

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,071

2

00:00:05,071 --> 00:00:09,470

Now, this is tape 3, side A.

And you were on the mosha.

3

00:00:09,470 --> 00:00:13,790

I was talking of I was in

a moshava, a completely

4

00:00:13,790 --> 00:00:16,070

private kind of settlement.

5

00:00:16,070 --> 00:00:20,390

And my host for whom

I worked for two weeks

6

00:00:20,390 --> 00:00:25,130

was this ophthalmologist

who once a week I think he--

7

00:00:25,130 --> 00:00:30,740

well, he had maintained an

office in the nearby city

8

00:00:30,740 --> 00:00:35,540

of Akko where he saw Arabic--

9

00:00:35,540 --> 00:00:38,030

Arab patients once a week.

10

00:00:38,030 --> 00:00:44,490

And at his home, at his

farm home in Nahariya,

11

00:00:44,490 --> 00:00:49,820

he was the local eye doctor for

the local Jewish population.

12

00:00:49,820 --> 00:00:54,620

And he did this for many
years into his old age.

13

00:00:54,620 --> 00:00:59,450

I was told that after the
establishment of Israel

14

00:00:59,450 --> 00:01:06,590

in 1948 and after Akko had been
vacated by its Arab inhabitants

15

00:01:06,590 --> 00:01:12,950

and become a Jewish city, the
demand for his medical services

16

00:01:12,950 --> 00:01:15,350

was so intensive,
and he also was,

17

00:01:15,350 --> 00:01:18,530

by that time in his
late 60s and early 70s

18

00:01:18,530 --> 00:01:23,000

that in his last few years,
he was a full-time physician.

19

00:01:23,000 --> 00:01:29,720

And Nahariya, of course,
today is a spa, a city.

20

00:01:29,720 --> 00:01:33,125

I've gone by there,
and there is--

21

00:01:33,125 --> 00:01:34,055

it's now citified.

22

00:01:34,055 --> 00:01:35,130

It's urbanized.

23

00:01:35,130 --> 00:01:37,550

There's nothing left

of the farm where

24

00:01:37,550 --> 00:01:40,010

I worked for those two weeks.

25

00:01:40,010 --> 00:01:41,157

The next place--

26

00:01:41,157 --> 00:01:42,740

What kind of work

did you say you did?

27

00:01:42,740 --> 00:01:45,180

Well, truck farming work.

28

00:01:45,180 --> 00:01:50,750

The next place I was in,

HaZore'a the settlement

29

00:01:50,750 --> 00:01:54,680

of my former youth

organization friends

30

00:01:54,680 --> 00:01:57,440

with whom I had parted

company in 1932.

31

00:01:57,440 --> 00:02:01,130

I mean, even so, they had

become socialist Zionists

32

00:02:01,130 --> 00:02:03,620

and gone to Palestine.

33

00:02:03,620 --> 00:02:05,690

We remained good friends.

34

00:02:05,690 --> 00:02:08,789

I visit them whenever

I go to Israel.

35

00:02:08,789 --> 00:02:11,690

What was it like for you to
be among so many Jews again?

36

00:02:11,690 --> 00:02:15,320

Here you had been on a farm
back in Germany and a monastery.

37

00:02:15,320 --> 00:02:17,390

What was it like to be with--

38

00:02:17,390 --> 00:02:20,810

working with so many Jews?

39

00:02:20,810 --> 00:02:25,220

Didn't evoke any
particular feeling.

40

00:02:25,220 --> 00:02:27,830

As long as you ask this
question, on another dimension,

41

00:02:27,830 --> 00:02:29,930

I'll come back to
that in a little way.

42

00:02:29,930 --> 00:02:31,370

But that-- no.

43

00:02:31,370 --> 00:02:32,150

No.

44

00:02:32,150 --> 00:02:36,200

That was-- I had a
very interesting time.

45

00:02:36,200 --> 00:02:40,550

I worked in HaZore'a which today
is one of the big kibbutzim

46

00:02:40,550 --> 00:02:45,500

and the emek northeast of Haifa.

47

00:02:45,500 --> 00:02:47,120
Worked there for two weeks.

48
00:02:47,120 --> 00:02:52,640
And finally, I worked in
Geva, another kibbutz,

49
00:02:52,640 --> 00:02:58,010
where I was the guest of the son
of Martin Buber and his wife.

50
00:02:58,010 --> 00:03:05,570
And that particular
kibbutz belonged to a--

51
00:03:05,570 --> 00:03:10,040
not ideological minded, but to
an agricultural minded group

52
00:03:10,040 --> 00:03:13,550
of kibbutzim, and that
was very interesting.

53
00:03:13,550 --> 00:03:18,560
I mean, they were
devoted to good farming

54
00:03:18,560 --> 00:03:23,090
with rather little
socialist ideology.

55
00:03:23,090 --> 00:03:25,280
But I emerged from
the experience

56
00:03:25,280 --> 00:03:30,230
deciding that Palestine was not
for me, because I definitely

57
00:03:30,230 --> 00:03:33,980
decided against
being a kibbutznik

58

00:03:33,980 --> 00:03:35,985
or living in a kibbutz.

59
00:03:35,985 --> 00:03:36,485
Why?

60
00:03:36,485 --> 00:03:45,170
The lack of privacy, the
total submerging yourself

61
00:03:45,170 --> 00:03:51,800
into a group and having
no possessions of your own

62
00:03:51,800 --> 00:03:53,270
antagonized me.

63
00:03:53,270 --> 00:03:59,140
In terms of emotions, one thing
which rubbed me the wrong way,

64
00:03:59,140 --> 00:04:03,470
it was the leader of this
group of the Kameraden

65
00:04:03,470 --> 00:04:08,360
who became socialists and
Zionists, the moving spirit who

66
00:04:08,360 --> 00:04:12,980
really led this whole sector
of the formal organization

67
00:04:12,980 --> 00:04:16,310
into socialism and Zionism.

68
00:04:16,310 --> 00:04:19,310
He, as he got into
his 20s, of course,

69
00:04:19,310 --> 00:04:24,350
he got married with a
woman whom I also knew.

70
00:04:24,350 --> 00:04:26,810
And in due time,
they got divorced.

71
00:04:26,810 --> 00:04:31,850
And in one night, sleeping in
a totally different kibbutz,

72
00:04:31,850 --> 00:04:33,410
I was touring the country.

73
00:04:33,410 --> 00:04:40,670
And in those days if you
were touring the country,

74
00:04:40,670 --> 00:04:43,130
you could enjoy
hospitality in any kibbutz.

75
00:04:43,130 --> 00:04:47,540
And there I was at someplace
which was certainly

76
00:04:47,540 --> 00:04:51,920
strange to me, but I browsed
in the library that evening

77
00:04:51,920 --> 00:04:55,970
and found a little book
with an intimate dedication

78
00:04:55,970 --> 00:04:57,680
by this man to his wife.

79
00:04:57,680 --> 00:05:00,650
And the idea that
under socialism, a book

80
00:05:00,650 --> 00:05:04,900
can have a fate like this with
a leader with a dedication it

81

00:05:04,900 --> 00:05:10,870
goes into a more or less public
library utterly antagonized me.

82

00:05:10,870 --> 00:05:15,730
Did people ask you about what
was happening in Germany?

83

00:05:15,730 --> 00:05:18,580
Well, yes, of course, but I
mean, essentially, one knew,

84

00:05:18,580 --> 00:05:20,440
I mean--

85

00:05:20,440 --> 00:05:22,195
So did you talk a
lot about Germany

86

00:05:22,195 --> 00:05:23,320
when you were in Palestine?

87

00:05:23,320 --> 00:05:25,610
Yes, of course.

88

00:05:25,610 --> 00:05:27,470
But I mean, people knew.

89

00:05:27,470 --> 00:05:32,870
I mean, new immigrants
arrived all the time.

90

00:05:32,870 --> 00:05:37,880
And well, one thing
I was interested in

91

00:05:37,880 --> 00:05:41,370
was establishing Karakul
breeding in Germany.

92

00:05:41,370 --> 00:05:46,310
And those-- later, that happened

after I had been to Palestine.

93

00:05:46,310 --> 00:05:50,750

I had my one academic experience
at a German University

94

00:05:50,750 --> 00:05:54,040

as I was admitted to a
short course in Karakul

95

00:05:54,040 --> 00:05:58,860

breeding at the University
of Halle in Germany in 1938.

96

00:05:58,860 --> 00:05:59,360

OK.

97

00:05:59,360 --> 00:06:01,170

You stayed in
Palestine for how long?

98

00:06:01,170 --> 00:06:02,770

From March to June 1937.

99

00:06:02,770 --> 00:06:03,890

And then you came back.

100

00:06:03,890 --> 00:06:06,830

But already in
Palestine, I thought

101

00:06:06,830 --> 00:06:10,280

that Palestine, for a number
of reasons which I won't detail

102

00:06:10,280 --> 00:06:14,300

now, was extremely well
adapted to breeding Karakul

103

00:06:14,300 --> 00:06:16,840

sheep from which you make
Karakul pelts, you know?

104

00:06:16,840 --> 00:06:18,230

Karakul furs.

105

00:06:18,230 --> 00:06:21,590

And indeed, there

was already a fellow

106

00:06:21,590 --> 00:06:24,680

by the namesake of mine,

not related, a Dr. Siegfried

107

00:06:24,680 --> 00:06:27,140

Hirsch, who had written

a bulletin about it.

108

00:06:27,140 --> 00:06:31,140

I met the man, and he

was very encouraging.

109

00:06:31,140 --> 00:06:34,880

And the British government

agricultural experiment station

110

00:06:34,880 --> 00:06:38,720

did some work on Karakul

sheep breeding in Palestine,

111

00:06:38,720 --> 00:06:42,050

and I was there, and watched

what they were doing.

112

00:06:42,050 --> 00:06:45,950

And well, I had no capital.

113

00:06:45,950 --> 00:06:52,670

And if at that time I had had

a thousand Palestinian pounds,

114

00:06:52,670 --> 00:06:55,010

I think I would have gone

to Palestine on my own,

115

00:06:55,010 --> 00:06:56,420
not as a kibbutznik.

116
00:06:56,420 --> 00:06:58,250
But I would have
gone to Palestine

117
00:06:58,250 --> 00:07:02,990
in order to start Karakul
breeding in Palestine.

118
00:07:02,990 --> 00:07:08,000
But without capital
and without a wife,

119
00:07:08,000 --> 00:07:12,830
and I also felt that my
training I had was minimal,

120
00:07:12,830 --> 00:07:18,140
I felt that I would just
be a common laborer.

121
00:07:18,140 --> 00:07:20,150
I did not want to
be a kibbutznik.

122
00:07:20,150 --> 00:07:24,080
And I decided that
life was not for me.

123
00:07:24,080 --> 00:07:27,400
While you were in Palestine, you
said you met with Martin Buber

124
00:07:27,400 --> 00:07:28,150
again.

125
00:07:28,150 --> 00:07:28,850
Mm-hmm.

126
00:07:28,850 --> 00:07:32,720
Did he try to encourage

you to stay in Palestine?

127

00:07:32,720 --> 00:07:35,360

I don't think we
talked about that.

128

00:07:35,360 --> 00:07:38,180

I don't think he
talked about this.

129

00:07:38,180 --> 00:07:42,710

I mean, the young
man who wasn't even

130

00:07:42,710 --> 00:07:45,230

there at that time, this
friend of my father's

131

00:07:45,230 --> 00:07:48,620

with whom together he
founded the Foundation

132

00:07:48,620 --> 00:07:50,570

of Jewish Studies
in Stuttgart, he

133

00:07:50,570 --> 00:07:58,850

came to Palestine in 1938 or
1939, and during my visits

134

00:07:58,850 --> 00:08:00,710

with him in the post-war period.

135

00:08:00,710 --> 00:08:03,050

He reached an
exceptionally old age.

136

00:08:03,050 --> 00:08:06,950

Died only 13 years ago.

137

00:08:06,950 --> 00:08:12,230

He always said, why don't
you come and settle here?

138
00:08:12,230 --> 00:08:13,940
But Martin Buber
didn't discourage you

139
00:08:13,940 --> 00:08:15,110
from going back to Germany?

140
00:08:15,110 --> 00:08:15,480
No.

141
00:08:15,480 --> 00:08:15,980
No.

142
00:08:15,980 --> 00:08:23,800

143
00:08:23,800 --> 00:08:25,420
So I went back.

144
00:08:25,420 --> 00:08:26,060
You went back.

145
00:08:26,060 --> 00:08:27,460
And--

146
00:08:27,460 --> 00:08:29,620
By the same route?

147
00:08:29,620 --> 00:08:32,440
I-- no, no, no, no.

148
00:08:32,440 --> 00:08:39,000
I went back not at all.

149
00:08:39,000 --> 00:08:42,740
The first landing was
in Syracuse in Sicily,

150
00:08:42,740 --> 00:08:44,870
and that was fabulous.

151
00:08:44,870 --> 00:08:50,300
The next landing was in
Naples and I visited Pompeii.

152
00:08:50,300 --> 00:08:53,900
And the final
landing was in Genoa

153
00:08:53,900 --> 00:08:58,610
where somewhat to
my surprise, I was

154
00:08:58,610 --> 00:09:02,210
met by two different girlfriends
who didn't know of each other.

155
00:09:02,210 --> 00:09:05,630
And that was a somewhat
complicated situation.

156
00:09:05,630 --> 00:09:07,010
[LAUGHS]

157
00:09:07,010 --> 00:09:08,340
I hope you handled it well.

158
00:09:08,340 --> 00:09:09,320
I handled it well.

159
00:09:09,320 --> 00:09:11,690
[LAUGHS]

160
00:09:11,690 --> 00:09:18,020
And then I went back, worked--

161
00:09:18,020 --> 00:09:18,980
Back to?

162
00:09:18,980 --> 00:09:20,340
Well, I'm just trying--

163

00:09:20,340 --> 00:09:20,840

yes.

164

00:09:20,840 --> 00:09:24,590

And I worked in Gross

Breesen for a short period.

165

00:09:24,590 --> 00:09:30,110

And while there, I made the

acquaintance of a very, very

166

00:09:30,110 --> 00:09:32,090

interesting person.

167

00:09:32,090 --> 00:09:37,910

He had essentially had a grain

farm also north of Breslau.

168

00:09:37,910 --> 00:09:40,010

Not far from Gross Breesen.

169

00:09:40,010 --> 00:09:44,160

And luckily for

him, as he thought--

170

00:09:44,160 --> 00:09:46,820

it turned out to

be only temporary--

171

00:09:46,820 --> 00:09:55,650

the German army claimed his

land for training grounds.

172

00:09:55,650 --> 00:09:59,330

Now, from the standpoint

of intensive agriculture,

173

00:09:59,330 --> 00:10:02,930

that would have been-- it

was a disaster, of course.

174

00:10:02,930 --> 00:10:06,470

But he was not
Jewish by religion.

175
00:10:06,470 --> 00:10:08,600
He was totally
Jewish by parentage,

176
00:10:08,600 --> 00:10:14,150
but he had been baptized,
and he was married to a woman

177
00:10:14,150 --> 00:10:18,680
from a distinguished Jewish
family who, for the--

178
00:10:18,680 --> 00:10:22,840
when she married him, a much
older man, also got baptized.

179
00:10:22,840 --> 00:10:28,820
And he figured that under the
protection of the German army,

180
00:10:28,820 --> 00:10:34,880
he could continue and
weather the Nazis.

181
00:10:34,880 --> 00:10:40,880
He changed his farm management
from intensive grain

182
00:10:40,880 --> 00:10:44,400
cultivation to sheep,
because the army, of course,

183
00:10:44,400 --> 00:10:47,390
required permanent
turf, and that

184
00:10:47,390 --> 00:10:48,680
was the right thing for sheep.

185
00:10:48,680 --> 00:10:51,920

So again, this was a very
fascinating operation

186
00:10:51,920 --> 00:10:55,160
from the standpoint of my
agricultural education.

187
00:10:55,160 --> 00:11:02,720
But while I was in his
employment, he disappeared.

188
00:11:02,720 --> 00:11:06,470
And he took me aside one
evening and said, Hans,

189
00:11:06,470 --> 00:11:09,050
you are the only
person who knows

190
00:11:09,050 --> 00:11:11,900
where Claire and I are going.

191
00:11:11,900 --> 00:11:13,610
I don't want anybody to know.

192
00:11:13,610 --> 00:11:17,090
We are going to Argentina
to look things over.

193
00:11:17,090 --> 00:11:21,140
The German army
protection may not last,

194
00:11:21,140 --> 00:11:23,720
and we have to get
out of here, but I

195
00:11:23,720 --> 00:11:26,520
don't want anybody to know.

196
00:11:26,520 --> 00:11:32,410
Our official destination is
[PLACE NAME] a vacation in

197
00:11:32,410 --> 00:11:34,800
[PLACE NAME]

198
00:11:34,800 --> 00:11:41,410
So he came back and his
contacts had all been fruitless.

199
00:11:41,410 --> 00:11:45,090
What he had tried to do in
Argentina didn't work out.

200
00:11:45,090 --> 00:11:48,670
And to make-- as long
as I talk about him,

201
00:11:48,670 --> 00:11:50,805
it's in a way part
of my life's history.

202
00:11:50,805 --> 00:11:53,440

203
00:11:53,440 --> 00:11:58,110
A year after my own immigration
to the United States

204
00:11:58,110 --> 00:12:02,620
and the very short time
before war broke out,

205
00:12:02,620 --> 00:12:04,560
he came to this
country with his wife

206
00:12:04,560 --> 00:12:08,790
and three young children
on the affidavit of Quakers

207
00:12:08,790 --> 00:12:15,750
as absolutely penniless, and
had a job as a farm worker

208
00:12:15,750 --> 00:12:17,440
in Wisconsin.

209
00:12:17,440 --> 00:12:21,630
And he visited me one
weekend on the farm

210
00:12:21,630 --> 00:12:24,660
that I was working at
the time in Minnesota.

211
00:12:24,660 --> 00:12:28,980
And that night, of course,
I got up at 4:30 to milk,

212
00:12:28,980 --> 00:12:30,510
and he slept.

213
00:12:30,510 --> 00:12:33,090
And when I woke
him up at 6:30, I

214
00:12:33,090 --> 00:12:35,640
had to tell him
that while milking,

215
00:12:35,640 --> 00:12:38,550
we heard the voice of Neville
Chamberlain declaring war

216
00:12:38,550 --> 00:12:40,320
on Germany.

217
00:12:40,320 --> 00:12:46,590
He then remembered that he
had an engineering degree.

218
00:12:46,590 --> 00:12:52,080
And as this country got
ready for World War II,

219
00:12:52,080 --> 00:13:03,624

he was eagerly sought by the
Air Force, and he became--

220

00:13:03,624 --> 00:13:08,250
went to Michigan and became an
engineering and aeronautical

221

00:13:08,250 --> 00:13:12,420
engineering instructor
to Air Force officers.

222

00:13:12,420 --> 00:13:16,620
And the last time I saw him,
he was a civilian employee

223

00:13:16,620 --> 00:13:19,230
of the Air Force,
greatly honored

224

00:13:19,230 --> 00:13:23,520
in what must have
been a very nice job.

225

00:13:23,520 --> 00:13:30,330
And he made his way,
and his children

226

00:13:30,330 --> 00:13:32,250
are now all well
established in this country.

227

00:13:32,250 --> 00:13:33,255
Did you say his name?

228

00:13:33,255 --> 00:13:35,222
[? Katsaw ?] was his name.

229

00:13:35,222 --> 00:13:36,214
First name?

230

00:13:36,214 --> 00:13:39,190

231
00:13:39,190 --> 00:13:41,180
OK.

232
00:13:41,180 --> 00:13:42,160
That's OK.

233
00:13:42,160 --> 00:13:42,980
OK.

234
00:13:42,980 --> 00:13:43,730
So now--

235
00:13:43,730 --> 00:13:47,870

236
00:13:47,870 --> 00:13:53,480
As of that time when I
left him in March '38,

237
00:13:53,480 --> 00:13:56,150
he still seemed to
be safe on his farm.

238
00:13:56,150 --> 00:13:58,880
But only four months,
what happened to him

239
00:13:58,880 --> 00:14:04,910
was in the summer of '38,
the Nazis came to the farm

240
00:14:04,910 --> 00:14:07,730
and ordered him to
leave within 24 hours.

241
00:14:07,730 --> 00:14:12,140
And fortunately the wife's
family lived in Breslau,

242
00:14:12,140 --> 00:14:15,515
and they simply had to
go to see her parents

243
00:14:15,515 --> 00:14:17,080
and all grandparents.

244
00:14:17,080 --> 00:14:17,580
And--

245
00:14:17,580 --> 00:14:20,900

246
00:14:20,900 --> 00:14:23,525
So you stayed on the farm?

247
00:14:23,525 --> 00:14:26,810
I worked there from the
beginning of August '37

248
00:14:26,810 --> 00:14:30,020
until March '38
when I left in order

249
00:14:30,020 --> 00:14:31,670
to prepare my immigration.

250
00:14:31,670 --> 00:14:32,170
OK.

251
00:14:32,170 --> 00:14:35,160

252
00:14:35,160 --> 00:14:41,900
How did you feel seeing SS
uniforms or Gestapo uniforms?

253
00:14:41,900 --> 00:14:45,240
What was it like for you to
see people on the street?

254
00:14:45,240 --> 00:14:49,160
Did you see-- did you see
that when you went into town?

255

00:14:49,160 --> 00:14:49,760

Of course.

256

00:14:49,760 --> 00:14:53,000

And emotionally, what
was it like for you?

257

00:14:53,000 --> 00:14:54,690

They were hated enemies.

258

00:14:54,690 --> 00:15:02,420

259

00:15:02,420 --> 00:15:03,132

But you-- yeah.

260

00:15:03,132 --> 00:15:06,230

261

00:15:06,230 --> 00:15:10,180

I-- [INAUDIBLE],, I was
not given much emotion.

262

00:15:10,180 --> 00:15:13,190

I mean, one thing in
connection with my immigration,

263

00:15:13,190 --> 00:15:16,320

just before I left the--

264

00:15:16,320 --> 00:15:20,840

I don't know whether it was
stormtroopers or SS or police--

265

00:15:20,840 --> 00:15:25,100

probably police-- started
picking up young--

266

00:15:25,100 --> 00:15:29,730

Jewish young men at night and
arrested them for forced labor.

267

00:15:29,730 --> 00:15:33,990

And the last week or so--

268

00:15:33,990 --> 00:15:35,710

I don't know how long it was.

269

00:15:35,710 --> 00:15:37,760

In my memory, it
was a short period.

270

00:15:37,760 --> 00:15:40,820

I didn't sleep at home at
my parents' place in Berlin,

271

00:15:40,820 --> 00:15:44,690

but I slept with a
cousin of my father's.

272

00:15:44,690 --> 00:15:45,860

Purposely?

273

00:15:45,860 --> 00:15:51,530

Yes, because the idea was
not to be found in bed during

274

00:15:51,530 --> 00:15:55,690

the night at my parents', where
I was registered with police.

275

00:15:55,690 --> 00:15:56,190

OK.

276

00:15:56,190 --> 00:15:59,220

You left the farm, and then
you went back to your parents?

277

00:15:59,220 --> 00:16:04,940

I went to Berlin to
prepare my immigration.

278

00:16:04,940 --> 00:16:07,320

Why did you decide to immigrate?

279

00:16:07,320 --> 00:16:11,930

Well-- oh, I mean, as I
mentioned in passing earlier,

280

00:16:11,930 --> 00:16:17,530

when I was home from that very
farm in the end of December

281

00:16:17,530 --> 00:16:20,670

1937, my father took me
on a long walk and said,

282

00:16:20,670 --> 00:16:25,160

you cannot expect to establish
yourself as a farmer in this

283

00:16:25,160 --> 00:16:28,380

country, neither self-employed
nor working for anybody else.

284

00:16:28,380 --> 00:16:31,220

If you are successful, they
come and will burn your place.

285

00:16:31,220 --> 00:16:33,680

There is absolutely
no more possibility

286

00:16:33,680 --> 00:16:38,330

of economic-- a young Jewish
economically establishing

287

00:16:38,330 --> 00:16:40,280

himself in this country.

288

00:16:40,280 --> 00:16:42,890

Write Uncle Karl, my father's
uncle, my great uncle,

289

00:16:42,890 --> 00:16:47,390

my grandfather's brother,
and ask for an affidavit.

290
00:16:47,390 --> 00:16:48,650
So I--

291
00:16:48,650 --> 00:16:53,420
Did you agree with him about
the necessity for leaving?

292
00:16:53,420 --> 00:16:56,240
Were you torn?

293
00:16:56,240 --> 00:17:07,140
Look, I-- to disagree
with my father was--

294
00:17:07,140 --> 00:17:09,540
you just didn't do that
at that stage anymore.

295
00:17:09,540 --> 00:17:13,470
I mean, I had my
rebellious years earlier.

296
00:17:13,470 --> 00:17:17,970
But at that time,
I was 21 years old,

297
00:17:17,970 --> 00:17:23,430
and I considered my
father sort of God.

298
00:17:23,430 --> 00:17:27,290
And the thought to disagree
with anything my father said

299
00:17:27,290 --> 00:17:32,460
was absolutely out.

300
00:17:32,460 --> 00:17:40,250
I mean, it's unthinkable.

301
00:17:40,250 --> 00:17:42,470

I had my rebellious
period earlier than

302
00:17:42,470 --> 00:17:46,280
that, but now we are talking
about when I was 21 years old,

303
00:17:46,280 --> 00:17:49,730
and particularly when it
became something like this.

304
00:17:49,730 --> 00:17:53,180
I mean, he knew how I
felt. I knew how he felt.

305
00:17:53,180 --> 00:17:58,790
He knew that it was a
matter of life and death.

306
00:17:58,790 --> 00:18:04,610
And I figured if this is the
conclusion he has reached,

307
00:18:04,610 --> 00:18:06,050
then that's it.

308
00:18:06,050 --> 00:18:10,580
Would you have preferred
to have stayed in Germany?

309
00:18:10,580 --> 00:18:13,033
Well, if I had thought
I could make a living--

310
00:18:13,033 --> 00:18:14,700
You would have preferred
to have stayed?

311
00:18:14,700 --> 00:18:15,680
Yeah.

312
00:18:15,680 --> 00:18:18,060
But I mean--

313
00:18:18,060 --> 00:18:20,300
So it was strictly
on the basis for you

314
00:18:20,300 --> 00:18:22,020
that you couldn't make a living?

315
00:18:22,020 --> 00:18:22,520
Yes.

316
00:18:22,520 --> 00:18:23,062
Why you left.

317
00:18:23,062 --> 00:18:24,045
Yeah.

318
00:18:24,045 --> 00:18:28,910
I mean, I figured he knows
what he's talking about.

319
00:18:28,910 --> 00:18:32,268
I mean, I knew
enough about myself.

320
00:18:32,268 --> 00:18:34,310
But I meant emotionally,
you would have preferred

321
00:18:34,310 --> 00:18:36,140
to have stayed, because
your family is--

322
00:18:36,140 --> 00:18:39,620
that was your country and
your family was there.

323
00:18:39,620 --> 00:18:42,590
Oh, I might also in
this connection--

324
00:18:42,590 --> 00:18:46,850

I mean, I was very much
aware in all these years

325
00:18:46,850 --> 00:18:52,970
that I had had a very incomplete
professional organization--

326
00:18:52,970 --> 00:18:53,770
education.

327
00:18:53,770 --> 00:18:57,680
A very incomplete professional
education, I meant to say.

328
00:18:57,680 --> 00:19:02,420
And at great length
earlier, I explained

329
00:19:02,420 --> 00:19:06,210
this [GERMAN] special
certificate of maturity,

330
00:19:06,210 --> 00:19:08,750
which was required in 1934.

331
00:19:08,750 --> 00:19:11,840
This was made by the
Nazis within months.

332
00:19:11,840 --> 00:19:17,550
And as of 1935, any high
school graduate, again,

333
00:19:17,550 --> 00:19:23,660
could go to the university,
subject to a numerous clauses.

334
00:19:23,660 --> 00:19:30,710
But somewhere along the line--
and I don't have it in my head

335
00:19:30,710 --> 00:19:33,290
whether it was in '35 or '36--

336
00:19:33,290 --> 00:19:36,620
applied for admission to
the State Agricultural

337
00:19:36,620 --> 00:19:39,290
College of Nuremberg
outside of Stuttgart,

338
00:19:39,290 --> 00:19:41,180
and I was denied as a Jew.

339
00:19:41,180 --> 00:19:43,820
I mean, they simply
said, you are denied.

340
00:19:43,820 --> 00:19:46,805
And I had sort of
half expected it.

341
00:19:46,805 --> 00:19:50,180
I thought it would be a
miracle if I would be accepted,

342
00:19:50,180 --> 00:19:51,830
but I applied anyway.

343
00:19:51,830 --> 00:19:58,940
Now years later, obviously
from 1966 until 1985,

344
00:19:58,940 --> 00:20:02,030
I gave academic lectures
there three times.

345
00:20:02,030 --> 00:20:07,040
And in being introduced, of
course, this was mentioned.

346
00:20:07,040 --> 00:20:13,250
And the student body
reacted with strong applause

347

00:20:13,250 --> 00:20:16,745

to show their
disapproval of Nazism.

348

00:20:16,745 --> 00:20:20,140

349

00:20:20,140 --> 00:20:21,830

So you've talked to your father.

350

00:20:21,830 --> 00:20:23,180

He advises you to leave.

351

00:20:23,180 --> 00:20:24,222

And what did you then do?

352

00:20:24,222 --> 00:20:27,500

I wrote my great uncle and--

353

00:20:27,500 --> 00:20:33,380

354

00:20:33,380 --> 00:20:35,990

well, my great uncle
was very cautious

355

00:20:35,990 --> 00:20:37,460

and made his
inquiries, and I was

356

00:20:37,460 --> 00:20:40,250

told he was too old to
give the affidavit alone.

357

00:20:40,250 --> 00:20:44,630

He ought to get it together with
one of his sons, which he did.

358

00:20:44,630 --> 00:20:45,680

No time was lost.

359

00:20:45,680 --> 00:20:49,520

In fact, we were just
notified of this story.

360

00:20:49,520 --> 00:20:54,500

And the affidavit
arrived just about

361

00:20:54,500 --> 00:20:59,000

at the time of the Anschluss
and the Nazis occupied Austria.

362

00:20:59,000 --> 00:21:02,480

And prior to that
time, when you asked

363

00:21:02,480 --> 00:21:05,120

for an appointment at
the American consulate

364

00:21:05,120 --> 00:21:07,760

to get an immigration visa,
you got an appointment

365

00:21:07,760 --> 00:21:09,600

after one or two weeks.

366

00:21:09,600 --> 00:21:14,030

And after the annexation of
Austria, it was three months.

367

00:21:14,030 --> 00:21:19,430

So it was March and my
appointment was in June.

368

00:21:19,430 --> 00:21:28,980

And well, I did all
kinds of things.

369

00:21:28,980 --> 00:21:30,980

It's funny how I
spent these months,

370

00:21:30,980 --> 00:21:34,460
but I spent some quite busily.

371
00:21:34,460 --> 00:21:41,540
And I was at the American
consulate I think on July 8,

372
00:21:41,540 --> 00:21:46,500
and I left Germany on July 14.

373
00:21:46,500 --> 00:21:48,360
So there was no problem
at the consulate.

374
00:21:48,360 --> 00:21:51,390
You fulfilled all the
requirements then.

375
00:21:51,390 --> 00:21:55,620
I booked passage on
the SS Britannia.

376
00:21:55,620 --> 00:21:56,860
No longer exists.

377
00:21:56,860 --> 00:22:01,830
It was a British boat,
about 27,000 tons.

378
00:22:01,830 --> 00:22:07,506
And planned a route to spend
a week in London, which I did.

379
00:22:07,506 --> 00:22:11,100
Did your parents say anything
special to you when you left?

380
00:22:11,100 --> 00:22:16,480
Well, my father tried to be
cheerful, and my mother wept.

381
00:22:16,480 --> 00:22:19,320
It was the last time

I saw both of them.

382
00:22:19,320 --> 00:22:22,710
My father, of course, got out
to England every so often,

383
00:22:22,710 --> 00:22:24,630
but I never saw them again.

384
00:22:24,630 --> 00:22:27,560

385
00:22:27,560 --> 00:22:30,250
Did they say they were going
to try to get out also,

386
00:22:30,250 --> 00:22:31,790
or your sisters, or--

387
00:22:31,790 --> 00:22:33,770
Well, my sister-- what
happened to my sisters

388
00:22:33,770 --> 00:22:37,170
was after Kristallnacht, my
mother, as I said earlier,

389
00:22:37,170 --> 00:22:39,392
have been to what
in American English

390
00:22:39,392 --> 00:22:40,600
you would call a prep school.

391
00:22:40,600 --> 00:22:43,220
It was called Hamilton
College in Kent in--

392
00:22:43,220 --> 00:22:45,060
Kent, south of London.

393
00:22:45,060 --> 00:22:49,880

And after-- and she had kept in touch with her former teachers

394
00:22:49,880 --> 00:22:54,050
and classmates, interrupted by World War I, of course.

395
00:22:54,050 --> 00:22:55,910
I remember as a boy how attached she

396
00:22:55,910 --> 00:22:57,950
was when the first contact--

397
00:22:57,950 --> 00:23:00,270
contacts were made after I was--

398
00:23:00,270 --> 00:23:06,710
I mean, years after World War I. But from 1925 until 1938,

399
00:23:06,710 --> 00:23:09,440
she was in constant touch with her former teachers

400
00:23:09,440 --> 00:23:11,090
and some classmates.

401
00:23:11,090 --> 00:23:13,010
And these classmates got together

402
00:23:13,010 --> 00:23:16,550
to sponsor my two sisters to England.

403
00:23:16,550 --> 00:23:20,840
And they left-- on the one hand, they

404
00:23:20,840 --> 00:23:23,180
are considered part of Kindertransport.

405

00:23:23,180 --> 00:23:26,240

And on the other hand, it was
this very special arrangement

406

00:23:26,240 --> 00:23:28,810

which brought them to England.

407

00:23:28,810 --> 00:23:31,255

They had-- were on
the waiting-- yeah.

408

00:23:31,255 --> 00:23:32,630

And they were on
the waiting list

409

00:23:32,630 --> 00:23:34,930

for an American
immigration visa.

410

00:23:34,930 --> 00:23:35,520

The idea was--

411

00:23:35,520 --> 00:23:36,687

When did they leave Germany?

412

00:23:36,687 --> 00:23:37,250

What year?

413

00:23:37,250 --> 00:23:38,390

In January '39.

414

00:23:38,390 --> 00:23:40,290

January '39.

415

00:23:40,290 --> 00:23:44,720

Now during
Kristallnacht, my father

416

00:23:44,720 --> 00:23:48,045

was arrested for the third time.

417

00:23:48,045 --> 00:23:48,545

And--

418

00:23:48,545 --> 00:23:51,290

419

00:23:51,290 --> 00:23:53,000

What were the two
previous times?

420

00:23:53,000 --> 00:24:04,640

Well, the first time was
before Yom Kippur in 1935.

421

00:24:04,640 --> 00:24:11,060

The Nazis had just enacted their
Nuremberg laws, which made--

422

00:24:11,060 --> 00:24:14,600

really deprived
Jews of citizenship

423

00:24:14,600 --> 00:24:21,140

and prohibited Jews from
hiring female house employees

424

00:24:21,140 --> 00:24:23,960

under the age of 45.

425

00:24:23,960 --> 00:24:30,066

And these were the two
principal measures.

426

00:24:30,066 --> 00:24:36,440

Oh, and prohibited marriages
between Jews and non-Jews.

427

00:24:36,440 --> 00:24:43,520

And Baeck had composed
a prayer to be

428

00:24:43,520 --> 00:24:47,210

read in all German
synagogues Kol Nidre.

429
00:24:47,210 --> 00:24:49,085
Do you know that story?

430
00:24:49,085 --> 00:24:49,970
I do.

431
00:24:49,970 --> 00:24:51,320
I do, but you can talk about it.

432
00:24:51,320 --> 00:24:56,840
And Father, of course,
as executive director

433
00:24:56,840 --> 00:25:04,190
of the organization, was
instrumental in the sending it

434
00:25:04,190 --> 00:25:10,220
to all congregations in
Germany with the recommendation

435
00:25:10,220 --> 00:25:14,290
that it be read at
Kol Nidre services.

436
00:25:14,290 --> 00:25:19,700
Well, unfortunately,
the well-meaning head

437
00:25:19,700 --> 00:25:23,420
of the Jewish
community in Bavaria

438
00:25:23,420 --> 00:25:26,480
and also president of the
Jewish community in Munich,

439
00:25:26,480 --> 00:25:34,520
a very close friend, he retired,
justice of the Bavarian Supreme

440
00:25:34,520 --> 00:25:36,440
Court.

441
00:25:36,440 --> 00:25:41,000
He saw fit to go to his
local Gestapo headquarters

442
00:25:41,000 --> 00:25:42,770
and submit the
text of this prayer

443
00:25:42,770 --> 00:25:46,970
and ask whether it was
all right to read that.

444
00:25:46,970 --> 00:25:50,120
That made the Munich Gestapo
contact the Berlin Gestapo

445
00:25:50,120 --> 00:25:51,120
headquarters.

446
00:25:51,120 --> 00:25:57,050
[GERMAN],, Baeck was arrested
for having written that prayer.

447
00:25:57,050 --> 00:26:02,710
And first attempt
to get back out

448
00:26:02,710 --> 00:26:05,620
was one of the co-workers
of the Reichsvertretung

449
00:26:05,620 --> 00:26:08,590
called up the Gestapo
and said if Baeck is not

450
00:26:08,590 --> 00:26:10,593
in his pulpit on Yom
Kippur, you are creating

451

00:26:10,593 --> 00:26:11,635
an international scandal.

452

00:26:11,635 --> 00:26:14,800

453

00:26:14,800 --> 00:26:17,410
All over the world,
he is expected

454

00:26:17,410 --> 00:26:19,330
to officiate on Yom Kippur.

455

00:26:19,330 --> 00:26:22,100
And if he isn't there,
you are creating

456

00:26:22,100 --> 00:26:26,110
serious international
difficulties for Germany.

457

00:26:26,110 --> 00:26:28,480
And in order to get
him out, my father

458

00:26:28,480 --> 00:26:30,070
went to Gestapo
headquarters and said,

459

00:26:30,070 --> 00:26:33,400
I am responsible for the
dissemination of that prayer.

460

00:26:33,400 --> 00:26:36,610
Baeck wrote it, but
I disseminated it.

461

00:26:36,610 --> 00:26:39,340
And you'd better get
back out and keep me,

462

00:26:39,340 --> 00:26:42,070

because Baeck simply
cannot be arrested.

463
00:26:42,070 --> 00:26:45,100
So they let Baeck out
and kept my father,

464
00:26:45,100 --> 00:26:47,320
and they kept him for a week.

465
00:26:47,320 --> 00:26:48,538
And--

466
00:26:48,538 --> 00:26:49,580
Where was this detention?

467
00:26:49,580 --> 00:26:52,300
It was concentration
camp Columbia house.

468
00:26:52,300 --> 00:26:57,700
It was a converted
jail in Berlin itself.

469
00:26:57,700 --> 00:26:59,720
It was not out in the country.

470
00:26:59,720 --> 00:27:03,550
But it was a very notorious
concentration camp.

471
00:27:03,550 --> 00:27:06,340
And the only reason
why he got out

472
00:27:06,340 --> 00:27:10,030
was by strange or
happy coincidence,

473
00:27:10,030 --> 00:27:11,290
whatever you want to say.

474

00:27:11,290 --> 00:27:14,380
But during that period
when he was arrested,

475
00:27:14,380 --> 00:27:16,930
when he was imprisoned
there, Goering

476
00:27:16,930 --> 00:27:19,960
issued an order which
said anybody arrested

477
00:27:19,960 --> 00:27:23,410
without a warrant who has
to be kept more than a week

478
00:27:23,410 --> 00:27:25,720
requires my personal approval.

479
00:27:25,720 --> 00:27:27,610
And the underlings
who had arrested him

480
00:27:27,610 --> 00:27:31,600
didn't want to submit it to
Goering, so they let him go.

481
00:27:31,600 --> 00:27:33,460
That was the first time.

482
00:27:33,460 --> 00:27:35,860
And the second time, of
course, was Kristallnacht,

483
00:27:35,860 --> 00:27:38,050
and the third time was
when he didn't return,

484
00:27:38,050 --> 00:27:43,276
when he was taken to
Mauthausen and where he died.

485
00:27:43,276 --> 00:27:46,760

So the Kristallnacht was
the second time [INAUDIBLE]..

486
00:27:46,760 --> 00:27:48,856
Where was he taken
on Kristallnacht?

487
00:27:48,856 --> 00:27:51,460
I think to Oranienburg,
the concentration

488
00:27:51,460 --> 00:27:53,660
camp in the Berlin area.

489
00:27:53,660 --> 00:27:56,620
So then my mother's
English friends

490
00:27:56,620 --> 00:27:59,380
wanted my sisters to come over.

491
00:27:59,380 --> 00:28:02,660
And when Father got out,
then he realized, of course,

492
00:28:02,660 --> 00:28:04,930
that he owed it
to my mother to go

493
00:28:04,930 --> 00:28:09,150
through the motion of applying
for an American immigration

494
00:28:09,150 --> 00:28:09,650
visa.

495
00:28:09,650 --> 00:28:16,025
Now, I cannot see quite--

496
00:28:16,025 --> 00:28:18,585

497

00:28:18,585 --> 00:28:21,570

I can't imagine that
he would have left.

498

00:28:21,570 --> 00:28:26,100

But he definitely
felt he owed it

499

00:28:26,100 --> 00:28:29,370

to my mother to have
a meeting number

500

00:28:29,370 --> 00:28:31,290

at the American consulate.

501

00:28:31,290 --> 00:28:35,250

So the family gave affidavits.

502

00:28:35,250 --> 00:28:37,460

In the meantime, my
great uncle had died.

503

00:28:37,460 --> 00:28:40,215

It was all the cousins then.

504

00:28:40,215 --> 00:28:46,830

And the family had
a waiting number,

505

00:28:46,830 --> 00:28:50,970

which we knew would take years.

506

00:28:50,970 --> 00:28:57,270

And then, however, we
talk about these things.

507

00:28:57,270 --> 00:29:03,850

After my father's death, the
American consul in Berlin

508

00:29:03,850 --> 00:29:06,250

gave my mother an
immigration visa.

509
00:29:06,250 --> 00:29:09,340
And she had a passport, and
she had an American immigration

510
00:29:09,340 --> 00:29:11,560
visa stamped into it.

511
00:29:11,560 --> 00:29:17,380
And my mother had
already sealed suitcases,

512
00:29:17,380 --> 00:29:18,790
what little she could take.

513
00:29:18,790 --> 00:29:20,860
Suitcases had been approved.

514
00:29:20,860 --> 00:29:27,970
And she had-- passage was
booked leaving for Spain,

515
00:29:27,970 --> 00:29:31,840
and Eichmann ordered her
passport confiscated.

516
00:29:31,840 --> 00:29:37,570
And he also ordered the
passports of my uncle

517
00:29:37,570 --> 00:29:40,120
and a grandfather confiscated.

518
00:29:40,120 --> 00:29:56,170
But the person in Stuttgart
who received this order said,

519
00:29:56,170 --> 00:29:58,310
they are already gone.

520
00:29:58,310 --> 00:30:03,170
And I have not been able to

ascertain reliably whether--

521

00:30:03,170 --> 00:30:06,290
they were definitely still in
Germany when that call came.

522

00:30:06,290 --> 00:30:08,730
They may have been in
Munich by that time.

523

00:30:08,730 --> 00:30:11,810
They went by train to Munich
to take a flight from Munich

524

00:30:11,810 --> 00:30:13,490
to Spain.

525

00:30:13,490 --> 00:30:17,720
And Mother was supposed to
fly from Berlin to Munich

526

00:30:17,720 --> 00:30:22,985
and meet my grandfather
and my uncle and aunt.

527

00:30:22,985 --> 00:30:25,860
And anyway, they got out.

528

00:30:25,860 --> 00:30:32,030
But my-- the co-worker of
my father's who by that time

529

00:30:32,030 --> 00:30:34,700
was in charge of
things in Berlin,

530

00:30:34,700 --> 00:30:38,990
he felt he had to
go to my mother.

531

00:30:38,990 --> 00:30:45,110
My mother felt she had to
turn over her passport.

532
00:30:45,110 --> 00:30:50,220
And he had some
vague messianic hope

533
00:30:50,220 --> 00:30:55,460
that another application
could be made later,

534
00:30:55,460 --> 00:30:58,250
but this could never be done.

535
00:30:58,250 --> 00:31:01,730
What happened was that there
was a family of close friends

536
00:31:01,730 --> 00:31:06,350
in Berlin, a Jewish man
married to a non-Jewish wife,

537
00:31:06,350 --> 00:31:11,420
both [INAUDIBLE] girls, and
they offered to hide my mother.

538
00:31:11,420 --> 00:31:14,690
And mother was afraid
of endangering them

539
00:31:14,690 --> 00:31:19,190
by accepting this offer,
and refused because she

540
00:31:19,190 --> 00:31:28,910
said she just couldn't take

541
00:31:28,910 --> 00:31:30,710
This is tape 3,
side B, and you were

542
00:31:30,710 --> 00:31:34,190
talking about your mother
turning in her passport.

543

00:31:34,190 --> 00:31:38,270

I was mentioning that
Eichmann had ordered

544

00:31:38,270 --> 00:31:40,910

her passport taken away.

545

00:31:40,910 --> 00:31:45,620

And the explanation
given by myself

546

00:31:45,620 --> 00:31:47,090

and by others,
that she just knew

547

00:31:47,090 --> 00:31:51,140

too much of Nazi
crimes for the Nazis

548

00:31:51,140 --> 00:31:54,830

to consider that she could
be permitted to go abroad.

549

00:31:54,830 --> 00:31:57,690

And this family in Berlin--

550

00:31:57,690 --> 00:32:02,750

the name is [? Wisten-- ?]
offered to hide her.

551

00:32:02,750 --> 00:32:06,260

And she was afraid she would--

552

00:32:06,260 --> 00:32:07,820

now, excuse me.

553

00:32:07,820 --> 00:32:11,330

I am committing an
anachronism here.

554

00:32:11,330 --> 00:32:16,040

At the time when my mother was

not permitted to immigrate,

555

00:32:16,040 --> 00:32:19,430
of course, she lived
in her apartment.

556

00:32:19,430 --> 00:32:21,320
And later, she gave
up that apartment

557

00:32:21,320 --> 00:32:29,480
and moved to a smaller, very
modest apartment in Berlin,

558

00:32:29,480 --> 00:32:31,310
but she lived on her own.

559

00:32:31,310 --> 00:32:34,610
And it was only when she got
her deportation order, which

560

00:32:34,610 --> 00:32:38,330
was 15 months later
in October 1942,

561

00:32:38,330 --> 00:32:41,810
that the [? Wisten ?]
family offered to hide her.

562

00:32:41,810 --> 00:32:44,720
And she didn't want to accept
it for fear of endangering

563

00:32:44,720 --> 00:32:45,800
the [? Wistens. ?]

564

00:32:45,800 --> 00:32:48,440
The [? Wistens ?]
subsequently offered

565

00:32:48,440 --> 00:32:51,980
to hide a young Jewish
actor who accepted the offer

566
00:32:51,980 --> 00:32:53,510
and survived in hiding.

567
00:32:53,510 --> 00:32:57,110
One of the few instances of
a Jew who was successfully

568
00:32:57,110 --> 00:32:58,640
hidden in Berlin.

569
00:32:58,640 --> 00:33:01,370
And that happened,
even though both

570
00:33:01,370 --> 00:33:03,560
parents, [? Wisten, ?]
the generation

571
00:33:03,560 --> 00:33:06,080
of my parents were arrested.

572
00:33:06,080 --> 00:33:10,240
And for a period
of two weeks or so,

573
00:33:10,240 --> 00:33:13,340
there was only the two
teenage daughters--

574
00:33:13,340 --> 00:33:19,190
one teenage daughter plus the
nine or 10-year-old sister

575
00:33:19,190 --> 00:33:23,940
and that Jewish man in hiding.

576
00:33:23,940 --> 00:33:28,580
They were neighbors of
Admiral Canaris, the Chief

577
00:33:28,580 --> 00:33:30,920

of German Naval Intelligence.

578

00:33:30,920 --> 00:33:33,770

And he got the

[? Wistens ?] out of prison,

579

00:33:33,770 --> 00:33:36,800

and a while later on Mr.

[? Wisten ?] was a slave

580

00:33:36,800 --> 00:33:37,310

laborer.

581

00:33:37,310 --> 00:33:39,200

He was never

molested in his home.

582

00:33:39,200 --> 00:33:42,200

They lived in this beautiful

villa in suburban Berlin,

583

00:33:42,200 --> 00:33:45,710

and the man was hidden, and

the children were there.

584

00:33:45,710 --> 00:33:51,590

And Canaris himself, however,

was involved in the July 1930--

585

00:33:51,590 --> 00:33:54,650

1944 attempt to do

away with Hitler,

586

00:33:54,650 --> 00:33:56,975

and was murdered by the Nazis.

587

00:33:56,975 --> 00:34:00,520

588

00:34:00,520 --> 00:34:03,880

So you have left, and you

said you first want to London.

589

00:34:03,880 --> 00:34:06,970

Well, I just stayed there for a week, visiting and sightseeing.

590

00:34:06,970 --> 00:34:10,570

I had friends and relatives there.

591

00:34:10,570 --> 00:34:14,620

And I took the boat, and I arrived in New York

592

00:34:14,620 --> 00:34:17,739

on July 31, 1938.

593

00:34:17,739 --> 00:34:20,560

Did you pack anything special, anything sentimental?

594

00:34:20,560 --> 00:34:26,750

Did you bring anything from home that had special meaning?

595

00:34:26,750 --> 00:34:32,469

Well, I took some jewelry with me, because when I left,

596

00:34:32,469 --> 00:34:36,040

the jewelry had not yet been confiscated.

597

00:34:36,040 --> 00:34:46,724

And I had my grandfather's diamond ring on my finger.

598

00:34:46,724 --> 00:34:50,120

599

00:34:50,120 --> 00:34:55,100

And I thought the safest plane was-- the safest place

600

00:34:55,100 --> 00:34:56,560
was to have it on my finger.

601
00:34:56,560 --> 00:35:00,210

602
00:35:00,210 --> 00:35:03,780
And when I arrived at the
apartment of my uncle and aunt

603
00:35:03,780 --> 00:35:07,620
in New York who had welcomed
me at the pier, of course,

604
00:35:07,620 --> 00:35:11,190
there was the ring on my finger.

605
00:35:11,190 --> 00:35:13,530
The diamond was gone.

606
00:35:13,530 --> 00:35:17,580
And we assumed wrongly
that the customs

607
00:35:17,580 --> 00:35:21,060
official who really examined my
stuff had to open everything.

608
00:35:21,060 --> 00:35:25,020
And I mean, he was
into everything.

609
00:35:25,020 --> 00:35:28,730
Had somehow managed to take it.

610
00:35:28,730 --> 00:35:31,890
But a few weeks later, we found
it in one of the suitcases.

611
00:35:31,890 --> 00:35:35,400
It had fallen out during
the suitcase examination,

612

00:35:35,400 --> 00:35:37,050
and there it was.

613

00:35:37,050 --> 00:35:41,360

614

00:35:41,360 --> 00:35:44,790
I had an enormous amount of
baggage, because when I left,

615

00:35:44,790 --> 00:35:46,940
you could take whatever
baggage you wanted.

616

00:35:46,940 --> 00:35:53,360
You could take only 10 mark
in money, but you could take--

617

00:35:53,360 --> 00:35:55,670
this was changed.

618

00:35:55,670 --> 00:35:57,950
A friend of mine who
left four weeks later

619

00:35:57,950 --> 00:36:01,070
came only with very
modest baggage.

620

00:36:01,070 --> 00:36:05,420
But I brought the
craziest things.

621

00:36:05,420 --> 00:36:09,590
I mean, I came with a
tuxedo, which I never wore.

622

00:36:09,590 --> 00:36:11,810
I came with tails,
which in those days

623

00:36:11,810 --> 00:36:15,860

it was for maybe [INAUDIBLE]
tails or [INAUDIBLE] tails.

624
00:36:15,860 --> 00:36:25,070
And I had clothing for the rest
of my life, woolen underwear.

625
00:36:25,070 --> 00:36:32,180
I mean, the absolute insanity
only from the standpoint

626
00:36:32,180 --> 00:36:37,010
that I could take it, and
I could take nothing else.

627
00:36:37,010 --> 00:36:43,330

628
00:36:43,330 --> 00:36:49,780
I don't remember any
genealogical files.

629
00:36:49,780 --> 00:36:53,110
I have my grandfather's
genealogical files,

630
00:36:53,110 --> 00:36:55,960
and I don't remember
clearly how I got them.

631
00:36:55,960 --> 00:37:01,030
My grandfather died on the high
seas in 1941, three days out

632
00:37:01,030 --> 00:37:06,580
of New York, with only
hand luggage on him.

633
00:37:06,580 --> 00:37:10,550
And on the one hand, he
may have had it with him,

634
00:37:10,550 --> 00:37:12,460

and on the other
hand, it's hard for me

635
00:37:12,460 --> 00:37:15,910
to imagine that he took that
where he was so very limited.

636
00:37:15,910 --> 00:37:18,280
But I do have all
of my grandfather's

637
00:37:18,280 --> 00:37:19,660
genealogical notes.

638
00:37:19,660 --> 00:37:21,430
Did you bring
photographs with you?

639
00:37:21,430 --> 00:37:22,600
Oh, yes, of course.

640
00:37:22,600 --> 00:37:23,890
I mean, my photo albums.

641
00:37:23,890 --> 00:37:25,310
Yes, of course.

642
00:37:25,310 --> 00:37:26,140
Of course.

643
00:37:26,140 --> 00:37:28,230
Any special books
that you brought?

644
00:37:28,230 --> 00:37:31,600
Well, I weeded my
library, of course,

645
00:37:31,600 --> 00:37:34,900
but I bought a very
large number of books.

646

00:37:34,900 --> 00:37:37,480

647

00:37:37,480 --> 00:37:41,830

What was it like to put
your feet down in America?

648

00:37:41,830 --> 00:37:44,830

Well, I mean, it was
to be a new life.

649

00:37:44,830 --> 00:37:50,410

I was abysmally ignorant
of American agriculture,

650

00:37:50,410 --> 00:37:53,710

and so was my family.

651

00:37:53,710 --> 00:38:00,910

It was very difficult.
I had no guidance

652

00:38:00,910 --> 00:38:05,200

about American agriculture,
and my first year

653

00:38:05,200 --> 00:38:08,080

was an adventurous year.

654

00:38:08,080 --> 00:38:10,750

You came to New York, and then
what did you do right away?

655

00:38:10,750 --> 00:38:13,210

You stayed you said
with your relatives?

656

00:38:13,210 --> 00:38:24,560

Well, I tried to make
contact in New York.

657

00:38:24,560 --> 00:38:28,550

I remember I went to the Jewish

Agricultural Society, which

658

00:38:28,550 --> 00:38:31,430

was a lending outfit
and was of absolutely

659

00:38:31,430 --> 00:38:34,100

no help about whatever.

660

00:38:34,100 --> 00:38:39,410

And a friend of my
parents' closest

661

00:38:39,410 --> 00:38:43,400

friend, who was an ear,
nose, throat specialist who

662

00:38:43,400 --> 00:38:48,080

had been practicing in New
York for a number of years,

663

00:38:48,080 --> 00:38:52,400

he invited me to join him
on his vacation visiting

664

00:38:52,400 --> 00:38:57,110

his two young daughters camping
in Maine to go to New England.

665

00:38:57,110 --> 00:39:01,950

And I thought maybe I
would see something there,

666

00:39:01,950 --> 00:39:05,220

make some kind of contact
which was not the case.

667

00:39:05,220 --> 00:39:11,480

I had a good time, but
I later on, on my own--

668

00:39:11,480 --> 00:39:13,760

that was in August '38--

669

00:39:13,760 --> 00:39:17,780

I thought from what
I had read and heard

670

00:39:17,780 --> 00:39:21,030

that the northeastern
states there in Springfield,

671

00:39:21,030 --> 00:39:24,320

Massachusetts, was a place
where I could find myself a job.

672

00:39:24,320 --> 00:39:29,060

And I set out by bus to go to
Springfield, Massachusetts.

673

00:39:29,060 --> 00:39:29,990

And--

674

00:39:29,990 --> 00:39:31,920

So you're about 22 years old.

675

00:39:31,920 --> 00:39:33,410

And there was this storm.

676

00:39:33,410 --> 00:39:35,780

You are too young to have
been alive at the time,

677

00:39:35,780 --> 00:39:38,330

or if you were alive
to remember it.

678

00:39:38,330 --> 00:39:41,180

There was one of the worst
storms in New England history

679

00:39:41,180 --> 00:39:44,180

and the trees were falling
over the highways and so on,

680

00:39:44,180 --> 00:39:46,490
and I never made
it to Springfield.

681
00:39:46,490 --> 00:39:50,090

682
00:39:50,090 --> 00:39:53,900
I also-- I had in
mind at the time

683
00:39:53,900 --> 00:39:57,320
visiting a friend of
mine, a schoolmate of mine

684
00:39:57,320 --> 00:40:00,920
at Smith College, and I
never made that either.

685
00:40:00,920 --> 00:40:06,380

686
00:40:06,380 --> 00:40:12,550
So I went back to
New York, and I

687
00:40:12,550 --> 00:40:17,470
have forgotten how I made a
contract to work for a potato

688
00:40:17,470 --> 00:40:19,450
farmer on Long Island.

689
00:40:19,450 --> 00:40:25,300
And I went out way east to the
eastern part of Long Island

690
00:40:25,300 --> 00:40:26,815
during the potato--

691
00:40:26,815 --> 00:40:28,900
the fellow also
had a dairy herd,

692
00:40:28,900 --> 00:40:30,520
so there was also
milking to be done.

693
00:40:30,520 --> 00:40:34,960
But it was potato
harvesting season.

694
00:40:34,960 --> 00:40:41,680
And he expected me to share my
bed with some other employee,

695
00:40:41,680 --> 00:40:43,480
and that really scared me.

696
00:40:43,480 --> 00:40:46,300

697
00:40:46,300 --> 00:40:50,020
So I figured, that's not for me.

698
00:40:50,020 --> 00:40:53,590
I was really afraid
of the possibility

699
00:40:53,590 --> 00:40:57,050
of venereal disease,
or something like that.

700
00:40:57,050 --> 00:41:02,770
And I started there in the
morning and I said to the guy,

701
00:41:02,770 --> 00:41:04,870
I'm not going to share
my bed with anybody.

702
00:41:04,870 --> 00:41:06,250
I'm going to leave tonight.

703
00:41:06,250 --> 00:41:14,820

I went back to New York
and [INAUDIBLE] opened up.

704
00:41:14,820 --> 00:41:17,440
There was a
department store owner

705
00:41:17,440 --> 00:41:22,762
in Richmond of
German-Jewish background.

706
00:41:22,762 --> 00:41:23,595
Real philanthropist.

707
00:41:23,595 --> 00:41:27,580
I think he was a fourth
generation American.

708
00:41:27,580 --> 00:41:30,970
Very, very assimilated
but very, very Jewish.

709
00:41:30,970 --> 00:41:34,325
Devoted member of [HEBREW]
congregation in Richmond.

710
00:41:34,325 --> 00:41:35,450
This is Richmond, Virginia?

711
00:41:35,450 --> 00:41:36,310
Yeah.

712
00:41:36,310 --> 00:41:42,510
He had bought a farm in
the backwoods of Virginia

713
00:41:42,510 --> 00:41:47,470
in Nottoway County
with the idea to settle

714
00:41:47,470 --> 00:41:51,610
German-Jewish refugees there
to farm there and get them out

715
00:41:51,610 --> 00:41:54,230
of Germany and get
them established.

716
00:41:54,230 --> 00:41:57,490
And the farm was on
a plantation which

717
00:41:57,490 --> 00:42:00,430
had been abandoned at
the end of the Civil War

718
00:42:00,430 --> 00:42:03,190
because it just couldn't be
found other than by slave--

719
00:42:03,190 --> 00:42:05,680
with slavery.

720
00:42:05,680 --> 00:42:08,950
A lot of woodland and
a lot of pasture land.

721
00:42:08,950 --> 00:42:15,190
And they very anxious
to have me there.

722
00:42:15,190 --> 00:42:19,170
When I got there, there were
just three other fellows there.

723
00:42:19,170 --> 00:42:21,820
There was a local
farmer who was employed

724
00:42:21,820 --> 00:42:28,260
there to sort of break us in
and show us the ways of farming.

725
00:42:28,260 --> 00:42:32,500
And he was there
during Kristallnacht.

726
00:42:32,500 --> 00:42:38,380
And I decided I had
to go to New York

727
00:42:38,380 --> 00:42:42,680
to make the situation clear
to my father's cousins.

728
00:42:42,680 --> 00:42:45,820
The great uncle who was
still born in Germany

729
00:42:45,820 --> 00:42:50,410
and was the intimate
contact with my grandfather

730
00:42:50,410 --> 00:42:51,940
had just died.

731
00:42:51,940 --> 00:42:54,220
Family was in mourning for him.

732
00:42:54,220 --> 00:42:59,050
But his sons and his
nephew and niece and so on,

733
00:42:59,050 --> 00:43:01,870
they were native-born
and didn't have

734
00:43:01,870 --> 00:43:04,340
enough of a feel
for the tragedy,

735
00:43:04,340 --> 00:43:07,930
so I felt I just had to
explain to them the need to get

736
00:43:07,930 --> 00:43:10,010
everybody out of Germany.

737

00:43:10,010 --> 00:43:11,990
So I went to New York.

738
00:43:11,990 --> 00:43:20,470
And while there, I met
a lawyer for my cousin

739
00:43:20,470 --> 00:43:24,340
who had a brother who was
farming in North Carolina

740
00:43:24,340 --> 00:43:26,800
and who was dying of cancer.

741
00:43:26,800 --> 00:43:31,175
He was still farming
his land as a bachelor.

742
00:43:31,175 --> 00:43:34,330
The man whom I met in New
York said I am his heir,

743
00:43:34,330 --> 00:43:37,750
and I have to have a
reliable person there.

744
00:43:37,750 --> 00:43:40,450
My father, the doctors
say he has a year to live.

745
00:43:40,450 --> 00:43:42,070
He doesn't know it himself.

746
00:43:42,070 --> 00:43:45,790
And I just need a
reliable person there.

747
00:43:45,790 --> 00:43:47,470
Don't tell him how ill he is.

748
00:43:47,470 --> 00:43:51,460
Just go there and tell him
I sent you as an assistant.

749
00:43:51,460 --> 00:43:56,110
And if he likes you and you
like him, then that's it.

750
00:43:56,110 --> 00:43:57,910
Well, that was a
slave operation.

751
00:43:57,910 --> 00:43:59,470
I mean, he had--

752
00:43:59,470 --> 00:44:06,640
[INAUDIBLE] slavery, but he
had 22 Blacks there operating

753
00:44:06,640 --> 00:44:09,400
a corn and hog farm.

754
00:44:09,400 --> 00:44:12,040
And I would have
been a supervisor,

755
00:44:12,040 --> 00:44:17,560
and I just couldn't see
myself in that role.

756
00:44:17,560 --> 00:44:21,430
Well, I made the youthful
mistake on my way

757
00:44:21,430 --> 00:44:24,490
from New York to North
Carolina to stop in Richmond

758
00:44:24,490 --> 00:44:27,800
and see Mr. [PERSONAL NAME]
who had taken a liking to me

759
00:44:27,800 --> 00:44:30,640
and said, you will follow
me to go to New York

760

00:44:30,640 --> 00:44:32,200
to talk to my family.

761

00:44:32,200 --> 00:44:34,300
I'm asking you for
another day or two

762

00:44:34,300 --> 00:44:37,900
to take a look at this farm in
Virginia-- in North Carolina.

763

00:44:37,900 --> 00:44:47,620
And he got enraged and he
flew into a rage and he said,

764

00:44:47,620 --> 00:44:51,220
you are too young to
touch that situation.

765

00:44:51,220 --> 00:44:53,270
This is absolutely crazy.

766

00:44:53,270 --> 00:44:57,880
But if you don't take it, and
when you come back to my place,

767

00:44:57,880 --> 00:45:00,640
you have to promise never
to do such a thing again.

768

00:45:00,640 --> 00:45:03,370
Totally an American proposition.

769

00:45:03,370 --> 00:45:06,580
So I said Mr. [PERSONAL NAME],,
I can't promise you that.

770

00:45:06,580 --> 00:45:08,260
I can't do that.

771

00:45:08,260 --> 00:45:09,440
I'm sorry.

772
00:45:09,440 --> 00:45:11,860
So when I decided
not to take it,

773
00:45:11,860 --> 00:45:15,370
I figured I could no longer
stay at that farmland.

774
00:45:15,370 --> 00:45:18,790
And I quit there, went
again back to New York.

775
00:45:18,790 --> 00:45:20,410
And then I--

776
00:45:20,410 --> 00:45:22,780
When you went to New York
to tell your relatives

777
00:45:22,780 --> 00:45:25,210
about the situation
in Germany, did they

778
00:45:25,210 --> 00:45:28,320
really understand the import
of what you were saying?

779
00:45:28,320 --> 00:45:32,380
Do you feel you got
your message across?

780
00:45:32,380 --> 00:45:37,420
I mean, ultimately the
necessary affidavits were given.

781
00:45:37,420 --> 00:45:38,740
So they did follow through.

782
00:45:38,740 --> 00:45:44,620
But the family was
quite divided about it.

783

00:45:44,620 --> 00:45:48,870

It ultimately was the
oldest son of my great uncle

784

00:45:48,870 --> 00:45:56,530

who enlisted his younger
brother, and it was done.

785

00:45:56,530 --> 00:45:59,920

But the death of
the great uncle made

786

00:45:59,920 --> 00:46:03,040

itself very painfully noted.

787

00:46:03,040 --> 00:46:05,770

But anyway, I went back.

788

00:46:05,770 --> 00:46:11,920

And then my next station was a
farm in southeastern Missouri.

789

00:46:11,920 --> 00:46:15,270

Again, a corn hog proposition.

790

00:46:15,270 --> 00:46:19,290

And again, a proposition of
sharing my bed with somebody.

791

00:46:19,290 --> 00:46:22,505

And that I--

792

00:46:22,505 --> 00:46:26,350

I absolutely-- that
was anathema to me,

793

00:46:26,350 --> 00:46:30,000

and I was at that farm
for about two weeks

794

00:46:30,000 --> 00:46:32,580

or so because I

couldn't help it until.

795

00:46:32,580 --> 00:46:36,210

In the meantime,
my father's cousin

796

00:46:36,210 --> 00:46:38,730

who after the
death of his father

797

00:46:38,730 --> 00:46:40,650

was the senior partner
of the brokerage

798

00:46:40,650 --> 00:46:42,230

firm of Hirsch & Company--

799

00:46:42,230 --> 00:46:45,810

I don't-- you are probably too
young to remember the firm.

800

00:46:45,810 --> 00:46:53,140

It was merged and the name
disappeared in the 1970s.

801

00:46:53,140 --> 00:46:58,320

But it was a large and
well-established and reputable

802

00:46:58,320 --> 00:47:03,640

brokerage which existed
from 1911 until the 1970s.

803

00:47:03,640 --> 00:47:11,880

And he was on close
terms with the owner--

804

00:47:11,880 --> 00:47:14,910

I don't know, chairman of the
board or whatnot of the Celotex

805

00:47:14,910 --> 00:47:18,750

Corporation, makers of

[INAUDIBLE] making insulation

806

00:47:18,750 --> 00:47:19,905

[INAUDIBLE].

807

00:47:19,905 --> 00:47:21,600

And to make a long
story short, I

808

00:47:21,600 --> 00:47:24,780

was offered a job at the
manufacturing laboratory

809

00:47:24,780 --> 00:47:30,100

of Celotex Corporation
in Marrero, Louisiana.

810

00:47:30,100 --> 00:47:35,100

So I went on that
job, and the problem

811

00:47:35,100 --> 00:47:38,910

with it was that I was to work
a different shifts every week.

812

00:47:38,910 --> 00:47:41,820

Never in my adult life
have I slept so much.

813

00:47:41,820 --> 00:47:44,180

And I couldn't do
anything for my education.

814

00:47:44,180 --> 00:47:46,660

Here was New Orleans with
wonderful universities

815

00:47:46,660 --> 00:47:48,870

where I could at
least have taken some.

816

00:47:48,870 --> 00:47:51,900

In the meantime, I became

convinced I absolutely

817
00:47:51,900 --> 00:47:53,940
had to earn myself an
American bachelor's

818
00:47:53,940 --> 00:47:56,970
degree in agriculture.

819
00:47:56,970 --> 00:47:59,940
But there was nothing I
could do for my education.

820
00:47:59,940 --> 00:48:03,880
And I was doing my
job and was waiting

821
00:48:03,880 --> 00:48:05,760
how temporary the
situation would

822
00:48:05,760 --> 00:48:11,950
be with having to work in a
different shift every week.

823
00:48:11,950 --> 00:48:14,550
Did you feel very welcomed
in the United States

824
00:48:14,550 --> 00:48:16,650
as an immigrant?

825
00:48:16,650 --> 00:48:17,237
Yes.

826
00:48:17,237 --> 00:48:18,820
You were made to
feel welcome by the--

827
00:48:18,820 --> 00:48:21,630
Well, the real welcome
developed in Minnesota.

828

00:48:21,630 --> 00:48:25,850

But I mean, my first year, as
is evident from my stories,

829

00:48:25,850 --> 00:48:27,720

it was a very difficult year.

830

00:48:27,720 --> 00:48:30,620

Moving around and--

831

00:48:30,620 --> 00:48:32,940

There's a sort of a
philosophical question

832

00:48:32,940 --> 00:48:34,200

that I felt welcome.

833

00:48:34,200 --> 00:48:37,140

I-- it was a very
difficult time.

834

00:48:37,140 --> 00:48:42,750

And also, with the worry about
my parents and everything

835

00:48:42,750 --> 00:48:45,170

was a very difficult period.

836

00:48:45,170 --> 00:48:46,920

The welcoming came in Minnesota.

837

00:48:46,920 --> 00:48:48,870

That came later.

838

00:48:48,870 --> 00:48:50,760

Contact with your
parents during that year?

839

00:48:50,760 --> 00:48:51,930

Oh, we wrote each other.

840

00:48:51,930 --> 00:48:54,240

You still-- the mail
with still no problem.

841

00:48:54,240 --> 00:48:55,830

Oh, yes.

842

00:48:55,830 --> 00:49:01,020

And in-- I had a close friend--

843

00:49:01,020 --> 00:49:04,950

he's a close friend
to this day--

844

00:49:04,950 --> 00:49:09,870

who was-- he was also the
son of a very close friend

845

00:49:09,870 --> 00:49:14,310

of my parents in high
school three years above me.

846

00:49:14,310 --> 00:49:16,980

He had become a medical student.

847

00:49:16,980 --> 00:49:19,110

The father was a physician.

848

00:49:19,110 --> 00:49:20,880

Was a cousin of
Albert Einstein's.

849

00:49:20,880 --> 00:49:21,660

Oh.

850

00:49:21,660 --> 00:49:23,910

Mother was a cousin
of Albert Einstein's.

851

00:49:23,910 --> 00:49:31,290

And when he realized that he
couldn't very well continue

852

00:49:31,290 --> 00:49:34,800

studying in Germany, he
decided to go to New Orleans

853

00:49:34,800 --> 00:49:37,620

where his older half brother
was well-established.

854

00:49:37,620 --> 00:49:40,300

The older half
brother interestingly

855

00:49:40,300 --> 00:49:44,910

left Germany around 1930--

856

00:49:44,910 --> 00:49:48,450

he must have been
about 22 years old--

857

00:49:48,450 --> 00:49:50,310

going with an uncle of his.

858

00:49:50,310 --> 00:49:54,510

And he said, I did not want to
live in an antisemitic country.

859

00:49:54,510 --> 00:49:57,060

I mean, he was unique
among our group.

860

00:49:57,060 --> 00:50:02,595

He's somewhat older
than I, but this was--

861

00:50:02,595 --> 00:50:04,770

I never heard anybody
else say that.

862

00:50:04,770 --> 00:50:08,980

And of course, he told
me that story in America.

863

00:50:08,980 --> 00:50:10,380
When he left, he simply left.

864
00:50:10,380 --> 00:50:12,330
And as a goodbye,
I didn't engage

865
00:50:12,330 --> 00:50:14,160
in any conversation with him.

866
00:50:14,160 --> 00:50:16,650
I got that story in New Orleans.

867
00:50:16,650 --> 00:50:20,190
But anyway, this younger half
brother went to New Orleans,

868
00:50:20,190 --> 00:50:25,980
studied at Tulane, and
contracted tuberculosis

869
00:50:25,980 --> 00:50:27,960
and had to go to Denver.

870
00:50:27,960 --> 00:50:29,610
In the meantime,
he had to become

871
00:50:29,610 --> 00:50:33,720
engaged to a very lovely
local young woman,

872
00:50:33,720 --> 00:50:38,790
and went on to Denver
and ultimately recovered.

873
00:50:38,790 --> 00:50:43,350
And at first, the
two engaged people

874
00:50:43,350 --> 00:50:45,840
wrote each other every day
and were very much in love

875
00:50:45,840 --> 00:50:49,830
with each other when another
German-Jewish immigrant,

876
00:50:49,830 --> 00:50:53,610
somewhat more mature and older
in his late 30s, appeared.

877
00:50:53,610 --> 00:50:56,340
And what should I say?

878
00:50:56,340 --> 00:50:58,890
Stole the affections
of this young lady.

879
00:50:58,890 --> 00:51:01,080
Was a perfectly decent fellow.

880
00:51:01,080 --> 00:51:04,140
But what happened was I
became the beneficiary

881
00:51:04,140 --> 00:51:07,770
of my friend's
misfortune, because he

882
00:51:07,770 --> 00:51:13,090
felt he had to do something
for a close friend of this man.

883
00:51:13,090 --> 00:51:15,630
And he was in the
grain trade, and he

884
00:51:15,630 --> 00:51:19,500
has a business friend who owned
a farm outside of St. Paul.

885
00:51:19,500 --> 00:51:23,430
[LAUGHS] That's how
I came to Minnesota.

886

00:51:23,430 --> 00:51:26,430

That's how I came to
a farm in Minnesota.

887

00:51:26,430 --> 00:51:30,000

And that was in July 1939.

888

00:51:30,000 --> 00:51:34,410

And then I knew at that time--

889

00:51:34,410 --> 00:51:37,110

I figured one thing
thing I have to do

890

00:51:37,110 --> 00:51:40,110

for myself is to get myself
a technical education

891

00:51:40,110 --> 00:51:44,700

in agriculture, get a bachelor's
degree in agriculture as

892

00:51:44,700 --> 00:51:46,450

soon as I can arrange it.

893

00:51:46,450 --> 00:51:48,750

So as soon as I could
arrange my farm work

894

00:51:48,750 --> 00:51:51,210

to go to the College
of Agriculture,

895

00:51:51,210 --> 00:51:53,850

I reported to the
dean of agriculture

896

00:51:53,850 --> 00:51:56,320

who received me with open arms.

897

00:51:56,320 --> 00:51:58,350

Did you ever consider

studying law?

898

00:51:58,350 --> 00:52:00,910

Because you said when you were
younger, you would first--

899

00:52:00,910 --> 00:52:04,192

When the Nazis came to
power, I decided this was--

900

00:52:04,192 --> 00:52:06,150

No, but now that you were
in the United States.

901

00:52:06,150 --> 00:52:06,983

That's what I meant.

902

00:52:06,983 --> 00:52:08,940

Your first desire was
law, so now you're

903

00:52:08,940 --> 00:52:10,420

in the United States.

904

00:52:10,420 --> 00:52:13,050

After the Nazis
had come to power,

905

00:52:13,050 --> 00:52:16,080

I decided that I was out.

906

00:52:16,080 --> 00:52:16,620

And--

907

00:52:16,620 --> 00:52:18,420

And you still felt
that way, even

908

00:52:18,420 --> 00:52:19,770

living in the United States?

909

00:52:19,770 --> 00:52:22,170

I mean, a second
cousin of mine who

910
00:52:22,170 --> 00:52:24,690
had finished his legal
education in Germany,

911
00:52:24,690 --> 00:52:28,770
he came over on the affidavit
of our great uncle in common

912
00:52:28,770 --> 00:52:31,635
and started all over again
and became an American.

913
00:52:31,635 --> 00:52:32,970
But you did not consider it.

914
00:52:32,970 --> 00:52:38,350
But he was eight years
above me, and he graduated

915
00:52:38,350 --> 00:52:41,920
when I started the gymnasium.

916
00:52:41,920 --> 00:52:47,100
So I mean, Dean Freeman
was just wonderful.

917
00:52:47,100 --> 00:52:51,900
He did everything he could
to encourage me to come

918
00:52:51,900 --> 00:52:53,980
to the College of Agriculture.

919
00:52:53,980 --> 00:52:59,130
He showed me how to submit my
credentials for evaluation,

920
00:52:59,130 --> 00:53:03,840
and he said he was sufficiently
familiar with my background,

921
00:53:03,840 --> 00:53:08,110
that I would be taken as
a junior on probation.

922
00:53:08,110 --> 00:53:10,080
And that's what happened.

923
00:53:10,080 --> 00:53:11,370
And--

924
00:53:11,370 --> 00:53:12,533
Who paid for it?

925
00:53:12,533 --> 00:53:19,310

926
00:53:19,310 --> 00:53:22,880
I have to-- this is uh.

927
00:53:22,880 --> 00:53:26,930
I worked for room and
board with a fellow

928
00:53:26,930 --> 00:53:29,360
for whom I milked
the cow and took

929
00:53:29,360 --> 00:53:32,090
care of his suburban acreage.

930
00:53:32,090 --> 00:53:34,880

931
00:53:34,880 --> 00:53:41,870
And I taught Sunday school at
Mount Zion Hebrew congregation

932
00:53:41,870 --> 00:53:44,390
for which I earned \$10 a month.

933

00:53:44,390 --> 00:53:46,175

Later, I think it
was raised to \$15.

934

00:53:46,175 --> 00:53:49,050

935

00:53:49,050 --> 00:53:58,620

And resident tuition
was virtually nil.

936

00:53:58,620 --> 00:54:03,960

Now, my problem
was the rules were

937

00:54:03,960 --> 00:54:11,070

to get this either negligible or
nil resident tuition after one

938

00:54:11,070 --> 00:54:12,750

year of residence.

939

00:54:12,750 --> 00:54:18,090

I had arrived in
Minnesota in July 1939,

940

00:54:18,090 --> 00:54:22,890

and with the beginning of
the academic year '40-'41, I

941

00:54:22,890 --> 00:54:26,100

thought I would be a resident.

942

00:54:26,100 --> 00:54:31,890

For my first two quarters,
the winter quarter 1940

943

00:54:31,890 --> 00:54:37,910

and the spring quarter 1940,
I had a little bit of money,

944

00:54:37,910 --> 00:54:42,820

which I did not want

to touch, because I

945

00:54:42,820 --> 00:54:48,070
felt it was really needed if
and when my parents got out.

946

00:54:48,070 --> 00:54:52,450
But I felt a small
inroad was justified,

947

00:54:52,450 --> 00:54:57,820
because it would put me into a
more decent earning position.

948

00:54:57,820 --> 00:55:02,020
And I went to the
university authorities

949

00:55:02,020 --> 00:55:03,910
and told them that
with the beginning

950

00:55:03,910 --> 00:55:06,760
of the fourth quarter,
I would be a resident.

951

00:55:06,760 --> 00:55:11,800
And they said that
requires a hearing.

952

00:55:11,800 --> 00:55:14,350
So I said, I don't
understand how there

953

00:55:14,350 --> 00:55:16,870
can be any question about it.

954

00:55:16,870 --> 00:55:19,030
There is no
citizenship requirement

955

00:55:19,030 --> 00:55:24,790
associated with being

considered a resident.

956

00:55:24,790 --> 00:55:30,460

And obviously, I became
a resident of Minnesota

957

00:55:30,460 --> 00:55:31,750

in July '39.

958

00:55:31,750 --> 00:55:36,190

And as of September '40, I have
been a resident of Minnesota

959

00:55:36,190 --> 00:55:37,120

for more than a year.

960

00:55:37,120 --> 00:55:38,500

I don't understand the question.

961

00:55:38,500 --> 00:55:41,210

962

00:55:41,210 --> 00:55:44,110

So they said, well,
this requires a hearing.

963

00:55:44,110 --> 00:55:48,310

So I had to go before some
kind of a university panel.

964

00:55:48,310 --> 00:55:53,740

And I said, I was surprised
to take up their time.

965

00:55:53,740 --> 00:55:57,100

I said, if you don't
consider me as somebody

966

00:55:57,100 --> 00:56:01,862

who has lived in Minnesota for
a year, I would be thin air.

967

00:56:01,862 --> 00:56:03,140
I have no other home.

968
00:56:03,140 --> 00:56:05,870
And so they said, you're right.

969
00:56:05,870 --> 00:56:06,880
OK.

970
00:56:06,880 --> 00:56:08,310
So that took care of that.

971
00:56:08,310 --> 00:56:13,980
[LAUGHS]

972
00:56:13,980 --> 00:56:15,440
Well, that's Minnesota now.

973
00:56:15,440 --> 00:56:17,420
I mean, really,
the interview was

974
00:56:17,420 --> 00:56:19,670
to be about my time in Germany.

975
00:56:19,670 --> 00:56:21,290
I have arrived in Minnesota.

976
00:56:21,290 --> 00:56:24,750
And I mean, to this day I am
nostalgic about Minnesota.

977
00:56:24,750 --> 00:56:28,460
I ultimately had to
leave after I had gone--

978
00:56:28,460 --> 00:56:30,750
earned my bachelor's
degree, my master's degree.

979
00:56:30,750 --> 00:56:33,710
I passed my preliminary

doctor's examination.

980

00:56:33,710 --> 00:56:38,900

And it was absolutely clear that
time had, quite aside from not

981

00:56:38,900 --> 00:56:42,710

having a job there that I had
to get some other experience.

982

00:56:42,710 --> 00:56:45,290

So I left Minnesota.

983

00:56:45,290 --> 00:56:49,340

It's almost to the day now, 49
years ago that I arrived here

984

00:56:49,340 --> 00:56:54,870

in Washington on June 16, 1947,
for the temporary appointment

985

00:56:54,870 --> 00:56:56,810

to the Food and
Agriculture Organization

986

00:56:56,810 --> 00:56:58,580

of the United Nations,
which at that time

987

00:56:58,580 --> 00:56:59,780

was headquartered here.

988

00:56:59,780 --> 00:57:03,080

Later on they went to Rome where
they are still headquartered.

989

00:57:03,080 --> 00:57:10,520

But at that time, my idea was to
make my way back into academia

990

00:57:10,520 --> 00:57:15,485

and become a [INAUDIBLE]
college professor somewhere

991
00:57:15,485 --> 00:57:18,080
in an agricultural
economics faculty.

992
00:57:18,080 --> 00:57:20,720
I would have loved to
go back to Minnesota,

993
00:57:20,720 --> 00:57:22,940
but if not Minnesota,
somewhere else.

994
00:57:22,940 --> 00:57:25,350
But things didn't quite
work out that way,

995
00:57:25,350 --> 00:57:29,120
so I had my professional
career here.

996
00:57:29,120 --> 00:57:31,770
And on that score,
I have no regrets.

997
00:57:31,770 --> 00:57:36,350
I have had a very
interesting professional life

998
00:57:36,350 --> 00:57:37,860
and career here.

999
00:57:37,860 --> 00:57:40,340
But as far as Minnesota
is concerned, of course,

1000
00:57:40,340 --> 00:57:43,040
I feel very nostalgic
about Minnesota.

1001
00:57:43,040 --> 00:57:46,490
And as you said, obviously,
you were very warmly

1002
00:57:46,490 --> 00:57:48,290
welcomed there.

1003
00:57:48,290 --> 00:57:50,570
And it was not just the
dean of agriculture.

1004
00:57:50,570 --> 00:57:56,570
I mean, in Minnesota,
I really found

1005
00:57:56,570 --> 00:57:59,190
very, very wonderful people.

1006
00:57:59,190 --> 00:58:04,970
There were a small
group of German refugees

1007
00:58:04,970 --> 00:58:09,410
who were very warm
and very cordial.

1008
00:58:09,410 --> 00:58:13,640
And there were
native-born American Jews

1009
00:58:13,640 --> 00:58:17,210
who received me with open arms.

1010
00:58:17,210 --> 00:58:19,640
Well, one of them is
an interesting story.

1011
00:58:19,640 --> 00:58:25,910
In New Orleans, I met the
principal of the local Hebrew

1012
00:58:25,910 --> 00:58:29,510
school there who was
an outstanding scholar,

1013

00:58:29,510 --> 00:58:32,630
Shakespeare translator
into Hebrew.

1014
00:58:32,630 --> 00:58:37,190
And his wife was from
Milwaukee, and her sister

1015
00:58:37,190 --> 00:58:39,110
was married to St. Paul.

1016
00:58:39,110 --> 00:58:42,080
So when I went from New
Orleans to St. Paul,

1017
00:58:42,080 --> 00:58:45,590
she recommended me
through her sister.

1018
00:58:45,590 --> 00:58:49,310
And I mean, this family
treated me like another son,

1019
00:58:49,310 --> 00:58:55,970
and I am still a very close
friend of the daughter.

1020
00:58:55,970 --> 00:58:57,860
So you received your
bachelor's degree.

1021
00:58:57,860 --> 00:59:00,170
And my master's degree
and my doctor's degree.

1022
00:59:00,170 --> 00:59:03,750
You did all three degrees at--

1023
00:59:03,750 --> 00:59:05,260
mm-hmm.

1024
00:59:05,260 --> 00:59:08,450
And of course, that's

where I found my wife also.

1025

00:59:08,450 --> 00:59:10,070

And how did you meet her?

1026

00:59:10,070 --> 00:59:17,060

Well, there was two
redheaded daughters.

1027

00:59:17,060 --> 00:59:21,260

They were interesting
fellow students.

1028

00:59:21,260 --> 00:59:24,830

I was never particularly
attracted to them as girls,

1029

00:59:24,830 --> 00:59:30,020

but they were
interesting people.

1030

00:59:30,020 --> 00:59:32,900

German-Jewish background.

1031

00:59:32,900 --> 00:59:36,710

And they lived in Minneapolis.

1032

00:59:36,710 --> 00:59:43,940

They had invited Lanie and
another German-Jewish young man

1033

00:59:43,940 --> 00:59:50,210

from St. Paul and myself
for a Sunday afternoon,

1034

00:59:50,210 --> 00:59:54,440

talking about university life
at the University of Minnesota,

1035

00:59:54,440 --> 00:59:57,140

February 1940.

1036

00:59:57,140 --> 01:00:00,680
These two girls of
German-Jewish background,

1037
01:00:00,680 --> 01:00:04,370
living in Minneapolis, students
at the University of Minnesota

1038
01:00:04,370 --> 01:00:08,990
had invited another
German-Jewish young man

1039
01:00:08,990 --> 01:00:13,490
who lived in St. Paul
like myself and me.

1040
01:00:13,490 --> 01:00:17,300
And I am not sure whether I
was told in advance that there

1041
01:00:17,300 --> 01:00:19,490
would be another
young woman around,

1042
01:00:19,490 --> 01:00:22,220
but the agreement
was we would first

1043
01:00:22,220 --> 01:00:26,390
meet in Walker Art Gallery,
one of the principal art

1044
01:00:26,390 --> 01:00:30,950
galleries in Minneapolis,
and afterwards

1045
01:00:30,950 --> 01:00:36,350
go for coffee and cake to
that Minneapolis family.

1046
01:00:36,350 --> 01:00:43,040
So we went to in
my Model A Ford.

1047

01:00:43,040 --> 01:00:46,820

We went to Walker Art Gallery
in Minneapolis, my St. Paul

1048

01:00:46,820 --> 01:00:52,175

friend and I. And the
two redheads were there.

1049

01:00:52,175 --> 01:00:54,380

I wasn't interested
in them particularly,

1050

01:00:54,380 --> 01:00:56,090

but there was Lanie.

1051

01:00:56,090 --> 01:01:01,560

And I only remember
that she was there,

1052

01:01:01,560 --> 01:01:05,180

and I only remember that
we went to that family

1053

01:01:05,180 --> 01:01:09,320

and had coffee and cake,
and I had a very good time.

1054

01:01:09,320 --> 01:01:14,690

But years later, Lanie told
me that the next morning,

1055

01:01:14,690 --> 01:01:18,620

she called these
people and apologized

1056

01:01:18,620 --> 01:01:21,680

that she and I had
sat aside and not

1057

01:01:21,680 --> 01:01:23,570

joined the rest of the group.

1058

01:01:23,570 --> 01:01:29,690

And she apologized
for the bad manners

1059

01:01:29,690 --> 01:01:31,940

of not having joined
the rest of the people,

1060

01:01:31,940 --> 01:01:37,790

because I didn't realize it that
apparently I monopolized Lanie

1061

01:01:37,790 --> 01:01:39,500

that afternoon.

1062

01:01:39,500 --> 01:01:42,180

So that was the beginning
of our friendship.

1063

01:01:42,180 --> 01:01:43,780

And she had come from Germany--

1064

01:01:43,780 --> 01:01:44,410

From Nuremberg.

1065

01:01:44,410 --> 01:01:45,035

From Nuremberg.

1066

01:01:45,035 --> 01:01:47,270

And when did she come
to the United States?

1067

01:01:47,270 --> 01:01:51,470

She had come in December 1936.

1068

01:01:51,470 --> 01:01:55,610

And her father, of
course, was a physician

1069

01:01:55,610 --> 01:02:03,200

and had to take his
exams over at age 59.

1070

01:02:03,200 --> 01:02:13,970

And Lanie's mother had
died 13 months earlier,

1071

01:02:13,970 --> 01:02:18,630

and he had remarried.

1072

01:02:18,630 --> 01:02:23,660

And while Alice,
Lanie's stepmother,

1073

01:02:23,660 --> 01:02:29,630

she meant exceedingly well, as
I shall point out in a moment,

1074

01:02:29,630 --> 01:02:35,910

she had her difficulties.

1075

01:02:35,910 --> 01:02:39,320

But I realized
from the beginning

1076

01:02:39,320 --> 01:02:46,130

that if she had not been around,
if Lanie's father had not

1077

01:02:46,130 --> 01:02:49,490

married her, Lanie would
never have gone to Minnesota.

1078

01:02:49,490 --> 01:02:51,440

She would never have
left her father alone,

1079

01:02:51,440 --> 01:02:54,190

and I would never have met her.

1080

01:02:54,190 --> 01:02:55,000