

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,540

2

00:00:06,540 --> 00:00:07,500

This is tape two.

3

00:00:07,500 --> 00:00:10,380

And we were talking
about the fact

4

00:00:10,380 --> 00:00:13,230

that you were in the infirmary
of Budy, the tree branch--

5

00:00:13,230 --> 00:00:14,130

In Auschwitz.

6

00:00:14,130 --> 00:00:14,930

Excuse me.

7

00:00:14,930 --> 00:00:18,880

In Auschwitz, the tree
branch of Budy had fallen.

8

00:00:18,880 --> 00:00:19,380

Well--

9

00:00:19,380 --> 00:00:21,420

And you said you had
gotten good treatment.

10

00:00:21,420 --> 00:00:22,590

I had gotten good treatment.

11

00:00:22,590 --> 00:00:26,280

And in fact, I was treated so
that I could have even walked.

12

00:00:26,280 --> 00:00:30,870

And I was there for
about four weeks.

13

00:00:30,870 --> 00:00:36,270

January 18th, the Germans
had to evacuate Auschwitz

14

00:00:36,270 --> 00:00:37,700

because the Russians were--

15

00:00:37,700 --> 00:00:38,700

we could hear, actually.

16

00:00:38,700 --> 00:00:41,790

We could hear the shots.

17

00:00:41,790 --> 00:00:43,080

Fire, fire.

18

00:00:43,080 --> 00:00:45,690

Guns and whatever
ammunition they used.

19

00:00:45,690 --> 00:00:47,940

Who were the other patients
in the infirmary with you?

20

00:00:47,940 --> 00:00:49,232

They had all kinds of patients.

21

00:00:49,232 --> 00:00:50,280

Surgical patients.

22

00:00:50,280 --> 00:00:52,860

I mean, they did
sophisticated surgery.

23

00:00:52,860 --> 00:00:57,690

There was one man, for
example, that had ulcers.

24

00:00:57,690 --> 00:01:00,370

And he had special food in Budy.

25

00:01:00,370 --> 00:01:04,709

And I met him after the war,
and he said that they cured him.

26

00:01:04,709 --> 00:01:08,030

They operated him, and he
survived, and he was fine.

27

00:01:08,030 --> 00:01:08,530

So he came--

28

00:01:08,530 --> 00:01:09,050

So some--

29

00:01:09,050 --> 00:01:11,150

--to the infirmary of
Auschwitz and [INAUDIBLE]..

30

00:01:11,150 --> 00:01:12,840

Well, he was in Auschwitz, yes.

31

00:01:12,840 --> 00:01:16,383

He was in the hospital in
Auschwitz and they cured him.

32

00:01:16,383 --> 00:01:18,300

I mean, they operated
on him, and he survived.

33

00:01:18,300 --> 00:01:20,250

But for each one
that survived, they

34

00:01:20,250 --> 00:01:23,410

had hundreds or thousands
that didn't survive.

35

00:01:23,410 --> 00:01:28,170

And so in my case, would have
I stayed in Auschwitz longer,

36

00:01:28,170 --> 00:01:29,760

even though my leg
was cured, they

37
00:01:29,760 --> 00:01:31,653
would have killed me after.

38
00:01:31,653 --> 00:01:33,570
They wouldn't have never
sent me back to work.

39
00:01:33,570 --> 00:01:35,780
They would have sent me
to gas chamber, probably.

40
00:01:35,780 --> 00:01:36,480
Probably.

41
00:01:36,480 --> 00:01:39,810
That was the pattern.

42
00:01:39,810 --> 00:01:42,210
So it so happens
that by the 18th--

43
00:01:42,210 --> 00:01:43,710
oh, you asked me
about the patients.

44
00:01:43,710 --> 00:01:44,502
They had all kinds.

45
00:01:44,502 --> 00:01:45,720
Somebody had broken legs.

46
00:01:45,720 --> 00:01:50,610
They had broken arms,
they had broken faces--

47
00:01:50,610 --> 00:01:51,540
I mean, from beatings.

48
00:01:51,540 --> 00:01:53,880

I mean, they had all
kinds of patients there.

49
00:01:53,880 --> 00:01:56,220
I neglected to say
one previously,

50
00:01:56,220 --> 00:01:59,400
that once I volunteered
to go to the dentist

51
00:01:59,400 --> 00:02:01,480
because I didn't
want to go to work.

52
00:02:01,480 --> 00:02:04,740
And so he was a Jewish dentist.

53
00:02:04,740 --> 00:02:06,810
We had a dentist on
that farm in Budy.

54
00:02:06,810 --> 00:02:07,740
In Budy.

55
00:02:07,740 --> 00:02:11,039
And so he said, well, there's
nothing wrong with your tooth.

56
00:02:11,039 --> 00:02:12,600
So I said, well, yes there is.

57
00:02:12,600 --> 00:02:14,670
If you make a hole,
there will be.

58
00:02:14,670 --> 00:02:18,570
So he drilled, he drilled, he
drilled into my healthy tooth

59
00:02:18,570 --> 00:02:21,770
because I just didn't
want to work for an hour.

60
00:02:21,770 --> 00:02:24,060
And then he said,
well, you'll come back.

61
00:02:24,060 --> 00:02:25,860
And I'll put in a
temporary filling,

62
00:02:25,860 --> 00:02:28,390
and you come back next week.

63
00:02:28,390 --> 00:02:29,060
So he did that.

64
00:02:29,060 --> 00:02:30,240
He put a temporary filling.

65
00:02:30,240 --> 00:02:32,460
And I did it five times--

66
00:02:32,460 --> 00:02:35,970
temporary fillings-- so that
each time I had a day or a half

67
00:02:35,970 --> 00:02:37,157
a day off.

68
00:02:37,157 --> 00:02:38,740
They allowed you to
go to the dentist.

69
00:02:38,740 --> 00:02:41,340
They allowed me to
go to the dentist.

70
00:02:41,340 --> 00:02:42,930
But the sixth
time, I couldn't go

71
00:02:42,930 --> 00:02:44,873
and he couldn't

put in a permanent.

72

00:02:44,873 --> 00:02:45,915

And of course, my tooth--

73

00:02:45,915 --> 00:02:48,250

74

00:02:48,250 --> 00:02:50,250

I mean, I had to have it
pulled when I came out.

75

00:02:50,250 --> 00:02:52,780

But that's what happened.

76

00:02:52,780 --> 00:02:55,290

How did you get that
idea to do that?

77

00:02:55,290 --> 00:02:57,210

Well, we always
thought of ideas.

78

00:02:57,210 --> 00:03:00,390

We always tried ideas.

79

00:03:00,390 --> 00:03:03,640

I suppose it was partially
the way one survived, though.

80

00:03:03,640 --> 00:03:07,770

So some people never tried
and they never survive.

81

00:03:07,770 --> 00:03:10,620

Other people tried
and they survived.

82

00:03:10,620 --> 00:03:14,700

I think that it was
partially luck and partially

83

00:03:14,700 --> 00:03:16,980
self-made luck when
people survive.

84
00:03:16,980 --> 00:03:20,280

85
00:03:20,280 --> 00:03:24,310
But coming back now
to the hospital.

86
00:03:24,310 --> 00:03:28,740
So the 18th, when the Germans
had to evacuate the camp,

87
00:03:28,740 --> 00:03:29,970
the hospital stayed.

88
00:03:29,970 --> 00:03:32,970
And we all thought that
they were going to shoot us.

89
00:03:32,970 --> 00:03:35,470
I mean, they're not taking us.

90
00:03:35,470 --> 00:03:38,920
They wouldn't leave a
camp here with witnesses.

91
00:03:38,920 --> 00:03:40,210
So we didn't know what to do.

92
00:03:40,210 --> 00:03:42,030
But once they left
and then somebody

93
00:03:42,030 --> 00:03:46,050
told us that once the SS
leaves, then five days later,

94
00:03:46,050 --> 00:03:47,520
the Russians will be in.

95

00:03:47,520 --> 00:03:50,003

Because they live five or
six days ahead of time.

96

00:03:50,003 --> 00:03:50,670

Now, you are 17.

97

00:03:50,670 --> 00:03:51,170

The SS.

98

00:03:51,170 --> 00:03:52,390

You are 17 years old.

99

00:03:52,390 --> 00:03:54,300

I was 17.

100

00:03:54,300 --> 00:03:55,920

This was in '45, in '40--

101

00:03:55,920 --> 00:03:56,730

Early '45.

102

00:03:56,730 --> 00:03:57,270

Early.

103

00:03:57,270 --> 00:04:00,220

January, 45.

104

00:04:00,220 --> 00:04:03,210

And so we just stayed in camp.

105

00:04:03,210 --> 00:04:04,530

We could have left.

106

00:04:04,530 --> 00:04:06,210

There were no guards.

107

00:04:06,210 --> 00:04:07,830

And we could have
gone in to Krakow,

108

00:04:07,830 --> 00:04:09,810
which was 60 miles away.

109

00:04:09,810 --> 00:04:12,960
We could have gone out of
camp and go into hiding,

110

00:04:12,960 --> 00:04:14,580
but we didn't.

111

00:04:14,580 --> 00:04:17,420
I could have because I was
in good condition to go.

112

00:04:17,420 --> 00:04:18,295
So did you consider--

113

00:04:18,295 --> 00:04:18,795
So I stayed.

114

00:04:18,795 --> 00:04:19,880
--yourself free of that?

115

00:04:19,880 --> 00:04:21,660
I considered myself free,
just waiting for the Russians

116

00:04:21,660 --> 00:04:22,500
to come in.

117

00:04:22,500 --> 00:04:23,760
There was nobody around?

118

00:04:23,760 --> 00:04:24,660
No guards.

119

00:04:24,660 --> 00:04:25,500
No guards.

120

00:04:25,500 --> 00:04:27,700
Just the patients

and the doctors.

121
00:04:27,700 --> 00:04:28,200
Right.

122
00:04:28,200 --> 00:04:35,250
And then, I don't remember
exactly, but the SS came back.

123
00:04:35,250 --> 00:04:38,190
And they said, everybody out.

124
00:04:38,190 --> 00:04:39,017
And we ran out.

125
00:04:39,017 --> 00:04:40,350
And we said, oh, that's the end.

126
00:04:40,350 --> 00:04:41,600
Now they're going to shoot us.

127
00:04:41,600 --> 00:04:44,090

128
00:04:44,090 --> 00:04:45,860
And then two people were hiding.

129
00:04:45,860 --> 00:04:47,910
They sort of ran down
in the basements,

130
00:04:47,910 --> 00:04:50,200
and they shot them
and killed them.

131
00:04:50,200 --> 00:04:52,620
And so we didn't know
what to do at this point.

132
00:04:52,620 --> 00:04:54,240
Was this men and
women, or just men?

133
00:04:54,240 --> 00:04:57,312
This was-- you know,
that's a good question.

134
00:04:57,312 --> 00:04:58,020
I don't remember.

135
00:04:58,020 --> 00:04:58,670
Were there men and women--

136
00:04:58,670 --> 00:04:59,520
I think it was men and women.

137
00:04:59,520 --> 00:05:00,590
--in the infirmary?

138
00:05:00,590 --> 00:05:02,500
I think it was.

139
00:05:02,500 --> 00:05:04,550
I think it was only
men in my group.

140
00:05:04,550 --> 00:05:06,860
I think it was only
men in this group.

141
00:05:06,860 --> 00:05:07,910
I'm not sure.

142
00:05:07,910 --> 00:05:14,320
But anyway, then
something happened.

143
00:05:14,320 --> 00:05:16,360
And I don't know exactly
what happened that day,

144
00:05:16,360 --> 00:05:17,900
but told the Russians are here.

145

00:05:17,900 --> 00:05:21,050

They took off and
they didn't shoot us.

146

00:05:21,050 --> 00:05:22,590

And we went back.

147

00:05:22,590 --> 00:05:26,360

And at this point, this
was the 25th of January.

148

00:05:26,360 --> 00:05:29,570

And at this point,
some people have gone.

149

00:05:29,570 --> 00:05:30,230

They left.

150

00:05:30,230 --> 00:05:31,370

I didn't.

151

00:05:31,370 --> 00:05:33,410

And two days later, the
Russians did come in.

152

00:05:33,410 --> 00:05:34,160

So you stayed.

153

00:05:34,160 --> 00:05:37,730

And I stayed until
the Russians came in.

154

00:05:37,730 --> 00:05:41,840

And then, when the Russians
came in, then I stayed a day.

155

00:05:41,840 --> 00:05:45,320

And I hitchhiked on one of their
trucks, and I got into Krakow.

156

00:05:45,320 --> 00:05:47,960

How did you feel about

seeing the Russians?

157

00:05:47,960 --> 00:05:48,792

I was happy.

158

00:05:48,792 --> 00:05:51,140

[CHUCKLES] And then--

159

00:05:51,140 --> 00:05:53,220

What was your first
experience with the Russians?

160

00:05:53,220 --> 00:05:54,110

With the Russians?

161

00:05:54,110 --> 00:05:55,220

It was a good one.

162

00:05:55,220 --> 00:05:56,210

It was a very good one.

163

00:05:56,210 --> 00:05:57,710

First, we didn't
know who they were.

164

00:05:57,710 --> 00:05:59,300

First, we thought
it was Germans.

165

00:05:59,300 --> 00:06:02,290

I mean, they were in
white snow-- in coats.

166

00:06:02,290 --> 00:06:03,028

It was snow.

167

00:06:03,028 --> 00:06:04,820

It was in January, so
it was a lot of snow.

168

00:06:04,820 --> 00:06:07,610

So they had white

jackets and white coats.

169

00:06:07,610 --> 00:06:13,700

And so they were
nice to us, anyway.

170

00:06:13,700 --> 00:06:15,590

How did you communicate to them?

171

00:06:15,590 --> 00:06:18,470

Well, I spoke Czech a little.

172

00:06:18,470 --> 00:06:21,320

So sort of a little bit.

173

00:06:21,320 --> 00:06:22,830

I mean, we didn't
communicate much.

174

00:06:22,830 --> 00:06:23,900

They brought us food.

175

00:06:23,900 --> 00:06:27,230

And trouble was that people
ate a lot and they got sick.

176

00:06:27,230 --> 00:06:29,210

Did you eat any of their food?

177

00:06:29,210 --> 00:06:31,070

I ate some food, but
I didn't get sick.

178

00:06:31,070 --> 00:06:32,870

So I was just lucky, I guess.

179

00:06:32,870 --> 00:06:35,580

So we went to Krakow, and
they had an agency there.

180

00:06:35,580 --> 00:06:36,650

How do you get to Krakow?

181
00:06:36,650 --> 00:06:37,490
Oh, you said you got
on one of their trucks.

182
00:06:37,490 --> 00:06:39,110
I hitchhiked, yes.

183
00:06:39,110 --> 00:06:41,480
And then we stayed
in Krakow a few days.

184
00:06:41,480 --> 00:06:42,410
I was there together--

185
00:06:42,410 --> 00:06:43,035
We meaning who?

186
00:06:43,035 --> 00:06:44,860
I was together with
a Polish fellow

187
00:06:44,860 --> 00:06:49,250
who was also liberated who was
in camp for about seven years.

188
00:06:49,250 --> 00:06:51,260
And we stayed together.

189
00:06:51,260 --> 00:06:52,760
And then I left Krakow.

190
00:06:52,760 --> 00:06:57,910
And in fact, I met one
of my cousins there also.

191
00:06:57,910 --> 00:06:58,410
In Krakow?

192
00:06:58,410 --> 00:07:01,580
Accidentally in Krakow,
who recognized my voice.

193
00:07:01,580 --> 00:07:03,170
He saw me from
the back, heard me

194
00:07:03,170 --> 00:07:06,600
talking to this Polish fellow,
and he was in back of me.

195
00:07:06,600 --> 00:07:07,863
And he said, Erwin.

196
00:07:07,863 --> 00:07:08,530
I turned around.

197
00:07:08,530 --> 00:07:10,250
I said, how you recognize me?

198
00:07:10,250 --> 00:07:12,870
He said, I recognize your voice.

199
00:07:12,870 --> 00:07:13,370
So anyway--

200
00:07:13,370 --> 00:07:14,928
What was your cousin's name?

201
00:07:14,928 --> 00:07:15,924
Erwin.

202
00:07:15,924 --> 00:07:18,860
[LAUGHS]

203
00:07:18,860 --> 00:07:19,610
What was his name?

204
00:07:19,610 --> 00:07:20,150
He's in Australia.

205
00:07:20,150 --> 00:07:20,730
He survived.

206
00:07:20,730 --> 00:07:22,850
What was the Polish
Jewish man's name?

207
00:07:22,850 --> 00:07:24,210
I can't remember his name.

208
00:07:24,210 --> 00:07:25,760
I can't remember his name.

209
00:07:25,760 --> 00:07:29,570
But there's a story beyond
that with that Polish man.

210
00:07:29,570 --> 00:07:32,570

211
00:07:32,570 --> 00:07:35,570
And then, little by little,
it took me about two weeks

212
00:07:35,570 --> 00:07:37,070
until I got home with stops.

213
00:07:37,070 --> 00:07:39,770

214
00:07:39,770 --> 00:07:43,040
From Krakow, we went
to town of Gorlitz,

215
00:07:43,040 --> 00:07:44,670
and then way back
to Czechoslovakia.

216
00:07:44,670 --> 00:07:47,222
We being you and your cousin?

217
00:07:47,222 --> 00:07:48,680
There was a few
people that landed.

218
00:07:48,680 --> 00:07:50,490
Maybe three of us.

219
00:07:50,490 --> 00:07:51,300
No, not my cousin.

220
00:07:51,300 --> 00:07:51,800
No.

221
00:07:51,800 --> 00:07:53,180
My cousin-- what
happened to him?

222
00:07:53,180 --> 00:07:54,763
I don't remember
what happened to him.

223
00:07:54,763 --> 00:07:56,347
I can't remember
what happened to him.

224
00:07:56,347 --> 00:07:57,940
I think we separated
at that point.

225
00:07:57,940 --> 00:07:59,840
We didn't stay together.

226
00:07:59,840 --> 00:08:01,500
I went home to Munkacs--

227
00:08:01,500 --> 00:08:02,428
so-called home.

228
00:08:02,428 --> 00:08:04,220
And of course, I couldn't
get into my house

229
00:08:04,220 --> 00:08:08,870
because a Russian
captain was living in it.

230
00:08:08,870 --> 00:08:13,550
Another cousin was there,
and so I moved in with him.

231
00:08:13,550 --> 00:08:15,570
And we stayed together there.

232
00:08:15,570 --> 00:08:17,990
But meanwhile, my mother
and sister survived,

233
00:08:17,990 --> 00:08:20,570
and they were in Krakow.

234
00:08:20,570 --> 00:08:21,630
But that's another story.

235
00:08:21,630 --> 00:08:22,730
But you don't want
to hear their story.

236
00:08:22,730 --> 00:08:23,240
Well--

237
00:08:23,240 --> 00:08:25,730
It's a long story,
so I wouldn't.

238
00:08:25,730 --> 00:08:26,720
But they survived.

239
00:08:26,720 --> 00:08:29,900
And they met this
young man from--

240
00:08:29,900 --> 00:08:31,220
this Polish man.

241
00:08:31,220 --> 00:08:32,929
And they said--
they described me.

242
00:08:32,929 --> 00:08:36,650
And they said, my mother-- we
look alike, my mother and I.

243
00:08:36,650 --> 00:08:41,280
She said, did you ever
see a young fellow who's--

244
00:08:41,280 --> 00:08:42,340
we had a farm.

245
00:08:42,340 --> 00:08:47,360
And she sort of gave him a
few ideas as to recognition.

246
00:08:47,360 --> 00:08:49,462
And he said, what do
you mean, did I see him?

247
00:08:49,462 --> 00:08:50,420
He looks just like you.

248
00:08:50,420 --> 00:08:52,430
He's home.

249
00:08:52,430 --> 00:08:55,700
And then of course, he said that
I was alone, so she knew that--

250
00:08:55,700 --> 00:08:57,110
well, she didn't know.

251
00:08:57,110 --> 00:09:01,410
But she suspected that
my father wasn't with me.

252
00:09:01,410 --> 00:09:01,910
And so she--

253
00:09:01,910 --> 00:09:03,860
Now, your mother and

sister were together?

254

00:09:03,860 --> 00:09:05,180

They were together all the way.

255

00:09:05,180 --> 00:09:06,290

All the time in Auschwitz.

256

00:09:06,290 --> 00:09:06,500

All the time.

257

00:09:06,500 --> 00:09:07,600

That's why they survived.

258

00:09:07,600 --> 00:09:07,970

Yeah.

259

00:09:07,970 --> 00:09:09,803

I mean, my mother would
have never survived.

260

00:09:09,803 --> 00:09:12,170

261

00:09:12,170 --> 00:09:13,610

And I came home.

262

00:09:13,610 --> 00:09:14,550

And--

263

00:09:14,550 --> 00:09:15,650

So did they come?

264

00:09:15,650 --> 00:09:17,300

Now, they-- what
happened to them.

265

00:09:17,300 --> 00:09:18,560

My mother had typhus.

266

00:09:18,560 --> 00:09:20,520

She had a stomach typhus from--

267

00:09:20,520 --> 00:09:22,568

I guess she was eating
the wrong foods.

268

00:09:22,568 --> 00:09:23,360

And they came home.

269

00:09:23,360 --> 00:09:25,303

They came home to Munkacs.

270

00:09:25,303 --> 00:09:26,720

And I didn't know
they were alive,

271

00:09:26,720 --> 00:09:28,010

but they knew I was alive.

272

00:09:28,010 --> 00:09:30,860

So the way we met.

273

00:09:30,860 --> 00:09:34,770

They came to the-- they
knew where my cousin lived,

274

00:09:34,770 --> 00:09:37,430

which was around the
corner where our house was.

275

00:09:37,430 --> 00:09:41,360

And I opened the door,
there's my mother and sister.

276

00:09:41,360 --> 00:09:43,860

That's how we met.

277

00:09:43,860 --> 00:09:44,360

So.

278

00:09:44,360 --> 00:09:47,320

279
00:09:47,320 --> 00:09:49,770
Anything more you want
to say about that moment?

280
00:09:49,770 --> 00:09:50,630
Well, that moment.

281
00:09:50,630 --> 00:09:51,922
I mean, there's nothing to say.

282
00:09:51,922 --> 00:09:53,620
It was very sad.

283
00:09:53,620 --> 00:09:56,900

284
00:09:56,900 --> 00:09:58,370
[INAUDIBLE]

285
00:09:58,370 --> 00:10:00,300
And then what did you do?

286
00:10:00,300 --> 00:10:01,950
What happened then?

287
00:10:01,950 --> 00:10:03,450
What did you three do then?

288
00:10:03,450 --> 00:10:07,350
Well, I wanted to
reclaim the farm.

289
00:10:07,350 --> 00:10:10,740
And of course they
said, you can only

290
00:10:10,740 --> 00:10:12,840
get land what you can work.

291
00:10:12,840 --> 00:10:16,422

Because then the socialists
were there, and the Rush Czechs,

292
00:10:16,422 --> 00:10:17,130
and the Russians.

293
00:10:17,130 --> 00:10:18,380
And I said, what do you mean?

294
00:10:18,380 --> 00:10:20,880
They wouldn't give me back only
what they wanted to give me.

295
00:10:20,880 --> 00:10:24,030
I said, you mean to
say, you'll give me back

296
00:10:24,030 --> 00:10:25,520
what you want me to get?

297
00:10:25,520 --> 00:10:27,030
Or do I get back my land?

298
00:10:27,030 --> 00:10:28,050
They said, no.

299
00:10:28,050 --> 00:10:30,060
You can't work all your
land, so you get back

300
00:10:30,060 --> 00:10:31,348
whatever you can work.

301
00:10:31,348 --> 00:10:32,265
I said, you know what?

302
00:10:32,265 --> 00:10:33,320
Keep it all.

303
00:10:33,320 --> 00:10:34,995
And I left.

304

00:10:34,995 --> 00:10:35,870

And that was the end.

305

00:10:35,870 --> 00:10:38,110

And I left, and I
never went back.

306

00:10:38,110 --> 00:10:39,102

[INAUDIBLE]

307

00:10:39,102 --> 00:10:39,810

Where did you go?

308

00:10:39,810 --> 00:10:44,250

And then we went
to a city called

309

00:10:44,250 --> 00:10:46,530

Debrecen, which was in Hungary.

310

00:10:46,530 --> 00:10:48,030

And from there, we
went to Budapest,

311

00:10:48,030 --> 00:10:49,973

and then we went to Prague.

312

00:10:49,973 --> 00:10:51,390

You, your mother,
and your sister?

313

00:10:51,390 --> 00:10:51,890

Yes.

314

00:10:51,890 --> 00:10:53,670

Then, we were together.

315

00:10:53,670 --> 00:10:56,850

Now, what did you know about
your father at this point?

316

00:10:56,850 --> 00:10:58,350

Well, at this point,
we didn't know.

317

00:10:58,350 --> 00:11:00,750

We knew that he was
evacuated to go home.

318

00:11:00,750 --> 00:11:03,660

At some point, we heard that
he was together with somebody

319

00:11:03,660 --> 00:11:05,580

and he died of hunger.

320

00:11:05,580 --> 00:11:07,980

I mean, they had no food there.

321

00:11:07,980 --> 00:11:08,760

And then--

322

00:11:08,760 --> 00:11:09,510

At [INAUDIBLE]?

323

00:11:09,510 --> 00:11:10,500

At [INAUDIBLE].

324

00:11:10,500 --> 00:11:15,060

And he saw him, and he died.

325

00:11:15,060 --> 00:11:17,450

And at that point--
at some point,

326

00:11:17,450 --> 00:11:20,150

there were people that said
my uncles-- which we had four.

327

00:11:20,150 --> 00:11:21,390

I had four uncles.

328

00:11:21,390 --> 00:11:22,760

I mentioned that, didn't I?

329

00:11:22,760 --> 00:11:24,030

Four uncles and four aunts.

330

00:11:24,030 --> 00:11:26,570

But they all died,
except for my mother.

331

00:11:26,570 --> 00:11:30,260

And they're my cousin's
children from--

332

00:11:30,260 --> 00:11:31,200

most of them.

333

00:11:31,200 --> 00:11:33,030

Most of my cousins survived.

334

00:11:33,030 --> 00:11:35,940

Many of them died, but
most of them survived.

335

00:11:35,940 --> 00:11:40,170

And my grandfather died,
and my grandmother died.

336

00:11:40,170 --> 00:11:42,090

And families.

337

00:11:42,090 --> 00:11:46,320

Total, complete
families of friends

338

00:11:46,320 --> 00:11:50,340

too numerous to mention that
died that no one will ever

339

00:11:50,340 --> 00:11:52,420

know they existed.

340

00:11:52,420 --> 00:11:55,530

So very few.

341
00:11:55,530 --> 00:11:57,030
I think about 800.

342
00:11:57,030 --> 00:12:01,510
I think about 800 Jews
lived through in Munkacs.

343
00:12:01,510 --> 00:12:03,848
So everybody else died.

344
00:12:03,848 --> 00:12:05,890
And this was in a short
period of time, actually.

345
00:12:05,890 --> 00:12:10,200
Because it was only
nine months, really.

346
00:12:10,200 --> 00:12:11,730
So that's what happened.

347
00:12:11,730 --> 00:12:13,150
That's the story.

348
00:12:13,150 --> 00:12:17,200
And then in Prague,
I went to school.

349
00:12:17,200 --> 00:12:20,440
I went to a textile
engineering school,

350
00:12:20,440 --> 00:12:29,766
which they had a program
where you worked for two days.

351
00:12:29,766 --> 00:12:32,040
They give you credit
for two years in one

352

00:12:32,040 --> 00:12:34,702
year to make up the lost years.

353
00:12:34,702 --> 00:12:36,660
And I was there for a
year, so I had two years.

354
00:12:36,660 --> 00:12:38,160
And then I came
out to the States

355
00:12:38,160 --> 00:12:40,560
where my uncle lived here.

356
00:12:40,560 --> 00:12:42,570
On my mother's side, two uncles.

357
00:12:42,570 --> 00:12:45,690
And they actually gave
us papers-- first papers.

358
00:12:45,690 --> 00:12:47,130
And then we came
here and started

359
00:12:47,130 --> 00:12:48,960
a new life, the three of us.

360
00:12:48,960 --> 00:12:51,310
So you were never in a
displaced persons camp.

361
00:12:51,310 --> 00:12:51,810
Never.

362
00:12:51,810 --> 00:12:51,930
No.

363
00:12:51,930 --> 00:12:52,590
Never.

364
00:12:52,590 --> 00:12:54,120

Yeah.

365

00:12:54,120 --> 00:12:58,300

And you were saying you
were at school in Prague.

366

00:12:58,300 --> 00:12:59,130

Outside of Prague.

367

00:12:59,130 --> 00:13:00,000

Outside of Prague.

368

00:13:00,000 --> 00:13:02,420

And then, when did
you say you left?

369

00:13:02,420 --> 00:13:04,762

We left in '46.

370

00:13:04,762 --> 00:13:05,970

To come to the United States?

371

00:13:05,970 --> 00:13:07,178

To come to the United States.

372

00:13:07,178 --> 00:13:08,490

How did you get papers?

373

00:13:08,490 --> 00:13:09,820

And how was that arranged?

374

00:13:09,820 --> 00:13:13,350

My uncle sent us
the first papers.

375

00:13:13,350 --> 00:13:17,095

And he sent us the
passage, actually.

376

00:13:17,095 --> 00:13:18,720

This was an uncle in
the United States?

377
00:13:18,720 --> 00:13:21,180
The uncle who lived here.

378
00:13:21,180 --> 00:13:23,070
He was also-- he was in Belgium.

379
00:13:23,070 --> 00:13:25,850
And he left in 1942.

380
00:13:25,850 --> 00:13:29,070
And he went to Brazil, and
then he came to the States.

381
00:13:29,070 --> 00:13:33,240
And he came to the
States in 1942.

382
00:13:33,240 --> 00:13:37,470
But he was also an
escapee from Hitler.

383
00:13:37,470 --> 00:13:43,170
Did you at this point with
your mother and sister

384
00:13:43,170 --> 00:13:44,760
talk about what
you went through?

385
00:13:44,760 --> 00:13:47,530
Did they talk about what they
went through at that time?

386
00:13:47,530 --> 00:13:48,030
Yes.

387
00:13:48,030 --> 00:13:48,572
At that time?

388
00:13:48,572 --> 00:13:51,240
We often spoke about it.

389
00:13:51,240 --> 00:13:53,400
Yes, I told them
what happened to us.

390
00:13:53,400 --> 00:13:56,220
I told them about my father.

391
00:13:56,220 --> 00:13:58,680
And they had a very difficult
time because my mother

392
00:13:58,680 --> 00:13:59,820
never worked in her life.

393
00:13:59,820 --> 00:14:04,090
And she was doing physical
work, and she was very sick.

394
00:14:04,090 --> 00:14:05,550
She had a gall bladder problem--

395
00:14:05,550 --> 00:14:07,860
an acute gall bladder problem.

396
00:14:07,860 --> 00:14:10,530
And at one time my
sister was telling me

397
00:14:10,530 --> 00:14:13,980
that they took them out
to work on the fields.

398
00:14:13,980 --> 00:14:18,060
And the SS saw her and he
says, how can they send you out

399
00:14:18,060 --> 00:14:20,340
to work in this condition?

400
00:14:20,340 --> 00:14:26,480
So he gave her a blanket

and she sat down.

401

00:14:26,480 --> 00:14:27,340

This is your mother?

402

00:14:27,340 --> 00:14:30,150

My mother.

403

00:14:30,150 --> 00:14:34,260

So at the end, they
really, they survived

404

00:14:34,260 --> 00:14:37,410

because my sister helped her.

405

00:14:37,410 --> 00:14:38,700

She could not survive.

406

00:14:38,700 --> 00:14:39,710

In what way did she?

407

00:14:39,710 --> 00:14:40,210

In what way?

408

00:14:40,210 --> 00:14:40,860

Well, any time.

409

00:14:40,860 --> 00:14:50,310

Well, for example, when they
were evacuated, they marched.

410

00:14:50,310 --> 00:14:51,880

So they were marching
into Germany,

411

00:14:51,880 --> 00:14:53,820

which she could hardly walk.

412

00:14:53,820 --> 00:14:57,910

So then, whoever couldn't
make it, they were shot.

413

00:14:57,910 --> 00:15:01,250

So she said, well, I
just can't make it.

414

00:15:01,250 --> 00:15:03,570

And she just went
into the ditch.

415

00:15:03,570 --> 00:15:05,530

It was a deep ditch.

416

00:15:05,530 --> 00:15:07,470

And that's what
the SS used to do.

417

00:15:07,470 --> 00:15:09,870

They used to throw them into
the ditch and shoot them.

418

00:15:09,870 --> 00:15:12,162

So she just voluntarily--
she just fell into the ditch,

419

00:15:12,162 --> 00:15:13,670

and my sister went after her.

420

00:15:13,670 --> 00:15:14,830

And the SS saw her.

421

00:15:14,830 --> 00:15:17,550

And he probably thought
that she'd die anyway there,

422

00:15:17,550 --> 00:15:19,380

and they just didn't shoot them.

423

00:15:19,380 --> 00:15:20,890

And they stayed there.

424

00:15:20,890 --> 00:15:22,200

And when they left--

425

00:15:22,200 --> 00:15:26,530
and she spoke fluently German,
my sister, and both of them.

426

00:15:26,530 --> 00:15:29,490
They came out and there
was a farm nearby.

427

00:15:29,490 --> 00:15:32,170
And they went in and they
didn't tell them who they were.

428

00:15:32,170 --> 00:15:34,110
They didn't have
striped clothes.

429

00:15:34,110 --> 00:15:36,570
But they had torn clothes,
but they didn't have striped.

430

00:15:36,570 --> 00:15:37,950
So they worked for this--

431

00:15:37,950 --> 00:15:41,190

432

00:15:41,190 --> 00:15:42,960
she had a very big
farm, this woman--

433

00:15:42,960 --> 00:15:44,490
and she was working there.

434

00:15:44,490 --> 00:15:47,640
They were working there
until the Russians came.

435

00:15:47,640 --> 00:15:49,030
And then they came home.

436

00:15:49,030 --> 00:15:51,450
But that's how she escaped.

437
00:15:51,450 --> 00:15:53,270
How did you get to
the United States?

438
00:15:53,270 --> 00:15:53,770
By boat?

439
00:15:53,770 --> 00:15:54,460
By plane.

440
00:15:54,460 --> 00:15:54,960
By plane.

441
00:15:54,960 --> 00:15:56,040
By plane.

442
00:15:56,040 --> 00:16:00,850
We flew from Geneva,
from Switzerland.

443
00:16:00,850 --> 00:16:03,730
That was two days.

444
00:16:03,730 --> 00:16:04,430
And you land.

445
00:16:04,430 --> 00:16:05,820
You land in the United States.

446
00:16:05,820 --> 00:16:07,480
We landed in New York.

447
00:16:07,480 --> 00:16:08,670
When?

448
00:16:08,670 --> 00:16:09,340
In--

449
00:16:09,340 --> 00:16:10,530
What day?

450
00:16:10,530 --> 00:16:11,715
What day?

451
00:16:11,715 --> 00:16:12,590
I can't remember now.

452
00:16:12,590 --> 00:16:14,950
I think it was June.

453
00:16:14,950 --> 00:16:15,740
In June sometime.

454
00:16:15,740 --> 00:16:16,340
Of '46.

455
00:16:16,340 --> 00:16:18,090
'46.

456
00:16:18,090 --> 00:16:22,375
And what was it like to put your
feet down in the United States?

457
00:16:22,375 --> 00:16:25,720
Ah, we always dreamed
of coming here.

458
00:16:25,720 --> 00:16:29,360
And I guess the dream
materialized after.

459
00:16:29,360 --> 00:16:34,980
And we were constantly looking
for who survived, and friends,

460
00:16:34,980 --> 00:16:37,770
and we were always
anxious to know.

461
00:16:37,770 --> 00:16:39,940
And--

462

00:16:39,940 --> 00:16:42,137

Had you thought of
going to Palestine?

463

00:16:42,137 --> 00:16:44,938

464

00:16:44,938 --> 00:16:45,480

At that time?

465

00:16:45,480 --> 00:16:46,662

At that time, no.

466

00:16:46,662 --> 00:16:47,370

At that time, no.

467

00:16:47,370 --> 00:16:48,450

But later on, I did.

468

00:16:48,450 --> 00:16:51,370

Once I had children, we
thought of doing that.

469

00:16:51,370 --> 00:16:52,310

But then we never--

470

00:16:52,310 --> 00:16:53,227

No, but at that point.

471

00:16:53,227 --> 00:16:56,280

At that point, no.

472

00:16:56,280 --> 00:16:57,540

And so you landed in New York.

473

00:16:57,540 --> 00:16:58,920

And then where did you settle?

474

00:16:58,920 --> 00:17:00,935

And then we settled
in Forest Hills.

475
00:17:00,935 --> 00:17:01,850
In Queens.

476
00:17:01,850 --> 00:17:03,217
Queens.

477
00:17:03,217 --> 00:17:04,050
And what did you do?

478
00:17:04,050 --> 00:17:07,380

479
00:17:07,380 --> 00:17:09,210
Well, I took--

480
00:17:09,210 --> 00:17:12,000
I went to City College at
night, took English courses

481
00:17:12,000 --> 00:17:15,210
and business courses.

482
00:17:15,210 --> 00:17:17,925
And I met this man
through my uncle

483
00:17:17,925 --> 00:17:20,964
who was a jewelry designer,
and went into the field

484
00:17:20,964 --> 00:17:21,839
of designing jewelry.

485
00:17:21,839 --> 00:17:23,256
Your uncle was a
jewelry designer?

486
00:17:23,256 --> 00:17:24,427
No, he was a diamond dealer.

487

00:17:24,427 --> 00:17:26,010
But he knew this man
who was a jewelry

488
00:17:26,010 --> 00:17:28,079
designer, who was Hungarian.

489
00:17:28,079 --> 00:17:32,460
And I started with
him, and here I am.

490
00:17:32,460 --> 00:17:35,820
And then, just what was the
pattern of your life after?

491
00:17:35,820 --> 00:17:38,850
And then, after that, I
was designing jewelry.

492
00:17:38,850 --> 00:17:41,820
And I worked for
several companies.

493
00:17:41,820 --> 00:17:47,140
And in 1953, I met my wife on
a blind date, and we married.

494
00:17:47,140 --> 00:17:50,310
And then I went into--

495
00:17:50,310 --> 00:17:54,090
a year later, I was drafted
and I went into the service.

496
00:17:54,090 --> 00:17:54,700
Korean War.

497
00:17:54,700 --> 00:17:55,350
Korean War.

498
00:17:55,350 --> 00:17:58,680
But I went to Europe and I was
in the intelligence service

499
00:17:58,680 --> 00:18:00,060
as an interpreter.

500
00:18:00,060 --> 00:18:02,200
What was it like to
go back to Europe?

501
00:18:02,200 --> 00:18:06,900
As a matter of fact, my job
was working in Nuremberg

502
00:18:06,900 --> 00:18:08,250
in the Palace of Justice.

503
00:18:08,250 --> 00:18:08,750
Oh.

504
00:18:08,750 --> 00:18:10,770
Can we talk a little
bit about that?

505
00:18:10,770 --> 00:18:13,320
Well, that was a
little bit strange.

506
00:18:13,320 --> 00:18:15,520
And of course, we
lived with the Germans

507
00:18:15,520 --> 00:18:16,990
and we lived in a German home.

508
00:18:16,990 --> 00:18:20,990
So it was a little
difficult. But--

509
00:18:20,990 --> 00:18:22,140
In what sense?

510
00:18:22,140 --> 00:18:24,447
Well, you know, I could

never get used to-- today,

511

00:18:24,447 --> 00:18:25,530

I feel a little different.

512

00:18:25,530 --> 00:18:27,900

But at that point,

I was still bitter.

513

00:18:27,900 --> 00:18:31,560

And when I saw a little child

and I said, well, why should

514

00:18:31,560 --> 00:18:32,130

she live?

515

00:18:32,130 --> 00:18:34,020

Or why shouldn't-- you know.

516

00:18:34,020 --> 00:18:36,840

But anyway.

517

00:18:36,840 --> 00:18:39,810

I lived in this private home.

518

00:18:39,810 --> 00:18:42,270

I mean, we had an

upstairs in a small house.

519

00:18:42,270 --> 00:18:43,720

And--

520

00:18:43,720 --> 00:18:44,970

The German family lived there.

521

00:18:44,970 --> 00:18:46,200

German family.

522

00:18:46,200 --> 00:18:50,370

And daily, I went to work in

the Palace of Justice upstairs.

523

00:18:50,370 --> 00:18:53,280

I didn't have a uniform
on because we were--

524

00:18:53,280 --> 00:18:56,250

it was an unassigned
group and we

525

00:18:56,250 --> 00:18:58,000

didn't want to be recognized.

526

00:18:58,000 --> 00:18:59,490

So we dealt with agents.

527

00:18:59,490 --> 00:19:02,010

We sent agents to
Czechoslovakia since I

528

00:19:02,010 --> 00:19:04,800

debrief Czechs and Hungarians.

529

00:19:04,800 --> 00:19:07,950

And I was doing that for
about a year and a half.

530

00:19:07,950 --> 00:19:11,160

And actually, I only
had the uniform on once

531

00:19:11,160 --> 00:19:13,230

because it's required
to put on a uniform

532

00:19:13,230 --> 00:19:16,230

once-- if you're in the
Army-- at least once a year,

533

00:19:16,230 --> 00:19:20,490

and to shoot a gun.

534

00:19:20,490 --> 00:19:22,800

So we went on the firing range.

535

00:19:22,800 --> 00:19:25,530

And that's when I put on our
fatigues, at the firing range.

536

00:19:25,530 --> 00:19:29,100

And when we came home, I changed
and took civilian, and we left.

537

00:19:29,100 --> 00:19:30,395

But we had a good time.

538

00:19:30,395 --> 00:19:33,820

We traveled to Italy.

539

00:19:33,820 --> 00:19:34,320

No one--

540

00:19:34,320 --> 00:19:35,000

Friends.

541

00:19:35,000 --> 00:19:36,793

With Ruth Because
she was with me.

542

00:19:36,793 --> 00:19:37,960

Oh, your wife came with you.

543

00:19:37,960 --> 00:19:38,970

My wife came with me,

544

00:19:38,970 --> 00:19:39,470

Oh, I see.

545

00:19:39,470 --> 00:19:41,580

My wife was with me.

546

00:19:41,580 --> 00:19:43,373

And--

547

00:19:43,373 --> 00:19:44,040

Any unpleasant--

548
00:19:44,040 --> 00:19:44,745
I lived before--

549
00:19:44,745 --> 00:19:46,270
experiences at that--

550
00:19:46,270 --> 00:19:47,700
At that point?

551
00:19:47,700 --> 00:19:50,340
Well, I want to do
things that I didn't

552
00:19:50,340 --> 00:19:52,740
do [CHUCKLES] with the Germans.

553
00:19:52,740 --> 00:19:54,660
I mean, at that
point, everything

554
00:19:54,660 --> 00:19:55,600
was very fresh still.

555
00:19:55,600 --> 00:19:56,100
So--

556
00:19:56,100 --> 00:19:57,850
So what do you mean,
you did things that--

557
00:19:57,850 --> 00:19:59,220
I felt that they--

558
00:19:59,220 --> 00:20:03,720
I just felt hatred
towards them at the time.

559
00:20:03,720 --> 00:20:05,910
But I overcame that.

560

00:20:05,910 --> 00:20:09,000

And I couldn't live there.

561

00:20:09,000 --> 00:20:11,710

But even today, I speak to them.

562

00:20:11,710 --> 00:20:16,500

And I can't blame a young
person for his father's crimes.

563

00:20:16,500 --> 00:20:19,860

But any time a
person who is my age

564

00:20:19,860 --> 00:20:23,310

or over, I would say that
he was a potential Nazi.

565

00:20:23,310 --> 00:20:25,160

Because they were all--

566

00:20:25,160 --> 00:20:28,090

they were all Nazis, as
far as I'm concerned.

567

00:20:28,090 --> 00:20:31,630

I mean, there were very few and
far in between that were not.

568

00:20:31,630 --> 00:20:33,565

And the same thing in Hungary.

569

00:20:33,565 --> 00:20:35,690

I think the Hungarians were
worse than the Germans,

570

00:20:35,690 --> 00:20:36,820

actually.

571

00:20:36,820 --> 00:20:38,070

In what sense?

572

00:20:38,070 --> 00:20:49,530

Well, they didn't have to-- for
example, we were in the ghetto.

573

00:20:49,530 --> 00:20:53,060

And so they were sort
of happy, you see.

574

00:20:53,060 --> 00:20:55,770

They saw when we were
marching to the--

575

00:20:55,770 --> 00:20:59,080

they were all smiling and
happy that they were taking us.

576

00:20:59,080 --> 00:21:02,430

I mean, they're very
anti-Semitic there.

577

00:21:02,430 --> 00:21:03,750

Did you go back to--

578

00:21:03,750 --> 00:21:04,320

I never went.

579

00:21:04,320 --> 00:21:05,153

I went to Hungary--

580

00:21:05,153 --> 00:21:05,820

You did go back.

581

00:21:05,820 --> 00:21:07,020

--to Budapest.

582

00:21:07,020 --> 00:21:09,770

But I never went
back to Munkacs.

583

00:21:09,770 --> 00:21:12,330

I may go back yet.

584

00:21:12,330 --> 00:21:13,260

I don't know.

585

00:21:13,260 --> 00:21:15,390

My wife Ruth says not to go.

586

00:21:15,390 --> 00:21:18,490

But I still feel that

I should, and I may.

587

00:21:18,490 --> 00:21:20,190

Do you still have your number?

588

00:21:20,190 --> 00:21:22,260

I still have my number.

589

00:21:22,260 --> 00:21:24,178

I'll show it to you.

590

00:21:24,178 --> 00:21:26,095

I mean, you have seen

it many times, probably.

591

00:21:26,095 --> 00:21:27,774

And I still have it.

592

00:21:27,774 --> 00:21:31,260

593

00:21:31,260 --> 00:21:33,620

So you were in the

Army Intelligence.

594

00:21:33,620 --> 00:21:34,490

Right.

595

00:21:34,490 --> 00:21:35,410

In Nuremberg.

596

00:21:35,410 --> 00:21:36,950

Yes.

597
00:21:36,950 --> 00:21:39,940
And, well, we had--

598
00:21:39,940 --> 00:21:42,155
Were you involved in
any of the trials?

599
00:21:42,155 --> 00:21:43,280
No, because this was after.

600
00:21:43,280 --> 00:21:43,680
This was in--

601
00:21:43,680 --> 00:21:44,388
Oh, this was in--

602
00:21:44,388 --> 00:21:45,030
1955.

603
00:21:45,030 --> 00:21:46,070
Oh, this was in '55.

604
00:21:46,070 --> 00:21:46,330
'55.

605
00:21:46,330 --> 00:21:46,872
Right, right.

606
00:21:46,872 --> 00:21:47,760
No, this was after.

607
00:21:47,760 --> 00:21:48,260
Way after.

608
00:21:48,260 --> 00:21:49,890
In the '50s, right.

609
00:21:49,890 --> 00:21:50,390
No.

610

00:21:50,390 --> 00:21:53,060

The only thing we did was
we gathered information

611

00:21:53,060 --> 00:21:55,880

from the bridges,
and the highways,

612

00:21:55,880 --> 00:21:59,690

and the military operations of
the Czechs and the Hungarians.

613

00:21:59,690 --> 00:22:04,520

And we each were assigned
agents that we dealt with.

614

00:22:04,520 --> 00:22:08,900

And that was my job.

615

00:22:08,900 --> 00:22:11,240

And then I just wrote reports.

616

00:22:11,240 --> 00:22:13,490

And I found out that
one of my agents

617

00:22:13,490 --> 00:22:15,740

that I dealt with was
a double agent after.

618

00:22:15,740 --> 00:22:18,420

[LAUGHS]

619

00:22:18,420 --> 00:22:20,180

And then you came
back to United States.

620

00:22:20,180 --> 00:22:22,400

And then I came back to, yes.

621

00:22:22,400 --> 00:22:25,760

And then I open my business,

and I've been there since.

622

00:22:25,760 --> 00:22:27,180

And you said you have children?

623

00:22:27,180 --> 00:22:28,550

I have three children.

624

00:22:28,550 --> 00:22:31,370

Did you ever-- did you talk
to them about your experience?

625

00:22:31,370 --> 00:22:35,030

I have told them everything
that I've told you here.

626

00:22:35,030 --> 00:22:38,270

Most of it, I have told them.

627

00:22:38,270 --> 00:22:38,802

Most of it.

628

00:22:38,802 --> 00:22:40,760

I mean, honest, I forgot
something at the time.

629

00:22:40,760 --> 00:22:43,693

But they know what
happened and they know--

630

00:22:43,693 --> 00:22:45,610

they may even know more
because I may not have

631

00:22:45,610 --> 00:22:48,000

remembered it now everything.

632

00:22:48,000 --> 00:22:50,170

Maybe in an hour
I'll remember it.

633

00:22:50,170 --> 00:22:54,350

But I told them.

634
00:22:54,350 --> 00:22:55,970
Talk to us a little
bit more before we

635
00:22:55,970 --> 00:22:58,760
end about your feelings.

636
00:22:58,760 --> 00:23:02,340
Are you more religious because
of what you went through?

637
00:23:02,340 --> 00:23:03,530
Less religious?

638
00:23:03,530 --> 00:23:05,270
I think I'm less religious.

639
00:23:05,270 --> 00:23:08,090
I don't think I'm
more religious, no.

640
00:23:08,090 --> 00:23:10,330
We were never--

641
00:23:10,330 --> 00:23:13,940
We were religious at
home, but it was never

642
00:23:13,940 --> 00:23:20,750
that religion like the ultra
Orthodox So we were never--

643
00:23:20,750 --> 00:23:21,970
I was never like that.

644
00:23:21,970 --> 00:23:23,240
But the whole time--

645
00:23:23,240 --> 00:23:26,630
I mean, I wouldn't think of

going out without that cap,

646
00:23:26,630 --> 00:23:27,980
for example, from my house.

647
00:23:27,980 --> 00:23:29,600
But once I was
outside, I took it off.

648
00:23:29,600 --> 00:23:32,390

649
00:23:32,390 --> 00:23:33,760
But the feeling was--

650
00:23:33,760 --> 00:23:35,330
I mean, that was just outwardly.

651
00:23:35,330 --> 00:23:40,070
Feeling wise, I would say that
I think I'm a very good Jew.

652
00:23:40,070 --> 00:23:41,510
But I'm not religious.

653
00:23:41,510 --> 00:23:45,510
I'm not religious in
the sense of the habits.

654
00:23:45,510 --> 00:23:47,630
But I would be very deeply--

655
00:23:47,630 --> 00:23:51,435

656
00:23:51,435 --> 00:23:55,070
I would not like my children
not to marry Jews, for example.

657
00:23:55,070 --> 00:23:57,890
And yeah, I would
call myself religious.

658
00:23:57,890 --> 00:23:59,000
I mean, that's religious.

659
00:23:59,000 --> 00:23:59,900
What is religion?

660
00:23:59,900 --> 00:24:02,880
Even though you went through
this because you were Jewish?

661
00:24:02,880 --> 00:24:03,380
Yes.

662
00:24:03,380 --> 00:24:06,270
But I think that
if there is God,

663
00:24:06,270 --> 00:24:09,290
then he should have
protected the ones that died.

664
00:24:09,290 --> 00:24:12,480
Like my grandmother was
a deeply religious person

665
00:24:12,480 --> 00:24:13,580
and a very good person.

666
00:24:13,580 --> 00:24:16,400
So it's very mixed
feelings about that.

667
00:24:16,400 --> 00:24:20,522
Was it hard to adjust
to a, quote, normal life

668
00:24:20,522 --> 00:24:21,980
when you came to
the United States?

669
00:24:21,980 --> 00:24:22,840

No.

670

00:24:22,840 --> 00:24:23,540

No, it was easy.

671

00:24:23,540 --> 00:24:24,670

For me, it was easy.

672

00:24:24,670 --> 00:24:26,160

I really didn't have--

673

00:24:26,160 --> 00:24:28,140

Did you know any English?

674

00:24:28,140 --> 00:24:30,080

Well, the first year, I did.

675

00:24:30,080 --> 00:24:30,585

I learned.

676

00:24:30,585 --> 00:24:32,210

You didn't really
know anything before?

677

00:24:32,210 --> 00:24:33,460

I didn't know anything before.

678

00:24:33,460 --> 00:24:36,020

Actually, I did a few words
that maybe we learned in school.

679

00:24:36,020 --> 00:24:36,920

But very little.

680

00:24:36,920 --> 00:24:39,930

Hardly anything.

681

00:24:39,930 --> 00:24:41,390

But you feel the transition--

682

00:24:41,390 --> 00:24:42,380

Was easy.

683

00:24:42,380 --> 00:24:43,290

Was easy for you.

684

00:24:43,290 --> 00:24:43,830

It was easy.

685

00:24:43,830 --> 00:24:46,500

686

00:24:46,500 --> 00:24:48,380

Does--

687

00:24:48,380 --> 00:24:53,270

I didn't have psychological
problems with being in camp.

688

00:24:53,270 --> 00:24:54,860

I lived through it.

689

00:24:54,860 --> 00:24:58,070

And it was just
an incident which

690

00:24:58,070 --> 00:25:00,230

I hated the Germans for it.

691

00:25:00,230 --> 00:25:00,980

Or the Hungarians.

692

00:25:00,980 --> 00:25:04,610

Or, for that matter,
the Americans.

693

00:25:04,610 --> 00:25:08,723

At some point when I found
out that they could have--

694

00:25:08,723 --> 00:25:09,890

things could have been done.

695

00:25:09,890 --> 00:25:11,240

The Hungarian Jews--
it didn't have

696

00:25:11,240 --> 00:25:12,660

to happen to the Hungarian Jews.

697

00:25:12,660 --> 00:25:14,270

Something could have been done.

698

00:25:14,270 --> 00:25:16,550

They could have
bombed the trains.

699

00:25:16,550 --> 00:25:18,650

They could have done
something, it seems to me.

700

00:25:18,650 --> 00:25:20,270

It was the end of the war.

701

00:25:20,270 --> 00:25:23,710

And to allow that million--
or, I don't know--

702

00:25:23,710 --> 00:25:25,790

600,000 Hungarians died.

703

00:25:25,790 --> 00:25:27,380

I think they died in--

704

00:25:27,380 --> 00:25:29,660

that wasn't necessary
at that point.

705

00:25:29,660 --> 00:25:34,580

When you were-- right before
you went to Auschwitz,

706

00:25:34,580 --> 00:25:37,430

had you heard of Raoul
Wallenberg or not?

707
00:25:37,430 --> 00:25:38,330
Heard about him?

708
00:25:38,330 --> 00:25:39,640
I heard about him.

709
00:25:39,640 --> 00:25:40,528
Not--

710
00:25:40,528 --> 00:25:41,235
Not then.

711
00:25:41,235 --> 00:25:41,860
No, not before.

712
00:25:41,860 --> 00:25:42,310
Only after.

713
00:25:42,310 --> 00:25:42,810
Only after.

714
00:25:42,810 --> 00:25:43,700
Only after, right.

715
00:25:43,700 --> 00:25:47,420

716
00:25:47,420 --> 00:25:49,640
But it wasn't really
publicized at the time

717
00:25:49,640 --> 00:25:50,780
because it was kept quiet.

718
00:25:50,780 --> 00:25:51,280
It wasn't--

719
00:25:51,280 --> 00:25:53,420
Right.

720

00:25:53,420 --> 00:25:57,420

What do you think
enabled you to survive?

721

00:25:57,420 --> 00:25:58,730

Will to live.

722

00:25:58,730 --> 00:26:00,840

Will to live.

723

00:26:00,840 --> 00:26:07,190

And I was very young, and I did
everything possible to survive.

724

00:26:07,190 --> 00:26:08,630

Well, some people
wanted to die--

725

00:26:08,630 --> 00:26:10,790

and some people did
die-- where they

726

00:26:10,790 --> 00:26:13,940

committed even suicide, where
they went against the wires.

727

00:26:13,940 --> 00:26:16,910

And they ran, and they
touched the electrical wires.

728

00:26:16,910 --> 00:26:20,570

But it was the will to live.

729

00:26:20,570 --> 00:26:24,170

Do you think your youth had
something to do with it?

730

00:26:24,170 --> 00:26:25,200

I think so.

731

00:26:25,200 --> 00:26:25,700

I think so.

732
00:26:25,700 --> 00:26:28,990
I think it's
personalities, also.

733
00:26:28,990 --> 00:26:30,200
And what's that mean?

734
00:26:30,200 --> 00:26:37,130
Some people had problems after.

735
00:26:37,130 --> 00:26:39,150
I like to think I didn't
have a problem after.

736
00:26:39,150 --> 00:26:41,120
And then I know people
that did have problems.

737
00:26:41,120 --> 00:26:43,250
And they couldn't-- I have
a cousin, for example,

738
00:26:43,250 --> 00:26:45,500
that she lives in Brooklyn.

739
00:26:45,500 --> 00:26:47,780
And she never-- she
still lives there.

740
00:26:47,780 --> 00:26:49,020
And she says she feels good.

741
00:26:49,020 --> 00:26:51,410
It's like a ghetto, and
she feels good here.

742
00:26:51,410 --> 00:26:55,960
So she never overcame
living that life,

743
00:26:55,960 --> 00:26:59,390

where I did and my sister did.

744

00:26:59,390 --> 00:27:03,140

And you think back, but
you don't dwell on it.

745

00:27:03,140 --> 00:27:06,950

I mean, I didn't dwell
on the fact that--

746

00:27:06,950 --> 00:27:07,820

what happened to us.

747

00:27:07,820 --> 00:27:08,420

I didn't--

748

00:27:08,420 --> 00:27:12,543

749

00:27:12,543 --> 00:27:13,460

Do you dream about it?

750

00:27:13,460 --> 00:27:14,150

Do you have nightmares?

751

00:27:14,150 --> 00:27:14,880

No.

752

00:27:14,880 --> 00:27:15,380

You don't.

753

00:27:15,380 --> 00:27:17,210

No.

754

00:27:17,210 --> 00:27:20,690

Do you think the fact that
you were with your father was

755

00:27:20,690 --> 00:27:22,040

a help to you?

756

00:27:22,040 --> 00:27:23,630

I think it was a
help to both of us.

757

00:27:23,630 --> 00:27:27,630

We comforted each other.

758

00:27:27,630 --> 00:27:32,030

We had fights because I
always told him to work less.

759

00:27:32,030 --> 00:27:34,150

And he said, no,
we have to work.

760

00:27:34,150 --> 00:27:36,200

And I said, you're
draining your strength.

761

00:27:36,200 --> 00:27:38,870

So we always fought about that.

762

00:27:38,870 --> 00:27:44,160

Other than that, we never
spoke about escaping.

763

00:27:44,160 --> 00:27:48,548

We spoke about my mother, and
my sister, and my brother.

764

00:27:48,548 --> 00:27:50,090

I mean, we knew that
my brother died.

765

00:27:50,090 --> 00:27:53,120

At that point, we
knew he was gone.

766

00:27:53,120 --> 00:27:55,310

But we hoped that--

767

00:27:55,310 --> 00:27:56,900

we never wanted to

see them, though.

768

00:27:56,900 --> 00:27:59,130

Because the condition
we saw the women,

769

00:27:59,130 --> 00:28:01,710

we didn't want to
see them that way.

770

00:28:01,710 --> 00:28:03,215

So we just hoped
that they survived.

771

00:28:03,215 --> 00:28:06,630

772

00:28:06,630 --> 00:28:08,240

And that was about it.

773

00:28:08,240 --> 00:28:09,970

Do you receive reparations?

774

00:28:09,970 --> 00:28:11,310

No.

775

00:28:11,310 --> 00:28:11,810

No.

776

00:28:11,810 --> 00:28:12,590

My sister does.

777

00:28:12,590 --> 00:28:13,640

I don't.

778

00:28:13,640 --> 00:28:15,050

I should have, but I don't.

779

00:28:15,050 --> 00:28:16,310

Did you apply at all?

780

00:28:16,310 --> 00:28:18,350

I was in the Army
at the time when

781

00:28:18,350 --> 00:28:20,240

the application took place.

782

00:28:20,240 --> 00:28:23,768

And somehow, I was
never one for getting.

783

00:28:23,768 --> 00:28:26,060

I always felt it was charity,
which was wrong because I

784

00:28:26,060 --> 00:28:27,770

could have given it to charity.

785

00:28:27,770 --> 00:28:29,760

But somehow I never
went for those things,

786

00:28:29,760 --> 00:28:31,610

and I never applied for it.

787

00:28:31,610 --> 00:28:32,960

I should have.

788

00:28:32,960 --> 00:28:37,180

And if I had to do it
over, I would do it.

789

00:28:37,180 --> 00:28:40,160

Just an ending.

790

00:28:40,160 --> 00:28:43,730

Thinking back, does the
Holocaust experience still

791

00:28:43,730 --> 00:28:46,730

affect your life?

792

00:28:46,730 --> 00:28:48,350
It does not affect my life.

793
00:28:48,350 --> 00:28:51,080
I hope that people learn by it.

794
00:28:51,080 --> 00:28:53,570
And I hope it will
never happen again

795
00:28:53,570 --> 00:28:55,910
to Jews or to other people.

796
00:28:55,910 --> 00:28:59,390
But as my personal life,
it doesn't affect it now.

797
00:28:59,390 --> 00:29:05,810
Except I keep on asking,
why did it have to happen?

798
00:29:05,810 --> 00:29:07,930
Does looking at your
number affect you?

799
00:29:07,930 --> 00:29:08,470
No.

800
00:29:08,470 --> 00:29:08,970
No.

801
00:29:08,970 --> 00:29:10,553
I would have taken
it off if it would.

802
00:29:10,553 --> 00:29:12,890

803
00:29:12,890 --> 00:29:14,540
What do you say
when people ask you?

804

00:29:14,540 --> 00:29:16,290

Or did anybody ever
ask you what that was?

805

00:29:16,290 --> 00:29:16,820

They ask me.

806

00:29:16,820 --> 00:29:18,710

They usually act surprised.

807

00:29:18,710 --> 00:29:20,030

You were there?

808

00:29:20,030 --> 00:29:21,990

They usually act surprised.

809

00:29:21,990 --> 00:29:23,750

I mean, they even
know that I was there.

810

00:29:23,750 --> 00:29:26,480

But if they see the number, then
they say, you have a number?

811

00:29:26,480 --> 00:29:31,280

So they usually act surprised
even though they knew

812

00:29:31,280 --> 00:29:32,690

that I went through Germany.

813

00:29:32,690 --> 00:29:36,740

But if they see the
number, then it sort of

814

00:29:36,740 --> 00:29:38,100

makes an impact of some kind.

815

00:29:38,100 --> 00:29:40,660

816

00:29:40,660 --> 00:29:44,070

Is there anything else you
wanted to add to your story?

817
00:29:44,070 --> 00:29:44,570
No.

818
00:29:44,570 --> 00:29:46,370
The only thing
that I would add is

819
00:29:46,370 --> 00:29:49,860
that I hope that it
never happens again.

820
00:29:49,860 --> 00:29:53,570
And if it could benefit
anybody, then I certainly

821
00:29:53,570 --> 00:30:00,750
would do everything possible
in my part to help that effort.

822
00:30:00,750 --> 00:30:03,630
That's my story.

823
00:30:03,630 --> 00:30:04,760
Well, thank you very much--

824
00:30:04,760 --> 00:30:05,215
You're welcome.

825
00:30:05,215 --> 00:30:06,298
--for doing the interview.

826
00:30:06,298 --> 00:30:06,934
You're welcome.

827
00:30:06,934 --> 00:30:10,570

828
00:30:10,570 --> 00:30:12,605
I didn't even give my

father's name, did I?

829

00:30:12,605 --> 00:30:14,795

No.

830

00:30:14,795 --> 00:30:16,420

Well, you can tell

your father's name--

831

00:30:16,420 --> 00:30:17,090

Anyway.

832

00:30:17,090 --> 00:30:17,590

Pardon?

833

00:30:17,590 --> 00:30:17,770

Oh, no.

834

00:30:17,770 --> 00:30:18,230

You did.

835

00:30:18,230 --> 00:30:18,938

In the beginning.

836

00:30:18,938 --> 00:30:19,840

Yeah, yeah.

837

00:30:19,840 --> 00:30:22,552

And your name at birth was?

838

00:30:22,552 --> 00:30:24,970

Was Forest-- Feuerstein.

839

00:30:24,970 --> 00:30:25,690

OK.

840

00:30:25,690 --> 00:30:27,810

And how did you happen

to change it to?

841

00:30:27,810 --> 00:30:28,310

[INAUDIBLE]

842
00:30:28,310 --> 00:30:29,020
Yes.

843
00:30:29,020 --> 00:30:33,310
OK, this is what I
would like to add.

844
00:30:33,310 --> 00:30:35,440
I changed my name
because when we came out,

845
00:30:35,440 --> 00:30:39,380
my uncle felt that we
should change our name.

846
00:30:39,380 --> 00:30:41,770
Which I always regretted after.

847
00:30:41,770 --> 00:30:45,130
But he insisted on changing it.

848
00:30:45,130 --> 00:30:49,090
And we changed it to Forley.

849
00:30:49,090 --> 00:30:52,630
My original name was
Feuerstein and he

850
00:30:52,630 --> 00:30:56,380
thought that that was not a
good idea to have that name.

851
00:30:56,380 --> 00:30:58,313
And until today,
I don't know why.

852
00:30:58,313 --> 00:30:59,980
When you say you came
out, came out of--

853

00:30:59,980 --> 00:31:01,025
Came out from Europe.

854
00:31:01,025 --> 00:31:02,150
When we came to the States.

855
00:31:02,150 --> 00:31:03,775
Oh, when you came to
the United States.

856
00:31:03,775 --> 00:31:05,120
In 1946, I came to the States.

857
00:31:05,120 --> 00:31:08,470
He thought that which
was have a fresh start.

858
00:31:08,470 --> 00:31:09,033
And--

859
00:31:09,033 --> 00:31:10,450
This is the uncle
that lived here.

860
00:31:10,450 --> 00:31:12,492
The uncle that live here
that sent us the papers.

861
00:31:12,492 --> 00:31:13,520
And I looked up--

862
00:31:13,520 --> 00:31:16,090
and I looked up to him.

863
00:31:16,090 --> 00:31:20,520
I thought that whatever
he said should be.

864
00:31:20,520 --> 00:31:22,140
But we always regretted it.

865
00:31:22,140 --> 00:31:23,520

We all of us regretted it.

866
00:31:23,520 --> 00:31:25,870
[AUDIO OUT]

867
00:31:25,870 --> 00:31:30,062

868
00:31:30,062 --> 00:31:31,520
When you came to
the United States,

869
00:31:31,520 --> 00:31:32,603
and that you regretted it.

870
00:31:32,603 --> 00:31:33,730
[INAUDIBLE]

871
00:31:33,730 --> 00:31:34,930
No, that you regret it.

872
00:31:34,930 --> 00:31:35,903
I regret it.

873
00:31:35,903 --> 00:31:36,820
Why did you regret it?

874
00:31:36,820 --> 00:31:38,112
I regret it because the reason.

875
00:31:38,112 --> 00:31:43,810
I could never know why or what
was his reason for changing it.

876
00:31:43,810 --> 00:31:46,780
I would suppose that
he just didn't want--

877
00:31:46,780 --> 00:31:49,950
he felt that maybe
we would feel--

878

00:31:49,950 --> 00:31:51,070

I really can't even--

879

00:31:51,070 --> 00:31:52,360

I can't even analyze it.

880

00:31:52,360 --> 00:31:55,210

I can't think why he did it.

881

00:31:55,210 --> 00:32:00,310

But we had decided to do
it because he said so.

882

00:32:00,310 --> 00:32:02,590

But it was the
wrong decision and--

883

00:32:02,590 --> 00:32:04,240

Why was it a wrong decision?

884

00:32:04,240 --> 00:32:06,320

Well, because why
not keep their name?

885

00:32:06,320 --> 00:32:08,830

I mean, if you change it-- if
he wanted to Americanize it,

886

00:32:08,830 --> 00:32:11,680

we could have made
it Firestone, which

887

00:32:11,680 --> 00:32:14,380

is the same thing in English.

888

00:32:14,380 --> 00:32:18,160

So what we did was, my sister
looked in the phone book.

889

00:32:18,160 --> 00:32:21,610

And she went to the Fs,
and she picked this name.

890
00:32:21,610 --> 00:32:23,910
And coincidentally,
we picked Forley.

891
00:32:23,910 --> 00:32:26,748
She picked-- actually,
she made a mistake.

892
00:32:26,748 --> 00:32:28,290
Because she saw it
in the phone book,

893
00:32:28,290 --> 00:32:31,260
she saw Farley because
there are no Forleys.

894
00:32:31,260 --> 00:32:33,420
And that's how she
picked the name.

895
00:32:33,420 --> 00:32:36,490
But we always regret
it, but it was too late.

896
00:32:36,490 --> 00:32:39,910
We had our papers, and we just
didn't want to change it back.

897
00:32:39,910 --> 00:32:42,978
Was your health-- is
your health affected

898
00:32:42,978 --> 00:32:44,020
by what you went through?

899
00:32:44,020 --> 00:32:44,680
Or was it--

900
00:32:44,680 --> 00:32:45,790
No, it was not.

901

00:32:45,790 --> 00:32:47,590
No, no.

902
00:32:47,590 --> 00:32:48,430
No.

903
00:32:48,430 --> 00:32:50,555
Because you said you had
lost so much weight when--

904
00:32:50,555 --> 00:32:52,990
No, but I gained it back after.

905
00:32:52,990 --> 00:32:55,000
My health wasn't affected.

906
00:32:55,000 --> 00:32:57,580
Not directly at the time.

907
00:32:57,580 --> 00:33:00,480
Not at all.

908
00:33:00,480 --> 00:33:04,170
Not physically, not
psychologically.

909
00:33:04,170 --> 00:33:11,340
And of course, I didn't speak
about my wife, who was--

910
00:33:11,340 --> 00:33:14,490
but she was always
very understanding.

911
00:33:14,490 --> 00:33:17,170
And she was a very
good wife for 42 years.

912
00:33:17,170 --> 00:33:23,050

913
00:33:23,050 --> 00:33:25,415

But she was always very
supportive and she was always--

914
00:33:25,415 --> 00:33:28,980

915
00:33:28,980 --> 00:33:30,860
we always-- we
traveled to Israel.

916
00:33:30,860 --> 00:33:33,590
We did that about
six or seven times.

917
00:33:33,590 --> 00:33:37,790
And we always wanted
to have a base there--

918
00:33:37,790 --> 00:33:40,700
some kind of a base--

919
00:33:40,700 --> 00:33:41,600
but we never did.

920
00:33:41,600 --> 00:33:43,550
We never bought anything.

921
00:33:43,550 --> 00:33:46,872
But we always liked it there.

922
00:33:46,872 --> 00:33:49,670
And eventually, we may
spend some time there.

923
00:33:49,670 --> 00:33:53,000
When you meet another survivor
by chance or whatever,

924
00:33:53,000 --> 00:33:56,480
do you exchange experiences?

925
00:33:56,480 --> 00:33:58,490

Not in detail.

926
00:33:58,490 --> 00:33:59,700
Not in detail, no.

927
00:33:59,700 --> 00:34:01,620
We usually don't.

928
00:34:01,620 --> 00:34:03,545
Do you feel a
connection to them?

929
00:34:03,545 --> 00:34:05,950
There is some kind
of a connection, yes.

930
00:34:05,950 --> 00:34:08,020
We do feel a connection.

931
00:34:08,020 --> 00:34:11,659
But we don't discuss details.

932
00:34:11,659 --> 00:34:14,690
In fact, very rarely
do I discuss details.

933
00:34:14,690 --> 00:34:17,120
I mean, I think this is
the first interview that--

934
00:34:17,120 --> 00:34:18,980
this is the first
interview I ever gave.

935
00:34:18,980 --> 00:34:26,060
But individual
situations, I talk about.

936
00:34:26,060 --> 00:34:29,937
But very, very rarely
do I talk about it.

937

00:34:29,937 --> 00:34:31,770

It never comes up, and
I never volunteer it.

938

00:34:31,770 --> 00:34:34,730

And if somebody would ask
me, I would talk about it.

939

00:34:34,730 --> 00:34:36,469

I wouldn't hesitate.

940

00:34:36,469 --> 00:34:38,469

I mean, I can talk about it.

941

00:34:38,469 --> 00:34:46,179

942

00:34:46,179 --> 00:34:48,580

On a final note,
I would just like

943

00:34:48,580 --> 00:34:51,530

to add two different situations.

944

00:34:51,530 --> 00:34:55,810

One was the one incident
that I forgot to mention.

945

00:34:55,810 --> 00:34:58,030

We were just
walking in the yard.

946

00:34:58,030 --> 00:35:02,350

And this man, who was
my neighbor in Munkacs,

947

00:35:02,350 --> 00:35:04,030

we passed an SS.

948

00:35:04,030 --> 00:35:06,520

We were talking, and
an SS man passed by.

949

00:35:06,520 --> 00:35:09,550

And he told him, said,
don't you stand in attention

950

00:35:09,550 --> 00:35:10,480

when I pass by?

951

00:35:10,480 --> 00:35:12,400

And he said, yes, I do.

952

00:35:12,400 --> 00:35:15,592

And then he whacked him
and all his teeth fell out.

953

00:35:15,592 --> 00:35:17,800

At which point-- I don't
know whether they were false

954

00:35:17,800 --> 00:35:19,388

or not, but several
of his teeth.

955

00:35:19,388 --> 00:35:19,930

I don't know.

956

00:35:19,930 --> 00:35:21,520

I didn't count how many.

957

00:35:21,520 --> 00:35:23,740

And then he-- the SS guard--

958

00:35:23,740 --> 00:35:26,020

he just stepped on the
teeth and broke them.

959

00:35:26,020 --> 00:35:29,230

And that was the end of that.

960

00:35:29,230 --> 00:35:33,310

On that note, not all guards
were as cruel as that.

961

00:35:33,310 --> 00:35:36,670

There was one incident
with my mother

962

00:35:36,670 --> 00:35:39,430

where she went out to work.

963

00:35:39,430 --> 00:35:44,560

And when the SS saw
her in her condition--

964

00:35:44,560 --> 00:35:46,960

she had a gall bladder attack--

965

00:35:46,960 --> 00:35:53,050

that he was unable to understand
how they sent her out to work

966

00:35:53,050 --> 00:35:54,740

in that condition.

967

00:35:54,740 --> 00:35:57,280

So he gave her a
blanket and sat her down

968

00:35:57,280 --> 00:36:02,020

in a corner to sit and wait
until the group finished

969

00:36:02,020 --> 00:36:02,590

working.

970

00:36:02,590 --> 00:36:06,440

And then he sent her back, but
he didn't allow her to work.

971

00:36:06,440 --> 00:36:11,350

So there were some SS that
were human, and most of them

972

00:36:11,350 --> 00:36:12,850

were not.

973
00:36:12,850 --> 00:36:16,900
But you do have to
recognize that some of them

974
00:36:16,900 --> 00:36:19,360
were a little more
human than others.

975
00:36:19,360 --> 00:36:23,020
And maybe those
were the ones that

976
00:36:23,020 --> 00:36:25,240
allowed my mother to survive.

977
00:36:25,240 --> 00:36:27,310
That one incident
could have been--

978
00:36:27,310 --> 00:36:32,180
if she had worked that day, she
could have just died that day.

979
00:36:32,180 --> 00:36:34,540
Being that he
helped her, she may

980
00:36:34,540 --> 00:36:37,180
have survived because of that.

981
00:36:37,180 --> 00:36:40,640
On that note, thank you.

982
00:36:40,640 --> 00:36:42,580
It seems that this tape
cannot be finished.

983
00:36:42,580 --> 00:36:44,500
We keep on adding points.

984
00:36:44,500 --> 00:36:47,170

I would just like to
thank my wife Ruth,

985
00:36:47,170 --> 00:36:49,990
and my three children
Brian, Glenn, and Diane

986
00:36:49,990 --> 00:36:59,290
for helping me through all these
years to some of the memories

987
00:36:59,290 --> 00:36:59,860
to erase.

988
00:36:59,860 --> 00:37:03,320
They help me forget
some of the memories.

989
00:37:03,320 --> 00:37:11,030
And being such a close
family, [CHUCKLES]

990
00:37:11,030 --> 00:37:12,924
I would like to thank them.

991
00:37:12,924 --> 00:37:15,850
That's it.

992
00:37:15,850 --> 00:37:19,350
That's a beautiful
way to end the tape.

993
00:37:19,350 --> 00:37:22,890
This concludes the
interview of Erwin Forley.

994
00:37:22,890 --> 00:37:28,350
It took place on September 19th,
1995 in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

995
00:37:28,350 --> 00:37:30,210
It was conducted
by Gale Schwartz

996

00:37:30,210 --> 00:37:34,340

on behalf of the United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum.

997

00:37:34,340 --> 00:37:38,000