

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,660

2  
00:00:01,660 --> 00:00:04,180  
This is a continuation of  
the United States Holocaust

3  
00:00:04,180 --> 00:00:06,610  
Memorial Museum interview  
with Wolfgang Mueller.

4  
00:00:06,610 --> 00:00:10,570  
This is tape number  
2, side A, and you've

5  
00:00:10,570 --> 00:00:13,760  
arrived in Albuquerque.

6  
00:00:13,760 --> 00:00:18,500  
OK, of course, the family  
was kind of in disarray

7  
00:00:18,500 --> 00:00:22,360  
because the head of the family  
had suddenly passed away.

8  
00:00:22,360 --> 00:00:26,360  
He had suffered a heart attack  
at his desk in his office.

9  
00:00:26,360 --> 00:00:28,980  
This is July 1936.

10  
00:00:28,980 --> 00:00:32,900  
It was around July 26  
when I arrived there.

11  
00:00:32,900 --> 00:00:34,790  
Just I was getting closer.

12  
00:00:34,790 --> 00:00:41,560

So they didn't know  
exactly how to handle

13  
00:00:41,560 --> 00:00:43,640  
it, what to do with me.

14  
00:00:43,640 --> 00:00:48,250  
So I was very fortunate again.

15  
00:00:48,250 --> 00:00:51,190  
I was there like one day  
or so, one or two days.

16  
00:00:51,190 --> 00:00:52,900  
And they put me  
up in their home.

17  
00:00:52,900 --> 00:00:57,880  
It was a magnificent home,  
extremely wealthy people.

18  
00:00:57,880 --> 00:01:01,870  
This was his home basically.

19  
00:01:01,870 --> 00:01:13,530  
And they had a place  
in the mountains

20  
00:01:13,530 --> 00:01:18,510  
above Las Vegas, New Mexico,  
called Trout Springs.

21  
00:01:18,510 --> 00:01:21,330  
And they said that the  
mourning period was about over,

22  
00:01:21,330 --> 00:01:25,023  
and they planned to spent a  
few weeks there in that place.

23  
00:01:25,023 --> 00:01:26,940  
And they asked me if I'd  
like to go with them.

24  
00:01:26,940 --> 00:01:28,350  
And I said, yeah.

25  
00:01:28,350 --> 00:01:31,200

26  
00:01:31,200 --> 00:01:33,480  
And also they found  
out, of course,

27  
00:01:33,480 --> 00:01:35,730  
right away, and talking  
to me, of course--

28  
00:01:35,730 --> 00:01:38,760  
I was easy to talk to  
because I knew English.

29  
00:01:38,760 --> 00:01:42,810  
And they knew that  
I played tennis

30  
00:01:42,810 --> 00:01:46,080  
and that I was also an  
avid skier and all that,

31  
00:01:46,080 --> 00:01:47,760  
and they liked all that.

32  
00:01:47,760 --> 00:01:51,260  
As a matter of fact, I  
think the first morning,

33  
00:01:51,260 --> 00:01:54,150  
I had to go play  
tennis with them.

34  
00:01:54,150 --> 00:01:57,950  
And, of course, I was very good,  
very, very good, much better

35

00:01:57,950 --> 00:01:58,900  
than them.

36  
00:01:58,900 --> 00:02:01,830  
So that, they really liked me.

37  
00:02:01,830 --> 00:02:05,670  
And one of the girls  
was kind of cute.

38  
00:02:05,670 --> 00:02:12,160  
And then so I got to drive  
with her up to the mountains.

39  
00:02:12,160 --> 00:02:17,420  
And then I spend like  
a whole month of August

40  
00:02:17,420 --> 00:02:21,850  
and I think half of September  
in the mountains there.

41  
00:02:21,850 --> 00:02:28,410  
And there was a Jewish boy from  
Cincinnati, Bobby Weinshanker.

42  
00:02:28,410 --> 00:02:29,770  
That was a cousin of theirs.

43  
00:02:29,770 --> 00:02:31,090  
It was there too.

44  
00:02:31,090 --> 00:02:33,910  
And so I had a pal.

45  
00:02:33,910 --> 00:02:38,830  
And we took horses and we  
packed into the mountains.

46  
00:02:38,830 --> 00:02:41,350  
And there was a Mexican  
boy that was our age.

47

00:02:41,350 --> 00:02:43,390

It was a son of  
the caretaker that

48

00:02:43,390 --> 00:02:46,420

lived on the other  
hill opposite to where

49

00:02:46,420 --> 00:02:48,430

they had their cottages.

50

00:02:48,430 --> 00:02:51,550

And, of course,  
he was our guide.

51

00:02:51,550 --> 00:02:54,040

And it was the most  
incredible summer I ever

52

00:02:54,040 --> 00:02:56,290

had altogether, fabulous.

53

00:02:56,290 --> 00:02:57,970

And they had a  
tennis court there.

54

00:02:57,970 --> 00:03:00,970

They had a tennis court  
on their estate there.

55

00:03:00,970 --> 00:03:03,700

And they had these cabins like--

56

00:03:03,700 --> 00:03:05,870

Camp David I guess  
is like that--

57

00:03:05,870 --> 00:03:09,730

and with people sleep in there,  
the central place where you ate

58

00:03:09,730 --> 00:03:12,940

and everything and had company  
from New York and from all

59  
00:03:12,940 --> 00:03:13,440  
over.

60  
00:03:13,440 --> 00:03:18,190  
And these were young couples,  
a little bit older than me.

61  
00:03:18,190 --> 00:03:21,010  
But they were girls  
there that were my age.

62  
00:03:21,010 --> 00:03:24,640  
And then I played  
tennis with everybody.

63  
00:03:24,640 --> 00:03:25,780  
And I rode horses.

64  
00:03:25,780 --> 00:03:27,250  
And I had a ball.

65  
00:03:27,250 --> 00:03:30,850  
I thought America really was the  
best place in the whole world.

66  
00:03:30,850 --> 00:03:32,510  
Were you thinking  
about Germany at all?

67  
00:03:32,510 --> 00:03:33,520  
No.

68  
00:03:33,520 --> 00:03:34,510  
I forgot Germany.

69  
00:03:34,510 --> 00:03:38,410  
I didn't even remember  
where Germany was.

70

00:03:38,410 --> 00:03:43,240  
I didn't even-- it was  
too incredibly wonderful.

71  
00:03:43,240 --> 00:03:47,460  
Did you have contact with  
your parents that summer?

72  
00:03:47,460 --> 00:03:48,450  
Maybe letters.

73  
00:03:48,450 --> 00:03:50,550  
Maybe occasional correspondence.

74  
00:03:50,550 --> 00:03:54,300  
I got a letter  
occasionally, maybe.

75  
00:03:54,300 --> 00:03:58,350  
I remember I have a letter  
from my Uncle Heinrich, who

76  
00:03:58,350 --> 00:04:00,900  
was really one of my  
favorite uncles, that

77  
00:04:00,900 --> 00:04:04,160  
died in a concentration camp.

78  
00:04:04,160 --> 00:04:05,583  
And he wrote to me.

79  
00:04:05,583 --> 00:04:06,750  
And I still have the letter.

80  
00:04:06,750 --> 00:04:08,250  
I have it in my archives.

81  
00:04:08,250 --> 00:04:11,820  
And he said I ought to  
marry that little Maxine.

82

00:04:11,820 --> 00:04:13,740  
He knew about her.

83  
00:04:13,740 --> 00:04:15,720  
Not his daughter.

84  
00:04:15,720 --> 00:04:17,450  
I was thinking about marriage--

85  
00:04:17,450 --> 00:04:22,480  
like that was the last thing  
I was interested in, marriage,

86  
00:04:22,480 --> 00:04:23,700  
you know.

87  
00:04:23,700 --> 00:04:28,860  
So anyway, Rudolf  
Dryer came in September

88  
00:04:28,860 --> 00:04:31,480  
after about a  
month or six weeks.

89  
00:04:31,480 --> 00:04:33,690  
And he said they decided  
to put me in the hardware

90  
00:04:33,690 --> 00:04:36,840  
department in their business.

91  
00:04:36,840 --> 00:04:40,850  
He was going to take me  
back and put me to work.

92  
00:04:40,850 --> 00:04:44,260  
And I left there, and  
then I went to work.

93  
00:04:44,260 --> 00:04:46,750  
And then pretty soon I  
moved out of their house.



94

00:04:46,750 --> 00:04:50,440

And I started to  
make some money.

95

00:04:50,440 --> 00:04:52,420

I also met some American boys.

96

00:04:52,420 --> 00:04:55,780

One boy was working on a  
newspaper and everything.

97

00:04:55,780 --> 00:04:58,870

And I found out, you know,  
he was very impressed

98

00:04:58,870 --> 00:05:02,330

with-- he took me to  
wrestling matches and bought

99

00:05:02,330 --> 00:05:06,460

American teletype machines  
and cars and girls

100

00:05:06,460 --> 00:05:11,780

and drinking whiskey.

101

00:05:11,780 --> 00:05:17,940

And then I became  
very Americanized,

102

00:05:17,940 --> 00:05:23,380

and I started working,  
started working.

103

00:05:23,380 --> 00:05:25,010

That's what I was  
doing, working.

104

00:05:25,010 --> 00:05:26,810

And then pretty soon--  
first, I was just

105

00:05:26,810 --> 00:05:29,480  
like clerking there  
on the office.

106  
00:05:29,480 --> 00:05:33,080  
And then very, very  
quickly I moved up,

107  
00:05:33,080 --> 00:05:39,800  
because I guess I dedicated  
myself to the job pretty well.

108  
00:05:39,800 --> 00:05:43,460  
Like, for example,  
they had a catalog.

109  
00:05:43,460 --> 00:05:46,760  
I remember, a hardware business,  
they have a big catalog

110  
00:05:46,760 --> 00:05:47,480  
with all of that.

111  
00:05:47,480 --> 00:05:50,060  
Every week they had  
to change prices.

112  
00:05:50,060 --> 00:05:52,180  
And they had a ditto machine.

113  
00:05:52,180 --> 00:05:54,260  
And I would stay till  
late on Saturday,

114  
00:05:54,260 --> 00:05:55,850  
and I would make all the prices.

115  
00:05:55,850 --> 00:05:58,190  
And I would make the  
addition for the catalog.

116  
00:05:58,190 --> 00:06:01,790  
And they had 17 branches all

over the state of New Mexico.

117

00:06:01,790 --> 00:06:04,790

And I would send them  
out to all the branches.

118

00:06:04,790 --> 00:06:07,950

And pretty soon they gave  
me more responsible work.

119

00:06:07,950 --> 00:06:09,920

Within a short time,  
I had a secretary.

120

00:06:09,920 --> 00:06:12,410

And I was bidding on  
government contracts.

121

00:06:12,410 --> 00:06:14,900

And I was moving  
up in the company.

122

00:06:14,900 --> 00:06:21,920

And by the time that it  
was time the war started,

123

00:06:21,920 --> 00:06:23,180

I was already selling.

124

00:06:23,180 --> 00:06:25,160

I had my car.

125

00:06:25,160 --> 00:06:26,880

And I had a room and everything.

126

00:06:26,880 --> 00:06:28,310

I had a nice place to live.

127

00:06:28,310 --> 00:06:32,480

And I was selling hardware.

128

00:06:32,480 --> 00:06:34,130

I was traveling.

129  
00:06:34,130 --> 00:06:36,040  
Had you heard about  
Kristallnacht?

130  
00:06:36,040 --> 00:06:37,100  
Do what?

131  
00:06:37,100 --> 00:06:38,690  
Had you heard about  
Kristallnacht?

132  
00:06:38,690 --> 00:06:39,590  
Yes.

133  
00:06:39,590 --> 00:06:41,180  
What were your thoughts?

134  
00:06:41,180 --> 00:06:45,680  
In the meantime, first, my  
sister came a year later.

135  
00:06:45,680 --> 00:06:48,620  
And she was supposed to  
join me in Albuquerque.

136  
00:06:48,620 --> 00:06:52,180  
But she didn't make it, because  
they gave her a package.

137  
00:06:52,180 --> 00:06:54,940  
What Jewish people  
did in Germany

138  
00:06:54,940 --> 00:06:56,920  
when the children  
went to America,

139  
00:06:56,920 --> 00:07:00,230  
in our class of  
people, first of all

140

00:07:00,230 --> 00:07:03,740

they try to train  
them in some skills

141

00:07:03,740 --> 00:07:05,990

that they could make  
a living over here.

142

00:07:05,990 --> 00:07:09,560

And my sister, like I told you,  
was four years older than me.

143

00:07:09,560 --> 00:07:13,670

So she had learned how to  
do calisthenics and massage

144

00:07:13,670 --> 00:07:18,680

and stuff like that,  
physical therapy.

145

00:07:18,680 --> 00:07:24,270

And also, these  
people from Hanover

146

00:07:24,270 --> 00:07:27,090

had a daughter in  
Washington that

147

00:07:27,090 --> 00:07:29,880

was also a physical therapist.

148

00:07:29,880 --> 00:07:32,400

She was about a year or  
two older than my sister.

149

00:07:32,400 --> 00:07:34,210

And-- I'm sorry--

150

00:07:34,210 --> 00:07:40,530

151

00:07:40,530 --> 00:07:46,160

the daughter met her at  
the boat in New York.

152  
00:07:46,160 --> 00:07:48,680  
And because my sister  
had a package for her,

153  
00:07:48,680 --> 00:07:50,590  
my sister didn't  
know what it was.

154  
00:07:50,590 --> 00:07:53,200  
Usually gave her Leica,  
or something like that,

155  
00:07:53,200 --> 00:07:57,130  
something that they could  
send along, money, you know.

156  
00:07:57,130 --> 00:07:58,600  
So money was too dangerous.

157  
00:07:58,600 --> 00:08:01,460  
I don't think they gave  
money, but probably a Leica

158  
00:08:01,460 --> 00:08:03,880  
or something like that  
she had in her bag.

159  
00:08:03,880 --> 00:08:05,950  
And she gave her the package.

160  
00:08:05,950 --> 00:08:07,510  
Her name was Margaret.

161  
00:08:07,510 --> 00:08:10,725  
Goldman was her maiden name.

162  
00:08:10,725 --> 00:08:12,100  
I don't know if  
she married then.

163

00:08:12,100 --> 00:08:13,630

Later it was Green.

164

00:08:13,630 --> 00:08:18,720

And she said to my  
sister, you know,

165

00:08:18,720 --> 00:08:22,720

Trudy, I think there's a  
job for you in Washington.

166

00:08:22,720 --> 00:08:24,690

She knew that she was  
a therapist, you know.

167

00:08:24,690 --> 00:08:25,800

There is a job.

168

00:08:25,800 --> 00:08:27,360

They need somebody.

169

00:08:27,360 --> 00:08:31,930

They need a girl at this  
place on Connecticut Avenue.

170

00:08:31,930 --> 00:08:35,940

And my sister had  
the guts to get--

171

00:08:35,940 --> 00:08:38,100

she was supposed to  
come to Albuquerque--

172

00:08:38,100 --> 00:08:41,370

to get on the train to  
Washington and to apply

173

00:08:41,370 --> 00:08:47,090

for this job at 1747  
Connecticut Avenue at Emile's.

174

00:08:47,090 --> 00:08:49,620

It was something  
like Elizabeth Arden.

175  
00:08:49,620 --> 00:08:51,930  
And she got the job.

176  
00:08:51,930 --> 00:08:56,160  
So she started to  
live in Washington.

177  
00:08:56,160 --> 00:09:02,100  
And down the street from where  
she worked on Connecticut

178  
00:09:02,100 --> 00:09:06,960  
Avenue, up the street towards  
DuPont Circle, in the basement,

179  
00:09:06,960 --> 00:09:11,330  
there was this German couple.

180  
00:09:11,330 --> 00:09:15,210  
She was from a family  
in south Germany.

181  
00:09:15,210 --> 00:09:18,020  
And he had been a  
waiter, a Jewish man

182  
00:09:18,020 --> 00:09:20,510  
on the Hamburg America Line.

183  
00:09:20,510 --> 00:09:22,760  
And then he-- a steward--

184  
00:09:22,760 --> 00:09:26,210  
and then he'd worked  
in the Mayflower Hotel.

185  
00:09:26,210 --> 00:09:28,520  
But he had gone back  
to Germany and gotten



186

00:09:28,520 --> 00:09:31,277

her a few years earlier.

187

00:09:31,277 --> 00:09:33,110

And they had opened up  
his little restaurant

188

00:09:33,110 --> 00:09:35,652

in the basement, a coffee shop  
in the basement of Connecticut

189

00:09:35,652 --> 00:09:36,440

Avenue.

190

00:09:36,440 --> 00:09:41,450

What happened that she had  
11 brothers and sisters.

191

00:09:41,450 --> 00:09:44,320

And two of her brothers had  
been in a concentration camp.

192

00:09:44,320 --> 00:09:48,270

Their name was Kilzeimer,  
her maiden name.

193

00:09:48,270 --> 00:09:49,890

And his name was Brandler.

194

00:09:49,890 --> 00:09:52,730

195

00:09:52,730 --> 00:09:59,595

And one of these brothers,  
they had got them out.

196

00:09:59,595 --> 00:10:01,970

They sent them money to get  
them out of the concentration

197

00:10:01,970 --> 00:10:03,800

and bring them over here.

198  
00:10:03,800 --> 00:10:06,290  
And they'd been in  
there for Rassenschande.

199  
00:10:06,290 --> 00:10:08,280  
You know what that is?

200  
00:10:08,280 --> 00:10:12,690  
So because they had German  
girlfriends, you know.

201  
00:10:12,690 --> 00:10:17,370  
And in Germany, they  
had been cattle dealers,

202  
00:10:17,370 --> 00:10:19,340  
had been in the cattle business.

203  
00:10:19,340 --> 00:10:25,170  
And also really, what they  
had in that little town

204  
00:10:25,170 --> 00:10:27,700  
in Konigsbach.

205  
00:10:27,700 --> 00:10:31,260  
It's near Pforzheim in Badens--

206  
00:10:31,260 --> 00:10:33,150  
that's Baden in Germany--

207  
00:10:33,150 --> 00:10:38,400  
they had had a butcher  
shop, kosher butcher shop.

208  
00:10:38,400 --> 00:10:40,470  
And you know, in  
Germany in the country,

209  
00:10:40,470 --> 00:10:42,570  
if you have a butcher

shop, you actually

210  
00:10:42,570 --> 00:10:44,410  
have a slaughtering place too.

211  
00:10:44,410 --> 00:10:45,840  
They slaughtered animals.

212  
00:10:45,840 --> 00:10:46,920  
And they sold the meat.

213  
00:10:46,920 --> 00:10:52,980  
And the kids went out and  
started buying cattle for home,

214  
00:10:52,980 --> 00:10:55,020  
and later they traded in cattle.

215  
00:10:55,020 --> 00:10:57,735  
So they had become  
big cattle dealers.

216  
00:10:57,735 --> 00:11:01,370

217  
00:11:01,370 --> 00:11:03,580  
And they came over here.

218  
00:11:03,580 --> 00:11:09,090  
And one of them, this particular  
one, his name was Bernie.

219  
00:11:09,090 --> 00:11:12,180  
And he got a job at  
Briggs and Company

220  
00:11:12,180 --> 00:11:14,490  
making hot dogs when  
he got over here.

221  
00:11:14,490 --> 00:11:17,430  
He would go to work at

2:00 in the morning.

222

00:11:17,430 --> 00:11:21,770

He got off early,  
around 10, 11 o'clock,

223

00:11:21,770 --> 00:11:24,360

and he went to his  
sister's restaurant.

224

00:11:24,360 --> 00:11:27,420

And she had the lunch orders  
then from those office

225

00:11:27,420 --> 00:11:28,630

buildings.

226

00:11:28,630 --> 00:11:33,210

So he went around and delivered  
the orders for the tips.

227

00:11:33,210 --> 00:11:36,090

And that way, he got a  
little bit extra money.

228

00:11:36,090 --> 00:11:40,200

And they told him,  
there's this good

229

00:11:40,200 --> 00:11:43,610

looking Jewish  
girl, German girl--

230

00:11:43,610 --> 00:11:46,530

Jewish wasn't important--  
German girl had started

231

00:11:46,530 --> 00:11:48,420

to work doing the cleaning.

232

00:11:48,420 --> 00:11:51,570

She comes up here and gets a  
cup of coffee almost every day.

233  
00:11:51,570 --> 00:11:53,880  
So he waited for her.

234  
00:11:53,880 --> 00:11:59,390  
So she met him, and he  
became her future husband.

235  
00:11:59,390 --> 00:12:01,700  
I had asked what your  
thoughts were when

236  
00:12:01,700 --> 00:12:03,980  
you heard about Kristallnacht.

237  
00:12:03,980 --> 00:12:05,930  
Oh, I'm sorry.

238  
00:12:05,930 --> 00:12:09,020  
Well, what happened  
my mother was here.

239  
00:12:09,020 --> 00:12:12,530  
And my mother had come  
to visit my sister.

240  
00:12:12,530 --> 00:12:14,090  
It ties into this.

241  
00:12:14,090 --> 00:12:16,650  
She'd come here to  
visit my sister.

242  
00:12:16,650 --> 00:12:17,910  
And she was in Washington.

243  
00:12:17,910 --> 00:12:20,210  
She came out to Albuquerque.

244  
00:12:20,210 --> 00:12:23,360  
And she stayed with  
me for a while.

245  
00:12:23,360 --> 00:12:25,250  
I was in Albuquerque.

246  
00:12:25,250 --> 00:12:28,880  
And then the  
Kristallnacht occurred.

247  
00:12:28,880 --> 00:12:31,790  
Of course, it was in all  
the papers and everything.

248  
00:12:31,790 --> 00:12:34,610  
And then my father  
sent her a telegram.

249  
00:12:34,610 --> 00:12:37,100  
And things had gotten  
rough in Germany then.

250  
00:12:37,100 --> 00:12:41,570  
And he told her to  
delay her return.

251  
00:12:41,570 --> 00:12:45,100  
But she was on a visitor's visa.

252  
00:12:45,100 --> 00:12:47,420  
Was this synagogue  
in Hanover destroyed?

253  
00:12:47,420 --> 00:12:48,840  
Oh, yeah.

254  
00:12:48,840 --> 00:12:50,180  
Hanover was destroyed.

255  
00:12:50,180 --> 00:12:53,060  
And Paderborn, it  
was burned down.

256  
00:12:53,060 --> 00:12:54,780

And, you know,  
people were arrested.

257  
00:12:54,780 --> 00:12:57,980  
And my brother told me  
all about what happened.

258  
00:12:57,980 --> 00:12:58,910  
He was a little boy.

259  
00:12:58,910 --> 00:13:00,000  
He was 10 years old.

260  
00:13:00,000 --> 00:13:03,680  
But he told me so  
people getting--

261  
00:13:03,680 --> 00:13:07,010  
at night, my father was  
away a lot traveling.

262  
00:13:07,010 --> 00:13:15,770  
And he was standing in the front  
of the window at our house,

263  
00:13:15,770 --> 00:13:19,850  
and he saw this van pull  
up across the street there.

264  
00:13:19,850 --> 00:13:22,310  
And there was the  
Cohens living there.

265  
00:13:22,310 --> 00:13:25,530  
And these guys were coming out.

266  
00:13:25,530 --> 00:13:28,400  
And then he heard the screaming.

267  
00:13:28,400 --> 00:13:31,730  
And they dragged this man out  
and beating him with a stick.

268

00:13:31,730 --> 00:13:35,870  
And the woman was running  
behind him and her hair flowing.

269

00:13:35,870 --> 00:13:39,720  
And they beat him  
like he was dead.

270

00:13:39,720 --> 00:13:41,840  
And then they threw  
him in that van.

271

00:13:41,840 --> 00:13:44,090  
And when he saw that,  
little as he was,

272

00:13:44,090 --> 00:13:46,490  
he told my father when  
he came, we got to leave.

273

00:13:46,490 --> 00:13:49,560  
We got to get out of here.

274

00:13:49,560 --> 00:13:53,070  
The children were  
smarter than parents.

275

00:13:53,070 --> 00:13:56,100  
My brother told him,  
said that to my father.

276

00:13:56,100 --> 00:13:57,480  
My brother tells the story.

277

00:13:57,480 --> 00:13:58,980  
You should interview him.

278

00:13:58,980 --> 00:14:00,510  
He was there.

279

00:14:00,510 --> 00:14:01,140  
He saw that.



280  
00:14:01,140 --> 00:14:03,990  
He will never  
forget that trauma.

281  
00:14:03,990 --> 00:14:06,030  
And he had many  
other things happen.

282  
00:14:06,030 --> 00:14:10,740  
I was with my brother in  
Germany two years ago,

283  
00:14:10,740 --> 00:14:14,600  
and we went to all these  
places and the cemeteries.

284  
00:14:14,600 --> 00:14:17,035  
And he saw the grave  
of one of the women

285  
00:14:17,035 --> 00:14:19,660  
that had taken care of him for  
a short time during those years.

286  
00:14:19,660 --> 00:14:21,480  
But Just before they left--

287  
00:14:21,480 --> 00:14:25,338  
she was a cousin of my father's.

288  
00:14:25,338 --> 00:14:26,880  
And she died in a  
concentration camp.

289  
00:14:26,880 --> 00:14:31,110  
And my brother  
cried at her grave.

290  
00:14:31,110 --> 00:14:35,370  
And he didn't know it that  
she could have gotten out,

291

00:14:35,370 --> 00:14:40,780  
but she stayed with her mother,  
lots of stories like that.

292

00:14:40,780 --> 00:14:46,680  
And I'm short circuiting  
the story now.

293

00:14:46,680 --> 00:14:48,160  
But, you know, the  
following year,

294

00:14:48,160 --> 00:14:50,250  
they called me from Germany.

295

00:14:50,250 --> 00:14:53,550  
And they opened a street.

296

00:14:53,550 --> 00:14:55,710  
They named a street  
after my grandmother.

297

00:14:55,710 --> 00:14:56,520  
Did you know that?

298

00:14:56,520 --> 00:14:57,730  
Did I tell you that?

299

00:14:57,730 --> 00:15:00,420  
Yeah, in Neuhaus.

300

00:15:00,420 --> 00:15:04,020  
And I told them that  
if they do that, I

301

00:15:04,020 --> 00:15:07,180  
would come with my family  
and attend the dedication,

302

00:15:07,180 --> 00:15:07,880  
and we did.

303

00:15:07,880 --> 00:15:10,039

And that was last year.

304

00:15:10,039 --> 00:15:11,497

And they had that  
street there now.

305

00:15:11,497 --> 00:15:12,780

And it was quite a thing.

306

00:15:12,780 --> 00:15:14,460

And all my cousins were there.

307

00:15:14,460 --> 00:15:15,620

It was in all the papers.

308

00:15:15,620 --> 00:15:17,910

I have all kinds of  
newspaper articles

309

00:15:17,910 --> 00:15:19,510

from Germany and everything.

310

00:15:19,510 --> 00:15:20,160

And--

311

00:15:20,160 --> 00:15:22,690

Why did they name the street  
after your grandmother?

312

00:15:22,690 --> 00:15:27,480

Well, my grandfather  
and my great grandfather

313

00:15:27,480 --> 00:15:31,500

already owned the flour mill  
in this village, Neuhaus.

314

00:15:31,500 --> 00:15:36,540

And they were the  
major employers there.

315

00:15:36,540 --> 00:15:39,510

And my grandfather, my  
grandmother's husband,

316

00:15:39,510 --> 00:15:41,745

died before the First World War.

317

00:15:41,745 --> 00:15:44,470

318

00:15:44,470 --> 00:15:52,690

And she had a German guy,  
an associate, and her son

319

00:15:52,690 --> 00:15:54,570

in the business.

320

00:15:54,570 --> 00:15:59,830

But she was a very wealthy  
lady, and she was very generous.

321

00:15:59,830 --> 00:16:02,890

And then they were  
very, very mean to her.

322

00:16:02,890 --> 00:16:05,800

My father, they tried  
to get her to leave.

323

00:16:05,800 --> 00:16:07,630

But she wouldn't leave.

324

00:16:07,630 --> 00:16:09,990

And eventually, she  
went to Theresienstadt.

325

00:16:09,990 --> 00:16:12,250

And she perished there.

326

00:16:12,250 --> 00:16:15,310

And her son was there too.

327

00:16:15,310 --> 00:16:17,350

And he died in Auschwitz.

328

00:16:17,350 --> 00:16:20,950

You know, the Museum have  
the letters and everything.

329

00:16:20,950 --> 00:16:23,330

And other son, we don't  
know where he died.

330

00:16:23,330 --> 00:16:26,380

He was sent to Bergen-Belsen and  
was probably sent to Auschwitz

331

00:16:26,380 --> 00:16:28,960

too, but he died too.

332

00:16:28,960 --> 00:16:31,330

So those are my uncles.

333

00:16:31,330 --> 00:16:35,235

And in Paderborn today, they  
have a Holocaust Memorial.

334

00:16:35,235 --> 00:16:36,610

And all their  
names are on there.

335

00:16:36,610 --> 00:16:37,943

And I have pictures of all that.

336

00:16:37,943 --> 00:16:40,810

337

00:16:40,810 --> 00:16:48,310

And so in that sense,  
I'm connected with it,

338

00:16:48,310 --> 00:16:49,630

very much so.

339

00:16:49,630 --> 00:16:52,960

When we were in  
Germany last year,

340

00:16:52,960 --> 00:16:55,760

and I was there with my wife  
and my children-- and everybody

341

00:16:55,760 --> 00:16:56,260

was there.

342

00:16:56,260 --> 00:16:59,110

And my cousins were all there.

343

00:16:59,110 --> 00:17:01,070

All from my  
grandmother's children,

344

00:17:01,070 --> 00:17:02,560

they were descendants.

345

00:17:02,560 --> 00:17:05,440

Even my brother took his son.

346

00:17:05,440 --> 00:17:14,200

And they had a HaShoah service  
at the synagogue there.

347

00:17:14,200 --> 00:17:16,460

And you know, they  
didn't even have a rabbi.

348

00:17:16,460 --> 00:17:22,990

They had a Catholic  
guy doing some--

349

00:17:22,990 --> 00:17:24,710

they had a couple  
of guys and myself

350

00:17:24,710 --> 00:17:29,100

that could do a little davening,

say a little bit of Kaddish

351

00:17:29,100 --> 00:17:31,500  
and stuff like that.

352

00:17:31,500 --> 00:17:32,310  
No Jews.

353

00:17:32,310 --> 00:17:33,570  
But the place was filled.

354

00:17:33,570 --> 00:17:35,340  
All the Germans were there.

355

00:17:35,340 --> 00:17:38,880  
And they read all the names  
of all the people that got

356

00:17:38,880 --> 00:17:42,730  
killed, a boy and  
a girl read it.

357

00:17:42,730 --> 00:17:47,242  
I was very moved by  
that, the names and ages.

358

00:17:47,242 --> 00:17:50,110  
So the Germans  
today, officially,

359

00:17:50,110 --> 00:17:53,310  
are trying to do something.

360

00:17:53,310 --> 00:17:56,480  
Not that I'm sticking up  
for the Germans or anything.

361

00:17:56,480 --> 00:18:00,080  
But it makes you feel  
good that it's not totally

362

00:18:00,080 --> 00:18:01,430

forgotten in Germany.

363

00:18:01,430 --> 00:18:08,330

I still get a lot of literature  
from Hanover, from Paderborn,

364

00:18:08,330 --> 00:18:10,100

from everybody.

365

00:18:10,100 --> 00:18:12,410

They've written up  
histories of our family

366

00:18:12,410 --> 00:18:15,860

and histories of the Jewish  
people, all kinds of books

367

00:18:15,860 --> 00:18:17,460

and stuff like that  
on the pictures.

368

00:18:17,460 --> 00:18:22,290

369

00:18:22,290 --> 00:18:27,810

To get back to where we were  
in time, so it's the late '30s.

370

00:18:27,810 --> 00:18:31,190

And war breaks  
out September '39.

371

00:18:31,190 --> 00:18:35,260

Yeah, like I said, it  
was probably in '39 when

372

00:18:35,260 --> 00:18:36,340

my father--

373

00:18:36,340 --> 00:18:41,020

a month or two, maybe a month,  
six weeks before my father



374

00:18:41,020 --> 00:18:44,670  
and my brother got to England.

375

00:18:44,670 --> 00:18:47,533  
And then--

376

00:18:47,533 --> 00:18:49,200  
Your mother stayed  
in the United States?

377

00:18:49,200 --> 00:18:50,700  
My mother stayed.

378

00:18:50,700 --> 00:18:54,300  
And we tried everything,  
the relatives,

379

00:18:54,300 --> 00:18:57,780  
and wrote letters to  
Congress to get her visa,

380

00:18:57,780 --> 00:19:00,900  
get her some kind  
of a permit to stay.

381

00:19:00,900 --> 00:19:01,560  
Nothing worked.

382

00:19:01,560 --> 00:19:04,890  
The government didn't  
want to help the Jews.

383

00:19:04,890 --> 00:19:10,350  
So the only thing that she  
could do, she had a cousin,

384

00:19:10,350 --> 00:19:14,870  
on of my grandmother's  
brother, another brother

385

00:19:14,870 --> 00:19:16,990  
of my grandmother's--

these families,

386

00:19:16,990 --> 00:19:20,610

these Jewish families in Germany  
at the turn of the century were

387

00:19:20,610 --> 00:19:22,410

huge, huge.

388

00:19:22,410 --> 00:19:24,750

12 children was nothing.

389

00:19:24,750 --> 00:19:27,360

And this was Bernard Schuster.

390

00:19:27,360 --> 00:19:28,530

And we knew this.

391

00:19:28,530 --> 00:19:31,470

He was living in El Paso.

392

00:19:31,470 --> 00:19:32,800

So he had a house there.

393

00:19:32,800 --> 00:19:35,780

So my mother went to El Paso.

394

00:19:35,780 --> 00:19:48,320

And the idea was that she went  
to the consulate in Juarez

395

00:19:48,320 --> 00:19:51,830

and made an application  
for a permanent number.

396

00:19:51,830 --> 00:19:56,990

But she had to have legal  
residence in Mexico.

397

00:19:56,990 --> 00:19:59,005

So she got an address in Mexico.

398

00:19:59,005 --> 00:20:00,380

But she didn't  
really stay there.

399

00:20:00,380 --> 00:20:04,490

She stayed really in  
her cousin's house.

400

00:20:04,490 --> 00:20:09,770

And once a month, I think, she  
walked across the Rio Grande,

401

00:20:09,770 --> 00:20:14,170

across the bridge, and  
reported to the consul.

402

00:20:14,170 --> 00:20:15,875

And she had to stay  
there several years

403

00:20:15,875 --> 00:20:17,000

till her number was called.

404

00:20:17,000 --> 00:20:19,160

And in the meantime,  
the war was going on.

405

00:20:19,160 --> 00:20:21,220

In the meantime, I was drafted.

406

00:20:21,220 --> 00:20:25,130

Now, I was down in El Paso,  
and I visited her, of course.

407

00:20:25,130 --> 00:20:29,010

Well, so you continued  
to work in Albuquerque.

408

00:20:29,010 --> 00:20:29,750

Sure.

409

00:20:29,750 --> 00:20:31,610

And then, what was--

410  
00:20:31,610 --> 00:20:32,870  
I had an important job.

411  
00:20:32,870 --> 00:20:34,760  
I was making a good living.

412  
00:20:34,760 --> 00:20:37,010  
What was the next change?

413  
00:20:37,010 --> 00:20:39,230  
Well, I was drafted.

414  
00:20:39,230 --> 00:20:41,760  
When was that?

415  
00:20:41,760 --> 00:20:45,630  
It was about three  
or four months

416  
00:20:45,630 --> 00:20:49,830  
before Pearl Harbor in 1941.

417  
00:20:49,830 --> 00:20:52,620  
December 7th, it was in '41.

418  
00:20:52,620 --> 00:20:54,990  
And I got my draft notice.

419  
00:20:54,990 --> 00:20:56,760  
I had signed up for  
my first papers.

420  
00:20:56,760 --> 00:20:59,360  
You know, I hadn't done  
my citizenship yet.

421  
00:20:59,360 --> 00:21:04,680  
And then I went to  
the draft board.

422

00:21:04,680 --> 00:21:07,000

And the lady again--

423

00:21:07,000 --> 00:21:08,750

maybe my manipulation.

424

00:21:08,750 --> 00:21:10,190

I haven't changed, I guess.

425

00:21:10,190 --> 00:21:12,650

I'm still that way.

426

00:21:12,650 --> 00:21:15,380

The lady told me--

427

00:21:15,380 --> 00:21:18,365

I took my physical and  
all that in Albuquerque.

428

00:21:18,365 --> 00:21:21,180

And I passed all that.

429

00:21:21,180 --> 00:21:31,190

And she told me that you can  
have your number transferred

430

00:21:31,190 --> 00:21:32,300

to Washington.

431

00:21:32,300 --> 00:21:36,020

I told her that I had  
a sister in Washington.

432

00:21:36,020 --> 00:21:38,700

By this time, my mother  
had moved to Washington.

433

00:21:38,700 --> 00:21:41,330

She had gotten a visa, and  
she moved to Washington

434

00:21:41,330 --> 00:21:42,800  
to my sister.

435  
00:21:42,800 --> 00:21:49,272  
And she says, you can-- and  
I hadn't seen my sister.

436  
00:21:49,272 --> 00:21:50,355  
I didn't know her husband.

437  
00:21:50,355 --> 00:21:52,740  
I didn't know my brother-in-law.

438  
00:21:52,740 --> 00:21:55,820  
So I had always  
wanted to go there.

439  
00:21:55,820 --> 00:21:59,870  
So she said you can have your  
number changed to Washington.

440  
00:21:59,870 --> 00:22:02,630  
And that way it would be about a  
month later before you actually

441  
00:22:02,630 --> 00:22:08,070  
have to go in, because before  
they do all that paperwork.

442  
00:22:08,070 --> 00:22:09,670  
That sounds like a winner to me.

443  
00:22:09,670 --> 00:22:10,870  
I did that.

444  
00:22:10,870 --> 00:22:12,220  
So I agreed to that.

445  
00:22:12,220 --> 00:22:14,350  
But I quit my job.

446  
00:22:14,350 --> 00:22:17,140

I sold my car.

447

00:22:17,140 --> 00:22:19,580

I packed my bags.

448

00:22:19,580 --> 00:22:22,540

I brought a lot of  
presents for my sister

449

00:22:22,540 --> 00:22:25,390

and for my mother and stuff,  
like with a hardware business,

450

00:22:25,390 --> 00:22:28,240

radios and toasters  
and stuff like that.

451

00:22:28,240 --> 00:22:32,380

And I bought a bus ticket  
across the United States

452

00:22:32,380 --> 00:22:33,450

to Washington.

453

00:22:33,450 --> 00:22:35,830

It was a great,  
great experience.

454

00:22:35,830 --> 00:22:37,820

I never forget it, wonderful.

455

00:22:37,820 --> 00:22:40,360

It took like a week.

456

00:22:40,360 --> 00:22:41,478

And I saw the country.

457

00:22:41,478 --> 00:22:42,395

And I had a good time.

458

00:22:42,395 --> 00:22:44,060

And it was fabulous.

459

00:22:44,060 --> 00:22:46,660

I stopped in Kansas City.

460

00:22:46,660 --> 00:22:49,270

There was a place where we  
were dealing with a Kansas City

461

00:22:49,270 --> 00:22:50,710

Steel Company.

462

00:22:50,710 --> 00:22:53,890

And they entertained me  
because I'd been a customer.

463

00:22:53,890 --> 00:22:56,860

I'd been buying nails and  
stuff like that from them.

464

00:22:56,860 --> 00:23:00,070

They showed me a time like I  
never had in my life before.

465

00:23:00,070 --> 00:23:03,250

Took me out.

466

00:23:03,250 --> 00:23:03,850

And--

467

00:23:03,850 --> 00:23:07,210

Previous to that,  
what was it like for

468

00:23:07,210 --> 00:23:12,490

a 19-year-old, 20-year-old  
young man born in Germany

469

00:23:12,490 --> 00:23:18,610

to read in the newspaper  
or hear on the radio

470

00:23:18,610 --> 00:23:21,820



about the Anschluss in Austria  
and the invasion of Poland

471  
00:23:21,820 --> 00:23:24,520  
by Germany in September 1939?

472  
00:23:24,520 --> 00:23:29,590  
What were your reactions  
having been born in Germany?

473  
00:23:29,590 --> 00:23:31,260  
It was terrible.

474  
00:23:31,260 --> 00:23:33,620  
But there's nothing  
I can do about it.

475  
00:23:33,620 --> 00:23:36,940  
What can you do about when  
you read about something

476  
00:23:36,940 --> 00:23:38,830  
that's happening in China?

477  
00:23:38,830 --> 00:23:41,080  
Or in Southeast Asia?

478  
00:23:41,080 --> 00:23:47,290  
Or even maybe in Mexico  
or in South America?

479  
00:23:47,290 --> 00:23:49,570  
Did you feel any  
connection to Germany then

480  
00:23:49,570 --> 00:23:50,710  
having been born there?

481  
00:23:50,710 --> 00:23:51,790  
Yes.

482  
00:23:51,790 --> 00:23:55,360

I knew that it was--

483  
00:23:55,360 --> 00:23:58,510  
but I was out of it.

484  
00:23:58,510 --> 00:24:01,770  
I was here.

485  
00:24:01,770 --> 00:24:02,290  
I was here.

486  
00:24:02,290 --> 00:24:03,370  
I was out of it.

487  
00:24:03,370 --> 00:24:03,960  
I was here.

488  
00:24:03,960 --> 00:24:06,220  
I guess I went to synagogue.

489  
00:24:06,220 --> 00:24:07,650  
I went out with Jewish girl.

490  
00:24:07,650 --> 00:24:10,180  
But they were American girls.

491  
00:24:10,180 --> 00:24:13,450  
Yeah, I went out with  
some German people.

492  
00:24:13,450 --> 00:24:15,850  
But we didn't talk  
about that either.

493  
00:24:15,850 --> 00:24:17,230  
Was it a feeling  
that this wasn't

494  
00:24:17,230 --> 00:24:21,220  
your Germany in a sense that  
was doing these kind of things?

495

00:24:21,220 --> 00:24:27,220

496

00:24:27,220 --> 00:24:29,390

I don't know how to answer that.

497

00:24:29,390 --> 00:24:30,370

I don't know.

498

00:24:30,370 --> 00:24:33,640

I didn't-- I  
wouldn't want there.

499

00:24:33,640 --> 00:24:37,750

And all I wanted to do was  
stay in America and fit in here

500

00:24:37,750 --> 00:24:39,570

and become an American.

501

00:24:39,570 --> 00:24:40,420

That's all.

502

00:24:40,420 --> 00:24:42,940

That's the only thing  
that interested me.

503

00:24:42,940 --> 00:24:48,250

And anyway, I wasn't even  
thinking of it in cosmic terms.

504

00:24:48,250 --> 00:24:54,160

Again, I was just focusing  
on every day of my life.

505

00:24:54,160 --> 00:24:55,150

I was doing my life.

506

00:24:55,150 --> 00:24:57,300

It never occurred to me--

507

00:24:57,300 --> 00:24:59,633

I would have gotten,  
of course, crazy

508

00:24:59,633 --> 00:25:01,050

if they would have  
known that they

509

00:25:01,050 --> 00:25:03,800

had taken people and killed  
them and stuff like that.

510

00:25:03,800 --> 00:25:06,500

I didn't even know that  
when I was in the service.

511

00:25:06,500 --> 00:25:11,708

That was very, very, very  
later in the service I saw it,

512

00:25:11,708 --> 00:25:13,000

when I was in the intelligence.

513

00:25:13,000 --> 00:25:16,780

Then I really saw everything.

514

00:25:16,780 --> 00:25:19,480

And that, of course, changed  
everything when I saw that.

515

00:25:19,480 --> 00:25:24,720

But again, I just  
felt so fortunate.

516

00:25:24,720 --> 00:25:28,440

And, you know, I still  
do, because somehow I

517

00:25:28,440 --> 00:25:33,810

was able to just get out  
of all of that stuff.

518

00:25:33,810 --> 00:25:35,050

I was saved.

519

00:25:35,050 --> 00:25:37,590

I don't know for what I  
was saved, but I was saved.

520

00:25:37,590 --> 00:25:40,010

I was just a lucky guy.

521

00:25:40,010 --> 00:25:42,420

Just call me Lucky.

522

00:25:42,420 --> 00:25:43,590

Now you're in Washington.

523

00:25:43,590 --> 00:25:47,680

And your number has come  
up, your draft number.

524

00:25:47,680 --> 00:25:49,240

Yes, and then my draft number.

525

00:25:49,240 --> 00:25:51,280

And then I went to New York.

526

00:25:51,280 --> 00:25:53,820

I spent a week in New York.

527

00:25:53,820 --> 00:25:59,130

And I enjoy-- then  
I was drafted.

528

00:25:59,130 --> 00:26:02,120

And I was in the infantry.

529

00:26:02,120 --> 00:26:04,210

And I was sent  
first to Fort Lee.

530

00:26:04,210 --> 00:26:11,400

And then I was sent to  
Macon, Georgia, Camp Wheeler.

531  
00:26:11,400 --> 00:26:14,080  
What was it like to put on  
an American soldiers uniform?

532  
00:26:14,080 --> 00:26:15,670  
It was great.

533  
00:26:15,670 --> 00:26:16,960  
I was proud of it.

534  
00:26:16,960 --> 00:26:18,950  
I loved every moment of it.

535  
00:26:18,950 --> 00:26:21,420  
No, I loved being a soldier.

536  
00:26:21,420 --> 00:26:24,540  
I didn't love the  
regimentation by this time.

537  
00:26:24,540 --> 00:26:25,890  
You know, I didn't really love--

538  
00:26:25,890 --> 00:26:29,010  
I can't say that I  
loved that so much.

539  
00:26:29,010 --> 00:26:30,660  
But I made friends in the army.

540  
00:26:30,660 --> 00:26:33,850  
And I had a great time.

541  
00:26:33,850 --> 00:26:37,930  
And then Pearl Harbor came.

542  
00:26:37,930 --> 00:26:44,790  
And it was on a Sunday morning,  
afternoon, by this time.

543

00:26:44,790 --> 00:26:49,470  
And I remember I  
was playing poker.

544  
00:26:49,470 --> 00:26:52,860  
I was in this bunk, in this  
barracks where I lived.

545  
00:26:52,860 --> 00:26:53,880  
I was downstairs.

546  
00:26:53,880 --> 00:26:57,140  
But I was in this game  
with these guys upstairs.

547  
00:26:57,140 --> 00:26:59,850  
I was sitting on the bunk.

548  
00:26:59,850 --> 00:27:01,920  
And they heard this  
come on the radio

549  
00:27:01,920 --> 00:27:04,380  
that the Japanese had  
attacked Pearl Harbor.

550  
00:27:04,380 --> 00:27:09,210

551  
00:27:09,210 --> 00:27:13,680  
And I had a full house,  
three 8s and a pair of kings

552  
00:27:13,680 --> 00:27:15,840  
or something like that.

553  
00:27:15,840 --> 00:27:16,990  
And I had made my bet.

554  
00:27:16,990 --> 00:27:19,260  
And all the guys left  
and went to the radio.

555

00:27:19,260 --> 00:27:24,120

I said, anybody-- you know, I didn't care about the radio.

556

00:27:24,120 --> 00:27:25,460

That's how I was.

557

00:27:25,460 --> 00:27:27,450

I was so different.

558

00:27:27,450 --> 00:27:28,440

I was out of it.

559

00:27:28,440 --> 00:27:29,910

I didn't know, I think.

560

00:27:29,910 --> 00:27:33,420

Maybe that came from having been through this in Germany.

561

00:27:33,420 --> 00:27:36,180

I had a deaf for this stuff.

562

00:27:36,180 --> 00:27:41,160

And I remember that night, the guys were all crying.

563

00:27:41,160 --> 00:27:45,252

You know, I heard them in my bunk, the other soldiers.

564

00:27:45,252 --> 00:27:46,710

I couldn't understand it, they were

565

00:27:46,710 --> 00:27:50,670

crying, because they knew war was really going to start.

566

00:27:50,670 --> 00:27:53,130

And their lives were really going to--



567  
00:27:53,130 --> 00:27:55,022  
they were aware of it.

568  
00:27:55,022 --> 00:27:56,480  
I didn't have any  
kind of feelings.

569  
00:27:56,480 --> 00:27:59,670  
On the contrary, I couldn't  
wait to get over there and kill

570  
00:27:59,670 --> 00:28:02,310  
Hitler.

571  
00:28:02,310 --> 00:28:06,210  
I didn't have any fear or  
anything like that at all.

572  
00:28:06,210 --> 00:28:08,190  
Then I heard Roosevelt's speech.

573  
00:28:08,190 --> 00:28:11,520  
And then we were on the  
drill fields the next day,

574  
00:28:11,520 --> 00:28:13,110  
and they called my name.

575  
00:28:13,110 --> 00:28:15,670

576  
00:28:15,670 --> 00:28:18,420  
Oh, my God, I said, KP again.

577  
00:28:18,420 --> 00:28:20,340  
Report to the First Sergeant.

578  
00:28:20,340 --> 00:28:22,850  
So I went and I reported.

579

00:28:22,850 --> 00:28:26,160  
And I said, you have some  
books out from the library.

580  
00:28:26,160 --> 00:28:29,850  
You have to take them back,  
because you're shipping--

581  
00:28:29,850 --> 00:28:31,620  
hi.

582  
00:28:31,620 --> 00:28:36,020  
That's my wife-- you're  
shipping out tonight.

583  
00:28:36,020 --> 00:28:41,970  
And I said, oh, my  
God, what's going on?

584  
00:28:41,970 --> 00:28:45,270  
So I called home.

585  
00:28:45,270 --> 00:28:46,980  
And I told them I  
was shipping out.

586  
00:28:46,980 --> 00:28:48,720  
I didn't know where.

587  
00:28:48,720 --> 00:28:53,100  
And then they put me on a train.

588  
00:28:53,100 --> 00:28:54,720  
And I reported.

589  
00:28:54,720 --> 00:29:01,020  
And again, later, I found out  
why, there was a bunch of--

590  
00:29:01,020 --> 00:29:02,880  
we wound up after  
a couple of days

591

00:29:02,880 --> 00:29:08,280

shuttling around on the  
railroad in a field in Florida.

592

00:29:08,280 --> 00:29:14,940

And it was an air warning thing,  
because when the Japs attacked

593

00:29:14,940 --> 00:29:18,220

Hawaii, they had a  
radar there, and it

594

00:29:18,220 --> 00:29:21,500

had picked up the planes, but  
nobody paid attention to it.

595

00:29:21,500 --> 00:29:23,510

You remember reading that?

596

00:29:23,510 --> 00:29:30,860

And so the army decided  
as a crash measure

597

00:29:30,860 --> 00:29:34,990

to improve the radar,  
especially for the East Coast,

598

00:29:34,990 --> 00:29:38,230

because they thought then the  
Germans might attack the East

599

00:29:38,230 --> 00:29:40,200

Coast of the United States.

600

00:29:40,200 --> 00:29:43,820

The whole world was  
afraid of Germany.

601

00:29:43,820 --> 00:29:48,140

And why did they take me?

602

00:29:48,140 --> 00:29:53,090

Because you have a Form 20 in  
the army when you first go in.

603  
00:29:53,090 --> 00:29:57,230  
In those days, they clipped it  
on the corner with holes in it

604  
00:29:57,230 --> 00:29:59,160  
from your IQ test.

605  
00:29:59,160 --> 00:30:01,850  
And because I had  
such a high IQ test,

606  
00:30:01,850 --> 00:30:04,920  
I was selected-- when  
you had a certain IQ test

607  
00:30:04,920 --> 00:30:06,665  
to learn about this radar.

608  
00:30:06,665 --> 00:30:10,760

609  
00:30:10,760 --> 00:30:12,080  
Can you believe that?

610  
00:30:12,080 --> 00:30:15,050  
I didn't know where I  
was, what I was doing.

611  
00:30:15,050 --> 00:30:17,680

612  
00:30:17,680 --> 00:30:21,760  
And so anyway, that's  
why I was in the radar.

613  
00:30:21,760 --> 00:30:23,870  
All of sudden I found  
myself in the Signal Corps

614

00:30:23,870 --> 00:30:26,920  
part of the Air Corps.

615  
00:30:26,920 --> 00:30:29,710  
And then I applied for  
officer candidate school

616  
00:30:29,710 --> 00:30:31,420  
after I was there for awhile.

617  
00:30:31,420 --> 00:30:34,030  
We called ourselves  
the Fighting 614.

618  
00:30:34,030 --> 00:30:36,340  
All the guys I was with  
were a college guys

619  
00:30:36,340 --> 00:30:42,460  
from Princeton and Harvard  
and really terrific Ivy League

620  
00:30:42,460 --> 00:30:44,140  
types, you know.

621  
00:30:44,140 --> 00:30:46,615  
And they all wanted  
to become officers.

622  
00:30:46,615 --> 00:30:49,180

623  
00:30:49,180 --> 00:30:50,020  
So I did, too.

624  
00:30:50,020 --> 00:30:52,000  
You know, everybody else.

625  
00:30:52,000 --> 00:30:56,120  
So when I marched out  
in front of the board,

626

00:30:56,120 --> 00:30:59,080  
there was like this redneck  
captain and the lieutenant.

627  
00:30:59,080 --> 00:31:01,210  
They asked me my name.

628  
00:31:01,210 --> 00:31:03,790  
And they found out that  
I was from Germany.

629  
00:31:03,790 --> 00:31:06,550

630  
00:31:06,550 --> 00:31:08,270  
They told me to go outside.

631  
00:31:08,270 --> 00:31:10,485  
The next day, I was on  
a train to Jacksonville

632  
00:31:10,485 --> 00:31:15,100  
and I was in the MPs, because  
there was sensitive stuff.

633  
00:31:15,100 --> 00:31:18,320  
They didn't want a  
German spies there.

634  
00:31:18,320 --> 00:31:21,300  
That's how they thought, OK?

635  
00:31:21,300 --> 00:31:24,210  
And then I was there in the MPs.

636  
00:31:24,210 --> 00:31:28,890  
And then I volunteered  
for overseas.

637  
00:31:28,890 --> 00:31:30,690  
Did the other soldiers  
give you a hard time

638

00:31:30,690 --> 00:31:32,850  
because you were from Germany?

639

00:31:32,850 --> 00:31:33,480  
Did they what?

640

00:31:33,480 --> 00:31:35,490  
Did the other  
soldiers ever give you

641

00:31:35,490 --> 00:31:39,720  
a hard time when they heard  
you were from Germany?

642

00:31:39,720 --> 00:31:42,510  
I don't think-- my English was--

643

00:31:42,510 --> 00:31:43,630  
I was like an American.

644

00:31:43,630 --> 00:31:45,550  
I was not any different  
than anybody else.

645

00:31:45,550 --> 00:31:47,160  
I had lots of friends.

646

00:31:47,160 --> 00:31:48,890  
And we worked at night.

647

00:31:48,890 --> 00:31:49,950  
And we did duty.

648

00:31:49,950 --> 00:31:52,960  
And we had a great time.

649

00:31:52,960 --> 00:31:54,390  
I played a lot of tennis.

650

00:31:54,390 --> 00:31:56,790  
My tennis always-- I played

in the finest country

651  
00:31:56,790 --> 00:31:59,530  
clubs in Tampa.

652  
00:31:59,530 --> 00:32:02,417  
It was in Tampa where  
that was, where I was.

653  
00:32:02,417 --> 00:32:03,625  
We were stationed in a hotel.

654  
00:32:03,625 --> 00:32:08,110

655  
00:32:08,110 --> 00:32:09,570  
It's great.

656  
00:32:09,570 --> 00:32:13,980  
And I just always been lucky.

657  
00:32:13,980 --> 00:32:15,460  
But then I was in Jacksonville.

658  
00:32:15,460 --> 00:32:17,100  
And that wasn't so nice.

659  
00:32:17,100 --> 00:32:20,670  
So I volunteered for overseas.

660  
00:32:20,670 --> 00:32:23,820  
So I went back to  
Washington on the train.

661  
00:32:23,820 --> 00:32:25,620  
Had you gotten your  
citizenship yet?

662  
00:32:25,620 --> 00:32:28,620  
Yeah, I got my citizenship  
while I was in Tampa.



663

00:32:28,620 --> 00:32:31,090

How did you feel about  
becoming an American citizen?

664

00:32:31,090 --> 00:32:33,840

Oh, that was a great  
thing, you know.

665

00:32:33,840 --> 00:32:36,270

And I found out it was  
much easier because I

666

00:32:36,270 --> 00:32:39,100

had been in service and all.

667

00:32:39,100 --> 00:32:42,510

So I went and got  
my citizenship.

668

00:32:42,510 --> 00:32:43,150

Piece of cake.

669

00:32:43,150 --> 00:32:44,830

It was nothing to it.

670

00:32:44,830 --> 00:32:46,315

Was it a special day for you?

671

00:32:46,315 --> 00:32:46,880

Huh?

672

00:32:46,880 --> 00:32:48,430

Was that a special day for you?

673

00:32:48,430 --> 00:32:51,510

674

00:32:51,510 --> 00:32:55,950

You know, I kind of  
took it in stride.

675

00:32:55,950 --> 00:32:57,860  
My life has been like that.

676  
00:32:57,860 --> 00:33:01,910  
The special days are  
just another day,

677  
00:33:01,910 --> 00:33:05,120  
another day in the life  
of Wolfgang Mueller.

678  
00:33:05,120 --> 00:33:10,165  
On March 23 it will be  
my 50th anniversary--

679  
00:33:10,165 --> 00:33:12,076  
if I make it.

680  
00:33:12,076 --> 00:33:14,570  
It will be another day, right?

681  
00:33:14,570 --> 00:33:16,655  
Be married to this  
lady for 50 years.

682  
00:33:16,655 --> 00:33:19,540

683  
00:33:19,540 --> 00:33:22,720  
So you volunteered  
for overseas duty.

684  
00:33:22,720 --> 00:33:25,860  
Yeah, I volunteered  
for overseas duty.

685  
00:33:25,860 --> 00:33:30,200  
And they sent me overseas.

686  
00:33:30,200 --> 00:33:33,100  
And I was on a troop ship.

687

00:33:33,100 --> 00:33:36,050  
And it was quite an experience.

688  
00:33:36,050 --> 00:33:39,610  
First, you're in a repple  
depple and all that.

689  
00:33:39,610 --> 00:33:42,300  
And then I was in a troop ship.

690  
00:33:42,300 --> 00:33:46,720  
And you know something, there's  
not too much else to do,

691  
00:33:46,720 --> 00:33:49,130  
but we gambled, you know.

692  
00:33:49,130 --> 00:33:51,540  
And I got so lucky.

693  
00:33:51,540 --> 00:33:53,835  
I must have won like all  
the money on the troop ship.

694  
00:33:53,835 --> 00:33:57,810  
I had a money belt and  
had all my pockets full,

695  
00:33:57,810 --> 00:33:59,050  
everything full.

696  
00:33:59,050 --> 00:34:01,650  
And when I got to England,  
I took my whole outfit

697  
00:34:01,650 --> 00:34:03,840  
out drinking.

698  
00:34:03,840 --> 00:34:04,710  
And--

699  
00:34:04,710 --> 00:34:07,320

What were your thoughts  
when you returned to England

700  
00:34:07,320 --> 00:34:10,560  
in the uniform of  
United States Army?

701  
00:34:10,560 --> 00:34:12,620  
I knew my brother was  
over there and my father.

702  
00:34:12,620 --> 00:34:15,590  
And I couldn't wait to get  
to London and get to see him.

703  
00:34:15,590 --> 00:34:19,920  
You know, I wanted to see  
my father and everything.

704  
00:34:19,920 --> 00:34:21,219  
That's what I did.

705  
00:34:21,219 --> 00:34:22,330  
Did you get to see him?

706  
00:34:22,330 --> 00:34:22,929  
Oh, yeah.

707  
00:34:22,929 --> 00:34:24,340  
What was that like to see him?

708  
00:34:24,340 --> 00:34:31,489  
Yeah, well, by this time, my  
father was living with a woman.

709  
00:34:31,489 --> 00:34:45,219  
And my brother had been  
sent like with the children

710  
00:34:45,219 --> 00:34:48,790  
out in the country to  
get out of the air raids.

711  
00:34:48,790 --> 00:34:51,219  
And he had just gotten back.

712  
00:34:51,219 --> 00:34:52,900  
He was going to  
school in England.

713  
00:34:52,900 --> 00:34:55,429

714  
00:34:55,429 --> 00:34:58,010  
Oh, yes, and I took my brother--

715  
00:34:58,010 --> 00:35:02,190  
then I arranged for my  
brother to come to America.

716  
00:35:02,190 --> 00:35:06,110  
My uniform and my ribbons,  
I went to Grosvenor Square

717  
00:35:06,110 --> 00:35:10,370  
to the American embassy, and  
I made all the arrangements.

718  
00:35:10,370 --> 00:35:14,770  
And I took him to  
Cardiff in Wales.

719  
00:35:14,770 --> 00:35:15,900  
And I put him on the boat.

720  
00:35:15,900 --> 00:35:21,510

721  
00:35:21,510 --> 00:35:23,130  
That's how he got to America.

722  
00:35:23,130 --> 00:35:25,710

723

00:35:25,710 --> 00:35:30,890  
And by the time I got home from  
overseas, he was in service.

724  
00:35:30,890 --> 00:35:33,610

725  
00:35:33,610 --> 00:35:34,870  
So now you're in England.

726  
00:35:34,870 --> 00:35:37,600  
And then what happened?

727  
00:35:37,600 --> 00:35:38,460  
With the military.

728  
00:35:38,460 --> 00:35:39,625  
Yeah, I'm in England.

729  
00:35:39,625 --> 00:35:43,140

730  
00:35:43,140 --> 00:35:46,810  
In the meantime, I've become  
a non-commissioned officer.

731  
00:35:46,810 --> 00:35:49,390  
And I was an RAF liaison.

732  
00:35:49,390 --> 00:35:51,590  
And our job was--

733  
00:35:51,590 --> 00:35:53,980  
I was connected  
with the Air Corps--

734  
00:35:53,980 --> 00:35:59,410  
and our job was to  
procure parts from the RAF

735  
00:35:59,410 --> 00:36:01,990  
for American planes.

736  
00:36:01,990 --> 00:36:05,200  
I was in an area, all around  
us were all the American air

737  
00:36:05,200 --> 00:36:07,660  
bases, the bombing bases.

738  
00:36:07,660 --> 00:36:11,480  
So I met all the guys that were  
on the airplanes and everything

739  
00:36:11,480 --> 00:36:14,600  
and went out  
drinking every night.

740  
00:36:14,600 --> 00:36:19,730  
Typical life of an American  
soldier in England.

741  
00:36:19,730 --> 00:36:25,130  
And then one day,  
again, I got notified

742  
00:36:25,130 --> 00:36:28,490  
and I was told to  
report to London,

743  
00:36:28,490 --> 00:36:31,040  
to the headquarters of the ETO.

744  
00:36:31,040 --> 00:36:35,090  
All the time, after a while they  
find out something about me.

745  
00:36:35,090 --> 00:36:36,170  
ETO stands for--

746  
00:36:36,170 --> 00:36:39,090  
ETO, European Theater  
of Operations,

747

00:36:39,090 --> 00:36:41,150  
General Eisenhower's  
headquarters

748  
00:36:41,150 --> 00:36:42,790  
in the [INAUDIBLE] building.

749  
00:36:42,790 --> 00:36:45,340  
That's a big department store  
in London, office building.

750  
00:36:45,340 --> 00:36:48,020

751  
00:36:48,020 --> 00:36:50,630  
And I went there.

752  
00:36:50,630 --> 00:36:53,150  
And they said that  
they just found out--

753  
00:36:53,150 --> 00:36:57,430  
they just figured out from my  
Form 20 that I knew German.

754  
00:36:57,430 --> 00:36:59,660  
And they needed interpreters.

755  
00:36:59,660 --> 00:37:09,290

756  
00:37:09,290 --> 00:37:11,630  
This is a continuation of  
the United States Holocaust

757  
00:37:11,630 --> 00:37:14,810  
Memorial Museum interview  
with Wolfgang Mueller.

758  
00:37:14,810 --> 00:37:20,210  
This is tape 2, side B. And  
you just got your new orders



759

00:37:20,210 --> 00:37:22,440  
to report in England.

760

00:37:22,440 --> 00:37:25,430  
So, again, all of a  
sudden, I found myself

761

00:37:25,430 --> 00:37:28,190  
in an incredible environment.

762

00:37:28,190 --> 00:37:31,220  
All the guys were  
German Jews like myself,

763

00:37:31,220 --> 00:37:34,730  
not all of them,  
but 90% of them.

764

00:37:34,730 --> 00:37:36,060  
And--

765

00:37:36,060 --> 00:37:38,450  
What month, what time  
span are we talking about?

766

00:37:38,450 --> 00:37:41,810

767

00:37:41,810 --> 00:37:44,400  
It was after VE Day.

768

00:37:44,400 --> 00:37:49,420  
It was after VE Day, but  
not too long after VE Day.

769

00:37:49,420 --> 00:37:50,800  
So it had to be--

770

00:37:50,800 --> 00:37:53,230  
VE Day, it was--

771

00:37:53,230 --> 00:37:54,980  
So we're now in spring of '45.

772  
00:37:54,980 --> 00:37:55,480  
Yeah.

773  
00:37:55,480 --> 00:37:58,090  
So the entire time  
that you were--

774  
00:37:58,090 --> 00:38:01,850  
up to that, you were in  
England the whole time.

775  
00:38:01,850 --> 00:38:03,890  
OK.

776  
00:38:03,890 --> 00:38:05,970  
As a liaison to the Royal  
Air Force, you said.

777  
00:38:05,970 --> 00:38:06,470  
Hmm?

778  
00:38:06,470 --> 00:38:08,140  
As a liaison to Royal Air Force.

779  
00:38:08,140 --> 00:38:09,140  
Yeah, I was in  
the 8th Air Force.

780  
00:38:09,140 --> 00:38:10,490  
I was just in the 8th Air Force.

781  
00:38:10,490 --> 00:38:15,620  
But I was in what they call  
a repple depple, replacement

782  
00:38:15,620 --> 00:38:17,620  
depot or parts depot.

783  
00:38:17,620 --> 00:38:19,070

And I was in the supply.

784

00:38:19,070 --> 00:38:22,270

And I became a technical  
sergeant, you know,

785

00:38:22,270 --> 00:38:23,920

five stripes.

786

00:38:23,920 --> 00:38:27,680

And I was in charge of a whole  
office of people and stuff

787

00:38:27,680 --> 00:38:31,080

like that, just getting  
supplies and things.

788

00:38:31,080 --> 00:38:32,510

So you never went on to--

789

00:38:32,510 --> 00:38:34,347

I did what I had to  
do, doing paperwork.

790

00:38:34,347 --> 00:38:36,680

But at that point you had not  
been on the continent yet,

791

00:38:36,680 --> 00:38:37,347

you were still--

792

00:38:37,347 --> 00:38:38,760

No.

793

00:38:38,760 --> 00:38:39,830

And now it's VE Day--

794

00:38:39,830 --> 00:38:42,316

In London.

795

00:38:42,316 --> 00:38:44,270

And now it's VE Day.

796  
00:38:44,270 --> 00:38:47,150  
Yeah, VE Day comes and goes.

797  
00:38:47,150 --> 00:38:51,140  
And they need interpreters.

798  
00:38:51,140 --> 00:38:53,330  
And I'm selected to become.

799  
00:38:53,330 --> 00:38:55,190  
And I get orders.

800  
00:38:55,190 --> 00:38:59,570  
I get assigned to this office,  
Air Technical Intelligence

801  
00:38:59,570 --> 00:39:07,130  
Office of New Staff, United  
States Air Force headquarters.

802  
00:39:07,130 --> 00:39:10,090  
That was the main office, honey.

803  
00:39:10,090 --> 00:39:11,720  
I was in the headquarters.

804  
00:39:11,720 --> 00:39:15,350  
General Spaatz's headquarters  
in the Intelligence.

805  
00:39:15,350 --> 00:39:17,570  
And this was the Air  
Technical Intelligence

806  
00:39:17,570 --> 00:39:19,670  
where they had the  
pool of interpreters

807  
00:39:19,670 --> 00:39:21,470  
that they sent all over.

808

00:39:21,470 --> 00:39:28,100

And I got orders, it said,  
Tech Sergeant Wolfgang Mueller

809

00:39:28,100 --> 00:39:32,270

can commandeer anywhere  
in the European theater

810

00:39:32,270 --> 00:39:34,580

any kind of transportation.

811

00:39:34,580 --> 00:39:36,950

He can go anywhere he wants to.

812

00:39:36,950 --> 00:39:39,955

He had under a special  
order, signed General Spaatz.

813

00:39:39,955 --> 00:39:43,010

814

00:39:43,010 --> 00:39:46,340

And our office had an  
office in Paris already

815

00:39:46,340 --> 00:39:48,230

and an office in London.

816

00:39:48,230 --> 00:39:50,840

Did you know any of the  
other German Jewish soldiers

817

00:39:50,840 --> 00:39:51,530

at that point?

818

00:39:51,530 --> 00:39:53,870

No, I met them all there but--

819

00:39:53,870 --> 00:39:55,510

They weren't anybody  
from Hanover--

820

00:39:55,510 --> 00:39:59,630

But, of course, we talked and  
we've exchanged experiences.

821

00:39:59,630 --> 00:40:01,880

And it's all the same, you know.

822

00:40:01,880 --> 00:40:02,960

And then--

823

00:40:02,960 --> 00:40:09,110

Were you aware yet at that point  
of what happened to the Jews

824

00:40:09,110 --> 00:40:09,890

by then?

825

00:40:09,890 --> 00:40:12,350

No, not really.

826

00:40:12,350 --> 00:40:13,820

Not really.

827

00:40:13,820 --> 00:40:15,680

Not really.

828

00:40:15,680 --> 00:40:23,010

But I was in an environment  
then, of all of a sudden--

829

00:40:23,010 --> 00:40:25,700

like, for example,  
I was stationed

830

00:40:25,700 --> 00:40:29,425

right in the West End of London  
in a gorgeous apartment house,

831

00:40:29,425 --> 00:40:31,670

in like a flat.

832

00:40:31,670 --> 00:40:33,920  
You know, it must be very  
rich people at one time.

833  
00:40:33,920 --> 00:40:36,770  
And it had been  
commandeered by the army.

834  
00:40:36,770 --> 00:40:42,117  
And again, like I had been in  
Florida, the people I was with

835  
00:40:42,117 --> 00:40:43,200  
were of a different class.

836  
00:40:43,200 --> 00:40:47,420  
And the soldiers that I been  
with on the air bases, these

837  
00:40:47,420 --> 00:40:51,440  
were all very intelligent guys.

838  
00:40:51,440 --> 00:40:54,920  
We had fabulous conversations,  
had great dates,

839  
00:40:54,920 --> 00:40:58,520  
you know, went out with great  
women and stuff like that.

840  
00:40:58,520 --> 00:40:59,540  
And we had a great time.

841  
00:40:59,540 --> 00:41:01,220  
But the war was still going on.

842  
00:41:01,220 --> 00:41:05,210  
The V2s were already  
coming to London.

843  
00:41:05,210 --> 00:41:07,570  
There was still a lot going on.

844

00:41:07,570 --> 00:41:15,920

And I was-- no, I guess after  
VE Day, there were-- no VE Day,

845

00:41:15,920 --> 00:41:17,370

sure the war was going on.

846

00:41:17,370 --> 00:41:19,250

There was a war in  
Germany, of course.

847

00:41:19,250 --> 00:41:22,370

Yeah, the V2s and  
the V1s were coming.

848

00:41:22,370 --> 00:41:25,340

And I was flying into Paris.

849

00:41:25,340 --> 00:41:28,835

By this time the  
army had taken Paris.

850

00:41:28,835 --> 00:41:29,335

And--

851

00:41:29,335 --> 00:41:32,390

852

00:41:32,390 --> 00:41:33,920

Go back just one minute.

853

00:41:33,920 --> 00:41:36,080

I remember before I  
went in the service

854

00:41:36,080 --> 00:41:39,740

I was in my sister's  
apartment in Washington.

855

00:41:39,740 --> 00:41:42,340

And we were listening  
to the radio.



856  
00:41:42,340 --> 00:41:45,730  
And we heard about  
the Battle of Tobruk.

857  
00:41:45,730 --> 00:41:48,300

858  
00:41:48,300 --> 00:41:52,400  
And at that time,  
before that happened,

859  
00:41:52,400 --> 00:41:55,130  
we thought Hitler  
was omnipotent.

860  
00:41:55,130 --> 00:41:57,410  
He was going to take  
over the whole world,

861  
00:41:57,410 --> 00:42:01,730  
was a little bit afraid of  
Hitler at that time as Jews,

862  
00:42:01,730 --> 00:42:05,570  
because it looked like  
nothing could stop him.

863  
00:42:05,570 --> 00:42:09,440  
But then one of the  
greatest celebrations,

864  
00:42:09,440 --> 00:42:14,240  
one of the most elated  
feelings that I ever had

865  
00:42:14,240 --> 00:42:17,270  
was that night in my  
sister's apartment

866  
00:42:17,270 --> 00:42:19,190  
when I heard that  
the English army had

867  
00:42:19,190 --> 00:42:22,240  
defeated Rommel at Tobruk.

868  
00:42:22,240 --> 00:42:27,030  
I thought, I think maybe  
they really stopped him.

869  
00:42:27,030 --> 00:42:30,320  
The man on the radio said  
it was very important,

870  
00:42:30,320 --> 00:42:35,120  
because if he would have  
linked up with Japan and stuff,

871  
00:42:35,120 --> 00:42:38,900  
maybe nobody could  
stop him anymore.

872  
00:42:38,900 --> 00:42:45,610  
At that time, that was very,  
very big thing, very big day,

873  
00:42:45,610 --> 00:42:46,700  
very, very big day.

874  
00:42:46,700 --> 00:42:48,640  
I've had a few big  
days in my life.

875  
00:42:48,640 --> 00:42:54,010

876  
00:42:54,010 --> 00:42:57,190  
Another big day was when  
I was here in Washington

877  
00:42:57,190 --> 00:43:00,190  
and the Voting Rights  
bill was passed.

878

00:43:00,190 --> 00:43:03,850  
And I went down to the Congress.

879  
00:43:03,850 --> 00:43:06,070  
Somehow I got passes.

880  
00:43:06,070 --> 00:43:08,140  
And I went in there.

881  
00:43:08,140 --> 00:43:10,670  
And I saw them vote on that.

882  
00:43:10,670 --> 00:43:13,480  
And that was also a  
great moment for me.

883  
00:43:13,480 --> 00:43:17,800  
I thought it was a great  
moment in this country,

884  
00:43:17,800 --> 00:43:24,140  
in the history of the world,  
that finally, I thought--

885  
00:43:24,140 --> 00:43:25,700  
And, you know, I  
always thought it

886  
00:43:25,700 --> 00:43:30,860  
was so terrible what's going  
on between the Blacks and Jews.

887  
00:43:30,860 --> 00:43:33,650  
My neighbor here and  
his wife both have

888  
00:43:33,650 --> 00:43:36,237  
numbers on their arms.

889  
00:43:36,237 --> 00:43:37,820  
And they're both  
dear friends of mine.

890

00:43:37,820 --> 00:43:40,800

They're wonderful, wonderful people, the Spiegels.

891

00:43:40,800 --> 00:43:44,060

They're very active in the Holocaust Museum.

892

00:43:44,060 --> 00:43:49,800

And we were in the B'nai B'rith together here years ago

893

00:43:49,800 --> 00:43:51,180

already.

894

00:43:51,180 --> 00:43:53,710

And we had one project.

895

00:43:53,710 --> 00:43:56,620

I remember, a civic project.

896

00:43:56,620 --> 00:43:58,533

And we were both on the board.

897

00:43:58,533 --> 00:43:59,950

One time I was a president, and he

898

00:43:59,950 --> 00:44:02,590

was a president of the large.

899

00:44:02,590 --> 00:44:10,660

And the project was where we gave a kid in the inner city

900

00:44:10,660 --> 00:44:14,590

a citizenship award, like \$100 or something,

901

00:44:14,590 --> 00:44:15,980

and a certificate.

902

00:44:15,980 --> 00:44:19,060

It was one of the things  
that our lodge did.

903

00:44:19,060 --> 00:44:22,870

And my neighbor, Sam  
Spiegel, was vehemently

904

00:44:22,870 --> 00:44:25,150

opposed to that project  
because he didn't want

905

00:44:25,150 --> 00:44:26,970

to do anything for the Blacks.

906

00:44:26,970 --> 00:44:29,350

And you know something,  
I could never

907

00:44:29,350 --> 00:44:33,280

understand how a man that  
had been through what

908

00:44:33,280 --> 00:44:35,620

he had been through,  
how he could

909

00:44:35,620 --> 00:44:38,380

have that kind of an attitude.

910

00:44:38,380 --> 00:44:41,350

I didn't let it interfere  
with my personal feelings

911

00:44:41,350 --> 00:44:46,695

towards him, but intellectually,  
I never could beat that one.

912

00:44:46,695 --> 00:44:49,320

But I fought for it,  
but we always gave him

913

00:44:49,320 --> 00:44:50,460  
that citizenship award.

914  
00:44:50,460 --> 00:44:53,300

915  
00:44:53,300 --> 00:44:56,736  
I think you feel that way  
because of your background?

916  
00:44:56,736 --> 00:44:59,160  
Or what you saw as a child?

917  
00:44:59,160 --> 00:45:02,380  
Those posters on the street.

918  
00:45:02,380 --> 00:45:13,100  
Well, I think the only  
thing that's important

919  
00:45:13,100 --> 00:45:19,190  
for a person is to be able to  
stand up for what they really

920  
00:45:19,190 --> 00:45:20,720  
think is right.

921  
00:45:20,720 --> 00:45:23,480  
I think I have learned  
that a little bit.

922  
00:45:23,480 --> 00:45:27,130  
And I tried to teach that also  
to my family and my children.

923  
00:45:27,130 --> 00:45:29,990  
I've tried to live  
that kind of a life.

924  
00:45:29,990 --> 00:45:33,560  
And I think it's  
very, very hard.

925

00:45:33,560 --> 00:45:37,340

It's also a very hard thing,  
because, you know, like

926

00:45:37,340 --> 00:45:41,060

in this country where we  
have discrimination here

927

00:45:41,060 --> 00:45:42,980

against Black  
people, for example,

928

00:45:42,980 --> 00:45:46,010

or the minorities, all of them--  
it's not just in this country.

929

00:45:46,010 --> 00:45:46,970

Everywhere.

930

00:45:46,970 --> 00:45:49,010

In this country it's so  
terrible because it's

931

00:45:49,010 --> 00:45:51,110

such a free country.

932

00:45:51,110 --> 00:45:53,660

And everything else is so great.

933

00:45:53,660 --> 00:45:55,430

And still we have that going on.

934

00:45:55,430 --> 00:45:59,060

And we have so much of it.

935

00:45:59,060 --> 00:46:08,370

And for a Jew to subscribe  
to anything like that I think

936

00:46:08,370 --> 00:46:11,610

is a most unworthy  
thing in the world.

937  
00:46:11,610 --> 00:46:14,620  
And most people, if they're--

938  
00:46:14,620 --> 00:46:16,370  
and we're getting onto  
something else now,

939  
00:46:16,370 --> 00:46:20,040  
and I feel strongly about that  
too, and very few Jews do--

940  
00:46:20,040 --> 00:46:22,570

941  
00:46:22,570 --> 00:46:25,840  
most people go along  
with the program,

942  
00:46:25,840 --> 00:46:28,300  
especially if their  
job is at stake,

943  
00:46:28,300 --> 00:46:30,220  
their livelihood is at stake.

944  
00:46:30,220 --> 00:46:32,350  
Regardless of whether  
it's right or wrong,

945  
00:46:32,350 --> 00:46:35,530  
if this is the  
program, if this is

946  
00:46:35,530 --> 00:46:39,400  
what the establishment  
expects of you,

947  
00:46:39,400 --> 00:46:41,080  
you better do it,  
because otherwise you

948



00:46:41,080 --> 00:46:42,130  
might lose your job.

949  
00:46:42,130 --> 00:46:45,530  
You see what I mean?

950  
00:46:45,530 --> 00:46:49,460  
Well, you know,  
the German people,

951  
00:46:49,460 --> 00:46:54,110  
the average people in  
Germany, that's what they did.

952  
00:46:54,110 --> 00:46:56,870  
The average people  
in Germany didn't

953  
00:46:56,870 --> 00:47:00,530  
want to go and kill a few Jews.

954  
00:47:00,530 --> 00:47:03,440  
And even the people  
that were in the army

955  
00:47:03,440 --> 00:47:06,070  
or in the concentration  
camps and working there,

956  
00:47:06,070 --> 00:47:09,210  
and they did what they  
were supposed to do,

957  
00:47:09,210 --> 00:47:11,680  
they didn't really  
want to do that.

958  
00:47:11,680 --> 00:47:13,310  
That was the program.

959  
00:47:13,310 --> 00:47:15,440  
That's what you did.

960

00:47:15,440 --> 00:47:18,590

And human beings are very funny.

961

00:47:18,590 --> 00:47:21,990

You know, I've worked  
in the meat business.

962

00:47:21,990 --> 00:47:24,440

And when I was first  
working in a slaughterhouse

963

00:47:24,440 --> 00:47:27,700

and I saw animals and lambs  
and calves getting killed,

964

00:47:27,700 --> 00:47:29,810

it made me sick to my stomach.

965

00:47:29,810 --> 00:47:34,140

It didn't take me very  
long to get used to it.

966

00:47:34,140 --> 00:47:36,240

And when people get  
treated terrible,

967

00:47:36,240 --> 00:47:39,840

pretty soon you don't  
know that they're people.

968

00:47:39,840 --> 00:47:46,080

And for Jews-- now, I'm talking  
about Jews, about us, OK--

969

00:47:46,080 --> 00:47:53,520

to discriminate against anybody,  
even Germans, for what they

970

00:47:53,520 --> 00:47:57,690

are, to group them together  
as whole bunch of people,

971

00:47:57,690 --> 00:48:04,330  
that's a terrible thing,  
because everybody is one person.

972  
00:48:04,330 --> 00:48:05,720  
And I think that's important.

973  
00:48:05,720 --> 00:48:07,951  
And you've got to remember that.

974  
00:48:07,951 --> 00:48:10,500  
And that's what I believe in.

975  
00:48:10,500 --> 00:48:13,280  
I don't know why  
I brought that up.

976  
00:48:13,280 --> 00:48:14,950  
I didn't really want  
to make a speech.

977  
00:48:14,950 --> 00:48:18,080  
But we got around  
to that subject.

978  
00:48:18,080 --> 00:48:19,820  
That's what life has taught me.

979  
00:48:19,820 --> 00:48:21,670  
And that's what I  
think about when

980  
00:48:21,670 --> 00:48:24,840  
I think about all the terrible  
things that are happening.

981  
00:48:24,840 --> 00:48:26,420  
Now, you know,  
it's not finished.

982  
00:48:26,420 --> 00:48:27,890  
You know, terrible  
things are still

983  
00:48:27,890 --> 00:48:36,780  
going on in Africa, in Asia,  
in Russia, in South America.

984  
00:48:36,780 --> 00:48:39,330

985  
00:48:39,330 --> 00:48:41,080  
If you've done any  
traveling at all,

986  
00:48:41,080 --> 00:48:44,510  
you know it's so wonderful  
to be in this country.

987  
00:48:44,510 --> 00:48:49,230  
And we really don't appreciate  
how good we have it here.

988  
00:48:49,230 --> 00:48:51,010  
But I try not to forget it.

989  
00:48:51,010 --> 00:48:57,020

990  
00:48:57,020 --> 00:48:58,400  
You got to Paris.

991  
00:48:58,400 --> 00:49:00,460  
You're flying to Paris.

992  
00:49:00,460 --> 00:49:00,960  
Sorry.

993  
00:49:00,960 --> 00:49:03,780

994  
00:49:03,780 --> 00:49:05,280  
You had left England.

995

00:49:05,280 --> 00:49:09,460  
And then you were sent to  
Paris, you said, after VE Day.

996  
00:49:09,460 --> 00:49:10,710  
Yeah.

997  
00:49:10,710 --> 00:49:13,726  
And then I reported  
to the office there.

998  
00:49:13,726 --> 00:49:16,695  
There was a lot going  
on there, went to Paris.

999  
00:49:16,695 --> 00:49:19,720

1000  
00:49:19,720 --> 00:49:21,680  
Also, I visit my  
relatives in Paris.

1001  
00:49:21,680 --> 00:49:27,340  
I found them, you know,  
the ones that had survived.

1002  
00:49:27,340 --> 00:49:28,650  
I had a great time.

1003  
00:49:28,650 --> 00:49:31,150  
And I brought them stuff from  
the PX and stuff like that

1004  
00:49:31,150 --> 00:49:32,920  
and became very popular.

1005  
00:49:32,920 --> 00:49:36,510  
And very, very nice to me  
and became very friendly.

1006  
00:49:36,510 --> 00:49:41,380  
And then pretty  
soon, I was assigned

1007  
00:49:41,380 --> 00:49:46,755  
as this interpreter to  
American engineers and officers

1008  
00:49:46,755 --> 00:49:51,250  
that were sent into  
Germany to check out

1009  
00:49:51,250 --> 00:49:54,000  
different technical things  
that the Air Force was

1010  
00:49:54,000 --> 00:49:56,140  
interested in,  
intelligence matters,

1011  
00:49:56,140 --> 00:50:01,190  
also arrest certain German guys  
that they wanted to bring back,

1012  
00:50:01,190 --> 00:50:05,420  
like these space scientists  
and people like that.

1013  
00:50:05,420 --> 00:50:08,560  
So I participated in  
all those programs.

1014  
00:50:08,560 --> 00:50:11,400  
And I made many, many  
trips into Germany

1015  
00:50:11,400 --> 00:50:13,200  
and got all over Germany.

1016  
00:50:13,200 --> 00:50:16,060  
I also got a chance  
to get into places

1017  
00:50:16,060 --> 00:50:19,990  
where had been slave labor  
camps and where there were still

1018  
00:50:19,990 --> 00:50:22,240  
terrible conditions going on.

1019  
00:50:22,240 --> 00:50:23,740  
And I was actually  
on the ground.

1020  
00:50:23,740 --> 00:50:26,710  
And I saw what was  
really had happened.

1021  
00:50:26,710 --> 00:50:30,270  
I was in a factory in Nordhaus  
where they made V2 rockets

1022  
00:50:30,270 --> 00:50:32,490  
and stuff like that.

1023  
00:50:32,490 --> 00:50:34,000  
Yeah, we'll talk about that.

1024  
00:50:34,000 --> 00:50:34,940  
It's unbelievable.

1025  
00:50:34,940 --> 00:50:35,920  
We'll talk about that.

1026  
00:50:35,920 --> 00:50:40,860  
So your first trip back  
to Germany was to do what?

1027  
00:50:40,860 --> 00:50:42,390  
What year was that?

1028  
00:50:42,390 --> 00:50:43,190  
No.

1029  
00:50:43,190 --> 00:50:46,130  
Your first trip  
back to Germany--

1030  
00:50:46,130 --> 00:50:47,870  
Afterwards?

1031  
00:50:47,870 --> 00:50:48,560  
No, no, no.

1032  
00:50:48,560 --> 00:50:50,090  
During the war,  
you were in Paris

1033  
00:50:50,090 --> 00:50:51,257  
and you said they sent you--

1034  
00:50:51,257 --> 00:50:53,990  
Yeah, almost  
immediately, very soon.

1035  
00:50:53,990 --> 00:50:56,857  
That's what I was there for.

1036  
00:50:56,857 --> 00:50:58,190  
And where did you go in Germany?

1037  
00:50:58,190 --> 00:51:01,050

1038  
00:51:01,050 --> 00:51:02,350  
I was in Munich.

1039  
00:51:02,350 --> 00:51:03,500  
And I was in Goslar.

1040  
00:51:03,500 --> 00:51:05,100  
And I was in Brunswick and--

1041  
00:51:05,100 --> 00:51:06,240  
Did you interrogate--

1042  
00:51:06,240 --> 00:51:07,470  
I was in Leipzig.



1043  
00:51:07,470 --> 00:51:09,570  
I was in Czechoslovakia.

1044  
00:51:09,570 --> 00:51:11,100  
I was in Austria.

1045  
00:51:11,100 --> 00:51:12,330  
I was everywhere.

1046  
00:51:12,330 --> 00:51:14,540  
And you are now  
interrogating Germans

1047  
00:51:14,540 --> 00:51:16,130  
for-- this is intelligence work.

1048  
00:51:16,130 --> 00:51:17,910  
Yeah, I was  
interrogating Germans.

1049  
00:51:17,910 --> 00:51:21,720  
Part of my job was  
interrogating Germans.

1050  
00:51:21,720 --> 00:51:25,320  
Part of my job was  
interpreting documents.

1051  
00:51:25,320 --> 00:51:30,510  
And part of my job was driving  
a Jeep for American officers.

1052  
00:51:30,510 --> 00:51:32,250  
So you're now doing  
intelligence work.

1053  
00:51:32,250 --> 00:51:33,720  
Right.

1054  
00:51:33,720 --> 00:51:35,560  
And--

1055  
00:51:35,560 --> 00:51:37,170  
I'm an interpreter.

1056  
00:51:37,170 --> 00:51:39,450  
And did those people that  
you were interpreting for

1057  
00:51:39,450 --> 00:51:40,380  
know you were Jewish?

1058  
00:51:40,380 --> 00:51:44,631

1059  
00:51:44,631 --> 00:51:46,750  
I didn't waste any time  
telling them about it.

1060  
00:51:46,750 --> 00:51:48,280  
But I don't think--

1061  
00:51:48,280 --> 00:51:49,850  
I'm talking about the Germans.

1062  
00:51:49,850 --> 00:51:51,220  
Oh, the Germans?

1063  
00:51:51,220 --> 00:51:52,135  
Oh and how.

1064  
00:51:52,135 --> 00:51:53,960  
How did they know  
you were Jewish?

1065  
00:51:53,960 --> 00:51:56,140  
Oh, I told them.

1066  
00:51:56,140 --> 00:51:59,470  
They were shaking in  
their boots when I came.

1067  
00:51:59,470 --> 00:52:01,870

American intelligence officer.

1068  
00:52:01,870 --> 00:52:05,230  
Oh, my God, I was at  
the Rosenthal factory

1069  
00:52:05,230 --> 00:52:08,180  
in Selb, in Czechoslovakia.

1070  
00:52:08,180 --> 00:52:09,980  
And because the Germans--

1071  
00:52:09,980 --> 00:52:11,730  
actually, I went there  
without an officer.

1072  
00:52:11,730 --> 00:52:14,040  
I was just there  
with a secretary.

1073  
00:52:14,040 --> 00:52:15,010  
It was a Jeep.

1074  
00:52:15,010 --> 00:52:17,380  
They sent me there  
on a special mission,

1075  
00:52:17,380 --> 00:52:21,160  
because they wanted me to  
get certain information.

1076  
00:52:21,160 --> 00:52:25,780  
We had an office in  
Munich at that time.

1077  
00:52:25,780 --> 00:52:29,770  
And because the Germans were  
doing a lot with ceramics,

1078  
00:52:29,770 --> 00:52:34,090  
and a lot was around technical.

1079

00:52:34,090 --> 00:52:35,800  
And one of the  
interesting things

1080  
00:52:35,800 --> 00:52:39,820  
was the prime target,  
intelligence target,

1081  
00:52:39,820 --> 00:52:45,780  
at that time that technical  
intelligence pursued

1082  
00:52:45,780 --> 00:52:49,142  
is the intelligence that the  
Germans had on the Russians.

1083  
00:52:49,142 --> 00:52:51,100  
We were getting ready  
for the next war already.

1084  
00:52:51,100 --> 00:52:55,678

1085  
00:52:55,678 --> 00:52:57,220  
And one of the things  
that was always

1086  
00:52:57,220 --> 00:53:00,250  
very important like--  
that was very far east.

1087  
00:53:00,250 --> 00:53:01,810  
I was in Leipzig too.

1088  
00:53:01,810 --> 00:53:04,240  
Always try to get in there  
before the Russian armies got

1089  
00:53:04,240 --> 00:53:05,460  
in there.

1090  
00:53:05,460 --> 00:53:08,610  
I was in the place--

1091  
00:53:08,610 --> 00:53:11,510  
what is it?

1092  
00:53:11,510 --> 00:53:18,490  
Zeiss and the Zeiss works,  
all over Zeiss works.

1093  
00:53:18,490 --> 00:53:20,230  
Interviewed all the engineers.

1094  
00:53:20,230 --> 00:53:22,060  
And then they we  
couldn't get rid of them.

1095  
00:53:22,060 --> 00:53:24,280  
They wanted to go back with  
us, because the Russians

1096  
00:53:24,280 --> 00:53:26,810  
were coming the next day.

1097  
00:53:26,810 --> 00:53:28,520  
What was it like to  
come back to Germany,

1098  
00:53:28,520 --> 00:53:30,150  
put your foot down  
on German soil?

1099  
00:53:30,150 --> 00:53:34,280

1100  
00:53:34,280 --> 00:53:37,140  
It was unbelievable.

1101  
00:53:37,140 --> 00:53:41,020  
The cities were all destroyed.

1102  
00:53:41,020 --> 00:53:44,270  
The people were homeless.

1103  
00:53:44,270 --> 00:53:46,790  
The children were hanging  
around the garbage

1104  
00:53:46,790 --> 00:53:51,020  
cans trying to get some food.

1105  
00:53:51,020 --> 00:53:56,270  
And you gave a girl an  
orange, and you could never

1106  
00:53:56,270 --> 00:53:58,910  
get rid of her or  
something like that.

1107  
00:53:58,910 --> 00:54:05,530  
And it was incredible.

1108  
00:54:05,530 --> 00:54:10,350  
And, of course, also  
underneath, the scene

1109  
00:54:10,350 --> 00:54:13,086  
that I saw all these DPs.

1110  
00:54:13,086 --> 00:54:15,440  
The country was  
full of DPs and also

1111  
00:54:15,440 --> 00:54:18,940  
around all the military posts.

1112  
00:54:18,940 --> 00:54:21,610  
And the DPs, and  
they were so poor,

1113  
00:54:21,610 --> 00:54:22,930  
and they were so desperate.

1114  
00:54:22,930 --> 00:54:26,107  
And they were trying  
to find a way.

1115  
00:54:26,107 --> 00:54:27,940  
But they were dirty,  
and they were stinking.

1116  
00:54:27,940 --> 00:54:30,710  
And you didn't know  
to be nice to them

1117  
00:54:30,710 --> 00:54:34,960  
or whether to get away  
from me, you know.

1118  
00:54:34,960 --> 00:54:36,830  
Did you identify  
with any of them?

1119  
00:54:36,830 --> 00:54:37,880  
No.

1120  
00:54:37,880 --> 00:54:39,430  
No, not really.

1121  
00:54:39,430 --> 00:54:43,900  
I did in a very abstract way.

1122  
00:54:43,900 --> 00:54:44,620  
What could I do?

1123  
00:54:44,620 --> 00:54:46,110  
You know, I couldn't--

1124  
00:54:46,110 --> 00:54:48,370  
it was not within my--

1125  
00:54:48,370 --> 00:54:50,770  
I had no way to help anybody.

1126  
00:54:50,770 --> 00:54:55,070  
Most of those people that I  
saw couldn't even speak German.

1127

00:54:55,070 --> 00:54:56,810

They spoke broken German.

1128

00:54:56,810 --> 00:55:00,550

They're Eastern European people.

1129

00:55:00,550 --> 00:55:06,450

It's pathetic kind of a  
situation, bad, bad, bad, bad.

1130

00:55:06,450 --> 00:55:10,140

I remember the only  
emotional reaction

1131

00:55:10,140 --> 00:55:14,070

I had be anger when I came back  
here, because people didn't

1132

00:55:14,070 --> 00:55:20,850

even seem to care, because  
all the misery that I've seen,

1133

00:55:20,850 --> 00:55:22,450

the misery.

1134

00:55:22,450 --> 00:55:24,250

I felt sorry.

1135

00:55:24,250 --> 00:55:28,000

I didn't feel anger then  
at the German people.

1136

00:55:28,000 --> 00:55:30,280

No, no, no, I don't feel anger.

1137

00:55:30,280 --> 00:55:31,880

Not at all.

1138

00:55:31,880 --> 00:55:34,900

I never felt angry with  
anybody at that time.



1139

00:55:34,900 --> 00:55:39,640

I just felt sorry,  
because it's so terrible.

1140

00:55:39,640 --> 00:55:42,360

It was a devastation.

1141

00:55:42,360 --> 00:55:46,480

And we were so much better  
off, because we had everything.

1142

00:55:46,480 --> 00:55:48,250

And everybody was  
kowtowing to us.

1143

00:55:48,250 --> 00:55:50,870

We were big shots.

1144

00:55:50,870 --> 00:55:53,995

I told you in Selb, the  
president of the company

1145

00:55:53,995 --> 00:55:55,120

was there taking me around.

1146

00:55:55,120 --> 00:55:57,460

And I was the big shot American.

1147

00:55:57,460 --> 00:56:00,850

He wanted to give me  
the whole 100 piece

1148

00:56:00,850 --> 00:56:04,930

set of Rosenthal porcelain.

1149

00:56:04,930 --> 00:56:06,370

He couldn't do enough for me.

1150

00:56:06,370 --> 00:56:08,400

Give me all the  
information, you know,

1151

00:56:08,400 --> 00:56:12,820  
whatever I wanted to know about  
and whatever secrets they had,

1152

00:56:12,820 --> 00:56:15,740  
I couldn't even  
write it all down.

1153

00:56:15,740 --> 00:56:18,130  
They couldn't do nothing.

1154

00:56:18,130 --> 00:56:19,870  
Again, the people,  
they were running,

1155

00:56:19,870 --> 00:56:23,350  
they were trying to  
save their lives.

1156

00:56:23,350 --> 00:56:28,180  
Look, later, I was with  
my-- how people are--

1157

00:56:28,180 --> 00:56:34,210  
I was with my family in Germany  
in the '60s, in '65 I guess.

1158

00:56:34,210 --> 00:56:36,720  
And we rented a car.

1159

00:56:36,720 --> 00:56:41,380  
And my children and my wife, we  
stopped in a filling station,

1160

00:56:41,380 --> 00:56:42,190  
fill up the car.

1161

00:56:42,190 --> 00:56:44,230  
I had a Mercedes.

1162

00:56:44,230 --> 00:56:47,560  
And I spoke German to the

guy at the filling station

1163  
00:56:47,560 --> 00:56:49,850  
to fill up my car.

1164  
00:56:49,850 --> 00:56:52,285  
And he could tell the  
I looked, my family.

1165  
00:56:52,285 --> 00:56:54,910  
He says, you're  
American, aren't you?

1166  
00:56:54,910 --> 00:56:58,680  
I said, yes, Deutsch,  
you know, German.

1167  
00:56:58,680 --> 00:57:04,830  
And spricht Deutsch, your  
German is wonderful, you know.

1168  
00:57:04,830 --> 00:57:09,476  
So I said, well, ich  
bin Deutsche JÄ¼de.

1169  
00:57:09,476 --> 00:57:12,240  
I'm a German.

1170  
00:57:12,240 --> 00:57:13,815  
I was at the Eastern front.

1171  
00:57:13,815 --> 00:57:18,800

1172  
00:57:18,800 --> 00:57:19,780  
He didn't know a thing.

1173  
00:57:19,780 --> 00:57:23,105

1174  
00:57:23,105 --> 00:57:24,205  
You see?

1175  
00:57:24,205 --> 00:57:25,620  
We laughed.

1176  
00:57:25,620 --> 00:57:26,180  
We laughed.

1177  
00:57:26,180 --> 00:57:28,820

1178  
00:57:28,820 --> 00:57:31,160  
When you were  
interviewing people,

1179  
00:57:31,160 --> 00:57:37,460  
when you were doing  
this intelligence work,

1180  
00:57:37,460 --> 00:57:41,710  
did you feel that you had to  
tell them you were Jewish?

1181  
00:57:41,710 --> 00:57:45,500  
Oh, when it was strictly  
business, I probably didn't.

1182  
00:57:45,500 --> 00:57:47,450  
You know, we talked  
to psychologists.

1183  
00:57:47,450 --> 00:57:51,350  
And we talked to all kinds  
of people, technical things.

1184  
00:57:51,350 --> 00:57:52,250  
I was very busy.

1185  
00:57:52,250 --> 00:57:54,620  
Sometimes, it was very  
difficult for me to interpret.

1186  
00:57:54,620 --> 00:57:58,170

I didn't know the English words, just very technical a lot

1187  
00:57:58,170 --> 00:57:58,960  
of the stuff.

1188  
00:57:58,960 --> 00:58:01,980

1189  
00:58:01,980 --> 00:58:06,580  
And a lot of them were very interesting people, you know.

1190  
00:58:06,580 --> 00:58:09,660  
And some were Nazis.

1191  
00:58:09,660 --> 00:58:11,640  
What did that do to you to be sitting

1192  
00:58:11,640 --> 00:58:13,320  
there talking to a Nazi?

1193  
00:58:13,320 --> 00:58:15,360  
Or interpreting for a Nazi?

1194  
00:58:15,360 --> 00:58:19,140  
Nazis, we just arrested them.

1195  
00:58:19,140 --> 00:58:21,720  
We made sure that they were arrested.

1196  
00:58:21,720 --> 00:58:27,947  
If they weren't some where they were locked up,

1197  
00:58:27,947 --> 00:58:29,530  
we saw to it that they were locked up.

1198  
00:58:29,530 --> 00:58:34,890

There were places all over  
where the Nazis were being kept.

1199  
00:58:34,890 --> 00:58:37,440  
Did you have any gut  
reactions to being with Nazis?

1200  
00:58:37,440 --> 00:58:41,420

1201  
00:58:41,420 --> 00:58:44,415  
Just damn Nazis,  
you know, Nazis.

1202  
00:58:44,415 --> 00:58:47,374

1203  
00:58:47,374 --> 00:58:49,660  
There were all sorts of people.

1204  
00:58:49,660 --> 00:58:52,270  
Sometimes I talked  
to German people

1205  
00:58:52,270 --> 00:58:54,640  
that defended their position.

1206  
00:58:54,640 --> 00:58:58,360  
And then, of course,  
I argued with them.

1207  
00:58:58,360 --> 00:59:03,670  
But deep down, I  
saw that everybody

1208  
00:59:03,670 --> 00:59:09,100  
is just trying to get by,  
trying to make a living, get by.

1209  
00:59:09,100 --> 00:59:10,790  
It was Hitler.

1210

00:59:10,790 --> 00:59:12,750  
It was Hitler that did it all.

1211  
00:59:12,750 --> 00:59:15,490  
Nobody but Hitler.

1212  
00:59:15,490 --> 00:59:19,270  
The rest of them just  
did what they were told.

1213  
00:59:19,270 --> 00:59:21,725  
You can't believe  
how brutal they were.

1214  
00:59:21,725 --> 00:59:25,440  
You can't believe how  
terrible it was in Germany.

1215  
00:59:25,440 --> 00:59:30,000  
I mean, I know I have  
people that told me--

1216  
00:59:30,000 --> 00:59:36,720  
I was with my granddaughter  
in Paderborn three years ago.

1217  
00:59:36,720 --> 00:59:43,280  
And we had dinner  
in this lady's house

1218  
00:59:43,280 --> 00:59:45,060  
that is a professor  
that is writing

1219  
00:59:45,060 --> 00:59:48,690  
books about the  
Jewish families there.

1220  
00:59:48,690 --> 00:59:51,060  
And I had been  
corresponding with her.

1221  
00:59:51,060 --> 00:59:53,320

And that's how I first met  
my connections, contacts

1222  
00:59:53,320 --> 00:59:53,910  
over there.

1223  
00:59:53,910 --> 00:59:55,890  
Fantastic lady.

1224  
00:59:55,890 --> 00:59:58,890  
And she invited this man.

1225  
00:59:58,890 --> 01:00:00,130  
His name was Dr. Offenberg.

1226  
01:00:00,130 --> 01:00:03,360  
He was man in his 80s.

1227  
01:00:03,360 --> 01:00:07,230  
And we were talking, and he knew  
a lot of the Jewish families

1228  
01:00:07,230 --> 01:00:09,390  
in Paderborn, my grandparents.

1229  
01:00:09,390 --> 01:00:11,360  
He knew my grandfather.

1230  
01:00:11,360 --> 01:00:14,400  
And his father had already  
been an attorney there.

1231  
01:00:14,400 --> 01:00:18,570  
And he had himself had been  
a captain in the Wehrmacht.

1232  
01:00:18,570 --> 01:00:26,790  
And my brother's daughter, my  
niece, was sitting next to me.

1233  
01:00:26,790 --> 01:00:30,090  
And she said to him in



English-- he spoke English--

1234  
01:00:30,090 --> 01:00:32,560  
she said, Dr.  
Offenberg, she said,

1235  
01:00:32,560 --> 01:00:36,530  
how was it possible that  
in a country like Germany

1236  
01:00:36,530 --> 01:00:40,440  
people could do  
things like this?

1237  
01:00:40,440 --> 01:00:43,260  
And he said, let me  
tell you something.

1238  
01:00:43,260 --> 01:00:48,250  
He said, when Hitler  
first came to power,

1239  
01:00:48,250 --> 01:00:50,980  
Hindenburg had prostate cancer.

1240  
01:00:50,980 --> 01:00:53,290  
The country was in a mess.

1241  
01:00:53,290 --> 01:00:55,150  
He was a [GERMAN].

1242  
01:00:55,150 --> 01:00:59,140  
He was an idiot, subaltern.

1243  
01:00:59,140 --> 01:01:02,950  
We thought this guy not  
going to last three months.

1244  
01:01:02,950 --> 01:01:04,090  
he was an idiot.

1245  
01:01:04,090 --> 01:01:05,740

He was a rabble rouser.

1246

01:01:05,740 --> 01:01:08,770

Nobody paid much  
attention to him.

1247

01:01:08,770 --> 01:01:14,360

But then, they were so good  
and they were so ruthless.

1248

01:01:14,360 --> 01:01:15,370

I had a friend--

1249

01:01:15,370 --> 01:01:18,870

I was actually there  
when it happened.

1250

01:01:18,870 --> 01:01:22,300

It was a young man in the  
district attorney's office.

1251

01:01:22,300 --> 01:01:24,730

And the Nazi  
[? bunsens ?] came in

1252

01:01:24,730 --> 01:01:29,703

with their swastikas and their  
brown shirts and armbands.

1253

01:01:29,703 --> 01:01:31,370

They clicked their  
heels, and they said,

1254

01:01:31,370 --> 01:01:33,270

Heil Hitler, you see.

1255

01:01:33,270 --> 01:01:36,730

And this guy didn't  
raise his hand.

1256

01:01:36,730 --> 01:01:38,200

So they said to  
him, don't you know

1257  
01:01:38,200 --> 01:01:40,970  
what you're supposed to do?

1258  
01:01:40,970 --> 01:01:43,240  
And he answered,  
nicht mehr langer.

1259  
01:01:43,240 --> 01:01:46,300  
That means not much longer now.

1260  
01:01:46,300 --> 01:01:49,340  
Well, he disappeared.

1261  
01:01:49,340 --> 01:01:51,710  
And I found out after the  
war that he was executed.

1262  
01:01:51,710 --> 01:01:55,390

1263  
01:01:55,390 --> 01:01:58,120  
That's all he did.

1264  
01:01:58,120 --> 01:02:01,270  
If you showed any  
attitude that you

1265  
01:02:01,270 --> 01:02:06,130  
didn't go along with the  
program, sister, that was it.

1266  
01:02:06,130 --> 01:02:08,150  
That's how they operated.

1267  
01:02:08,150 --> 01:02:11,920  
And that's how that whole  
thing was organized.

1268  
01:02:11,920 --> 01:02:13,780  
That was demagoguery.

1269

01:02:13,780 --> 01:02:15,880

That was power.

1270

01:02:15,880 --> 01:02:18,160

They knew how to use that power.

1271

01:02:18,160 --> 01:02:22,000

They had made up their  
mind before they started.

1272

01:02:22,000 --> 01:02:26,850

And Hitler himself personally  
orchestrated all that.

1273

01:02:26,850 --> 01:02:29,208

He was the one.

1274

01:02:29,208 --> 01:02:32,730

The people were terrified.

1275

01:02:32,730 --> 01:02:37,030

Let's talk about your journeys  
to some of these labor camps.

1276

01:02:37,030 --> 01:02:39,150

Where did you go to?

1277

01:02:39,150 --> 01:02:39,750

Nordhausen.

1278

01:02:39,750 --> 01:02:42,100

I was in Nordhausen and  
was in another place

1279

01:02:42,100 --> 01:02:46,096

near Braunschweig too.

1280

01:02:46,096 --> 01:02:48,300

Let's talk about Nordhausen.

1281

01:02:48,300 --> 01:02:49,920

Were you prepared  
for any of this?

1282  
01:02:49,920 --> 01:02:52,660  
Did they give you any  
background information?

1283  
01:02:52,660 --> 01:02:53,160  
No.

1284  
01:02:53,160 --> 01:02:57,610  
They said it was a place where  
they had made V2 rockets.

1285  
01:02:57,610 --> 01:03:00,520  
And the Air Force  
was interested in it.

1286  
01:03:00,520 --> 01:03:02,810  
I was in there with engineers.

1287  
01:03:02,810 --> 01:03:09,310  
And they still had people there  
that were very, very sick.

1288  
01:03:09,310 --> 01:03:12,730

1289  
01:03:12,730 --> 01:03:15,750  
It was really almost before  
the infantry got there.

1290  
01:03:15,750 --> 01:03:19,420  
It was still terrible, terrible,  
terrible, terrible, terrible

1291  
01:03:19,420 --> 01:03:20,490  
conditions.

1292  
01:03:20,490 --> 01:03:21,820  
Can you describe Nordhausen?

1293

01:03:21,820 --> 01:03:25,280  
The smell and, you  
know, the people,

1294  
01:03:25,280 --> 01:03:27,540  
they looked like animals.

1295  
01:03:27,540 --> 01:03:31,750  
They looked terrible, in  
tatters and rags and eyes,

1296  
01:03:31,750 --> 01:03:33,580  
and you could see  
they were dying.

1297  
01:03:33,580 --> 01:03:36,750  
And it was terrible.

1298  
01:03:36,750 --> 01:03:38,730  
Did you go up to any of them?

1299  
01:03:38,730 --> 01:03:40,010  
No.

1300  
01:03:40,010 --> 01:03:41,760  
I was scared.

1301  
01:03:41,760 --> 01:03:42,590  
Nothing I could do.

1302  
01:03:42,590 --> 01:03:43,090  
No.

1303  
01:03:43,090 --> 01:03:44,850  
I stayed with the program.

1304  
01:03:44,850 --> 01:03:47,070  
I stayed with the  
officers, you know.

1305  
01:03:47,070 --> 01:03:50,910  
And everybody--

all the Americans,

1306

01:03:50,910 --> 01:03:56,360

they couldn't believe it.

1307

01:03:56,360 --> 01:03:58,520

Nobody could

believe what we saw.

1308

01:03:58,520 --> 01:03:59,630

Nobody could believe it.

1309

01:03:59,630 --> 01:04:02,310

I couldn't even describe it.

1310

01:04:02,310 --> 01:04:03,840

You can't describe it.

1311

01:04:03,840 --> 01:04:05,580

I can't describe it.

1312

01:04:05,580 --> 01:04:10,740

And then you think

that could be me.

1313

01:04:10,740 --> 01:04:15,280

What do you think when you see  
a homeless person in the street?

1314

01:04:15,280 --> 01:04:18,030

All right, that's

a good analogy.

1315

01:04:18,030 --> 01:04:21,630

You go downtown and you see  
these people that are laying

1316

01:04:21,630 --> 01:04:23,670

on these grates or whatever.

1317

01:04:23,670 --> 01:04:24,570

What do you do?

1318  
01:04:24,570 --> 01:04:26,670  
Do you go up and talk to them?

1319  
01:04:26,670 --> 01:04:29,160  
You don't, right?

1320  
01:04:29,160 --> 01:04:32,550  
And neither did I. I was  
just like everybody else.

1321  
01:04:32,550 --> 01:04:37,580  
But it was like terrible,  
terrible, terrible, terrible,

1322  
01:04:37,580 --> 01:04:39,340  
something like that  
could have happened.

1323  
01:04:39,340 --> 01:04:41,040  
How is it possible?

1324  
01:04:41,040 --> 01:04:42,890  
You don't know.

1325  
01:04:42,890 --> 01:04:44,820  
Did any of them,  
any other prisoners

1326  
01:04:44,820 --> 01:04:47,556  
try to talk to German to you?

1327  
01:04:47,556 --> 01:04:49,024  
No.

1328  
01:04:49,024 --> 01:04:49,524  
No.

1329  
01:04:49,524 --> 01:04:52,452  
They didn't, no.

1330



01:04:52,452 --> 01:04:53,535  
I didn't have any contact.

1331  
01:04:53,535 --> 01:04:56,475

1332  
01:04:56,475 --> 01:04:58,470  
It was not like that.

1333  
01:04:58,470 --> 01:05:00,340  
There was not an  
opportunity for that.

1334  
01:05:00,340 --> 01:05:01,290  
We had to--

1335  
01:05:01,290 --> 01:05:03,446  
How long were you in Nordhausen?

1336  
01:05:03,446 --> 01:05:06,600  
An hour.

1337  
01:05:06,600 --> 01:05:08,820  
Did you go into any  
of the barracks?

1338  
01:05:08,820 --> 01:05:10,540  
No.

1339  
01:05:10,540 --> 01:05:11,850  
You just went into the factory?

1340  
01:05:11,850 --> 01:05:14,760  
Went into the tunnels.

1341  
01:05:14,760 --> 01:05:18,160  
And they had already  
abandoned the work area.

1342  
01:05:18,160 --> 01:05:24,500  
But we got some documents and  
some things that they needed.

1343  
01:05:24,500 --> 01:05:26,800  
When were you there?

1344  
01:05:26,800 --> 01:05:32,262  
Very, very early, one of my  
first trips out of Paris.

1345  
01:05:32,262 --> 01:05:34,560  
So this would be what, May '45?

1346  
01:05:34,560 --> 01:05:39,160  
Yeah, '45, late '45.

1347  
01:05:39,160 --> 01:05:41,890  
What other labor  
camps did you go to?

1348  
01:05:41,890 --> 01:05:43,030  
I don't remember the name.

1349  
01:05:43,030 --> 01:05:48,860  
But I was in a place  
near Brunswick.

1350  
01:05:48,860 --> 01:05:51,480  
It was in a field.

1351  
01:05:51,480 --> 01:05:52,110  
What was there?

1352  
01:05:52,110 --> 01:05:54,660

1353  
01:05:54,660 --> 01:05:58,980  
By this time, the  
Germans had left.

1354  
01:05:58,980 --> 01:06:01,440  
And there was still the  
stragglers around there.

1355

01:06:01,440 --> 01:06:03,540

There were still people  
straggling around.

1356

01:06:03,540 --> 01:06:10,820

There were already American  
troops in the area.

1357

01:06:10,820 --> 01:06:14,130

1358

01:06:14,130 --> 01:06:15,170

Terrible condition.

1359

01:06:15,170 --> 01:06:17,330

Terrible.

1360

01:06:17,330 --> 01:06:20,850

Again, were you given any  
background information,

1361

01:06:20,850 --> 01:06:22,110

any preparation?

1362

01:06:22,110 --> 01:06:22,730

No.

1363

01:06:22,730 --> 01:06:24,190

No, not really.

1364

01:06:24,190 --> 01:06:24,690

Not really.

1365

01:06:24,690 --> 01:06:26,630

Nobody really knew.

1366

01:06:26,630 --> 01:06:32,240

No nobody had any idea  
of the dimensions of it.

1367

01:06:32,240 --> 01:06:34,500

It was just even  
recently that people

1368  
01:06:34,500 --> 01:06:37,570  
knew that there were  
concentration camps everywhere,

1369  
01:06:37,570 --> 01:06:40,440  
hundreds of them.

1370  
01:06:40,440 --> 01:06:44,100  
First you thought there was  
just Dachau and Auschwitz

1371  
01:06:44,100 --> 01:06:48,460  
and Buchenwald, Bergen-Belsen.

1372  
01:06:48,460 --> 01:06:52,450  
It was everywhere, everywhere.

1373  
01:06:52,450 --> 01:06:56,360  
And everywhere these terrible  
cruelties were going on,

1374  
01:06:56,360 --> 01:07:01,380  
and these terrible, terrible  
things were happening.

1375  
01:07:01,380 --> 01:07:05,790  
I was in Westphalia in  
a place after the war

1376  
01:07:05,790 --> 01:07:10,170  
where they had a place  
where the Nazis had

1377  
01:07:10,170 --> 01:07:11,840  
taken this whole village.

1378  
01:07:11,840 --> 01:07:14,040  
This was for the SS.

1379

01:07:14,040 --> 01:07:15,660  
And they'd made the farmers--

1380  
01:07:15,660 --> 01:07:20,373  
they'd resettled the farmers  
somewhere in Eastern Germany,

1381  
01:07:20,373 --> 01:07:21,540  
promising them better farms.

1382  
01:07:21,540 --> 01:07:24,360

1383  
01:07:24,360 --> 01:07:26,240  
And what they were  
trying to do, they

1384  
01:07:26,240 --> 01:07:29,190  
were trying to create  
a super race there.

1385  
01:07:29,190 --> 01:07:33,660  
They had women there that they  
were breeding perfect Nazis.

1386  
01:07:33,660 --> 01:07:36,420  
Well, of course, the  
experiment failed.

1387  
01:07:36,420 --> 01:07:38,850  
But then it was in the castle.

1388  
01:07:38,850 --> 01:07:42,510  
And the big shots-- and it was  
something that was actually

1389  
01:07:42,510 --> 01:07:46,280  
endorsed directly by the top  
people, Hitler, you know,

1390  
01:07:46,280 --> 01:07:51,920  
whatever the top lieutenants  
were, Goebbels and whatever.

1391  
01:07:51,920 --> 01:07:56,160  
And now, it's a museum.

1392  
01:07:56,160 --> 01:07:58,470  
And they had like a guardhouse.

1393  
01:07:58,470 --> 01:08:00,030  
And they have all  
the letters there.

1394  
01:08:00,030 --> 01:08:03,240  
And they had all tortures  
and the prisoners

1395  
01:08:03,240 --> 01:08:05,070  
and what they did to them.

1396  
01:08:05,070 --> 01:08:06,690  
Unbelievable.

1397  
01:08:06,690 --> 01:08:08,910  
And even to this  
day, nobody knows,

1398  
01:08:08,910 --> 01:08:14,940  
because they told me there  
that when the Allies came,

1399  
01:08:14,940 --> 01:08:18,359  
there was a fire and burned  
a lot of the stuff up

1400  
01:08:18,359 --> 01:08:19,750  
towards the end.

1401  
01:08:19,750 --> 01:08:24,060  
The Nazis knew to destroy it.

1402  
01:08:24,060 --> 01:08:26,550  
Do you think you were  
any different when

1403  
01:08:26,550 --> 01:08:29,580  
you went into places like  
Nordhausen and other labor

1404  
01:08:29,580 --> 01:08:32,580  
camps, were you  
any different than

1405  
01:08:32,580 --> 01:08:38,330  
another typical American soldier  
because of your background?

1406  
01:08:38,330 --> 01:08:43,819  
Do you think your  
response was different?

1407  
01:08:43,819 --> 01:08:47,069  
No, I don't think my  
response was any different.

1408  
01:08:47,069 --> 01:08:51,840  
But I think I was different.

1409  
01:08:51,840 --> 01:08:59,590  
All the time, I told my  
buddies, now, more than ever--

1410  
01:08:59,590 --> 01:09:03,000  
and I had already told them that  
earlier too during the war--

1411  
01:09:03,000 --> 01:09:05,850  
I knew why I'm in the army.

1412  
01:09:05,850 --> 01:09:07,800  
I know what I'm fighting for.

1413  
01:09:07,800 --> 01:09:10,439  
I've really got  
something to fight for.

1414

01:09:10,439 --> 01:09:12,439  
But they said, no,  
we're right with you.

1415  
01:09:12,439 --> 01:09:15,439  
We're fighting for the  
same thing, they told me.

1416  
01:09:15,439 --> 01:09:17,740  
You're not by yourself.

1417  
01:09:17,740 --> 01:09:20,050  
My friends told me that.

1418  
01:09:20,050 --> 01:09:20,800  
We talked.

1419  
01:09:20,800 --> 01:09:24,069  
We drink a beer and we  
talked about stuff like that.

1420  
01:09:24,069 --> 01:09:25,660  
I said, I really--

1421  
01:09:25,660 --> 01:09:27,189  
this is my people, you know.

1422  
01:09:27,189 --> 01:09:30,130

1423  
01:09:30,130 --> 01:09:34,840  
But, you know, I was also  
with the other German guys

1424  
01:09:34,840 --> 01:09:37,930  
too when we got back to  
Paris or back to London

1425  
01:09:37,930 --> 01:09:40,000  
when we were in the office.

1426  
01:09:40,000 --> 01:09:42,779



And you know something it's a funny thing that it comes up

1427  
01:09:42,779 --> 01:09:44,500  
that we never talked about it.

1428  
01:09:44,500 --> 01:09:48,279  
We talked about, did you go back to your hometown?

1429  
01:09:48,279 --> 01:09:49,029  
Things like that.

1430  
01:09:49,029 --> 01:09:49,870  
What did you do?

1431  
01:09:49,870 --> 01:09:51,130  
Did you take a gun?

1432  
01:09:51,130 --> 01:09:52,439  
Did you kill somebody?

1433  
01:09:52,439 --> 01:09:53,810  
You know what I mean?

1434  
01:09:53,810 --> 01:09:56,480  
We talked about stuff like that?

1435  
01:09:56,480 --> 01:09:58,310  
Did you go back to Hanover?

1436  
01:09:58,310 --> 01:10:01,670  
They wouldn't let me go.

1437  
01:10:01,670 --> 01:10:05,070  
I was in Brunswick,  
which is very close.

1438  
01:10:05,070 --> 01:10:06,570  
And I wanted to go.

1439

01:10:06,570 --> 01:10:08,630  
But I was with this colonel.

1440  
01:10:08,630 --> 01:10:12,110  
And I wanted to go to Hanover,  
which was only about an hour,

1441  
01:10:12,110 --> 01:10:13,715  
you know.

1442  
01:10:13,715 --> 01:10:15,590  
At night, I was going  
take a Jeep and I said,

1443  
01:10:15,590 --> 01:10:17,170  
I want to see Hanover.

1444  
01:10:17,170 --> 01:10:18,170  
No, he says.

1445  
01:10:18,170 --> 01:10:19,970  
If you go, I'm going  
to declare you AWOL.

1446  
01:10:19,970 --> 01:10:21,360  
I don't want you to go.

1447  
01:10:21,360 --> 01:10:23,060  
You stay right here with me.

1448  
01:10:23,060 --> 01:10:27,370  
There are Russians out here,  
and I don't want you to go.

1449  
01:10:27,370 --> 01:10:29,620  
So I didn't go.

1450  
01:10:29,620 --> 01:10:34,540  
I never did get back to Hanover  
until long after the war.

1451  
01:10:34,540 --> 01:10:36,720

I didn't get back to  
Westphalia either.

1452  
01:10:36,720 --> 01:10:38,940  
That was in the British zone.

1453  
01:10:38,940 --> 01:10:39,700  
See?

1454  
01:10:39,700 --> 01:10:43,530  
Paderborn and all these places,  
I didn't get back to many years

1455  
01:10:43,530 --> 01:10:45,380  
later.

1456  
01:10:45,380 --> 01:10:48,390  
So you stayed over in  
Europe for how long?

1457  
01:10:48,390 --> 01:10:49,270  
In where?

1458  
01:10:49,270 --> 01:10:52,690  
In Europe for how long?

1459  
01:10:52,690 --> 01:10:53,650  
In the army.

1460  
01:10:53,650 --> 01:11:01,710  
Yeah, I came back in 1946.

1461  
01:11:01,710 --> 01:11:03,520  
1946, I came home.

1462  
01:11:03,520 --> 01:11:09,610  
What did you do in the summer  
and in the fall of 1945?

1463  
01:11:09,610 --> 01:11:12,910  
Well, I was sent  
back to England.

1464  
01:11:12,910 --> 01:11:15,380  
And then the war was over.

1465  
01:11:15,380 --> 01:11:17,590  
And they made me a translator.

1466  
01:11:17,590 --> 01:11:20,860  
And I worked in an  
office above Marble Arch

1467  
01:11:20,860 --> 01:11:25,400  
translating German  
technical documents.

1468  
01:11:25,400 --> 01:11:27,860  
And then because I  
had a lot of time

1469  
01:11:27,860 --> 01:11:31,425  
in the ETO and everything-- of  
course, I spent a lot of time

1470  
01:11:31,425 --> 01:11:32,050  
with my father.

1471  
01:11:32,050 --> 01:11:33,650  
I sent my brother away ready.

1472  
01:11:33,650 --> 01:11:35,360  
My brother was here.

1473  
01:11:35,360 --> 01:11:47,960  
And I applied to  
get home, you know.

1474  
01:11:47,960 --> 01:11:52,150  
What I had a chance to do,  
the translation center--

1475  
01:11:52,150 --> 01:11:55,810

1476  
01:11:55,810 --> 01:11:57,640  
oh, my life, I  
did these things--

1477  
01:11:57,640 --> 01:12:01,400  
they had something in  
Wright Field, Ohio.

1478  
01:12:01,400 --> 01:12:06,760  
And they decided to send me to  
Wright Field in the service.

1479  
01:12:06,760 --> 01:12:10,390  
I was in the service, special  
kind of accommodations

1480  
01:12:10,390 --> 01:12:14,260  
and everything, to go to Wright  
Field to be a translator there.

1481  
01:12:14,260 --> 01:12:15,940  
What was your rank then?

1482  
01:12:15,940 --> 01:12:17,346  
I was still a  
technical sergeant.

1483  
01:12:17,346 --> 01:12:23,050

1484  
01:12:23,050 --> 01:12:25,960  
And, of course, I was  
ready to go right away.

1485  
01:12:25,960 --> 01:12:28,610  
I was getting back to America.

1486  
01:12:28,610 --> 01:12:31,300  
And I went to Wright Field.

1487  
01:12:31,300 --> 01:12:33,970

I went on a boat,  
went through New York.

1488  
01:12:33,970 --> 01:12:37,390  
I got out at Times Square and  
I saw Frank Sinatra singing

1489  
01:12:37,390 --> 01:12:41,090  
and the women, the  
girls, screaming.

1490  
01:12:41,090 --> 01:12:44,570  
And then and then I  
went to Wright Field.

1491  
01:12:44,570 --> 01:12:46,550  
And as soon as I  
got to Wright Field,

1492  
01:12:46,550 --> 01:12:48,530  
I applied for my discharge.

1493  
01:12:48,530 --> 01:12:54,570  
And they came-- they told  
us that I was eligible.

1494  
01:12:54,570 --> 01:12:58,280  
And they came and they offered  
me a government job right away.

1495  
01:12:58,280 --> 01:12:59,990  
They needed us--

1496  
01:12:59,990 --> 01:13:00,570  
To do what?

1497  
01:13:00,570 --> 01:13:03,540  
Civil service job, to stay  
there as a translator.

1498  
01:13:03,540 --> 01:13:07,440

1499

01:13:07,440 --> 01:13:10,750

And I could have gotten  
like \$100 a week,

1500

01:13:10,750 --> 01:13:13,660

which was a lot already,  
and then right away,

1501

01:13:13,660 --> 01:13:15,940

a civil service rank.

1502

01:13:15,940 --> 01:13:17,570

But I didn't want  
any part of it.

1503

01:13:17,570 --> 01:13:21,710

I wanted to get out and be free.

1504

01:13:21,710 --> 01:13:23,860

Be free.

1505

01:13:23,860 --> 01:13:27,800

And I applied for my discharge.

1506

01:13:27,800 --> 01:13:36,253

And on January 11,  
1947, I was discharged.

1507

01:13:36,253 --> 01:13:37,420

Why did you want to be free?

1508

01:13:37,420 --> 01:13:39,830

What did you mean by that?

1509

01:13:39,830 --> 01:13:42,070

I didn't like the  
being in service,

1510

01:13:42,070 --> 01:13:43,270

of being in the government.

1511

01:13:43,270 --> 01:13:47,395

I wanted to be on my  
own and do my own thing.

1512

01:13:47,395 --> 01:13:49,300

So where did you go then?

1513

01:13:49,300 --> 01:13:50,290

I came to Washington.

1514

01:13:50,290 --> 01:13:53,880

I stayed with my  
mother at first.

1515

01:13:53,880 --> 01:13:56,060

She lived in Washington then.

1516

01:13:56,060 --> 01:14:01,770

And my brother was  
already in service.

1517

01:14:01,770 --> 01:14:05,595

And first, I took a trip.

1518

01:14:05,595 --> 01:14:07,810

I hitchhiked on an airplane.

1519

01:14:07,810 --> 01:14:09,720

I had my uniform still.

1520

01:14:09,720 --> 01:14:12,450

And I hitchhiked  
from National Airport

1521

01:14:12,450 --> 01:14:17,250

all the way to Albuquerque, New  
Mexico, to different places.

1522

01:14:17,250 --> 01:14:22,290

And I applied back for  
my job, that company

1523



01:14:22,290 --> 01:14:24,390  
was working, because  
as a veteran,

1524  
01:14:24,390 --> 01:14:27,220  
I was entitled to  
get my job back.

1525  
01:14:27,220 --> 01:14:29,730  
And they offered me a job.

1526  
01:14:29,730 --> 01:14:33,480  
They wanted to make me the  
manager of the tired apartment

1527  
01:14:33,480 --> 01:14:35,340  
in Las Vegas.

1528  
01:14:35,340 --> 01:14:38,660  
And I think that job  
paid \$100 a week.

1529  
01:14:38,660 --> 01:14:41,700  
And I knew then that cab  
drivers were making \$100 a week

1530  
01:14:41,700 --> 01:14:42,720  
in Washington.

1531  
01:14:42,720 --> 01:14:44,550  
My mother was here.

1532  
01:14:44,550 --> 01:14:47,090  
And I told them  
I'd let them know.

1533  
01:14:47,090 --> 01:14:48,000