

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,420

2
00:00:05,420 --> 00:00:08,130
This is the United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3
00:00:08,130 --> 00:00:11,450
interview of Jadwiga
Dziekonski conducted

4
00:00:11,450 --> 00:00:15,770
by Gail Schwartz
on August 24, 1997

5
00:00:15,770 --> 00:00:17,780
in Silver Spring, Maryland.

6
00:00:17,780 --> 00:00:23,360
This is tape number two,
side A. And we had gotten up

7
00:00:23,360 --> 00:00:25,320
to the end of the war.

8
00:00:25,320 --> 00:00:32,540
And I had asked you, at the
time that the war was over

9
00:00:32,540 --> 00:00:34,760
in Poland, what
your thoughts were.

10
00:00:34,760 --> 00:00:37,310
Did you feel free at that time?

11
00:00:37,310 --> 00:00:40,640
And I'm talking still just
at the end of the war.

12
00:00:40,640 --> 00:00:41,780

Yes, I did.

13
00:00:41,780 --> 00:00:45,590
I did, because no matter
what kind of government

14
00:00:45,590 --> 00:00:51,770
we had, thanks to nice allies
and thanks to Yalta Agreement,

15
00:00:51,770 --> 00:00:54,740
then there was still hope.

16
00:00:54,740 --> 00:00:56,750
And we were very
happy to be free.

17
00:00:56,750 --> 00:00:59,480

18
00:00:59,480 --> 00:01:02,910
So your daughter was
about two years old then.

19
00:01:02,910 --> 00:01:05,500

20
00:01:05,500 --> 00:01:06,740
In 1945?

21
00:01:06,740 --> 00:01:07,562
Yes, mm-hmm.

22
00:01:07,562 --> 00:01:09,490
Right.

23
00:01:09,490 --> 00:01:13,780
Bringing up a child in 1943,
'44, and '45 in wartime

24
00:01:13,780 --> 00:01:15,420
Poland--

25
00:01:15,420 --> 00:01:18,980
how was that for you?

26
00:01:18,980 --> 00:01:20,460
Oh, it was wonderful.

27
00:01:20,460 --> 00:01:22,250
We managed.

28
00:01:22,250 --> 00:01:23,330
My husband worked.

29
00:01:23,330 --> 00:01:24,330
And I didn't.

30
00:01:24,330 --> 00:01:29,110
And we managed and love it.

31
00:01:29,110 --> 00:01:33,050
And I don't know what
actually we had to eat,

32
00:01:33,050 --> 00:01:36,710
but it didn't matter.

33
00:01:36,710 --> 00:01:41,750
So the little baby
is easy to bring up.

34
00:01:41,750 --> 00:01:45,080
Were you always
optimistic during wartime?

35
00:01:45,080 --> 00:01:46,250
Yes, I was.

36
00:01:46,250 --> 00:01:47,080
I was.

37
00:01:47,080 --> 00:01:49,370

What do you attribute
your optimism to?

38
00:01:49,370 --> 00:01:51,900

39
00:01:51,900 --> 00:01:54,270
I am a very religious
woman, number one.

40
00:01:54,270 --> 00:01:58,620
And number two, this
is the disposition.

41
00:01:58,620 --> 00:02:02,760
My sister was religious,
but she was a pessimist.

42
00:02:02,760 --> 00:02:06,860
So this is what I would say.

43
00:02:06,860 --> 00:02:12,530
I have a very strong faith.

44
00:02:12,530 --> 00:02:13,780
And that's a gift.

45
00:02:13,780 --> 00:02:16,270
I don't figure it out.

46
00:02:16,270 --> 00:02:17,390
It's a gift.

47
00:02:17,390 --> 00:02:19,320
I have this disposition.

48
00:02:19,320 --> 00:02:22,180
Obviously, I don't do it.

49
00:02:22,180 --> 00:02:22,690
It's mine.

50

00:02:22,690 --> 00:02:25,400

51

00:02:25,400 --> 00:02:28,630

You said you have a very strong religious faith.

52

00:02:28,630 --> 00:02:32,752

Do you feel that your mother did, too,

53

00:02:32,752 --> 00:02:34,210

and this was one of the reasons she

54

00:02:34,210 --> 00:02:41,350

was willing to put her life in danger to protect others?

55

00:02:41,350 --> 00:02:44,650

Was it out of religious conviction?

56

00:02:44,650 --> 00:02:47,230

I'm not sure.

57

00:02:47,230 --> 00:02:49,040

She was religious.

58

00:02:49,040 --> 00:02:51,070

But I don't think that this was the reason

59

00:02:51,070 --> 00:02:57,070

that she was so open and so helpful to people.

60

00:02:57,070 --> 00:02:59,110

I just think that this is what she

61

00:02:59,110 --> 00:03:01,540

thought she would
like to do, more

62
00:03:01,540 --> 00:03:03,310
than for the religious reasons.

63
00:03:03,310 --> 00:03:09,610

64
00:03:09,610 --> 00:03:11,375
All right, it's now
the end of the war.

65
00:03:11,375 --> 00:03:19,500

66
00:03:19,500 --> 00:03:22,350
Did you then start to see--

67
00:03:22,350 --> 00:03:24,750
after survivors would
come back into town,

68
00:03:24,750 --> 00:03:27,780
did you see any of them?

69
00:03:27,780 --> 00:03:30,630
I didn't see many.

70
00:03:30,630 --> 00:03:34,650
I saw brothers of my
mother, my uncles.

71
00:03:34,650 --> 00:03:36,240
Where had they been?

72
00:03:36,240 --> 00:03:40,860
Oh, they were around
different parts of Poland.

73
00:03:40,860 --> 00:03:43,320
Also, some of them

tried to join the army.

74

00:03:43,320 --> 00:03:47,400

And they couldn't, because
the army was almost gone.

75

00:03:47,400 --> 00:03:48,910

And they were in
the underground.

76

00:03:48,910 --> 00:03:52,890

So they just came back to
Warsaw where they lived.

77

00:03:52,890 --> 00:03:54,620

That was about all--

78

00:03:54,620 --> 00:03:58,230

and friends, but
very few friends.

79

00:03:58,230 --> 00:04:03,770

80

00:04:03,770 --> 00:04:06,650

What do you say to friends
after living through wartime?

81

00:04:06,650 --> 00:04:11,590

82

00:04:11,590 --> 00:04:16,490

They hadn't gone
through Warsaw Uprising.

83

00:04:16,490 --> 00:04:19,480

But they had gone
through so many things,

84

00:04:19,480 --> 00:04:24,670

which were difficult, that
they would rather say--

85

00:04:24,670 --> 00:04:33,520
we would ask what they lived
through, rather than expecting

86

00:04:33,520 --> 00:04:38,370
them to lament over our faith.

87

00:04:38,370 --> 00:04:42,700
Well, of course, being without
husbands, it was sad for them.

88

00:04:42,700 --> 00:04:46,170
But they were hoping that
we will get together.

89

00:04:46,170 --> 00:04:46,890
Oh, by the way--

90

00:04:46,890 --> 00:04:51,300
I'm sorry-- my
brother-in-law came back,

91

00:04:51,300 --> 00:04:54,390
because there was some of
the prisoners of war who

92

00:04:54,390 --> 00:04:57,330
were let go, very few of them.

93

00:04:57,330 --> 00:05:02,970
And they would hide in
the forests around Warsaw.

94

00:05:02,970 --> 00:05:04,830
And then he would come back.

95

00:05:04,830 --> 00:05:07,180
That was unbelievable.

96

00:05:07,180 --> 00:05:12,900
They were just going through
some process, the Germans were.

97

00:05:12,900 --> 00:05:15,600

And the people who
were not fighting,

98

00:05:15,600 --> 00:05:20,160

but they were just
also alongside Germans,

99

00:05:20,160 --> 00:05:23,090

then they would
just let them go.

100

00:05:23,090 --> 00:05:26,310

That was my brother-in-law.

101

00:05:26,310 --> 00:05:27,290

So she would see him.

102

00:05:27,290 --> 00:05:30,350

And I wouldn't see my husband.

103

00:05:30,350 --> 00:05:33,086

What was your
brother-in-law's name?

104

00:05:33,086 --> 00:05:33,990

[? Jarosiewicz ?].

105

00:05:33,990 --> 00:05:37,060

106

00:05:37,060 --> 00:05:38,400

His first name?

107

00:05:38,400 --> 00:05:42,510

[? Zygmund. ?]

108

00:05:42,510 --> 00:05:46,170

When did you first start
hearing about the death

109

00:05:46,170 --> 00:05:50,580

camps, the concentration
camps and death camps?

110

00:05:50,580 --> 00:05:52,920

Right after the end of
the war, and even before,

111

00:05:52,920 --> 00:05:56,700

when people were in these camps.

112

00:05:56,700 --> 00:06:00,660

Then, of course, the news
was absolutely clear.

113

00:06:00,660 --> 00:06:04,530

114

00:06:04,530 --> 00:06:08,160

Let's talk about a
place such as Auschwitz,

115

00:06:08,160 --> 00:06:12,990

and when you heard what went
on, what happened there.

116

00:06:12,990 --> 00:06:16,710

And do you want to
know what I felt?

117

00:06:16,710 --> 00:06:21,410

Oh, I felt I would
like to die with them.

118

00:06:21,410 --> 00:06:25,940

Just incredible, it
was just incredible.

119

00:06:25,940 --> 00:06:27,490

This was something that--

120

00:06:27,490 --> 00:06:31,560

121
00:06:31,560 --> 00:06:35,695
we felt this for our whole life.

122
00:06:35,695 --> 00:06:39,060

123
00:06:39,060 --> 00:06:43,330
And the incident happened
when we were in Israel.

124
00:06:43,330 --> 00:06:48,640
And we were invited with
my daughter and son-in-law

125
00:06:48,640 --> 00:06:50,380
to some friends.

126
00:06:50,380 --> 00:06:52,360
She was an artist.

127
00:06:52,360 --> 00:06:53,500
She painted.

128
00:06:53,500 --> 00:06:54,700
Her husband was very sweet.

129
00:06:54,700 --> 00:06:59,500
And they had some friends
from California, a couple.

130
00:06:59,500 --> 00:07:05,530
And of course, inevitably,
the subject was war.

131
00:07:05,530 --> 00:07:14,210
And then my husband said what
he felt about the Germans,

132
00:07:14,210 --> 00:07:18,600
about the Jewish people

being executed, and so forth.

133
00:07:18,600 --> 00:07:21,720
And then we left the place.

134
00:07:21,720 --> 00:07:23,530
And he took me by my elbow.

135
00:07:23,530 --> 00:07:26,120
I said, so chummy
after one evening.

136
00:07:26,120 --> 00:07:26,840
What is it?

137
00:07:26,840 --> 00:07:30,920
He said, if your
husband is going

138
00:07:30,920 --> 00:07:36,530
to tell more lies about what
happened to people then,

139
00:07:36,530 --> 00:07:40,220
during the war, he's going
to have a very difficult life

140
00:07:40,220 --> 00:07:42,740
in the United States.

141
00:07:42,740 --> 00:07:44,120
I was so taken aback.

142
00:07:44,120 --> 00:07:46,580
I didn't even know what
he was talking about.

143
00:07:46,580 --> 00:07:48,380
Who was he?

144
00:07:48,380 --> 00:07:49,910
I don't know still.

145
00:07:49,910 --> 00:07:52,940
And my daughter doesn't
know, neither my son-in-law.

146
00:07:52,940 --> 00:07:56,720
But the lies, the
lies about executions,

147
00:07:56,720 --> 00:07:58,850
the lies about Auschwitz?

148
00:07:58,850 --> 00:08:00,440
I didn't understand who he was.

149
00:08:00,440 --> 00:08:01,790
He was-- excuse me.

150
00:08:01,790 --> 00:08:03,270
He was a man from California.

151
00:08:03,270 --> 00:08:03,770
So what?

152
00:08:03,770 --> 00:08:07,110
I knew his name them,
but it didn't matter.

153
00:08:07,110 --> 00:08:10,000
And so he was saying these
things did not happen.

154
00:08:10,000 --> 00:08:11,860
No, they did not.

155
00:08:11,860 --> 00:08:14,740
They are lies, he said.

156
00:08:14,740 --> 00:08:16,030
Well, it is very unusual.

157

00:08:16,030 --> 00:08:19,240

158

00:08:19,240 --> 00:08:21,290

But when my husband
learned what he told me--

159

00:08:21,290 --> 00:08:24,530

because he was away,
not in the elevator--

160

00:08:24,530 --> 00:08:26,090

he just couldn't believe it.

161

00:08:26,090 --> 00:08:28,970

162

00:08:28,970 --> 00:08:32,090

One feels so deeply about it.

163

00:08:32,090 --> 00:08:37,600

We were in Israel 18 years ago.

164

00:08:37,600 --> 00:08:40,750

But it was still very
fresh in our memory.

165

00:08:40,750 --> 00:08:45,530

That's what it always
was and will be.

166

00:08:45,530 --> 00:08:49,040

What would always be
fresh in your memory?

167

00:08:49,040 --> 00:08:54,955

The fate of the Jews, all that
happened to Jewish people.

168

00:08:54,955 --> 00:09:07,600

169

00:09:07,600 --> 00:09:12,730

I think that, for
instance, when we were in--

170

00:09:12,730 --> 00:09:13,970

was it in Jaroslaw?

171

00:09:13,970 --> 00:09:15,910

Yes, I think in Jaroslaw.

172

00:09:15,910 --> 00:09:19,500

This was a very good,
very interesting moment

173

00:09:19,500 --> 00:09:22,630

when we went to the museum.

174

00:09:22,630 --> 00:09:26,830

And the museum was
very well thought of.

175

00:09:26,830 --> 00:09:29,200

And there were lots
of terrible pictures

176

00:09:29,200 --> 00:09:32,170

from Auschwitz and other places.

177

00:09:32,170 --> 00:09:37,600

And three young Israeli
soldiers were next to us.

178

00:09:37,600 --> 00:09:39,060

And they talked to each other.

179

00:09:39,060 --> 00:09:42,330

They said, is it possible?

180

00:09:42,330 --> 00:09:48,280

So it was very informative
for young people.

181

00:09:48,280 --> 00:09:51,400
They were in the army,
but they didn't know.

182
00:09:51,400 --> 00:09:54,280

183
00:09:54,280 --> 00:09:58,690
So this is idiocy.

184
00:09:58,690 --> 00:10:00,790
When you say the
Jewish people, do you

185
00:10:00,790 --> 00:10:03,358
feel a particular
connection, or its

186
00:10:03,358 --> 00:10:04,900
just because it
happened particularly

187
00:10:04,900 --> 00:10:07,540
to the Jewish
people at that time?

188
00:10:07,540 --> 00:10:15,210
No, I am thinking of
Jewish people at that time,

189
00:10:15,210 --> 00:10:20,310
because we suffered, millions
of executed and tortured people.

190
00:10:20,310 --> 00:10:26,130
But we know what
happened to the Jews.

191
00:10:26,130 --> 00:10:33,430

192
00:10:33,430 --> 00:10:37,150
So after the war was over,

you decided you did not

193
00:10:37,150 --> 00:10:38,290
want to stay in Poland.

194
00:10:38,290 --> 00:10:41,130
Obviously, your
husband was not there.

195
00:10:41,130 --> 00:10:43,510
And so what measures
did you take?

196
00:10:43,510 --> 00:10:50,020
We were trying to get me and
my daughter over the border

197
00:10:50,020 --> 00:10:50,590
illegally.

198
00:10:50,590 --> 00:10:54,100
But I didn't want
to go over by sea,

199
00:10:54,100 --> 00:11:00,036
because she was too little
to give her a sleeping pill--

200
00:11:00,036 --> 00:11:04,510
or to explain, and too big
to give her a sleeping pill.

201
00:11:04,510 --> 00:11:09,640
So the only way that was
left was through Sweden.

202
00:11:09,640 --> 00:11:10,930
It was, of course, paid for.

203
00:11:10,930 --> 00:11:12,430
We were supposed to be--

204

00:11:12,430 --> 00:11:14,840
I escaped with
three more people.

205
00:11:14,840 --> 00:11:18,970
And we were all
five supposed to be

206
00:11:18,970 --> 00:11:26,758
friends of the sailors, the
people who were trying to--

207
00:11:26,758 --> 00:11:27,550
the guards, I mean.

208
00:11:27,550 --> 00:11:31,980
The guards of the borders
didn't pay attention.

209
00:11:31,980 --> 00:11:33,820
And we went there.

210
00:11:33,820 --> 00:11:34,930
We paid.

211
00:11:34,930 --> 00:11:39,720
So we expected to
be on the deck.

212
00:11:39,720 --> 00:11:45,610
But now we were sitting
on the bottom of the boat,

213
00:11:45,610 --> 00:11:48,140
because it was a cargo boat.

214
00:11:48,140 --> 00:11:55,000
And we were on coal,
because it proved

215
00:11:55,000 --> 00:11:57,020
that the first
mechanic didn't know,

216
00:11:57,020 --> 00:11:58,240
and the captain didn't know.

217
00:11:58,240 --> 00:12:00,700
Only people did it--

218
00:12:00,700 --> 00:12:03,250
you know, the sailors
did it on their own.

219
00:12:03,250 --> 00:12:08,090
So of course, we couldn't
expect any better way.

220
00:12:08,090 --> 00:12:10,840
And I was sitting on the
coal half way in water.

221
00:12:10,840 --> 00:12:15,760
And I held my daughter
on my abdomen.

222
00:12:15,760 --> 00:12:19,510
And she was very sweet and
said, when I come home,

223
00:12:19,510 --> 00:12:25,850
could you cook this bean
soup I like so much?

224
00:12:25,850 --> 00:12:27,640
And I said, yes, I promise.

225
00:12:27,640 --> 00:12:28,960
And she was very brave.

226
00:12:28,960 --> 00:12:32,550
And it was only 36 hours.

227
00:12:32,550 --> 00:12:41,920
So we thought that we will be

put in this coal business--

228

00:12:41,920 --> 00:12:48,340

I mean, in the places where they
keep coal underneath the deck,

229

00:12:48,340 --> 00:12:52,720

because of the
controlling guard, which

230

00:12:52,720 --> 00:12:55,240

goes around the port.

231

00:12:55,240 --> 00:13:03,040

So we were fully expecting
that, after it was over,

232

00:13:03,040 --> 00:13:06,850

then we will go up at all.

233

00:13:06,850 --> 00:13:09,540

And then there was
another inspection.

234

00:13:09,540 --> 00:13:13,780

That was already the Swedish
borders, but we didn't care.

235

00:13:13,780 --> 00:13:17,230

And we got out in Stockholm.

236

00:13:17,230 --> 00:13:23,620

And that was the
real, true liberation.

237

00:13:23,620 --> 00:13:28,000

And the Swedish people
were anxious to know

238

00:13:28,000 --> 00:13:33,340

if we just like their toilet
paper nicer, and the food,

239

00:13:33,340 --> 00:13:36,050
or do we have political reasons?

240

00:13:36,050 --> 00:13:38,230
So we explained.

241

00:13:38,230 --> 00:13:40,360
But when the
explanation went on,

242

00:13:40,360 --> 00:13:47,230
then Christine got her
window full of toys.

243

00:13:47,230 --> 00:13:50,560
People were looking
from outside to see

244

00:13:50,560 --> 00:13:56,230
who was arrested with toys.

245

00:13:56,230 --> 00:13:57,360
And then they let us go.

246

00:13:57,360 --> 00:13:59,110
And they're saying,
you were-- the friends

247

00:13:59,110 --> 00:14:01,730
were in the underground.

248

00:14:01,730 --> 00:14:05,740
So it was obvious
that they don't

249

00:14:05,740 --> 00:14:10,250
want to have the change
of way of living,

250

00:14:10,250 --> 00:14:14,090
but just they want to
escape from Poland.

251

00:14:14,090 --> 00:14:23,110
So we were given two weeks in
some kind of a welcome cabin,

252

00:14:23,110 --> 00:14:25,600
which they do with
every person who

253

00:14:25,600 --> 00:14:30,050
comes from abroad in Sweden.

254

00:14:30,050 --> 00:14:34,970
Meanwhile, my husband
collected my father's friend,

255

00:14:34,970 --> 00:14:41,150
who was the counterpart of my
father in the Swedish bank.

256

00:14:41,150 --> 00:14:45,050
So they were so nice
that they took us out.

257

00:14:45,050 --> 00:14:48,720
And we stayed there
after we got the visa

258

00:14:48,720 --> 00:14:54,510
in their beautiful place
not far from Stockholm.

259

00:14:54,510 --> 00:14:58,690
And there were children
bathing naked, naturally,

260

00:14:58,690 --> 00:14:59,950
because of-- all the girls.

261

00:14:59,950 --> 00:15:02,770
They were all girls.

262

00:15:02,770 --> 00:15:06,430
And Christine
learned some Swedish.

263
00:15:06,430 --> 00:15:11,670
And then, at the hour,
we went to London.

264
00:15:11,670 --> 00:15:17,940
And when he met us, she said,
oh, I remember your picture.

265
00:15:17,940 --> 00:15:23,950
You had such bangs of nice
hair, and now you're bald.

266
00:15:23,950 --> 00:15:25,920
He never had bangs.

267
00:15:25,920 --> 00:15:27,700
She imagined something.

268
00:15:27,700 --> 00:15:31,370
And for two months, she
didn't want to talk to him.

269
00:15:31,370 --> 00:15:39,450
She was very, very
strange, very cold to him.

270
00:15:39,450 --> 00:15:43,790
And after that, we
couldn't be separated.

271
00:15:43,790 --> 00:15:47,040
What port did you
leave from in Poland?

272
00:15:47,040 --> 00:15:49,130
Sopot.

273
00:15:49,130 --> 00:15:53,780
It's a port very near Gdynia,

between Gydnia and Gdansk.

274

00:15:53,780 --> 00:15:57,720

275

00:15:57,720 --> 00:16:00,020

Now when did you
say you left Poland?

276

00:16:00,020 --> 00:16:02,330

In 1947.

277

00:16:02,330 --> 00:16:04,280

What month was that?

278

00:16:04,280 --> 00:16:06,520

It was August.

279

00:16:06,520 --> 00:16:09,160

And then you went
directly to Sweden.

280

00:16:09,160 --> 00:16:11,980

And then when did
you come to London?

281

00:16:11,980 --> 00:16:15,585

I think about two or
three weeks after.

282

00:16:15,585 --> 00:16:18,115

Oh, so you were only a
few weeks in Stockholm.

283

00:16:18,115 --> 00:16:19,330

Yes.

284

00:16:19,330 --> 00:16:20,505

And then you stayed in--

285

00:16:20,505 --> 00:16:22,630

well, what was it like for

you to see your husband?

286
00:16:22,630 --> 00:16:26,670
[LAUGHS] Fantastic.

287
00:16:26,670 --> 00:16:28,250
I always knew that
I will see him.

288
00:16:28,250 --> 00:16:31,420
But it was great.

289
00:16:31,420 --> 00:16:34,360
And he was very happy.

290
00:16:34,360 --> 00:16:39,600
And then you stayed in
London for how long?

291
00:16:39,600 --> 00:16:45,010
Actually, we stayed in
Epsom where my father was.

292
00:16:45,010 --> 00:16:52,680
And he asked us to stay with him
until we get someplace to live.

293
00:16:52,680 --> 00:16:54,170
It didn't take us long.

294
00:16:54,170 --> 00:16:56,380
Epsom was fine, beautiful.

295
00:16:56,380 --> 00:16:58,390
I think it was beautiful.

296
00:16:58,390 --> 00:17:00,150
And your mother
was back in Poland.

297
00:17:00,150 --> 00:17:02,040
Yes.

298

00:17:02,040 --> 00:17:10,109

I was very anxious for her to
come with me, because she was--

299

00:17:10,109 --> 00:17:11,200

not as I am now.

300

00:17:11,200 --> 00:17:16,680

She could go, but she didn't
want to leave her mother.

301

00:17:16,680 --> 00:17:21,369

So I am so sad.

302

00:17:21,369 --> 00:17:24,339

I never saw her after I left.

303

00:17:24,339 --> 00:17:26,079

I never went back to Poland.

304

00:17:26,079 --> 00:17:30,610

I couldn't, because they
wouldn't let me go out again.

305

00:17:30,610 --> 00:17:32,050

You stayed in
London for how long?

306

00:17:32,050 --> 00:17:34,880

307

00:17:34,880 --> 00:17:35,510

Four years.

308

00:17:35,510 --> 00:17:38,120

309

00:17:38,120 --> 00:17:40,730

And then friends
said that we should

310

00:17:40,730 --> 00:17:45,500
come to America, because this
is the land of opportunity.

311

00:17:45,500 --> 00:17:50,780
And it is, but not from
a humanistic persuasion,

312

00:17:50,780 --> 00:17:53,465
because he was a
doctor of chemistry,

313

00:17:53,465 --> 00:17:56,190
as they call it there,
a chemical engineer.

314

00:17:56,190 --> 00:18:00,440
So he lived in Detroit and
was pirated from one place

315

00:18:00,440 --> 00:18:01,970
to another.

316

00:18:01,970 --> 00:18:05,930
But it was difficult
for us to get a job.

317

00:18:05,930 --> 00:18:09,270
And we struggled.

318

00:18:09,270 --> 00:18:10,980
He did everything he could.

319

00:18:10,980 --> 00:18:15,910
And I started working in
a bookshop immediately.

320

00:18:15,910 --> 00:18:18,670
So you left London when?

321

00:18:18,670 --> 00:18:21,650
May, '47 and-- '51.

322
00:18:21,650 --> 00:18:24,160
Came to what city here?

323
00:18:24,160 --> 00:18:26,320
To Detroit.

324
00:18:26,320 --> 00:18:27,520
What a change after London.

325
00:18:27,520 --> 00:18:30,040

326
00:18:30,040 --> 00:18:32,490
But our friends lived there.

327
00:18:32,490 --> 00:18:34,300
And then they offered us--

328
00:18:34,300 --> 00:18:36,670
These were friends
from back from Poland.

329
00:18:36,670 --> 00:18:40,000
These were friends from Poland,
from London, from everywhere.

330
00:18:40,000 --> 00:18:41,200
From Poland, right, mm-hmm.

331
00:18:41,200 --> 00:18:45,394
But in London, we were
very close friends.

332
00:18:45,394 --> 00:18:47,080
And how long did
you stay in Detroit?

333
00:18:47,080 --> 00:18:50,640

334

00:18:50,640 --> 00:18:55,310
If we subtract from 40 years
that I am here from 1951,

335
00:18:55,310 --> 00:19:00,246
if we subtract 18
and 20, let's say--

336
00:19:00,246 --> 00:19:04,610
1941, 1951.

337
00:19:04,610 --> 00:19:08,780
We moved to Washington in 1970.

338
00:19:08,780 --> 00:19:11,900
What brought you to Washington?

339
00:19:11,900 --> 00:19:15,260
There was some-- oh, I
should say, my husband--

340
00:19:15,260 --> 00:19:21,590
was asked to be a stringer
to Voice of America.

341
00:19:21,590 --> 00:19:25,730
Then he got to be a stringer
for Radio Free Europe.

342
00:19:25,730 --> 00:19:29,930
And then they offered him
a job in Voice of America.

343
00:19:29,930 --> 00:19:31,720
So we went.

344
00:19:31,720 --> 00:19:34,890
We came to Washington.

345
00:19:34,890 --> 00:19:38,550
And then he worked
in Voice of America.

346

00:19:38,550 --> 00:19:41,970

Working as a
journalist, or as a--

347

00:19:41,970 --> 00:19:43,436

Working as a--

348

00:19:43,436 --> 00:19:46,260

349

00:19:46,260 --> 00:19:49,140

Voice of America had all
kinds of possibilities.

350

00:19:49,140 --> 00:19:52,950

And he was working, doing
some secretarial work.

351

00:19:52,950 --> 00:19:59,940

And then he was the
[NON-ENGLISH] of the--

352

00:19:59,940 --> 00:20:05,280

director of the Polish
desk of Voice of America,

353

00:20:05,280 --> 00:20:08,780

vice director, whatever it is.

354

00:20:08,780 --> 00:20:11,535

And that was until he retired.

355

00:20:11,535 --> 00:20:15,940

356

00:20:15,940 --> 00:20:17,980

Have you been back to Poland?

357

00:20:17,980 --> 00:20:19,420

I have been back to Poland.

358

00:20:19,420 --> 00:20:22,540
With him, it was
difficult, because he

359
00:20:22,540 --> 00:20:27,325
would have gone with either
this president or another

360
00:20:27,325 --> 00:20:30,820
for Voice of America
as a correspondent.

361
00:20:30,820 --> 00:20:33,740
But it would cost
extra if I would go.

362
00:20:33,740 --> 00:20:41,320
So when, later, we decided
that I'll go, it was 1988.

363
00:20:41,320 --> 00:20:45,560
And my family was
no longer alive.

364
00:20:45,560 --> 00:20:47,500
And the only family
that I've got

365
00:20:47,500 --> 00:20:49,840
was his family,
which adopted me.

366
00:20:49,840 --> 00:20:54,400
And I am now a great
grandmother because

367
00:20:54,400 --> 00:20:56,770
of the difference of age.

368
00:20:56,770 --> 00:21:04,200
And they live in Kielce
and Starachowice.

369

00:21:04,200 --> 00:21:11,730
In Starachowice, it
is a factory town.

370
00:21:11,730 --> 00:21:17,595
And after my husband's mother--

371
00:21:17,595 --> 00:21:21,330

372
00:21:21,330 --> 00:21:23,500
not his mother, his aunt.

373
00:21:23,500 --> 00:21:24,850
How did it go?

374
00:21:24,850 --> 00:21:34,560
No, his aunt and his sister--

375
00:21:34,560 --> 00:21:35,460
well, I mean cousin.

376
00:21:35,460 --> 00:21:37,590
Oh, cousin is good.

377
00:21:37,590 --> 00:21:39,990
And the other little
boy-- they were

378
00:21:39,990 --> 00:21:41,850
a little boy a little girl.

379
00:21:41,850 --> 00:21:44,400
And the aunt was young.

380
00:21:44,400 --> 00:21:47,340
And they were all
sent to Siberia.

381
00:21:47,340 --> 00:21:55,860
So there, they lived in a hall,
not in a cottage or anything

382
00:21:55,860 --> 00:21:57,570
like that, in a hall.

383
00:21:57,570 --> 00:22:03,060
And the girl and
the little boy tried

384
00:22:03,060 --> 00:22:08,100
to work in a garden
of a Russian.

385
00:22:08,100 --> 00:22:11,820
And she would give them a
piece of bread for the mother.

386
00:22:11,820 --> 00:22:14,560
She was too weak to work.

387
00:22:14,560 --> 00:22:19,740
So after that, they
were repatriated.

388
00:22:19,740 --> 00:22:23,320
And they would have
been given a ticket.

389
00:22:23,320 --> 00:22:27,328
Then she thought, if
they would go to a place

390
00:22:27,328 --> 00:22:29,620
where there's a factory, she
could work in the factory,

391
00:22:29,620 --> 00:22:33,680
because she didn't have
any qualifications.

392
00:22:33,680 --> 00:22:37,990
So that's where Starachowice
came to her mind.

393

00:22:37,990 --> 00:22:48,080

She worked there for 25 years
on the rock-- not rock, stone,

394

00:22:48,080 --> 00:22:56,250

on a stone floor
in a storage room.

395

00:22:56,250 --> 00:23:01,300

And the children grew.

396

00:23:01,300 --> 00:23:03,420

The boy got married.

397

00:23:03,420 --> 00:23:06,140

And he has children in turn.

398

00:23:06,140 --> 00:23:08,310

So that was their story.

399

00:23:08,310 --> 00:23:14,920

And I correspond all the
time with my husband's niece.

400

00:23:14,920 --> 00:23:17,470

I just got a letter from her.

401

00:23:17,470 --> 00:23:22,930

I don't write many letters,
but this, I have to.

402

00:23:22,930 --> 00:23:25,330

How did it feel to
go back to Poland?

403

00:23:25,330 --> 00:23:26,500

Wonderful.

404

00:23:26,500 --> 00:23:27,120

Wonderful.

405

00:23:27,120 --> 00:23:30,766

406

00:23:30,766 --> 00:23:35,460

I didn't pay attention to
what was going on in politics.

407

00:23:35,460 --> 00:23:38,920

But I was just enjoying.

408

00:23:38,920 --> 00:23:43,250

These were my husband's
family and friends

409

00:23:43,250 --> 00:23:44,760

who were in Warsaw--

410

00:23:44,760 --> 00:23:48,440

and the landscape
and everything.

411

00:23:48,440 --> 00:23:51,800

Do you still feel very Polish?

412

00:23:51,800 --> 00:23:52,670

Oh, yes.

413

00:23:52,670 --> 00:23:55,430

Oh, yes, I do.

414

00:23:55,430 --> 00:23:57,310

This is my adopted country.

415

00:23:57,310 --> 00:24:00,380

And I feel very American, too.

416

00:24:00,380 --> 00:24:04,340

But my roots are in Poland.

417

00:24:04,340 --> 00:24:08,020

And for instance,
if I see the floods,

418
00:24:08,020 --> 00:24:13,330
I am so upset, because
they went through so much.

419
00:24:13,330 --> 00:24:15,580
And it's very close to me.

420
00:24:15,580 --> 00:24:18,460
But of course, we had
floods in Colorado, too.

421
00:24:18,460 --> 00:24:21,940

422
00:24:21,940 --> 00:24:25,900
Do you think that you
would be a different person

423
00:24:25,900 --> 00:24:29,740
today if you hadn't gone
through the wartime experience

424
00:24:29,740 --> 00:24:31,792
that you had?

425
00:24:31,792 --> 00:24:33,500
I don't mean living
in the United States.

426
00:24:33,500 --> 00:24:35,720
I just mean the type
of person that you are.

427
00:24:35,720 --> 00:24:40,240
Did that affect the kind
of person you are today?

428
00:24:40,240 --> 00:24:42,260
No, I don't think so.

429
00:24:42,260 --> 00:24:44,210

I don't think so.

430
00:24:44,210 --> 00:24:45,295
I was always an optimist.

431
00:24:45,295 --> 00:24:48,410
And I am an optimist now.

432
00:24:48,410 --> 00:24:51,050

433
00:24:51,050 --> 00:24:51,550
Have you--

434
00:24:51,550 --> 00:24:54,380
Maybe I misunderstood
your question.

435
00:24:54,380 --> 00:24:58,993
So you're the same person
you are, whether or not you

436
00:24:58,993 --> 00:25:00,160
hadn't gone through wartime?

437
00:25:00,160 --> 00:25:00,335
Mm-hmm.

438
00:25:00,335 --> 00:25:01,210
Yes, I would say.

439
00:25:01,210 --> 00:25:03,940
Have you been to Germany?

440
00:25:03,940 --> 00:25:09,400
Passing only, because one
of the flights to Poland

441
00:25:09,400 --> 00:25:11,660
stops in Berlin.

442

00:25:11,660 --> 00:25:14,730

And we were allowed to
go out of the plane.

443

00:25:14,730 --> 00:25:16,820

That was all.

444

00:25:16,820 --> 00:25:18,610

Would you like to visit Germany?

445

00:25:18,610 --> 00:25:19,490

Not particularly.

446

00:25:19,490 --> 00:25:22,160

Bavaria is very
close to my heart.

447

00:25:22,160 --> 00:25:25,910

They are all Catholics.

448

00:25:25,910 --> 00:25:28,160

It's not that I judge
people by religion.

449

00:25:28,160 --> 00:25:29,690

Oh, heavens, no.

450

00:25:29,690 --> 00:25:32,150

I have here many Jewish friends.

451

00:25:32,150 --> 00:25:35,050

I think I mentioned
to you today,

452

00:25:35,050 --> 00:25:39,600

75% of people who
are here are Jewish.

453

00:25:39,600 --> 00:25:43,580

And I have a lovely
friend who stays with me

454

00:25:43,580 --> 00:25:45,290
and eats with me
at the same table.

455
00:25:45,290 --> 00:25:48,480
And I have many friends.

456
00:25:48,480 --> 00:25:51,560
I have a friend who is
called Mrs. Cantor, who

457
00:25:51,560 --> 00:25:54,830
is a very famous people in
the Jewish organizations.

458
00:25:54,830 --> 00:25:56,600
I didn't know that.

459
00:25:56,600 --> 00:25:58,010
And she is very sweet.

460
00:25:58,010 --> 00:26:00,230
I really have lots of friends.

461
00:26:00,230 --> 00:26:06,230
I'm friends, maybe, with Anna
Cantor, maybe with Sylvia.

462
00:26:06,230 --> 00:26:09,560
So far, after five months,
I have acquaintances.

463
00:26:09,560 --> 00:26:13,040
But friends is a big word.

464
00:26:13,040 --> 00:26:15,280
Do you think about
the war a lot?

465
00:26:15,280 --> 00:26:20,110

466

00:26:20,110 --> 00:26:26,410
In a way, I do, because
I am of this generation,

467
00:26:26,410 --> 00:26:31,800
which loses people
who are in the war.

468
00:26:31,800 --> 00:26:35,235
One friend died, who
was at Monte Cassino.

469
00:26:35,235 --> 00:26:37,690
And I didn't know him then.

470
00:26:37,690 --> 00:26:39,550
But I knew him later.

471
00:26:39,550 --> 00:26:43,770
The other friend, who was--

472
00:26:43,770 --> 00:26:47,820
and one who died last
night, yesterday afternoon.

473
00:26:47,820 --> 00:26:52,590
She was in a Polish
home army, very young.

474
00:26:52,590 --> 00:26:54,870
Her husband was the youngest.

475
00:26:54,870 --> 00:26:59,150
And then I think
of so many things

476
00:26:59,150 --> 00:27:03,050
that she went
through, and bombed.

477
00:27:03,050 --> 00:27:05,600
And then this comes back.

478

00:27:05,600 --> 00:27:07,670

So that's how I think
about it-- because

479

00:27:07,670 --> 00:27:11,440

of people who are leaving me.

480

00:27:11,440 --> 00:27:12,447

Why don't I go?

481

00:27:12,447 --> 00:27:16,030

482

00:27:16,030 --> 00:27:17,470

How did Warsaw look to you?

483

00:27:17,470 --> 00:27:20,710

Had it been completely
destroyed during the war?

484

00:27:20,710 --> 00:27:22,330

And now you go back.

485

00:27:22,330 --> 00:27:23,290

You went back.

486

00:27:23,290 --> 00:27:25,390

What did it look like to you?

487

00:27:25,390 --> 00:27:27,190

First of all, I
was the first one

488

00:27:27,190 --> 00:27:30,070

to go, after Warsaw
was destroyed,

489

00:27:30,070 --> 00:27:31,870

with my brother-in-law.

490

00:27:31,870 --> 00:27:35,770

I went through those
horrible, horrible ruins.

491
00:27:35,770 --> 00:27:39,120
And we just wanted
to go and see.

492
00:27:39,120 --> 00:27:41,560
Maybe there is somebody
who is left there.

493
00:27:41,560 --> 00:27:44,240
We couldn't believe
it, but who knows.

494
00:27:44,240 --> 00:27:45,670
And I said, yes,
I'll go with you.

495
00:27:45,670 --> 00:27:47,950
And my sister stayed
with the children.

496
00:27:47,950 --> 00:27:48,860
And we went.

497
00:27:48,860 --> 00:27:50,650
So that was a
terrible experience.

498
00:27:50,650 --> 00:27:52,830
But we didn't find anybody.

499
00:27:52,830 --> 00:27:55,000
We just went and looked around.

500
00:27:55,000 --> 00:27:59,710
But when I saw it redone, or
rebuilt, some of the things

501
00:27:59,710 --> 00:28:01,720
are very well done.

502

00:28:01,720 --> 00:28:05,080

Some of the things are
horribly unattractive.

503

00:28:05,080 --> 00:28:11,020

But I found that I react
to it, OK, well, this

504

00:28:11,020 --> 00:28:14,200

is some architect
whom I don't like.

505

00:28:14,200 --> 00:28:16,990

But it is good that
it was rebuilt.

506

00:28:16,990 --> 00:28:19,240

And things, which were--

507

00:28:19,240 --> 00:28:22,100

like the castle, which
was rebuilt very well.

508

00:28:22,100 --> 00:28:23,790

Then it was great--

509

00:28:23,790 --> 00:28:25,660

and the old town, too.

510

00:28:25,660 --> 00:28:28,240

So some things were
rebuilt very well.

511

00:28:28,240 --> 00:28:33,690

And then I feel very
pleased with it,

512

00:28:33,690 --> 00:28:35,830

because Warsaw is ugly now.

513

00:28:35,830 --> 00:28:38,450

But it's Warsaw.

514
00:28:38,450 --> 00:28:41,060
I like it.

515
00:28:41,060 --> 00:28:44,220
And so, as you said, you still
feel that Poland is your home.

516
00:28:44,220 --> 00:28:44,820
Yes.

517
00:28:44,820 --> 00:28:45,420
Yes, I do.

518
00:28:45,420 --> 00:28:48,390

519
00:28:48,390 --> 00:28:51,340
But I don't want
to go there now.

520
00:28:51,340 --> 00:28:56,150
I don't want this
post-communist government.

521
00:28:56,150 --> 00:28:57,430
I can't stand it.

522
00:28:57,430 --> 00:28:59,790
Everything is wrong.

523
00:28:59,790 --> 00:29:04,920
So until sometime-- probably,
my lifetime will not be enough.

524
00:29:04,920 --> 00:29:07,710

525
00:29:07,710 --> 00:29:08,340
That's the way.

526

00:29:08,340 --> 00:29:14,620

527

00:29:14,620 --> 00:29:16,010

Is there anything
else you wanted

528

00:29:16,010 --> 00:29:20,920

to talk about, any message
to your grandchildren,

529

00:29:20,920 --> 00:29:23,840

anything that you feel
you wanted to say?

530

00:29:23,840 --> 00:29:26,490

Well, my message to
my grandchildren--

531

00:29:26,490 --> 00:29:29,960

one is in [? Langford. ?]
One is in Belgium--

532

00:29:29,960 --> 00:29:31,520

not Holland, but Belgium.

533

00:29:31,520 --> 00:29:35,040

And my daughter is in Tunisia.

534

00:29:35,040 --> 00:29:37,200

So it will be difficult.

535

00:29:37,200 --> 00:29:40,640

But what I would
like to say is that I

536

00:29:40,640 --> 00:29:46,211

rejoice in having
my friend back,

537

00:29:46,211 --> 00:29:49,040

whose brother was
Jewish, I mentioned,

538
00:29:49,040 --> 00:29:50,690
and who is now in Warsaw.

539
00:29:50,690 --> 00:29:53,430
And when she comes here,
she stays with me-- well,

540
00:29:53,430 --> 00:29:57,110
not in this situation, but
in other apartment house.

541
00:29:57,110 --> 00:30:03,960
And she thinks that, when we
see each other, it's just like--

542
00:30:03,960 --> 00:30:06,525
what, '78-- 60 years ago.

543
00:30:06,525 --> 00:30:11,900

544
00:30:11,900 --> 00:30:14,660
She knows Russian
very well, because it

545
00:30:14,660 --> 00:30:16,690
was her extra language.

546
00:30:16,690 --> 00:30:23,620
And she could recite
Pushkin and other poets.

547
00:30:23,620 --> 00:30:25,090
So I like that.

548
00:30:25,090 --> 00:30:27,820
But she also thinks
that we will never

549
00:30:27,820 --> 00:30:29,290
grow old if we see each other.

550
00:30:29,290 --> 00:30:33,160
So I have to write
to her to hurry up.

551
00:30:33,160 --> 00:30:38,930
So that's what I wanted to
add-- that even after 60 years,

552
00:30:38,930 --> 00:30:41,410
the friendship didn't die.

553
00:30:41,410 --> 00:30:45,060
And she is so wonderful.

554
00:30:45,060 --> 00:30:52,600
And that's something that came
from her family, definitely so.

555
00:30:52,600 --> 00:30:56,050
How do you explain the warm
feelings that you have?

556
00:30:56,050 --> 00:31:00,070
And yet how would you
explain the German mentality

557
00:31:00,070 --> 00:31:00,800
during the war?

558
00:31:00,800 --> 00:31:04,720

559
00:31:04,720 --> 00:31:06,600
About warm feelings?

560
00:31:06,600 --> 00:31:08,200
Oh, warm feelings.

561
00:31:08,200 --> 00:31:11,980
The warm feelings that
you have to Jewish people.

562
00:31:11,980 --> 00:31:13,900
How would you explain
the German mentality

563
00:31:13,900 --> 00:31:18,550
during the war and
their feelings?

564
00:31:18,550 --> 00:31:24,730
The German mentality is very
foreign to me, as I say,

565
00:31:24,730 --> 00:31:29,140
because I feel so very
deeply about Jewish people.

566
00:31:29,140 --> 00:31:31,820
And Jewish mentality
is very close to me.

567
00:31:31,820 --> 00:31:33,820
Then, I am not trying.

568
00:31:33,820 --> 00:31:36,580

569
00:31:36,580 --> 00:31:39,430
When I meet German people,
I am not jumping up

570
00:31:39,430 --> 00:31:42,550
and trying to injure them.

571
00:31:42,550 --> 00:31:47,060
But I don't make any
effort to know them.

572
00:31:47,060 --> 00:31:51,730
So this has left a
mark, which I don't

573

00:31:51,730 --> 00:31:55,970
know where and when it
will go away, because they

574
00:31:55,970 --> 00:31:56,920
are the same people.

575
00:31:56,920 --> 00:32:02,720
But still, their German
mentality is very--

576
00:32:02,720 --> 00:32:05,840
well, there was
somebody, I don't

577
00:32:05,840 --> 00:32:08,900
know if he was right
or not, who said

578
00:32:08,900 --> 00:32:14,300
that no other nation
would let any devil

579
00:32:14,300 --> 00:32:18,140
as Hitler to do what he did.

580
00:32:18,140 --> 00:32:23,660
They would-- there
will be a revolution.

581
00:32:23,660 --> 00:32:28,100
But they just did
what they were told.

582
00:32:28,100 --> 00:32:31,535
This is their mentality.

583
00:32:31,535 --> 00:32:33,070
And they thought it was good.

584
00:32:33,070 --> 00:32:38,390

585

00:32:38,390 --> 00:32:39,650

You've been to Israel.

586

00:32:39,650 --> 00:32:40,490

Yes, twice.

587

00:32:40,490 --> 00:32:41,000

Twice.

588

00:32:41,000 --> 00:32:42,920

What prompted you to go?

589

00:32:42,920 --> 00:32:46,190

Because my son-in-law's
position was there.

590

00:32:46,190 --> 00:32:50,960

And Christine was with
him, and the children.

591

00:32:50,960 --> 00:32:53,840

And then, since they
had it prolonged--

592

00:32:53,840 --> 00:32:55,010

they stayed four years.

593

00:32:55,010 --> 00:32:59,075

And they was asked, would they
like to stay four more years?

594

00:32:59,075 --> 00:33:00,620

And they said, yes.

595

00:33:00,620 --> 00:33:03,005

So we visited them another time.

596

00:33:03,005 --> 00:33:05,540

And your son-in-law's
work is what?

597

00:33:05,540 --> 00:33:07,370
He's in Belgian diplomacy.

598
00:33:07,370 --> 00:33:10,220
He's a Belgian ambassador now.

599
00:33:10,220 --> 00:33:13,280
So they liked the
Israeli people.

600
00:33:13,280 --> 00:33:16,790
They had very nice neighbors,
a couple of architects

601
00:33:16,790 --> 00:33:18,800
we made friends with.

602
00:33:18,800 --> 00:33:26,910
And then we liked the American
Ambassador Lewis, who was--

603
00:33:26,910 --> 00:33:27,942
do you know him?

604
00:33:27,942 --> 00:33:29,270
I only know who he is.

605
00:33:29,270 --> 00:33:29,930
Yes.

606
00:33:29,930 --> 00:33:30,590
He was nice.

607
00:33:30,590 --> 00:33:32,662
And his wife was nice.

608
00:33:32,662 --> 00:33:35,620
And then we met other
people whom we liked.

609
00:33:35,620 --> 00:33:37,730
And of course, the

family was great.

610
00:33:37,730 --> 00:33:39,750
To me, it was.

611
00:33:39,750 --> 00:33:41,240
And the housing was nice.

612
00:33:41,240 --> 00:33:48,070
So we really enjoyed
it very much.

613
00:33:48,070 --> 00:33:51,970
And it's a beautiful
country, so beautiful.

614
00:33:51,970 --> 00:33:55,700
And they were-- I don't know
if it could be called courage.

615
00:33:55,700 --> 00:34:02,710
But when there was this
attack of Palestinian army,

616
00:34:02,710 --> 00:34:08,170
they stopped exactly at
[PLACE NAME],, where they were.

617
00:34:08,170 --> 00:34:11,230
Our family saw.

618
00:34:11,230 --> 00:34:16,584
My husband and I
called them and said--

619
00:34:16,584 --> 00:34:20,690
and they already
retraced their steps.

620
00:34:20,690 --> 00:34:22,900
They didn't stay long.

621

00:34:22,900 --> 00:34:25,110
I mean the Palestinians.

622
00:34:25,110 --> 00:34:28,319
So we asked, were you afraid?

623
00:34:28,319 --> 00:34:28,819
Why?

624
00:34:28,819 --> 00:34:30,030
We were not afraid.

625
00:34:30,030 --> 00:34:30,775
I said, goodness.

626
00:34:30,775 --> 00:34:33,840

627
00:34:33,840 --> 00:34:37,320
Is it silliness or courage?

628
00:34:37,320 --> 00:34:40,440
Were you ever afraid
during the war in Poland?

629
00:34:40,440 --> 00:34:40,940
No.

630
00:34:40,940 --> 00:34:43,540

631
00:34:43,540 --> 00:34:48,010
I have the atrophy
of feeling of fear.

632
00:34:48,010 --> 00:34:49,929
Now I fear something.

633
00:34:49,929 --> 00:34:54,467
Sometimes I fear people.

634

00:34:54,467 --> 00:34:56,050
It sounds like your
daughter inherited

635
00:34:56,050 --> 00:34:57,921
your optimistic temperament.

636
00:34:57,921 --> 00:35:00,380
I don't know.

637
00:35:00,380 --> 00:35:02,800
I don't know.

638
00:35:02,800 --> 00:35:06,295
Anything else that you wanted
to say before we close?

639
00:35:06,295 --> 00:35:13,170

640
00:35:13,170 --> 00:35:22,630
Actually, what I would like
to add will be about the place

641
00:35:22,630 --> 00:35:32,230
I am staying, because I am
very open about my sympathy

642
00:35:32,230 --> 00:35:33,670
with the Jewish people.

643
00:35:33,670 --> 00:35:36,110
And the girl who
sits next to me,

644
00:35:36,110 --> 00:35:39,820
I talk to her more than with
the other two, and so forth.

645
00:35:39,820 --> 00:35:42,940
And the only thing
that I can say

646

00:35:42,940 --> 00:35:46,820

is that nobody made
them come to this place,

647

00:35:46,820 --> 00:35:48,760

the other non-Jewish.

648

00:35:48,760 --> 00:35:54,790

So I don't believe that many
people are anti-Semitic here.

649

00:35:54,790 --> 00:35:58,180

But they could be different.

650

00:35:58,180 --> 00:36:00,590

And they're just
exactly the same.

651

00:36:00,590 --> 00:36:04,750

And I think that this is the
greatness of this country.

652

00:36:04,750 --> 00:36:07,740

That's all I want to say.

653

00:36:07,740 --> 00:36:09,690

When you were
growing up in Poland,

654

00:36:09,690 --> 00:36:14,070

did you sense anti-Semitism?

655

00:36:14,070 --> 00:36:18,210

Only with one stupid man,
who is no longer alive,

656

00:36:18,210 --> 00:36:30,280

who was some kind of a leader
of a group, very much--

657

00:36:30,280 --> 00:36:32,820

this was called

Nationalistic Group.

658
00:36:32,820 --> 00:36:36,880
And they were anti-Semitic.

659
00:36:36,880 --> 00:36:39,420
But that was the only time.

660
00:36:39,420 --> 00:36:43,650
That was at school in
the school of journalism.

661
00:36:43,650 --> 00:36:49,100
And they started some kind
of action towards my friends,

662
00:36:49,100 --> 00:36:51,390
I mean other colleagues
who were Jewish.

663
00:36:51,390 --> 00:36:55,920
And they were immediately
dispersed and reprimanded.

664
00:36:55,920 --> 00:36:57,550
That was the only time.

665
00:36:57,550 --> 00:37:00,960
Other than that, I don't
have any experience.

666
00:37:00,960 --> 00:37:02,950
My people-- and I
knew many people,

667
00:37:02,950 --> 00:37:04,810
especially when
I met my husband.

668
00:37:04,810 --> 00:37:06,570
He knew everybody.

669

00:37:06,570 --> 00:37:13,560
And I don't have any experiences
of people being anti-Semitic.

670
00:37:13,560 --> 00:37:16,500
Speaking of your
husband, is there

671
00:37:16,500 --> 00:37:18,160
any other information
about his work

672
00:37:18,160 --> 00:37:20,070
in the resistance that
you didn't talk about

673
00:37:20,070 --> 00:37:21,540
that you could now?

674
00:37:21,540 --> 00:37:26,500

675
00:37:26,500 --> 00:37:29,700
No, because he was fighting
when the fight was necessary.

676
00:37:29,700 --> 00:37:33,900
But actually, he was
teaching and writing.

677
00:37:33,900 --> 00:37:34,570
So that's all.

678
00:37:34,570 --> 00:37:37,530

679
00:37:37,530 --> 00:37:40,460
Well, we appreciate you taking
the time to do this interview.

680
00:37:40,460 --> 00:37:43,400
Thank you so very much.

681

00:37:43,400 --> 00:37:46,760

I thank you very much.

682

00:37:46,760 --> 00:37:51,810

This concludes the interview
of Jadwiga Dziekonski.

683

00:37:51,810 --> 00:37:55,209