 00:59:07,700
Yes.

1269
00:59:07,700 --> 00:59:09,040
To protect you?

1270
00:59:09,040 --> 00:59:10,820
Yes.

1271
00:59:10,820 --> 00:59:12,620
Nobody did anything for nothing.

1272
00:59:12,620 --> 00:59:17,450
But, look, it meant a
whole lot of money for us,

1273
00:59:17,450 --> 00:59:23,480
but for them, if you take the
risk that these people took

1274
00:59:23,480 --> 00:59:26,660
and the agony and
the frightening,

1275
00:59:26,660 --> 00:59:28,560
you could not pay them enough.

1276
00:59:28,560 --> 00:59:31,160
You wouldn't be able to
pay me enough to do it.

1277
00:59:31,160 --> 00:59:33,110
You could not pay them enough.

1278
00:59:33,110 --> 00:59:36,680
So this little bit
of money really

1279
00:59:36,680 --> 00:59:40,020
didn't mean anything, as
long as everything went well.

1280
00:59:40,020 --> 00:59:44,580

1281
00:59:44,580 --> 00:59:46,060
You contacted Mr. Jansen.

1282
00:59:46,060 --> 00:59:49,550
I contacted-- they
contacted Mr. Jansen.

1283
00:59:49,550 --> 00:59:55,930
And I don't know
if I went to this--

1284
00:59:55,930 --> 00:59:58,080
let's say-- I don't know in--

1285
00:59:58,080 --> 00:59:59,130
In order--

1286
00:59:59,130 --> 01:00:00,660
In order where I went.

1287
01:00:00,660 --> 01:00:06,180
But one time I went
to a doctor's house.

1288
01:00:06,180 --> 01:00:08,490
It was a big house.

1289
01:00:08,490 --> 01:00:11,220
And they had a maid.

1290

01:00:11,220 --> 01:00:12,660
They used to have two maids.

1291
01:00:12,660 --> 01:00:14,070
But the one maid left.

1292
01:00:14,070 --> 01:00:18,120
So they needed a maid
to be in the house.

1293
01:00:18,120 --> 01:00:23,190
And, well, I wasn't used
to doing maid's work.

1294
01:00:23,190 --> 01:00:25,320
We always had help in the house.

1295
01:00:25,320 --> 01:00:28,470
Until the last minute,
we had help in the house.

1296
01:00:28,470 --> 01:00:30,180
Well, they told me what to do.

1297
01:00:30,180 --> 01:00:35,370
I had to go on my hands
and knees to do the floors.

1298
01:00:35,370 --> 01:00:38,540
And the other maid said to
me, and looked at my knees,

1299
01:00:38,540 --> 01:00:44,060
she said, you don't
have maid's knees.

1300
01:00:44,060 --> 01:00:48,240
I said, what are maid's knees?

1301
01:00:48,240 --> 01:00:50,370
She said, you haven't
crawled on the floor

1302
01:00:50,370 --> 01:00:55,040
long enough to have flat knees.

1303
01:00:55,040 --> 01:00:58,860
Well, I got scared.

1304
01:00:58,860 --> 01:01:03,020
I told the owner of the
house that I had to leave,

1305
01:01:03,020 --> 01:01:08,450
because I didn't
have maid's knees.

1306
01:01:08,450 --> 01:01:11,330
So she probably could
figure out that I wasn't

1307
01:01:11,330 --> 01:01:14,130
used to do this kind of work.

1308
01:01:14,130 --> 01:01:17,400

1309
01:01:17,400 --> 01:01:21,170
I remember I needed
to leave immediately.

1310
01:01:21,170 --> 01:01:26,060
And this is one time
that I walked over

1311
01:01:26,060 --> 01:01:28,760
to Mr. Jansen's house.

1312
01:01:28,760 --> 01:01:32,890
I knew approximately
where he was.

1313
01:01:32,890 --> 01:01:37,000