Andrew Glass RG-50.106*0165

Andrew Glass discusses:

- his early childhood (born November 30, 1935) in Warsaw, Poland sending much time in his wealthy grandfather's house, because of his mother's illness.
- his grandfather Jacob repatriating millions of dollars which had been deposited in Switzerland, New York and London, back into zlotys in Poland because of a 1939 government decree.
- hearing planes and bombs exploding in September 1939. Father, Marian, inducted into the Home Army clearing rubble and filling sandbags. Marian supplied gas to a gentile taxi driver and the two families drove east on September 13. After the gas ran out, the Glass family went by horse and cart, by train and on foot to Vilna, Lithuania.
- while on a trip back to Warsaw to get his parents, Marian was picked up by a Lithuanian patrol, was released after he agreed with them that FDR was Jewish. His father refused to leave Poland and was later killed by the Nazis, as well as his 104 year old aunt.
- the family receiving 3 Japanese visas from Chiune Sugihara, the Japanese Consul. Then they paid \$600 to get Soviet transit visas after Marian falsely agreed to be a Soviet spy when he got to the US.
- traveling on the Trans-Siberian Railway, leaving in October 1940 and arriving in Japan in December 1940.
- Marian getting 3 residence visas to the Dominican Republic and a one week transit visa from the American Consul in Tokyo. In April 1941, the family sailed on the Kama Kumakara, with a circus aboard and cages of lions and tigers, via Hawaii, to San Francisco.
- taking the train to New York, staying until 1943 when they immigrated to Canada and then reentered under the Polish quota. His father worked in a defense plant and his mother was a seamstress in New York.
- being determined not to feel different, telling friends he was descended from Andrew Jackson because of his same first name. Family became citizens in 1948. He attended Yale, was inducted into the army and then became a journalist.
- working for the NY Herald Tribune, the Washington Post, Senators Javits and Percy, and Cox newspapers from 1974-2001. He was a Fellow at Harvard and the managing editor of The Hill newspaper. He has traveled with Presidents George H.W. Bush, Carter and Clinton and has met many Poles professionally.
- investing in a newspaper in Poland and helping to set up a bureau there after the fall of Communism
- feeling that he is living on borrowed time, that life is precious, and that there is a randomness to who survives.