

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:12,190

2  
00:00:12,190 --> 00:00:15,130  
This is the United States  
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3  
00:00:15,130 --> 00:00:18,280  
interview with Sol  
Mackler, conducted

4  
00:00:18,280 --> 00:00:27,100  
by Gail Schwartz on December  
28, 2009 in Rockville, Maryland.

5  
00:00:27,100 --> 00:00:28,690  
That's right.

6  
00:00:28,690 --> 00:00:31,300  
What is your full name?

7  
00:00:31,300 --> 00:00:39,400  
Sol, S-O-L, and my last  
name is M-A-C-K-L-E-R.

8  
00:00:39,400 --> 00:00:41,500  
And where were you born?

9  
00:00:41,500 --> 00:00:46,620  
Poland-- in Jedlnia, in Poland.

10  
00:00:46,620 --> 00:00:50,260  
In Poland, and  
when were you born?

11  
00:00:50,260 --> 00:00:54,010  
January 5th, 1921.

12  
00:00:54,010 --> 00:00:56,425  
Let's talk a little  
bit about your family.

13  
00:00:56,425 --> 00:00:59,050

14  
00:00:59,050 --> 00:01:01,493  
Your parents, were they  
from that town also?

15  
00:01:01,493 --> 00:01:02,410  
That town also, they--

16  
00:01:02,410 --> 00:01:03,580  
They were born in that town?

17  
00:01:03,580 --> 00:01:05,260  
Right.

18  
00:01:05,260 --> 00:01:10,870  
They were born in town where  
I was raised, in that town.

19  
00:01:10,870 --> 00:01:12,480  
What were your parents' names?

20  
00:01:12,480 --> 00:01:12,980  
Jankel.

21  
00:01:12,980 --> 00:01:14,970  
Mackler?

22  
00:01:14,970 --> 00:01:20,320  
Mackler, and my  
mother was Esther.

23  
00:01:20,320 --> 00:01:24,280  
And did you have any  
brothers and sisters?

24  
00:01:24,280 --> 00:01:26,920  
I had [? Jarma ?].

25

00:01:26,920 --> 00:01:28,590  
That's the oldest brother.

26  
00:01:28,590 --> 00:01:31,030  
OK.

27  
00:01:31,030 --> 00:01:36,880  
My sister was two  
years older than me,

28  
00:01:36,880 --> 00:01:41,050  
her name was  
[? Fela, Feiga Fela. ?]

29  
00:01:41,050 --> 00:01:43,390  
And any other siblings, or  
those were your two siblings?

30  
00:01:43,390 --> 00:01:44,440  
I don't remember them.

31  
00:01:44,440 --> 00:01:45,520  
Yes, we had them.

32  
00:01:45,520 --> 00:01:46,650  
You had other siblings?

33  
00:01:46,650 --> 00:01:47,310  
Yes.

34  
00:01:47,310 --> 00:01:48,760  
Yeah, OK.

35  
00:01:48,760 --> 00:01:51,230  
And what kind of work  
did your father do?

36  
00:01:51,230 --> 00:01:54,210  
My father was a butcher.

37  
00:01:54,210 --> 00:01:59,050  
And I was also the same thing.

38  
00:01:59,050 --> 00:02:00,694  
Yeah, well that was later on?

39  
00:02:00,694 --> 00:02:01,510  
Yeah.

40  
00:02:01,510 --> 00:02:05,760  
We're still-- you're  
still in your childhood.

41  
00:02:05,760 --> 00:02:07,670  
So did your mother  
work, or was she home?

42  
00:02:07,670 --> 00:02:09,610  
No, no, she was home.

43  
00:02:09,610 --> 00:02:10,870  
She was home.

44  
00:02:10,870 --> 00:02:13,510  
And what about  
grandparents and cousins?

45  
00:02:13,510 --> 00:02:16,210  
Did you have what we  
call extended family?

46  
00:02:16,210 --> 00:02:23,730  
Extended family, we  
had my grandparents.

47  
00:02:23,730 --> 00:02:24,360  
Grandparents?

48  
00:02:24,360 --> 00:02:24,930  
Yes.

49  
00:02:24,930 --> 00:02:26,040  
On both sides?

50

00:02:26,040 --> 00:02:30,160

No, just on my father's side.

51

00:02:30,160 --> 00:02:36,510

His name was [? Morris. ?]

52

00:02:36,510 --> 00:02:40,720

And what did he do?

53

00:02:40,720 --> 00:02:41,880

Also was a butcher.

54

00:02:41,880 --> 00:02:42,510

Butcher, OK.

55

00:02:42,510 --> 00:02:43,530

Yeah.

56

00:02:43,530 --> 00:02:48,610

And were you close to your  
cousins and aunts and uncles?

57

00:02:48,610 --> 00:02:49,800

I was too young.

58

00:02:49,800 --> 00:02:51,630

OK.

59

00:02:51,630 --> 00:02:54,400

Was your family a  
very religious family?

60

00:02:54,400 --> 00:02:56,700

Yes, devout religious.

61

00:02:56,700 --> 00:02:58,190

Very observant?

62

00:02:58,190 --> 00:02:59,260

Yeah.

63

00:02:59,260 --> 00:03:01,050  
And how did you celebrate that?

64

00:03:01,050 --> 00:03:02,730  
Did you celebrate Shabbat?

65

00:03:02,730 --> 00:03:08,870  
Shabbat, Shabbos, and all  
the holidays, yes definitely.

66

00:03:08,870 --> 00:03:10,890  
Yeah.

67

00:03:10,890 --> 00:03:14,220  
And do you have any special  
memories of any of the holidays

68

00:03:14,220 --> 00:03:16,590  
you want to talk about?

69

00:03:16,590 --> 00:03:18,060  
No.

70

00:03:18,060 --> 00:03:21,955  
Just, you know, the regular  
Rosh ha-Shanah Yom Kippur.

71

00:03:21,955 --> 00:03:23,205  
And you went to the synagogue?

72

00:03:23,205 --> 00:03:25,140  
The synagogue, yes.

73

00:03:25,140 --> 00:03:27,090  
Tell me about the town itself?

74

00:03:27,090 --> 00:03:29,250  
Was it a small  
village or a big town?

75

00:03:29,250 --> 00:03:31,730

Very small village.

76

00:03:31,730 --> 00:03:34,530

All together maybe  
about 18 families.

77

00:03:34,530 --> 00:03:36,923

18 Jewish families?

78

00:03:36,923 --> 00:03:37,590

Jewish families.

79

00:03:37,590 --> 00:03:39,840

Yeah, and were there  
non-Jews in the--

80

00:03:39,840 --> 00:03:42,200

Oh, plenty non-Jews,  
yeah, Gentile.

81

00:03:42,200 --> 00:03:45,240

OK, and what part of the  
town did you live in?

82

00:03:45,240 --> 00:03:47,570

Did you live in  
the Jewish section?

83

00:03:47,570 --> 00:03:49,400

In the middle of the town.

84

00:03:49,400 --> 00:03:50,520

Right in the town center?

85

00:03:50,520 --> 00:03:51,020

Yeah.

86

00:03:51,020 --> 00:03:53,250

Were there non-Jewish neighbors?

87

00:03:53,250 --> 00:03:55,320

Neighbors, yes.

88

00:03:55,320 --> 00:03:57,990

And did you experience  
any antisemitism

89

00:03:57,990 --> 00:04:00,390

from the non-Jewish neighbors?

90

00:04:00,390 --> 00:04:01,290

I was too young.

91

00:04:01,290 --> 00:04:01,790

OK.

92

00:04:01,790 --> 00:04:05,460

93

00:04:05,460 --> 00:04:08,310

Was your family Zionist?

94

00:04:08,310 --> 00:04:09,150

Yes.

95

00:04:09,150 --> 00:04:12,140

I can tell yes.

96

00:04:12,140 --> 00:04:16,444

And so they talked about  
Jerusalem and Israel--

97

00:04:16,444 --> 00:04:17,250

Yes.

98

00:04:17,250 --> 00:04:19,178

--and Palestine, yeah.

99

00:04:19,178 --> 00:04:22,810

Did you have any non-Jewish  
friends growing up?

100

00:04:22,810 --> 00:04:23,920



Yes, in school, yes.

101  
00:04:23,920 --> 00:04:29,282  
I had non-Jewish people.

102  
00:04:29,282 --> 00:04:30,490  
Let's talk about your school.

103  
00:04:30,490 --> 00:04:32,200  
Do you remember, was  
it a public school?

104  
00:04:32,200 --> 00:04:33,180  
Public school.

105  
00:04:33,180 --> 00:04:34,090  
OK.

106  
00:04:34,090 --> 00:04:37,330  
Yes, I was in the seventh  
grade, that's all I remember.

107  
00:04:37,330 --> 00:04:37,980  
Which grade?

108  
00:04:37,980 --> 00:04:39,305  
In the seventh grade.

109  
00:04:39,305 --> 00:04:40,600  
Seventh grade, oh, OK.

110  
00:04:40,600 --> 00:04:43,120  
That's it, the war broke out.

111  
00:04:43,120 --> 00:04:43,660  
Oh, OK.

112  
00:04:43,660 --> 00:04:48,800

113  
00:04:48,800 --> 00:04:54,280

And so you were  
born in this town.

114  
00:04:54,280 --> 00:04:57,060  
You had non-Jewish friends.

115  
00:04:57,060 --> 00:04:59,140  
And then you went to school.

116  
00:04:59,140 --> 00:05:01,820  
Were you interested  
in sports at all?

117  
00:05:01,820 --> 00:05:03,580  
I was too young.

118  
00:05:03,580 --> 00:05:08,840  
OK, and did you like to read?

119  
00:05:08,840 --> 00:05:12,790  
Yes, I tried to read  
Jewish newspaper.

120  
00:05:12,790 --> 00:05:14,500  
Jewish newspapers, OK.

121  
00:05:14,500 --> 00:05:15,865  
Even when you were young?

122  
00:05:15,865 --> 00:05:16,890  
Even young, yes.

123  
00:05:16,890 --> 00:05:20,440  
Right, so what language  
did you speak at home?

124  
00:05:20,440 --> 00:05:20,940  
Yiddish.

125  
00:05:20,940 --> 00:05:21,830  
You spoke Yiddish?

126  
00:05:21,830 --> 00:05:22,900  
Yeah.

127  
00:05:22,900 --> 00:05:24,340  
Did you know Polish at all?

128  
00:05:24,340 --> 00:05:26,380  
Oh, yes, Polish I know.

129  
00:05:26,380 --> 00:05:27,305  
I forgot already.

130  
00:05:27,305 --> 00:05:28,180  
No, no, no, I meant--

131  
00:05:28,180 --> 00:05:30,030  
I'm talking about  
when you were younger.

132  
00:05:30,030 --> 00:05:31,510  
Yes, Polish.

133  
00:05:31,510 --> 00:05:34,210  
Because when you went to  
school it was in Polish?

134  
00:05:34,210 --> 00:05:34,860  
Right.

135  
00:05:34,860 --> 00:05:36,310  
Yeah, OK.

136  
00:05:36,310 --> 00:05:39,050  
So you started school,  
and what's your--

137  
00:05:39,050 --> 00:05:41,240  
you were born in 1921?

138  
00:05:41,240 --> 00:05:41,740  
Yes.

139  
00:05:41,740 --> 00:05:44,510  
So Hitler came  
into power in 1933.

140  
00:05:44,510 --> 00:05:45,610  
'39.

141  
00:05:45,610 --> 00:05:48,310  
He came into power in '33.

142  
00:05:48,310 --> 00:05:53,920  
And did you know anything about  
when you were 12, 13, 14, 15,

143  
00:05:53,920 --> 00:05:55,330  
about a man named Hitler?

144  
00:05:55,330 --> 00:05:56,610  
Yes, we know about that.

145  
00:05:56,610 --> 00:05:59,370  
How did you-- do you  
remember how you knew?

146  
00:05:59,370 --> 00:06:04,990  
Remember this, the  
newspapers, the radios.

147  
00:06:04,990 --> 00:06:05,500  
Yeah.

148  
00:06:05,500 --> 00:06:08,590  
He tried to liquidate  
all the Jewish people.

149  
00:06:08,590 --> 00:06:10,150  
Right, so you knew--

150  
00:06:10,150 --> 00:06:11,890  
You knew all about it, yes.

151

00:06:11,890 --> 00:06:13,450

Yes, so you knew about that.

152

00:06:13,450 --> 00:06:15,610

Did your parents  
talk to you about it?

153

00:06:15,610 --> 00:06:16,808

Yes.

154

00:06:16,808 --> 00:06:18,100

Do you remember what they said?

155

00:06:18,100 --> 00:06:18,600

No.

156

00:06:18,600 --> 00:06:20,440

Was it frightening  
for a young boy?

157

00:06:20,440 --> 00:06:22,960

It was frightening, yes.

158

00:06:22,960 --> 00:06:25,180

Were you able to  
have a bar mitzvah?

159

00:06:25,180 --> 00:06:26,090

No.

160

00:06:26,090 --> 00:06:26,790

Because?

161

00:06:26,790 --> 00:06:29,020

That would be 1934.

162

00:06:29,020 --> 00:06:30,250

Yeah.

163

00:06:30,250 --> 00:06:33,250

And why not?

164  
00:06:33,250 --> 00:06:35,800  
We didn't have bar mitzvah  
like we have over here

165  
00:06:35,800 --> 00:06:36,962  
in the States.

166  
00:06:36,962 --> 00:06:38,670  
No, I know, but did  
you have any marking?

167  
00:06:38,670 --> 00:06:40,410  
Marking, yes.

168  
00:06:40,410 --> 00:06:42,990  
I'd say the [INAUDIBLE]  
and the Torah.

169  
00:06:42,990 --> 00:06:43,490  
OK.

170  
00:06:43,490 --> 00:06:47,880  
And then they invite  
all the people home.

171  
00:06:47,880 --> 00:06:49,022  
And we had a--

172  
00:06:49,022 --> 00:06:49,730  
Yeah, so you did?

173  
00:06:49,730 --> 00:06:50,438  
--lunch, a lunch.

174  
00:06:50,438 --> 00:06:51,600  
You had a bar mitzvah?

175  
00:06:51,600 --> 00:06:52,100  
Yes.

176

00:06:52,100 --> 00:06:53,820  
Yeah, oh, well that's wonderful.

177  
00:06:53,820 --> 00:06:54,650  
Not like here.

178  
00:06:54,650 --> 00:06:56,740  
No, nothing like here.

179  
00:06:56,740 --> 00:06:58,170  
No.

180  
00:06:58,170 --> 00:06:59,700  
Well, that's wonderful.

181  
00:06:59,700 --> 00:07:04,370  
And so then Hitler  
comes into power.

182  
00:07:04,370 --> 00:07:09,910  
And then did your life  
change between 1933 and 1939

183  
00:07:09,910 --> 00:07:11,100  
when the war started?

184  
00:07:11,100 --> 00:07:11,650  
No.

185  
00:07:11,650 --> 00:07:12,900  
You were just going to school?

186  
00:07:12,900 --> 00:07:14,340  
Just school and you know.

187  
00:07:14,340 --> 00:07:16,860  
Were you helping your  
father out at all?

188  
00:07:16,860 --> 00:07:17,880  
Yes, definitely, yes.

189

00:07:17,880 --> 00:07:18,960

What did you do?

190

00:07:18,960 --> 00:07:21,840

Just help him as a butcher.

191

00:07:21,840 --> 00:07:25,064

And I was very strong.

192

00:07:25,064 --> 00:07:29,110

I do all the chores

which has to be done.

193

00:07:29,110 --> 00:07:31,050

Did you-- were you athletic?

194

00:07:31,050 --> 00:07:32,350

Did you like sports?

195

00:07:32,350 --> 00:07:34,240

No, I did not like sports.

196

00:07:34,240 --> 00:07:35,080

You didn't?

197

00:07:35,080 --> 00:07:35,590

No.

198

00:07:35,590 --> 00:07:39,700

I was too busy to

help my father.

199

00:07:39,700 --> 00:07:41,980

Did you belong to

any youth groups?

200

00:07:41,980 --> 00:07:45,090

No, they didn't have--

we didn't have any.

201

00:07:45,090 --> 00:07:45,710



In the town?

202

00:07:45,710 --> 00:07:47,230

In the town, no.

203

00:07:47,230 --> 00:07:51,760

When you were-- before  
1939 when the war started,

204

00:07:51,760 --> 00:07:55,630

were you able to go to other  
towns or other villages?

205

00:07:55,630 --> 00:07:58,810

Yeah, we went over  
just to visit.

206

00:07:58,810 --> 00:08:00,380

What others towns did you--

207

00:08:00,380 --> 00:08:03,950

Jedlnia, no-- was  
born in Jedlnia.

208

00:08:03,950 --> 00:08:04,530

Yeah.

209

00:08:04,530 --> 00:08:07,090

And I was going over to Radom.

210

00:08:07,090 --> 00:08:08,350

How far away was Radom?

211

00:08:08,350 --> 00:08:10,240

About 17 kilometer.

212

00:08:10,240 --> 00:08:12,550

And how did you get there?

213

00:08:12,550 --> 00:08:14,500

By horse and buggy.

214  
00:08:14,500 --> 00:08:16,180  
So you had a horse and buggy?

215  
00:08:16,180 --> 00:08:17,200  
My father had one.

216  
00:08:17,200 --> 00:08:18,140  
Yeah, no car?

217  
00:08:18,140 --> 00:08:18,844  
No.

218  
00:08:18,844 --> 00:08:19,552  
[DROPS SOMETHING]

219  
00:08:19,552 --> 00:08:22,960  
Oopsies,

220  
00:08:22,960 --> 00:08:23,870  
Little time to do it.

221  
00:08:23,870 --> 00:08:27,680

222  
00:08:27,680 --> 00:08:29,600  
So you say you did  
not have a car,

223  
00:08:29,600 --> 00:08:31,520  
you went by horse and buggy?

224  
00:08:31,520 --> 00:08:34,700  
And what did you do in Radom?

225  
00:08:34,700 --> 00:08:39,580  
We had family there,  
uncle and aunt.

226  
00:08:39,580 --> 00:08:46,060  
So I stayed there overnight  
and come back, back to Jedlnia.

227

00:08:46,060 --> 00:08:48,030  
Yeah, you had cousins your age?

228

00:08:48,030 --> 00:08:50,240  
Were there--

229

00:08:50,240 --> 00:08:51,930  
A little bit older  
than me, but--

230

00:08:51,930 --> 00:08:52,930  
Yeah.

231

00:08:52,930 --> 00:08:54,190  
Yeah.

232

00:08:54,190 --> 00:09:00,330  
OK, and so life goes on in  
the 1930s, 1934, '35, '36.

233

00:09:00,330 --> 00:09:02,580  
Do you have any special  
memories of that time?

234

00:09:02,580 --> 00:09:03,420  
No.

235

00:09:03,420 --> 00:09:08,850  
No, OK, then comes the beginning  
of the war in September 1939.

236

00:09:08,850 --> 00:09:10,780  
What is your memory of that?

237

00:09:10,780 --> 00:09:11,585  
Oh, plenty.

238

00:09:11,585 --> 00:09:12,960  
Can you tell me  
about it, please?

239

00:09:12,960 --> 00:09:19,950

Yes, first of all, the  
Nazis came into the town.

240

00:09:19,950 --> 00:09:21,090

Into your town?

241

00:09:21,090 --> 00:09:22,860

Yeah.

242

00:09:22,860 --> 00:09:24,940

And you are now 18 years old?

243

00:09:24,940 --> 00:09:27,110

Yes, 18, yeah.

244

00:09:27,110 --> 00:09:27,610

And I--

245

00:09:27,610 --> 00:09:29,410

Were you still in  
school at the time?

246

00:09:29,410 --> 00:09:30,220

I was in school.

247

00:09:30,220 --> 00:09:32,110

Still at 18, in high school?

248

00:09:32,110 --> 00:09:33,266

High school, yeah.

249

00:09:33,266 --> 00:09:33,980

OK.

250

00:09:33,980 --> 00:09:37,900

They come to town  
and they separate--

251

00:09:37,900 --> 00:09:47,380

they didn't do us any harm

yet, but they separate us.

252

00:09:47,380 --> 00:09:49,168

Separate the Jews  
from the non-Jews?

253

00:09:49,168 --> 00:09:50,210

Jewish from the non-Jews.

254

00:09:50,210 --> 00:09:51,040

From the non-Jews.

255

00:09:51,040 --> 00:09:52,210

Did you have to move?

256

00:09:52,210 --> 00:09:53,110

Ghetto, yes.

257

00:09:53,110 --> 00:09:54,630

So you got a ghetto  
in your town?

258

00:09:54,630 --> 00:09:55,960

Yeah, they call it a ghetto.

259

00:09:55,960 --> 00:09:56,460

Yeah.

260

00:09:56,460 --> 00:09:58,070

Yeah.

261

00:09:58,070 --> 00:10:02,630

So we were in ghetto  
until two, three years.

262

00:10:02,630 --> 00:10:04,720

OK, let's talk about  
life in the ghetto

263

00:10:04,720 --> 00:10:09,070

and what you remember of what  
the living conditions were.

264  
00:10:09,070 --> 00:10:11,620  
You moved out of where you  
were, out of your house?

265  
00:10:11,620 --> 00:10:12,762  
Yeah.

266  
00:10:12,762 --> 00:10:13,970  
And were there other family--

267  
00:10:13,970 --> 00:10:17,110  
did you move into another  
house, or another apartment?

268  
00:10:17,110 --> 00:10:18,480  
Another apartment.

269  
00:10:18,480 --> 00:10:20,610  
And how many people, do  
you remember, were there?

270  
00:10:20,610 --> 00:10:24,590  
There were about 16, 17 people.

271  
00:10:24,590 --> 00:10:26,990  
People, yeah and what  
was the arrangement,

272  
00:10:26,990 --> 00:10:28,520  
sleeping arrangements?

273  
00:10:28,520 --> 00:10:30,890  
Everybody had a bed.

274  
00:10:30,890 --> 00:10:32,245  
But a lot of people in one room?

275  
00:10:32,245 --> 00:10:37,220  
A lot of people in one room,  
two rooms, whatever we can find.

276  
00:10:37,220 --> 00:10:38,570  
Yeah.

277  
00:10:38,570 --> 00:10:40,970  
That's what--  
that's all about it.

278  
00:10:40,970 --> 00:10:42,530  
And what did your parents--

279  
00:10:42,530 --> 00:10:45,920  
how did your parents take this?

280  
00:10:45,920 --> 00:10:48,058  
They tell me we  
have not a choice.

281  
00:10:48,058 --> 00:10:51,535  
And did you talk about  
this with your parents?

282  
00:10:51,535 --> 00:10:52,035  
Yes.

283  
00:10:52,035 --> 00:10:54,130  
And what did they--

284  
00:10:54,130 --> 00:10:59,650  
We have to listen what they're  
there to tell you, the Nazis.

285  
00:10:59,650 --> 00:11:01,053  
Yeah.

286  
00:11:01,053 --> 00:11:02,220  
And so you're in the ghetto.

287  
00:11:02,220 --> 00:11:03,370  
What about food?

288  
00:11:03,370 --> 00:11:06,160

Food, whatever you can eat.

289

00:11:06,160 --> 00:11:07,750

How did you get it?

290

00:11:07,750 --> 00:11:10,780

Sometimes my  
parents sneaked out.

291

00:11:10,780 --> 00:11:14,470

My parents sneaked  
out of the ghetto

292

00:11:14,470 --> 00:11:17,210

to get some food from  
the non-Jewish people.

293

00:11:17,210 --> 00:11:17,710

They did?

294

00:11:17,710 --> 00:11:19,450

The Gentile yes, they helped.

295

00:11:19,450 --> 00:11:21,050

They're very brave.

296

00:11:21,050 --> 00:11:22,200

Yeah, they helped.

297

00:11:22,200 --> 00:11:25,610

Yeah, did you try  
to get out at all?

298

00:11:25,610 --> 00:11:27,490

Yes, but they told me not to.

299

00:11:27,490 --> 00:11:35,240

Because they were very,  
very for young people.

300

00:11:35,240 --> 00:11:35,740

Yeah.



301  
00:11:35,740 --> 00:11:36,720  
And strong.

302  
00:11:36,720 --> 00:11:39,090  
Right, it was dangerous.

303  
00:11:39,090 --> 00:11:43,110  
So you were in an  
apartment building.

304  
00:11:43,110 --> 00:11:44,170  
Was that it?

305  
00:11:44,170 --> 00:11:46,418  
It's not a-- we don't have  
an apartment building.

306  
00:11:46,418 --> 00:11:47,460  
No, but I meant a small--

307  
00:11:47,460 --> 00:11:48,230  
Two stories.

308  
00:11:48,230 --> 00:11:49,610  
A two story private house?

309  
00:11:49,610 --> 00:11:51,170  
Yes, private house, yeah.

310  
00:11:51,170 --> 00:11:54,197  
And how many-- and 16 people  
were in this private house?

311  
00:11:54,197 --> 00:11:55,530  
16 people in this private house.

312  
00:11:55,530 --> 00:11:59,100  
Some of them slept on the floor.

313  
00:11:59,100 --> 00:12:01,590

Some of them they--  
whatever you can.

314  
00:12:01,590 --> 00:12:05,800  
And what about  
bathroom facilities?

315  
00:12:05,800 --> 00:12:06,300  
Not much?

316  
00:12:06,300 --> 00:12:07,820  
Not much.

317  
00:12:07,820 --> 00:12:08,790  
OK.

318  
00:12:08,790 --> 00:12:12,380  
So did-- your father  
couldn't go to work?

319  
00:12:12,380 --> 00:12:14,270  
No.

320  
00:12:14,270 --> 00:12:16,120  
And so what did he  
do during the day?

321  
00:12:16,120 --> 00:12:17,970  
Same thing.

322  
00:12:17,970 --> 00:12:18,580  
Just sat?

323  
00:12:18,580 --> 00:12:19,250  
Just sat.

324  
00:12:19,250 --> 00:12:20,380  
Yeah.

325  
00:12:20,380 --> 00:12:28,233  
Yeah, and so then what was  
the next thing that happened?

326  
00:12:28,233 --> 00:12:30,150  
You're in the ghetto,  
you're in this building.

327  
00:12:30,150 --> 00:12:32,872  
You're not going out, you're  
not getting much food.

328  
00:12:32,872 --> 00:12:33,830  
And then what happened?

329  
00:12:33,830 --> 00:12:39,360  
They separate us after  
two years in the ghetto.

330  
00:12:39,360 --> 00:12:40,740  
You stayed for two years?

331  
00:12:40,740 --> 00:12:42,420  
Almost two years, yeah.

332  
00:12:42,420 --> 00:12:44,785  
Did you ever go outside  
in those two year?

333  
00:12:44,785 --> 00:12:47,480  
I went outside, yes.

334  
00:12:47,480 --> 00:12:49,790  
But in the vicinity.

335  
00:12:49,790 --> 00:12:51,290  
In the vicinity of the house?

336  
00:12:51,290 --> 00:12:51,850  
Yeah.

337  
00:12:51,850 --> 00:12:52,670  
Yeah.

338

00:12:52,670 --> 00:12:55,790  
Were there other young people,  
young 18-year-olds with you?

339  
00:12:55,790 --> 00:12:56,540  
Yes.

340  
00:12:56,540 --> 00:12:59,060  
So what did you all talk about?

341  
00:12:59,060 --> 00:13:00,920  
What's going on in the world.

342  
00:13:00,920 --> 00:13:01,910  
What's it going to be.

343  
00:13:01,910 --> 00:13:02,810  
Yeah.

344  
00:13:02,810 --> 00:13:05,810  
Did you have a radio  
then in the ghetto?

345  
00:13:05,810 --> 00:13:07,530  
No radios.

346  
00:13:07,530 --> 00:13:08,630  
No radios.

347  
00:13:08,630 --> 00:13:09,320  
And no papers?

348  
00:13:09,320 --> 00:13:10,550  
No papers, no.

349  
00:13:10,550 --> 00:13:13,020  
So you really didn't  
know what was happening?

350  
00:13:13,020 --> 00:13:13,980  
What's happening, yes.

351

00:13:13,980 --> 00:13:17,850

So this is 1939, 1940.

352

00:13:17,850 --> 00:13:20,810

Then what's the  
next development?

353

00:13:20,810 --> 00:13:23,300

Then they separate us.

354

00:13:23,300 --> 00:13:25,190

And what did they do?

355

00:13:25,190 --> 00:13:27,410

They take us young people.

356

00:13:27,410 --> 00:13:28,310

OK.

357

00:13:28,310 --> 00:13:31,190

They separate us.

358

00:13:31,190 --> 00:13:37,220

And the older people one  
side, the younger people

359

00:13:37,220 --> 00:13:38,570

on the other side.

360

00:13:38,570 --> 00:13:40,150

Where did they do this?

361

00:13:40,150 --> 00:13:42,980

Just outside the building.

362

00:13:42,980 --> 00:13:44,000

You all came out?

363

00:13:44,000 --> 00:13:44,750

Yeah.

364

00:13:44,750 --> 00:13:46,100  
How did you know to come out?

365

00:13:46,100 --> 00:13:49,640  
They-- because they got  
the Nazis over there

366

00:13:49,640 --> 00:13:51,970  
on the premises.

367

00:13:51,970 --> 00:13:55,670  
OK, how did you  
feel as a young man

368

00:13:55,670 --> 00:13:58,890  
when you first saw the Nazis?

369

00:13:58,890 --> 00:14:00,620  
Do you remember what  
your thoughts were?

370

00:14:00,620 --> 00:14:01,820  
How you felt about that?

371

00:14:01,820 --> 00:14:04,630

372

00:14:04,630 --> 00:14:09,930  
You have to listen to them,  
whatever they tell you.

373

00:14:09,930 --> 00:14:10,950  
And that's all.

374

00:14:10,950 --> 00:14:12,190  
Were you frightened?

375

00:14:12,190 --> 00:14:13,930  
Yes, I was.

376

00:14:13,930 --> 00:14:15,640

Nothing you can do about it.

377

00:14:15,640 --> 00:14:20,490

Did you tell your parents  
you were frightened?

378

00:14:20,490 --> 00:14:23,060

They were already separate us.

379

00:14:23,060 --> 00:14:25,660

OK, so now, I was  
talking about before.

380

00:14:25,660 --> 00:14:26,680

Before, yeah.

381

00:14:26,680 --> 00:14:29,550

This was already after  
they separate us.

382

00:14:29,550 --> 00:14:31,430

So this is what, 1941?

383

00:14:31,430 --> 00:14:35,600

'41, end of '41 to '42.

384

00:14:35,600 --> 00:14:38,960

OK, so they separate the young  
people from the older people?

385

00:14:38,960 --> 00:14:39,710

Yes, older people.

386

00:14:39,710 --> 00:14:40,640

And where did you go?

387

00:14:40,640 --> 00:14:43,850

They send us into work camp.

388

00:14:43,850 --> 00:14:47,030

And how did you get-- did you  
say goodbye to your parents?

389  
00:14:47,030 --> 00:14:48,080  
Sure.

390  
00:14:48,080 --> 00:14:48,980  
You were able to?

391  
00:14:48,980 --> 00:14:49,550  
Yes.

392  
00:14:49,550 --> 00:14:52,310  
And what did you take with you?

393  
00:14:52,310 --> 00:14:52,810  
Nothing.

394  
00:14:52,810 --> 00:14:54,733  
We didn't take anything with us.

395  
00:14:54,733 --> 00:14:56,650  
You weren't allowed to  
take anything with you?

396  
00:14:56,650 --> 00:15:06,420  
No, just what we separate  
us to a place ammunition.

397  
00:15:06,420 --> 00:15:07,450  
To make ammunition?

398  
00:15:07,450 --> 00:15:09,000  
A labor camp making ammunition?

399  
00:15:09,000 --> 00:15:10,360  
A labor camp, yes.

400  
00:15:10,360 --> 00:15:12,100  
Do you remember the name of it?

401  
00:15:12,100 --> 00:15:12,660  
Pionki.



402  
00:15:12,660 --> 00:15:14,670  
You went to Pionki, OK.

403  
00:15:14,670 --> 00:15:15,730  
Then--

404  
00:15:15,730 --> 00:15:17,340  
OK, let's talk  
about Pionki first.

405  
00:15:17,340 --> 00:15:19,320  
First of all, how  
did you get there?

406  
00:15:19,320 --> 00:15:21,080  
They-- we walked over.

407  
00:15:21,080 --> 00:15:24,300  
It was about, I would say  
about six, seven miles.

408  
00:15:24,300 --> 00:15:25,140  
Six miles.

409  
00:15:25,140 --> 00:15:27,780  
OK, so the young men  
and women, or just men?

410  
00:15:27,780 --> 00:15:28,770  
Young men.

411  
00:15:28,770 --> 00:15:29,820  
Young men only.

412  
00:15:29,820 --> 00:15:30,450  
So the women--

413  
00:15:30,450 --> 00:15:34,362  
Only women separated,  
but they come with us.

414  
00:15:34,362 --> 00:15:35,320  
Oh, they came with you?

415  
00:15:35,320 --> 00:15:35,580  
Yeah.

416  
00:15:35,580 --> 00:15:36,630  
But in a separate group?

417  
00:15:36,630 --> 00:15:37,260  
Yeah.

418  
00:15:37,260 --> 00:15:39,120  
OK, so you walk over to Pionki.

419  
00:15:39,120 --> 00:15:40,260  
Pionki.

420  
00:15:40,260 --> 00:15:43,120  
And then what happened?

421  
00:15:43,120 --> 00:15:48,430  
This was-- they gave us a home.

422  
00:15:48,430 --> 00:15:49,470  
Like in a barracks?

423  
00:15:49,470 --> 00:15:51,060  
A barrack, yeah.

424  
00:15:51,060 --> 00:15:52,620  
And these are all  
young men your age?

425  
00:15:52,620 --> 00:15:53,700  
All young men.

426  
00:15:53,700 --> 00:15:54,780  
Strong young men.

427

00:15:54,780 --> 00:15:56,380

Yes, strong men.

428

00:15:56,380 --> 00:16:00,060

And working making ammunition.

429

00:16:00,060 --> 00:16:01,170

Yeah.

430

00:16:01,170 --> 00:16:09,400

So they really took  
out very strong men

431

00:16:09,400 --> 00:16:13,560

to lay railroad tracks.

432

00:16:13,560 --> 00:16:14,550

Were you one of those?

433

00:16:14,550 --> 00:16:16,580

Yes.

434

00:16:16,580 --> 00:16:20,370

So I was there with  
another dozen of us.

435

00:16:20,370 --> 00:16:24,650

Because they come to Pionki from  
all over around the vicinity,

436

00:16:24,650 --> 00:16:27,600

from Radom,  
Kozienice, everything,

437

00:16:27,600 --> 00:16:32,262

all the young people in there.

438

00:16:32,262 --> 00:16:35,630

And I was working  
there until I got sick.

439

00:16:35,630 --> 00:16:40,070

So they took me out,  
because in the tunnels.

440  
00:16:40,070 --> 00:16:42,170  
Let's-- OK, we'll get  
to that in a minute.

441  
00:16:42,170 --> 00:16:45,850  
Let's talk about, again,  
what the living conditions

442  
00:16:45,850 --> 00:16:47,650  
were in Pionki.

443  
00:16:47,650 --> 00:16:48,840  
You were in a barrack?

444  
00:16:48,840 --> 00:16:49,600  
Yeah.

445  
00:16:49,600 --> 00:16:51,070  
Did you wear a uniform?

446  
00:16:51,070 --> 00:16:51,820  
No.

447  
00:16:51,820 --> 00:16:52,600  
No.

448  
00:16:52,600 --> 00:16:54,370  
Did you wear any  
identifying star?

449  
00:16:54,370 --> 00:16:55,700  
Identifying stars.

450  
00:16:55,700 --> 00:16:56,590  
What did you have?

451  
00:16:56,590 --> 00:16:59,410  
The coats with the stripes.

452

00:16:59,410 --> 00:17:01,735  
Oh, you had a striped uniform?

453

00:17:01,735 --> 00:17:03,245  
Striped uniform, yeah.

454

00:17:03,245 --> 00:17:05,619  
OK, did you have any Jewish  
star or anything on you?

455

00:17:05,619 --> 00:17:06,119  
No.

456

00:17:06,119 --> 00:17:07,380  
No.

457

00:17:07,380 --> 00:17:09,640  
Just the name of  
a-- the numbers.

458

00:17:09,640 --> 00:17:10,510  
Just your number?

459

00:17:10,510 --> 00:17:11,310  
Yeah.

460

00:17:11,310 --> 00:17:12,643  
OK, do you remember your number?

461

00:17:12,643 --> 00:17:13,143  
Oh, sure,

462

00:17:13,143 --> 00:17:13,829  
What was it?

463

00:17:13,829 --> 00:17:17,920  
1,058.

464

00:17:17,920 --> 00:17:18,760  
1,058?

465  
00:17:18,760 --> 00:17:20,010  
Yeah.

466  
00:17:20,010 --> 00:17:21,910  
You remember that.

467  
00:17:21,910 --> 00:17:24,579  
Just to back up,  
when you were in--

468  
00:17:24,579 --> 00:17:29,530  
before you were  
taken away, did you

469  
00:17:29,530 --> 00:17:31,780  
have to wear any  
star in the town?

470  
00:17:31,780 --> 00:17:33,910  
No-- yes in the town, yes.

471  
00:17:33,910 --> 00:17:34,610  
You did?

472  
00:17:34,610 --> 00:17:35,140  
Yes.

473  
00:17:35,140 --> 00:17:35,860  
The yellow star?

474  
00:17:35,860 --> 00:17:37,330  
Yellow star, yes.

475  
00:17:37,330 --> 00:17:39,068  
So everybody did this  
before you were--

476  
00:17:39,068 --> 00:17:39,610  
That's right.

477  
00:17:39,610 --> 00:17:43,600

How did you feel having  
to wear a yellow star?

478  
00:17:43,600 --> 00:17:48,760

The feeling doesn't mean  
to us nothing, because we

479  
00:17:48,760 --> 00:17:52,690  
were right on the side--

480  
00:17:52,690 --> 00:17:55,540  
outside they are  
watching us every move,

481  
00:17:55,540 --> 00:17:57,250  
every move you make.

482  
00:17:57,250 --> 00:18:02,200  
So the Germans, stars  
doesn't mean nothing,

483  
00:18:02,200 --> 00:18:04,240  
so long as you have it.

484  
00:18:04,240 --> 00:18:11,950  
If you were caught outside  
the ghetto with no stars,

485  
00:18:11,950 --> 00:18:12,905  
that's trouble.

486  
00:18:12,905 --> 00:18:16,220  
Yeah, but were you angry  
that you had to wear a star?

487  
00:18:16,220 --> 00:18:16,790  
No.

488  
00:18:16,790 --> 00:18:17,290  
No?

489  
00:18:17,290 --> 00:18:18,020

No.

490  
00:18:18,020 --> 00:18:20,400  
I come used to it.

491  
00:18:20,400 --> 00:18:22,390  
And did your mother sew  
it onto your clothes?

492  
00:18:22,390 --> 00:18:23,500  
Yes.

493  
00:18:23,500 --> 00:18:25,212  
She sewed on the star.

494  
00:18:25,212 --> 00:18:26,170  
Me, I sew it on myself.

495  
00:18:26,170 --> 00:18:27,380  
Oh, you would sew it on.

496  
00:18:27,380 --> 00:18:29,590  
You have to do everything  
to yourself, yeah.

497  
00:18:29,590 --> 00:18:30,090  
Yeah.

498  
00:18:30,090 --> 00:18:32,950

499  
00:18:32,950 --> 00:18:38,570  
And before you were taken  
away, you were in the ghetto,

500  
00:18:38,570 --> 00:18:41,060  
but before you were taken  
away, did you talk things over

501  
00:18:41,060 --> 00:18:43,880  
with your sister?



502

00:18:43,880 --> 00:18:45,150

Yes.

503

00:18:45,150 --> 00:18:47,570

And what was her state of mind?

504

00:18:47,570 --> 00:18:49,520

Same, thing she got--

505

00:18:49,520 --> 00:18:54,480

506

00:18:54,480 --> 00:18:58,947

I don't remember the date,  
because she was married.

507

00:18:58,947 --> 00:18:59,780

Oh, she was married?

508

00:18:59,780 --> 00:19:04,852

She got married in the war.

509

00:19:04,852 --> 00:19:07,340

Oh, all right,  
you're now in Pionki

510

00:19:07,340 --> 00:19:08,460

and you slept in barracks.

511

00:19:08,460 --> 00:19:09,310

In barracks, yeah.

512

00:19:09,310 --> 00:19:11,750

Did they give you enough food?

513

00:19:11,750 --> 00:19:13,850

They give you enough.

514

00:19:13,850 --> 00:19:15,920

What kind-- what  
did they give you?

515  
00:19:15,920 --> 00:19:17,850  
Soup.

516  
00:19:17,850 --> 00:19:18,550  
That's all.

517  
00:19:18,550 --> 00:19:20,120  
How many times a day?

518  
00:19:20,120 --> 00:19:21,170  
Twice a day.

519  
00:19:21,170 --> 00:19:21,880  
Twice a day.

520  
00:19:21,880 --> 00:19:22,690  
Yeah.

521  
00:19:22,690 --> 00:19:25,020  
And then you'd go out, you  
would go to work in the--

522  
00:19:25,020 --> 00:19:27,370  
To work in the  
morning, they take you.

523  
00:19:27,370 --> 00:19:28,410  
Walking to the factory?

524  
00:19:28,410 --> 00:19:31,390  
Factory, everything is in--

525  
00:19:31,390 --> 00:19:35,080  
yes, in the factory.

526  
00:19:35,080 --> 00:19:37,565  
The factory is  
right nearby every--

527  
00:19:37,565 --> 00:19:40,330

wherever they have a  
barrack, they had a factory.

528  
00:19:40,330 --> 00:19:41,000  
I see.

529  
00:19:41,000 --> 00:19:45,310  
So you were working in  
the ammunition factories.

530  
00:19:45,310 --> 00:19:47,870  
And for how long were you  
in the ammunitions factory

531  
00:19:47,870 --> 00:19:49,360  
before you went  
to do the heavier?

532  
00:19:49,360 --> 00:19:53,750  
The heavier-- so I  
was in the factory.

533  
00:19:53,750 --> 00:19:58,720  
I was doing the  
ammunition factory,

534  
00:19:58,720 --> 00:20:00,300  
I was doing for a while.

535  
00:20:00,300 --> 00:20:02,240  
What were you actually  
doing in the factory?

536  
00:20:02,240 --> 00:20:05,223  
In the factory, they  
are making the--

537  
00:20:05,223 --> 00:20:09,370  
Do you remember  
what you were doing?

538  
00:20:09,370 --> 00:20:15,840  
Taking out the

plates of ammunition,

539

00:20:15,840 --> 00:20:19,120

because there was plates.

540

00:20:19,120 --> 00:20:23,480

There was plates going  
into our cutting machine,

541

00:20:23,480 --> 00:20:24,340

and they were cut.

542

00:20:24,340 --> 00:20:26,070

And then you would  
cut the plates?

543

00:20:26,070 --> 00:20:27,067

That I didn't.

544

00:20:27,067 --> 00:20:27,900

You would just the--

545

00:20:27,900 --> 00:20:30,210

Taken out from one  
place to another.

546

00:20:30,210 --> 00:20:30,710

I see.

547

00:20:30,710 --> 00:20:34,320

548

00:20:34,320 --> 00:20:38,430

And how did you stay warm?

549

00:20:38,430 --> 00:20:39,680

It's very warm, believe me.

550

00:20:39,680 --> 00:20:43,350

We so warm, it's so warm  
over there in that factory.

551

00:20:43,350 --> 00:20:46,960

It's so warm they have  
to sometimes you have to,

552

00:20:46,960 --> 00:20:49,740

what do you call it,  
it's lightning-- sparks.

553

00:20:49,740 --> 00:20:50,690

Oh, right.

554

00:20:50,690 --> 00:20:55,530

And so we have to run  
for life behind a door.

555

00:20:55,530 --> 00:20:57,590

Oh, from the cutting  
and everything?

556

00:20:57,590 --> 00:20:59,510

Yeah, we didn't cut,  
somebody else cut.

557

00:20:59,510 --> 00:21:01,932

Yeah, you just-- but  
I meant from the--

558

00:21:01,932 --> 00:21:02,820

yeah.

559

00:21:02,820 --> 00:21:05,730

Were you allowed to talk  
to the other laborers?

560

00:21:05,730 --> 00:21:08,290

Yeah, yeah, we allowed  
to talk in Jewish.

561

00:21:08,290 --> 00:21:08,790

Yeah.

562

00:21:08,790 --> 00:21:10,940

Did you have German guards?

563

00:21:10,940 --> 00:21:13,460

The Nazi guards  
or German guards?

564

00:21:13,460 --> 00:21:14,910

It was not the Nazis.

565

00:21:14,910 --> 00:21:16,740

It was the--

566

00:21:16,740 --> 00:21:18,210

Polish?

567

00:21:18,210 --> 00:21:19,020

Ukrainians.

568

00:21:19,020 --> 00:21:22,900

Ukrainians, yeah.

569

00:21:22,900 --> 00:21:25,330

But they let you  
talk to each other?

570

00:21:25,330 --> 00:21:26,890

Not all the time.

571

00:21:26,890 --> 00:21:28,640

You have good ones and bad ones.

572

00:21:28,640 --> 00:21:31,410

Yeah, yeah.

573

00:21:31,410 --> 00:21:35,114

They call it [NON-ENGLISH].

574

00:21:35,114 --> 00:21:35,614

Really?

575

00:21:35,614 --> 00:21:36,590

OK.

576

00:21:36,590 --> 00:21:39,010

And were you ever beaten  
or anything at that time?

577

00:21:39,010 --> 00:21:39,520

No.

578

00:21:39,520 --> 00:21:40,020

No.

579

00:21:40,020 --> 00:21:41,650

No, I wouldn't say I was beaten.

580

00:21:41,650 --> 00:21:42,150

No.

581

00:21:42,150 --> 00:21:43,130

Yeah.

582

00:21:43,130 --> 00:21:46,600

The only time I was  
beaten I come to it later.

583

00:21:46,600 --> 00:21:48,650

OK.

584

00:21:48,650 --> 00:21:52,500

So then you go out to lay track,  
You said, railroad track sa?

585

00:21:52,500 --> 00:21:54,440

Yes, railroad tracks.

586

00:21:54,440 --> 00:21:56,330

What time of year was this?

587

00:21:56,330 --> 00:21:56,923

Was it--

588

00:21:56,923 --> 00:21:57,590  
This was in '41.

589  
00:21:57,590 --> 00:21:59,980  
Yeah, but what season was it?

590  
00:21:59,980 --> 00:22:03,490  
It was around January, February.

591  
00:22:03,490 --> 00:22:04,010  
OK.

592  
00:22:04,010 --> 00:22:07,090  
It was light in the  
tunnel, and I went.

593  
00:22:07,090 --> 00:22:08,390  
So I got sick.

594  
00:22:08,390 --> 00:22:11,070  
Oh, there were tracks  
being put in a tunnel?

595  
00:22:11,070 --> 00:22:12,380  
Tunnels, yeah.

596  
00:22:12,380 --> 00:22:13,580  
So I was sick.

597  
00:22:13,580 --> 00:22:16,520  
I got sick so they took me  
out and they put me back

598  
00:22:16,520 --> 00:22:20,330  
into the barracks  
until I got well.

599  
00:22:20,330 --> 00:22:21,750  
OK.

600  
00:22:21,750 --> 00:22:26,600  
And go back to the



ammunition factory.

601  
00:22:26,600 --> 00:22:27,350  
Oh, all right.

602  
00:22:27,350 --> 00:22:29,290  
So how long were  
you in the tunnels?

603  
00:22:29,290 --> 00:22:31,330  
Tunnels, I was there  
about six, seven weeks.

604  
00:22:31,330 --> 00:22:32,550  
Oh, before you got sick?

605  
00:22:32,550 --> 00:22:33,050  
Yeah.

606  
00:22:33,050 --> 00:22:36,360  
Yeah, because you  
didn't have fresh air?

607  
00:22:36,360 --> 00:22:38,090  
Is that it?

608  
00:22:38,090 --> 00:22:39,500  
Did a lot of people get sick?

609  
00:22:39,500 --> 00:22:41,490  
No, just me.

610  
00:22:41,490 --> 00:22:42,435  
Just me.

611  
00:22:42,435 --> 00:22:43,560  
What, you couldn't breathe?

612  
00:22:43,560 --> 00:22:44,560  
Coughing, breathe, yeah.

613

00:22:44,560 --> 00:22:45,510  
Coughing, yeah.

614  
00:22:45,510 --> 00:22:47,510  
OK, so now you're back  
in the munitions factory.

615  
00:22:47,510 --> 00:22:49,330  
Back, yeah.

616  
00:22:49,330 --> 00:22:52,380  
And then you're  
doing the same job?

617  
00:22:52,380 --> 00:22:53,880  
Same job, yeah.

618  
00:22:53,880 --> 00:22:56,098  
And you don't know  
what's happening

619  
00:22:56,098 --> 00:22:57,140  
in the rest of the world?

620  
00:22:57,140 --> 00:22:57,940  
No.

621  
00:22:57,940 --> 00:22:58,650  
OK.

622  
00:22:58,650 --> 00:23:00,090  
So then what's?

623  
00:23:00,090 --> 00:23:02,100  
How long did you stay  
there for the second time?

624  
00:23:02,100 --> 00:23:02,600  
I was--

625  
00:23:02,600 --> 00:23:06,555

626  
00:23:06,555 --> 00:23:08,180  
Or what was the next  
place you went to?

627  
00:23:08,180 --> 00:23:09,580  
Next place?

628  
00:23:09,580 --> 00:23:10,160  
Yeah.

629  
00:23:10,160 --> 00:23:14,780  
We were told you going to be--

630  
00:23:14,780 --> 00:23:18,556  
you're going to be  
shipped out to Germany.

631  
00:23:18,556 --> 00:23:20,990  
Oh.

632  
00:23:20,990 --> 00:23:22,650  
I escaped.

633  
00:23:22,650 --> 00:23:23,710  
You escaped?

634  
00:23:23,710 --> 00:23:24,940  
Yeah.

635  
00:23:24,940 --> 00:23:27,890  
Me and another four,  
five guys, five guys.

636  
00:23:27,890 --> 00:23:29,220  
These are young men like you?

637  
00:23:29,220 --> 00:23:31,150  
Young men, yeah, into the woods.

638  
00:23:31,150 --> 00:23:33,710

Oh, now tell me how  
you planned that?

639  
00:23:33,710 --> 00:23:34,920  
How did you--

640  
00:23:34,920 --> 00:23:36,790  
Just cut the wires.

641  
00:23:36,790 --> 00:23:39,200  
No, but obviously you  
talked about it first?

642  
00:23:39,200 --> 00:23:39,950  
Yeah, first, yeah.

643  
00:23:39,950 --> 00:23:42,550  
Was it your idea or somebody?

644  
00:23:42,550 --> 00:23:44,050  
No, somebody else's.

645  
00:23:44,050 --> 00:23:45,480  
Let's get out of here.

646  
00:23:45,480 --> 00:23:46,600  
And you agreed?

647  
00:23:46,600 --> 00:23:47,530  
Yes.

648  
00:23:47,530 --> 00:23:48,712  
You weren't scared?

649  
00:23:48,712 --> 00:23:50,520  
Right.

650  
00:23:50,520 --> 00:23:53,010  
So then tell me there were  
about four or five, you said.

651

00:23:53,010 --> 00:23:53,910  
And what did you do?

652  
00:23:53,910 --> 00:23:54,660  
You cut the wires?

653  
00:23:54,660 --> 00:23:56,990  
Cut the wires, out into  
the woods, and that's it.

654  
00:23:56,990 --> 00:23:59,060  
And we stay-- it's winter time.

655  
00:23:59,060 --> 00:24:02,610  
And we shovel up the snow  
a little bit, and lay down

656  
00:24:02,610 --> 00:24:07,010  
and then we kept ourselves warm.

657  
00:24:07,010 --> 00:24:08,010  
Oh my, OK.

658  
00:24:08,010 --> 00:24:10,450  
So these are the woods around--

659  
00:24:10,450 --> 00:24:12,060  
Yes.

660  
00:24:12,060 --> 00:24:13,020  
A lot of woods.

661  
00:24:13,020 --> 00:24:15,300  
And this is 1942?

662  
00:24:15,300 --> 00:24:16,560  
'42, yeah.

663  
00:24:16,560 --> 00:24:18,817  
OK, and how long did  
you stay in the woods?

664

00:24:18,817 --> 00:24:19,400

What did you--

665

00:24:19,400 --> 00:24:21,700

All over the winter.

666

00:24:21,700 --> 00:24:24,290

And how did you get food,  
and how did you stay warm?

667

00:24:24,290 --> 00:24:30,490

We went to the Polacks,  
to the farmers and got--

668

00:24:30,490 --> 00:24:32,670

And they gave you food?

669

00:24:32,670 --> 00:24:34,485

They know.

670

00:24:34,485 --> 00:24:35,860

And they knew that  
you were Jews?

671

00:24:35,860 --> 00:24:36,902

Jews, sure.

672

00:24:36,902 --> 00:24:38,860

And you had your uniform,  
your striped uniform?

673

00:24:38,860 --> 00:24:40,930

Everything, yeah.

674

00:24:40,930 --> 00:24:42,850

So they were good to you?

675

00:24:42,850 --> 00:24:45,350

Some of them do,  
some of them not.

676

00:24:45,350 --> 00:24:48,860  
So we know where we can  
go, to which farmer.

677  
00:24:48,860 --> 00:24:53,827  
Uh-huh, so did you try to move--

678  
00:24:53,827 --> 00:24:54,910  
From one place to another?

679  
00:24:54,910 --> 00:24:56,370  
To another?

680  
00:24:56,370 --> 00:24:58,510  
We tried it.

681  
00:24:58,510 --> 00:24:59,950  
They split us up.

682  
00:24:59,950 --> 00:25:00,730  
Who is they?

683  
00:25:00,730 --> 00:25:02,190  
The Germans.

684  
00:25:02,190 --> 00:25:03,940  
Oh, then you came in  
contact with Germans?

685  
00:25:03,940 --> 00:25:07,270  
No, not from-- they  
call that Luftwaffe.

686  
00:25:07,270 --> 00:25:07,770  
Yeah.

687  
00:25:07,770 --> 00:25:08,645  
They flew the planes.

688  
00:25:08,645 --> 00:25:10,010  
Oh, the airplanes came over?

689

00:25:10,010 --> 00:25:10,620

The airplane.

690

00:25:10,620 --> 00:25:13,510

So they would fire down on you?

691

00:25:13,510 --> 00:25:15,700

Yeah, they didn't bomb us.

692

00:25:15,700 --> 00:25:20,020

But they got close  
over the woods.

693

00:25:20,020 --> 00:25:21,142

They cannot--

694

00:25:21,142 --> 00:25:22,600

And you thought  
they could see you?

695

00:25:22,600 --> 00:25:23,100

Oh, yeah.

696

00:25:23,100 --> 00:25:24,370

They saw us.

697

00:25:24,370 --> 00:25:26,590

Oh, so you all split up?

698

00:25:26,590 --> 00:25:29,160

No, we stayed in a-- we stayed.

699

00:25:29,160 --> 00:25:30,130

You stayed together?

700

00:25:30,130 --> 00:25:31,420

Stayed together.

701

00:25:31,420 --> 00:25:35,610

OK, did you ever see  
any partisan groups?



702  
00:25:35,610 --> 00:25:39,130  
That's what the-- we  
were in partisan groups.

703  
00:25:39,130 --> 00:25:40,360  
Oh, so you joined another--

704  
00:25:40,360 --> 00:25:41,290  
Another group.

705  
00:25:41,290 --> 00:25:42,970  
Oh, you came-- you  
met another group?

706  
00:25:42,970 --> 00:25:46,900  
Met another group, and we  
stayed together with them.

707  
00:25:46,900 --> 00:25:47,680  
I see.

708  
00:25:47,680 --> 00:25:50,280  
How soon after you  
got into the woods--

709  
00:25:50,280 --> 00:25:52,720  
after your escape did  
you meet the partisans?

710  
00:25:52,720 --> 00:25:53,220  
They--

711  
00:25:53,220 --> 00:25:58,110

712  
00:25:58,110 --> 00:26:00,400  
It was soon after your--

713  
00:26:00,400 --> 00:26:00,900  
Soon after.

714

00:26:00,900 --> 00:26:04,890

I would say about two to three weeks, and they got to us.

715

00:26:04,890 --> 00:26:05,740

They got to you?

716

00:26:05,740 --> 00:26:06,250

Yeah.

717

00:26:06,250 --> 00:26:08,880

And what did you do for them?

718

00:26:08,880 --> 00:26:09,960

We gave them food.

719

00:26:09,960 --> 00:26:10,460

Yeah.

720

00:26:10,460 --> 00:26:11,730

Because we know the farmers.

721

00:26:11,730 --> 00:26:12,540

Oh, OK.

722

00:26:12,540 --> 00:26:13,868

So we have to get food.

723

00:26:13,868 --> 00:26:15,160

Yeah, they like that, I'm sure.

724

00:26:15,160 --> 00:26:16,560

They like that, yes.

725

00:26:16,560 --> 00:26:17,430

Yes, right.

726

00:26:17,430 --> 00:26:20,020

And then that's where we were for a while.

727

00:26:20,020 --> 00:26:25,240

728

00:26:25,240 --> 00:26:34,610

And did you get new clothes?

729

00:26:34,610 --> 00:26:35,440

No clothes.

730

00:26:35,440 --> 00:26:42,610

731

00:26:42,610 --> 00:26:44,160

So you're with the  
partisan groups.

732

00:26:44,160 --> 00:26:45,060

Did you do anything?

733

00:26:45,060 --> 00:26:47,220

Did they do any  
kind of resistance?

734

00:26:47,220 --> 00:26:50,030

Resistance, we tried  
to get to Warsaw.

735

00:26:50,030 --> 00:26:51,560

You tried to get to Warsaw, OK.

736

00:26:51,560 --> 00:26:53,430

They split us up.

737

00:26:53,430 --> 00:26:54,900

Did you-- you did get to Warsaw?

738

00:26:54,900 --> 00:26:58,226

No, they split us up.

739

00:26:58,226 --> 00:26:59,660

Yeah.

740

00:26:59,660 --> 00:27:05,730

From that, so we think they had boots there, so we got back.

741

00:27:05,730 --> 00:27:09,760

We went back to the woods.

742

00:27:09,760 --> 00:27:11,210

So you never did get to Warsaw?

743

00:27:11,210 --> 00:27:11,710

No.

744

00:27:11,710 --> 00:27:16,706

We got ammunition, we got everything.

745

00:27:16,706 --> 00:27:18,720

But we never got to Warsaw.

746

00:27:18,720 --> 00:27:20,740

OK, so now you're back in the woods?

747

00:27:20,740 --> 00:27:22,256

Back in the woods.

748

00:27:22,256 --> 00:27:24,108

And then what happened?

749

00:27:24,108 --> 00:27:26,890

750

00:27:26,890 --> 00:27:35,690

A lot of thing happens, because when they caught us.

751

00:27:35,690 --> 00:27:36,520

You got captured?

752

00:27:36,520 --> 00:27:37,490  
Captured.

753  
00:27:37,490 --> 00:27:38,030  
Again?

754  
00:27:38,030 --> 00:27:39,860  
Again, captured.

755  
00:27:39,860 --> 00:27:41,120  
These are the Germans?

756  
00:27:41,120 --> 00:27:42,130  
Yeah.

757  
00:27:42,130 --> 00:27:44,594  
And they sent us to Germany.

758  
00:27:44,594 --> 00:27:48,370  
Oh, so you were a partisan  
for what, eight months?

759  
00:27:48,370 --> 00:27:48,890  
Six months.

760  
00:27:48,890 --> 00:27:49,850  
Six months?

761  
00:27:49,850 --> 00:27:50,580  
Six months, yeah.

762  
00:27:50,580 --> 00:27:51,670  
OK.

763  
00:27:51,670 --> 00:27:54,620  
And we got all into Germany.

764  
00:27:54,620 --> 00:27:56,750  
Did they capture the  
whole part partisan group?

765

00:27:56,750 --> 00:27:58,530  
The whole group, yes.

766  
00:27:58,530 --> 00:28:00,860  
Do you know who the  
leader of the group was?

767  
00:28:00,860 --> 00:28:02,900  
Do you remember his name?

768  
00:28:02,900 --> 00:28:03,400  
No.

769  
00:28:03,400 --> 00:28:03,900  
No.

770  
00:28:03,900 --> 00:28:05,660  
Were there men and  
women in the group?

771  
00:28:05,660 --> 00:28:07,040  
No, just men.

772  
00:28:07,040 --> 00:28:07,850  
Just men.

773  
00:28:07,850 --> 00:28:09,050  
Were there-- no children?

774  
00:28:09,050 --> 00:28:09,920  
No children.

775  
00:28:09,920 --> 00:28:10,810  
Just young men?

776  
00:28:10,810 --> 00:28:11,400  
Yeah.

777  
00:28:11,400 --> 00:28:13,280  
Yeah, about how  
big was the group?

778

00:28:13,280 --> 00:28:16,940

Oh, I would say the  
group was about 60, 65.

779

00:28:16,940 --> 00:28:19,120

65, and these are Polish Jews?

780

00:28:19,120 --> 00:28:19,770

Jews, yeah.

781

00:28:19,770 --> 00:28:21,680

It was strictly a  
Jewish partisan--

782

00:28:21,680 --> 00:28:22,835

A Jewish partisan.

783

00:28:22,835 --> 00:28:24,230

Partisan group, OK.

784

00:28:24,230 --> 00:28:27,180

So then the Germans find you.

785

00:28:27,180 --> 00:28:29,340

And how did you get to Germany?

786

00:28:29,340 --> 00:28:31,592

By train.

787

00:28:31,592 --> 00:28:33,270

They shipped us by train.

788

00:28:33,270 --> 00:28:33,790

Yeah.

789

00:28:33,790 --> 00:28:35,980

When they captured  
you did anybody

790

00:28:35,980 --> 00:28:37,480

try to fight back or not?

791  
00:28:37,480 --> 00:28:38,540  
No, no.

792  
00:28:38,540 --> 00:28:39,640  
No, OK.

793  
00:28:39,640 --> 00:28:41,140  
So then you get on the train.

794  
00:28:41,140 --> 00:28:43,175  
Did you know where  
you were going?

795  
00:28:43,175 --> 00:28:43,675  
Yes.

796  
00:28:43,675 --> 00:28:46,690  
We were going to Oranienburg.

797  
00:28:46,690 --> 00:28:47,500  
Oh, OK.

798  
00:28:47,500 --> 00:28:49,090  
Sachsenhausen.

799  
00:28:49,090 --> 00:28:51,100  
Oh, dear, yeah.

800  
00:28:51,100 --> 00:28:53,250  
So we stay there.

801  
00:28:53,250 --> 00:28:54,380  
So you get to Germany?

802  
00:28:54,380 --> 00:28:55,180  
Yeah.

803  
00:28:55,180 --> 00:28:58,260  
Did you know what Sachsenhausen  
was before you got there?



804  
00:28:58,260 --> 00:29:00,040  
Had you heard of it?

805  
00:29:00,040 --> 00:29:01,030  
No.

806  
00:29:01,030 --> 00:29:03,630  
It's a barracks, like a camp.

807  
00:29:03,630 --> 00:29:04,770  
Yeah.

808  
00:29:04,770 --> 00:29:11,830  
So then they got my sister  
there and everybody there,

809  
00:29:11,830 --> 00:29:13,260  
find my sister.

810  
00:29:13,260 --> 00:29:13,910  
Yeah.

811  
00:29:13,910 --> 00:29:14,550  
Oh my--

812  
00:29:14,550 --> 00:29:15,190  
In that camp.

813  
00:29:15,190 --> 00:29:17,625  
You found your  
sister in that camp?

814  
00:29:17,625 --> 00:29:19,095  
That's incredible.

815  
00:29:19,095 --> 00:29:22,740

816  
00:29:22,740 --> 00:29:23,990  
All women, children there.

817  
00:29:23,990 --> 00:29:27,598

818  
00:29:27,598 --> 00:29:33,430  
Side B, and we were  
talking about how you just

819  
00:29:33,430 --> 00:29:37,348  
got to Sachsenhausen  
with your partisan group.

820  
00:29:37,348 --> 00:29:38,890  
And you were staying  
in the barracks,

821  
00:29:38,890 --> 00:29:39,973  
and you found your sister.

822  
00:29:39,973 --> 00:29:41,465  
How did you find your sister?

823  
00:29:41,465 --> 00:29:41,965  
Because--

824  
00:29:41,965 --> 00:29:45,264

825  
00:29:45,264 --> 00:29:47,200  
How did you find her?

826  
00:29:47,200 --> 00:29:52,180  
She has a two year boy-- a  
year and a half son, with her.

827  
00:29:52,180 --> 00:29:52,840  
At the time?

828  
00:29:52,840 --> 00:29:53,980  
At the time.

829

00:29:53,980 --> 00:29:55,700  
Yeah.

830  
00:29:55,700 --> 00:29:58,700  
And we can tell who is there.

831  
00:29:58,700 --> 00:29:59,620  
And you saw--

832  
00:29:59,620 --> 00:30:02,320  
Most of them, they were  
Hungarian Jewish people.

833  
00:30:02,320 --> 00:30:05,203  
Oh.

834  
00:30:05,203 --> 00:30:07,970  
So you happen just to see her?

835  
00:30:07,970 --> 00:30:09,980  
See her, yes.

836  
00:30:09,980 --> 00:30:12,280  
She was shipped out.

837  
00:30:12,280 --> 00:30:14,960  
Had she been living in Hungary?

838  
00:30:14,960 --> 00:30:15,740  
She was not--

839  
00:30:15,740 --> 00:30:16,490  
No.

840  
00:30:16,490 --> 00:30:23,840  
She was shipped out to  
Sweden with the child.

841  
00:30:23,840 --> 00:30:28,935  
All that camp was  
liquidated, all the--

842

00:30:28,935 --> 00:30:31,070

Yeah, but that was a little--

843

00:30:31,070 --> 00:30:32,080

that was later on.

844

00:30:32,080 --> 00:30:33,080

That was later on, yeah.

845

00:30:33,080 --> 00:30:35,413

That was later on, but earlier  
when you first got there,

846

00:30:35,413 --> 00:30:36,410

was she already there?

847

00:30:36,410 --> 00:30:37,040

She already there.

848

00:30:37,040 --> 00:30:39,082

She was-- anybody else  
from your family besides--

849

00:30:39,082 --> 00:30:40,146

No, just her.

850

00:30:40,146 --> 00:30:41,870

Just your sister?

851

00:30:41,870 --> 00:30:42,950

OK.

852

00:30:42,950 --> 00:30:44,630

Well, that must have  
been an emotional--

853

00:30:44,630 --> 00:30:45,130

Yes.

854

00:30:45,130 --> 00:30:46,370

--reunion.

855

00:30:46,370 --> 00:30:48,710

Oh my goodness, oh my goodness.

856

00:30:48,710 --> 00:30:51,208

So you lived in a  
barracks in Sachsenhausen?

857

00:30:51,208 --> 00:30:51,708

Yeah.

858

00:30:51,708 --> 00:30:53,690

And what did you do there?

859

00:30:53,690 --> 00:30:55,340

Making planes.

860

00:30:55,340 --> 00:30:56,680

Planes?

861

00:30:56,680 --> 00:30:57,340

Wings.

862

00:30:57,340 --> 00:30:58,040

Wings for the planes?

863

00:30:58,040 --> 00:30:58,665

For the planes.

864

00:30:58,665 --> 00:31:02,130

865

00:31:02,130 --> 00:31:04,721

And again--

866

00:31:04,721 --> 00:31:06,260

It was torture.

867

00:31:06,260 --> 00:31:07,720

That was very bad?

868

00:31:07,720 --> 00:31:11,500

Shaking, cold, and the--

869

00:31:11,500 --> 00:31:13,250

And what kind of clothes  
were you wearing?

870

00:31:13,250 --> 00:31:14,150

Were you still--

871

00:31:14,150 --> 00:31:14,480

Same thing, same clothes.

872

00:31:14,480 --> 00:31:16,600

The same thing that you  
had on before from Pionki?

873

00:31:16,600 --> 00:31:17,300

Same thing.

874

00:31:17,300 --> 00:31:18,860

They don't give you any--

875

00:31:18,860 --> 00:31:20,270

They didn't give you any other?

876

00:31:20,270 --> 00:31:20,840

No.

877

00:31:20,840 --> 00:31:22,240

So you had the same number?

878

00:31:22,240 --> 00:31:23,280

Number, yes.

879

00:31:23,280 --> 00:31:24,380

From Pionki?

880

00:31:24,380 --> 00:31:24,940

Yep.

881  
00:31:24,940 --> 00:31:25,700  
Right.

882  
00:31:25,700 --> 00:31:26,930  
Did you have to line up?

883  
00:31:26,930 --> 00:31:29,000  
Did they count you  
in the morning?

884  
00:31:29,000 --> 00:31:30,460  
In the morning,  
every morning, yes.

885  
00:31:30,460 --> 00:31:33,510  
You stood up in line, and  
did they do that at Pionki?

886  
00:31:33,510 --> 00:31:34,760  
Pionki too.

887  
00:31:34,760 --> 00:31:37,490  
Right, counted people,  
did anybody try

888  
00:31:37,490 --> 00:31:41,290  
to escape from Sachsenhausen?

889  
00:31:41,290 --> 00:31:44,240  
No, not from Sachsenhausen.

890  
00:31:44,240 --> 00:31:44,740  
No.

891  
00:31:44,740 --> 00:31:47,300

892  
00:31:47,300 --> 00:31:49,460  
And what again,  
what kind of food

893

00:31:49,460 --> 00:31:51,137  
did they give you to keep going?

894  
00:31:51,137 --> 00:31:52,220  
They give a little better.

895  
00:31:52,220 --> 00:31:58,706  
There is soup and potatoes.

896  
00:31:58,706 --> 00:31:59,713  
There was better food.

897  
00:31:59,713 --> 00:32:00,880  
Was better food than Pionki?

898  
00:32:00,880 --> 00:32:01,620  
Pionki, yeah.

899  
00:32:01,620 --> 00:32:04,220  
Yeah.

900  
00:32:04,220 --> 00:32:08,480  
And how many people were  
sleeping in your barracks?

901  
00:32:08,480 --> 00:32:15,925  
We have five or six in the room.

902  
00:32:15,925 --> 00:32:17,530  
And you had your own bed?

903  
00:32:17,530 --> 00:32:18,660  
Your own cot?

904  
00:32:18,660 --> 00:32:19,250  
Yeah.

905  
00:32:19,250 --> 00:32:20,430  
Yeah.

906  
00:32:20,430 --> 00:32:24,020



OK, and what did  
you all talk about?

907  
00:32:24,020 --> 00:32:26,100  
What did you prisoners talk--

908  
00:32:26,100 --> 00:32:27,780  
On the job, you  
don't have to talk--

909  
00:32:27,780 --> 00:32:28,540  
you don't talk  
anything on the job.

910  
00:32:28,540 --> 00:32:29,623  
You don't talk on the job?

911  
00:32:29,623 --> 00:32:30,740  
No.

912  
00:32:30,740 --> 00:32:34,800  
And when you come home,  
then what next thing

913  
00:32:34,800 --> 00:32:37,980  
is what are you going  
to have for supper.

914  
00:32:37,980 --> 00:32:40,140  
That's what we going to talk.

915  
00:32:40,140 --> 00:32:43,390

916  
00:32:43,390 --> 00:32:46,290  
And you said you were an  
observant Jew before--

917  
00:32:46,290 --> 00:32:46,790  
Before.

918  
00:32:46,790 --> 00:32:48,040

--when you were growing up.

919

00:32:48,040 --> 00:32:50,840

Did you-- could you do anything?

920

00:32:50,840 --> 00:32:54,657

Nothing, they  
don't-- everybody--

921

00:32:54,657 --> 00:32:56,490

There was no way you  
could observe anything?

922

00:32:56,490 --> 00:32:58,920

Everybody was having  
the same thing.

923

00:32:58,920 --> 00:33:00,040

Yeah.

924

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

So there was no way--

925

00:33:00,990 --> 00:33:02,010

Non-kosher and kosher.

926

00:33:02,010 --> 00:33:02,510

Right.

927

00:33:02,510 --> 00:33:05,150

928

00:33:05,150 --> 00:33:10,030

And so here now you're  
in Sachsenhausen,

929

00:33:10,030 --> 00:33:12,950

had you gone to  
Oranienburg first?

930

00:33:12,950 --> 00:33:13,450

Yes.

931  
00:33:13,450 --> 00:33:15,272  
When did you do that?

932  
00:33:15,272 --> 00:33:19,260  
Oranienburg-- we  
land at Oranienburg.

933  
00:33:19,260 --> 00:33:19,780  
OK from--

934  
00:33:19,780 --> 00:33:21,920  
With the train from Pionki.

935  
00:33:21,920 --> 00:33:22,760  
From Pionki.

936  
00:33:22,760 --> 00:33:26,560  
Oranienburg and then by  
train to go over to-- it's

937  
00:33:26,560 --> 00:33:28,330  
not far from Sachsenhausen.

938  
00:33:28,330 --> 00:33:30,595  
So you didn't stay  
in Oranienburg?

939  
00:33:30,595 --> 00:33:31,450  
No.

940  
00:33:31,450 --> 00:33:32,356  
You went to--

941  
00:33:32,356 --> 00:33:33,250  
I see.

942  
00:33:33,250 --> 00:33:34,093  
No.

943  
00:33:34,093 --> 00:33:35,760

I had thought you  
stayed in Oranienburg.

944  
00:33:35,760 --> 00:33:37,400  
No, you went directly  
to Sachsenhausen?

945  
00:33:37,400 --> 00:33:37,983  
Sachsenhausen.

946  
00:33:37,983 --> 00:33:41,520  
Yeah, and you stayed there.

947  
00:33:41,520 --> 00:33:43,390  
And what was your state of mind?

948  
00:33:43,390 --> 00:33:45,180  
And what was your  
state of health?

949  
00:33:45,180 --> 00:33:49,620  
Health, you got to be  
healthy, otherwise you going.

950  
00:33:49,620 --> 00:33:50,310  
Right.

951  
00:33:50,310 --> 00:33:55,474  
So state of mind maybe,  
maybe, maybe, you know,

952  
00:33:55,474 --> 00:33:58,120  
it's going to get better.

953  
00:33:58,120 --> 00:34:00,410  
You keep thinking that maybe  
it's going to get better?

954  
00:34:00,410 --> 00:34:00,910  
Yeah.

955  
00:34:00,910 --> 00:34:01,442

Yeah.

956

00:34:01,442 --> 00:34:05,000

Did you pray at all to yourself?

957

00:34:05,000 --> 00:34:05,540

No.

958

00:34:05,540 --> 00:34:07,750

No, you just thought maybe  
it's going to get better?

959

00:34:07,750 --> 00:34:08,250

Yeah.

960

00:34:08,250 --> 00:34:11,080

Yeah, and again,  
you did not know

961

00:34:11,080 --> 00:34:13,179

what was happening in  
the rest of the world?

962

00:34:13,179 --> 00:34:14,262

The rest of the world, no.

963

00:34:14,262 --> 00:34:15,969

No, OK.

964

00:34:15,969 --> 00:34:19,060

And did the other prisoners  
help each other out?

965

00:34:19,060 --> 00:34:20,290

No.

966

00:34:20,290 --> 00:34:21,739

One man didn't  
help the other man?

967

00:34:21,739 --> 00:34:22,239

No.

968  
00:34:22,239 --> 00:34:22,810  
No?

969  
00:34:22,810 --> 00:34:24,250  
No.

970  
00:34:24,250 --> 00:34:27,320  
Everybody has his own job.

971  
00:34:27,320 --> 00:34:30,260  
Everybody had a  
family, you know.

972  
00:34:30,260 --> 00:34:32,889  
Yeah, did you talk about your  
families to the other men?

973  
00:34:32,889 --> 00:34:35,130  
Yeah, talking to  
each other, yes.

974  
00:34:35,130 --> 00:34:35,830  
We were talking.

975  
00:34:35,830 --> 00:34:39,060  
And they would tell you about  
their families and their towns?

976  
00:34:39,060 --> 00:34:39,670  
Yeah.

977  
00:34:39,670 --> 00:34:41,445  
Did you know any of them before?

978  
00:34:41,445 --> 00:34:43,150  
Were any of them from Pionki?

979  
00:34:43,150 --> 00:34:44,560  
No.

980

00:34:44,560 --> 00:34:46,215  
So they were all newer people?

981  
00:34:46,215 --> 00:34:48,100  
New people, yes.

982  
00:34:48,100 --> 00:34:55,520  
OK, and so you stay in  
Sachsenhausen for how long?

983  
00:34:55,520 --> 00:34:57,950  
Can you go back for a second?

984  
00:34:57,950 --> 00:34:59,240  
What would you like?

985  
00:34:59,240 --> 00:35:01,682  
Yeah, any story you  
have is important.

986  
00:35:01,682 --> 00:35:03,390  
No, I know, I mean,  
I forgot to tell you.

987  
00:35:03,390 --> 00:35:05,260  
That's OK.

988  
00:35:05,260 --> 00:35:16,460  
Before we came into Oranienburg,  
we were a group actually,

989  
00:35:16,460 --> 00:35:25,460  
maybe 160, 150 people the  
same going into Oranienburg

990  
00:35:25,460 --> 00:35:28,250  
from Pionki.

991  
00:35:28,250 --> 00:35:35,770  
And we came to Oranienburg,  
so they split us up already.

992

00:35:35,770 --> 00:35:38,280

993

00:35:38,280 --> 00:35:43,020

Women to the right,  
men to the left.

994

00:35:43,020 --> 00:35:48,600

And so they send us  
to Sachsenhausen.

995

00:35:48,600 --> 00:35:51,000

And the woman stayed  
there for a while

996

00:35:51,000 --> 00:35:55,110

until they get also  
back to Sachsenhausen,

997

00:35:55,110 --> 00:35:57,930

so we were together.

998

00:35:57,930 --> 00:36:04,680

Not together, but the same camp.

999

00:36:04,680 --> 00:36:07,990

Did you have any chances to  
see them, to talk to them?

1000

00:36:07,990 --> 00:36:10,740

See them, talk to  
them yeah, Yeah.

1001

00:36:10,740 --> 00:36:13,140

How did that-- can you  
describe how that happened?

1002

00:36:13,140 --> 00:36:15,480

Well, they were talking  
to us about what happened

1003

00:36:15,480 --> 00:36:18,290

to them on the way over here.



1004  
00:36:18,290 --> 00:36:21,150  
But you were able to actually  
be physically next to them

1005  
00:36:21,150 --> 00:36:21,900  
and talk to them?

1006  
00:36:21,900 --> 00:36:22,935  
No, through a wire.

1007  
00:36:22,935 --> 00:36:24,697  
Through a fence?

1008  
00:36:24,697 --> 00:36:25,780  
Fence, a fence and a wire.

1009  
00:36:25,780 --> 00:36:27,490  
OK, so you didn't--

1010  
00:36:27,490 --> 00:36:28,190  
Yeah.

1011  
00:36:28,190 --> 00:36:29,920  
And that's how you  
talked to your sister?

1012  
00:36:29,920 --> 00:36:31,234  
Right.

1013  
00:36:31,234 --> 00:36:32,620  
I see.

1014  
00:36:32,620 --> 00:36:35,400  
Yeah.

1015  
00:36:35,400 --> 00:36:37,340  
And so a lot of-- so  
the men were behind

1016  
00:36:37,340 --> 00:36:39,620

on one side of the fence,  
and the women on the other?

1017  
00:36:39,620 --> 00:36:42,290  
And they would  
talk to each other.

1018  
00:36:42,290 --> 00:36:45,020  
So now you are in Sachsenhausen,  
and you stay there

1019  
00:36:45,020 --> 00:36:47,110  
for how long?

1020  
00:36:47,110 --> 00:36:48,606  
Until the end of the war, or?

1021  
00:36:48,606 --> 00:36:50,590  
Until the end of the war.

1022  
00:36:50,590 --> 00:36:52,790  
OK, and what was that like?

1023  
00:36:52,790 --> 00:36:53,780  
Can you describe that?

1024  
00:36:53,780 --> 00:36:55,220  
Oh, boy.

1025  
00:36:55,220 --> 00:36:58,220  
What was that day, and how  
did you know it was happening?

1026  
00:36:58,220 --> 00:36:59,530  
I like to go back.

1027  
00:36:59,530 --> 00:37:03,540  
Absolutely, please  
do, please do.

1028  
00:37:03,540 --> 00:37:17,558  
Then were in Pionki everybody

asks me where were the husband?

1029

00:37:17,558 --> 00:37:19,550

Where was whose--

1030

00:37:19,550 --> 00:37:20,843

My sister's husband.

1031

00:37:20,843 --> 00:37:21,760

Your sister's husband?

1032

00:37:21,760 --> 00:37:24,340

Yeah, because her and  
the child and everything.

1033

00:37:24,340 --> 00:37:28,382

So they didn't know so he was--

1034

00:37:28,382 --> 00:37:30,090

he was a tailor.

1035

00:37:30,090 --> 00:37:37,500

He was working for the  
Nazis to buy them--

1036

00:37:37,500 --> 00:37:39,980

I mean, to tailor  
suits and everything.

1037

00:37:39,980 --> 00:37:40,730

Make the uniforms?

1038

00:37:40,730 --> 00:37:41,810

Yeah.

1039

00:37:41,810 --> 00:37:46,400

So he has a little pool, and  
he wants to go on over to Radom

1040

00:37:46,400 --> 00:37:51,240

and bring people  
in to this camp.

1041  
00:37:51,240 --> 00:37:55,100  
So that's what he does.

1042  
00:37:55,100 --> 00:38:01,372  
And I took care of the kids--  
their kid, my sister's boy.

1043  
00:38:01,372 --> 00:38:05,230

1044  
00:38:05,230 --> 00:38:12,710  
So when we went into  
Pionki, no children allowed.

1045  
00:38:12,710 --> 00:38:14,420  
So I took--

1046  
00:38:14,420 --> 00:38:21,240  
I have an overcoat, and  
I strapped him with me.

1047  
00:38:21,240 --> 00:38:23,600  
And I went to the gate.

1048  
00:38:23,600 --> 00:38:25,240  
And that's it.

1049  
00:38:25,240 --> 00:38:30,390  
This was my first experience.

1050  
00:38:30,390 --> 00:38:32,810  
That's wonderful what you did.

1051  
00:38:32,810 --> 00:38:33,725  
It's wonderful.

1052  
00:38:33,725 --> 00:38:35,030  
He's alive.

1053  
00:38:35,030 --> 00:38:38,450

What was the little boy's name?

1054

00:38:38,450 --> 00:38:39,250

The boy's name?

1055

00:38:39,250 --> 00:38:39,750

Yeah.

1056

00:38:39,750 --> 00:38:43,412

1057

00:38:43,412 --> 00:38:44,773

Or what did you call?

1058

00:38:44,773 --> 00:38:49,350

I called him-- they didn't  
call him by Jewish name.

1059

00:38:49,350 --> 00:38:50,790

We called him Nathan.

1060

00:38:50,790 --> 00:38:51,290

Nathan?

1061

00:38:51,290 --> 00:38:53,390

Nathan is his father.

1062

00:38:53,390 --> 00:38:57,560

And his name was Michael.

1063

00:38:57,560 --> 00:39:00,710

1064

00:39:00,710 --> 00:39:05,170

So he still remembers, he lives.

1065

00:39:05,170 --> 00:39:06,870

He's a very wealthy man.

1066

00:39:06,870 --> 00:39:09,070

He's still in--

1067  
00:39:09,070 --> 00:39:10,562  
And he survived in the war--

1068  
00:39:10,562 --> 00:39:12,020  
He survived the  
war and everything.

1069  
00:39:12,020 --> 00:39:13,270  
--with his mother?

1070  
00:39:13,270 --> 00:39:15,780  
Yeah, his mother passed  
away about two years ago.

1071  
00:39:15,780 --> 00:39:16,510  
Really?

1072  
00:39:16,510 --> 00:39:17,400  
Yeah.

1073  
00:39:17,400 --> 00:39:19,260  
And what about his father?

1074  
00:39:19,260 --> 00:39:22,670  
His father passed away  
about a year later.

1075  
00:39:22,670 --> 00:39:23,910  
They both passed away.

1076  
00:39:23,910 --> 00:39:24,410  
Yeah.

1077  
00:39:24,410 --> 00:39:25,202  
They were builders.

1078  
00:39:25,202 --> 00:39:27,840

1079  
00:39:27,840 --> 00:39:28,780

OK.

1080  
00:39:28,780 --> 00:39:29,760  
That's why I want  
to bring it back.

1081  
00:39:29,760 --> 00:39:30,480  
That's a wonderful story.

1082  
00:39:30,480 --> 00:39:32,298  
That's a wonderful  
story, what you did.

1083  
00:39:32,298 --> 00:39:32,798  
Yeah.

1084  
00:39:32,798 --> 00:39:37,550  
What you did, yeah, priceless.

1085  
00:39:37,550 --> 00:39:39,760  
So you're in  
Sachsenhausen, and it's

1086  
00:39:39,760 --> 00:39:41,080  
towards the end of the war.

1087  
00:39:41,080 --> 00:39:42,640  
And how did you know it was--

1088  
00:39:42,640 --> 00:39:44,220  
How did I know?

1089  
00:39:44,220 --> 00:39:45,430  
Yeah.

1090  
00:39:45,430 --> 00:39:46,510  
We didn't see a German.

1091  
00:39:46,510 --> 00:39:48,670  
So all of a sudden  
there were no Germans?

1092  
00:39:48,670 --> 00:39:49,670  
No Germans.

1093  
00:39:49,670 --> 00:39:51,120  
And what did you think?

1094  
00:39:51,120 --> 00:39:52,440  
Nothing, just stay there.

1095  
00:39:52,440 --> 00:39:53,200  
You just stayed?

1096  
00:39:53,200 --> 00:39:59,830  
We stayed until we see a Russian  
guy coming in to the camp.

1097  
00:39:59,830 --> 00:40:02,530  
Some woman speaks  
Russian, I didn't.

1098  
00:40:02,530 --> 00:40:04,210  
Did you speak any  
German, by the way?

1099  
00:40:04,210 --> 00:40:05,330  
Yes, little bit.

1100  
00:40:05,330 --> 00:40:05,830  
Yeah.

1101  
00:40:05,830 --> 00:40:07,200  
That you knew before the war?

1102  
00:40:07,200 --> 00:40:07,840  
No, no.

1103  
00:40:07,840 --> 00:40:08,680  
You picked it up during the war?

1104  
00:40:08,680 --> 00:40:09,820  
Picked it up, yeah.



1105  
00:40:09,820 --> 00:40:16,700  
So they saw a German coming in  
from the woods into the camp.

1106  
00:40:16,700 --> 00:40:19,000  
And they ask is  
any Germans here?

1107  
00:40:19,000 --> 00:40:22,730  
So the other guys knew  
about-- knew the language.

1108  
00:40:22,730 --> 00:40:25,620  
We said not yet, no.

1109  
00:40:25,620 --> 00:40:29,700  
So he said stay here, no  
don't go out until the--

1110  
00:40:29,700 --> 00:40:35,130  
until all the battalions  
come in, the Russians.

1111  
00:40:35,130 --> 00:40:38,480  
So we stayed there for  
another half a day.

1112  
00:40:38,480 --> 00:40:41,540  
And all of a sudden that  
night or in the afternoon

1113  
00:40:41,540 --> 00:40:44,730  
the Russians all over.

1114  
00:40:44,730 --> 00:40:48,070  
Some they gave us  
food and everything.

1115  
00:40:48,070 --> 00:40:51,890  
Stayed here, and if  
anybody wants to go home

1116  
00:40:51,890 --> 00:40:55,730  
you are welcome to go home.

1117  
00:40:55,730 --> 00:40:56,990  
So--

1118  
00:40:56,990 --> 00:41:00,110  
Tell me what your feelings  
were when you realized it was--

1119  
00:41:00,110 --> 00:41:00,680  
Yeah.

1120  
00:41:00,680 --> 00:41:01,890  
--it was the end of the war?

1121  
00:41:01,890 --> 00:41:03,960  
Yeah, those were very good.

1122  
00:41:03,960 --> 00:41:09,330  
It was very-- I mean, the end of  
the war, at least we survived.

1123  
00:41:09,330 --> 00:41:11,120  
And a lot of people  
didn't survive

1124  
00:41:11,120 --> 00:41:13,990  
because they eat like a--

1125  
00:41:13,990 --> 00:41:15,410  
start to eat.

1126  
00:41:15,410 --> 00:41:16,520  
Fed the other people.

1127  
00:41:16,520 --> 00:41:18,560  
Did you do any kind  
of celebration?

1128  
00:41:18,560 --> 00:41:20,140

Did you mark the day?

1129  
00:41:20,140 --> 00:41:20,640  
No.

1130  
00:41:20,640 --> 00:41:21,140  
No?

1131  
00:41:21,140 --> 00:41:23,365  
No, we just want to  
go back to Poland.

1132  
00:41:23,365 --> 00:41:23,865  
Yeah.

1133  
00:41:23,865 --> 00:41:26,980

1134  
00:41:26,980 --> 00:41:28,240  
And we got back to Poland.

1135  
00:41:28,240 --> 00:41:32,470  
They give us a how do  
you do, a surprise party.

1136  
00:41:32,470 --> 00:41:34,730  
They beat the hell out of us.

1137  
00:41:34,730 --> 00:41:35,930  
These are the Polish people?

1138  
00:41:35,930 --> 00:41:36,430  
Yeah.

1139  
00:41:36,430 --> 00:41:37,610  
You got back to your town?

1140  
00:41:37,610 --> 00:41:39,380  
Yeah.

1141  
00:41:39,380 --> 00:41:40,950

How did you get back?

1142  
00:41:40,950 --> 00:41:42,640  
A train.

1143  
00:41:42,640 --> 00:41:43,890  
You could just get on a train?

1144  
00:41:43,890 --> 00:41:44,370  
A train, yeah.

1145  
00:41:44,370 --> 00:41:45,453  
You didn't need any money?

1146  
00:41:45,453 --> 00:41:46,410  
Any money, nothing.

1147  
00:41:46,410 --> 00:41:49,620  
And you're still wearing  
your prison outfit?

1148  
00:41:49,620 --> 00:41:50,683  
Prison outfit, yeah.

1149  
00:41:50,683 --> 00:41:54,850  
And then later on we got  
different outfits already.

1150  
00:41:54,850 --> 00:41:57,360  
By then you had-- yeah.

1151  
00:41:57,360 --> 00:41:59,730  
And did you go back with  
people from your town?

1152  
00:41:59,730 --> 00:42:01,350  
Yeah.

1153  
00:42:01,350 --> 00:42:04,220  
Two or three people  
we going back.

1154

00:42:04,220 --> 00:42:07,330

When they gave us our  
beating, oh my god.

1155

00:42:07,330 --> 00:42:08,760

The next day--

1156

00:42:08,760 --> 00:42:10,650

You went back, did you  
go back to your house?

1157

00:42:10,650 --> 00:42:12,960

How did they find you?

1158

00:42:12,960 --> 00:42:14,430

I got back to my house.

1159

00:42:14,430 --> 00:42:17,400

And they were-- and people  
knew you were there?

1160

00:42:17,400 --> 00:42:18,280

Yes.

1161

00:42:18,280 --> 00:42:18,780

So--

1162

00:42:18,780 --> 00:42:20,300

What did they say to you?

1163

00:42:20,300 --> 00:42:21,810

Get out, don't come back.

1164

00:42:21,810 --> 00:42:24,960

Get out of here, none come back.

1165

00:42:24,960 --> 00:42:27,200

That's where they  
come and they tell us.

1166

00:42:27,200 --> 00:42:29,430

So the next train--

1167  
00:42:29,430 --> 00:42:29,960  
You left?

1168  
00:42:29,960 --> 00:42:31,320  
I left.

1169  
00:42:31,320 --> 00:42:33,380  
Oh my goodness.

1170  
00:42:33,380 --> 00:42:35,490  
Now, what about your parents?

1171  
00:42:35,490 --> 00:42:37,320  
What had happened  
with your parents?

1172  
00:42:37,320 --> 00:42:38,190  
Do you know?

1173  
00:42:38,190 --> 00:42:39,180  
Nobody knows.

1174  
00:42:39,180 --> 00:42:41,200  
Nobody knows.

1175  
00:42:41,200 --> 00:42:43,770  
And what about your other-- you  
said you had other siblings?

1176  
00:42:43,770 --> 00:42:46,832  
Other brothers and sisters, do  
you know anything about them?

1177  
00:42:46,832 --> 00:42:47,790  
This is before the war.

1178  
00:42:47,790 --> 00:42:48,600  
Yeah, before the war.

1179

00:42:48,600 --> 00:42:49,830  
No, I didn't know about them.

1180  
00:42:49,830 --> 00:42:51,410  
You don't know, yeah.

1181  
00:42:51,410 --> 00:42:52,840  
So it's only your sister?

1182  
00:42:52,840 --> 00:42:53,980  
Only my sister, yeah.

1183  
00:42:53,980 --> 00:42:58,290  
My brother went  
through underground.

1184  
00:42:58,290 --> 00:42:59,120  
Your brother?

1185  
00:42:59,120 --> 00:42:59,720  
Yeah.

1186  
00:42:59,720 --> 00:43:01,830  
Tell me about what  
happened with him?

1187  
00:43:01,830 --> 00:43:02,330  
He worked--

1188  
00:43:02,330 --> 00:43:04,130  
He was in underground.

1189  
00:43:04,130 --> 00:43:05,820  
And he survived.

1190  
00:43:05,820 --> 00:43:06,985  
So he was never captured?

1191  
00:43:06,985 --> 00:43:10,740  
Never captured, he never  
went to camp, to Pionki.

1192  
00:43:10,740 --> 00:43:12,150  
Oh, OK.

1193  
00:43:12,150 --> 00:43:16,883  
And did he stay in Poland  
during the war the whole time?

1194  
00:43:16,883 --> 00:43:18,300  
War, yeah whole  
time in the woods.

1195  
00:43:18,300 --> 00:43:20,130  
Yeah.

1196  
00:43:20,130 --> 00:43:22,830  
And he did resistance  
activities?

1197  
00:43:22,830 --> 00:43:25,620  
I guess he was doing  
in the resistance.

1198  
00:43:25,620 --> 00:43:26,492  
Yeah.

1199  
00:43:26,492 --> 00:43:27,700  
And he survived, fortunately.

1200  
00:43:27,700 --> 00:43:28,450  
He survived, yeah.

1201  
00:43:28,450 --> 00:43:30,915  
So the three of you survived?

1202  
00:43:30,915 --> 00:43:31,750  
Yeah.

1203  
00:43:31,750 --> 00:43:34,760  
And then did you get to  
see him after the war?

1204



00:43:34,760 --> 00:43:36,348  
After the war, sure,  
I got to see him.

1205  
00:43:36,348 --> 00:43:36,890  
Where was he?

1206  
00:43:36,890 --> 00:43:39,030  
He came to Germany.

1207  
00:43:39,030 --> 00:43:40,200  
He didn't want--

1208  
00:43:40,200 --> 00:43:41,800  
Before you left Germany?

1209  
00:43:41,800 --> 00:43:43,568  
No, then I went to Germany.

1210  
00:43:43,568 --> 00:43:44,610  
You went back to Germany?

1211  
00:43:44,610 --> 00:43:45,270  
Yes.

1212  
00:43:45,270 --> 00:43:48,250  
You went back to Poland,  
then went back to Germany?

1213  
00:43:48,250 --> 00:43:49,050  
I went to--

1214  
00:43:49,050 --> 00:43:50,060  
Where did you go?

1215  
00:43:50,060 --> 00:43:57,080  
I went to all-- wherever the  
train take me, then I go.

1216  
00:43:57,080 --> 00:43:58,710  
And so where did you  
get off the train?

1217  
00:43:58,710 --> 00:44:01,678  
The train went to Bad Nauheim.

1218  
00:44:01,678 --> 00:44:02,470  
Oh, to Bad Nauheim.

1219  
00:44:02,470 --> 00:44:02,970  
Germany.

1220  
00:44:02,970 --> 00:44:04,120  
Right, to a DP camp?

1221  
00:44:04,120 --> 00:44:05,620  
A displaced person camp?

1222  
00:44:05,620 --> 00:44:06,960  
Displaced person.

1223  
00:44:06,960 --> 00:44:08,800  
And that's where  
your brother came?

1224  
00:44:08,800 --> 00:44:10,150  
Then he found me.

1225  
00:44:10,150 --> 00:44:12,010  
He found you?

1226  
00:44:12,010 --> 00:44:14,780  
Because we were  
looking for relatives.

1227  
00:44:14,780 --> 00:44:15,960  
We were looking for--

1228  
00:44:15,960 --> 00:44:18,010  
in Czechoslovakia, we  
were looking for that.

1229  
00:44:18,010 --> 00:44:22,290

And I find my sister in Sweden.

1230  
00:44:22,290 --> 00:44:25,860  
Because she left at the end  
of the war to go to Sweden?

1231  
00:44:25,860 --> 00:44:26,990  
They took her to Sweden.

1232  
00:44:26,990 --> 00:44:29,860  
They took her to Sweden,  
her and her little boy?

1233  
00:44:29,860 --> 00:44:33,910  
Yeah, they sunk  
ships, five of them.

1234  
00:44:33,910 --> 00:44:38,050  
She was on the sixth boat.

1235  
00:44:38,050 --> 00:44:38,550  
Yeah.

1236  
00:44:38,550 --> 00:44:42,110

1237  
00:44:42,110 --> 00:44:45,500  
That was something.

1238  
00:44:45,500 --> 00:44:49,990  
So now you're in the DP  
camp, displaced persons camp,

1239  
00:44:49,990 --> 00:44:51,190  
with your brother.

1240  
00:44:51,190 --> 00:44:52,538  
And you stayed there?

1241  
00:44:52,538 --> 00:44:53,330  
Yeah, stayed there.

1242

00:44:53,330 --> 00:44:55,740

And what did you do, and  
how did they treat you?

1243

00:44:55,740 --> 00:44:57,060

They treat us very good.

1244

00:44:57,060 --> 00:45:00,590

1245

00:45:00,590 --> 00:45:01,460

With enough food?

1246

00:45:01,460 --> 00:45:03,720

Free, enough food, you free.

1247

00:45:03,720 --> 00:45:05,850

You can go anyplace you want.

1248

00:45:05,850 --> 00:45:07,300

Yeah.

1249

00:45:07,300 --> 00:45:08,300

That's a different life.

1250

00:45:08,300 --> 00:45:09,650

It was a different life.

1251

00:45:09,650 --> 00:45:13,910

Yeah, and when did you hear  
about what happened to all

1252

00:45:13,910 --> 00:45:16,460

the other Jews during the war?

1253

00:45:16,460 --> 00:45:18,620

Ove there after  
we were liberated.

1254

00:45:18,620 --> 00:45:20,390

Then you found out?

1255  
00:45:20,390 --> 00:45:21,560  
Yeah.

1256  
00:45:21,560 --> 00:45:22,950  
We were liberated.

1257  
00:45:22,950 --> 00:45:24,860  
Yeah, yeah.

1258  
00:45:24,860 --> 00:45:32,760  
And so at-- did  
you do any classes,

1259  
00:45:32,760 --> 00:45:36,000  
or did you do anything  
at that Bad Nauheim?

1260  
00:45:36,000 --> 00:45:37,590  
No.

1261  
00:45:37,590 --> 00:45:39,180  
Train you, any job training?

1262  
00:45:39,180 --> 00:45:41,170  
No, no job training.

1263  
00:45:41,170 --> 00:45:42,600  
So what did you do every day?

1264  
00:45:42,600 --> 00:45:52,180  
Every day we were  
going out to see

1265  
00:45:52,180 --> 00:45:53,950  
if you can find anybody else.

1266  
00:45:53,950 --> 00:45:55,660  
Yeah, you just kept searching?

1267  
00:45:55,660 --> 00:45:56,640

Searching, surviving.

1268  
00:45:56,640 --> 00:45:57,790  
But you didn't have a job?

1269  
00:45:57,790 --> 00:45:59,470  
No, we didn't have a job.

1270  
00:45:59,470 --> 00:46:01,390  
No.

1271  
00:46:01,390 --> 00:46:04,570  
And now you're-- let's see,  
you're 24 years old now?

1272  
00:46:04,570 --> 00:46:06,000  
Yeah.

1273  
00:46:06,000 --> 00:46:07,150  
Yep.

1274  
00:46:07,150 --> 00:46:08,700  
And where did you  
live in the camp?

1275  
00:46:08,700 --> 00:46:10,360  
In the camp.

1276  
00:46:10,360 --> 00:46:12,930  
In another barracks?

1277  
00:46:12,930 --> 00:46:15,040  
Another barracks, yeah.

1278  
00:46:15,040 --> 00:46:19,570  
And people's state  
of mind was good?

1279  
00:46:19,570 --> 00:46:21,030  
Yeah, they're very good.

1280

00:46:21,030 --> 00:46:24,400  
There was actually  
they at Bad Nauheim

1281  
00:46:24,400 --> 00:46:28,510  
there were a lot of Jewish  
people who came back.

1282  
00:46:28,510 --> 00:46:29,650  
Germans.

1283  
00:46:29,650 --> 00:46:30,317  
Oh, German Jews?

1284  
00:46:30,317 --> 00:46:30,817  
Jews--

1285  
00:46:30,817 --> 00:46:31,420  
Who came?

1286  
00:46:31,420 --> 00:46:34,120  
--came back, and we were there.

1287  
00:46:34,120 --> 00:46:39,970  
And now that time, from there we  
went over to the United States.

1288  
00:46:39,970 --> 00:46:43,150  
So you stayed in Bad  
Nauheim for how long?

1289  
00:46:43,150 --> 00:46:44,050  
For how long?

1290  
00:46:44,050 --> 00:46:46,554  
I would say about a year  
and a half, maybe more.

1291  
00:46:46,554 --> 00:46:49,340

1292  
00:46:49,340 --> 00:46:50,877

And you came to  
the United States?

1293  
00:46:50,877 --> 00:46:51,710  
United States, yeah.

1294  
00:46:51,710 --> 00:46:53,725  
That was your  
decision to come here?

1295  
00:46:53,725 --> 00:46:54,460  
Yes.

1296  
00:46:54,460 --> 00:46:57,270  
What did the United States  
mean to you at that time?

1297  
00:46:57,270 --> 00:47:00,510  
Free-- it's a free country.

1298  
00:47:00,510 --> 00:47:02,640  
They treat everybody equal.

1299  
00:47:02,640 --> 00:47:06,010  
The Jewish people  
are going over there.

1300  
00:47:06,010 --> 00:47:10,500  
So I decided, let's go  
to Europe, from Europe,

1301  
00:47:10,500 --> 00:47:12,710  
to the United States.

1302  
00:47:12,710 --> 00:47:15,080  
And they advised me to  
[INAUDIBLE] the country

1303  
00:47:15,080 --> 00:47:17,510  
[INAUDIBLE].

1304  
00:47:17,510 --> 00:47:19,810



So you are in the DP  
camp for a couple years?

1305  
00:47:19,810 --> 00:47:21,880  
Yeah, two years, yeah.

1306  
00:47:21,880 --> 00:47:28,180  
Two years. so to '47 or so, '48?

1307  
00:47:28,180 --> 00:47:30,010  
'48.

1308  
00:47:30,010 --> 00:47:30,710  
'48, OK.

1309  
00:47:30,710 --> 00:47:32,870  
And then when the state  
of Israel was formed,

1310  
00:47:32,870 --> 00:47:34,602  
did you know about that?

1311  
00:47:34,602 --> 00:47:39,920  
Yes, I was signed up.

1312  
00:47:39,920 --> 00:47:40,840  
Signed up for what?

1313  
00:47:40,840 --> 00:47:41,620  
For Israel.

1314  
00:47:41,620 --> 00:47:42,310  
You were--

1315  
00:47:42,310 --> 00:47:46,790  
Yeah, but my sister  
said let's don't

1316  
00:47:46,790 --> 00:47:50,210  
that, see if we can go all  
together to the United States.

1317  
00:47:50,210 --> 00:47:51,600  
She did not want  
to go to Israel?

1318  
00:47:51,600 --> 00:47:52,100  
No.

1319  
00:47:52,100 --> 00:47:52,640  
But you to?

1320  
00:47:52,640 --> 00:47:54,690  
Yeah, I want to go.

1321  
00:47:54,690 --> 00:47:56,610  
So we stay there until I--

1322  
00:47:56,610 --> 00:47:59,935  
So she-- she did she  
come back from Sweden--

1323  
00:47:59,935 --> 00:48:00,560  
She come back--

1324  
00:48:00,560 --> 00:48:01,685  
From Sweden to Bad Nauheim?

1325  
00:48:01,685 --> 00:48:02,810  
From Sweden to Bad Nauheim.

1326  
00:48:02,810 --> 00:48:04,185  
So you were with  
her then, I see.

1327  
00:48:04,185 --> 00:48:05,560  
So we were there,  
and the husband

1328  
00:48:05,560 --> 00:48:07,310  
was there, and the little son.

1329  
00:48:07,310 --> 00:48:08,350

And the boy, the son?

1330  
00:48:08,350 --> 00:48:09,220  
Yeah.

1331  
00:48:09,220 --> 00:48:14,870  
So she and you and the  
husband and the little boy--

1332  
00:48:14,870 --> 00:48:16,210  
We all together.

1333  
00:48:16,210 --> 00:48:17,995  
To go to the United States?

1334  
00:48:17,995 --> 00:48:18,880  
To the United States.

1335  
00:48:18,880 --> 00:48:20,450  
Yeah.

1336  
00:48:20,450 --> 00:48:23,670  
And so I had a  
little bit problems.

1337  
00:48:23,670 --> 00:48:25,050  
What kind of problems?

1338  
00:48:25,050 --> 00:48:27,660  
Problems, I couldn't  
get out on my name

1339  
00:48:27,660 --> 00:48:37,010  
because I was involved  
in the black market.

1340  
00:48:37,010 --> 00:48:38,010  
This is in the DP camp?

1341  
00:48:38,010 --> 00:48:38,768  
DP camp.

1342  
00:48:38,768 --> 00:48:40,310  
What kind of-- what  
were you selling?

1343  
00:48:40,310 --> 00:48:45,890  
I was selling diamonds,  
bringing it in from Belgium

1344  
00:48:45,890 --> 00:48:48,290  
into the United States--

1345  
00:48:48,290 --> 00:48:51,030  
from Belgium into Germany.

1346  
00:48:51,030 --> 00:48:51,590  
So the--

1347  
00:48:51,590 --> 00:48:54,470  
How did you get  
involved in that?

1348  
00:48:54,470 --> 00:48:56,640  
I didn't have anything to do.

1349  
00:48:56,640 --> 00:48:58,080  
I'm going to do something.

1350  
00:48:58,080 --> 00:48:59,080  
Right.

1351  
00:48:59,080 --> 00:49:01,560  
So I had a car.

1352  
00:49:01,560 --> 00:49:02,400  
You had a car?

1353  
00:49:02,400 --> 00:49:04,650  
Yeah, already a car.

1354  
00:49:04,650 --> 00:49:06,900  
So I'm back and forth.

1355  
00:49:06,900 --> 00:49:08,328  
Back and forth to Belgium?

1356  
00:49:08,328 --> 00:49:08,870  
Belgium yeah.

1357  
00:49:08,870 --> 00:49:11,200  
To pick up the  
diamonds, and then

1358  
00:49:11,200 --> 00:49:12,450  
bring them back and sell them?

1359  
00:49:12,450 --> 00:49:16,750  
There was somebody  
else, not mine.

1360  
00:49:16,750 --> 00:49:19,900  
And I was involved, so I  
couldn't get out on my name.

1361  
00:49:19,900 --> 00:49:20,700  
They knew that?

1362  
00:49:20,700 --> 00:49:21,200  
Yes.

1363  
00:49:21,200 --> 00:49:21,900  
They knew that.

1364  
00:49:21,900 --> 00:49:22,983  
The authorities knew that?

1365  
00:49:22,983 --> 00:49:25,420  
So I took a different name,  
and I get out from here.

1366  
00:49:25,420 --> 00:49:25,930  
That time--

1367

00:49:25,930 --> 00:49:28,450  
What was your new name?

1368  
00:49:28,450 --> 00:49:31,600  
Carl Koch.

1369  
00:49:31,600 --> 00:49:33,400  
Carl Koch?

1370  
00:49:33,400 --> 00:49:34,320  
Koch.

1371  
00:49:34,320 --> 00:49:35,660  
Yeah, K-O-C-H.

1372  
00:49:35,660 --> 00:49:37,060  
So--

1373  
00:49:37,060 --> 00:49:38,770  
How did you happen to pick that?

1374  
00:49:38,770 --> 00:49:42,220  
Somebody gave me that name.

1375  
00:49:42,220 --> 00:49:43,390  
That's laughing, it's--

1376  
00:49:43,390 --> 00:49:44,470  
I don't mean to laugh.

1377  
00:49:44,470 --> 00:49:46,320  
Yeah.

1378  
00:49:46,320 --> 00:49:50,080  
I said OK, that's it.

1379  
00:49:50,080 --> 00:49:52,613  
So that's how you went out?

1380  
00:49:52,613 --> 00:49:58,570  
I went out, and

then couple years

1381

00:49:58,570 --> 00:50:02,260

when I signed up for  
citizenship I changed my name.

1382

00:50:02,260 --> 00:50:04,200

I love my real name.

1383

00:50:04,200 --> 00:50:07,450

OK, no, you're still-- let's  
get back to the DP camp.

1384

00:50:07,450 --> 00:50:10,210

So you're going to United  
States, you get your new name.

1385

00:50:10,210 --> 00:50:10,810

Yeah.

1386

00:50:10,810 --> 00:50:13,660

And then how soon after  
did they give you--

1387

00:50:13,660 --> 00:50:14,830

After I--

1388

00:50:14,830 --> 00:50:18,400

--permission to come  
to the United States?

1389

00:50:18,400 --> 00:50:19,900

Six weeks or so.

1390

00:50:19,900 --> 00:50:21,480

It didn't take a long time?

1391

00:50:21,480 --> 00:50:22,480

Didn't take a long time.

1392

00:50:22,480 --> 00:50:24,270

Did you come by boat?

1393  
00:50:24,270 --> 00:50:27,700  
Oh, yeah, by boat.

1394  
00:50:27,700 --> 00:50:28,840  
What was that like?

1395  
00:50:28,840 --> 00:50:32,970  
They said it usually  
takes five days.

1396  
00:50:32,970 --> 00:50:35,500  
Took us two weeks.

1397  
00:50:35,500 --> 00:50:36,000  
What--

1398  
00:50:36,000 --> 00:50:38,680  
The worst storm they  
ever met-- they ever had.

1399  
00:50:38,680 --> 00:50:39,310  
Really?

1400  
00:50:39,310 --> 00:50:39,810  
Yeah.

1401  
00:50:39,810 --> 00:50:40,480  
So when was--

1402  
00:50:40,480 --> 00:50:45,270  
I was the strongest one to  
get the people from downstairs

1403  
00:50:45,270 --> 00:50:46,510  
up to the--

1404  
00:50:46,510 --> 00:50:48,030  
To the deck?

1405  
00:50:48,030 --> 00:50:49,280



--to the deck.

1406  
00:50:49,280 --> 00:50:50,990  
Oh, boy, this was--

1407  
00:50:50,990 --> 00:50:52,120  
So was this in the winter?

1408  
00:50:52,120 --> 00:50:54,370  
What time of year?

1409  
00:50:54,370 --> 00:50:55,660  
I left in December.

1410  
00:50:55,660 --> 00:50:59,180  
December of '49?

1411  
00:50:59,180 --> 00:50:59,680  
1949.

1412  
00:50:59,680 --> 00:51:01,090  
OK.

1413  
00:51:01,090 --> 00:51:04,070  
So '50--

1414  
00:51:04,070 --> 00:51:06,065  
So then you come to New York?

1415  
00:51:06,065 --> 00:51:08,840  
I supposed to land in New York.

1416  
00:51:08,840 --> 00:51:09,540  
Yeah.

1417  
00:51:09,540 --> 00:51:13,870  
But no, I landed in New Orleans.

1418  
00:51:13,870 --> 00:51:15,610  
Because of the weather or?

1419  
00:51:15,610 --> 00:51:16,160  
The weather.

1420  
00:51:16,160 --> 00:51:16,660  
OK.

1421  
00:51:16,660 --> 00:51:18,640  
The storm and everything.

1422  
00:51:18,640 --> 00:51:21,770  
Now, was your family  
with you on the boat?

1423  
00:51:21,770 --> 00:51:24,280  
No, no, no, I was by myself.

1424  
00:51:24,280 --> 00:51:26,350  
Why weren't you all together?

1425  
00:51:26,350 --> 00:51:28,210  
Because I signed up.

1426  
00:51:28,210 --> 00:51:30,280  
Because they have a family.

1427  
00:51:30,280 --> 00:51:34,670  
They had still  
business to in Germany.

1428  
00:51:34,670 --> 00:51:35,920  
So they did not want to leave?

1429  
00:51:35,920 --> 00:51:36,670  
Leave-- no

1430  
00:51:36,670 --> 00:51:37,900  
They wanted to stay?

1431  
00:51:37,900 --> 00:51:39,040  
To stay for a while.

1432  
00:51:39,040 --> 00:51:40,040  
But you wanted to leave?

1433  
00:51:40,040 --> 00:51:41,820  
I wanted-- that's enough.

1434  
00:51:41,820 --> 00:51:42,510  
OK.

1435  
00:51:42,510 --> 00:51:46,280  
So I was there.

1436  
00:51:46,280 --> 00:51:49,480

1437  
00:51:49,480 --> 00:51:53,300  
And so you get to New Orleans?

1438  
00:51:53,300 --> 00:51:53,800  
Yeah.

1439  
00:51:53,800 --> 00:51:54,450  
New Orleans.

1440  
00:51:54,450 --> 00:51:56,500  
Did you speak any English?

1441  
00:51:56,500 --> 00:51:57,745  
English, no.

1442  
00:51:57,745 --> 00:52:00,150  
I was sponsored.

1443  
00:52:00,150 --> 00:52:00,780  
By whom?

1444  
00:52:00,780 --> 00:52:06,990  
By a winemaker Fromm and Sichel.

1445  
00:52:06,990 --> 00:52:08,750

From where?

1446

00:52:08,750 --> 00:52:12,500

Fromm and Sichel, two Germans.

1447

00:52:12,500 --> 00:52:13,000

Oh.

1448

00:52:13,000 --> 00:52:16,920

They had a winery in California.

1449

00:52:16,920 --> 00:52:20,000

They had a winery in Saratoga.

1450

00:52:20,000 --> 00:52:21,880

So they sponsored me.

1451

00:52:21,880 --> 00:52:23,660

But you didn't--  
they didn't know you?

1452

00:52:23,660 --> 00:52:24,180

No.

1453

00:52:24,180 --> 00:52:24,520

No.

1454

00:52:24,520 --> 00:52:25,015

No, they--

1455

00:52:25,015 --> 00:52:25,350

Were they Jewish?

1456

00:52:25,350 --> 00:52:25,850

Jews.

1457

00:52:25,850 --> 00:52:26,880

They were Jewish.

1458

00:52:26,880 --> 00:52:31,140

Fromm and Sichel they

sponsored me and another guy.

1459  
00:52:31,140 --> 00:52:34,520

1460  
00:52:34,520 --> 00:52:36,620  
So we were working in  
the winery over there.

1461  
00:52:36,620 --> 00:52:40,005  
We came to Saratoga.

1462  
00:52:40,005 --> 00:52:41,990  
Saratoga, New York?

1463  
00:52:41,990 --> 00:52:44,670  
No, state, United States.

1464  
00:52:44,670 --> 00:52:47,190

1465  
00:52:47,190 --> 00:52:48,420  
Saratoga is what?

1466  
00:52:48,420 --> 00:52:51,390  
Saratoga, these United States.

1467  
00:52:51,390 --> 00:52:53,230  
Because they sponsored me--

1468  
00:52:53,230 --> 00:52:53,730  
Yeah.

1469  
00:52:53,730 --> 00:52:56,220  
--from New Orleans.

1470  
00:52:56,220 --> 00:52:59,920  
They have a winery  
in California.

1471  
00:52:59,920 --> 00:53:03,420

So it has sponsored me, and  
they paid for everything.

1472  
00:53:03,420 --> 00:53:05,100  
I should come over to--

1473  
00:53:05,100 --> 00:53:05,680  
The winery?

1474  
00:53:05,680 --> 00:53:06,780  
The winery.

1475  
00:53:06,780 --> 00:53:07,570  
In California?

1476  
00:53:07,570 --> 00:53:08,490  
California.

1477  
00:53:08,490 --> 00:53:09,350  
Oh, I see.

1478  
00:53:09,350 --> 00:53:13,090  
So we went over  
there to Saratoga.

1479  
00:53:13,090 --> 00:53:13,740  
In California?

1480  
00:53:13,740 --> 00:53:14,687  
California.

1481  
00:53:14,687 --> 00:53:16,270  
Because there is a  
Saratoga, New York.

1482  
00:53:16,270 --> 00:53:17,575  
That's why I'm--

1483  
00:53:17,575 --> 00:53:20,880  
Yeah we had a  
barrack they gave us.

1484

00:53:20,880 --> 00:53:22,860

They paid everything.

1485

00:53:22,860 --> 00:53:25,970

They were nice people.

1486

00:53:25,970 --> 00:53:29,420

And so you stayed in California?

1487

00:53:29,420 --> 00:53:30,670

Stayed, yeah.

1488

00:53:30,670 --> 00:53:32,590

And you started  
to learn English?

1489

00:53:32,590 --> 00:53:35,870

English, went to  
school at night.

1490

00:53:35,870 --> 00:53:38,130

In day time I went to work.

1491

00:53:38,130 --> 00:53:40,230

They picked us up on a bus.

1492

00:53:40,230 --> 00:53:41,540

You went to work in the winery?

1493

00:53:41,540 --> 00:53:42,200

Yeah.

1494

00:53:42,200 --> 00:53:44,420

What did you do?

1495

00:53:44,420 --> 00:53:45,290

Do the winery.

1496

00:53:45,290 --> 00:53:49,690

I got first of all,  
you have to light

1497  
00:53:49,690 --> 00:53:55,310  
work chemicals, light work.

1498  
00:53:55,310 --> 00:53:59,340  
And then later on,  
and you know this,

1499  
00:53:59,340 --> 00:54:05,970  
you gotta go out in the field,  
and see what happened there.

1500  
00:54:05,970 --> 00:54:08,460  
So a little bit heavier  
work, but it's good.

1501  
00:54:08,460 --> 00:54:11,230

1502  
00:54:11,230 --> 00:54:14,470  
And did you talk to  
the other workers?

1503  
00:54:14,470 --> 00:54:15,260  
Oh, yes.

1504  
00:54:15,260 --> 00:54:17,580  
And did they ask you  
about your experience--

1505  
00:54:17,580 --> 00:54:18,335  
Experience, sure.

1506  
00:54:18,335 --> 00:54:18,970  
--during the war?

1507  
00:54:18,970 --> 00:54:20,262  
And did you tell them about it?

1508  
00:54:20,262 --> 00:54:22,205  
Tell, sure, they  
knew about that, too.



1509  
00:54:22,205 --> 00:54:23,760  
It's a lot of them.

1510  
00:54:23,760 --> 00:54:27,290  
Most of them, a lot  
of them were Japanese.

1511  
00:54:27,290 --> 00:54:29,800  
Yes.

1512  
00:54:29,800 --> 00:54:33,070  
And by that did it take you  
a long time to learn English?

1513  
00:54:33,070 --> 00:54:34,600  
No, it didn't take me.

1514  
00:54:34,600 --> 00:54:35,110  
Oh, OK.

1515  
00:54:35,110 --> 00:54:35,820  
No.

1516  
00:54:35,820 --> 00:54:40,260  
Because you were like  
29 or 30 by then.

1517  
00:54:40,260 --> 00:54:44,210  
Yeah, and were you in contact  
with your sister and brother

1518  
00:54:44,210 --> 00:54:47,970  
and the family still when  
you were in California?

1519  
00:54:47,970 --> 00:54:49,957  
Yes.

1520  
00:54:49,957 --> 00:54:51,540  
How did you stay in  
contact with them?

1521  
00:54:51,540 --> 00:54:52,790  
By mail?

1522  
00:54:52,790 --> 00:54:59,500  
By telephone, by mail, and  
then another problem came up.

1523  
00:54:59,500 --> 00:55:05,480  
A friend of mine called her  
up and write her a letter.

1524  
00:55:05,480 --> 00:55:12,510  
Said I'm going out with a  
Gentile girl, a teacher.

1525  
00:55:12,510 --> 00:55:17,070  
So my sister write me a letter,  
said I don't want to know you,

1526  
00:55:17,070 --> 00:55:22,390  
if you ever get  
involved with a Gentile.

1527  
00:55:22,390 --> 00:55:26,140  
So I said, OK.

1528  
00:55:26,140 --> 00:55:28,530  
I packed my stuff.

1529  
00:55:28,530 --> 00:55:30,405  
You were the one going  
out with a Gentile?

1530  
00:55:30,405 --> 00:55:30,905  
Yeah.

1531  
00:55:30,905 --> 00:55:31,650  
Oh, OK.

1532  
00:55:31,650 --> 00:55:34,470  
I packed my stuff,

go back to New York.

1533  
00:55:34,470 --> 00:55:35,293  
Oh, OK.

1534  
00:55:35,293 --> 00:55:35,835  
I have a car.

1535  
00:55:35,835 --> 00:55:39,350

1536  
00:55:39,350 --> 00:55:43,240  
Stayed-- I became a butcher,  
back in the butcher business

1537  
00:55:43,240 --> 00:55:44,950  
just to keep myself going.

1538  
00:55:44,950 --> 00:55:47,320  
Did you know  
anybody in New York?

1539  
00:55:47,320 --> 00:55:48,460  
No.

1540  
00:55:48,460 --> 00:55:51,040  
You went to this strange  
city not knowing anybody?

1541  
00:55:51,040 --> 00:55:51,900  
No.

1542  
00:55:51,900 --> 00:55:52,980  
So?

1543  
00:55:52,980 --> 00:55:56,140  
So I went over there,  
and I became a butcher.

1544  
00:55:56,140 --> 00:55:57,950  
How did you know where  
to go in New York?

1545  
00:55:57,950 --> 00:56:00,640  
New York, as you know,  
there are kosher butchers.

1546  
00:56:00,640 --> 00:56:05,500  
You went to a kosher butcher  
and they tell you what to do.

1547  
00:56:05,500 --> 00:56:07,030  
But how did you  
know where to live?

1548  
00:56:07,030 --> 00:56:08,630  
Oh, there were a couple--

1549  
00:56:08,630 --> 00:56:10,300  
I have a few dollars.

1550  
00:56:10,300 --> 00:56:13,650  
So I live on my own.

1551  
00:56:13,650 --> 00:56:15,386  
And then--

1552  
00:56:15,386 --> 00:56:17,130  
So you became a butcher?

1553  
00:56:17,130 --> 00:56:17,850  
Butcher.

1554  
00:56:17,850 --> 00:56:19,370  
And where did you live?

1555  
00:56:19,370 --> 00:56:25,710  
I lived on Howard Street,  
in a Jewish neighborhood.

1556  
00:56:25,710 --> 00:56:26,570  
In Manhattan?

1557

00:56:26,570 --> 00:56:27,800  
No.

1558  
00:56:27,800 --> 00:56:28,300  
In Brooklyn?

1559  
00:56:28,300 --> 00:56:28,810  
Brooklyn.

1560  
00:56:28,810 --> 00:56:32,440  
In Brooklyn, OK.

1561  
00:56:32,440 --> 00:56:35,150  
So that's what the story--

1562  
00:56:35,150 --> 00:56:36,710  
Yeah, and then what happened?

1563  
00:56:36,710 --> 00:56:37,930  
Then becoming a butcher.

1564  
00:56:37,930 --> 00:56:38,770  
Yeah.

1565  
00:56:38,770 --> 00:56:40,440  
And I made a good living--

1566  
00:56:40,440 --> 00:56:41,410  
a good living.

1567  
00:56:41,410 --> 00:56:43,480  
It was a good living.

1568  
00:56:43,480 --> 00:56:46,822  
And then all of a sudden  
my brother-in-law,

1569  
00:56:46,822 --> 00:56:53,520  
should he rest in  
peace, he was a builder,

1570

00:56:53,520 --> 00:56:57,330  
said why don't you come work  
for me over there in New Jersey.

1571  
00:56:57,330 --> 00:56:58,270  
Oh, OK.

1572  
00:56:58,270 --> 00:57:00,203  
That's the reason I  
wind up in New Jersey.

1573  
00:57:00,203 --> 00:57:02,370  
So now you're in New Jersey  
with your brother-in-law

1574  
00:57:02,370 --> 00:57:03,745  
and your sister  
and your nephew--

1575  
00:57:03,745 --> 00:57:05,280  
With my sister and  
their son, yeah.

1576  
00:57:05,280 --> 00:57:06,730  
And then what happened?

1577  
00:57:06,730 --> 00:57:09,420

1578  
00:57:09,420 --> 00:57:11,040  
That's my story.

1579  
00:57:11,040 --> 00:57:11,790  
That's your story?

1580  
00:57:11,790 --> 00:57:14,790  
Well, we have a little  
more just to talk about.

1581  
00:57:14,790 --> 00:57:23,574

1582

00:57:23,574 --> 00:57:24,550  
I'm going to change--

1583  
00:57:24,550 --> 00:57:29,630  
A. So you're now in  
New Jersey working

1584  
00:57:29,630 --> 00:57:31,810  
for your brother-in-law?

1585  
00:57:31,810 --> 00:57:32,310  
Yeah.

1586  
00:57:32,310 --> 00:57:36,830  
OK, and how long-- what  
did you do for him?

1587  
00:57:36,830 --> 00:57:38,858  
Construction.

1588  
00:57:38,858 --> 00:57:40,680  
Not interesting.

1589  
00:57:40,680 --> 00:57:42,550  
Yeah, and then how--

1590  
00:57:42,550 --> 00:57:45,850  
Going from one city to another.

1591  
00:57:45,850 --> 00:57:46,740  
Building houses?

1592  
00:57:46,740 --> 00:57:47,240  
Yes.

1593  
00:57:47,240 --> 00:57:47,990  
Private houses?

1594  
00:57:47,990 --> 00:57:48,980  
Private homes.

1595

00:57:48,980 --> 00:57:50,750  
OK, and did you live with them?

1596  
00:57:50,750 --> 00:57:51,545  
No.

1597  
00:57:51,545 --> 00:57:52,420  
You live by yourself?

1598  
00:57:52,420 --> 00:57:53,690  
I was myself.

1599  
00:57:53,690 --> 00:57:56,800  
OK, and for how long  
did you do that?

1600  
00:57:56,800 --> 00:58:01,360  
Oh, was for a couple, few years.

1601  
00:58:01,360 --> 00:58:02,400  
Yes.

1602  
00:58:02,400 --> 00:58:03,300  
Yeah.

1603  
00:58:03,300 --> 00:58:09,110  
Until I met a girl  
to [NON-ENGLISH]..

1604  
00:58:09,110 --> 00:58:09,710  
Oh, really?

1605  
00:58:09,710 --> 00:58:13,067  
Yeah, you're laughing.

1606  
00:58:13,067 --> 00:58:13,775  
That's wonderful.

1607  
00:58:13,775 --> 00:58:17,350  
Met a girl, and right  
near where I used to live.



1608

00:58:17,350 --> 00:58:21,990

Where I was working  
as a butcher there.

1609

00:58:21,990 --> 00:58:29,190

Met a girl, and six weeks later,  
six or seven weeks later, I

1610

00:58:29,190 --> 00:58:31,960

got engaged, and I got married.

1611

00:58:31,960 --> 00:58:33,090

Oh, wonderful.

1612

00:58:33,090 --> 00:58:35,650

And then I was on my own.

1613

00:58:35,650 --> 00:58:38,540

OK, so you're still  
working for your--

1614

00:58:38,540 --> 00:58:39,540

My brother-in-law, yeah.

1615

00:58:39,540 --> 00:58:42,050

So you lived in New Jersey?

1616

00:58:42,050 --> 00:58:43,390

Yeah.

1617

00:58:43,390 --> 00:58:46,920

Then lived for awhile,  
and then married.

1618

00:58:46,920 --> 00:58:48,190

When did you get married?

1619

00:58:48,190 --> 00:58:54,580

In this was in--

1620

00:58:54,580 --> 00:58:56,820

'55, '56?

1621

00:58:56,820 --> 00:58:58,610

'56, yeah.

1622

00:58:58,610 --> 00:59:00,870

OK, and did you  
live in New Jersey?

1623

00:59:00,870 --> 00:59:01,370

Yes.

1624

00:59:01,370 --> 00:59:03,040

Stayed in New Jersey.

1625

00:59:03,040 --> 00:59:06,530

Yeah, and then I was  
looking for a house

1626

00:59:06,530 --> 00:59:10,790

because she was pregnant,  
and we need somebody.

1627

00:59:10,790 --> 00:59:15,710

So we bought a house  
on top Scott Street.

1628

00:59:15,710 --> 00:59:17,340

No, we used to live on top.

1629

00:59:17,340 --> 00:59:19,680

[INAUDIBLE] Scott Street.

1630

00:59:19,680 --> 00:59:21,070

And what town in New Jersey?

1631

00:59:21,070 --> 00:59:29,600

1632

00:59:29,600 --> 00:59:31,570

That's OK.

1633  
00:59:31,570 --> 00:59:33,570  
OK, so then she got pregnant?

1634  
00:59:33,570 --> 00:59:34,070  
Yeah.

1635  
00:59:34,070 --> 00:59:36,700  
And then you had your child?

1636  
00:59:36,700 --> 00:59:39,110  
Jack.

1637  
00:59:39,110 --> 00:59:40,615  
And then how long did you--

1638  
00:59:40,615 --> 00:59:41,740  
you're still in New Jersey?

1639  
00:59:41,740 --> 00:59:43,060  
Oh, yeah.

1640  
00:59:43,060 --> 00:59:44,270  
I was in New Jersey.

1641  
00:59:44,270 --> 00:59:48,966  
And then I still worked  
with my brother-in-law.

1642  
00:59:48,966 --> 00:59:51,620  
And we got bigger and--

1643  
00:59:51,620 --> 00:59:54,080  
And you stayed with him?

1644  
00:59:54,080 --> 00:59:55,170  
Yes.

1645  
00:59:55,170 --> 00:59:57,740  
OK, and are you still working  
in the construction business?

1646

00:59:57,740 --> 00:59:59,420

Still working construction.

1647

00:59:59,420 --> 01:00:00,400

You're still doing it?

1648

01:00:00,400 --> 01:00:01,192

I'm still doing it.

1649

01:00:01,192 --> 01:00:02,190

That's wonderful.

1650

01:00:02,190 --> 01:00:04,080

Yeah, still 89, 88.

1651

01:00:04,080 --> 01:00:04,840

It's wonderful.

1652

01:00:04,840 --> 01:00:08,920

I used to be in  
construction and heavy work.

1653

01:00:08,920 --> 01:00:09,600

But now--

1654

01:00:09,600 --> 01:00:12,300

You actually did the heavy work?

1655

01:00:12,300 --> 01:00:13,175

The heavy work, yeah.

1656

01:00:13,175 --> 01:00:17,320

But a little bit  
later I become--

1657

01:00:17,320 --> 01:00:20,100

I tell the people what to do.

1658

01:00:20,100 --> 01:00:24,960

And I am now I'm working  
four days a week,

1659  
01:00:24,960 --> 01:00:28,120  
and giving the people the  
material to do the work.

1660  
01:00:28,120 --> 01:00:30,080  
And that's all.

1661  
01:00:30,080 --> 01:00:31,500  
That's what my job is.

1662  
01:00:31,500 --> 01:00:34,000  
That's wonderful,  
that's wonderful.

1663  
01:00:34,000 --> 01:00:37,990  
Let's talk a little bit  
about some of your thoughts.

1664  
01:00:37,990 --> 01:00:39,850  
Have you been back to Poland?

1665  
01:00:39,850 --> 01:00:41,200  
No.

1666  
01:00:41,200 --> 01:00:42,100  
Would you want to go?

1667  
01:00:42,100 --> 01:00:47,110  
My brother-in-law, ask so many  
times let's go back to Poland,

1668  
01:00:47,110 --> 01:00:48,970  
she rest in peace.

1669  
01:00:48,970 --> 01:00:50,755  
I said he wants  
to see his father.

1670  
01:00:50,755 --> 01:00:53,640

1671  
01:00:53,640 --> 01:00:55,550  
I said--

1672  
01:00:55,550 --> 01:00:57,160  
Why don't you want to go back?

1673  
01:00:57,160 --> 01:01:01,944  
I had a very bad memory  
with the Polacks.

1674  
01:01:01,944 --> 01:01:02,740  
Right.

1675  
01:01:02,740 --> 01:01:04,520  
So that's the only reason.

1676  
01:01:04,520 --> 01:01:05,650  
Yeah.

1677  
01:01:05,650 --> 01:01:07,480  
Have you been to Europe?

1678  
01:01:07,480 --> 01:01:08,020  
No.

1679  
01:01:08,020 --> 01:01:08,520  
Never?

1680  
01:01:08,520 --> 01:01:09,340  
No.

1681  
01:01:09,340 --> 01:01:10,000  
Once you left?

1682  
01:01:10,000 --> 01:01:11,540  
I don't want to leave.

1683  
01:01:11,540 --> 01:01:13,030  
I don't want to know Europe.

1684

01:01:13,030 --> 01:01:15,700

Because I had that  
time such a beating,

1685

01:01:15,700 --> 01:01:17,790

that time it was unbelievable.

1686

01:01:17,790 --> 01:01:20,450

Oh, when you came back to your  
town, you're talking about?

1687

01:01:20,450 --> 01:01:20,950

Yeah.

1688

01:01:20,950 --> 01:01:21,580

After the war.

1689

01:01:21,580 --> 01:01:22,747

Yeah, when they beat you up.

1690

01:01:22,747 --> 01:01:24,620

So that time I don't  
want to go any place.

1691

01:01:24,620 --> 01:01:25,750

Yeah.

1692

01:01:25,750 --> 01:01:27,580

Have you been to Israel?

1693

01:01:27,580 --> 01:01:28,850

I'm going to go in May--

1694

01:01:28,850 --> 01:01:31,370

1695

01:01:31,370 --> 01:01:37,212

next year in May, end of May.

1696

01:01:37,212 --> 01:01:38,420

Will this be your first time?

1697  
01:01:38,420 --> 01:01:39,050  
First time.

1698  
01:01:39,050 --> 01:01:41,620  
How wonderful.

1699  
01:01:41,620 --> 01:01:42,520  
This coming May?

1700  
01:01:42,520 --> 01:01:44,690  
This coming May, end of May.

1701  
01:01:44,690 --> 01:01:48,600  
That's wonderful,  
that's exciting.

1702  
01:01:48,600 --> 01:01:53,510  
And your sister is where?

1703  
01:01:53,510 --> 01:01:54,970  
She passed away.

1704  
01:01:54,970 --> 01:01:55,350  
Oh, she passed  
away, that's right.

1705  
01:01:55,350 --> 01:01:56,050  
She passed away.

1706  
01:01:56,050 --> 01:01:57,217  
And your nephew lives where?

1707  
01:01:57,217 --> 01:01:58,500  
With us.

1708  
01:01:58,500 --> 01:02:00,440  
Now he's become a--

1709  
01:02:00,440 --> 01:02:03,050  
his father passed  
away, so he's the boss.



1710  
01:02:03,050 --> 01:02:04,592  
So he's the head of  
the construction?

1711  
01:02:04,592 --> 01:02:06,008  
He's the head of  
the construction.

1712  
01:02:06,008 --> 01:02:07,460  
Right, so you're  
working with him?

1713  
01:02:07,460 --> 01:02:08,020  
Yeah.

1714  
01:02:08,020 --> 01:02:09,080  
Yeah.

1715  
01:02:09,080 --> 01:02:10,370  
Does he talk to--

1716  
01:02:10,370 --> 01:02:13,160  
what has he said to you  
about what you did for him?

1717  
01:02:13,160 --> 01:02:15,498  
You saved his life.

1718  
01:02:15,498 --> 01:02:16,410  
He knows.

1719  
01:02:16,410 --> 01:02:17,952  
[INAUDIBLE]

1720  
01:02:17,952 --> 01:02:19,410  
What does he say  
to you about that?

1721  
01:02:19,410 --> 01:02:21,910  
Nothing he can say.

1722

01:02:21,910 --> 01:02:24,350

But he is very, very  
worried about me,

1723

01:02:24,350 --> 01:02:27,270

every time I don't feel good.

1724

01:02:27,270 --> 01:02:30,420

Right now I live in a--

1725

01:02:30,420 --> 01:02:31,330

Retirement home?

1726

01:02:31,330 --> 01:02:33,100

Not a retirement-- I live in--

1727

01:02:33,100 --> 01:02:34,120

Assisted living?

1728

01:02:34,120 --> 01:02:36,270

Assisted living.

1729

01:02:36,270 --> 01:02:42,110

And so sometimes  
I don't feel good.

1730

01:02:42,110 --> 01:02:46,380

So he said I want to see you.

1731

01:02:46,380 --> 01:02:51,140

Get dressed and come out  
to the lobby, 9:00, 9:30.

1732

01:02:51,140 --> 01:02:54,570

So I get dressed and he  
will ask, are you OK?

1733

01:02:54,570 --> 01:02:58,080

He wants to see if  
I feel good or not.

1734

01:02:58,080 --> 01:02:58,580  
Yeah.

1735  
01:02:58,580 --> 01:03:02,360  
What are your feelings  
about Germany now?

1736  
01:03:02,360 --> 01:03:05,220  
What are your thoughts  
about Germany?

1737  
01:03:05,220 --> 01:03:07,490  
Very bitter, just as  
bad as the Polish.

1738  
01:03:07,490 --> 01:03:11,540

1739  
01:03:11,540 --> 01:03:16,310  
Do you remember the  
Eichmann trial at all?

1740  
01:03:16,310 --> 01:03:17,870  
I remember, sure,

1741  
01:03:17,870 --> 01:03:19,130  
What were your thoughts then?

1742  
01:03:19,130 --> 01:03:23,040

1743  
01:03:23,040 --> 01:03:24,870  
They didn't do it--

1744  
01:03:24,870 --> 01:03:26,310  
they did whatever they could.

1745  
01:03:26,310 --> 01:03:29,470  
I mean, there are a  
lot of Nazis over there

1746  
01:03:29,470 --> 01:03:31,670

that are supposed  
to be executed,

1747  
01:03:31,670 --> 01:03:34,945  
and they didn't do it.

1748  
01:03:34,945 --> 01:03:35,820  
That's all I thought.

1749  
01:03:35,820 --> 01:03:39,280

1750  
01:03:39,280 --> 01:03:40,370  
Just like over here.

1751  
01:03:40,370 --> 01:03:44,610

1752  
01:03:44,610 --> 01:03:46,920  
Have you experienced  
antisemitism

1753  
01:03:46,920 --> 01:03:48,750  
in the United States?

1754  
01:03:48,750 --> 01:03:49,990  
Not yet.

1755  
01:03:49,990 --> 01:03:50,490  
Not yet?

1756  
01:03:50,490 --> 01:03:51,090  
Not yet.

1757  
01:03:51,090 --> 01:03:52,320  
Do you think it could happen?

1758  
01:03:52,320 --> 01:03:53,220  
Could happen.

1759  
01:03:53,220 --> 01:03:54,540

You feel that way?

1760

01:03:54,540 --> 01:03:56,325

Could happen,  
because the way they

1761

01:03:56,325 --> 01:03:59,550

I see the swastikas  
over there every time

1762

01:03:59,550 --> 01:04:04,752

is like a parade or something--

1763

01:04:04,752 --> 01:04:06,210

In the United States  
you're saying?

1764

01:04:06,210 --> 01:04:09,000

Yeah, and I see the  
swastika over there.

1765

01:04:09,000 --> 01:04:12,570

That's why I say could happen.

1766

01:04:12,570 --> 01:04:15,630

Not to my life.

1767

01:04:15,630 --> 01:04:19,320

Do you think that  
most of the world

1768

01:04:19,320 --> 01:04:23,680

has learned the lessons  
of the Holocaust?

1769

01:04:23,680 --> 01:04:29,610

Not the Arabs, but Israel.

1770

01:04:29,610 --> 01:04:31,170

I go for Israel.

1771

01:04:31,170 --> 01:04:32,670

What are your  
thoughts about Israel?

1772  
01:04:32,670 --> 01:04:35,340  
Israel is the most  
wonderful place.

1773  
01:04:35,340 --> 01:04:37,820  
I don't-- I like  
to live there, too.

1774  
01:04:37,820 --> 01:04:41,680

1775  
01:04:41,680 --> 01:04:43,960  
They are unbelievable.

1776  
01:04:43,960 --> 01:04:47,770

1777  
01:04:47,770 --> 01:04:53,540  
If they can go and bomb Syria--

1778  
01:04:53,540 --> 01:04:56,140  
I mean--

1779  
01:04:56,140 --> 01:04:57,310  
Iran?

1780  
01:04:57,310 --> 01:04:59,540  
Iran, I give them much credit.

1781  
01:04:59,540 --> 01:05:03,100

1782  
01:05:03,100 --> 01:05:03,600  
Yeah.

1783  
01:05:03,600 --> 01:05:08,270

1784

01:05:08,270 --> 01:05:11,120  
Have you been to the  
Holocaust Museum?

1785  
01:05:11,120 --> 01:05:12,110  
Not yet.

1786  
01:05:12,110 --> 01:05:12,740  
Not yet.

1787  
01:05:12,740 --> 01:05:14,100  
I'm going to go there.

1788  
01:05:14,100 --> 01:05:15,780  
I have a cousin over there.

1789  
01:05:15,780 --> 01:05:18,820  
He's also a picture in  
the paper and everything,

1790  
01:05:18,820 --> 01:05:20,420  
and picture over there.

1791  
01:05:20,420 --> 01:05:23,143  
His name is Manny Weissman.

1792  
01:05:23,143 --> 01:05:25,060  
You're talking about the  
museum in Washington?

1793  
01:05:25,060 --> 01:05:26,280  
Yeah, Washington.

1794  
01:05:26,280 --> 01:05:28,830  
His picture, where  
is his picture?

1795  
01:05:28,830 --> 01:05:29,330  
In the--

1796  
01:05:29,330 --> 01:05:29,955  
In the exhibit?

1797  
01:05:29,955 --> 01:05:30,960  
The exhibit.

1798  
01:05:30,960 --> 01:05:32,548  
He's from Poland?

1799  
01:05:32,548 --> 01:05:33,048  
Yeah.

1800  
01:05:33,048 --> 01:05:35,250  
Oh, that's great.

1801  
01:05:35,250 --> 01:05:36,720  
And where does he live now?

1802  
01:05:36,720 --> 01:05:41,040  
He lives in Denver, Colorado.

1803  
01:05:41,040 --> 01:05:43,995  
So do you have a lot of  
family here, extended family,

1804  
01:05:43,995 --> 01:05:45,190  
in the United States?

1805  
01:05:45,190 --> 01:05:51,680  
Yes, I have nieces, grand-nieces  
extended over here, yes.

1806  
01:05:51,680 --> 01:05:54,870  
OK, and do you see them?

1807  
01:05:54,870 --> 01:05:55,790  
Oh, sure.

1808  
01:05:55,790 --> 01:05:56,960  
I see them all the time.

1809  
01:05:56,960 --> 01:05:57,590  
Yeah.



1810  
01:05:57,590 --> 01:06:00,140  
And these are children of your?

1811  
01:06:00,140 --> 01:06:01,930  
Holocaust survivors.

1812  
01:06:01,930 --> 01:06:05,180  
No, but of your sister  
and your brother?

1813  
01:06:05,180 --> 01:06:09,690  
Not my sisters, just my brother.

1814  
01:06:09,690 --> 01:06:13,110  
And then they are in Chicago.

1815  
01:06:13,110 --> 01:06:25,250  
And then the other ones are  
Michael Kaplan's relatives,

1816  
01:06:25,250 --> 01:06:26,270  
my sister's side.

1817  
01:06:26,270 --> 01:06:29,010

1818  
01:06:29,010 --> 01:06:31,775  
Do you-- are you more religious?

1819  
01:06:31,775 --> 01:06:34,260  
Of course, you were young  
when the war started.

1820  
01:06:34,260 --> 01:06:36,780  
Do you think you're more  
religious, less religious?

1821  
01:06:36,780 --> 01:06:37,450  
I'm less--

1822

01:06:37,450 --> 01:06:38,940  
Because of what you--

1823  
01:06:38,940 --> 01:06:41,610  
--less religious,  
what happened to us.

1824  
01:06:41,610 --> 01:06:43,350  
OK, why are you less religious?

1825  
01:06:43,350 --> 01:06:46,360  
Because it shouldn't  
happen to us.

1826  
01:06:46,360 --> 01:06:49,770  
Parents, I should know  
where my parents are.

1827  
01:06:49,770 --> 01:06:55,960

1828  
01:06:55,960 --> 01:06:59,040  
So you feel you're less?

1829  
01:06:59,040 --> 01:06:59,610  
Yes.

1830  
01:06:59,610 --> 01:07:00,790  
Less religious.

1831  
01:07:00,790 --> 01:07:01,290  
Yeah.

1832  
01:07:01,290 --> 01:07:05,070

1833  
01:07:05,070 --> 01:07:08,160  
Did you, in the 1960s--

1834  
01:07:08,160 --> 01:07:10,740  
of course, you were  
just getting settled,

1835  
01:07:10,740 --> 01:07:12,733  
but there was in  
the '60s and '70s

1836  
01:07:12,733 --> 01:07:14,150  
was the big civil  
rights movement.

1837  
01:07:14,150 --> 01:07:15,390  
Civil rights movement, yeah.

1838  
01:07:15,390 --> 01:07:17,190  
Were you involved  
in all of that?

1839  
01:07:17,190 --> 01:07:17,992  
No, I was not.

1840  
01:07:17,992 --> 01:07:19,950  
Because you had lived  
through so much yourself.

1841  
01:07:19,950 --> 01:07:22,850  
Yes, I was not involved in that.

1842  
01:07:22,850 --> 01:07:25,620  
There was one Jewish  
fellow got killed, I know.

1843  
01:07:25,620 --> 01:07:27,830  
Yeah, right.

1844  
01:07:27,830 --> 01:07:28,530  
The young man.

1845  
01:07:28,530 --> 01:07:31,700  
Young boy I know, I remember.

1846  
01:07:31,700 --> 01:07:33,950  
Actually, there were two of  
them, the two of the three

1847  
01:07:33,950 --> 01:07:35,110  
were Schwerner and--

1848  
01:07:35,110 --> 01:07:36,170  
I didn't know.

1849  
01:07:36,170 --> 01:07:38,740  
You're talking about Schwerner  
and Goodman in the south?

1850  
01:07:38,740 --> 01:07:39,240  
Yeah.

1851  
01:07:39,240 --> 01:07:39,740  
Yeah.

1852  
01:07:39,740 --> 01:07:44,990

1853  
01:07:44,990 --> 01:07:47,510  
Do you read about the Holocaust?

1854  
01:07:47,510 --> 01:07:48,820  
Do you read about the war?

1855  
01:07:48,820 --> 01:07:49,840  
The war, yes.

1856  
01:07:49,840 --> 01:07:53,870

1857  
01:07:53,870 --> 01:07:56,580  
I don't know what's  
going to be over

1858  
01:07:56,580 --> 01:08:00,583  
there, but [INAUDIBLE] Lebanon.

1859  
01:08:00,583 --> 01:08:02,250  
No, but I meant do

you read-- excuse me,

1860

01:08:02,250 --> 01:08:03,810

do you read about World War 2?

1861

01:08:03,810 --> 01:08:04,930

World War 2, no.

1862

01:08:04,930 --> 01:08:06,020

That's what I meant.

1863

01:08:06,020 --> 01:08:06,520

No.

1864

01:08:06,520 --> 01:08:08,350

You don't read

about the Holocaust?

1865

01:08:08,350 --> 01:08:08,850

No.

1866

01:08:08,850 --> 01:08:14,770

1867

01:08:14,770 --> 01:08:17,470

Well, is there anything

you would like to say?

1868

01:08:17,470 --> 01:08:19,950

Anything you'd like to add?

1869

01:08:19,950 --> 01:08:22,598

Any stories, anything

you wanted to--

1870

01:08:22,598 --> 01:08:25,229

No.

1871

01:08:25,229 --> 01:08:27,840

--say before we close?

1872

01:08:27,840 --> 01:08:30,569  
The stories I told you about.

1873  
01:08:30,569 --> 01:08:31,620  
My nephew--

1874  
01:08:31,620 --> 01:08:33,180  
Yes, which is a wonderful story.

1875  
01:08:33,180 --> 01:08:37,890  
I took him into the  
concentration camp at the belt.

1876  
01:08:37,890 --> 01:08:39,460  
How old was he at the time?

1877  
01:08:39,460 --> 01:08:40,720  
Oh, a year.

1878  
01:08:40,720 --> 01:08:41,760  
He was a baby?

1879  
01:08:41,760 --> 01:08:43,890  
Yeah and a couple of months.

1880  
01:08:43,890 --> 01:08:44,790  
He was so good.

1881  
01:08:44,790 --> 01:08:46,800  
He never cry.

1882  
01:08:46,800 --> 01:08:47,660  
He did not cry?

1883  
01:08:47,660 --> 01:08:49,380  
No.

1884  
01:08:49,380 --> 01:08:52,670  
Like he would know.

1885  
01:08:52,670 --> 01:08:55,939

Now, did you tell  
your son, Jack,

1886  
01:08:55,939 --> 01:08:59,090  
when he was growing up  
about what you experienced?

1887  
01:08:59,090 --> 01:08:59,750  
Oh, yeah.

1888  
01:08:59,750 --> 01:09:01,260  
He knows it.

1889  
01:09:01,260 --> 01:09:02,890  
No, I meant when he was younger.

1890  
01:09:02,890 --> 01:09:03,590  
Younger, yeah.

1891  
01:09:03,590 --> 01:09:05,240  
When did you start telling him?

1892  
01:09:05,240 --> 01:09:10,077  
Not until he was around,  
he was going into college.

1893  
01:09:10,077 --> 01:09:11,410  
Oh, not till he went to college?

1894  
01:09:11,410 --> 01:09:12,319  
Yeah.

1895  
01:09:12,319 --> 01:09:13,100  
You waited?

1896  
01:09:13,100 --> 01:09:14,060  
We waited, yeah.

1897  
01:09:14,060 --> 01:09:15,250  
Why did you wait?

1898

01:09:15,250 --> 01:09:19,859  
Because you got lot of book,  
a lot of things to eat,

1899  
01:09:19,859 --> 01:09:20,950  
and everything.

1900  
01:09:20,950 --> 01:09:24,590

1901  
01:09:24,590 --> 01:09:25,090  
[INAUDIBLE]

1902  
01:09:25,090 --> 01:09:26,340  
Yeah, enough to do.

1903  
01:09:26,340 --> 01:09:28,520  
Books and everything.

1904  
01:09:28,520 --> 01:09:35,529  
Are there any things  
that you see or sounds

1905  
01:09:35,529 --> 01:09:40,830  
that you hear or smells  
that remind you of the war

1906  
01:09:40,830 --> 01:09:43,200  
and being in the camps?

1907  
01:09:43,200 --> 01:09:44,200  
Do you know what I mean?

1908  
01:09:44,200 --> 01:09:44,649  
That makes you think back--

1909  
01:09:44,649 --> 01:09:45,760  
No.

1910  
01:09:45,760 --> 01:09:47,899  
Oh, that smells  
like such and such.



1911  
01:09:47,899 --> 01:09:49,437  
No.

1912  
01:09:49,437 --> 01:09:50,270  
Nothing reminds you?

1913  
01:09:50,270 --> 01:09:51,229  
Nothing reminds me.

1914  
01:09:51,229 --> 01:09:53,170  
I'm going my way.

1915  
01:09:53,170 --> 01:09:59,780  
I go to work four days,  
keep myself occupied, busy.

1916  
01:09:59,780 --> 01:10:03,080  
People like me, that's all.

1917  
01:10:03,080 --> 01:10:06,350  
I come home, that's  
a different story.

1918  
01:10:06,350 --> 01:10:06,850  
Yeah.

1919  
01:10:06,850 --> 01:10:07,930  
Lonesome.

1920  
01:10:07,930 --> 01:10:10,850  
Are you more comfortable--

1921  
01:10:10,850 --> 01:10:12,590  
or were you more  
comfortable before

1922  
01:10:12,590 --> 01:10:16,670  
about being with people who had  
survived the war, as opposed

1923

01:10:16,670 --> 01:10:18,800  
to the Americans who lived here?

1924  
01:10:18,800 --> 01:10:21,870  
More comfortable with  
survived the war.

1925  
01:10:21,870 --> 01:10:22,506  
Yeah.

1926  
01:10:22,506 --> 01:10:23,006  
Yeah.

1927  
01:10:23,006 --> 01:10:24,320  
And is that still true?

1928  
01:10:24,320 --> 01:10:25,520  
Yes.

1929  
01:10:25,520 --> 01:10:27,290  
And why--

1930  
01:10:27,290 --> 01:10:27,920  
I don't know.

1931  
01:10:27,920 --> 01:10:30,750  
That they went  
through just like me.

1932  
01:10:30,750 --> 01:10:31,250  
Right.

1933  
01:10:31,250 --> 01:10:34,370  
That's all it is.

1934  
01:10:34,370 --> 01:10:36,533  
So when you meet  
survivors, let's

1935  
01:10:36,533 --> 01:10:37,700  
say you meet a new survivor.

1936

01:10:37,700 --> 01:10:38,200

Do you--

1937

01:10:38,200 --> 01:10:42,740

A new survivor, I find out  
where is he, where was he,

1938

01:10:42,740 --> 01:10:45,130

which camp.

1939

01:10:45,130 --> 01:10:46,950

And you each tell  
each other story--

1940

01:10:46,950 --> 01:10:48,470

tell the story of each other.

1941

01:10:48,470 --> 01:10:49,080

Yeah.

1942

01:10:49,080 --> 01:10:49,560

Of yourselves to each other.

1943

01:10:49,560 --> 01:10:50,060

Yeah.

1944

01:10:50,060 --> 01:10:52,370

1945

01:10:52,370 --> 01:10:55,063

So you are more  
comfortable, you said?

1946

01:10:55,063 --> 01:10:57,640

Speaking, because  
they understand, yeah.

1947

01:10:57,640 --> 01:11:03,190

Do you think you  
were with Jack, were

1948

01:11:03,190 --> 01:11:06,250  
you overprotective  
in raising him

1949  
01:11:06,250 --> 01:11:08,800  
because you had a difficult  
time in your life, or not?

1950  
01:11:08,800 --> 01:11:10,683  
I have two, two years apart.

1951  
01:11:10,683 --> 01:11:11,350  
I have two boys.

1952  
01:11:11,350 --> 01:11:12,250  
You have another son?

1953  
01:11:12,250 --> 01:11:12,750  
Yeah.

1954  
01:11:12,750 --> 01:11:13,290  
Mark.

1955  
01:11:13,290 --> 01:11:14,050  
Mark, and where--

1956  
01:11:14,050 --> 01:11:15,840  
He lives in California.

1957  
01:11:15,840 --> 01:11:18,190  
Oh, he lives in Miami.

1958  
01:11:18,190 --> 01:11:18,920  
In Florida?

1959  
01:11:18,920 --> 01:11:19,590  
Florida.

1960  
01:11:19,590 --> 01:11:20,850  
Oh, wonderful.

1961

01:11:20,850 --> 01:11:21,810  
So I--

1962  
01:11:21,810 --> 01:11:22,780  
Is he older or younger?

1963  
01:11:22,780 --> 01:11:23,360  
He's younger.

1964  
01:11:23,360 --> 01:11:23,860  
Younger.

1965  
01:11:23,860 --> 01:11:25,330  
Two years younger.

1966  
01:11:25,330 --> 01:11:29,490  
So he's in fact, I  
have to go over there

1967  
01:11:29,490 --> 01:11:33,620  
in the beginning of May  
for the bar mitzvah.

1968  
01:11:33,620 --> 01:11:35,450  
Oh, of your grandson?

1969  
01:11:35,450 --> 01:11:36,590  
My grandson.

1970  
01:11:36,590 --> 01:11:37,090  
Wonderful.

1971  
01:11:37,090 --> 01:11:41,160  
One was already bar  
mitzvahed, but the other one

1972  
01:11:41,160 --> 01:11:42,467  
is coming in the middle of May.

1973  
01:11:42,467 --> 01:11:43,050  
Oh, wonderful.

1974

01:11:43,050 --> 01:11:45,530

And then after the middle  
of May I go to Israel.

1975

01:11:45,530 --> 01:11:46,270

Fabulous.

1976

01:11:46,270 --> 01:11:47,520

That's a wonderful spring.

1977

01:11:47,520 --> 01:11:48,020

Yeah.

1978

01:11:48,020 --> 01:11:48,940

Wonderful spring.

1979

01:11:48,940 --> 01:11:51,223

So when the boys  
were young you said

1980

01:11:51,223 --> 01:11:52,640

you didn't talk  
about your child--

1981

01:11:52,640 --> 01:11:53,580

No, because--

1982

01:11:53,580 --> 01:11:54,580

What you went--

1983

01:11:54,580 --> 01:11:57,510

--they had a lot of reading  
to do and everything.

1984

01:11:57,510 --> 01:11:58,810

Right, they were busy.

1985

01:11:58,810 --> 01:12:00,890

I didn't want to interrupt  
them and everything.

1986

01:12:00,890 --> 01:12:01,390  
Yeah.

1987  
01:12:01,390 --> 01:12:09,310  
But my question is were  
you more protective of them

1988  
01:12:09,310 --> 01:12:12,670  
because you had such a  
difficult time in your life?

1989  
01:12:12,670 --> 01:12:15,830  
I'm more protective, yes.

1990  
01:12:15,830 --> 01:12:18,722  
It shouldn't happen to nobody.

1991  
01:12:18,722 --> 01:12:20,000  
Yeah.

1992  
01:12:20,000 --> 01:12:21,710  
Was your wife a survivor?

1993  
01:12:21,710 --> 01:12:22,210  
No.

1994  
01:12:22,210 --> 01:12:25,370  
No, she was born in  
the United States?

1995  
01:12:25,370 --> 01:12:26,410  
United States, yeah.

1996  
01:12:26,410 --> 01:12:26,910  
Oh, OK.

1997  
01:12:26,910 --> 01:12:30,520  
Yeah, she passed  
away a year ago.

1998  
01:12:30,520 --> 01:12:33,150  
And did you tell her about

your background right away?

1999

01:12:33,150 --> 01:12:34,640

Oh, sure.

2000

01:12:34,640 --> 01:12:36,706

She knows it.

2001

01:12:36,706 --> 01:12:39,530

In fact, she always  
reminds me for the candles.

2002

01:12:39,530 --> 01:12:41,415

Hey, you have to  
light the candles,

2003

01:12:41,415 --> 01:12:42,740

have to light the candles.

2004

01:12:42,740 --> 01:12:43,490

Oh, OK.

2005

01:12:43,490 --> 01:12:44,120

Yeah.

2006

01:12:44,120 --> 01:12:44,620

Yeah.

2007

01:12:44,620 --> 01:12:48,920

2008

01:12:48,920 --> 01:12:54,710

Well, do you think a lot  
about what you went through

2009

01:12:54,710 --> 01:12:56,510

as you've gotten older or not?

2010

01:12:56,510 --> 01:12:58,970

I didn't get it over yet, no.

2011



01:12:58,970 --> 01:13:01,070  
No, as you've gotten older?

2012  
01:13:01,070 --> 01:13:02,000  
Older?

2013  
01:13:02,000 --> 01:13:04,190  
Do you think more  
about the experiences

2014  
01:13:04,190 --> 01:13:05,810  
you had during the war?

2015  
01:13:05,810 --> 01:13:07,356  
Yes, I would say yes.

2016  
01:13:07,356 --> 01:13:10,190

2017  
01:13:10,190 --> 01:13:14,450  
I wouldn't even all  
day, I wouldn't survive.

2018  
01:13:14,450 --> 01:13:15,103  
Yeah.

2019  
01:13:15,103 --> 01:13:15,770  
Just like when--

2020  
01:13:15,770 --> 01:13:17,353  
Do you think a lot  
about it every day?

2021  
01:13:17,353 --> 01:13:17,960  
Yes.

2022  
01:13:17,960 --> 01:13:21,160  
Just like my parents  
couldn't survive.

2023  
01:13:21,160 --> 01:13:25,812  
Yeah, have you tried to

find out what happened?

2024

01:13:25,812 --> 01:13:26,312

Where?

2025

01:13:26,312 --> 01:13:27,479

Yeah, what happened to them?

2026

01:13:27,479 --> 01:13:28,070

Cannot.

2027

01:13:28,070 --> 01:13:31,070

I know they were executed.

2028

01:13:31,070 --> 01:13:31,850

You know that?

2029

01:13:31,850 --> 01:13:32,910

You know that and--

2030

01:13:32,910 --> 01:13:34,030

How do you know that?

2031

01:13:34,030 --> 01:13:34,640

Bergen-Belsen.

2032

01:13:34,640 --> 01:13:36,020

How do you know that?

2033

01:13:36,020 --> 01:13:37,020

How did you find out?

2034

01:13:37,020 --> 01:13:45,980

Well, that train, that

month, the train from Jedlnia

2035

01:13:45,980 --> 01:13:50,245

was coming and going

over to [? Russia ?]..

2036

01:13:50,245 --> 01:13:52,920

2037  
01:13:52,920 --> 01:13:54,980  
Yeah.

2038  
01:13:54,980 --> 01:13:55,890  
Ukraine.

2039  
01:13:55,890 --> 01:13:58,550  
Yeah, and so they  
were taken to Ukraine?

2040  
01:13:58,550 --> 01:13:59,770  
Yeah.

2041  
01:13:59,770 --> 01:14:03,170  
And that's where they  
lost their lives?

2042  
01:14:03,170 --> 01:14:04,040  
Yeah.

2043  
01:14:04,040 --> 01:14:06,050  
And do you know where  
in Ukraine or just?

2044  
01:14:06,050 --> 01:14:06,650  
Treblinka.

2045  
01:14:06,650 --> 01:14:12,930

2046  
01:14:12,930 --> 01:14:16,320  
And then you said you  
had other siblings?

2047  
01:14:16,320 --> 01:14:17,280  
I don't remember them.

2048  
01:14:17,280 --> 01:14:19,570  
But do you know what  
happened to them?

2049

01:14:19,570 --> 01:14:22,980

No they were passed away.

2050

01:14:22,980 --> 01:14:24,450

Were they with your parents?

2051

01:14:24,450 --> 01:14:25,940

No.

2052

01:14:25,940 --> 01:14:28,790

When they were very young.

2053

01:14:28,790 --> 01:14:30,510

Oh, they-- not from the war?

2054

01:14:30,510 --> 01:14:31,110

No.

2055

01:14:31,110 --> 01:14:33,000

Oh, I see.

2056

01:14:33,000 --> 01:14:34,591

I see, yeah.

2057

01:14:34,591 --> 01:14:38,330

2058

01:14:38,330 --> 01:14:42,400

Well, is there anything else you wanted to add before we close?

2059

01:14:42,400 --> 01:14:42,900

No.

2060

01:14:42,900 --> 01:14:43,500

I guess.

2061

01:14:43,500 --> 01:14:46,140

2062

01:14:46,140 --> 01:14:46,920

Nothing else?

2063

01:14:46,920 --> 01:14:48,670

Nothing else.

2064

01:14:48,670 --> 01:14:53,169

OK, well thank you very much  
for doing this interview.

2065

01:14:53,169 --> 01:14:55,950

I appreciate you taking  
the time to do it.

2066

01:14:55,950 --> 01:14:58,890

Take the time, all of us.

2067

01:14:58,890 --> 01:15:04,240

So many times people tell  
me, let me interview you,

2068

01:15:04,240 --> 01:15:05,270

let me interview you.

2069

01:15:05,270 --> 01:15:08,640

I want to see the story.

2070

01:15:08,640 --> 01:15:10,710

It's going to be  
in the newspapers?

2071

01:15:10,710 --> 01:15:11,810

No.

2072

01:15:11,810 --> 01:15:15,090

It's for my own personal use.

2073

01:15:15,090 --> 01:15:17,390

That's all.

2074

01:15:17,390 --> 01:15:19,560

So were you interviewed before?

2075

01:15:19,560 --> 01:15:20,940

Have you been interviewed before?

2076

01:15:20,940 --> 01:15:23,820

Just for half an hour.

2077

01:15:23,820 --> 01:15:24,690

By whom?

2078

01:15:24,690 --> 01:15:28,450

By a friend, a Italian fellow.

2079

01:15:28,450 --> 01:15:28,950

A friend?

2080

01:15:28,950 --> 01:15:29,450

Oh, OK.

2081

01:15:29,450 --> 01:15:30,393

Yeah, Lou Costanza.

2082

01:15:30,393 --> 01:15:32,310

Not for an organization or anything like that?

2083

01:15:32,310 --> 01:15:33,410

No, no, no.

2084

01:15:33,410 --> 01:15:33,910

Yeah.

2085

01:15:33,910 --> 01:15:36,420

2086

01:15:36,420 --> 01:15:40,100

So what made you be willing to do this interview

2087

01:15:40,100 --> 01:15:41,640  
for the Holocaust Museum?

2088

01:15:41,640 --> 01:15:49,010  
So my son can go over there,  
take a look, he can read.

2089

01:15:49,010 --> 01:15:49,510  
Right.

2090

01:15:49,510 --> 01:15:52,847

2091

01:15:52,847 --> 01:15:55,430  
Well it will be in the archives  
of the United States Holocaust

2092

01:15:55,430 --> 01:15:56,440  
Memorial Museum.

2093

01:15:56,440 --> 01:15:56,940  
That's good.

2094

01:15:56,940 --> 01:15:58,510  
Thank you.

2095

01:15:58,510 --> 01:16:01,230  
Thank you.

2096

01:16:01,230 --> 01:16:06,320  
This concludes the  
interview of Sol Mackler.

2097

01:16:06,320 --> 01:16:08,000