

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,350

2

00:00:06,350 --> 00:00:11,180

The following is an
interview of Dr. Tibor Vince.

3

00:00:11,180 --> 00:00:13,900

It is taking place
on March 11th,

4

00:00:13,900 --> 00:00:18,440

1996 in Bethesda,
Maryland, and is being

5

00:00:18,440 --> 00:00:19,940

conducted by Gail Schwartz.

6

00:00:19,940 --> 00:00:24,020

7

00:00:24,020 --> 00:00:27,330

Could you give us
your full name?

8

00:00:27,330 --> 00:00:29,210

Tibor Vince.

9

00:00:29,210 --> 00:00:30,800

And where were you born?

10

00:00:30,800 --> 00:00:32,330

Budapest, Hungary.

11

00:00:32,330 --> 00:00:33,860

And when were you born?

12

00:00:33,860 --> 00:00:39,650

March 13, 1910.

13

00:00:39,650 --> 00:00:42,340

Let's talk a little bit
about your childhood.

14

00:00:42,340 --> 00:00:44,090

Who made up your family?

15

00:00:44,090 --> 00:00:46,790

Who were the members
of your family?

16

00:00:46,790 --> 00:00:50,630

My father and mother,
my brother and I.

17

00:00:50,630 --> 00:00:52,610

What was your father's name?

18

00:00:52,610 --> 00:00:56,930

[PERSONAL NAME],, which is
the equivalent of William.

19

00:00:56,930 --> 00:00:58,820

And what kind of work did he do?

20

00:00:58,820 --> 00:01:02,570

He was actually in the
army for the longest time.

21

00:01:02,570 --> 00:01:03,560

And then--

22

00:01:03,560 --> 00:01:04,970

He was a career--

23

00:01:04,970 --> 00:01:07,910

He was a career army man.

24

00:01:07,910 --> 00:01:13,490

He was stationed in Vienna
where he met my mother.

25

00:01:13,490 --> 00:01:18,810
They got married in 1902.

26
00:01:18,810 --> 00:01:22,340
Possibly he was
transferred to Hungary

27
00:01:22,340 --> 00:01:25,460
because my brother
was born about a year

28
00:01:25,460 --> 00:01:27,440
after they were married,
but born already

29
00:01:27,440 --> 00:01:29,520
in Budapest, Hungary.

30
00:01:29,520 --> 00:01:32,330
And from then on, he
was still in the army

31
00:01:32,330 --> 00:01:35,410
for the longest time.

32
00:01:35,410 --> 00:01:37,160
The only thing I
remember as a young child

33
00:01:37,160 --> 00:01:39,590
that he had the longest
sword I ever have seen,

34
00:01:39,590 --> 00:01:42,980
and I usually fell
[? with the sword ?]

35
00:01:42,980 --> 00:01:46,100
walking with him.

36
00:01:46,100 --> 00:01:47,802
You would go out
on walks with him,

37
00:01:47,802 --> 00:01:49,010
and he would carry his sword.

38
00:01:49,010 --> 00:01:49,510
Yes.

39
00:01:49,510 --> 00:01:51,710
Yeah, I would-- this
was before the war

40
00:01:51,710 --> 00:01:54,290
and during the
First World World.

41
00:01:54,290 --> 00:02:00,050
And of course, in inter
war, he was not in the army.

42
00:02:00,050 --> 00:02:03,950
And during the First World War,
he was back in the army again.

43
00:02:03,950 --> 00:02:05,630
What did he do between--

44
00:02:05,630 --> 00:02:06,670
before the war?

45
00:02:06,670 --> 00:02:08,120
He did some kind of a business.

46
00:02:08,120 --> 00:02:09,344
I don't-- he was--

47
00:02:09,344 --> 00:02:09,886
Business man.

48
00:02:09,886 --> 00:02:12,250
He was in some
kind of a business.

49

00:02:12,250 --> 00:02:15,080

Not too successful
either, I don't think.

50

00:02:15,080 --> 00:02:17,660

What about your mother's family?

51

00:02:17,660 --> 00:02:19,250

Where were they from?

52

00:02:19,250 --> 00:02:24,420

My mother is-- was born in
the northern part of Hungary.

53

00:02:24,420 --> 00:02:25,550

Mm-hmm.

54

00:02:25,550 --> 00:02:30,830

And her father was a farmer.

55

00:02:30,830 --> 00:02:33,260

She had-- there
were eight sisters.

56

00:02:33,260 --> 00:02:34,110

Your mother's name?

57

00:02:34,110 --> 00:02:38,840

My mother's name, Laure,
L-A-U-R-E. And my mother was--

58

00:02:38,840 --> 00:02:40,690

Her maiden name?

59

00:02:40,690 --> 00:02:42,320

Quastler-- Q-U-A--

60

00:02:42,320 --> 00:02:46,260

61

00:02:46,260 --> 00:02:56,320

Q-U-A-S-T-L-E-R. And when my
mother was four years old,

62
00:02:56,320 --> 00:02:58,220
her mother died.

63
00:02:58,220 --> 00:03:03,260
And the youngest sibling was
just about four months old.

64
00:03:03,260 --> 00:03:06,890
And the oldest sister,
who was already married,

65
00:03:06,890 --> 00:03:08,740
lived in Vienna.

66
00:03:08,740 --> 00:03:14,210
And after the mother died,
the last three youngest,

67
00:03:14,210 --> 00:03:16,130
she brought them up.

68
00:03:16,130 --> 00:03:20,780
And that's how-- [? Hermia ?]
was the youngest, about four

69
00:03:20,780 --> 00:03:24,800
months, mother, two years
old, and Regina was four.

70
00:03:24,800 --> 00:03:27,980
And they all grew
up with tante Maria,

71
00:03:27,980 --> 00:03:34,550
which was the name of the
oldest sister, in Vienna.

72
00:03:34,550 --> 00:03:40,460
And that's where she met my
father and they got married.

73
00:03:40,460 --> 00:03:45,230
My grandfather married again
and had 10 more children.

74
00:03:45,230 --> 00:03:49,046
Possibly because people
were needed on the farm,

75
00:03:49,046 --> 00:03:52,610
unless there are other reasons
for this, which escapes me

76
00:03:52,610 --> 00:03:53,580
at the present time.

77
00:03:53,580 --> 00:03:56,190

78
00:03:56,190 --> 00:03:59,800
That's my mother's family.

79
00:03:59,800 --> 00:04:03,310
Did you live right
in Budapest itself?

80
00:04:03,310 --> 00:04:06,100
Did you live in the town
when you were growing up?

81
00:04:06,100 --> 00:04:07,270
We lived in Budapest proper.

82
00:04:07,270 --> 00:04:08,000
Uh-huh.

83
00:04:08,000 --> 00:04:08,500
Yeah.

84
00:04:08,500 --> 00:04:09,800
Did you live in a house?

85

00:04:09,800 --> 00:04:11,980

Yes, we lived in a house.

86

00:04:11,980 --> 00:04:14,680

As a matter of fact,
the area where we lived

87

00:04:14,680 --> 00:04:17,740

was a military compound,
military hospitals,

88

00:04:17,740 --> 00:04:23,020

military artillery station.

89

00:04:23,020 --> 00:04:25,660

A great many of the
military installations

90

00:04:25,660 --> 00:04:32,380

were we lived, possibly because
my father's association,

91

00:04:32,380 --> 00:04:34,510

previous association.

92

00:04:34,510 --> 00:04:38,110

And I grew up
there, very quietly.

93

00:04:38,110 --> 00:04:41,110

What about your schooling?

94

00:04:41,110 --> 00:04:45,670

My schooling, in Hungary
after the fourth year

95

00:04:45,670 --> 00:04:48,700

of elementary school,
you have eight years

96

00:04:48,700 --> 00:04:52,210

of what they call

gymnasium prior

97

00:04:52,210 --> 00:04:58,360
to entering into universities
for university study, which

98

00:04:58,360 --> 00:05:03,310
was a very maybe
interesting experience.

99

00:05:03,310 --> 00:05:08,950
Because in eight years' time,
you had eight years of German,

100

00:05:08,950 --> 00:05:11,440
eight years of Latin,
four years for Greek,

101

00:05:11,440 --> 00:05:13,390
and four years of French.

102

00:05:13,390 --> 00:05:15,520
And you were quite miserable.

103

00:05:15,520 --> 00:05:18,640
You went to school from
8:00 to 5:00 every day

104

00:05:18,640 --> 00:05:22,330
and Saturday til noon, and
had a relatively short summer

105

00:05:22,330 --> 00:05:23,495
vacation.

106

00:05:23,495 --> 00:05:25,840
But we did get a good education.

107

00:05:25,840 --> 00:05:28,210
You were speaking
Hungarian at home?

108

00:05:28,210 --> 00:05:30,730

Actually, my first
language was--

109

00:05:30,730 --> 00:05:32,530

my mother and
father talked German

110

00:05:32,530 --> 00:05:36,140

with each other for two reasons.

111

00:05:36,140 --> 00:05:38,500

One of them, they spoke
[? actually ?] Hungarian,

112

00:05:38,500 --> 00:05:40,383

because they were Hungarian.

113

00:05:40,383 --> 00:05:41,800

But that was--
when I was born, it

114

00:05:41,800 --> 00:05:44,140

was under the also
Hungarian monarchy.

115

00:05:44,140 --> 00:05:47,530

And the language of German
was a very important asset

116

00:05:47,530 --> 00:05:50,350

for everybody to know.

117

00:05:50,350 --> 00:05:55,120

So while we spoke
at home German,

118

00:05:55,120 --> 00:06:02,070

we spoke Hungarian everywhere
else and with everybody else.

119

00:06:02,070 --> 00:06:06,520

As a matter of fact, my

father's job in Vienna was--

120

00:06:06,520 --> 00:06:09,460

he was assigned at the
time when they got married,

121

00:06:09,460 --> 00:06:15,040

to the military tribunal
because he was trilingual.

122

00:06:15,040 --> 00:06:18,670

He had perfect command of
German, Hungarian, and Slav.

123

00:06:18,670 --> 00:06:22,710

And most of the Elsa
Hungarian Empire,

124

00:06:22,710 --> 00:06:26,050

maybe judicially, affairs
were handled in Vienna.

125

00:06:26,050 --> 00:06:30,770

And they needed somebody who
knew three languages at least.

126

00:06:30,770 --> 00:06:34,990

So we were always
very language minded.

127

00:06:34,990 --> 00:06:36,370

What kind of
neighborhood was it?

128

00:06:36,370 --> 00:06:37,287

Was it a middle class?

129

00:06:37,287 --> 00:06:41,230

It was mostly-- it
was the outskirts of--

130

00:06:41,230 --> 00:06:45,040

I believe it was

the 6th district,

131
00:06:45,040 --> 00:06:48,000
if I remember correctly.

132
00:06:48,000 --> 00:06:52,880
It called the Land of Angels,
literally translated--

133
00:06:52,880 --> 00:06:55,420
[NON-ENGLISH].

134
00:06:55,420 --> 00:06:57,850
I don't forget it
that completely.

135
00:06:57,850 --> 00:07:02,020
It was a lot of
army installations,

136
00:07:02,020 --> 00:07:06,310
but it was primarily the
outskirts of the city,

137
00:07:06,310 --> 00:07:08,620
within the city limits, yes.

138
00:07:08,620 --> 00:07:11,390
You said the first four grades,
did you go to public school?

139
00:07:11,390 --> 00:07:13,390
Yeah, we went through
public school boys

140
00:07:13,390 --> 00:07:13,540
all the way through.

141
00:07:13,540 --> 00:07:14,950
With boys and girls together?

142
00:07:14,950 --> 00:07:15,670

Beg your pardon?

143
00:07:15,670 --> 00:07:17,590
Boys and girls together?

144
00:07:17,590 --> 00:07:19,080
No, just boys separate--

145
00:07:19,080 --> 00:07:19,580
Separately.

146
00:07:19,580 --> 00:07:21,430
--and girls separate.

147
00:07:21,430 --> 00:07:25,420
As a matter of fact,
even any education girls

148
00:07:25,420 --> 00:07:27,830
were separate than boys.

149
00:07:27,830 --> 00:07:29,710
The first time I
met girls in school

150
00:07:29,710 --> 00:07:33,340
was when we were
at the university.

151
00:07:33,340 --> 00:07:36,220
Did you have any hobbies
as a young child?

152
00:07:36,220 --> 00:07:38,410
Any other interests
besides school

153
00:07:38,410 --> 00:07:40,240
when you were growing up?

154
00:07:40,240 --> 00:07:42,492
My interests besides

school were--

155
00:07:42,492 --> 00:07:44,755
you mean, besides girls?

156
00:07:44,755 --> 00:07:47,470

157
00:07:47,470 --> 00:07:49,858
I'm talking about
before university.

158
00:07:49,858 --> 00:07:50,650
I'm talking about--

159
00:07:50,650 --> 00:07:54,530
I was quite a good
soccer player.

160
00:07:54,530 --> 00:07:57,870
And I was a very good skier.

161
00:07:57,870 --> 00:07:59,680
As a matter of fact,
one of the reasons

162
00:07:59,680 --> 00:08:01,780
why I choose to go to Turin--

163
00:08:01,780 --> 00:08:05,085
to Torino, which is at
the foothills of the Alps,

164
00:08:05,085 --> 00:08:09,260
it was a beautiful place to ski
practically all year around.

165
00:08:09,260 --> 00:08:12,120

166
00:08:12,120 --> 00:08:14,748
But when you were in

gymnasium, you also did skiing?

167

00:08:14,748 --> 00:08:15,790

You did it as a younger--

168

00:08:15,790 --> 00:08:17,110

Ice skating.

169

00:08:17,110 --> 00:08:17,800

Ice skating.

170

00:08:17,800 --> 00:08:21,000

And later on, I mostly--

171

00:08:21,000 --> 00:08:25,840

there were not to much
facilities in Hungary to ski.

172

00:08:25,840 --> 00:08:33,280

But all the facilities
to ski was in Turin.

173

00:08:33,280 --> 00:08:34,847

Did you read a lot as a child?

174

00:08:34,847 --> 00:08:36,055

Were you interested in books?

175

00:08:36,055 --> 00:08:36,730

Read?

176

00:08:36,730 --> 00:08:38,591

Yes, I was reading.

177

00:08:38,591 --> 00:08:40,049

When I was a child,
I didn't hardly

178

00:08:40,049 --> 00:08:42,539

have anything else, but books.

179

00:08:42,539 --> 00:08:45,980

There was no radio, or
television, or anything else.

180

00:08:45,980 --> 00:08:49,960

As a matter of fact, I remember
I was a young teenager when

181

00:08:49,960 --> 00:08:52,270

I built my first radio.

182

00:08:52,270 --> 00:08:55,070

I made my own radio receiver.

183

00:08:55,070 --> 00:08:57,080

I must have been about 14 or 15.

184

00:08:57,080 --> 00:08:59,930

As a matter of
fact, I started to--

185

00:08:59,930 --> 00:09:03,860

just like in ancient times, I
remember when the electricity

186

00:09:03,860 --> 00:09:05,730

was brought to our house.

187

00:09:05,730 --> 00:09:07,000

I first studied--

188

00:09:07,000 --> 00:09:10,710

I studied by kerosene lamps.

189

00:09:10,710 --> 00:09:13,200

I never-- I forgot that.

190

00:09:13,200 --> 00:09:21,590

And it was very, very
nice and very difficult.

191

00:09:21,590 --> 00:09:24,230

When you go to school in
Hungary, where there is--

192
00:09:24,230 --> 00:09:27,560
I mean in gymnasium,
of classical gymnasium

193
00:09:27,560 --> 00:09:28,370
they call it.

194
00:09:28,370 --> 00:09:32,160
The real gymnasium, they call
it [INAUDIBLE] real gymnasium.

195
00:09:32,160 --> 00:09:36,290
But math teachers
and engineers went.

196
00:09:36,290 --> 00:09:40,670
And the classical element, where
Latin and Greek was taught,

197
00:09:40,670 --> 00:09:42,890
they usually became
physicians, lawyers,

198
00:09:42,890 --> 00:09:48,420
or teachers of the languages.

199
00:09:48,420 --> 00:09:51,080
But it was a long-- we
didn't have too much time

200
00:09:51,080 --> 00:09:52,520
to have hobbies.

201
00:09:52,520 --> 00:09:56,720
We all played a great deal
of soccer when we had time,

202
00:09:56,720 --> 00:09:58,780
but we didn't have
time to do much.

203
00:09:58,780 --> 00:09:59,350
Did--

204
00:09:59,350 --> 00:10:00,800
It was a difficult life.

205
00:10:00,800 --> 00:10:03,620
Did you belong to
any youth groups?

206
00:10:03,620 --> 00:10:04,130
No.

207
00:10:04,130 --> 00:10:06,413
There were no
youth groups there.

208
00:10:06,413 --> 00:10:07,830
I don't remember
any youth groups.

209
00:10:07,830 --> 00:10:10,650
No boys groups.

210
00:10:10,650 --> 00:10:11,860
I don't remember any groups.

211
00:10:11,860 --> 00:10:14,240
First of all, we're
so busy just studying

212
00:10:14,240 --> 00:10:16,610
that we were happy to survive.

213
00:10:16,610 --> 00:10:18,740
What about music and art?

214
00:10:18,740 --> 00:10:21,730
I played piano for early life.

215

00:10:21,730 --> 00:10:25,070

We all started about
eight, nine years of age.

216

00:10:25,070 --> 00:10:27,350

Your family had a
piano in your house?

217

00:10:27,350 --> 00:10:29,540

Yeah.

218

00:10:29,540 --> 00:10:32,003

Was your family a
very close family?

219

00:10:32,003 --> 00:10:32,930

Very.

220

00:10:32,930 --> 00:10:35,540

As a matter of fact,
the sisters who

221

00:10:35,540 --> 00:10:39,230

grew up in Vienna
after mother and dad

222

00:10:39,230 --> 00:10:42,740

moved into this part of
Hungary, they all followed them.

223

00:10:42,740 --> 00:10:45,440

And all four of them
lived in the same--

224

00:10:45,440 --> 00:10:47,002

all the eight sisters--

225

00:10:47,002 --> 00:10:48,710

of course, some of
them stayed in Vienna,

226

00:10:48,710 --> 00:10:53,780

some of them [INAUDIBLE],, but

the four youngest, they all

227

00:10:53,780 --> 00:10:56,150
stayed in the same
area or a block

228

00:10:56,150 --> 00:10:59,840
of maybe five or six blocks.

229

00:10:59,840 --> 00:11:05,870
And, of course, there were a
lot of nephews, and cousins,

230

00:11:05,870 --> 00:11:07,300
and what have you.

231

00:11:07,300 --> 00:11:09,180
So would you get together
at holiday times?

232

00:11:09,180 --> 00:11:09,680
Oh, yeah.

233

00:11:09,680 --> 00:11:13,630
We would-- it was
family-oriented existence,

234

00:11:13,630 --> 00:11:15,550
families--

235

00:11:15,550 --> 00:11:21,980
well, it was a large family
and we sometimes-- as a matter

236

00:11:21,980 --> 00:11:25,090
of fact, we were quite close.

237

00:11:25,090 --> 00:11:27,890
And your brother, did you
have a close relationship

238

00:11:27,890 --> 00:11:29,220

with your brother?

239

00:11:29,220 --> 00:11:29,720

Yes.

240

00:11:29,720 --> 00:11:30,020

He was eight years older--

241

00:11:30,020 --> 00:11:31,340

He was eight years older, yeah.

242

00:11:31,340 --> 00:11:31,910

--than you.

243

00:11:31,910 --> 00:11:35,270

He was considerably older
than and I. Eight years

244

00:11:35,270 --> 00:11:37,790

is a long time.

245

00:11:37,790 --> 00:11:43,880

And my father's side,
there were five children.

246

00:11:43,880 --> 00:11:45,840

Quite a number of
doctors among them.

247

00:11:45,840 --> 00:11:47,990

The oldest cousin
was a physician

248

00:11:47,990 --> 00:11:51,110

and possibly influenced a
great many of the younger ones.

249

00:11:51,110 --> 00:11:52,940

I was the youngest.

250

00:11:52,940 --> 00:12:00,860

And in an area where most of

the population did not get

251

00:12:00,860 --> 00:12:04,450

not even high school
educations in those days.

252

00:12:04,450 --> 00:12:08,300

There were not too many
college educated people.

253

00:12:08,300 --> 00:12:11,090

Why did you say life was hard?

254

00:12:11,090 --> 00:12:15,260

Life was hard because we
were in school 10, 12 days--

255

00:12:15,260 --> 00:12:20,480

10, 12 hours a day, weeks, and
months, and months, and months.

256

00:12:20,480 --> 00:12:24,660

It was-- besides studying and
comply with these studies,

257

00:12:24,660 --> 00:12:26,910

you had very little
time for anything else.

258

00:12:26,910 --> 00:12:29,132

It was a tough schooling.

259

00:12:29,132 --> 00:12:30,590

And that's what I
say [INAUDIBLE]..

260

00:12:30,590 --> 00:12:32,010

That's what you mean.

261

00:12:32,010 --> 00:12:34,350

We didn't think of
that, that it was hard.

262

00:12:34,350 --> 00:12:37,130

We didn't know that there was
any other existence either.

263

00:12:37,130 --> 00:12:41,180

Now, comparison, I can see
that that was really an animal,

264

00:12:41,180 --> 00:12:43,160

but when we were
there, we just did it

265

00:12:43,160 --> 00:12:45,435

because everybody else--
not everybody-- those

266

00:12:45,435 --> 00:12:47,990

who went to school did it.

267

00:12:47,990 --> 00:12:51,200

But of course, when you're
finished high school,

268

00:12:51,200 --> 00:12:54,170

you automatically
became a gentleman--

269

00:12:54,170 --> 00:12:56,335

an officer and a gentleman.

270

00:12:56,335 --> 00:12:57,710

I don't know if
I ever taught you

271

00:12:57,710 --> 00:13:00,320

that, that any high
school graduate,

272

00:13:00,320 --> 00:13:02,070

when they went into
the army, they went--

273

00:13:02,070 --> 00:13:04,580
a special insignia on the arm.

274
00:13:04,580 --> 00:13:06,410
They went in to direct--

275
00:13:06,410 --> 00:13:08,210
they became officers
in the army,

276
00:13:08,210 --> 00:13:10,670
not if they stayed long enough.

277
00:13:10,670 --> 00:13:12,380
It was compulsory,
military service,

278
00:13:12,380 --> 00:13:15,420
at the age of maybe
18 or thereabouts.

279
00:13:15,420 --> 00:13:17,780
And then you stayed in
the service until you--

280
00:13:17,780 --> 00:13:21,380
in the reserve until you are 65.

281
00:13:21,380 --> 00:13:23,270
You said your father
was in the military.

282
00:13:23,270 --> 00:13:26,360
Was he a strict disciplinarian?

283
00:13:26,360 --> 00:13:27,330
I don't remember that.

284
00:13:27,330 --> 00:13:28,580
You don't remember him being--

285
00:13:28,580 --> 00:13:30,760

I think that we had
quite a warm family--

286
00:13:30,760 --> 00:13:32,370
Family life.

287
00:13:32,370 --> 00:13:38,910
We never-- I don't remember any
difficulties within the family.

288
00:13:38,910 --> 00:13:41,810
Did you have any kind of
religious training growing up?

289
00:13:41,810 --> 00:13:42,500
No.

290
00:13:42,500 --> 00:13:43,450
No religious training.

291
00:13:43,450 --> 00:13:45,280
Not to speak of.

292
00:13:45,280 --> 00:13:47,160
Not to speak of.

293
00:13:47,160 --> 00:13:51,865
We were just a
happy, simple family.

294
00:13:51,865 --> 00:13:54,890
I'm still the same.

295
00:13:54,890 --> 00:13:56,765
So you didn't go to
Sunday school as a child?

296
00:13:56,765 --> 00:13:57,265
No.

297
00:13:57,265 --> 00:13:59,010
Or belong-- go to services.

298
00:13:59,010 --> 00:14:01,250
There was no compulsory
schooling there.

299
00:14:01,250 --> 00:14:04,100
Did you have religious
training in your--

300
00:14:04,100 --> 00:14:07,265
did you have any religious
training in your school itself?

301
00:14:07,265 --> 00:14:08,060
No.

302
00:14:08,060 --> 00:14:09,020
Weekly training?

303
00:14:09,020 --> 00:14:12,400
No, they were already
just teaching in schools.

304
00:14:12,400 --> 00:14:15,150

305
00:14:15,150 --> 00:14:18,200
OK, well now you've gone
through the gymnasium,

306
00:14:18,200 --> 00:14:18,970
and now you are--

307
00:14:18,970 --> 00:14:19,720
I beg your pardon?

308
00:14:19,720 --> 00:14:22,010
You finished your
high school, your--

309
00:14:22,010 --> 00:14:23,240
I finished my high school.

310
00:14:23,240 --> 00:14:27,665
And then I went further
to become teachers.

311
00:14:27,665 --> 00:14:28,790
We got a teacher's diploma.

312
00:14:28,790 --> 00:14:31,790

313
00:14:31,790 --> 00:14:34,940
With that kind of education,
you needed not too much,

314
00:14:34,940 --> 00:14:39,040
I believe a year or so, and
you get a teacher's diploma.

315
00:14:39,040 --> 00:14:40,610
Was this at a different school?

316
00:14:40,610 --> 00:14:41,940
You went to a different school?

317
00:14:41,940 --> 00:14:42,790
Yes.

318
00:14:42,790 --> 00:14:44,190
A teacher's--

319
00:14:44,190 --> 00:14:44,900
A teacher's--

320
00:14:44,900 --> 00:14:45,900
A college type of thing.

321
00:14:45,900 --> 00:14:47,250
Like a college equivalent.

322
00:14:47,250 --> 00:14:47,860

And was this--

323

00:14:47,860 --> 00:14:48,920

The two of us--

324

00:14:48,920 --> 00:14:50,660

there were three

of us very close.

325

00:14:50,660 --> 00:14:51,985

All three of us were Tibors.

326

00:14:51,985 --> 00:14:54,760

327

00:14:54,760 --> 00:15:01,135

One young man, one Tibor, he was

a very, very talented painter

328

00:15:01,135 --> 00:15:03,200

at an early age.

329

00:15:03,200 --> 00:15:06,250

The other one was--

330

00:15:06,250 --> 00:15:10,420

became a correspondent of

one of the biggest newspapers

331

00:15:10,420 --> 00:15:13,990

while in high school

and his college study.

332

00:15:13,990 --> 00:15:15,920

And I had no talent whatsoever.

333

00:15:15,920 --> 00:15:17,840

So I just studied.

334

00:15:17,840 --> 00:15:21,550

But the three of us decided to

go to Paris after we finished.

335
00:15:21,550 --> 00:15:22,330
This is what?

336
00:15:22,330 --> 00:15:24,726
1928-29?

337
00:15:24,726 --> 00:15:25,226
'29.

338
00:15:25,226 --> 00:15:28,570

339
00:15:28,570 --> 00:15:30,360
The three young men
decide to go to Paris.

340
00:15:30,360 --> 00:15:32,170
The three of us.

341
00:15:32,170 --> 00:15:34,860
And we lived together.

342
00:15:34,860 --> 00:15:38,040
I enrolled at Sorbonne,
thinking that I'd

343
00:15:38,040 --> 00:15:43,450
become a medic or a physician,
because I had no talent

344
00:15:43,450 --> 00:15:46,480
to be a painter or a writer.

345
00:15:46,480 --> 00:15:48,290
Did you think when
you were a young child

346
00:15:48,290 --> 00:15:49,540
that you would be a physician?

347

00:15:49,540 --> 00:15:51,870

Was this something that you
had thought of growing up?

348

00:15:51,870 --> 00:15:52,760

I always wanted
to be a physician.

349

00:15:52,760 --> 00:15:53,340

Why?

350

00:15:53,340 --> 00:15:59,240

Possibly because my oldest
cousin was my role model, who--

351

00:15:59,240 --> 00:16:04,150

Victor was a really
a wonderful guy.

352

00:16:04,150 --> 00:16:06,640

And quite a number
of us, because Victor

353

00:16:06,640 --> 00:16:09,550

became a physician, we
became physicians too.

354

00:16:09,550 --> 00:16:12,620

But actually, I did not have
any talent, special talent.

355

00:16:12,620 --> 00:16:15,460

And we lived together,
which was very nice.

356

00:16:15,460 --> 00:16:19,210

But as I mentioned,
[?we are speaking?] to a friend

357

00:16:19,210 --> 00:16:26,080

of mine, the painter, met a
young lady who moved in with

358

00:16:26,080 --> 00:16:27,160
him.

359
00:16:27,160 --> 00:16:31,300
And when she moved in with
him, well, we had to move out.

360
00:16:31,300 --> 00:16:33,910
And I just left
and went to Italy.

361
00:16:33,910 --> 00:16:37,180
So that was the end of my--

362
00:16:37,180 --> 00:16:39,130
Why did you go to Italy?

363
00:16:39,130 --> 00:16:41,200
First of all, I wanted to ski.

364
00:16:41,200 --> 00:16:43,270
Secondly, I get a
scholarship there

365
00:16:43,270 --> 00:16:46,990
where I just paid
50% of the tuition.

366
00:16:46,990 --> 00:16:50,198
And I think it was a very
nice invitation to get there.

367
00:16:50,198 --> 00:16:51,865
How is it that you
got this scholarship?

368
00:16:51,865 --> 00:16:52,720
Bet your pardon?

369
00:16:52,720 --> 00:16:55,420
How did it come about that
you got the scholarship?

370

00:16:55,420 --> 00:16:58,090

I don't remember, but
they were encouraged--

371

00:16:58,090 --> 00:17:03,310

they were encouraging foreigners
to go to Italy to study.

372

00:17:03,310 --> 00:17:08,140

And either it was automatic
or you needed a certain grade,

373

00:17:08,140 --> 00:17:10,540

but I do not know.

374

00:17:10,540 --> 00:17:17,290

That well under Mussolini, who
wanted to improve opportune--

375

00:17:17,290 --> 00:17:20,650

not improve, just
to get people in.

376

00:17:20,650 --> 00:17:24,190

And we paid
automatically just 50%

377

00:17:24,190 --> 00:17:27,880

of the tuition, which
was a tremendous help.

378

00:17:27,880 --> 00:17:29,710

Was your father
supporting you for that?

379

00:17:29,710 --> 00:17:30,400

Oh, yes.

380

00:17:30,400 --> 00:17:32,200

He was agreeable to that.

381

00:17:32,200 --> 00:17:33,190

Oh, yes, oh, yes.

382

00:17:33,190 --> 00:17:37,300

We were-- by that time,
I was pretty independent.

383

00:17:37,300 --> 00:17:42,080

But of course, my parents
subsidized my medical studies,

384

00:17:42,080 --> 00:17:43,260

of course.

385

00:17:43,260 --> 00:17:45,120

And we're in Italy
did you go to?

386

00:17:45,120 --> 00:17:45,910

Beg your pardon?

387

00:17:45,910 --> 00:17:48,010

Where in Italy did you go?

388

00:17:48,010 --> 00:17:51,370

Turin-- Torino, Italy.

389

00:17:51,370 --> 00:17:55,950

I had a beautiful
six, seven and a half,

390

00:17:55,950 --> 00:17:57,080

almost seven years there.

391

00:17:57,080 --> 00:18:00,520

Because after the six
years you have a I

392

00:18:00,520 --> 00:18:06,760

believe a six months
practical hospital experience.

393

00:18:06,760 --> 00:18:09,580

And then you take a state board.

394

00:18:09,580 --> 00:18:12,190

At least 100 miles

away where you studied,

395

00:18:12,190 --> 00:18:15,940

so there would not be any--

396

00:18:15,940 --> 00:18:18,236

to eliminate the possible--

397

00:18:18,236 --> 00:18:24,512

the possible of favoritism,

you went bought 100 miles away.

398

00:18:24,512 --> 00:18:27,140

There were about six of us.

399

00:18:27,140 --> 00:18:31,730

Was medical school

difficult for you?

400

00:18:31,730 --> 00:18:33,030

No, I don't remember.

401

00:18:33,030 --> 00:18:34,950

I was rather a good student.

402

00:18:34,950 --> 00:18:36,660

As a matter of

fact, the last three

403

00:18:36,660 --> 00:18:44,160

years of my medical school

in Italy, in Turin--

404

00:18:44,160 --> 00:18:49,620

top 10% of student that got

university jobs when they were

405

00:18:49,620 --> 00:18:52,710

interns, as student interns.

406

00:18:52,710 --> 00:18:56,420

And I got a job in the
infectious disease hospital.

407

00:18:56,420 --> 00:18:59,770

And I had a very beautiful
three years there.

408

00:18:59,770 --> 00:19:05,250

And just brings back memories.

409

00:19:05,250 --> 00:19:09,347

I went to Sienna to
take my state board.

410

00:19:09,347 --> 00:19:11,430

And there were about six
of us who went to Sienna.

411

00:19:11,430 --> 00:19:12,570

I don't know why to Sienna.

412

00:19:12,570 --> 00:19:15,060

Possibly I went to Sienna
because the other people

413

00:19:15,060 --> 00:19:15,690

went to.

414

00:19:15,690 --> 00:19:19,290

And they were-- and one
of my classmates who

415

00:19:19,290 --> 00:19:25,230

went to Sienna with me was
Rita Levi-Montalcini, who

416

00:19:25,230 --> 00:19:31,030

won a Nobel Prize just
about five, six years ago.

417

00:19:31,030 --> 00:19:33,320

And the other one was--

418

00:19:33,320 --> 00:19:34,620

I don't think he came with us.

419

00:19:34,620 --> 00:19:38,410

He might have been

a year ahead--

420

00:19:38,410 --> 00:19:42,610

Salvatore Luria, who

at the present time

421

00:19:42,610 --> 00:19:45,760

is professor of MIT of biology.

422

00:19:45,760 --> 00:19:47,710

And a Nobel Prize winner.

423

00:19:47,710 --> 00:19:51,040

He was in the class before me.

424

00:19:51,040 --> 00:19:56,380

I met him once or twice

in New York after the war.

425

00:19:56,380 --> 00:19:57,550

And then we lost contact.

426

00:19:57,550 --> 00:19:59,948

427

00:19:59,948 --> 00:20:01,865

I don't even know why I

remember these things.

428

00:20:01,865 --> 00:20:02,920

It's wonderful.

429

00:20:02,920 --> 00:20:06,830

The Royal University
of Turin, yeah.

430
00:20:06,830 --> 00:20:09,787
The name of your
medical school was what?

431
00:20:09,787 --> 00:20:10,370
The official--

432
00:20:10,370 --> 00:20:14,210
Royal University of Turin--

433
00:20:14,210 --> 00:20:19,580
[ITALIAN],, translated
into English.

434
00:20:19,580 --> 00:20:21,860
And you spoke fluent
Italian when you went there?

435
00:20:21,860 --> 00:20:23,492
Not before I went
there, I didn't.

436
00:20:23,492 --> 00:20:24,950
As a matter of
fact, the only thing

437
00:20:24,950 --> 00:20:31,040
I knew when I decided to go to
Italy to study was [ITALIAN]..

438
00:20:31,040 --> 00:20:32,360
And that's about but it means.

439
00:20:32,360 --> 00:20:34,040
I want to go to Turin.

440
00:20:34,040 --> 00:20:36,110
And they were very nice.

441

00:20:36,110 --> 00:20:39,095

On the train when we went to
get over, and I was in Turin.

442

00:20:39,095 --> 00:20:40,924

And they took me to--
as a matter of fact,

443

00:20:40,924 --> 00:20:43,370

they took me to a hotel
which was not too far

444

00:20:43,370 --> 00:20:44,990

from the railroad station.

445

00:20:44,990 --> 00:20:48,050

And I had two or three
people that I knew,

446

00:20:48,050 --> 00:20:50,900

who I corresponded with before.

447

00:20:50,900 --> 00:20:54,180

As a matter of fact,
a six-- a last year

448

00:20:54,180 --> 00:20:58,280

student who was Hungarian,
arranged my entry

449

00:20:58,280 --> 00:20:59,950

into the university.

450

00:20:59,950 --> 00:21:01,850

So there were two or
three friends of mine.

451

00:21:01,850 --> 00:21:04,190

But Italian, I didn't know.

452

00:21:04,190 --> 00:21:07,430

But at that time, I
learned the language

453
00:21:07,430 --> 00:21:08,960
in about two or three months.

454
00:21:08,960 --> 00:21:11,020
Because the classes
were taught in Italian?

455
00:21:11,020 --> 00:21:11,520
Oh, yes.

456
00:21:11,520 --> 00:21:12,020
Yes.

457
00:21:12,020 --> 00:21:13,380
So you had to learn it quickly.

458
00:21:13,380 --> 00:21:18,490
And I had no difficulty
taking examinations.

459
00:21:18,490 --> 00:21:22,010
It took-- it took maybe
about three months

460
00:21:22,010 --> 00:21:27,410
to learn, to be
able to function.

461
00:21:27,410 --> 00:21:29,930
After that, it was easy.

462
00:21:29,930 --> 00:21:30,590
No problems.

463
00:21:30,590 --> 00:21:34,691
Would you characterize your
training as rigorous training?

464
00:21:34,691 --> 00:21:37,080
Yes, it was an
excellent training.

465
00:21:37,080 --> 00:21:42,500
It was a relatively
short, small class.

466
00:21:42,500 --> 00:21:44,450
I think the whole
University of Turin

467
00:21:44,450 --> 00:21:50,310
had no more than
about 150 people.

468
00:21:50,310 --> 00:21:53,380
It was a very good
standing university,

469
00:21:53,380 --> 00:21:56,203
one of the top in
Italy, at least

470
00:21:56,203 --> 00:21:57,620
they considered
it one of the top.

471
00:21:57,620 --> 00:22:00,860
Their university-- it's
interestingly enough,

472
00:22:00,860 --> 00:22:02,330
in Italy in those
days, you could

473
00:22:02,330 --> 00:22:04,280
go from one university
to the other one

474
00:22:04,280 --> 00:22:06,050
whenever you wanted to.

475
00:22:06,050 --> 00:22:07,787
And sometimes some
of these fellows

476
00:22:07,787 --> 00:22:09,620
decided to go from one
place to another one,

477
00:22:09,620 --> 00:22:12,060
because the other one was
easier the second year.

478
00:22:12,060 --> 00:22:13,790
Then came back for
the third year.

479
00:22:13,790 --> 00:22:15,890
No, Turin was a--

480
00:22:15,890 --> 00:22:18,200
the University of Torino
was a very good school

481
00:22:18,200 --> 00:22:20,150
and gave an excellent
examination.

482
00:22:20,150 --> 00:22:24,770
Did you have a lot of personal
contact with the patients?

483
00:22:24,770 --> 00:22:25,700
Or was it mostly--

484
00:22:25,700 --> 00:22:29,360
Well, I lived in a
hospital for three years.

485
00:22:29,360 --> 00:22:31,570
We took care of patients.

486
00:22:31,570 --> 00:22:33,100
So you had a lot of contact.

487
00:22:33,100 --> 00:22:34,100

We had a lot of contact.

488

00:22:34,100 --> 00:22:35,420

Personal contact.

489

00:22:35,420 --> 00:22:38,142

We had a lot of personal
contact with [INAUDIBLE]..

490

00:22:38,142 --> 00:22:38,850

With real people.

491

00:22:38,850 --> 00:22:40,580

Which was very
tragic in one way,

492

00:22:40,580 --> 00:22:46,940

because part of the
infectious disease hospital

493

00:22:46,940 --> 00:22:49,910

contained a
tuberculosis sanitarium.

494

00:22:49,910 --> 00:22:53,390

And so many of
these people coming

495

00:22:53,390 --> 00:22:58,120

from the [? ARBs ?] to
the city to working,

496

00:22:58,120 --> 00:23:01,940

to work there, because if they
were not exposed before to TB,

497

00:23:01,940 --> 00:23:04,820

they came down with a form
of any type of tuberculosis.

498

00:23:04,820 --> 00:23:07,910

And many of them died.

499

00:23:07,910 --> 00:23:12,870

Young, beautiful
women dying of TB.

500

00:23:12,870 --> 00:23:14,570

This was an era which--

501

00:23:14,570 --> 00:23:19,160

So you were then learning
to live with people

502

00:23:19,160 --> 00:23:22,930

who looked weak and ill.

503

00:23:22,930 --> 00:23:28,550

We lived in the university
and then attended classes.

504

00:23:28,550 --> 00:23:31,760

For that, we got a small
stipend, I believe,

505

00:23:31,760 --> 00:23:35,600

and certainly room
and board and laundry.

506

00:23:35,600 --> 00:23:38,090

And the good nuns
wanted to fatten me up,

507

00:23:38,090 --> 00:23:40,310

because I was so skinny.

508

00:23:40,310 --> 00:23:42,950

Oh, God.

509

00:23:42,950 --> 00:23:45,060

But that's a long time ago.

510

00:23:45,060 --> 00:23:47,092

Then you said you
finished the six years.

511
00:23:47,092 --> 00:23:48,300
And did your additional year.

512
00:23:48,300 --> 00:23:50,050
When I finished in
Turin, I went to Milan,

513
00:23:50,050 --> 00:23:52,660
and I got a job at
the university there.

514
00:23:52,660 --> 00:23:54,040
At a hospital?

515
00:23:54,040 --> 00:23:57,290
At university--
university medical school.

516
00:23:57,290 --> 00:23:58,190
Medical school.

517
00:23:58,190 --> 00:23:59,420
We were instructors.

518
00:23:59,420 --> 00:24:03,270
I was instructor in medicine.

519
00:24:03,270 --> 00:24:06,260
And a very good friend of
mine, Antonio Spinelli,

520
00:24:06,260 --> 00:24:08,260
was instructor of surgery.

521
00:24:08,260 --> 00:24:13,820
And the two of us opened up a
medical research laboratory.

522
00:24:13,820 --> 00:24:18,940
The stipend for university
people is very low.

523

00:24:18,940 --> 00:24:22,790

So most of them had to
have some outside income.

524

00:24:22,790 --> 00:24:31,100

And our job was primarily to
diagnose venereal diseases.

525

00:24:31,100 --> 00:24:33,730

At that time, was quite rampant.

526

00:24:33,730 --> 00:24:36,410

And that's how I got to Cuba.

527

00:24:36,410 --> 00:24:42,020

One of the patients of ours was
the consul, one of the consuls.

528

00:24:42,020 --> 00:24:43,330

I don't want to mention names.

529

00:24:43,330 --> 00:24:46,630

530

00:24:46,630 --> 00:24:48,820

So you were a year in Milan?

531

00:24:48,820 --> 00:24:50,290

Actually, I was--

532

00:24:50,290 --> 00:24:52,690

I wanted to get out of Europe.

533

00:24:52,690 --> 00:24:53,260

Why?

534

00:24:53,260 --> 00:24:59,260

Well, just before I
left, I mentioned to you

535

00:24:59,260 --> 00:25:07,610
that I went back to visit
to mother in July in 1938.

536
00:25:07,610 --> 00:25:08,980
And at the pass--

537
00:25:08,980 --> 00:25:11,920
at the border of the train
when I got to Hungary,

538
00:25:11,920 --> 00:25:13,390
they took my passport away.

539
00:25:13,390 --> 00:25:17,440
And they told me to
join my regiment,

540
00:25:17,440 --> 00:25:23,110
that I was assigned to the
First Hungarian Border Guards.

541
00:25:23,110 --> 00:25:26,680
And I was in the
army for four months.

542
00:25:26,680 --> 00:25:31,300
That was a time of
Sudetenland and so on.

543
00:25:31,300 --> 00:25:34,700
As a matter of fact,
possibly I would be still

544
00:25:34,700 --> 00:25:36,820
in somewhere there.

545
00:25:36,820 --> 00:25:38,980
My friend, who
was a partner, was

546
00:25:38,980 --> 00:25:47,840
able to obtain a request

from the University of Milan

547

00:25:47,840 --> 00:25:49,970
to the Hungarian
government to give me

548

00:25:49,970 --> 00:25:56,300
a two week leave of absence so
I can finish my research work.

549

00:25:56,300 --> 00:25:59,870
I went back to Italy and I
never went back to Hungary.

550

00:25:59,870 --> 00:26:00,760
You never went back.

551

00:26:00,760 --> 00:26:02,110
I never went back to Hungary.

552

00:26:02,110 --> 00:26:06,220
And that's where the Cuban
fellow gave me a passport.

553

00:26:06,220 --> 00:26:07,270
I went to Cuba.

554

00:26:07,270 --> 00:26:10,050
Chances are, if I would have
had a patient somewhere else,

555

00:26:10,050 --> 00:26:11,720
I would have ended
up somewhere else.

556

00:26:11,720 --> 00:26:13,820
I wanted to get out of Europe.

557

00:26:13,820 --> 00:26:16,030
What did you know about
Hitler at that time?

558

00:26:16,030 --> 00:26:17,030
What were your thoughts?

559
00:26:17,030 --> 00:26:20,960
Well we know, we
knew about Hitler.

560
00:26:20,960 --> 00:26:23,030
The only thing we
knew about the war,

561
00:26:23,030 --> 00:26:28,340
that Sudetenland was taken over.

562
00:26:28,340 --> 00:26:33,020
And it was a totally
abnormal atmosphere.

563
00:26:33,020 --> 00:26:34,160
Abnormal?

564
00:26:34,160 --> 00:26:36,870
Abnormal atmosphere,
and young people,

565
00:26:36,870 --> 00:26:39,490
especially who
lived a life abroad.

566
00:26:39,490 --> 00:26:43,640
I was not any more Hungarian
when I lived in Italy.

567
00:26:43,640 --> 00:26:45,020
I loved where I lived.

568
00:26:45,020 --> 00:26:46,850
I wanted to stay there.

569
00:26:46,850 --> 00:26:51,500
And to go back again
to the Hungarian life,

570

00:26:51,500 --> 00:26:57,125

it would have been stepping
back 100 years or so.

571

00:26:57,125 --> 00:26:59,000

That [? was an odd ?]
feeling, at that point.

572

00:26:59,000 --> 00:27:01,550

Did you know anything
about Hitler's restrictions

573

00:27:01,550 --> 00:27:02,590

in Germany?

574

00:27:02,590 --> 00:27:03,590

The Nuremberg Laws?

575

00:27:03,590 --> 00:27:08,120

We didn't know too much
about it, but it was a war.

576

00:27:08,120 --> 00:27:09,220

Going to happen a war.

577

00:27:09,220 --> 00:27:11,030

A war was imminent.

578

00:27:11,030 --> 00:27:13,910

Everybody was
talking about a war.

579

00:27:13,910 --> 00:27:18,570

And I don't think that
any of us liked the war.

580

00:27:18,570 --> 00:27:22,720

Anyway, I just left because I
didn't want to be in the war.

581

00:27:22,720 --> 00:27:24,580

So I left.

582
00:27:24,580 --> 00:27:26,350
I never went back again either.

583
00:27:26,350 --> 00:27:28,510
What were your duties
during those four months

584
00:27:28,510 --> 00:27:30,010
that you were in the army?

585
00:27:30,010 --> 00:27:32,380
I was in the infantry.

586
00:27:32,380 --> 00:27:37,930
That was a, as I mentioned, the
First Hungarian Border Guard.

587
00:27:37,930 --> 00:27:39,010
It was an elite group.

588
00:27:39,010 --> 00:27:42,940
It was supposed to guard
the borders of Hungary.

589
00:27:42,940 --> 00:27:47,350
It was very vigorous
exercises and training.

590
00:27:47,350 --> 00:27:51,970
And they were possibly
alerting the Hungarian army.

591
00:27:51,970 --> 00:27:54,190
And I did not know these things.

592
00:27:54,190 --> 00:27:56,480
I wouldn't have gone
back the first place.

593
00:27:56,480 --> 00:27:59,110
I didn't expect to have my

passport taken away and put

594

00:27:59,110 --> 00:28:01,210
in the army for four
months, not at a time when

595

00:28:01,210 --> 00:28:03,910
I was around nine
years from Hungary,

596

00:28:03,910 --> 00:28:05,650
or eight years, anyway.

597

00:28:05,650 --> 00:28:07,850
It's a long story.

598

00:28:07,850 --> 00:28:09,520
OK, and then you--

599

00:28:09,520 --> 00:28:11,400
as you say, you went
back and this consul--

600

00:28:11,400 --> 00:28:15,606
I went to went-- very shortly
after that, went to Cuba.

601

00:28:15,606 --> 00:28:20,350
And I get a job at
the hospital Mercedes,

602

00:28:20,350 --> 00:28:23,650
which is university hospital.

603

00:28:23,650 --> 00:28:25,192
And then--

604

00:28:25,192 --> 00:28:26,650
What kind of work
did you do there?

605

00:28:26,650 --> 00:28:28,150

I was teaching hematology.

606

00:28:28,150 --> 00:28:30,760

607

00:28:30,760 --> 00:28:32,890

What city in Cuba where you in?

608

00:28:32,890 --> 00:28:35,470

In Havana.

609

00:28:35,470 --> 00:28:40,420

And everybody, half a dozen
of us there, were friends.

610

00:28:40,420 --> 00:28:43,000

And went-- wanted
to get out of Cuba.

611

00:28:43,000 --> 00:28:45,280

We were on our way
to Australia, where

612

00:28:45,280 --> 00:28:49,360

one of the men who was
with us had an uncle.

613

00:28:49,360 --> 00:28:52,180

You know, it's very
easy, you made decisions

614

00:28:52,180 --> 00:28:55,030

just on almost hearsay.

615

00:28:55,030 --> 00:29:03,370

Not too much
substantial studies.

616

00:29:03,370 --> 00:29:05,590

But anyway, we were on our way.

617

00:29:05,590 --> 00:29:06,790

We were already in Havana.

618
00:29:06,790 --> 00:29:08,880
And then we were on
our way to Australia

619
00:29:08,880 --> 00:29:13,180
when the war broke
out, September 1st.

620
00:29:13,180 --> 00:29:14,800
What were your
feelings when you heard

621
00:29:14,800 --> 00:29:16,690
that the war had broken out?

622
00:29:16,690 --> 00:29:20,140
Well, it was a very
disturbing thing.

623
00:29:20,140 --> 00:29:21,480
Very disturbing thing.

624
00:29:21,480 --> 00:29:25,840
Because first of all, I
did not get it a passport--

625
00:29:25,840 --> 00:29:28,900
I did not get a visa to
Australia as an enemy alien.

626
00:29:28,900 --> 00:29:31,120
I was a Hungarian citizen.

627
00:29:31,120 --> 00:29:33,100
So that's one of the--
that's the reason why

628
00:29:33,100 --> 00:29:35,380
I couldn't go to Australia.

629

00:29:35,380 --> 00:29:36,040

And of course--

630

00:29:36,040 --> 00:29:38,440

Because Hungary was an ally
of Germany, you couldn't.

631

00:29:38,440 --> 00:29:39,050

Yes, correct.

632

00:29:39,050 --> 00:29:44,470

And so I came into
the United States.

633

00:29:44,470 --> 00:29:48,130

How easy was that to do?

634

00:29:48,130 --> 00:29:50,170

Actually, I don't
remember it too clearly,

635

00:29:50,170 --> 00:29:56,560

but somebody had also somebody
who was a chemist in New York.

636

00:29:56,560 --> 00:29:58,990

I don't know what his name was.

637

00:29:58,990 --> 00:30:04,525

And he sponsored us to
come to United States.

638

00:30:04,525 --> 00:30:07,140

639

00:30:07,140 --> 00:30:08,170

You keep saying us.

640

00:30:08,170 --> 00:30:09,250

Was this a big group?

641

00:30:09,250 --> 00:30:11,620

Well, I came by myself.

642

00:30:11,620 --> 00:30:14,260

But he sponsored as
many as he could.

643

00:30:14,260 --> 00:30:18,700

There were six of us who were in
Havana on the way to Australia.

644

00:30:18,700 --> 00:30:20,470

And about four of
them already left.

645

00:30:20,470 --> 00:30:21,475

Were these Hungarians?

646

00:30:21,475 --> 00:30:22,350

They were Hungarians.

647

00:30:22,350 --> 00:30:23,210

All Hungarians?

648

00:30:23,210 --> 00:30:23,710

Yes.

649

00:30:23,710 --> 00:30:24,627

And they were always--

650

00:30:24,627 --> 00:30:28,090

as a matter of fact, the four of
them already went to Australia.

651

00:30:28,090 --> 00:30:30,640

One of them we heard
about, who came back

652

00:30:30,640 --> 00:30:34,120

to visit Claude in
Milan from Australia.

653

00:30:34,120 --> 00:30:36,340

Anyway, the other
left for Australia.

654
00:30:36,340 --> 00:30:39,490
And a couple of
us, somehow, I have

655
00:30:39,490 --> 00:30:45,960
no idea, possibly the other
fellow will know it, got our--

656
00:30:45,960 --> 00:30:50,290
they sponsored us to come
to the United States.

657
00:30:50,290 --> 00:30:53,485
My problem was that when I
came to the United States,

658
00:30:53,485 --> 00:30:55,690
this man was transferred
from New York to Chicago.

659
00:30:55,690 --> 00:30:58,630

660
00:30:58,630 --> 00:31:01,215
Did you ever get
your passport back?

661
00:31:01,215 --> 00:31:02,340
You said it was taken away.

662
00:31:02,340 --> 00:31:04,750
I don't think that I got a--

663
00:31:04,750 --> 00:31:08,830
I got a passport to leave, yes.

664
00:31:08,830 --> 00:31:10,870
I get a passport
with a restriction.

665

00:31:10,870 --> 00:31:13,450

666

00:31:13,450 --> 00:31:20,100

But in Cuba, the American
government gave me a--

667

00:31:20,100 --> 00:31:23,410

668

00:31:23,410 --> 00:31:26,252

not that passport, but--

669

00:31:26,252 --> 00:31:28,585

I didn't have a passport when
I came into United States.

670

00:31:28,585 --> 00:31:40,350

671

00:31:40,350 --> 00:31:43,470

This is tape one, side B.
You were talking about coming

672

00:31:43,470 --> 00:31:45,300

to the United States from Cuba.

673

00:31:45,300 --> 00:31:48,170

And that you had a passport
with a restriction.

674

00:31:48,170 --> 00:31:49,155

To leave Hungary.

675

00:31:49,155 --> 00:31:50,370

To leave Hungary.

676

00:31:50,370 --> 00:31:55,650

Yeah, but actually,
the consul in Havana

677

00:31:55,650 --> 00:31:59,760
gave me a statement instead of--

678
00:31:59,760 --> 00:32:02,500
because I couldn't-- I
didn't have a passport to--

679
00:32:02,500 --> 00:32:05,340
I got a statement to
enter United States.

680
00:32:05,340 --> 00:32:07,720
I still have it
somewhere, I don't know.

681
00:32:07,720 --> 00:32:10,098
And it wasn't difficult then
for you at that time to--

682
00:32:10,098 --> 00:32:11,640
At the time, no,
because of the war--

683
00:32:11,640 --> 00:32:13,080
This is September 1939.

684
00:32:13,080 --> 00:32:15,570
Before or because
of the war, there

685
00:32:15,570 --> 00:32:18,130
was no immigration from Europe.

686
00:32:18,130 --> 00:32:21,150
So many of these
quotas opened up.

687
00:32:21,150 --> 00:32:23,850
Hungary might have had
a quota for, let's say,

688
00:32:23,850 --> 00:32:25,830
50,000 Hungarians.

689
00:32:25,830 --> 00:32:30,360
And suddenly, by
being in war, people

690
00:32:30,360 --> 00:32:33,240
were not getting
permits in Hungary,

691
00:32:33,240 --> 00:32:37,770
but a Hungarian could get
an entry, a legal entry

692
00:32:37,770 --> 00:32:40,920
to the United States, because
there were few people who

693
00:32:40,920 --> 00:32:44,490
were applying for it.

694
00:32:44,490 --> 00:32:46,920
So you settled-- where
did you settle in New York

695
00:32:46,920 --> 00:32:48,270
when you got there?

696
00:32:48,270 --> 00:32:49,650
Where did I study?

697
00:32:49,650 --> 00:32:51,750
Settled, where did you live?

698
00:32:51,750 --> 00:32:53,480
Well, that's a story.

699
00:32:53,480 --> 00:32:57,450
I did not-- I spent a
few days in Florida.

700
00:32:57,450 --> 00:33:01,080
And then I decided to

come to New York by bus.

701

00:33:01,080 --> 00:33:06,060

And fortunately, a person
sitting next to me in the bus

702

00:33:06,060 --> 00:33:09,840

spoke Spanish, because
I didn't speak English.

703

00:33:09,840 --> 00:33:14,970

And he told me that he has a
sister in Sheepshead Bay who

704

00:33:14,970 --> 00:33:17,160

rents rooms.

705

00:33:17,160 --> 00:33:20,450

So that was wonderful.

706

00:33:20,450 --> 00:33:23,710

I arrived to Times Square,
get out of the bus.

707

00:33:23,710 --> 00:33:24,810

I have the address.

708

00:33:24,810 --> 00:33:26,970

And there were
taxi drivers there.

709

00:33:26,970 --> 00:33:29,520

And I showed them one.

710

00:33:29,520 --> 00:33:31,560

And three or four of
those little people

711

00:33:31,560 --> 00:33:33,060

started to ask me--

712

00:33:33,060 --> 00:33:34,890

tell me something.

713

00:33:34,890 --> 00:33:36,590

Well, I talked to
them Hungarian,

714

00:33:36,590 --> 00:33:40,400

talked to them German,
Spanish, French, Italian.

715

00:33:40,400 --> 00:33:42,690

But this fellows didn't
speak any of these languages.

716

00:33:42,690 --> 00:33:45,137

They just did not.

717

00:33:45,137 --> 00:33:47,470

And they couldn't-- I couldn't
understand what they were

718

00:33:47,470 --> 00:33:48,360

saying.

719

00:33:48,360 --> 00:33:50,280

And I didn't understand
what I was saying.

720

00:33:50,280 --> 00:33:54,330

But finally, one little
guy, one of the taxi

721

00:33:54,330 --> 00:33:57,810

drivers tapped on my
shoulder, waved at me

722

00:33:57,810 --> 00:33:59,270

to get into his taxi.

723

00:33:59,270 --> 00:34:03,330

Soon as he get into the
taxi, he put the meter down.

724

00:34:03,330 --> 00:34:05,770

I said, oh, my God.

725

00:34:05,770 --> 00:34:07,050

Am I going get something?

726

00:34:07,050 --> 00:34:10,010

I had no idea where
Sheepshead Bay was.

727

00:34:10,010 --> 00:34:13,620

So after about 40 or 45
minutes from Times Square,

728

00:34:13,620 --> 00:34:15,239

we arrived to Sheepshead Bay.

729

00:34:15,239 --> 00:34:20,250

By that time I was wondering
whether my limited finances

730

00:34:20,250 --> 00:34:22,949

will pay for the trip.

731

00:34:22,949 --> 00:34:25,320

But this little guy was
talking very animatedly.

732

00:34:25,320 --> 00:34:29,310

And I get out of the car,
possibly quite beaten.

733

00:34:29,310 --> 00:34:32,520

With a big smile, tapped
me on my shoulder.

734

00:34:32,520 --> 00:34:34,020

Shook my hand.

735

00:34:34,020 --> 00:34:35,630

Didn't accept any money.

736

00:34:35,630 --> 00:34:38,600

And off he went.

737

00:34:38,600 --> 00:34:43,435

I have been paying back
taxi drivers ever since.

738

00:34:43,435 --> 00:34:46,860

739

00:34:46,860 --> 00:34:51,210

Did you have any communication
with your parents

740

00:34:51,210 --> 00:34:53,190

while you were in Cuba?

741

00:34:53,190 --> 00:34:54,840

No.

742

00:34:54,840 --> 00:34:57,720

We had-- I don't
think I told you--

743

00:34:57,720 --> 00:35:00,370

when I left Hungary--

744

00:35:00,370 --> 00:35:04,200

when I left Hungary,
my brother joined me.

745

00:35:04,200 --> 00:35:06,300

And he came with me to Cuba.

746

00:35:06,300 --> 00:35:06,990

To Cuba.

747

00:35:06,990 --> 00:35:10,800

Hoping that getting out of
the war he brings his family.

748

00:35:10,800 --> 00:35:12,750
There was a wife and a daughter.

749
00:35:12,750 --> 00:35:14,400
We'll bring our
family out of Europe.

750
00:35:14,400 --> 00:35:16,140
It was a chaotic situation.

751
00:35:16,140 --> 00:35:17,910
Was he a physician also?

752
00:35:17,910 --> 00:35:19,410
No, he was a businessman.

753
00:35:19,410 --> 00:35:22,230
But the war-- when
the war broke out,

754
00:35:22,230 --> 00:35:25,680
September 1st, he realized
that he could not possibly

755
00:35:25,680 --> 00:35:27,540
bring his family out.

756
00:35:27,540 --> 00:35:30,610
So he went back to Hungary.

757
00:35:30,610 --> 00:35:37,010
And he-- no, I did not--

758
00:35:37,010 --> 00:35:43,400
I had some communication
from Europe, but not much.

759
00:35:43,400 --> 00:35:45,800
Yes, I did, yes I did.

760
00:35:45,800 --> 00:35:49,290
As a matter of fact, I

know very well that I did.

761
00:35:49,290 --> 00:35:52,460
I was-- I didn't live in--
stayed in Sheepshead Bay

762
00:35:52,460 --> 00:35:53,900
too long.

763
00:35:53,900 --> 00:35:59,000
I came to New York in
early '76 or thereabouts,

764
00:35:59,000 --> 00:36:02,890
just next to Central
Park on one side.

765
00:36:02,890 --> 00:36:09,440
On the other side of Central
Park was a WPA run YMCA.

766
00:36:09,440 --> 00:36:16,160
And I spent from morning till
night taking English lessons.

767
00:36:16,160 --> 00:36:23,560
And worked very hard of English.

768
00:36:23,560 --> 00:36:27,060
Anyway, in six
months time, I was

769
00:36:27,060 --> 00:36:31,080
able to get an internship
because my English was

770
00:36:31,080 --> 00:36:33,200
proficient enough.

771
00:36:33,200 --> 00:36:39,090
And I got an internship at the
Evangelical Deaconess Hospital

772

00:36:39,090 --> 00:36:42,510
in Brooklyn on Chauncey Street.

773

00:36:42,510 --> 00:36:46,060
And I will had an internship
there and a residency there

774

00:36:46,060 --> 00:36:48,600
in obstetrics.

775

00:36:48,600 --> 00:36:51,570
And as a matter of
fact, that were the time

776

00:36:51,570 --> 00:36:54,900
when as much as I was
a legal immigrant,

777

00:36:54,900 --> 00:36:57,990
they drafted me to the army.

778

00:36:57,990 --> 00:37:03,780
Not only citizen, but legal
immigrants were also drafted.

779

00:37:03,780 --> 00:37:05,760
But the hospital
get an extension

780

00:37:05,760 --> 00:37:08,450
because so many of the
residents and intern staff

781

00:37:08,450 --> 00:37:11,490
were called into the
service that they were just

782

00:37:11,490 --> 00:37:13,260
very few of us.

783

00:37:13,260 --> 00:37:15,120
And they asked for

an extension for me

784

00:37:15,120 --> 00:37:18,270
until they are able to
replace me with somebody else.

785

00:37:18,270 --> 00:37:24,210
And in that period of time, they
passed a law that physicians

786

00:37:24,210 --> 00:37:28,170
who are not American citizens
cannot be drafted in the army

787

00:37:28,170 --> 00:37:30,960
as private, unless
they are citizens.

788

00:37:30,960 --> 00:37:33,900
In that case, they can go to the
army as commissioned officer.

789

00:37:33,900 --> 00:37:37,830
So they can be used as
physicians, not as orderlies

790

00:37:37,830 --> 00:37:40,850
or what have you,
in medical units.

791

00:37:40,850 --> 00:37:44,200
And I wasn't a citizen.

792

00:37:44,200 --> 00:37:46,290
So after two years in
the Deaconess Hospital,

793

00:37:46,290 --> 00:37:49,020
I had one year at the--

794

00:37:49,020 --> 00:37:52,230
another the year at the
Queens General Hospital

795
00:37:52,230 --> 00:37:54,150
in Queens on obstetrics.

796
00:37:54,150 --> 00:37:57,030
I had a residency there.

797
00:37:57,030 --> 00:38:01,950
And I came up--

798
00:38:01,950 --> 00:38:03,870
got acquainted with
one local physician

799
00:38:03,870 --> 00:38:06,930
who needed obstetrical help.

800
00:38:06,930 --> 00:38:09,230
And I went down and helped
him out from the hospital.

801
00:38:09,230 --> 00:38:10,980
As a matter of fact,
my chief sent me down

802
00:38:10,980 --> 00:38:13,800
to help some local
physician in Queens

803
00:38:13,800 --> 00:38:17,302
who had some difficulty with
a delivery, to help him out.

804
00:38:17,302 --> 00:38:19,260
And while we were waiting
the woman to deliver,

805
00:38:19,260 --> 00:38:22,230
he asked me, well, what
do I do in the hospital.

806
00:38:22,230 --> 00:38:23,590

I said, well, I'm a resident.

807

00:38:23,590 --> 00:38:25,257

He said, well, how
do you much you make.

808

00:38:25,257 --> 00:38:28,530

Sure, I get \$30 a month, sure.

809

00:38:28,530 --> 00:38:30,390

And he said, well,
what are your hours?

810

00:38:30,390 --> 00:38:34,193

I said, well I'm 24 hours
on and 24 hours off.

811

00:38:34,193 --> 00:38:35,610

He said how would
you like to work

812

00:38:35,610 --> 00:38:37,200

for me when you are out off?

813

00:38:37,200 --> 00:38:39,420

I said, my God, why not?

814

00:38:39,420 --> 00:38:41,880

Absolutely.

815

00:38:41,880 --> 00:38:44,560

He said, would you
consider \$300 a month

816

00:38:44,560 --> 00:38:49,590

as a adequate compensation?

817

00:38:49,590 --> 00:38:54,120

I said, yes, without any doubt.

818

00:38:54,120 --> 00:38:58,950

And for a few months,

I worked with him.

819

00:38:58,950 --> 00:39:04,770

And then in the following
year, which was 1944--

820

00:39:04,770 --> 00:39:09,580

yes-- at the beginning of the
year, I got my citizenship.

821

00:39:09,580 --> 00:39:13,380

And when I get my citizenship,
I applied for a commission.

822

00:39:13,380 --> 00:39:20,160

I got a commission after
we were married or before?

823

00:39:20,160 --> 00:39:21,750

After.

824

00:39:21,750 --> 00:39:25,550

In the hospital I delivered
that helped that woman--

825

00:39:25,550 --> 00:39:27,010

that helped that doctor--

826

00:39:27,010 --> 00:39:29,690

or helped the doctor out to
deliver the difficult patient,

827

00:39:29,690 --> 00:39:33,080

with hydrocephalus,
I met my wife,

828

00:39:33,080 --> 00:39:40,155

who was an obstetrical nurse, in
January, I believed, didn't I?

829

00:39:40,155 --> 00:39:43,730

In March, we were married.

830

00:39:43,730 --> 00:39:46,320

In May, I was in the army.

831

00:39:46,320 --> 00:39:47,960

OK before we get to--

832

00:39:47,960 --> 00:39:52,640

continue with that, did
you know what was happening

833

00:39:52,640 --> 00:39:56,000

in Europe in '41, '42, '43?

834

00:39:56,000 --> 00:39:58,400

Very scanty information.

835

00:39:58,400 --> 00:39:59,390

Hardly any.

836

00:39:59,390 --> 00:40:02,150

It was very poor information.

837

00:40:02,150 --> 00:40:06,630

I really didn't know
just what was going on.

838

00:40:06,630 --> 00:40:08,300

I didn't know then.

839

00:40:08,300 --> 00:40:12,920

I remember one episode
very clearly, where the--

840

00:40:12,920 --> 00:40:15,320

when Pearl Harbor was bombed--

841

00:40:15,320 --> 00:40:16,180

'41.

842

00:40:16,180 --> 00:40:19,340

It was a Sunday afternoon.

843
00:40:19,340 --> 00:40:22,430
Jim O'Leary and I were
doing a cesarean section

844
00:40:22,430 --> 00:40:26,120
when the nurse dashed in and
said, oh, my God, the war--

845
00:40:26,120 --> 00:40:27,377
the war broke out.

846
00:40:27,377 --> 00:40:28,460
We said, what do you mean.

847
00:40:28,460 --> 00:40:31,700
He said, the Japanese
bombed Pearl Harbor.

848
00:40:31,700 --> 00:40:34,550
That was Sunday afternoon.

849
00:40:34,550 --> 00:40:37,490
And from then on,
everything went too fast.

850
00:40:37,490 --> 00:40:40,520
From then on, we became aware of
what was going on in the world.

851
00:40:40,520 --> 00:40:45,190
But the information, what
you are too young to realize,

852
00:40:45,190 --> 00:40:49,050
but the information that
you received in newspapers,

853
00:40:49,050 --> 00:40:54,680
they had no real commentators
on radio or what have you.

854

00:40:54,680 --> 00:40:57,020
Heck, when I was at--

855
00:40:57,020 --> 00:41:00,230
before I worked 24 hours
on and 24 hours off,

856
00:41:00,230 --> 00:41:03,690
I worked 35 hours
out of 48 hours.

857
00:41:03,690 --> 00:41:07,100
So actually, we were
very busy people.

858
00:41:07,100 --> 00:41:09,440
Were you concerned for your
family back in Hungary?

859
00:41:09,440 --> 00:41:11,290
Well, of course, I was,
but I had nothing--

860
00:41:11,290 --> 00:41:14,990
I had no knowledge whatsoever
what happened to them.

861
00:41:14,990 --> 00:41:17,120
During that time,
you had no contact.

862
00:41:17,120 --> 00:41:19,380
I found out after the war.

863
00:41:19,380 --> 00:41:22,730
As a matter of fact,
they knew about me

864
00:41:22,730 --> 00:41:24,230
before I knew about them.

865
00:41:24,230 --> 00:41:27,140

866
00:41:27,140 --> 00:41:28,130
That was after the war.

867
00:41:28,130 --> 00:41:29,090
But there was no--

868
00:41:29,090 --> 00:41:29,960
After the war--

869
00:41:29,960 --> 00:41:30,580
--no contact.

870
00:41:30,580 --> 00:41:32,480
--the war was over.

871
00:41:32,480 --> 00:41:38,030
And I was stationed
in Innsbruck, Austria.

872
00:41:38,030 --> 00:41:40,215
And I got into my
Jeep with my Sergeant.

873
00:41:40,215 --> 00:41:43,380
I said, well, let's go to
Hungary and see my folks.

874
00:41:43,380 --> 00:41:45,200
When we get to the
Austrian border,

875
00:41:45,200 --> 00:41:47,960
the Russian troops stopped
me, said where are you going?

876
00:41:47,960 --> 00:41:49,940
To Budapest.

877
00:41:49,940 --> 00:41:53,240
Said you need it a
special permission

878
00:41:53,240 --> 00:41:55,040
from the Russian legation.

879
00:41:55,040 --> 00:41:57,200
I said, where is the
Russian legation.

880
00:41:57,200 --> 00:41:58,790
In Paris.

881
00:41:58,790 --> 00:42:03,990
So from Innsbruck, I went to
Paris on a special arrangement.

882
00:42:03,990 --> 00:42:09,577
And I knocked on the door
with a little cubbyhole.

883
00:42:09,577 --> 00:42:10,410
They didn't let me--

884
00:42:10,410 --> 00:42:12,260
I never got any
information there.

885
00:42:12,260 --> 00:42:15,260
I thought that I
could go-- after all,

886
00:42:15,260 --> 00:42:17,810
we landed in [? Loire, ?]
France, and Innsbruck

887
00:42:17,810 --> 00:42:18,860
is a big distance.

888
00:42:18,860 --> 00:42:21,170
Hungary was much
closer to Innsbruck.

889
00:42:21,170 --> 00:42:22,670

And I thought I
would go over there.

890
00:42:22,670 --> 00:42:23,690
The war would be over.

891
00:42:23,690 --> 00:42:24,620
I didn't get there.

892
00:42:24,620 --> 00:42:30,740
However, in Paris, it was
a Hungarian legation--

893
00:42:30,740 --> 00:42:33,470
not a legation-- it was
a Hungarian group who

894
00:42:33,470 --> 00:42:36,890
was going to Hungary to
establish a Hungarian legation

895
00:42:36,890 --> 00:42:38,730
in Hungary.

896
00:42:38,730 --> 00:42:42,420
And we stayed all
in the same hotel.

897
00:42:42,420 --> 00:42:45,150
And one of the man said, well,
he was on his way to Hungary.

898
00:42:45,150 --> 00:42:47,512
And I said, well, do me a favor.

899
00:42:47,512 --> 00:42:48,470
And I gave the address.

900
00:42:48,470 --> 00:42:50,550
And I said, well, if
you go to this address

901

00:42:50,550 --> 00:42:56,210
and find my parents,
give him \$100.

902
00:42:56,210 --> 00:42:57,890
And I didn't know what happened.

903
00:42:57,890 --> 00:43:01,610
But later on when
communication started,

904
00:43:01,610 --> 00:43:05,540
my mother told me
and wrote to me,

905
00:43:05,540 --> 00:43:09,650
that a big automobile stopped
in front of the apartment

906
00:43:09,650 --> 00:43:10,400
where they lived.

907
00:43:10,400 --> 00:43:15,670
And with an American
interpreter,

908
00:43:15,670 --> 00:43:22,670
they came, telling that
I'll send them some money.

909
00:43:22,670 --> 00:43:25,150
And he gave \$100--

910
00:43:25,150 --> 00:43:27,760
100 dollar bills.

911
00:43:27,760 --> 00:43:30,670
Told them to be very careful.

912
00:43:30,670 --> 00:43:34,250
They lived on that \$100
for several months.

913
00:43:34,250 --> 00:43:34,900
So they knew.

914
00:43:34,900 --> 00:43:38,684

915
00:43:38,684 --> 00:43:41,238
Not easy to talk about this.

916
00:43:41,238 --> 00:43:42,050
I know.

917
00:43:42,050 --> 00:43:44,850
Let's go back to when
you became a citizen.

918
00:43:44,850 --> 00:43:46,250
But I'm talking so much.

919
00:43:46,250 --> 00:43:47,270
It's wonderful.

920
00:43:47,270 --> 00:43:49,700
Let's go back to when
you became a citizen.

921
00:43:49,700 --> 00:43:52,340
What did it feel like to
become an American citizen?

922
00:43:52,340 --> 00:43:53,100
I beg your pardon?

923
00:43:53,100 --> 00:43:56,150
What did it feel like to
become an American citizen?

924
00:43:56,150 --> 00:44:02,270
I didn't have too
much feeling because I

925

00:44:02,270 --> 00:44:05,020
hoped for so-- not for so long.

926
00:44:05,020 --> 00:44:07,670
What was a surprise that
I get the citizenship

927
00:44:07,670 --> 00:44:10,070
much sooner than I anticipated.

928
00:44:10,070 --> 00:44:13,530
Apparently, they were
anxious to give citizenship

929
00:44:13,530 --> 00:44:17,090
because they anticipated
that these people get

930
00:44:17,090 --> 00:44:20,420
into the service and they
needed physicians in the army.

931
00:44:20,420 --> 00:44:22,940
It went, think, just
like one, two, three.

932
00:44:22,940 --> 00:44:25,700
I got married in January--

933
00:44:25,700 --> 00:44:29,690
I got my citizenship in January.

934
00:44:29,690 --> 00:44:31,820
I went down and reported for--

935
00:44:31,820 --> 00:44:34,340
they gave me a
physical examination.

936
00:44:34,340 --> 00:44:35,930
Not only a physical examination.

937

00:44:35,930 --> 00:44:39,591
They were absolutely elated.

938
00:44:39,591 --> 00:44:40,888
I said, what's the excitement?

939
00:44:40,888 --> 00:44:43,180
When I get there, somebody
said, come in here, he said.

940
00:44:43,180 --> 00:44:44,030
Come, come.

941
00:44:44,030 --> 00:44:47,480
Everybody get all excited.

942
00:44:47,480 --> 00:44:51,500
They were looking
for physicians who

943
00:44:51,500 --> 00:44:56,690
spoke other languages
and diverse skills.

944
00:44:56,690 --> 00:44:58,362
They were organizing the--

945
00:44:58,362 --> 00:45:01,254

946
00:45:01,254 --> 00:45:06,450
these overseas battalions
from Nordic countries

947
00:45:06,450 --> 00:45:09,210
and from Europe that
they wanted to use

948
00:45:09,210 --> 00:45:14,940
these people to use the northern
Hungary as a special unit.

949

00:45:14,940 --> 00:45:17,550
And they needed a Hungarian--
they needed somebody--

950
00:45:17,550 --> 00:45:20,670
I spoke about a half a
dozen languages then.

951
00:45:20,670 --> 00:45:21,480
And I was a skier.

952
00:45:21,480 --> 00:45:24,280

953
00:45:24,280 --> 00:45:27,160
So they pushed me through
in no time at all.

954
00:45:27,160 --> 00:45:30,100
Except I never got the job.

955
00:45:30,100 --> 00:45:35,230
But I got my commission
in matter of days,

956
00:45:35,230 --> 00:45:39,040
absolutely in record time.

957
00:45:39,040 --> 00:45:41,920
We're talking about
spring of 1944 now?

958
00:45:41,920 --> 00:45:45,520
I'm talking about the
very beginning of 1944.

959
00:45:45,520 --> 00:45:47,620
The beginning of 1944.

960
00:45:47,620 --> 00:45:53,800
Because March 9th, we got
married the 9th of March.

961
00:45:53,800 --> 00:45:56,980
That's why the [INAUDIBLE].

962
00:45:56,980 --> 00:46:00,070
What is your wife's name?

963
00:46:00,070 --> 00:46:02,170
What's your name?

964
00:46:02,170 --> 00:46:04,240
Priscilla.

965
00:46:04,240 --> 00:46:05,890
Last name too?

966
00:46:05,890 --> 00:46:10,840
Priscilla Marguerite
Ward, isn't it?

967
00:46:10,840 --> 00:46:16,600
And she was a very beautiful
young lady, very beautiful

968
00:46:16,600 --> 00:46:18,010
young lady.

969
00:46:18,010 --> 00:46:20,150
Actually, it was war time.

970
00:46:20,150 --> 00:46:22,990
You did not wait too long.

971
00:46:22,990 --> 00:46:25,810
I did not expect to get
into the service that fast.

972
00:46:25,810 --> 00:46:27,970
I didn't mind that I did.

973
00:46:27,970 --> 00:46:32,320
I didn't expect that fast

to go overseas, which I did.

974

00:46:32,320 --> 00:46:35,840

975

00:46:35,840 --> 00:46:38,630

So when did you go overseas?

976

00:46:38,630 --> 00:46:40,380

In the fall of '44.

977

00:46:40,380 --> 00:46:43,700

978

00:46:43,700 --> 00:46:50,420

And as a matter of fact, that
was the second anniversary

979

00:46:50,420 --> 00:46:53,000

of-- our wedding
anniversary, '46.

980

00:46:53,000 --> 00:46:56,540

I was back from war by then.

981

00:46:56,540 --> 00:46:59,550

And I went overseas.

982

00:46:59,550 --> 00:47:05,610

983

00:47:05,610 --> 00:47:10,770

We landed up in [? Lauraguel, ?]
France, the unit.

984

00:47:10,770 --> 00:47:13,020

But anyway, I was in the
service for several months

985

00:47:13,020 --> 00:47:14,103

before we went over there.

986

00:47:14,103 --> 00:47:15,540

Where were you stationed?

987

00:47:15,540 --> 00:47:19,170

In May, I was reported to
Carlisle barracks, which was

988

00:47:19,170 --> 00:47:21,240

a medical field service school.

989

00:47:21,240 --> 00:47:23,230

It's in Pennsylvania?

990

00:47:23,230 --> 00:47:24,180

Yes.

991

00:47:24,180 --> 00:47:27,180

For five and a half weeks,
they gave an infantry training.

992

00:47:27,180 --> 00:47:28,430

Because we were not--

993

00:47:28,430 --> 00:47:31,680

most of us physicians,
they were not soldiers.

994

00:47:31,680 --> 00:47:34,470

They made them into soldiers.

995

00:47:34,470 --> 00:47:41,040

And after that, I was assigned
to a hospital in Charleston

996

00:47:41,040 --> 00:47:42,930

for a very little while.

997

00:47:42,930 --> 00:47:45,030

And then again more
general hospital

998

00:47:45,030 --> 00:47:52,260
in South Carolina, where
I was up in the mountains.

999
00:47:52,260 --> 00:47:53,350
That's Black Mountains.

1000
00:47:53,350 --> 00:47:54,765
They're mostly--

1001
00:47:54,765 --> 00:47:56,070
North Carolina.

1002
00:47:56,070 --> 00:47:56,790
What?

1003
00:47:56,790 --> 00:47:57,900
North Carolina.

1004
00:47:57,900 --> 00:48:03,390
Mostly wounded from the
Pacific were brought in,

1005
00:48:03,390 --> 00:48:06,330
assuming that they might have
been exposed some ailments

1006
00:48:06,330 --> 00:48:08,850
or diseases that
insects can transmit.

1007
00:48:08,850 --> 00:48:13,440
So that was a high
altitude hospital

1008
00:48:13,440 --> 00:48:17,760
where I spent a couple
of months maybe.

1009
00:48:17,760 --> 00:48:20,920
And from then, I was transferred
to Fort Jackson, Columbia,

1010

00:48:20,920 --> 00:48:22,830

South Carolina.

1011

00:48:22,830 --> 00:48:25,860

And from there, we
were actually organized

1012

00:48:25,860 --> 00:48:29,050

to be shipped overseas.

1013

00:48:29,050 --> 00:48:33,810

I reported to the
87 ACORN division.

1014

00:48:33,810 --> 00:48:37,530

And just before the week,
before we were going overseas,

1015

00:48:37,530 --> 00:48:38,610

they checked my teeth.

1016

00:48:38,610 --> 00:48:40,280

And a couple of
teeth they thought

1017

00:48:40,280 --> 00:48:43,590

should come out because it would
be much worse if I come back

1018

00:48:43,590 --> 00:48:47,370

and I have a toothache, which
was a logical thing to do,

1019

00:48:47,370 --> 00:48:50,070

except they butchered
me so badly that I had

1020

00:48:50,070 --> 00:48:52,450

to be taken out of the unit.

1021

00:48:52,450 --> 00:48:54,480

And I couldn't go with them.

1022
00:48:54,480 --> 00:48:59,430
They assigned me to the 892nd
Medical Clearing Company.

1023
00:48:59,430 --> 00:49:03,240
And that's the unit
that I went to the war.

1024
00:49:03,240 --> 00:49:06,930
The medical battalion is
made up from an ambulance

1025
00:49:06,930 --> 00:49:10,170
company, a collecting
company, and deterred company.

1026
00:49:10,170 --> 00:49:11,810
It's called clearing company.

1027
00:49:11,810 --> 00:49:14,130
But more definite,
surgery and help

1028
00:49:14,130 --> 00:49:15,930
can be given to the
wounded before they

1029
00:49:15,930 --> 00:49:20,880
are shipped to station
hospitals or general hospitals.

1030
00:49:20,880 --> 00:49:23,970
So I was assigned to the
892nd Medical Clearing

1031
00:49:23,970 --> 00:49:26,610
Company, who just came
back from the Pacific

1032
00:49:26,610 --> 00:49:30,030
theater of operation.

1033

00:49:30,030 --> 00:49:33,750

And we went overseas.

1034

00:49:33,750 --> 00:49:36,800

We landed in

[? Lauraguel, ?] France.

1035

00:49:36,800 --> 00:49:40,360

We went all the way

through northern France.

1036

00:49:40,360 --> 00:49:46,050

And I just noticed today

that we got to battle stars

1037

00:49:46,050 --> 00:49:51,660

on our medal for the

[?Rhineland?] campaign

1038

00:49:51,660 --> 00:49:56,430

and the Central

European campaign.

1039

00:49:56,430 --> 00:49:59,180

We had, all through the

war, special assignment.

1040

00:49:59,180 --> 00:50:02,760

Whenever a unit has heavy

casualties, we were sent in

1041

00:50:02,760 --> 00:50:05,250

and helped them out.

1042

00:50:05,250 --> 00:50:09,130

We got all kinds of

different assignments.

1043

00:50:09,130 --> 00:50:13,740

It was a unit which was

assigned to the 7th Army.

1044

00:50:13,740 --> 00:50:17,550
And the 7th Army was a very
fast-moving army, just south

1045
00:50:17,550 --> 00:50:20,340
of Patton's 5th Army.

1046
00:50:20,340 --> 00:50:22,470
And they were continuously
getting in and out

1047
00:50:22,470 --> 00:50:25,660
of divisions or situations.

1048
00:50:25,660 --> 00:50:27,690
And that's how we
eventually ended up

1049
00:50:27,690 --> 00:50:35,400
in Munich, Germany
sometime in April, yes.

1050
00:50:35,400 --> 00:50:37,800
We were in Heppenheim before.

1051
00:50:37,800 --> 00:50:41,190
We crossed the Rhine
in Kaiserslautern,

1052
00:50:41,190 --> 00:50:49,848
and we were assigned
to take over

1053
00:50:49,848 --> 00:50:57,900
a huge compound of allied
prisoners of war hospital.

1054
00:50:57,900 --> 00:51:01,800
A German prisoner
of war hospital

1055
00:51:01,800 --> 00:51:04,840
with hundreds, and hundreds,

and hundreds of patients.

1056

00:51:04,840 --> 00:51:11,170

It was one of the cruelest
place I ever have seen.

1057

00:51:11,170 --> 00:51:12,880

As a matter of fact,
I had the sword

1058

00:51:12,880 --> 00:51:15,550

that the commanding
officer handed to me

1059

00:51:15,550 --> 00:51:20,390

when we were sent in to take
over the place, which we did.

1060

00:51:20,390 --> 00:51:25,640

There were 900 Russians there,
by one Yugoslav medical man.

1061

00:51:25,640 --> 00:51:30,640

And there were very, very ugly
situation in the compound,

1062

00:51:30,640 --> 00:51:33,670

where we found the
American badly--

1063

00:51:33,670 --> 00:51:37,390

Americans who were
wounded at the Bulge.

1064

00:51:37,390 --> 00:51:39,190

And it was just
an ugly situation.

1065

00:51:39,190 --> 00:51:42,610

Later on, I found out that
the commanding officer

1066

00:51:42,610 --> 00:51:47,290

toasted every day when they
had a large number of people

1067
00:51:47,290 --> 00:51:48,820
who died.

1068
00:51:48,820 --> 00:51:51,880
And he was eventually
convicted as a war criminal.

1069
00:51:51,880 --> 00:51:54,490
But that's a different story.

1070
00:51:54,490 --> 00:51:57,160
We were in Munich.

1071
00:51:57,160 --> 00:51:59,830
And I have no idea
what we did in Munich.

1072
00:51:59,830 --> 00:52:03,360

1073
00:52:03,360 --> 00:52:06,350
We must have had a number of--

1074
00:52:06,350 --> 00:52:09,090
the war ended in May.

1075
00:52:09,090 --> 00:52:15,200
So in April, there was a
lot of commotion, a lot of--

1076
00:52:15,200 --> 00:52:16,730
I don't know really what we did.

1077
00:52:16,730 --> 00:52:23,120
However, I do know that
in one episode we were--

1078
00:52:23,120 --> 00:52:26,330
the 7th Army

headquarters sent us

1079

00:52:26,330 --> 00:52:30,815
down to Dachau, which was just
a relatively short distance.

1080

00:52:30,815 --> 00:52:33,420

1081

00:52:33,420 --> 00:52:35,060
Did you know what that was?

1082

00:52:35,060 --> 00:52:38,720
No, no, we didn't.

1083

00:52:38,720 --> 00:52:43,210
I never came across in Germany
who stated that he was a Nazi.

1084

00:52:43,210 --> 00:52:45,470
And I have never came
across in Germany

1085

00:52:45,470 --> 00:52:47,060
who ever told me about--

1086

00:52:47,060 --> 00:52:50,750
there was anything like
a concentration camp.

1087

00:52:50,750 --> 00:52:54,360
Even people who lived
alongside Dachau--

1088

00:52:54,360 --> 00:52:57,260
Dachau, that's just about
an hour away-- not even--

1089

00:52:57,260 --> 00:52:58,970
half an hour away from Munich.

1090

00:52:58,970 --> 00:53:01,980

And there were several
villages all over.

1091
00:53:01,980 --> 00:53:04,580
Lately-- later on,
I just made a point

1092
00:53:04,580 --> 00:53:07,160
of talking to some of the
people alongside whether they

1093
00:53:07,160 --> 00:53:08,810
knew about these things.

1094
00:53:08,810 --> 00:53:09,740
Nobody.

1095
00:53:09,740 --> 00:53:11,760
But that is a possibility,
because nobody

1096
00:53:11,760 --> 00:53:12,635
knows about anything.

1097
00:53:12,635 --> 00:53:15,380

1098
00:53:15,380 --> 00:53:17,990
First of all, when
you are in the war,

1099
00:53:17,990 --> 00:53:21,560
you know a perimeter maybe about
five miles which is around you.

1100
00:53:21,560 --> 00:53:23,660
You don't know what goes on.

1101
00:53:23,660 --> 00:53:28,210
Just no way of
communication, absolutely.

1102

00:53:28,210 --> 00:53:29,960

So at that point, you
didn't know anything

1103

00:53:29,960 --> 00:53:31,777

about camps, concentration?

1104

00:53:31,777 --> 00:53:33,110

I didn't know anything about it.

1105

00:53:33,110 --> 00:53:41,210

But we got-- we were
asked to send the platoon.

1106

00:53:41,210 --> 00:53:44,760

The company had one
platoon-- two platoons.

1107

00:53:44,760 --> 00:53:48,680

So a clearing company, a
special clearing company

1108

00:53:48,680 --> 00:53:50,930

like we were,
there were about 90

1109

00:53:50,930 --> 00:53:55,580

enlisted men, 10 medical
officers, two dental officers,

1110

00:53:55,580 --> 00:53:57,470

and a chaplain.

1111

00:53:57,470 --> 00:53:58,940

So it was a--

1112

00:53:58,940 --> 00:54:04,480

and a large number of medical
officers for a small unit,

1113

00:54:04,480 --> 00:54:08,850

with the very idea that they can
keep more that need treatment.

1114
00:54:08,850 --> 00:54:16,290
So my platoon was sent in
to Dachau to help them out,

1115
00:54:16,290 --> 00:54:17,850
to help with
whatever they could.

1116
00:54:17,850 --> 00:54:19,950
In those days, I don't
know what they really

1117
00:54:19,950 --> 00:54:22,722
did, besides just taking care
of the people who were dying.

1118
00:54:22,722 --> 00:54:24,180
There were a large
number of people

1119
00:54:24,180 --> 00:54:27,403
who were dying of typhus.

1120
00:54:27,403 --> 00:54:29,320
Are you talking about
being in the Dachau now?

1121
00:54:29,320 --> 00:54:30,153
Being in Dachau now.

1122
00:54:30,153 --> 00:54:32,790
What was your first
impression when you got there?

1123
00:54:32,790 --> 00:54:34,890
It was horrible.

1124
00:54:34,890 --> 00:54:37,830
What did you see first?

1125
00:54:37,830 --> 00:54:39,060

Well, when I was there--

1126
00:54:39,060 --> 00:54:41,190
Did you go by truck or by car?

1127
00:54:41,190 --> 00:54:42,150
How did you get there?

1128
00:54:42,150 --> 00:54:43,520
By my Jeep.

1129
00:54:43,520 --> 00:54:44,760
By Jeep.

1130
00:54:44,760 --> 00:54:47,950
The chaplain and I
went into my Jeep.

1131
00:54:47,950 --> 00:54:53,438
And the rest of
them in ambulances.

1132
00:54:53,438 --> 00:54:55,230
And what was your first
thing that you saw?

1133
00:54:55,230 --> 00:54:57,360
Your first impression?

1134
00:54:57,360 --> 00:54:59,460
A lot of people who were dead.

1135
00:54:59,460 --> 00:55:03,036

1136
00:55:03,036 --> 00:55:09,890
A mountain of killed people,
or it seemed that way anyway.

1137
00:55:09,890 --> 00:55:13,180
A lot of things which was--

1138

00:55:13,180 --> 00:55:17,680
so much rumors, so many rumors
were in what was going on.

1139

00:55:17,680 --> 00:55:20,050
At the time, we didn't
know which one was true

1140

00:55:20,050 --> 00:55:23,440
and what wasn't true.

1141

00:55:23,440 --> 00:55:26,770
But it was true when you see,
and I have some of the pictures

1142

00:55:26,770 --> 00:55:27,570
that I took.

1143

00:55:27,570 --> 00:55:30,972
I took an awful lot of
pictures all through my war.

1144

00:55:30,972 --> 00:55:32,930
And most of them, I don't
know where I took it.

1145

00:55:32,930 --> 00:55:35,350
Because unless I sent
it home with a note,

1146

00:55:35,350 --> 00:55:37,750
such as such picture
was taken somewhere.

1147

00:55:37,750 --> 00:55:41,470
But I have some
pictures of Munich.

1148

00:55:41,470 --> 00:55:44,390
And those pictures
in Munich are April.

1149

00:55:44,390 --> 00:55:50,290
When was-- I don't know
when Dachau was liberated?

1150
00:55:50,290 --> 00:55:56,070
On April 29th, 1945.

1151
00:55:56,070 --> 00:56:01,090
The story that we got when we
got to Dachau, that a combat

1152
00:56:01,090 --> 00:56:05,910
team, led by a Texan--

1153
00:56:05,910 --> 00:56:09,340
it must have been the 45th
Division-- could have been--

1154
00:56:09,340 --> 00:56:15,600
Texas colonel who took
over the compound--

1155
00:56:15,600 --> 00:56:16,300
not took over.

1156
00:56:16,300 --> 00:56:17,490
He fought over it.

1157
00:56:17,490 --> 00:56:21,400
That had a regular battle
over the whole thing.

1158
00:56:21,400 --> 00:56:26,320
And there is a whole--

1159
00:56:26,320 --> 00:56:28,600
maybe I'll just show
you the pictures.

1160
00:56:28,600 --> 00:56:30,820
That might be enough.

1161

00:56:30,820 --> 00:56:33,490

Well, if you don't
mind, if I could just--

1162

00:56:33,490 --> 00:56:35,800

Well, I think if I show you
the pictures-- you said,

1163

00:56:35,800 --> 00:56:36,852

what did I see?

1164

00:56:36,852 --> 00:56:38,560

I can show you what
we see-- what we saw.

1165

00:56:38,560 --> 00:56:41,560

Yeah, but for the purposes of
the tape recording, I just--

1166

00:56:41,560 --> 00:56:43,690

as a doctor--

1167

00:56:43,690 --> 00:56:48,430

We were-- we were
establishing sick--

1168

00:56:48,430 --> 00:56:49,570

What did you do?

1169

00:56:49,570 --> 00:56:53,800

Sick-- sick people to take
care of the sick ones who

1170

00:56:53,800 --> 00:56:55,860

were ambulatory.

1171

00:56:55,860 --> 00:56:58,225

But the places where
they were, they

1172

00:56:58,225 --> 00:57:02,110

were all over the place,
these hundreds and hundreds

1173
00:57:02,110 --> 00:57:03,778
of patients, hundreds of bodies.

1174
00:57:03,778 --> 00:57:04,320
Who decided--

1175
00:57:04,320 --> 00:57:05,520
Bodies.

1176
00:57:05,520 --> 00:57:09,100
Who decided which
ones to take care of?

1177
00:57:09,100 --> 00:57:10,930
Was that your decision?

1178
00:57:10,930 --> 00:57:12,460
No, it would have been--

1179
00:57:12,460 --> 00:57:16,330
we were not enough people there
to take over such a large area.

1180
00:57:16,330 --> 00:57:19,990
They already had a great
many medical units there,

1181
00:57:19,990 --> 00:57:23,330
possibly the medical unit of
the division which occupied.

1182
00:57:23,330 --> 00:57:27,200
They had a-- every division
has a medical battalion.

1183
00:57:27,200 --> 00:57:30,580
So the medical battalion
went in with the combat team

1184
00:57:30,580 --> 00:57:32,140
and they took care of them.

1185
00:57:32,140 --> 00:57:34,300
But they were so
overwhelmed that they

1186
00:57:34,300 --> 00:57:37,220
asked for all the help that
they could possibly get.

1187
00:57:37,220 --> 00:57:37,720
So we were--

1188
00:57:37,720 --> 00:57:39,070
What were your specific duties?

1189
00:57:39,070 --> 00:57:44,180

1190
00:57:44,180 --> 00:57:46,030
Mostly vaccination for typhus.

1191
00:57:46,030 --> 00:57:49,300

1192
00:57:49,300 --> 00:57:51,550
Take care of the
people who were dying,

1193
00:57:51,550 --> 00:57:55,040
which was very
little we could do.

1194
00:57:55,040 --> 00:57:56,290
Could you talk to any of them?

1195
00:57:56,290 --> 00:57:57,540
You spoke all these languages.

1196
00:57:57,540 --> 00:58:01,870
I spoke to several
people, several people.

1197

00:58:01,870 --> 00:58:03,160

Everybody was willing to talk.

1198

00:58:03,160 --> 00:58:05,260

One of the biggest

jobs we had was

1199

00:58:05,260 --> 00:58:07,810

to keep people away from food.

1200

00:58:07,810 --> 00:58:11,830

They were starved, hungry.

1201

00:58:11,830 --> 00:58:12,880

And the food came in.

1202

00:58:12,880 --> 00:58:15,620

They were just eating so much

that they got sick over it.

1203

00:58:15,620 --> 00:58:17,440

Actually, they had acute--

1204

00:58:17,440 --> 00:58:25,000

the acute ailment was caused

by us, who they fed them.

1205

00:58:25,000 --> 00:58:26,770

So there were a great many--

1206

00:58:26,770 --> 00:58:30,160

most of the work at

Dachau in my unit

1207

00:58:30,160 --> 00:58:32,980

were my medical and

surgical technicians

1208

00:58:32,980 --> 00:58:37,550

who were helping the individual

wards, taking care of.

1209

00:58:37,550 --> 00:58:40,000

We did more or less
supervisory thing.

1210

00:58:40,000 --> 00:58:41,710

And I'd see a
couple of pictures,

1211

00:58:41,710 --> 00:58:45,010

that we established
a sick place.

1212

00:58:45,010 --> 00:58:48,190

It was a sign, sick, cold.

1213

00:58:48,190 --> 00:58:51,100

And we took care of the
ambulatory people who we could

1214

00:58:51,100 --> 00:58:53,260

take care of for a few days.

1215

00:58:53,260 --> 00:58:54,550

The unit stayed in.

1216

00:58:54,550 --> 00:58:56,410

They needed more
medical technicians

1217

00:58:56,410 --> 00:58:59,590

than they needed
medicine officers.

1218

00:58:59,590 --> 00:59:02,977

So some of these fellows
were there for quite a while.

1219

00:59:02,977 --> 00:59:04,810

Did you do any surgery
while you were there?

1220

00:59:04,810 --> 00:59:05,410

No, no.

1221

00:59:05,410 --> 00:59:06,220

No.

1222

00:59:06,220 --> 00:59:11,050

It was no place to do anything
else except give emergency

1223

00:59:11,050 --> 00:59:14,340

medical care and
more or less try

1224

00:59:14,340 --> 00:59:21,040

to-- try to create a place
where people can live.

1225

00:59:21,040 --> 00:59:22,990

I believe two or
three weeks later I

1226

00:59:22,990 --> 00:59:26,950

went back again one
time, and they were still

1227

00:59:26,950 --> 00:59:30,640

about 100 people dying a day.

1228

00:59:30,640 --> 00:59:35,620

Did you feel that your response
would have been different

1229

00:59:35,620 --> 00:59:37,600

if you hadn't been a physician?

1230

00:59:37,600 --> 00:59:39,568

Or were you more
prepared to see--

1231

00:59:39,568 --> 00:59:41,110

Oh, i never gave
any thought to that.

1232

00:59:41,110 --> 00:59:44,380

Were you more prepared
because you're a physician?

1233

00:59:44,380 --> 00:59:47,980

Were you more prepared to
handle what you saw because you

1234

00:59:47,980 --> 00:59:50,612

were a physician or less?

1235

00:59:50,612 --> 00:59:52,570

Do you think it made a
difference that you were

1236

00:59:52,570 --> 00:59:55,060

physician in how you reacted?

1237

00:59:55,060 --> 00:59:59,290

Maybe when you are
a physician, and you

1238

00:59:59,290 --> 01:00:02,500

see so many people
who are killed,

1239

01:00:02,500 --> 01:00:08,090

you have a certain confusion.

1240

01:00:08,090 --> 01:00:11,500

How can that happen?

1241

01:00:11,500 --> 01:00:18,400

How can it happen that so many
people are killed so miserably.

1242

01:00:18,400 --> 01:00:20,680

It was an ugly experience.

1243

01:00:20,680 --> 01:00:24,940

You know that I didn't look at
these pictures for 50 years.

1244
01:00:24,940 --> 01:00:26,800
I just did not feel that--

1245
01:00:26,800 --> 01:00:30,490
I gave it to my son
last time, just a couple

1246
01:00:30,490 --> 01:00:32,240
of years ago, after
we moved in here.

1247
01:00:32,240 --> 01:00:40,090
He decided to-- he said it was
time that I write a book about

1248
01:00:40,090 --> 01:00:41,550
your--

1249
01:00:41,550 --> 01:00:45,220
oh, more or less
your lifetime, so

1250
01:00:45,220 --> 01:00:48,928
your children and grandchildren
know who you are, what you did,

1251
01:00:48,928 --> 01:00:49,720
what you didn't do.

1252
01:00:49,720 --> 01:00:51,230
And I said, take these pictures.

1253
01:00:51,230 --> 01:00:53,200
And I know that
we had it at home

1254
01:00:53,200 --> 01:00:55,090
for God knows how many years.

1255
01:00:55,090 --> 01:00:56,590
I never looked at it.

1256

01:00:56,590 --> 01:00:58,660

There are not nights
enough to look at it.

1257

01:00:58,660 --> 01:01:03,820

And today, I'm even more
disturbed because I saw them--

1258

01:01:03,820 --> 01:01:07,950

I did not know just what you
people do, what you want to do.

1259

01:01:07,950 --> 01:01:10,720

But I thought I'm
going to get myself

1260

01:01:10,720 --> 01:01:17,650

at least one copy of these
pictures and somewhat enlarged.

1261

01:01:17,650 --> 01:01:20,140

And it looks uglier than
these small pictures.

1262

01:01:20,140 --> 01:01:22,250

The small pictures--
first of all,

1263

01:01:22,250 --> 01:01:24,100

I reached a phase when
I don't see so good

1264

01:01:24,100 --> 01:01:25,780

and I don't hear so good.

1265

01:01:25,780 --> 01:01:27,980

So things are not that clear.

1266

01:01:27,980 --> 01:01:31,750

All of a sudden, I see pictures
which are too good to see.

1267

01:01:31,750 --> 01:01:34,960

And I find it very disturbing.

1268

01:01:34,960 --> 01:01:38,328

What was the reaction of
the other American soldiers

1269

01:01:38,328 --> 01:01:39,120

that you were with?

1270

01:01:39,120 --> 01:01:41,710

Did you talk-- did you all
talk this over while you were--

1271

01:01:41,710 --> 01:01:44,770

How much you know about Dachau?

1272

01:01:44,770 --> 01:01:45,790

Well, I'm--

1273

01:01:45,790 --> 01:01:49,420

Because I'm got something
that I don't want you release,

1274

01:01:49,420 --> 01:01:50,500

tell it to anybody.

1275

01:01:50,500 --> 01:01:56,140

But it has been bothering
me all these many years.

1276

01:01:56,140 --> 01:01:58,900

When we get there,
the story was--

1277

01:01:58,900 --> 01:02:02,080

and I don't know how
many days after we--

1278

01:02:02,080 --> 01:02:04,920

they took over the thing.

1279

01:02:04,920 --> 01:02:07,510

The story was that
the combat team

1280

01:02:07,510 --> 01:02:19,400

was so outraged what they saw
in Dachau that the SS troops,

1281

01:02:19,400 --> 01:02:22,280

which were guards, lined up.

1282

01:02:22,280 --> 01:02:25,130

And this colonel machine
gunned them down.

1283

01:02:25,130 --> 01:02:27,500

Whether that's true
or not, I don't know.

1284

01:02:27,500 --> 01:02:28,790

I never ever heard that.

1285

01:02:28,790 --> 01:02:32,100

And I don't particularly
like to talk about that.

1286

01:02:32,100 --> 01:02:36,560

So there is a picture where I
see a hole mound of SS troops.

1287

01:02:36,560 --> 01:02:40,320

So it must have been
true, or at least

1288

01:02:40,320 --> 01:02:46,770

it is a plausible explanation.

1289

01:02:46,770 --> 01:02:50,690

It was an ugly,
ugly feeling to--

1290

01:02:50,690 --> 01:02:53,330

a lot of people were
greatly disturbed,

1291
01:02:53,330 --> 01:02:55,500
an awful lot of people.

1292
01:02:55,500 --> 01:02:56,000