

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,520

2

00:00:06,520 --> 00:00:09,280

This is Tape 2
side A, and we were

3

00:00:09,280 --> 00:00:13,030

talking about the conditions
when you and your mother

4

00:00:13,030 --> 00:00:14,260

were in Auschwitz.

5

00:00:14,260 --> 00:00:17,470

And you said you were sleeping
together, a group of women,

6

00:00:17,470 --> 00:00:21,100

and you always were able to
stay next to your mother.

7

00:00:21,100 --> 00:00:21,670

Right.

8

00:00:21,670 --> 00:00:26,290

And we were also talking about
what a typical day was like.

9

00:00:26,290 --> 00:00:28,630

So someone would come in,
you said, to wake you up,

10

00:00:28,630 --> 00:00:29,755

and then what would happen?

11

00:00:29,755 --> 00:00:32,470

Early in the morning
they brought us

12

00:00:32,470 --> 00:00:36,995

so-called hot coffee but which
was hot water more or less.

13
00:00:36,995 --> 00:00:38,620
In the barracks they
brought it to you.

14
00:00:38,620 --> 00:00:39,490
In the barracks.

15
00:00:39,490 --> 00:00:40,340
And we had that.

16
00:00:40,340 --> 00:00:44,800
And then we had to get ready,
maybe to wash up a little,

17
00:00:44,800 --> 00:00:49,133
and go and stand appell,
which lasted hours.

18
00:00:49,133 --> 00:00:50,050
I don't know how long.

19
00:00:50,050 --> 00:00:53,020
We didn't have watches so I
don't really know how long,

20
00:00:53,020 --> 00:00:53,603
but for hours.

21
00:00:53,603 --> 00:00:54,812
And it was cold out when we--

22
00:00:54,812 --> 00:00:56,150
What did you think about?

23
00:00:56,150 --> 00:01:00,910
We just had to stand
straight, because the kapo was

24
00:01:00,910 --> 00:01:06,130

walking around to prepare us.

25

00:01:06,130 --> 00:01:10,060

They were rows of
five people in one row

26

00:01:10,060 --> 00:01:12,340

because that's how
they counted them.

27

00:01:12,340 --> 00:01:15,700

When they came, they wanted to
count so they wanted everybody

28

00:01:15,700 --> 00:01:17,950

to stand straight and counted.

29

00:01:17,950 --> 00:01:20,680

And then the Nazis came.

30

00:01:20,680 --> 00:01:23,110

We were standing there
waiting for the Nazis

31

00:01:23,110 --> 00:01:26,500

to come and count, and since
there were like I don't really

32

00:01:26,500 --> 00:01:30,730

know how many but about
25,000 or maybe 30,000 or less

33

00:01:30,730 --> 00:01:34,780

people there, that took a
long time to count them all.

34

00:01:34,780 --> 00:01:38,320

And sometimes they went
over again and again,

35

00:01:38,320 --> 00:01:43,180

so there was no telling how
long one would to stand there.

36

00:01:43,180 --> 00:01:46,600

And sometimes it was cold
already in the morning,

37

00:01:46,600 --> 00:01:51,010

early in the morning, and
so it was a difficult time

38

00:01:51,010 --> 00:01:54,280

to stand there and wait
for the Nazis to come.

39

00:01:54,280 --> 00:01:55,660

Who were the kapos?

40

00:01:55,660 --> 00:02:01,270

The kapos were Jewish
girls, some from Slovakia

41

00:02:01,270 --> 00:02:06,040

what I mentioned that they were
taken before us to Auschwitz

42

00:02:06,040 --> 00:02:09,470

and who survived it
and who stayed there.

43

00:02:09,470 --> 00:02:11,830

And they were able--

44

00:02:11,830 --> 00:02:15,820

They let the hair grow
and they had hair.

45

00:02:15,820 --> 00:02:18,590

They weren't bald
headed like we were.

46

00:02:18,590 --> 00:02:22,450

And they were dressed properly.

47

00:02:22,450 --> 00:02:24,910
And they had some
little privileges.

48
00:02:24,910 --> 00:02:30,490
But they were Jewish
people and they were--

49
00:02:30,490 --> 00:02:31,957
I mean, it was hard on them.

50
00:02:31,957 --> 00:02:33,040
They were there for years.

51
00:02:33,040 --> 00:02:35,260
They were impatient
and sometimes

52
00:02:35,260 --> 00:02:38,650
they themselves beat
us up because they just

53
00:02:38,650 --> 00:02:40,820
lost their temper
for something--

54
00:02:40,820 --> 00:02:42,680
let's say someone
wasn't standing

55
00:02:42,680 --> 00:02:44,200
the way he should
because she was

56
00:02:44,200 --> 00:02:46,000
responsible for the barracks?

57
00:02:46,000 --> 00:02:47,890
What were your feelings
about the kapos?

58
00:02:47,890 --> 00:02:51,835
Well, most people didn't like

them, and some were all right.

59

00:02:51,835 --> 00:02:54,910

Some were better than
others and some days they

60

00:02:54,910 --> 00:02:57,460

were better than other days.

61

00:02:57,460 --> 00:03:00,130

Did you ever get angry at them?

62

00:03:00,130 --> 00:03:04,510

Well, not-- Once or twice
I was beaten up by them

63

00:03:04,510 --> 00:03:06,130

and you get angry, of course.

64

00:03:06,130 --> 00:03:09,340

But sometimes they were
right because I once

65

00:03:09,340 --> 00:03:12,880

complained that I can't stand
appell and then she hit me.

66

00:03:12,880 --> 00:03:15,790

And she said, well, you
have to stand appell.

67

00:03:15,790 --> 00:03:17,560

And she was right
because I had to,

68

00:03:17,560 --> 00:03:21,370

otherwise they would
have taken me away.

69

00:03:21,370 --> 00:03:24,070

So you have to.

70

00:03:24,070 --> 00:03:29,330

71

00:03:29,330 --> 00:03:32,900

So you have to do what
they told you to do.

72

00:03:32,900 --> 00:03:37,710

Or when they, for instance,
they had different selections.

73

00:03:37,710 --> 00:03:42,170

They always selected groups
to send away for work.

74

00:03:42,170 --> 00:03:47,630

And before they did that, the
whole camp had to stand up.

75

00:03:47,630 --> 00:03:49,880

And then sometimes
naked because they

76

00:03:49,880 --> 00:03:54,710

selected from naked because they
wanted to see how strong it is.

77

00:03:54,710 --> 00:03:57,380

But not always, once in a while.

78

00:03:57,380 --> 00:04:01,040

How did you feel about that?

79

00:04:01,040 --> 00:04:04,100

You know they didn't
ask us how we feel.

80

00:04:04,100 --> 00:04:08,180

Today here we always, the
people will always ask you,

81

00:04:08,180 --> 00:04:10,940

how do you feel about this and

how do you feel about that?

82

00:04:10,940 --> 00:04:14,970

We didn't know that we can
have feelings and how we--

83

00:04:14,970 --> 00:04:18,950

We just didn't question
everything because we were kind

84

00:04:18,950 --> 00:04:21,950

of in a situation
where we couldn't.

85

00:04:21,950 --> 00:04:24,740

So we just had to
accept it or go crazy.

86

00:04:24,740 --> 00:04:28,260

And we decided to accept it
because we wanted to survive.

87

00:04:28,260 --> 00:04:31,520

So we just tried
not to even think.

88

00:04:31,520 --> 00:04:35,210

We just hoped that
maybe the war will end

89

00:04:35,210 --> 00:04:38,120

and then we will be liberated
before we are killed.

90

00:04:38,120 --> 00:04:42,820

That was the whole hope,
that we will be liberated.

91

00:04:42,820 --> 00:04:47,600

The English, the
Americans, or the Russians

92

00:04:47,600 --> 00:04:50,240

they will win and--

93

00:04:50,240 --> 00:04:53,140

Because we knew that they are losing at that point already.

94

00:04:53,140 --> 00:04:56,150

How did you know that?

95

00:04:56,150 --> 00:04:56,970

I don't know.

96

00:04:56,970 --> 00:04:58,490

But we found out.

97

00:04:58,490 --> 00:05:01,520

We found out that they were losing.

98

00:05:01,520 --> 00:05:07,580

We didn't know the details how and what, but we knew somehow.

99

00:05:07,580 --> 00:05:10,010

A grapevine sort of.

100

00:05:10,010 --> 00:05:12,980

Would you always stand next to your mother during the appeal?

101

00:05:12,980 --> 00:05:13,760

Yes.

102

00:05:13,760 --> 00:05:16,070

Did she ever weaken?

103

00:05:16,070 --> 00:05:19,010

104

00:05:19,010 --> 00:05:22,220

No, she was strong, She was all right there.

105
00:05:22,220 --> 00:05:26,660
In Auschwitz she was
strong enough to do that.

106
00:05:26,660 --> 00:05:30,110
So then after the appeal on a
typical day what would happen?

107
00:05:30,110 --> 00:05:34,250
Well, some people who did some
work then they went to work.

108
00:05:34,250 --> 00:05:38,760
When we did those blankets,
comforters, sewing,

109
00:05:38,760 --> 00:05:40,370
when we went and did that.

110
00:05:40,370 --> 00:05:41,460
In a factory situation?

111
00:05:41,460 --> 00:05:44,030
No, we were just
there in the barracks,

112
00:05:44,030 --> 00:05:45,270
in one of the barracks.

113
00:05:45,270 --> 00:05:46,085
And we did that.

114
00:05:46,085 --> 00:05:49,730

115
00:05:49,730 --> 00:05:53,130
Then at noon we got
some food, very little,

116
00:05:53,130 --> 00:05:54,140
but we did get some.

117
00:05:54,140 --> 00:05:54,890
What kind of food?

118
00:05:54,890 --> 00:05:58,700
Oh, they gave us some soup,
which was kind of empty soup.

119
00:05:58,700 --> 00:06:01,550
Or sometimes it was
with farina they

120
00:06:01,550 --> 00:06:04,310
had and sometimes potatoes.

121
00:06:04,310 --> 00:06:08,970
And also we had to
stand for the food.

122
00:06:08,970 --> 00:06:11,280
And then in the evening
they gave us food.

123
00:06:11,280 --> 00:06:13,280
We also had to
stand for the food.

124
00:06:13,280 --> 00:06:17,150
And they gave us maybe some
potatoes and the margarine.

125
00:06:17,150 --> 00:06:21,470
In Auschwitz, we didn't
really starve that much, maybe

126
00:06:21,470 --> 00:06:23,780
because we didn't work
so we didn't use up

127
00:06:23,780 --> 00:06:26,090
that many calories.

128

00:06:26,090 --> 00:06:30,020
But I wouldn't say that I
was starving in Auschwitz.

129
00:06:30,020 --> 00:06:31,310
I was not.

130
00:06:31,310 --> 00:06:35,180
It was enough for me to eat.

131
00:06:35,180 --> 00:06:38,540
Where we were starving it
was where we were working.

132
00:06:38,540 --> 00:06:41,420
There we were really starving.

133
00:06:41,420 --> 00:06:44,000
But in Auschwitz I
don't think we did.

134
00:06:44,000 --> 00:06:46,130
I didn't.

135
00:06:46,130 --> 00:06:47,660
I mean, we didn't
have good food.

136
00:06:47,660 --> 00:06:50,030
We didn't have
vitamin type food.

137
00:06:50,030 --> 00:06:51,140
We didn't have any fruit.

138
00:06:51,140 --> 00:06:53,900
And maybe once in a while
there was some little meat

139
00:06:53,900 --> 00:06:56,150
in the soup.

140

00:06:56,150 --> 00:06:58,520

Did anybody try to steal
food from anybody else?

141

00:06:58,520 --> 00:07:01,550

Yeah, because some people
we got once a day bread

142

00:07:01,550 --> 00:07:03,710

and you saved some
bread and then

143

00:07:03,710 --> 00:07:05,660

someone might have stolen it.

144

00:07:05,660 --> 00:07:06,530

That happened.

145

00:07:06,530 --> 00:07:08,620

Did people try to
steal from you?

146

00:07:08,620 --> 00:07:10,610

I don't think they did.

147

00:07:10,610 --> 00:07:13,290

I think my mother had the
better appetite than I did

148

00:07:13,290 --> 00:07:18,020

and I gave her some
bread sometimes.

149

00:07:18,020 --> 00:07:24,230

But I don't remember having
lost any food really.

150

00:07:24,230 --> 00:07:29,810

Did you talk about any religious
experiences that you were

151

00:07:29,810 --> 00:07:32,640

missing, talk about holidays?

152
00:07:32,640 --> 00:07:33,530
Well, yes.

153
00:07:33,530 --> 00:07:36,320
When it was a holiday, like
I said on Rosh Hashanah

154
00:07:36,320 --> 00:07:38,240
they killed those little boys.

155
00:07:38,240 --> 00:07:41,060

156
00:07:41,060 --> 00:07:44,180
Yes, but we couldn't
keep anything.

157
00:07:44,180 --> 00:07:45,680
We didn't keep any holidays.

158
00:07:45,680 --> 00:07:47,840
There was one day
like the other.

159
00:07:47,840 --> 00:07:52,010
There was no difference and
no holiday in Auschwitz.

160
00:07:52,010 --> 00:07:53,390
There were no holidays.

161
00:07:53,390 --> 00:07:56,330
And we knew that it
should be a holiday,

162
00:07:56,330 --> 00:08:00,490
but couldn't observe anything.

163
00:08:00,490 --> 00:08:01,940
There was no way.

164

00:08:01,940 --> 00:08:05,180

So your relationship
with your mother

165

00:08:05,180 --> 00:08:07,500

was one of each
supporting each other.

166

00:08:07,500 --> 00:08:08,180

Yes.

167

00:08:08,180 --> 00:08:10,550

I think most people who were--

168

00:08:10,550 --> 00:08:12,752

There were some
sisters together.

169

00:08:12,752 --> 00:08:13,460

There were some--

170

00:08:13,460 --> 00:08:15,470

Were there any other
mother-daughter?

171

00:08:15,470 --> 00:08:17,930

There were some, yes.

172

00:08:17,930 --> 00:08:20,090

Were you friendly with them?

173

00:08:20,090 --> 00:08:21,170

Not really.

174

00:08:21,170 --> 00:08:25,220

You were just more or
less in your own group.

175

00:08:25,220 --> 00:08:26,560

I had some cousins there.

176

00:08:26,560 --> 00:08:28,280

I occasionally saw them.

177

00:08:28,280 --> 00:08:30,140

Just with the people around you.

178

00:08:30,140 --> 00:08:33,620

You couldn't walk too
much there, you know.

179

00:08:33,620 --> 00:08:36,830

You have to be near
your block really.

180

00:08:36,830 --> 00:08:40,580

Did you know the other people's
names and their backgrounds?

181

00:08:40,580 --> 00:08:41,210

Did you talk?

182

00:08:41,210 --> 00:08:43,309

At that time, yes, we did.

183

00:08:43,309 --> 00:08:44,179

Talked about your--

184

00:08:44,179 --> 00:08:45,320

I don't remember.

185

00:08:45,320 --> 00:08:46,883

Yeah, but I meant
at that time you

186

00:08:46,883 --> 00:08:48,050

talked about your childhood.

187

00:08:48,050 --> 00:08:49,280

Oh sure, sure.

188

00:08:49,280 --> 00:08:54,200

We discussed the past and the

hopes and the expectations.

189

00:08:54,200 --> 00:08:56,160

We were talking about that, yes.

190

00:08:56,160 --> 00:08:59,000

191

00:08:59,000 --> 00:09:03,200

And was there any other
contact with the men's camp?

192

00:09:03,200 --> 00:09:06,960

There was no contact.

193

00:09:06,960 --> 00:09:11,540

Well, we only saw some men
who came to clean the toilets,

194

00:09:11,540 --> 00:09:12,650

so to speak.

195

00:09:12,650 --> 00:09:19,100

And otherwise there was the
electric wire around our camp.

196

00:09:19,100 --> 00:09:24,810

So across from us there
were camps with men in it,

197

00:09:24,810 --> 00:09:26,750

so you see some men there.

198

00:09:26,750 --> 00:09:30,560

And one lady who was
my mother's friend,

199

00:09:30,560 --> 00:09:33,620

her husband was a
doctor and they put

200

00:09:33,620 --> 00:09:35,790

him to work in the crematorium.

201

00:09:35,790 --> 00:09:38,030

And I think that before--

202

00:09:38,030 --> 00:09:40,490

that was later probably

that they blew up--

203

00:09:40,490 --> 00:09:42,740

I wasn't in Auschwitz

anymore, but what I heard

204

00:09:42,740 --> 00:09:46,910

is that they blew up the

crematorium because they

205

00:09:46,910 --> 00:09:50,690

knew that they would be next.

206

00:09:50,690 --> 00:09:53,960

Because every so

often, every few months

207

00:09:53,960 --> 00:09:57,000

they killed those people who

worked in the crematorium.

208

00:09:57,000 --> 00:09:58,520

And they did that.

209

00:09:58,520 --> 00:10:03,560

So this woman lost her husband.

210

00:10:03,560 --> 00:10:07,340

And one little boy who

was my brother's age,

211

00:10:07,340 --> 00:10:12,740

and her oldest son who was

about a year younger than Ervin,

212

00:10:12,740 --> 00:10:17,210
he survived it but
he had TB and he had

213
00:10:17,210 --> 00:10:19,110
a hard time in Czechoslovakia.

214
00:10:19,110 --> 00:10:21,870
But anyway, so that
was a constant.

215
00:10:21,870 --> 00:10:25,980
Sometimes you threw
over the fence packages,

216
00:10:25,980 --> 00:10:28,590
and some people did somehow.

217
00:10:28,590 --> 00:10:30,570
See people were
working in the kitchen

218
00:10:30,570 --> 00:10:33,960
and sometimes they helped
some people, other people.

219
00:10:33,960 --> 00:10:36,690
If they were friends
or families they

220
00:10:36,690 --> 00:10:40,000
were able to slip a
little bread or some food

221
00:10:40,000 --> 00:10:43,950
to the others in the camp
and some threw it over,

222
00:10:43,950 --> 00:10:46,740
so it was going on You
had to be very careful.

223
00:10:46,740 --> 00:10:50,040

Did you ever get any extra food?

224

00:10:50,040 --> 00:10:53,490

I got from my friend
she brought me an onion.

225

00:10:53,490 --> 00:10:55,230

But she was deprived.

226

00:10:55,230 --> 00:10:56,160

She wasn't the same.

227

00:10:56,160 --> 00:10:57,750

She didn't work anywhere.

228

00:10:57,750 --> 00:11:00,270

And it was such a big thing
that I never forgot it

229

00:11:00,270 --> 00:11:02,400

because instead of
eating it herself

230

00:11:02,400 --> 00:11:06,210

she brought it to us,
which was a great thing.

231

00:11:06,210 --> 00:11:08,100

Otherwise, not really.

232

00:11:08,100 --> 00:11:09,810

I don't remember
getting anything.

233

00:11:09,810 --> 00:11:12,090

And the next change
in situation then.

234

00:11:12,090 --> 00:11:16,290

Was when my mother and I were
taken, which I mentioned,

235

00:11:16,290 --> 00:11:17,250
by train.

236
00:11:17,250 --> 00:11:20,970
And we were on the train
and we were looking out

237
00:11:20,970 --> 00:11:24,480
and we saw the Germans
walking on the street.

238
00:11:24,480 --> 00:11:27,030
And my mother said,
there are free people

239
00:11:27,030 --> 00:11:30,540
who can freely walk.

240
00:11:30,540 --> 00:11:34,610
I mean, it just
was unbelievable.

241
00:11:34,610 --> 00:11:35,340
Where was that?

242
00:11:35,340 --> 00:11:37,200
Do you know where that was?

243
00:11:37,200 --> 00:11:37,860
I don't know.

244
00:11:37,860 --> 00:11:43,020
On the way from Auschwitz
toward Breslau so I don't know.

245
00:11:43,020 --> 00:11:45,993
And we were wondering, where
are they taking us now?

246
00:11:45,993 --> 00:11:47,160
How many were in your group?

247

00:11:47,160 --> 00:11:48,780
These are women, all women?

248
00:11:48,780 --> 00:11:50,670
All women.

249
00:11:50,670 --> 00:11:52,810
And when you say on the
train, what kind of train?

250
00:11:52,810 --> 00:11:53,790
A regular train.

251
00:11:53,790 --> 00:11:54,540
A passenger train.

252
00:11:54,540 --> 00:11:55,680
Passenger train.

253
00:11:55,680 --> 00:11:56,640
Regular train.

254
00:11:56,640 --> 00:11:59,130
I think in some
compartments they had--

255
00:11:59,130 --> 00:12:01,830
not where we were back in
some other compartment--

256
00:12:01,830 --> 00:12:03,990
could go to the bathroom there.

257
00:12:03,990 --> 00:12:07,440
It was unbelievable to us that
we had that, but they took us.

258
00:12:07,440 --> 00:12:11,790
A lot of things cannot be
explained what they were doing.

259
00:12:11,790 --> 00:12:12,630

Now when was that?

260

00:12:12,630 --> 00:12:13,380

What month was it?

261

00:12:13,380 --> 00:12:15,300

That was, I think, in October.

262

00:12:15,300 --> 00:12:17,310

I'm not sure, but

around October.

263

00:12:17,310 --> 00:12:19,320

So you were in

Auschwitz for how many?

264

00:12:19,320 --> 00:12:22,560

Well, from May to October or--

265

00:12:22,560 --> 00:12:25,500

I don't know when it was.

266

00:12:25,500 --> 00:12:31,770

And I think it was October

anyway, end of October.

267

00:12:31,770 --> 00:12:36,300

So we were taken, and it

was quite a number of hours.

268

00:12:36,300 --> 00:12:39,840

Then we arrived and

it was at the station.

269

00:12:39,840 --> 00:12:43,800

And I don't know

what station it was.

270

00:12:43,800 --> 00:12:47,370

From there we had to walk, and

we were walking and walking

271

00:12:47,370 --> 00:12:50,370
and everything was
so meadows and you

272
00:12:50,370 --> 00:12:51,670
didn't see any buildings.

273
00:12:51,670 --> 00:12:53,890
I said to myself, where
are they taking us?

274
00:12:53,890 --> 00:12:56,140
I mean, why did they
bring us here, to kill?

275
00:12:56,140 --> 00:12:58,560
Are they going to take us
somewhere to be killed?

276
00:12:58,560 --> 00:13:00,180
Because everything was desolate.

277
00:13:00,180 --> 00:13:02,010
You couldn't see anyone.

278
00:13:02,010 --> 00:13:08,640
And then we arrived to a
big, big probably a barn,

279
00:13:08,640 --> 00:13:10,820
an empty barn.

280
00:13:10,820 --> 00:13:12,390
And this was Breslau?

281
00:13:12,390 --> 00:13:19,200
It was about six, seven
days walking from Breslau.

282
00:13:19,200 --> 00:13:23,410
And I tell you why I know
that it was that long.

283

00:13:23,410 --> 00:13:24,930

But we didn't walk that much.

284

00:13:24,930 --> 00:13:29,610

We just walked a few to
the barn from the station.

285

00:13:29,610 --> 00:13:33,840

The station wasn't Breslau,
it was a little some station.

286

00:13:33,840 --> 00:13:36,780

And nothing, you
couldn't see anything.

287

00:13:36,780 --> 00:13:41,070

It was all deserted, but we
arrived into-- about a thousand

288

00:13:41,070 --> 00:13:42,450

women--

289

00:13:42,450 --> 00:13:44,480

we arrived to this place.

290

00:13:44,480 --> 00:13:46,320

These are all women
from Auschwitz.

291

00:13:46,320 --> 00:13:47,540

All women from Auschwitz.

292

00:13:47,540 --> 00:13:53,910

We all came to this place,
and there was nothing there,

293

00:13:53,910 --> 00:13:57,360

just some hay.

294

00:13:57,360 --> 00:14:00,870

And we were sleeping on
hay and we were given

295
00:14:00,870 --> 00:14:03,060
I think two blankets each.

296
00:14:03,060 --> 00:14:07,410
So we were sleeping on
the blanket on the hay

297
00:14:07,410 --> 00:14:09,990
all in one big, big--

298
00:14:09,990 --> 00:14:11,010
Barn?

299
00:14:11,010 --> 00:14:13,470
I guess it was barn,
although it was brick,

300
00:14:13,470 --> 00:14:15,390
so I don't know how
you would call it.

301
00:14:15,390 --> 00:14:17,230
Maybe it was a
factory before that.

302
00:14:17,230 --> 00:14:19,120
I don't know what it was.

303
00:14:19,120 --> 00:14:21,690
And there was no
running water there.

304
00:14:21,690 --> 00:14:27,300
And outside there was a pump
where you had to pump water.

305
00:14:27,300 --> 00:14:30,120
And that's where you
could wash up outside.

306
00:14:30,120 --> 00:14:33,780

And then there were some houses
where the Nazis were staying,

307
00:14:33,780 --> 00:14:38,980
were sleeping, the ones
who were watching us.

308
00:14:38,980 --> 00:14:42,270
And there was a kitchen, I
guess, to prepare some food.

309
00:14:42,270 --> 00:14:44,490
And they called it an infirmary.

310
00:14:44,490 --> 00:14:49,860
They had a room where if
someone got sick would go there.

311
00:14:49,860 --> 00:14:52,110
In this camp they
didn't kill people.

312
00:14:52,110 --> 00:14:54,330
They just stopped and
brought them to this,

313
00:14:54,330 --> 00:14:55,413
but they didn't kill them.

314
00:14:55,413 --> 00:14:57,580
So this was a labor camp
that they had taken you to.

315
00:14:57,580 --> 00:15:05,730
Yes, but the labor
was to work on ditches

316
00:15:05,730 --> 00:15:10,170
against the Russian army, which
was all right in the beginning,

317
00:15:10,170 --> 00:15:14,100
although it was very hard, but

which got very, very difficult

318

00:15:14,100 --> 00:15:16,860
once the earth was frozen.

319

00:15:16,860 --> 00:15:19,920
So then it was really terrible.

320

00:15:19,920 --> 00:15:29,320
So here we were, and actually
every day we went out to work.

321

00:15:29,320 --> 00:15:31,660
It was seven days we had to go.

322

00:15:31,660 --> 00:15:32,880
There was no stopping.

323

00:15:32,880 --> 00:15:35,340
Every day early in the
morning we had to get up,

324

00:15:35,340 --> 00:15:39,010
they gave us some black
something which wasn't coffee,

325

00:15:39,010 --> 00:15:39,510
of course.

326

00:15:39,510 --> 00:15:41,280
They called it coffee.

327

00:15:41,280 --> 00:15:47,760
And the night before
they gave us some bread

328

00:15:47,760 --> 00:15:50,160
so we had some
bread with a coffee.

329

00:15:50,160 --> 00:15:51,450
That's what we got.

330
00:15:51,450 --> 00:15:55,890
And then we had to
stand again in--

331
00:15:55,890 --> 00:15:58,590
Well, but you didn't
have to stand long.

332
00:15:58,590 --> 00:16:02,340
You just lined up for the
march to the workplace,

333
00:16:02,340 --> 00:16:09,220
which was a long walk, long
walk, miles, so I don't know.

334
00:16:09,220 --> 00:16:10,350
But it was a long walk.

335
00:16:10,350 --> 00:16:12,090
We felt it was very long.

336
00:16:12,090 --> 00:16:14,550
And you're still wearing
what you had from Auschwitz?

337
00:16:14,550 --> 00:16:19,460
Well, they gave us in
Auschwitz a coat and a dress.

338
00:16:19,460 --> 00:16:20,890
And that's what you're wearing.

339
00:16:20,890 --> 00:16:22,710
That's what we
were wearing, yes.

340
00:16:22,710 --> 00:16:24,250
That's why they
gave us the clothes.

341

00:16:24,250 --> 00:16:25,980
Did you still have your shoes?

342
00:16:25,980 --> 00:16:29,530
I think I still had some shoes.

343
00:16:29,530 --> 00:16:30,710
I think so.

344
00:16:30,710 --> 00:16:34,300
I don't know at what point I got
other shoes, but at that point

345
00:16:34,300 --> 00:16:36,310
I still had my shoes.

346
00:16:36,310 --> 00:16:42,130
And so we were going
every day there.

347
00:16:42,130 --> 00:16:48,370
And at noon time, a
wagon came, a carriage,

348
00:16:48,370 --> 00:16:50,910
which brought the soup
for us and they gave us

349
00:16:50,910 --> 00:16:52,900
some warm soup.

350
00:16:52,900 --> 00:16:57,813
Depending how good or
how nutritious it was.

351
00:16:57,813 --> 00:16:59,230
I don't know what
was in the soup.

352
00:16:59,230 --> 00:17:00,040
Very little.

353

00:17:00,040 --> 00:17:01,870
Sometimes more, sometimes less.

354
00:17:01,870 --> 00:17:03,970
It depended.

355
00:17:03,970 --> 00:17:05,420
So that's what we had.

356
00:17:05,420 --> 00:17:07,750
That was our break, eating that.

357
00:17:07,750 --> 00:17:10,119
And then they had
some outside there

358
00:17:10,119 --> 00:17:12,940
was nothing in that horrible
place but a toilet where

359
00:17:12,940 --> 00:17:14,079
we can go.

360
00:17:14,079 --> 00:17:16,780
And sometimes a
German was looking in

361
00:17:16,780 --> 00:17:20,260
whether we are really doing
what we are supposed to do

362
00:17:20,260 --> 00:17:22,630
or we are just
taking breaks there.

363
00:17:22,630 --> 00:17:24,970
Did you still have Jewish
women kapos with you?

364
00:17:24,970 --> 00:17:27,140
There were no
kapos at that time.

365

00:17:27,140 --> 00:17:32,140

No, they were just Nazis.

366

00:17:32,140 --> 00:17:36,910

Maybe some were not Nazis, some
just German people, guards.

367

00:17:36,910 --> 00:17:40,450

And how did you feel about
leaving Auschwitz knowing

368

00:17:40,450 --> 00:17:42,320

your brother and your father--

369

00:17:42,320 --> 00:17:43,720

Well, they were not in there.

370

00:17:43,720 --> 00:17:45,220

I didn't see my brother.

371

00:17:45,220 --> 00:17:46,720

I didn't know where
my brother and--

372

00:17:46,720 --> 00:17:48,700

And so leaving Auschwitz--

373

00:17:48,700 --> 00:17:52,270

I had no idea where he
was, so that was not

374

00:17:52,270 --> 00:17:56,470

connecting that I was leaving
them because we didn't know

375

00:17:56,470 --> 00:17:57,845

whether they are in Auschwitz.

376

00:17:57,845 --> 00:17:59,470

They could have gone
to work somewhere.

377

00:17:59,470 --> 00:18:01,095

As a matter of fact,
we heard that they

378

00:18:01,095 --> 00:18:05,230

were at one point in Budy
doing some farm work, which

379

00:18:05,230 --> 00:18:08,440

was not directly Auschwitz.

380

00:18:08,440 --> 00:18:10,870

Well, close by but
not where I was.

381

00:18:10,870 --> 00:18:13,210

And there was no way
we could see them,

382

00:18:13,210 --> 00:18:16,660

so we didn't know
at that point when

383

00:18:16,660 --> 00:18:20,080

we were leaving how they are
and whether they're still

384

00:18:20,080 --> 00:18:22,100

there or anything.

385

00:18:22,100 --> 00:18:28,040

So we were here and we were
working till the evening

386

00:18:28,040 --> 00:18:28,540

and then--

387

00:18:28,540 --> 00:18:29,975

This was digging ditches.

388

00:18:29,975 --> 00:18:30,600

Digging ditches

389
00:18:30,600 --> 00:18:32,020
How did you--

390
00:18:32,020 --> 00:18:36,595
We had the hole and the
thing, how do you call it?

391
00:18:36,595 --> 00:18:37,480
A pick?

392
00:18:37,480 --> 00:18:38,290
A spade.

393
00:18:38,290 --> 00:18:40,030
A spade, a pick.

394
00:18:40,030 --> 00:18:42,790
All these things
to do the ditches.

395
00:18:42,790 --> 00:18:45,730
And we did it and--

396
00:18:45,730 --> 00:18:47,290
Did you work
alongside your mother?

397
00:18:47,290 --> 00:18:50,020
Yes, but we tried not to over--

398
00:18:50,020 --> 00:18:52,360
And I always told her,
don't work so much.

399
00:18:52,360 --> 00:18:53,350
Take it slow.

400
00:18:53,350 --> 00:18:55,960
Some people really
worked very hard

401

00:18:55,960 --> 00:18:57,700

and they were
pushing themselves.

402

00:18:57,700 --> 00:19:00,460

And we decided that we
are just doing whatever

403

00:19:00,460 --> 00:19:02,140

absolutely is necessary.

404

00:19:02,140 --> 00:19:03,160

Why?

405

00:19:03,160 --> 00:19:05,710

To conserve our strength.

406

00:19:05,710 --> 00:19:07,570

So we didn't.

407

00:19:07,570 --> 00:19:10,570

But of course you had
the supervisors looking,

408

00:19:10,570 --> 00:19:14,800

and so you have to be very smart
about how you were doing it

409

00:19:14,800 --> 00:19:16,040

not to be caught.

410

00:19:16,040 --> 00:19:18,010

So you did what you could.

411

00:19:18,010 --> 00:19:21,640

And then in the
evening we went back

412

00:19:21,640 --> 00:19:24,970

and they gave us some
potatoes or something

413

00:19:24,970 --> 00:19:27,570

to eat and the piece of
bread for the next morning

414

00:19:27,570 --> 00:19:31,390

or for that evening
and some margarine.

415

00:19:31,390 --> 00:19:32,500

Very little food.

416

00:19:32,500 --> 00:19:37,210

Here we really starved and
people lost weight there.

417

00:19:37,210 --> 00:19:41,740

And as it went
and it got colder,

418

00:19:41,740 --> 00:19:43,870

it was very cold outside.

419

00:19:43,870 --> 00:19:46,570

And the wind, we always
looked at the sky

420

00:19:46,570 --> 00:19:48,820

because if it was red
in the evening that

421

00:19:48,820 --> 00:19:51,010

meant the next day
will be very windy.

422

00:19:51,010 --> 00:19:54,440

So we were worried
about these things.

423

00:19:54,440 --> 00:20:01,510

And so what happened that people
started to tear up that blanket

424

00:20:01,510 --> 00:20:05,695
and put it on their bodies so
they don't freeze on the legs.

425
00:20:05,695 --> 00:20:10,930

426
00:20:10,930 --> 00:20:13,330
And there was, I
understand, we heard about

427
00:20:13,330 --> 00:20:19,420
that there is another group of
people in another sort of camp

428
00:20:19,420 --> 00:20:21,560
who do the same type of work.

429
00:20:21,560 --> 00:20:23,740
And they also came
from Auschwitz.

430
00:20:23,740 --> 00:20:28,420
And their head is a
very horrible Nazi.

431
00:20:28,420 --> 00:20:32,195
So our head was bad,
but he was not awful.

432
00:20:32,195 --> 00:20:33,840
Do you know what his name was?

433
00:20:33,840 --> 00:20:34,900
No.

434
00:20:34,900 --> 00:20:36,260
I don't know.

435
00:20:36,260 --> 00:20:40,000
And he came over one
day and we were lined up

436

00:20:40,000 --> 00:20:42,550

to stand sort of
appell, whatever,

437

00:20:42,550 --> 00:20:45,830

and he was looking and walking
and picked out and looked

438

00:20:45,830 --> 00:20:46,330

at us.

439

00:20:46,330 --> 00:20:50,170

And I was trembling because
he picked out people

440

00:20:50,170 --> 00:20:56,830

and he examined whether they
have any blanket pieces rolled

441

00:20:56,830 --> 00:20:57,520

over them.

442

00:20:57,520 --> 00:21:00,820

And whomever he picked
up and they had,

443

00:21:00,820 --> 00:21:03,520

he was giving them 25.

444

00:21:03,520 --> 00:21:04,510

That was horrible.

445

00:21:04,510 --> 00:21:07,430

It didn't kill them but it was
a horrible thing for a woman.

446

00:21:07,430 --> 00:21:09,970

And they couldn't sit down
after that or anything.

447

00:21:09,970 --> 00:21:10,970

25 lashes?

448
00:21:10,970 --> 00:21:11,470
Lashes.

449
00:21:11,470 --> 00:21:14,080

450
00:21:14,080 --> 00:21:17,020
So I was standing
there stone faced.

451
00:21:17,020 --> 00:21:18,910
And my mother too.

452
00:21:18,910 --> 00:21:20,560
But we were not selected.

453
00:21:20,560 --> 00:21:21,820
You did not have the--

454
00:21:21,820 --> 00:21:22,360
No.

455
00:21:22,360 --> 00:21:24,130
We had it.

456
00:21:24,130 --> 00:21:26,410
We had it on, but
they didn't look.

457
00:21:26,410 --> 00:21:29,400
They didn't pick us out to look.

458
00:21:29,400 --> 00:21:33,810
He just took a few and then some
are running into the bathroom

459
00:21:33,810 --> 00:21:35,650
to take it off at that time.

460
00:21:35,650 --> 00:21:38,910

By the time when he was lashing
them they went to the bathroom

461
00:21:38,910 --> 00:21:40,230
and took it off.

462
00:21:40,230 --> 00:21:43,760
I think I did that,
too, if I'm correct.

463
00:21:43,760 --> 00:21:45,310
Anyway, that's what happened.

464
00:21:45,310 --> 00:21:46,890
So that was a horrible day.

465
00:21:46,890 --> 00:21:52,940
But otherwise we were not
beaten there in this camp,

466
00:21:52,940 --> 00:21:54,310
in this working camp.

467
00:21:54,310 --> 00:21:56,070
They didn't beat us.

468
00:21:56,070 --> 00:22:03,060
But as it was colder and
people were really weaker,

469
00:22:03,060 --> 00:22:06,510
and colder and
weaker, so some froze.

470
00:22:06,510 --> 00:22:08,820
Some just died of exhaustion.

471
00:22:08,820 --> 00:22:11,790
What was it like
for you to see that?

472
00:22:11,790 --> 00:22:12,750

It was horrible.

473

00:22:12,750 --> 00:22:17,040

It was very painful because we
knew these people from there.

474

00:22:17,040 --> 00:22:19,470

Some we knew from home,
but some we knew from there

475

00:22:19,470 --> 00:22:24,420

and see them die was
an awful feeling.

476

00:22:24,420 --> 00:22:27,720

And then another
day was horrible.

477

00:22:27,720 --> 00:22:30,810

I don't remember whether
that was volunteering

478

00:22:30,810 --> 00:22:33,510

or whether they
picked us, but they

479

00:22:33,510 --> 00:22:39,420

had those horrible toilets where
you have to clean, latrines.

480

00:22:39,420 --> 00:22:43,380

And I don't remember whether
I was chosen and my mother

481

00:22:43,380 --> 00:22:46,600

or whether they picked
me, I really don't know.

482

00:22:46,600 --> 00:22:49,020

All I know is that
those people didn't

483

00:22:49,020 --> 00:22:52,350

have to go out to work
but we have to take the--

484
00:22:52,350 --> 00:22:57,070
And I, for me this
is awful thing to do.

485
00:22:57,070 --> 00:23:00,300
So they gave us the pails,
and we have to take some pails

486
00:23:00,300 --> 00:23:03,870
and lift all that
stuff out and pour it

487
00:23:03,870 --> 00:23:08,610
into a big container
which they moved away.

488
00:23:08,610 --> 00:23:13,120
And that was one of the very,
very bad days to do that.

489
00:23:13,120 --> 00:23:15,780
And there was one
girl, she worked

490
00:23:15,780 --> 00:23:18,600
and I even told her,
don't work so hard.

491
00:23:18,600 --> 00:23:20,770
Go slower on it.

492
00:23:20,770 --> 00:23:24,720
She really got so exhausted
that in consequence I

493
00:23:24,720 --> 00:23:27,510
don't know whether it
was this thing or what,

494
00:23:27,510 --> 00:23:32,230

but she did die after a while.

495

00:23:32,230 --> 00:23:36,330

And then another occasion
which is also noteworthy

496

00:23:36,330 --> 00:23:39,420

because it's just hard to
believe but it happened.

497

00:23:39,420 --> 00:23:42,270

They all there in
the working camp,

498

00:23:42,270 --> 00:23:45,180

they collected us all and
they said they are giving us

499

00:23:45,180 --> 00:23:47,280

typhoid injections.

500

00:23:47,280 --> 00:23:50,010

Not typhoid, against typhoid.

501

00:23:50,010 --> 00:23:50,620

Vaccine.

502

00:23:50,620 --> 00:23:51,120

Vaccine.

503

00:23:51,120 --> 00:23:54,210

But it was a long
needle in the chest.

504

00:23:54,210 --> 00:23:56,590

That's what they gave us
and we didn't believe it.

505

00:23:56,590 --> 00:23:58,200

I thought, Oh well, that's it.

506

00:23:58,200 --> 00:24:01,320

Now they are going to poison us.

507

00:24:01,320 --> 00:24:02,640

But that's what it was.

508

00:24:02,640 --> 00:24:05,910

It was really typhoid vaccine.

509

00:24:05,910 --> 00:24:11,220

So it's just unbelievable that
this should happen, right?

510

00:24:11,220 --> 00:24:12,360

But it did.

511

00:24:12,360 --> 00:24:17,580

So you just couldn't figure
them out why they did it.

512

00:24:17,580 --> 00:24:20,380

Maybe they just wanted to
protect their population.

513

00:24:20,380 --> 00:24:22,230

Also that was
completely deserted.

514

00:24:22,230 --> 00:24:25,810

There was no population
there to be protected.

515

00:24:25,810 --> 00:24:26,670

They did it.

516

00:24:26,670 --> 00:24:30,810

Maybe some people in some
camps did die of typhoid

517

00:24:30,810 --> 00:24:35,070

and they had some
epidemics there, so maybe

518

00:24:35,070 --> 00:24:36,210
that's why they did it.

519
00:24:36,210 --> 00:24:37,000
I don't know.

520
00:24:37,000 --> 00:24:38,310
But they did it.

521
00:24:38,310 --> 00:24:40,180
I couldn't believe it
that's what they did.

522
00:24:40,180 --> 00:24:42,030
And they did it.

523
00:24:42,030 --> 00:24:48,450
So then Christmas came,
and that was the only day--

524
00:24:48,450 --> 00:24:51,930
Did you notice any difference
in the relationship

525
00:24:51,930 --> 00:24:55,560
between the women in Auschwitz
and how you were supporting

526
00:24:55,560 --> 00:24:57,470
each other and the women here?

527
00:24:57,470 --> 00:24:58,220
Or was it similar?

528
00:24:58,220 --> 00:25:00,995
Well, we had really
less time here.

529
00:25:00,995 --> 00:25:01,620
We had to work.

530
00:25:01,620 --> 00:25:02,662

Because you were working.

531

00:25:02,662 --> 00:25:03,450

We were working.

532

00:25:03,450 --> 00:25:04,900

We didn't have that much time.

533

00:25:04,900 --> 00:25:09,300

And we were very tired, so you
couldn't have the same thing.

534

00:25:09,300 --> 00:25:11,070

But let me just
mention one thing

535

00:25:11,070 --> 00:25:15,240

because this I couldn't
understand either.

536

00:25:15,240 --> 00:25:19,650

But they had also women, Nazi
women and Nazi men there.

537

00:25:19,650 --> 00:25:23,530

And Christmas was
the only day when

538

00:25:23,530 --> 00:25:26,100

we didn't have to go out
to work, Christmas Day.

539

00:25:26,100 --> 00:25:28,650

And we stayed in our
barracks and they gave us

540

00:25:28,650 --> 00:25:30,660

some kind of pretty good food.

541

00:25:30,660 --> 00:25:32,020

[SIRENS WAILING IN BACKGROUND]

542

00:25:32,020 --> 00:25:35,430

So that was the only
day, Christmas Day,

543

00:25:35,430 --> 00:25:38,670

that we didn't have to go
out to work in the fields, so

544

00:25:38,670 --> 00:25:40,290

the ditches.

545

00:25:40,290 --> 00:25:42,430

And we got some food.

546

00:25:42,430 --> 00:25:47,100

And I remember that one of the
women, one of the Nazi women,

547

00:25:47,100 --> 00:25:50,680

looked at us and she
had tears in her eyes.

548

00:25:50,680 --> 00:25:54,630

And she said, well, I
hope the war will end

549

00:25:54,630 --> 00:25:58,770

and by next Christmas
you will be home.

550

00:25:58,770 --> 00:26:02,200

But that was, of
course, the exception.

551

00:26:02,200 --> 00:26:03,400

But it happened.

552

00:26:03,400 --> 00:26:06,460

What were the other
Nazi women like?

553

00:26:06,460 --> 00:26:10,060

Well, in the working camp

they were not horrible.

554

00:26:10,060 --> 00:26:12,130

They didn't hit anyone.

555

00:26:12,130 --> 00:26:15,250

Like in Auschwitz they were
walking around with a whip.

556

00:26:15,250 --> 00:26:16,270

They had some dogs.

557

00:26:16,270 --> 00:26:19,300

And they just for
nothing they would

558

00:26:19,300 --> 00:26:23,140

whip someone or hit, but
here they didn't do that.

559

00:26:23,140 --> 00:26:25,390

In the working camp, they were--

560

00:26:25,390 --> 00:26:30,430

I mean they were strict
that we should go to work,

561

00:26:30,430 --> 00:26:31,690

but otherwise--

562

00:26:31,690 --> 00:26:34,630

And that we had very
little food and all that.

563

00:26:34,630 --> 00:26:38,350

But they were not hurting us.

564

00:26:38,350 --> 00:26:41,480

Were you able to
speak German to them?

565

00:26:41,480 --> 00:26:42,250

Yeah.

566
00:26:42,250 --> 00:26:43,180
Did you know German?

567
00:26:43,180 --> 00:26:44,890
Yes.

568
00:26:44,890 --> 00:26:49,790
I spoke very well German
and so did my mother.

569
00:26:49,790 --> 00:26:52,360
But we didn't
really talk to them.

570
00:26:52,360 --> 00:26:53,260
There was no time.

571
00:26:53,260 --> 00:26:54,260
There was no discussion.

572
00:26:54,260 --> 00:26:59,620
That was the only time that she
came there and she said that.

573
00:26:59,620 --> 00:27:05,980
Otherwise, I don't remember
any discussions with them.

574
00:27:05,980 --> 00:27:08,770
There was no time
because we were working.

575
00:27:08,770 --> 00:27:11,810
When we came home we were
eating whatever was there.

576
00:27:11,810 --> 00:27:13,487
And then we'd just lie down.

577
00:27:13,487 --> 00:27:15,070

You said you worked
seven days a week.

578
00:27:15,070 --> 00:27:17,330
We worked seven days a week.

579
00:27:17,330 --> 00:27:19,300
And that was the only
day, on Christmas Day,

580
00:27:19,300 --> 00:27:21,760
when we were back
there and that was

581
00:27:21,760 --> 00:27:24,540
the time when she said that.

582
00:27:24,540 --> 00:27:28,300
And so that's how we went on.

583
00:27:28,300 --> 00:27:31,450
And then it was very, very
bad, and it was really

584
00:27:31,450 --> 00:27:33,010
very cold and snowy.

585
00:27:33,010 --> 00:27:37,540
And some Russian and some
Polish prisoners of war

586
00:27:37,540 --> 00:27:40,990
came in to help us, to
help to do the ditches.

587
00:27:40,990 --> 00:27:43,600
Not us, but they were
doing their work there.

588
00:27:43,600 --> 00:27:46,660
But they were stronger than
we were because they were men.

589

00:27:46,660 --> 00:27:49,990

And I don't know
why they did that.

590

00:27:49,990 --> 00:27:52,540

I guess we didn't accomplish
enough what they wanted.

591

00:27:52,540 --> 00:27:54,460

They wanted to protect.

592

00:27:54,460 --> 00:27:57,430

I don't know why they believe
that those ditches will help

593

00:27:57,430 --> 00:27:59,920

to stop the army, the Red Army.

594

00:27:59,920 --> 00:28:00,650

I don't know.

595

00:28:00,650 --> 00:28:02,410

But anyway that
was the situation.

596

00:28:02,410 --> 00:28:04,750

And the army was nearing.

597

00:28:04,750 --> 00:28:07,240

Did you have to carry
any heavy loads,

598

00:28:07,240 --> 00:28:08,470

or you were just digging?

599

00:28:08,470 --> 00:28:12,120

We were digging more or less
and get out the dirt, yes.

600

00:28:12,120 --> 00:28:15,170

Digging in the ground, but
you have to transport it.

601
00:28:15,170 --> 00:28:15,670
No.

602
00:28:15,670 --> 00:28:17,940
I don't remember
that we did, no.

603
00:28:17,940 --> 00:28:18,910
No.

604
00:28:18,910 --> 00:28:21,990
And then my mother
was getting weaker.

605
00:28:21,990 --> 00:28:25,540
And then she had a jaundice
attack with her gallbladder.

606
00:28:25,540 --> 00:28:26,860
She was all yellow.

607
00:28:26,860 --> 00:28:30,310
And I mentioned that
they had an infirmary

608
00:28:30,310 --> 00:28:34,390
and they had a doctor,
and so they decided

609
00:28:34,390 --> 00:28:36,670
that I think she
had a high fever,

610
00:28:36,670 --> 00:28:38,620
so they decided to
keep her indoors

611
00:28:38,620 --> 00:28:42,290
and they didn't send her
out to work at that time.

612

00:28:42,290 --> 00:28:43,970

And I remember I
thought she would

613

00:28:43,970 --> 00:28:47,170

die because she was so
sick and crying there,

614

00:28:47,170 --> 00:28:50,230

but anyway that's what happened.

615

00:28:50,230 --> 00:28:52,120

Were you able to visit
her in the infirmary?

616

00:28:52,120 --> 00:28:54,070

Yes, I saw her in the infirmary.

617

00:28:54,070 --> 00:28:57,280

I saw her all yellow.

618

00:28:57,280 --> 00:29:00,500

I mean with a gallbladder,
a liver attack,

619

00:29:00,500 --> 00:29:02,440

and she was very sick.

620

00:29:02,440 --> 00:29:04,340

It was very bad.

621

00:29:04,340 --> 00:29:05,560

And she was there a few days.

622

00:29:05,560 --> 00:29:07,420

I don't know how many.

623

00:29:07,420 --> 00:29:10,630

But then they decided
they would send her out

624

00:29:10,630 --> 00:29:13,600

and she was still
very, very weak,

625
00:29:13,600 --> 00:29:15,410
but they forced her to go.

626
00:29:15,410 --> 00:29:19,180
They said they can't keep
her anymore, she has to go.

627
00:29:19,180 --> 00:29:22,900
So on the way going there
was another person there

628
00:29:22,900 --> 00:29:27,400
and myself, so she was kind
of people helping her walk,

629
00:29:27,400 --> 00:29:28,000
support.

630
00:29:28,000 --> 00:29:31,240
The two of us were
supporting her to the place.

631
00:29:31,240 --> 00:29:33,550
And we arrived and
she was just finished.

632
00:29:33,550 --> 00:29:34,900
She couldn't then.

633
00:29:34,900 --> 00:29:40,420
I don't think he was a Nazi, he
was an old man, older person.

634
00:29:40,420 --> 00:29:41,740
Maybe he was from Wehrmacht.

635
00:29:41,740 --> 00:29:42,430
I don't know.

636

00:29:42,430 --> 00:29:45,610
He had soldier's uniform
but he looked at her

637
00:29:45,610 --> 00:29:48,850
and he said, well how could
they send this woman out?

638
00:29:48,850 --> 00:29:56,800
And he put her into where you
had the implements, the tools,

639
00:29:56,800 --> 00:29:58,220
tool shed, I guess.

640
00:29:58,220 --> 00:30:01,618
So she was sitting
there all day.

641
00:30:01,618 --> 00:30:02,910
While you were digging ditches.

642
00:30:02,910 --> 00:30:04,210
While I was digging, yeah.

643
00:30:04,210 --> 00:30:08,660
So he let her sit there,
which was very nice.

644
00:30:08,660 --> 00:30:13,990
And so then we
went back at night.

645
00:30:13,990 --> 00:30:18,200
And I think the next day
this thing happened again.

646
00:30:18,200 --> 00:30:22,160
And I think the third day
maybe she was better a little

647
00:30:22,160 --> 00:30:24,850
and maybe she was

able to do something.

648

00:30:24,850 --> 00:30:29,680

And then I don't remember
how many days from that

649

00:30:29,680 --> 00:30:34,630

they came in and they gave
everybody a whole bread,

650

00:30:34,630 --> 00:30:37,420

a big bread like
this, and they said,

651

00:30:37,420 --> 00:30:41,260

get ready we to leave here.

652

00:30:41,260 --> 00:30:46,060

And that was sometime the
end of February, I think.

653

00:30:46,060 --> 00:30:49,120

Were there any particular
sounds that you

654

00:30:49,120 --> 00:30:52,150

remember or smells that you
remember from that camp?

655

00:30:52,150 --> 00:30:54,665

Anything that remains with you?

656

00:30:54,665 --> 00:30:55,165

No.

657

00:30:55,165 --> 00:31:00,115

658

00:31:00,115 --> 00:31:01,600

No, not really.

659

00:31:01,600 --> 00:31:08,040

660
00:31:08,040 --> 00:31:12,580
Tape 2, Side B. When
the people were dying,

661
00:31:12,580 --> 00:31:14,340
what would happen
to their bodies?

662
00:31:14,340 --> 00:31:15,738
I think they buried them.

663
00:31:15,738 --> 00:31:16,530
They did bury them.

664
00:31:16,530 --> 00:31:18,120
Yeah, I think they buried them.

665
00:31:18,120 --> 00:31:20,910
Well, they didn't have
any crematoria there

666
00:31:20,910 --> 00:31:23,370
and they buried them.

667
00:31:23,370 --> 00:31:28,800
And it was very painful seeing
the people whom you know

668
00:31:28,800 --> 00:31:31,470
are working so hard
and then dying.

669
00:31:31,470 --> 00:31:32,930
I think it was very painful.

670
00:31:32,930 --> 00:31:35,760

671
00:31:35,760 --> 00:31:41,170
Was there any kind of

ritual or memorial service

672

00:31:41,170 --> 00:31:42,640

that the rest of you would do?

673

00:31:42,640 --> 00:31:44,620

No, there were no religious or--

674

00:31:44,620 --> 00:31:48,640

Any kind of marking the death
of someone in your group?

675

00:31:48,640 --> 00:31:49,840

No.

676

00:31:49,840 --> 00:31:51,880

No, there was no
time for anything.

677

00:31:51,880 --> 00:31:57,100

You really just have to go
and to work and eat and rest.

678

00:31:57,100 --> 00:31:59,320

That was it.

679

00:31:59,320 --> 00:31:59,890

Nothing.

680

00:31:59,890 --> 00:32:01,690

There was no time.

681

00:32:01,690 --> 00:32:04,450

You worked seven days from
the morning till the evening,

682

00:32:04,450 --> 00:32:07,780

and then you were so exhausted
that you just lie down

683

00:32:07,780 --> 00:32:12,250

and you slept at that point.

684
00:32:12,250 --> 00:32:15,060

685
00:32:15,060 --> 00:32:15,870
OK.

686
00:32:15,870 --> 00:32:19,480
So then they came in
one evening and they

687
00:32:19,480 --> 00:32:23,410
said that we have
to leave this camp.

688
00:32:23,410 --> 00:32:24,580
We are going to--

689
00:32:24,580 --> 00:32:27,790
Did this camp have
a particular name?

690
00:32:27,790 --> 00:32:29,840
I don't know, but
I don't remember.

691
00:32:29,840 --> 00:32:31,540
I don't think that
it had a name.

692
00:32:31,540 --> 00:32:34,410
I don't know.

693
00:32:34,410 --> 00:32:39,930
And they said we have to
leave and they gave everybody

694
00:32:39,930 --> 00:32:43,470
a big bread, real big bread.

695
00:32:43,470 --> 00:32:45,850
This is in February.

696

00:32:45,850 --> 00:32:50,340
By the end of February in 1945.

697

00:32:50,340 --> 00:32:53,100
And that was because the
Russians were coming nearer

698

00:32:53,100 --> 00:32:55,080
and nearer and they
wanted to evacuate

699

00:32:55,080 --> 00:32:58,830
this place because they thought
that the Russians will occupy

700

00:32:58,830 --> 00:32:59,790
it.

701

00:32:59,790 --> 00:33:02,460
So they didn't tell
us why, but they just

702

00:33:02,460 --> 00:33:04,050
said we are going to leave.

703

00:33:04,050 --> 00:33:06,090
And we are going and marching.

704

00:33:06,090 --> 00:33:09,510
And we were marching,
and one night after a day

705

00:33:09,510 --> 00:33:12,390
we had to march and
I don't remember

706

00:33:12,390 --> 00:33:14,370
falling asleep standing.

707

00:33:14,370 --> 00:33:16,980
Because sometimes we

had to stop and we

708

00:33:16,980 --> 00:33:19,620

were standing for some
reason or waiting,

709

00:33:19,620 --> 00:33:21,990

so I remember falling
asleep standing,

710

00:33:21,990 --> 00:33:24,040

if you can believe that.

711

00:33:24,040 --> 00:33:25,810

And then we were marching.

712

00:33:25,810 --> 00:33:28,750

What was your health like,
by the way, at this time?

713

00:33:28,750 --> 00:33:31,110

At that point I was all right.

714

00:33:31,110 --> 00:33:32,620

Had you lost a lot of weight?

715

00:33:32,620 --> 00:33:33,750

I did lose.

716

00:33:33,750 --> 00:33:35,460

In the working
camp I lost weight.

717

00:33:35,460 --> 00:33:38,730

I was skinny, yeah,
and my mother too.

718

00:33:38,730 --> 00:33:40,060

We lost a lot of weight.

719

00:33:40,060 --> 00:33:43,050

And to begin because

I was all right.

720
00:33:43,050 --> 00:33:44,520
I was not a thin person.

721
00:33:44,520 --> 00:33:48,270
I was not very
overweight, but I was OK.

722
00:33:48,270 --> 00:33:57,720
So this walking lasted
I think like five days.

723
00:33:57,720 --> 00:33:59,610
But at night, that
was the first night

724
00:33:59,610 --> 00:34:03,750
we didn't, but the next night
we were sleeping somewhere

725
00:34:03,750 --> 00:34:06,930
in a barn they put us in.

726
00:34:06,930 --> 00:34:10,949
We were eating our bread and
we had hardly anything to eat.

727
00:34:10,949 --> 00:34:13,710
We were just walking and
then we were so tired

728
00:34:13,710 --> 00:34:15,779
that it didn't even
matter at that point.

729
00:34:15,779 --> 00:34:18,540

730
00:34:18,540 --> 00:34:20,699
So that happened
I don't remember

731

00:34:20,699 --> 00:34:23,610

because it's just we just
had this horrible pain

732

00:34:23,610 --> 00:34:27,840

in our stomach to be so hungry
because we didn't have food.

733

00:34:27,840 --> 00:34:31,760

And we were walking and walking
and that's all I remember.

734

00:34:31,760 --> 00:34:34,380

At that point, I didn't
have my old shoes anymore.

735

00:34:34,380 --> 00:34:38,820

I got some shoes before that.

736

00:34:38,820 --> 00:34:43,020

I don't remember when, but I
did, and they had wooden soles,

737

00:34:43,020 --> 00:34:47,159

you know those Dutch
type of boat shoes.

738

00:34:47,159 --> 00:34:48,880

That's what I had.

739

00:34:48,880 --> 00:34:53,679

And so we were walking in
that, which was hard walking.

740

00:34:53,679 --> 00:34:57,750

But then we arrived.

741

00:34:57,750 --> 00:35:01,710

Finally, we arrived in Breslau.

742

00:35:01,710 --> 00:35:04,530

A group arrived in Breslau

and they were telling us

743
00:35:04,530 --> 00:35:08,670
on the way whoever
is not able to walk

744
00:35:08,670 --> 00:35:13,770
and stays away will be
killed by the Germans.

745
00:35:13,770 --> 00:35:16,740
The German Nazis were
walking on the side with us

746
00:35:16,740 --> 00:35:18,420
and it's the end.

747
00:35:18,420 --> 00:35:21,300
So we knew that if you
can't walk any further

748
00:35:21,300 --> 00:35:25,980
they will shoot you down,
so everybody tried to walk.

749
00:35:25,980 --> 00:35:28,860
So in Breslau--

750
00:35:28,860 --> 00:35:31,378
Were some women
supporting other women?

751
00:35:31,378 --> 00:35:31,920
You couldn't.

752
00:35:31,920 --> 00:35:33,150
You were just marching.

753
00:35:33,150 --> 00:35:33,810
How could you?

754
00:35:33,810 --> 00:35:36,810

I mean someone maybe
a little bit, but not

755
00:35:36,810 --> 00:35:38,520
very much because
everybody needed

756
00:35:38,520 --> 00:35:40,350
his own strength at that point.

757
00:35:40,350 --> 00:35:43,110
It was hard.

758
00:35:43,110 --> 00:35:45,990
But anyway a little
bit you know.

759
00:35:45,990 --> 00:35:48,960
So we arrived in
Breslau and we were

760
00:35:48,960 --> 00:35:56,640
housed in a building which
was a former building for camp

761
00:35:56,640 --> 00:35:58,830
residents.

762
00:35:58,830 --> 00:36:00,600
But those were evacuated.

763
00:36:00,600 --> 00:36:04,020
I don't know where
they were taken.

764
00:36:04,020 --> 00:36:08,730
They even I think they had beds
and they had some facilities,

765
00:36:08,730 --> 00:36:11,590
and that's the first
time we had some food.

766

00:36:11,590 --> 00:36:14,160

And we were supposed to
stay there overnight,

767

00:36:14,160 --> 00:36:16,930

or maybe a day, one day there.

768

00:36:16,930 --> 00:36:19,680

We stayed one day there
and then my mother

769

00:36:19,680 --> 00:36:23,520

said that she can't go and she
wants to stay in the building.

770

00:36:23,520 --> 00:36:25,330

She's not going to move.

771

00:36:25,330 --> 00:36:28,890

I said, you know, mother,
here in the building

772

00:36:28,890 --> 00:36:32,070

they find you they will just put
you into another concentration

773

00:36:32,070 --> 00:36:33,660

camp or maybe kill of you.

774

00:36:33,660 --> 00:36:40,080

Why don't we start walking when
they start and we'll see maybe

775

00:36:40,080 --> 00:36:42,780

on the way we can
somehow escape.

776

00:36:42,780 --> 00:36:47,160

Because I said we have no
escape if we stay here.

777

00:36:47,160 --> 00:36:51,180

There is no way we can
escape because they look.

778
00:36:51,180 --> 00:36:54,420
Before we started to walk, they
looked through the building

779
00:36:54,420 --> 00:36:56,050
and we knew they will do that.

780
00:36:56,050 --> 00:36:58,960
And so she said all right.

781
00:36:58,960 --> 00:37:00,150
She had a day's rest.

782
00:37:00,150 --> 00:37:04,380
I said, you have a day's rest so
let's walk and we were walking

783
00:37:04,380 --> 00:37:05,670
and I had to coat.

784
00:37:05,670 --> 00:37:08,700
We had the coat, and they
had big red cross on it.

785
00:37:08,700 --> 00:37:11,650
My mother didn't have
that, I don't know how.

786
00:37:11,650 --> 00:37:15,510
We were walking for about an
hour, an hour and a half out

787
00:37:15,510 --> 00:37:18,420
of the city on the
highway, and it was snowing

788
00:37:18,420 --> 00:37:20,130
and the wind was blowing.

789

00:37:20,130 --> 00:37:24,450
And as I was walking the
snow was sticking to the wood

790
00:37:24,450 --> 00:37:28,140
and I had to stop
to hit the snow off.

791
00:37:28,140 --> 00:37:30,280
And my mother
said, I can't walk.

792
00:37:30,280 --> 00:37:33,840
I can't walk so
I have stay here.

793
00:37:33,840 --> 00:37:37,410
I said to her, well, if
you can't, I can't either.

794
00:37:37,410 --> 00:37:42,570
And there was one German
woman there, a soldier.

795
00:37:42,570 --> 00:37:44,940
She looked at us, what's
the matter with you two?

796
00:37:44,940 --> 00:37:46,800
Why don't you walk?

797
00:37:46,800 --> 00:37:50,970
And my mother said, I can't.

798
00:37:50,970 --> 00:37:52,140
She said that in German.

799
00:37:52,140 --> 00:37:55,290
And she looks at me and
she said, you are young.

800
00:37:55,290 --> 00:37:55,920
Go ahead.

801
00:37:55,920 --> 00:37:56,580
You can walk.

802
00:37:56,580 --> 00:37:57,510
Go ahead.

803
00:37:57,510 --> 00:38:01,530
I said, I can't.

804
00:38:01,530 --> 00:38:03,370
So she left us.

805
00:38:03,370 --> 00:38:06,840
And we stayed there, standing
and waiting for the soldier

806
00:38:06,840 --> 00:38:09,210
to kill us, you
know, the last one.

807
00:38:09,210 --> 00:38:10,320
Because we had no way.

808
00:38:10,320 --> 00:38:12,420
We didn't know
where to go knowing

809
00:38:12,420 --> 00:38:15,090
and she's so weak and hungry.

810
00:38:15,090 --> 00:38:19,650
And the last soldier was seeing
us and he didn't kill us.

811
00:38:19,650 --> 00:38:23,200
There was below the
highway, like on the side,

812
00:38:23,200 --> 00:38:25,170
you have those
ditches on the side.

813
00:38:25,170 --> 00:38:29,860
And it was quite deep, quite
deep, and it was a lot of snow

814
00:38:29,860 --> 00:38:30,360
there.

815
00:38:30,360 --> 00:38:34,140
And he pushed us and we
fell into it in the snow.

816
00:38:34,140 --> 00:38:39,360
And they passed on the highway
and there we were alone there

817
00:38:39,360 --> 00:38:43,500
in the deep ditch,
snowing, windy,

818
00:38:43,500 --> 00:38:49,500
and we heard the Russians,
the guns, the fighting.

819
00:38:49,500 --> 00:38:52,170
You could hear it.

820
00:38:52,170 --> 00:38:54,660
So we didn't know
what do we do now?

821
00:38:54,660 --> 00:38:57,690
He pushed you to be of help?

822
00:38:57,690 --> 00:38:58,530
I don't know.

823
00:38:58,530 --> 00:39:00,450
He thought we will die there.

824
00:39:00,450 --> 00:39:04,090
He didn't want to,

I guess, shoot us,

825

00:39:04,090 --> 00:39:07,440

so he pushed us down
to kill us actually.

826

00:39:07,440 --> 00:39:11,940

But it was snowy, it
was soft, and we didn't.

827

00:39:11,940 --> 00:39:13,530

We stayed there.

828

00:39:13,530 --> 00:39:16,710

We were there and they passed.

829

00:39:16,710 --> 00:39:18,780

They went away on the highway.

830

00:39:18,780 --> 00:39:21,630

And there we were, and we
didn't know what to do.

831

00:39:21,630 --> 00:39:24,150

I mean to stay there we
knew we would freeze.

832

00:39:24,150 --> 00:39:27,510

The Russians were not
that close that they

833

00:39:27,510 --> 00:39:29,880

would right away be there.

834

00:39:29,880 --> 00:39:35,970

So we couldn't climb up, it
was too deep, so what do we do?

835

00:39:35,970 --> 00:39:40,110

Then we saw the
Wehrmacht soldier coming.

836

00:39:40,110 --> 00:39:42,420

And they saw us
there and he said

837

00:39:42,420 --> 00:39:45,540

in German, what do you do here?

838

00:39:45,540 --> 00:39:48,660

And we said, we fell.

839

00:39:48,660 --> 00:39:50,220

They pulled us out.

840

00:39:50,220 --> 00:39:53,730

They gave us a gun so whatever
they had and they pulled us out

841

00:39:53,730 --> 00:39:56,160

and then said, what happened?

842

00:39:56,160 --> 00:39:58,860

No, I think before that
they said how did you fall?

843

00:39:58,860 --> 00:40:01,500

And I said, well,
we were walking.

844

00:40:01,500 --> 00:40:02,790

We are Hungarians.

845

00:40:02,790 --> 00:40:04,830

We worked in Germany.

846

00:40:04,830 --> 00:40:07,890

And we didn't say we are Jewish.

847

00:40:07,890 --> 00:40:10,200

We are Hungarians
working in Germany

848

00:40:10,200 --> 00:40:15,330

and the car came and we just
wanted to give them the way

849
00:40:15,330 --> 00:40:16,950
and we fell.

850
00:40:16,950 --> 00:40:20,080
So they pulled us out
and we were out there.

851
00:40:20,080 --> 00:40:21,510
Well, it's fantastic.

852
00:40:21,510 --> 00:40:25,620
It's almost unbelievable
how we were managed there.

853
00:40:25,620 --> 00:40:30,524
And they went ahead, and we were
on the highways the two of us.

854
00:40:30,524 --> 00:40:32,316
Didn't you have the
read prisoner's stripe?

855
00:40:32,316 --> 00:40:33,930
I did, but he didn't notice it.

856
00:40:33,930 --> 00:40:35,220
It was snowing.

857
00:40:35,220 --> 00:40:38,460
It was snowing, so I
guess it was covered,

858
00:40:38,460 --> 00:40:40,810
and she didn't have it.

859
00:40:40,810 --> 00:40:45,300
And so they went,
and in the distance

860

00:40:45,300 --> 00:40:46,440
we saw a little village.

861
00:40:46,440 --> 00:40:49,300
And I figured, well, let's
go and see what happens.

862
00:40:49,300 --> 00:40:50,100
Let's go.

863
00:40:50,100 --> 00:40:51,690
I didn't know what
we wanted to do.

864
00:40:51,690 --> 00:40:53,850
We just were walking.

865
00:40:53,850 --> 00:40:54,820
So we were walking.

866
00:40:54,820 --> 00:40:59,340
The first building was the
Gestapo building there.

867
00:40:59,340 --> 00:41:02,400
We looked at each other and
my mother says, I can't do it.

868
00:41:02,400 --> 00:41:04,860
I said, well, let's
go a few more houses

869
00:41:04,860 --> 00:41:09,000
and we'll go into one of the
houses and see what happens.

870
00:41:09,000 --> 00:41:13,620
And here my German and
her German came in handy.

871
00:41:13,620 --> 00:41:17,780
Even with the Wehrmacht speaking
German I think that helped.

872
00:41:17,780 --> 00:41:24,000
So we went into a house and
I said, we are very tired

873
00:41:24,000 --> 00:41:28,530
and we are very cold
and told the same story

874
00:41:28,530 --> 00:41:30,360
as we told for the
Wehrmacht, that we

875
00:41:30,360 --> 00:41:32,790
were Hungarians
working in Germany

876
00:41:32,790 --> 00:41:36,270
and could we warm
up a little bit.

877
00:41:36,270 --> 00:41:41,220
And they let us in the
kitchen, and I don't know,

878
00:41:41,220 --> 00:41:43,320
they let us stay
overnight there and they

879
00:41:43,320 --> 00:41:46,560
made us a bed in the kitchen
and they gave us food.

880
00:41:46,560 --> 00:41:51,450
And in the morning
someone came in, a woman,

881
00:41:51,450 --> 00:41:55,110
and they were talking, and I
knew something is wrong here.

882
00:41:55,110 --> 00:41:59,370
And I guess they

found out that these

883

00:41:59,370 --> 00:42:04,470

people, the other group
which was marching there,

884

00:42:04,470 --> 00:42:07,830

the way we looked
you could tell.

885

00:42:07,830 --> 00:42:09,570

By that time you
already had hair

886

00:42:09,570 --> 00:42:13,710

because they only shaved us
once when we arrived in May.

887

00:42:13,710 --> 00:42:17,550

And then our hair probably
was as long as it's now,

888

00:42:17,550 --> 00:42:19,020

but we have hair.

889

00:42:19,020 --> 00:42:22,770

I think they had lice too,
but that's beside the point.

890

00:42:22,770 --> 00:42:26,250

And so they told
us that we can't

891

00:42:26,250 --> 00:42:28,150

stay any longer in their house.

892

00:42:28,150 --> 00:42:29,160

We have to leave.

893

00:42:29,160 --> 00:42:30,960

They didn't say why.

894

00:42:30,960 --> 00:42:35,040

So you see they were
nicer a little bit because

895

00:42:35,040 --> 00:42:37,300

of the Russians right there.

896

00:42:37,300 --> 00:42:41,130

So now there were a few
nights which were pretty bad.

897

00:42:41,130 --> 00:42:44,490

And we just walked and we
didn't know which direction

898

00:42:44,490 --> 00:42:47,620

but that night helped
us and the food.

899

00:42:47,620 --> 00:42:50,010

So we got back a
little of our strength.

900

00:42:50,010 --> 00:42:53,640

And we were walking,
and one night we spent,

901

00:42:53,640 --> 00:42:57,120

and we went in asking people
whether we can warm up

902

00:42:57,120 --> 00:42:58,450

and they gave us some food.

903

00:42:58,450 --> 00:43:01,800

And we had that so we
were eating on the way.

904

00:43:01,800 --> 00:43:09,630

But night came, and one night
we stayed in a dog house.

905

00:43:09,630 --> 00:43:11,320

The Germans left there.

906

00:43:11,320 --> 00:43:13,380

It was empty because
some of the Germans

907

00:43:13,380 --> 00:43:17,070

were evacuating from the
Russians and that was empty.

908

00:43:17,070 --> 00:43:20,370

And it was still the weather
was very bad, so you didn't

909

00:43:20,370 --> 00:43:23,430

see too many people outside.

910

00:43:23,430 --> 00:43:27,210

And then we went in and
told them the story.

911

00:43:27,210 --> 00:43:32,040

I tried to stand so
they don't see my cross.

912

00:43:32,040 --> 00:43:34,920

And they gave us some
food and then the night we

913

00:43:34,920 --> 00:43:38,060

stayed in their dog house.

914

00:43:38,060 --> 00:43:39,720

The inhabitants were not there.

915

00:43:39,720 --> 00:43:42,390

And I said, I wish I
could stay in this house

916

00:43:42,390 --> 00:43:46,530

and I don't have to walk until
the Russians come because I

917
00:43:46,530 --> 00:43:48,910
just can't deal with it.

918
00:43:48,910 --> 00:43:51,730
And my mother said, you can't
stay here, we'll be frozen.

919
00:43:51,730 --> 00:43:52,230
We can't.

920
00:43:52,230 --> 00:43:54,480
We don't know how long
it's going to stay.

921
00:43:54,480 --> 00:43:57,420
So we decided to get
out of that house.

922
00:43:57,420 --> 00:43:59,440
And we walked again
during the day,

923
00:43:59,440 --> 00:44:03,060
maybe in the next village or so.

924
00:44:03,060 --> 00:44:10,020
And then we were caught
by some Nazi soldiers.

925
00:44:10,020 --> 00:44:13,710
And they found out
that some other women

926
00:44:13,710 --> 00:44:19,440
from that column what we had
also escaped and they were also

927
00:44:19,440 --> 00:44:23,250
caught so we were
about 10 of us.

928
00:44:23,250 --> 00:44:32,250

And they put us up in I don't
know what it was but a place,

929
00:44:32,250 --> 00:44:35,340
and we were there
alone with 10 of us.

930
00:44:35,340 --> 00:44:37,320
There was even a fire there.

931
00:44:37,320 --> 00:44:39,690
They gave us a soup.

932
00:44:39,690 --> 00:44:43,770
They gave us the food and
they said, in the morning

933
00:44:43,770 --> 00:44:48,330
we have to take you and we
know where your column is

934
00:44:48,330 --> 00:44:51,310
and we have to bring you there.

935
00:44:51,310 --> 00:44:56,460
Meanwhile, I want two girls
to come up and make the fire.

936
00:44:56,460 --> 00:44:58,390
And they left to come back.

937
00:44:58,390 --> 00:45:02,820
So this girl said, well,
you why they want us there.

938
00:45:02,820 --> 00:45:05,940
At least that's what we thought.

939
00:45:05,940 --> 00:45:09,760
And they told my mother,
look, you are old, you do it.

940

00:45:09,760 --> 00:45:10,980
We are all girls.

941
00:45:10,980 --> 00:45:11,610
You do it.

942
00:45:11,610 --> 00:45:12,790
You go.

943
00:45:12,790 --> 00:45:18,030
And she said, you know I'll
go but they don't want me.

944
00:45:18,030 --> 00:45:21,720
And then they came back and
she said that she's coming.

945
00:45:21,720 --> 00:45:25,020
They looked at her and
they said, forget it.

946
00:45:25,020 --> 00:45:27,600
And they didn't take anyone.

947
00:45:27,600 --> 00:45:30,180
Then we slept there,
and in the morning

948
00:45:30,180 --> 00:45:33,330
there were a number of
soldiers, I think three of them,

949
00:45:33,330 --> 00:45:35,430
and we about 10.

950
00:45:35,430 --> 00:45:37,380
I don't remember exactly.

951
00:45:37,380 --> 00:45:39,600
And they said we
have to march now.

952

00:45:39,600 --> 00:45:42,220

We have to go and
we all will go.

953

00:45:42,220 --> 00:45:44,820

We went out from that
village where we were.

954

00:45:44,820 --> 00:45:46,560

I don't know what
village it was.

955

00:45:46,560 --> 00:45:48,150

We were going out.

956

00:45:48,150 --> 00:45:52,310

Oh, what was that?

957

00:45:52,310 --> 00:45:55,910

And at that point my
mother had diarrhea

958

00:45:55,910 --> 00:46:01,320

and she had to go on the side of
the woods and they let her go.

959

00:46:01,320 --> 00:46:05,210

But that happened quite a number
of times, and the others too,

960

00:46:05,210 --> 00:46:09,020

and they were in a rush and
they didn't have a car, I guess.

961

00:46:09,020 --> 00:46:11,550

They had to walk up there
and they saw what happened

962

00:46:11,550 --> 00:46:16,760

and they said, you know
what, we go and you stay

963

00:46:16,760 --> 00:46:18,830

and you go where you want to.

964

00:46:18,830 --> 00:46:20,600

They left all of us.

965

00:46:20,600 --> 00:46:24,050

So we decided that
we can't go together

966

00:46:24,050 --> 00:46:25,790

because we will be
caught very easily

967

00:46:25,790 --> 00:46:27,690

and we will divide and go.

968

00:46:27,690 --> 00:46:30,890

But before that, there was
I want to mention something

969

00:46:30,890 --> 00:46:35,810

because that was also a
remarkable thing what happened.

970

00:46:35,810 --> 00:46:39,020

Before that happened
one night, and we

971

00:46:39,020 --> 00:46:41,330

didn't have where to
stay and we were walking

972

00:46:41,330 --> 00:46:44,270

and it was dark already
and it was snowing.

973

00:46:44,270 --> 00:46:46,960

And we looked at each
other what will we do?

974

00:46:46,960 --> 00:46:48,160

Where will we stay?

975

00:46:48,160 --> 00:46:51,650

A woman came, a German woman.

976

00:46:51,650 --> 00:46:54,920

She was maybe eight or
nine months pregnant

977

00:46:54,920 --> 00:46:57,950

and she had a small sled
which she was pulling.

978

00:46:57,950 --> 00:46:59,670

And she looked at us.

979

00:46:59,670 --> 00:47:01,310

She said, you can hardly move.

980

00:47:01,310 --> 00:47:02,150

Who are you?

981

00:47:02,150 --> 00:47:08,300

And we gave her some story and
she said, you sit on my sled

982

00:47:08,300 --> 00:47:10,460

and I will pull you.

983

00:47:10,460 --> 00:47:11,690

And my mother said--

984

00:47:11,690 --> 00:47:14,840

and she didn't let me pull-- and
she in her eight or nine months

985

00:47:14,840 --> 00:47:17,390

was pulling.

986

00:47:17,390 --> 00:47:19,250

We didn't know where
she's pulling us,

987

00:47:19,250 --> 00:47:23,690
but she pulled her to an inn.

988
00:47:23,690 --> 00:47:26,720
So we took a few minutes, I
don't know how far that was,

989
00:47:26,720 --> 00:47:29,750
but anyway to an inn.

990
00:47:29,750 --> 00:47:32,180
And she went in
there and she must

991
00:47:32,180 --> 00:47:36,940
have been a prominent
citizen because she talked

992
00:47:36,940 --> 00:47:38,810
to the innkeeper
and she said she

993
00:47:38,810 --> 00:47:48,190
wants these two people in a room
with beds and a good dinner.

994
00:47:48,190 --> 00:47:52,810
And she told us, you are
going to have a bed here

995
00:47:52,810 --> 00:47:55,060
and you will be taken care of.

996
00:47:55,060 --> 00:47:56,560
And everything is arranged.

997
00:47:56,560 --> 00:47:59,980
You don't have to pay
because we had not a penny,

998
00:47:59,980 --> 00:48:02,530
and everything
would be all right.

999

00:48:02,530 --> 00:48:04,060

So you would sleep overnight.

1000

00:48:04,060 --> 00:48:05,410

And then she disappeared.

1001

00:48:05,410 --> 00:48:07,180

We don't know what

her name was who

1002

00:48:07,180 --> 00:48:09,910

she was what's a village

name but my mother

1003

00:48:09,910 --> 00:48:12,190

said she was an angel.

1004

00:48:12,190 --> 00:48:16,570

And we got a baked

potato with sour cream

1005

00:48:16,570 --> 00:48:18,520

and some food, some other food.

1006

00:48:18,520 --> 00:48:22,160

And it was a warm room

with a Greek oven,

1007

00:48:22,160 --> 00:48:23,530

which we leaned against.

1008

00:48:23,530 --> 00:48:28,090

And we got the pale

of water to wash up.

1009

00:48:28,090 --> 00:48:31,270

And we slept there, and then

in the morning of course

1010

00:48:31,270 --> 00:48:34,330

we had to leave and that was it.

1011
00:48:34,330 --> 00:48:37,270
And then we walked on and
then the following day

1012
00:48:37,270 --> 00:48:41,860
we were caught by the Nazis
and also we were let go.

1013
00:48:41,860 --> 00:48:44,530
And here we were and we
didn't know where to go,

1014
00:48:44,530 --> 00:48:46,608
so we were just
walking and walking.

1015
00:48:46,608 --> 00:48:47,275
And we arrived--

1016
00:48:47,275 --> 00:48:49,960

1017
00:48:49,960 --> 00:48:52,000
I mean after a few
nights sleep we

1018
00:48:52,000 --> 00:48:56,950
had a little bit of more
strength so we arrived

1019
00:48:56,950 --> 00:48:59,680
at it looked like an estate.

1020
00:48:59,680 --> 00:49:03,340
And we felt, let's go
in and see what happens.

1021
00:49:03,340 --> 00:49:05,800
There, who are you?

1022
00:49:05,800 --> 00:49:08,240

And we gave them the same story.

1023

00:49:08,240 --> 00:49:13,960

We are Hungarians and
working in Germany

1024

00:49:13,960 --> 00:49:18,310

and we lost our papers
because we fell in a ditch

1025

00:49:18,310 --> 00:49:20,440

with all that business.

1026

00:49:20,440 --> 00:49:22,570

So it was a countess there.

1027

00:49:22,570 --> 00:49:26,570

That was the estate
of the countess.

1028

00:49:26,570 --> 00:49:29,930

She had the big estate,
and she needed people

1029

00:49:29,930 --> 00:49:35,120

because she had there prisoners
of war working for her,

1030

00:49:35,120 --> 00:49:36,800

French prisoners of war.

1031

00:49:36,800 --> 00:49:40,580

And they were withdrawn because
the Russians were nearing

1032

00:49:40,580 --> 00:49:42,560

and they wanted the
French prisoners

1033

00:49:42,560 --> 00:49:44,720

with them, the Germans.

1034

00:49:44,720 --> 00:49:48,090
So they didn't have any people
working for them and they said,

1035
00:49:48,090 --> 00:49:49,490
well, can you work?

1036
00:49:49,490 --> 00:49:51,410
Can you do some
work around here?

1037
00:49:51,410 --> 00:49:53,690
I said, of course.

1038
00:49:53,690 --> 00:49:54,470
All right.

1039
00:49:54,470 --> 00:49:57,890
And she she and her
daughter were living there

1040
00:49:57,890 --> 00:50:01,610
and her husband was somewhere
on the front, the daughter's

1041
00:50:01,610 --> 00:50:03,080
husband.

1042
00:50:03,080 --> 00:50:04,280
And she had a farm.

1043
00:50:04,280 --> 00:50:08,990
She had the chickens
on the farm and cows,

1044
00:50:08,990 --> 00:50:12,080
and we were from
a farm, but when

1045
00:50:12,080 --> 00:50:13,970
I was 11 I moved to the city.

1046

00:50:13,970 --> 00:50:16,850

I didn't know anything
about real work.

1047

00:50:16,850 --> 00:50:21,590

But what I did, I
had to chop the wood

1048

00:50:21,590 --> 00:50:25,490

and carry the wood upstairs
for the lady, for the countess,

1049

00:50:25,490 --> 00:50:26,400

for the fire.

1050

00:50:26,400 --> 00:50:27,420

That's what I did.

1051

00:50:27,420 --> 00:50:33,110

And she went to the authorities
and she got us stamps for food,

1052

00:50:33,110 --> 00:50:37,580

because the Germans needed
that for the people.

1053

00:50:37,580 --> 00:50:39,540

So she did.

1054

00:50:39,540 --> 00:50:43,130

Well, of course we
did speak German.

1055

00:50:43,130 --> 00:50:44,810

What kind of work
did your mother do?

1056

00:50:44,810 --> 00:50:49,100

My mother tried to do the same,
but of course she couldn't.

1057

00:50:49,100 --> 00:50:52,940

But this wasn't supervised

work, so we were on our own

1058

00:50:52,940 --> 00:50:58,580

actually doing whatever we
could and milking the cows.

1059

00:50:58,580 --> 00:51:03,230

But I think my mother was
maybe better than I was.

1060

00:51:03,230 --> 00:51:10,250

And then what she wanted, the
countess, they wanted to know--

1061

00:51:10,250 --> 00:51:11,720

You probably don't
know about that,

1062

00:51:11,720 --> 00:51:14,990

but when the hen was
supposed to lay an egg

1063

00:51:14,990 --> 00:51:18,320

you keep it in the barn
so you don't lose the egg.

1064

00:51:18,320 --> 00:51:21,680

But you can examine the
hen whether she's going

1065

00:51:21,680 --> 00:51:23,900

to lay an egg that day or not.

1066

00:51:23,900 --> 00:51:26,420

And I wasn't able
to catch that hen,

1067

00:51:26,420 --> 00:51:29,240

and I think maybe my
mother was one or so.

1068

00:51:29,240 --> 00:51:31,310

And the countess was

there and she said,

1069

00:51:31,310 --> 00:51:34,490

oh, you don't know how to
catch a hen, and she caught it.

1070

00:51:34,490 --> 00:51:38,900

And we were embarrassed that she
was better at it than we were.

1071

00:51:38,900 --> 00:51:42,350

Anyway, this was
just a few days.

1072

00:51:42,350 --> 00:51:46,670

And at that point she couldn't
really eat, my mother.

1073

00:51:46,670 --> 00:51:50,810

She got enough food
from the countess,

1074

00:51:50,810 --> 00:51:53,990

and then two more girls
arrived there from our group.

1075

00:51:53,990 --> 00:51:56,060

And they too were given a room.

1076

00:51:56,060 --> 00:51:58,940

And they were
young girls my age.

1077

00:51:58,940 --> 00:52:01,830

1078

00:52:01,830 --> 00:52:06,980

Maybe four days the
German army came there

1079

00:52:06,980 --> 00:52:13,250

and the Germans were, the
Wehrmacht was stationed there

1080
00:52:13,250 --> 00:52:17,000
and they slept there.

1081
00:52:17,000 --> 00:52:21,260
They got some food, and
then one looked at me

1082
00:52:21,260 --> 00:52:25,280
and said, how come you
girls are so malnourished?

1083
00:52:25,280 --> 00:52:28,580
And I said, well, we were
working here you know.

1084
00:52:28,580 --> 00:52:32,090
And the two other
girls gave a story.

1085
00:52:32,090 --> 00:52:35,750
I think they spoke some
German too, but not as much.

1086
00:52:35,750 --> 00:52:41,750
So we had a room for ourselves,
and the two of them had a room.

1087
00:52:41,750 --> 00:52:46,820
And the Germans were
complaining about the countess,

1088
00:52:46,820 --> 00:52:52,610
that she had so much
frankfurters, salami,

1089
00:52:52,610 --> 00:52:55,370
all of that meat in
the basement and she

1090
00:52:55,370 --> 00:52:57,200
didn't want to give it to them.

1091

00:52:57,200 --> 00:53:01,990

The door was locked and
they didn't want to.

1092

00:53:01,990 --> 00:53:04,940

And tomorrow they're
going to evacuate anyway,

1093

00:53:04,940 --> 00:53:09,890

and they offered us to take
us with them, to evacuate,

1094

00:53:09,890 --> 00:53:12,320

because the Russians
were supposed to come in

1095

00:53:12,320 --> 00:53:13,680

and they knew it.

1096

00:53:13,680 --> 00:53:15,380

And they said, well, don't you--

1097

00:53:15,380 --> 00:53:18,170

Because if the Russians
come in they will kill you.

1098

00:53:18,170 --> 00:53:19,820

And we looked at
them and we said,

1099

00:53:19,820 --> 00:53:22,160

you know we keep on running.

1100

00:53:22,160 --> 00:53:26,630

We were evacuated a
few times already.

1101

00:53:26,630 --> 00:53:28,880

That's how we got
here because we

1102

00:53:28,880 --> 00:53:32,270

were running from
the Russians and we

1103
00:53:32,270 --> 00:53:34,890
are just tired of running.

1104
00:53:34,890 --> 00:53:37,280
So they say, all right,
but you will be killed.

1105
00:53:37,280 --> 00:53:42,050
But there was a village there
and the Germans didn't all go

1106
00:53:42,050 --> 00:53:43,760
away, some stayed.

1107
00:53:43,760 --> 00:53:45,270
And they left.

1108
00:53:45,270 --> 00:53:47,750
So the countess left,
and everybody left,

1109
00:53:47,750 --> 00:53:49,640
and we were in our room.

1110
00:53:49,640 --> 00:53:52,910
And the Russians came in and
that's how we were liberated.

1111
00:53:52,910 --> 00:53:57,800
But then I remembered
that actually

1112
00:53:57,800 --> 00:54:01,070
that they were talking
about that the Russians were

1113
00:54:01,070 --> 00:54:03,020
anti-Semitic also.

1114

00:54:03,020 --> 00:54:05,330
And we were afraid
that they might hurt

1115
00:54:05,330 --> 00:54:07,820
us knowing if they find that.

1116
00:54:07,820 --> 00:54:09,350
Then we decided
that they are not

1117
00:54:09,350 --> 00:54:12,020
going to tell them that
we are Jewish because we

1118
00:54:12,020 --> 00:54:15,890
didn't know what type of
Russian soldiers were coming.

1119
00:54:15,890 --> 00:54:19,010
We would tell them
that we are Czechs

1120
00:54:19,010 --> 00:54:25,670
and we were working here
because I was speaking Czech.

1121
00:54:25,670 --> 00:54:29,300
So the Russians came in
as liberators for us,

1122
00:54:29,300 --> 00:54:31,537
and we were telling them
and we were thanking them--

1123
00:54:31,537 --> 00:54:33,620
What were your feelings
when you saw the Russians?

1124
00:54:33,620 --> 00:54:36,830
Well, we were very
happy to be liberated.

1125

00:54:36,830 --> 00:54:39,530

We thought that now we are free.

1126

00:54:39,530 --> 00:54:41,300

We will be free.

1127

00:54:41,300 --> 00:54:46,820

They came in and
they said that they

1128

00:54:46,820 --> 00:54:48,770

went through the
countess's house,

1129

00:54:48,770 --> 00:54:50,780

and they started to
take all the things.

1130

00:54:50,780 --> 00:54:54,230

They took the things
for themselves.

1131

00:54:54,230 --> 00:54:58,145

And they told us, if
you were working here,

1132

00:54:58,145 --> 00:54:59,270

you don't have any clothes.

1133

00:54:59,270 --> 00:55:02,570

Why don't you go and pick
out some things for yourself?

1134

00:55:02,570 --> 00:55:05,760

And we did because
we felt this is left

1135

00:55:05,760 --> 00:55:07,850

and if we don't take
some things, which

1136

00:55:07,850 --> 00:55:11,000

we needed we had nothing.

1137
00:55:11,000 --> 00:55:14,340
The old coat I
just got rid of it

1138
00:55:14,340 --> 00:55:16,760
and took some stuff from there.

1139
00:55:16,760 --> 00:55:20,040
Not too much, nothing
valuable, just clothes.

1140
00:55:20,040 --> 00:55:21,290
Whatever we needed.

1141
00:55:21,290 --> 00:55:23,940
What was your impression
of the Russians?

1142
00:55:23,940 --> 00:55:28,070
Well, they were in battle there.

1143
00:55:28,070 --> 00:55:29,360
There was a battlefield.

1144
00:55:29,360 --> 00:55:35,180
We heard them and they said
that they drove them out

1145
00:55:35,180 --> 00:55:37,160
but they have to
continue their trip.

1146
00:55:37,160 --> 00:55:38,870
They are going to Berlin.

1147
00:55:38,870 --> 00:55:40,980
They were all right
at that moment.

1148
00:55:40,980 --> 00:55:43,520
And one of them said

to me, I'm going

1149
00:55:43,520 --> 00:55:50,720
to protect you because some
of these people are very wild.

1150
00:55:50,720 --> 00:55:53,570
So we realize that we
have to worry about it.

1151
00:55:53,570 --> 00:55:56,720
It was a front and those
people didn't see women.

1152
00:55:56,720 --> 00:55:57,770
They didn't have any.

1153
00:55:57,770 --> 00:56:02,000
And there was a
family, a Polish family

1154
00:56:02,000 --> 00:56:05,570
there with a countess,
who also were free.

1155
00:56:05,570 --> 00:56:06,770
They were supervising.

1156
00:56:06,770 --> 00:56:10,110
They were free but
they had to work there.

1157
00:56:10,110 --> 00:56:13,130
And that Polish
person, I don't know

1158
00:56:13,130 --> 00:56:16,260
whether he knew that
we were Jewish or not,

1159
00:56:16,260 --> 00:56:19,070
but anyway he had a place there.

1160

00:56:19,070 --> 00:56:20,570

And we asked them--

1161

00:56:20,570 --> 00:56:24,980

he had children-- whether we can
stay overnight with them rather

1162

00:56:24,980 --> 00:56:26,410

than, you know.

1163

00:56:26,410 --> 00:56:30,260

And we were there and
the Russians came there,

1164

00:56:30,260 --> 00:56:37,260

the soldiers, and we started to
get afraid from them as women.

1165

00:56:37,260 --> 00:56:39,170

You felt that they
would sexually attack.

1166

00:56:39,170 --> 00:56:40,850

And we were afraid
that they might.

1167

00:56:40,850 --> 00:56:43,400

That's why we wanted to
stay with the Polish family.

1168

00:56:43,400 --> 00:56:47,580

And so they were
talking about it.

1169

00:56:47,580 --> 00:56:50,390

But there was that one
soldier who was very friendly

1170

00:56:50,390 --> 00:56:52,130

and who said he will protect me.

1171

00:56:52,130 --> 00:56:55,700

And he said he's going to
marry me after the war.

1172
00:56:55,700 --> 00:56:59,090
And we will work, we are
young, but your mother

1173
00:56:59,090 --> 00:57:00,770
won't have to work.

1174
00:57:00,770 --> 00:57:02,660
I said, fine.

1175
00:57:02,660 --> 00:57:06,050
He gave me a pair of
shoes, men's shoes,

1176
00:57:06,050 --> 00:57:07,670
and he said, you
take it with you

1177
00:57:07,670 --> 00:57:11,000
because I'm going
to conquer Berlin

1178
00:57:11,000 --> 00:57:13,760
and I'm going to have these
shoes and after the war

1179
00:57:13,760 --> 00:57:14,360
I want it.

1180
00:57:14,360 --> 00:57:16,370
I don't know what he
meant by that, whether he

1181
00:57:16,370 --> 00:57:17,390
knew what he was doing.

1182
00:57:17,390 --> 00:57:19,710
You know those
people who are poor,

1183

00:57:19,710 --> 00:57:22,400

so they didn't
have better stuff.

1184

00:57:22,400 --> 00:57:28,340

And anyway we stayed there and
some other Russian soldiers

1185

00:57:28,340 --> 00:57:30,260

came up and they said,
well you know we would

1186

00:57:30,260 --> 00:57:32,060

like to sleep with the women.

1187

00:57:32,060 --> 00:57:35,780

And I said, I was
able to talk to them.

1188

00:57:35,780 --> 00:57:38,510

The two others
couldn't talk in Czech

1189

00:57:38,510 --> 00:57:42,710

because they were really from
Romania, Hungarian Romanian.

1190

00:57:42,710 --> 00:57:47,270

So I said, look, we had
a very difficult time

1191

00:57:47,270 --> 00:57:50,990

and the German soldiers
didn't hurt us sexually.

1192

00:57:50,990 --> 00:57:52,580

And we were working.

1193

00:57:52,580 --> 00:57:56,060

We are really related
because we are Czechs,

1194

00:57:56,060 --> 00:57:57,200
and now you are going--

1195
00:57:57,200 --> 00:58:00,230
And I spoke Czech and they
spoke Russian and we understood

1196
00:58:00,230 --> 00:58:01,440
each other.

1197
00:58:01,440 --> 00:58:04,370
So if you want women,
there are plenty

1198
00:58:04,370 --> 00:58:07,700
of German women in the village.

1199
00:58:07,700 --> 00:58:09,170
And that's what they did.

1200
00:58:09,170 --> 00:58:11,660
They went down and they
went to those women

1201
00:58:11,660 --> 00:58:14,910
and they didn't
do anything to us.

1202
00:58:14,910 --> 00:58:18,800
And the next day they said
that we have to continue,

1203
00:58:18,800 --> 00:58:23,390
but I would advise you, this
one Russian friend said,

1204
00:58:23,390 --> 00:58:27,800
I would advise you, you go
more inside toward Poland.

1205
00:58:27,800 --> 00:58:31,490
Because you know you
get these soldiers

1206
00:58:31,490 --> 00:58:34,020
on the front and not
everybody will treat you

1207
00:58:34,020 --> 00:58:35,930
the same way as we did.

1208
00:58:35,930 --> 00:58:40,520
So you're better off trying
to get more into the area

1209
00:58:40,520 --> 00:58:42,560
where there is no fighting.

1210
00:58:42,560 --> 00:58:48,140
So that the Polish couple,
they loaded up the back

1211
00:58:48,140 --> 00:58:51,830
of a carriage with things.

1212
00:58:51,830 --> 00:58:56,060
And we said, do you mind
if we walk with you?

1213
00:58:56,060 --> 00:58:57,440
And they said all right.

1214
00:58:57,440 --> 00:58:58,750
They were walking too.

1215
00:58:58,750 --> 00:59:00,800
And then we walked
and walked and then

1216
00:59:00,800 --> 00:59:07,050
we hit a village which
we saw some other

1217
00:59:07,050 --> 00:59:12,170
from now Jewish people,

Jewish girls there.

1218
00:59:12,170 --> 00:59:16,370
And we decided that maybe it's
better if we just stay away

1219
00:59:16,370 --> 00:59:18,770
from the Polish couple.

1220
00:59:18,770 --> 00:59:20,780
I didn't know how
much I can trust them

1221
00:59:20,780 --> 00:59:24,140
because how much they
believe me, my story,

1222
00:59:24,140 --> 00:59:26,870
and how they feel
that we're Jews.

1223
00:59:26,870 --> 00:59:30,740
And so they went
on and we stayed

1224
00:59:30,740 --> 00:59:33,320
with several other
Jewish women whom

1225
00:59:33,320 --> 00:59:36,890
we met who escaped
from different camps,

1226
00:59:36,890 --> 00:59:40,320
not from the same group,
and we stayed with them.

1227
00:59:40,320 --> 00:59:43,880
But even there was a girl
and we stayed in a house.

1228
00:59:43,880 --> 00:59:47,960
We went to the houses where the

Germans slept and were empty

1229

00:59:47,960 --> 00:59:49,610
and we slept there.

1230

00:59:49,610 --> 00:59:54,290
And there was a girl who was
17, and we just stayed together.

1231

00:59:54,290 --> 00:59:56,840
And she went out and
we told her not to.

1232

00:59:56,840 --> 00:59:59,930
And she walked
and she was raped.

1233

00:59:59,930 --> 01:00:03,600
She was a rabbi's daughter,
too, and then she came back.

1234

01:00:03,600 --> 01:00:05,910
And so we had to
be very careful.

1235

01:00:05,910 --> 01:00:10,040
And then the Russian
soldier came into that place

1236

01:00:10,040 --> 01:00:14,880
where we were staying, so
many, and we complained

1237

01:00:14,880 --> 01:00:19,970
and he said, look, I don't
care that you suffered.

1238

01:00:19,970 --> 01:00:21,200
I suffered too.

1239

01:00:21,200 --> 01:00:24,410
My six-year-old
child was also killed

1240
01:00:24,410 --> 01:00:27,440
and I was on the
front for years now.

1241
01:00:27,440 --> 01:00:29,810
But they didn't
do anything to us.

1242
01:00:29,810 --> 01:00:33,170
So we were lucky that way.

1243
01:00:33,170 --> 01:00:36,890
What did the women do to comfort
this young rabbi's daughter?

1244
01:00:36,890 --> 01:00:40,130
Well, we just told
her not to go and stay

1245
01:00:40,130 --> 01:00:41,900
with us and that it's war.

1246
01:00:41,900 --> 01:00:43,910
And you know we
couldn't do too much.

1247
01:00:43,910 --> 01:00:45,500
What could we do?

1248
01:00:45,500 --> 01:00:46,790
I mean she survived it.

1249
01:00:46,790 --> 01:00:49,460
They didn't really
hit her or anything.

1250
01:00:49,460 --> 01:00:53,500
But they just did it.

1251
01:00:53,500 --> 01:01:05,850
So then what happened was

that we were hitchhiking.

1252

01:01:05,850 --> 01:01:14,370

We did get some rides and
we went more toward Krakow.

1253

01:01:14,370 --> 01:01:19,230

The trains didn't run yet there,
so we had to do it by foot.

1254

01:01:19,230 --> 01:01:21,540

And then we got to
a place where there

1255

01:01:21,540 --> 01:01:26,880

were a lot of French
prisoners of war staying there

1256

01:01:26,880 --> 01:01:31,080

and they protected us.

1257

01:01:31,080 --> 01:01:32,460

They were kind of hiding.

1258

01:01:32,460 --> 01:01:33,780

We had to sleep with them.

1259

01:01:33,780 --> 01:01:35,790

Not really with them
but in one room.

1260

01:01:35,790 --> 01:01:38,220

They were very nice to us.

1261

01:01:38,220 --> 01:01:41,250

And when the Russians
were nearing,

1262

01:01:41,250 --> 01:01:44,430

there was a balcony there
and they said, fast,

1263

01:01:44,430 --> 01:01:46,090
go and hide in the balcony.

1264
01:01:46,090 --> 01:01:48,900
So we went out and they
were looking not for us,

1265
01:01:48,900 --> 01:01:50,860
they were looking for women.

1266
01:01:50,860 --> 01:01:54,460
And so they saw just men
and they walked away.

1267
01:01:54,460 --> 01:01:57,300
And so that went
on a number of days

1268
01:01:57,300 --> 01:02:00,600
and then we got
some place again,

1269
01:02:00,600 --> 01:02:06,360
just my mother and
three girls and myself.

1270
01:02:06,360 --> 01:02:10,430
And that was a very
tough encounter because--

1271
01:02:10,430 --> 01:02:13,000