

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:00,500
OK.

2
00:00:00,500 --> 00:00:03,660
And then I'll start asking
you some questions, OK?

3
00:00:03,660 --> 00:00:04,160
Fine.

4
00:00:04,160 --> 00:00:05,170
OK, OK.

5
00:00:05,170 --> 00:00:09,440

6
00:00:09,440 --> 00:00:12,520
This is a United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

7
00:00:12,520 --> 00:00:15,940
Volunteer Collection
Interview with Vera Levine

8
00:00:15,940 --> 00:00:21,130
in New Jersey, conducted by
Gail Schwartz in Washington D.C.

9
00:00:21,130 --> 00:00:25,540
On February 7th, 2013.

10
00:00:25,540 --> 00:00:30,390
This interview is being
conducted over the phone.

11
00:00:30,390 --> 00:00:31,575
What is your full name?

12
00:00:31,575 --> 00:00:34,110

13

00:00:34,110 --> 00:00:36,870

Vera F. Levine.

14

00:00:36,870 --> 00:00:39,450

And what does that
middle initial stand for?

15

00:00:39,450 --> 00:00:40,680

My maiden name--

16

00:00:40,680 --> 00:00:41,810

Which is--

17

00:00:41,810 --> 00:00:42,310

Friedlander.

18

00:00:42,310 --> 00:00:42,977

Friedlander is--

19

00:00:42,977 --> 00:00:43,477

Yes.

20

00:00:43,477 --> 00:00:44,550

--your maiden name.

21

00:00:44,550 --> 00:00:48,240

All right, let's talk a
little bit about your family.

22

00:00:48,240 --> 00:00:51,760

Your parents, what were
your parents' names?

23

00:00:51,760 --> 00:00:54,570

My father was Ernst.

24

00:00:54,570 --> 00:00:56,670

And my mother was Ellie.

25

00:00:56,670 --> 00:00:57,660

Mm-hmm.

26
00:00:57,660 --> 00:00:59,730
Where were you born?

27
00:00:59,730 --> 00:01:01,570
And when were you born?

28
00:01:01,570 --> 00:01:09,270
I was born in Berlin,
Germany September, 26.

29
00:01:09,270 --> 00:01:11,650
September 19, 26.

30
00:01:11,650 --> 00:01:12,150
Yes.

31
00:01:12,150 --> 00:01:13,110
What day?

32
00:01:13,110 --> 00:01:15,120
What day in September
were you born?

33
00:01:15,120 --> 00:01:16,290
The 23rd.

34
00:01:16,290 --> 00:01:18,960
September 23rd, 1926.

35
00:01:18,960 --> 00:01:23,520
All right, how long had
your family been in Berlin?

36
00:01:23,520 --> 00:01:25,620
Your parents or even--

37
00:01:25,620 --> 00:01:26,480
Well my father--

38
00:01:26,480 --> 00:01:28,152

Even farther back.

39

00:01:28,152 --> 00:01:29,760

[LAUGHTER]

40

00:01:29,760 --> 00:01:37,410

My father's family came
from an old Jewish family.

41

00:01:37,410 --> 00:01:41,300

42

00:01:41,300 --> 00:01:45,350

My mother was non-Jewish.

43

00:01:45,350 --> 00:01:48,820

My mother converted
prior to marriage.

44

00:01:48,820 --> 00:01:49,700

Mm-hmm.

45

00:01:49,700 --> 00:01:51,410

My--

46

00:01:51,410 --> 00:01:52,670

What was her maiden name?

47

00:01:52,670 --> 00:01:53,420

What was her name?

48

00:01:53,420 --> 00:01:56,030

Seifert, S-E-I-F-E-R-T.

49

00:01:56,030 --> 00:01:58,460

Mm-hmm.

50

00:01:58,460 --> 00:02:03,645

Her parents were working people.

51

00:02:03,645 --> 00:02:05,590

Mm-hmm.

52

00:02:05,590 --> 00:02:09,110

My grandmother came
to Berlin as a cook.

53

00:02:09,110 --> 00:02:12,250

54

00:02:12,250 --> 00:02:22,160

My grandfather worked in a
company that made bronze items.

55

00:02:22,160 --> 00:02:23,270

Mm-hmm.

56

00:02:23,270 --> 00:02:24,650

He died very young.

57

00:02:24,650 --> 00:02:26,120

He died at 55.

58

00:02:26,120 --> 00:02:27,270

I adored him.

59

00:02:27,270 --> 00:02:27,770

Hmm.

60

00:02:27,770 --> 00:02:29,480

Mm-hmm.

61

00:02:29,480 --> 00:02:36,680

My, [CLEARS THROAT] excuse me,
my father's family, as I said,

62

00:02:36,680 --> 00:02:45,050

was an old German family,
totally assimilated,

63

00:02:45,050 --> 00:02:51,930

sort of very comfortably
off, very cultural.

64
00:02:51,930 --> 00:02:54,790

65
00:02:54,790 --> 00:03:01,370
My father's uncle was at the
Berlin Stock Exchange and was--

66
00:03:01,370 --> 00:03:01,870
Hmm.

67
00:03:01,870 --> 00:03:06,700
--ousted from there in the
very beginning of 1933.

68
00:03:06,700 --> 00:03:09,550
Right, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

69
00:03:09,550 --> 00:03:13,280
I was the only child.

70
00:03:13,280 --> 00:03:13,780
OK.

71
00:03:13,780 --> 00:03:14,363
Overprotected.

72
00:03:14,363 --> 00:03:16,070
[LAUGHS]

73
00:03:16,070 --> 00:03:17,750
First grandchild.

74
00:03:17,750 --> 00:03:19,570
What kind of work did--

75
00:03:19,570 --> 00:03:22,180
your father worked on
the Stock Exchange,

76
00:03:22,180 --> 00:03:25,810

or what did your
father actually do?

77
00:03:25,810 --> 00:03:27,850
No, my father was
not-- my father

78
00:03:27,850 --> 00:03:29,540
was in the family business.

79
00:03:29,540 --> 00:03:36,160
They had a-- what
do you call it?

80
00:03:36,160 --> 00:03:39,630
A fabric store in those days.

81
00:03:39,630 --> 00:03:40,130
Mm-hmm.

82
00:03:40,130 --> 00:03:41,390
This was for men only.

83
00:03:41,390 --> 00:03:41,890
OK.

84
00:03:41,890 --> 00:03:46,420
In those days customers
bought their fabric

85
00:03:46,420 --> 00:03:47,302
and then took it to--

86
00:03:47,302 --> 00:03:48,010
To a dressmaker--

87
00:03:48,010 --> 00:03:48,410
--a tailor.

88
00:03:48,410 --> 00:03:49,285
--yeah, tailor, yeah.

89

00:03:49,285 --> 00:03:51,405

But that was before
the ready-mades--

90

00:03:51,405 --> 00:03:52,960

Mm-hmm.

91

00:03:52,960 --> 00:03:53,965

--became popular.

92

00:03:53,965 --> 00:03:54,832

Mm-hmm.

93

00:03:54,832 --> 00:03:56,680

Mm-hmm.

94

00:03:56,680 --> 00:03:58,730

My father was the youngest son--

95

00:03:58,730 --> 00:03:59,230

Mm-hmm.

96

00:03:59,230 --> 00:04:00,370

--of two.

97

00:04:00,370 --> 00:04:05,880

My uncle was as a physician.

98

00:04:05,880 --> 00:04:08,650

And my father worked
in the family business.

99

00:04:08,650 --> 00:04:09,150

Mm-hmm.

100

00:04:09,150 --> 00:04:09,650

Mm-hmm.

101

00:04:09,650 --> 00:04:12,870

102

00:04:12,870 --> 00:04:16,680

Did you have a large,
extended family on both sides,

103

00:04:16,680 --> 00:04:17,740

on your mother and your--

104

00:04:17,740 --> 00:04:17,940

Not really.

105

00:04:17,940 --> 00:04:19,229

My mother had one sister--

106

00:04:19,229 --> 00:04:20,040

Mm-hmm.

107

00:04:20,040 --> 00:04:21,480

--who drowned as a child.

108

00:04:21,480 --> 00:04:23,200

Oh, oh my.

109

00:04:23,200 --> 00:04:25,480

Yes, she was evacuated--

110

00:04:25,480 --> 00:04:25,980

Hmm.

111

00:04:25,980 --> 00:04:27,630

--during the First World War.

112

00:04:27,630 --> 00:04:28,280

Hmm.

113

00:04:28,280 --> 00:04:30,900

Into a very nice estate.

114

00:04:30,900 --> 00:04:40,840

And the children's
companion or nurse was ill.

115

00:04:40,840 --> 00:04:43,918

So anyway, four, four girls.

116

00:04:43,918 --> 00:04:45,460

They were on their
own, and they were

117

00:04:45,460 --> 00:04:47,110

told not to go near the lake.

118

00:04:47,110 --> 00:04:47,160

Oh.

119

00:04:47,160 --> 00:04:48,070

And of course they did.

120

00:04:48,070 --> 00:04:48,570

Oh, God.

121

00:04:48,570 --> 00:04:50,800

They took a boat,
and it capsized.

122

00:04:50,800 --> 00:04:54,210

And two of the girls drowned.

123

00:04:54,210 --> 00:04:54,710

Mm.

124

00:04:54,710 --> 00:04:55,570

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

125

00:04:55,570 --> 00:04:59,295

So, there was little
family on that side.

126

00:04:59,295 --> 00:04:59,795

My--

127

00:04:59,795 --> 00:05:00,295

Mm-hmm.

128
00:05:00,295 --> 00:05:06,130
My father had just
the one brother.

129
00:05:06,130 --> 00:05:11,130
My paternal grandfather
came from a larger family.

130
00:05:11,130 --> 00:05:11,820
Mm-hmm.

131
00:05:11,820 --> 00:05:15,990
And he came to Berlin
as a young man.

132
00:05:15,990 --> 00:05:21,880

133
00:05:21,880 --> 00:05:29,420
He was much more
educated in religion

134
00:05:29,420 --> 00:05:33,230
then the other side of
the family, as I say.

135
00:05:33,230 --> 00:05:37,370
The other side was
very, very assimilated.

136
00:05:37,370 --> 00:05:39,200
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

137
00:05:39,200 --> 00:05:41,760
What religion was
your mother's family?

138
00:05:41,760 --> 00:05:43,080
Lutheran I believe.

139
00:05:43,080 --> 00:05:48,830

Yeah, yeah, yeah, so
what part of Berlin

140
00:05:48,830 --> 00:05:51,010
did you live in when--

141
00:05:51,010 --> 00:05:53,875
In the suburb Pankow.

142
00:05:53,875 --> 00:05:56,600
That's P-A-N-K-O-W.

143
00:05:56,600 --> 00:05:58,410
OK, OK.

144
00:05:58,410 --> 00:06:01,700
And tell me a little bit
about your childhood.

145
00:06:01,700 --> 00:06:03,140
You said you were an only child.

146
00:06:03,140 --> 00:06:06,170

147
00:06:06,170 --> 00:06:07,580
And your mother had converted.

148
00:06:07,580 --> 00:06:11,960
So, were you raised
Jewishly in any way?

149
00:06:11,960 --> 00:06:12,760
Marginally.

150
00:06:12,760 --> 00:06:16,030

151
00:06:16,030 --> 00:06:27,028
I always thought of Hitler as
having made Jews more Jewish,

152

00:06:27,028 --> 00:06:27,528

I guess.

153

00:06:27,528 --> 00:06:30,280

[LAUGHTER]

154

00:06:30,280 --> 00:06:34,280

But, I mean, I do
remember the Seders

155

00:06:34,280 --> 00:06:35,790

at my grandfather's house.

156

00:06:35,790 --> 00:06:36,290

Uh-huh.

157

00:06:36,290 --> 00:06:40,430

And my mother always lit
Friday night candles.

158

00:06:40,430 --> 00:06:42,080

Really, uh-huh.

159

00:06:42,080 --> 00:06:44,600

As a matter of fact,
an old, family friend

160

00:06:44,600 --> 00:06:46,910

would always say my
mother was more Jewish--

161

00:06:46,910 --> 00:06:47,410

[LAUGHS]

162

00:06:47,410 --> 00:06:49,906

--than most of her
Jewish relatives.

163

00:06:49,906 --> 00:06:52,250

[LAUGHTER]

164

00:06:52,250 --> 00:06:55,550
My father always made Kiddush.

165
00:06:55,550 --> 00:07:00,860
And I wish I had had
the sense to record it.

166
00:07:00,860 --> 00:07:02,220
Because it's a beautiful voice.

167
00:07:02,220 --> 00:07:02,720
Hmm.

168
00:07:02,720 --> 00:07:04,380
And it's a wonderful,
wonderful job.

169
00:07:04,380 --> 00:07:04,880
Oh, yeah.

170
00:07:04,880 --> 00:07:08,160
So this was a routine
Friday night affair.

171
00:07:08,160 --> 00:07:09,750
Uh-huh, uh-huh.

172
00:07:09,750 --> 00:07:13,070
Did your family
belong to a synagogue?

173
00:07:13,070 --> 00:07:13,585
Oh, yes.

174
00:07:13,585 --> 00:07:15,320
Uh-huh.

175
00:07:15,320 --> 00:07:18,200
As a matter of
fact, my grandfather

176
00:07:18,200 --> 00:07:20,630

was very active
in his synagogue.

177
00:07:20,630 --> 00:07:27,335

He was responsible for
initiating a youth service.

178
00:07:27,335 --> 00:07:29,090
Hmm.

179
00:07:29,090 --> 00:07:31,980
I remember Simchas Torah.

180
00:07:31,980 --> 00:07:33,590
Mm-hmm.

181
00:07:33,590 --> 00:07:38,990
--him packaging up little
bags of candy and that's--

182
00:07:38,990 --> 00:07:39,620
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

183
00:07:39,620 --> 00:07:40,412
--for the children.

184
00:07:40,412 --> 00:07:43,080
Mm-hmm.

185
00:07:43,080 --> 00:07:47,070
He really, quite active.

186
00:07:47,070 --> 00:07:51,950
However, in those days
they still had a maid.

187
00:07:51,950 --> 00:07:55,850
The maid would be sent to
the butcher to by the ham

188
00:07:55,850 --> 00:07:58,140
so nobody else would know.

189
00:07:58,140 --> 00:08:00,290
[LAUGHTER]

190
00:08:00,290 --> 00:08:04,820
Yeah, and tell me about
your neighborhood.

191
00:08:04,820 --> 00:08:07,640
Was it a Jewish neighborhood
that you lived in?

192
00:08:07,640 --> 00:08:10,400
As a matter of fact,
Pankow really was.

193
00:08:10,400 --> 00:08:13,940
But we moved away from there
when I was about seven.

194
00:08:13,940 --> 00:08:21,350
However, later I found out that
there was a Jewish orphanage

195
00:08:21,350 --> 00:08:26,670
and apparently, quite a number
of Jews living in Pankow.

196
00:08:26,670 --> 00:08:27,590
Mm-hmm.

197
00:08:27,590 --> 00:08:29,870
But at the time I
wasn't aware of it.

198
00:08:29,870 --> 00:08:31,190
Of course, of course.

199
00:08:31,190 --> 00:08:36,755
I was one of two Jewish children
in the elementary school.

200

00:08:36,755 --> 00:08:37,861
Oh, mm-hmm.

201
00:08:37,861 --> 00:08:42,289

202
00:08:42,289 --> 00:08:46,430
And that brought up kind
of interesting things.

203
00:08:46,430 --> 00:08:48,730
Such as?

204
00:08:48,730 --> 00:08:57,600
Well, we had to bring a coin to
school to go and see a movie.

205
00:08:57,600 --> 00:09:03,690
And my parents kind
of thought it would be

206
00:09:03,690 --> 00:09:08,190
one of the Grimm's Fairy Tales.

207
00:09:08,190 --> 00:09:09,760
Right.

208
00:09:09,760 --> 00:09:12,840
It was the story of--

209
00:09:12,840 --> 00:09:15,640

210
00:09:15,640 --> 00:09:17,750
was it Horst Wessel?

211
00:09:17,750 --> 00:09:18,250
The--

212
00:09:18,250 --> 00:09:19,490
Oh, oh.

213

00:09:19,490 --> 00:09:28,300

--and the conflict between
the Nazis and communists.

214

00:09:28,300 --> 00:09:29,740

Oh, uh-huh, uh-huh.

215

00:09:29,740 --> 00:09:33,260

And my parents were kind
of horrified afterwards.

216

00:09:33,260 --> 00:09:33,760

But--

217

00:09:33,760 --> 00:09:34,380

Mm-hmm.

218

00:09:34,380 --> 00:09:36,780

--I told them about it.

219

00:09:36,780 --> 00:09:38,640

How old were you then?

220

00:09:38,640 --> 00:09:40,260

Probably seven.

221

00:09:40,260 --> 00:09:42,180

Oh my, oh my.

222

00:09:42,180 --> 00:09:44,430

So you were still
living in Pankow then?

223

00:09:44,430 --> 00:09:45,840

Oh, yes, yes.

224

00:09:45,840 --> 00:09:48,225

And why did your parents
move when you were seven?

225

00:09:48,225 --> 00:09:51,260

226

00:09:51,260 --> 00:09:54,520

Ah, I guess I must have
been eight or nine.

227

00:09:54,520 --> 00:09:57,920

228

00:09:57,920 --> 00:10:04,190

Oh, for one thing, it
was an economic move.

229

00:10:04,190 --> 00:10:09,110

Because, you know that
was that time of we

230

00:10:09,110 --> 00:10:11,240

had the depression here.

231

00:10:11,240 --> 00:10:12,500

Mm-hmm, right.

232

00:10:12,500 --> 00:10:18,530

And my mother, as a
matter of fact, took work,

233

00:10:18,530 --> 00:10:19,650

she worked at home.

234

00:10:19,650 --> 00:10:22,700

She was a fabulous dressmaker's.

235

00:10:22,700 --> 00:10:25,220

In those days, you
know, you had to go as--

236

00:10:25,220 --> 00:10:28,910

237

00:10:28,910 --> 00:10:30,080

what do they they call them?

238

00:10:30,080 --> 00:10:31,595

You know, to learn the trade.

239

00:10:31,595 --> 00:10:32,360

Mm-hmm.

240

00:10:32,360 --> 00:10:34,340

And she worked for--

241

00:10:34,340 --> 00:10:35,060

An apprentice?

242

00:10:35,060 --> 00:10:37,625

You mean she was an apprentice?

243

00:10:37,625 --> 00:10:43,670

No, well, when we lived--
after we moved from Pankow,

244

00:10:43,670 --> 00:10:45,155

when things got tough--

245

00:10:45,155 --> 00:10:46,370

Mm-hmm.

246

00:10:46,370 --> 00:10:48,230

She brought work home.

247

00:10:48,230 --> 00:10:49,110

I remember her--

248

00:10:49,110 --> 00:10:49,610

Mm-hmm.

249

00:10:49,610 --> 00:10:52,760

--doing hand beading on gowns.

250

00:10:52,760 --> 00:10:54,560

Hmm, hmm.

251

00:10:54,560 --> 00:10:57,390

Always a white napkin
on her lap to--

252

00:10:57,390 --> 00:10:57,890

Oh, my.

253

00:10:57,890 --> 00:10:58,550

--make it easier,
you know to see--

254

00:10:58,550 --> 00:10:59,050

[CHUCKLES]

255

00:10:59,050 --> 00:10:59,750

Oh.

256

00:10:59,750 --> 00:11:07,520

And always just
before sunset there

257

00:11:07,520 --> 00:11:10,010

would be an hour for
her to play with me.

258

00:11:10,010 --> 00:11:12,280

That was our hour.

259

00:11:12,280 --> 00:11:13,610

Oh, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

260

00:11:13,610 --> 00:11:19,680

And so I think that was the
primary reason why we moved.

261

00:11:19,680 --> 00:11:20,180

Was for--

262

00:11:20,180 --> 00:11:21,013

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

263

00:11:21,013 --> 00:11:21,770
Yeah, yeah.

264
00:11:21,770 --> 00:11:25,310
As a matter of fact,
my last few months

265
00:11:25,310 --> 00:11:35,110
in elementary school I travel by
subway like maybe three or four

266
00:11:35,110 --> 00:11:39,455
steps so I wouldn't
have to change schools.

267
00:11:39,455 --> 00:11:40,330
It wasn't worthwhile.

268
00:11:40,330 --> 00:11:41,140
Oh, when you--

269
00:11:41,140 --> 00:11:43,400
It was the last year
of elementary school.

270
00:11:43,400 --> 00:11:43,900
I see.

271
00:11:43,900 --> 00:11:45,100
You mean when you moved--

272
00:11:45,100 --> 00:11:47,810
and where-- tell me again
where you moved to from Pankow?

273
00:11:47,810 --> 00:11:50,320

274
00:11:50,320 --> 00:11:51,920
It was Berlin proper.

275
00:11:51,920 --> 00:11:53,290

Oh, Berlin proper, OK.

276
00:11:53,290 --> 00:11:53,790
Yes.

277
00:11:53,790 --> 00:11:55,030
Uh-huh.

278
00:11:55,030 --> 00:11:57,100
But you continued to go
back to your old school--

279
00:11:57,100 --> 00:11:57,600
Yes.

280
00:11:57,600 --> 00:11:58,900
--is what you're saying?

281
00:11:58,900 --> 00:12:02,260
And in retrospect, I
realize my parents--

282
00:12:02,260 --> 00:12:06,440
I mean, I was
relatively safe there.

283
00:12:06,440 --> 00:12:10,380

284
00:12:10,380 --> 00:12:18,290
And I guess they didn't want
to move me for a few months

285
00:12:18,290 --> 00:12:20,870
into a different school, not
knowing what this would bring.

286
00:12:20,870 --> 00:12:21,470
Yeah, cause Hitler--

287
00:12:21,470 --> 00:12:22,303
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

288
00:12:22,303 --> 00:12:23,450
--was in power already.

289
00:12:23,450 --> 00:12:23,970
Oh, yes--

290
00:12:23,970 --> 00:12:24,470
Yeah.

291
00:12:24,470 --> 00:12:24,970
--yes, yes.

292
00:12:24,970 --> 00:12:26,870
Were you aware when he--

293
00:12:26,870 --> 00:12:29,120
I mean, I know you were
quite young, of course.

294
00:12:29,120 --> 00:12:35,630
Were you aware when he
came into power in 33?

295
00:12:35,630 --> 00:12:38,720
Oh, yes, yes.

296
00:12:38,720 --> 00:12:41,090
I guess it was my
seventh birthday

297
00:12:41,090 --> 00:12:44,730
when we were waiting for--

298
00:12:44,730 --> 00:12:45,230
Hmm.

299
00:12:45,230 --> 00:12:48,680
--my closest friend to come.

300
00:12:48,680 --> 00:12:51,150

In those days the
mothers came also--

301
00:12:51,150 --> 00:12:51,650
Mm-hmm.

302
00:12:51,650 --> 00:12:52,920
--to the birthday party's.

303
00:12:52,920 --> 00:12:53,420
Mm-hmm.

304
00:12:53,420 --> 00:12:55,610
And one mother took
my mother aside

305
00:12:55,610 --> 00:12:57,230
and said, Mrs.
Friedlander, I don't

306
00:12:57,230 --> 00:13:02,210
think Mrs. Meyer will come--

307
00:13:02,210 --> 00:13:02,720
Oh.

308
00:13:02,720 --> 00:13:05,060
--because you're Jewish.

309
00:13:05,060 --> 00:13:07,280
And that was my first--

310
00:13:07,280 --> 00:13:08,030
Experience.

311
00:13:08,030 --> 00:13:08,990
--awareness, yes.

312
00:13:08,990 --> 00:13:10,070
Yes.

313

00:13:10,070 --> 00:13:14,590
What did it mean to a
young child to hear that?

314
00:13:14,590 --> 00:13:17,690
Do you have any memory
of your feelings then?

315
00:13:17,690 --> 00:13:21,380
I think just shock that
my closest friend wouldn't

316
00:13:21,380 --> 00:13:22,895
come to my birthday party.

317
00:13:22,895 --> 00:13:25,680
Yeah, yeah.

318
00:13:25,680 --> 00:13:26,180
Mm-hmm.

319
00:13:26,180 --> 00:13:32,140
You know from that time on
I grew up quite quickly.

320
00:13:32,140 --> 00:13:33,830
Yeah, yeah.

321
00:13:33,830 --> 00:13:35,885
We all did.

322
00:13:35,885 --> 00:13:40,100
In just in those beginning
years, in 33, 34,

323
00:13:40,100 --> 00:13:42,810
did you have any other
incidences like that,

324
00:13:42,810 --> 00:13:44,210
any other experiences?

325

00:13:44,210 --> 00:13:44,910
No.

326
00:13:44,910 --> 00:13:46,910
No, yeah.

327
00:13:46,910 --> 00:13:48,620
What about at school?

328
00:13:48,620 --> 00:13:50,640
Was there any antisemetic--

329
00:13:50,640 --> 00:13:51,140
No.

330
00:13:51,140 --> 00:13:52,360
--experiences there?

331
00:13:52,360 --> 00:13:54,800
No, that's exactly
why my parents chose

332
00:13:54,800 --> 00:13:59,670
to have me go by subway for the
last few months, you know, to--

333
00:13:59,670 --> 00:14:00,170
Uh-huh.

334
00:14:00,170 --> 00:14:01,550
--keep me at that school.

335
00:14:01,550 --> 00:14:04,000
Because there was no
overt antisemitism.

336
00:14:04,000 --> 00:14:07,340
Was it was a coed
school or just girls?

337
00:14:07,340 --> 00:14:10,280
Oh, no, no, [LAUGHS]

not in those days.

338
00:14:10,280 --> 00:14:11,130
It was just girls?

339
00:14:11,130 --> 00:14:11,630
Just girls.

340
00:14:11,630 --> 00:14:12,280
Just girls.

341
00:14:12,280 --> 00:14:13,072
Just girls, uh-huh.

342
00:14:13,072 --> 00:14:16,430
And was there religious
training at all?

343
00:14:16,430 --> 00:14:20,130
Did you have to stop during
the day for religious training?

344
00:14:20,130 --> 00:14:20,790
No.

345
00:14:20,790 --> 00:14:21,680
No, OK.

346
00:14:21,680 --> 00:14:28,960
I do remember though, in the
morning when teacher came in,

347
00:14:28,960 --> 00:14:29,680
you greeted her--

348
00:14:29,680 --> 00:14:30,180
Mm-hmm.

349
00:14:30,180 --> 00:14:31,770
--with "Heil Hitler".

350

00:14:31,770 --> 00:14:34,510
Oh.

351
00:14:34,510 --> 00:14:37,150
And did you do that?

352
00:14:37,150 --> 00:14:38,080
But of course.

353
00:14:38,080 --> 00:14:40,547
Oh, OK, uh-huh.

354
00:14:40,547 --> 00:14:41,380
And your parents d--

355
00:14:41,380 --> 00:14:43,797
In the beginning I didn't even
know what it was all about.

356
00:14:43,797 --> 00:14:44,450
Right, right.

357
00:14:44,450 --> 00:14:47,040
So your parents didn't say
anything about that to you?

358
00:14:47,040 --> 00:14:47,540
No.

359
00:14:47,540 --> 00:14:49,980
Yeah, yeah.

360
00:14:49,980 --> 00:14:52,640
Well, how would you describe
yourself as a child?

361
00:14:52,640 --> 00:14:56,310
Were you independent?

362
00:14:56,310 --> 00:14:57,325
Or you w--

363

00:14:57,325 --> 00:14:58,630

Uh.

364

00:14:58,630 --> 00:15:00,730

I know you are quite
young, obviously.

365

00:15:00,730 --> 00:15:02,000

Overprotected.

366

00:15:02,000 --> 00:15:02,500

Uh-huh.

367

00:15:02,500 --> 00:15:05,800

368

00:15:05,800 --> 00:15:06,300

Quiet.

369

00:15:06,300 --> 00:15:15,580

370

00:15:15,580 --> 00:15:18,130

Sort of easily scared.

371

00:15:18,130 --> 00:15:20,160

Uh-huh, yeah.

372

00:15:20,160 --> 00:15:24,850

373

00:15:24,850 --> 00:15:30,043

But otherwise, quite
normal, I think.

374

00:15:30,043 --> 00:15:32,500

[LAUGHS] Did you like sports?

375

00:15:32,500 --> 00:15:35,030

Did you do any kind of sports?

376

00:15:35,030 --> 00:15:37,400

Very reluctantly as
a matter of fact.

377

00:15:37,400 --> 00:15:44,890

My father enrolled me in a
Jewish sport race, Bar Kochba.

378

00:15:44,890 --> 00:15:47,560

But this was quite a bit later.

379

00:15:47,560 --> 00:15:50,135

I was not great on sports.

380

00:15:50,135 --> 00:15:52,410

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

381

00:15:52,410 --> 00:15:53,140

OK.

382

00:15:53,140 --> 00:15:54,640

But obviously,
you said you had--

383

00:15:54,640 --> 00:15:57,350

you were one of two Jewish
children in the school.

384

00:15:57,350 --> 00:15:57,850

So--

385

00:15:57,850 --> 00:15:58,350

Yes.

386

00:15:58,350 --> 00:16:00,280

--your friends were not Jewish.

387

00:16:00,280 --> 00:16:02,250

Most of your friends
were not Jewish, right?

388

00:16:02,250 --> 00:16:03,680

No, no.

389

00:16:03,680 --> 00:16:04,180

Uh-huh.

390

00:16:04,180 --> 00:16:06,310

And you would go to their house?

391

00:16:06,310 --> 00:16:06,900

Oh, yes.

392

00:16:06,900 --> 00:16:09,310

And play, and there was no
problem with their parents

393

00:16:09,310 --> 00:16:12,640

except for that other, the
birthday party incident, yeah.

394

00:16:12,640 --> 00:16:13,220

And that--

395

00:16:13,220 --> 00:16:14,020

Yeah.

396

00:16:14,020 --> 00:16:16,060

--that was the
only, only incident.

397

00:16:16,060 --> 00:16:17,770

Yeah, yeah.

398

00:16:17,770 --> 00:16:21,130

And I assume you
spoke German at home?

399

00:16:21,130 --> 00:16:22,190

Yes, of course.

400

00:16:22,190 --> 00:16:22,690

OK.

401
00:16:22,690 --> 00:16:24,810
[LAUGHTER]

402
00:16:24,810 --> 00:16:29,650
All right, so now, Hitler
comes into power in 33.

403
00:16:29,650 --> 00:16:34,270
And you said things
started to change.

404
00:16:34,270 --> 00:16:38,150
And then you moved
into Berlin itself.

405
00:16:38,150 --> 00:16:38,710
Yes.

406
00:16:38,710 --> 00:16:41,530
And, but you went
to the same school.

407
00:16:41,530 --> 00:16:42,160
And then--

408
00:16:42,160 --> 00:16:42,940
Yes.

409
00:16:42,940 --> 00:16:46,630
--did you notice anything in the
city, any changes in the city

410
00:16:46,630 --> 00:16:49,780
once you moved
there and Hitler was

411
00:16:49,780 --> 00:16:52,870
getting stronger and stronger?

412
00:16:52,870 --> 00:16:54,940
No.

413
00:16:54,940 --> 00:16:55,650
Any restrictions?

414
00:16:55,650 --> 00:16:59,502
Well, well wait a minute.

415
00:16:59,502 --> 00:17:02,270
I have to change
that a little bit.

416
00:17:02,270 --> 00:17:02,770
OK.

417
00:17:02,770 --> 00:17:11,589
I do remember actually,
repetitive dreams

418
00:17:11,589 --> 00:17:22,294
about the Hitler
parades at night.

419
00:17:22,294 --> 00:17:25,609

420
00:17:25,609 --> 00:17:28,730
I in my dream, as
I was going home,

421
00:17:28,730 --> 00:17:31,700
in the street parallel
to where I was,

422
00:17:31,700 --> 00:17:36,140
there was the parade with
singing and torch lights.

423
00:17:36,140 --> 00:17:42,770
And that dream occurred
a number of times.

424
00:17:42,770 --> 00:17:43,270

Mm-hmm.

425

00:17:43,270 --> 00:17:48,555

So that I'm still very,
very much aware of it.

426

00:17:48,555 --> 00:17:49,055

I remember--

427

00:17:49,055 --> 00:17:49,555

Mm-hmm.

428

00:17:49,555 --> 00:17:51,070

--it as though it was yesterday.

429

00:17:51,070 --> 00:17:51,924

Oh my, yeah.

430

00:17:51,924 --> 00:17:56,935

So, and the discomfort
until I got into the house--

431

00:17:56,935 --> 00:17:58,420

Mm-hmm.

432

00:17:58,420 --> 00:18:01,560

--the apartment houses used
to be locked at 8 o'clock.

433

00:18:01,560 --> 00:18:03,610

Mm-hmm.

434

00:18:03,610 --> 00:18:06,880

So I always had to
be sure that made it

435

00:18:06,880 --> 00:18:09,680

before 8:00 because I didn't
have a key for the apartment

436

00:18:09,680 --> 00:18:10,180

house.

437
00:18:10,180 --> 00:18:11,770
Uh-huh, mm-hmm.

438
00:18:11,770 --> 00:18:19,110
So there was, I guess,
there was fear in me.

439
00:18:19,110 --> 00:18:21,010
Yeah.

440
00:18:21,010 --> 00:18:23,365
And the other thing
I do remember--

441
00:18:23,365 --> 00:18:26,800
and that was really when we
moved into the center of Berlin

442
00:18:26,800 --> 00:18:38,560
was the large swastika flags
out of the windows everywhere.

443
00:18:38,560 --> 00:18:50,020
And to this day, I have a
dislike for putting flags out.

444
00:18:50,020 --> 00:18:50,792
Hmm, mm-hmm.

445
00:18:50,792 --> 00:18:54,400

446
00:18:54,400 --> 00:18:55,930
It must stem from that--

447
00:18:55,930 --> 00:18:56,430
Yeah.

448
00:18:56,430 --> 00:18:56,820
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

449

00:18:56,820 --> 00:18:57,320

Yeah.

450

00:18:57,320 --> 00:19:00,600

--the only reason why

I should feel that way.

451

00:19:00,600 --> 00:19:04,190

What did the symbol of

the swastika mean to you?

452

00:19:04,190 --> 00:19:09,520

Did it have any special meaning?

453

00:19:09,520 --> 00:19:15,920

Oh, hate and fear.

454

00:19:15,920 --> 00:19:16,420

Yeah.

455

00:19:16,420 --> 00:19:19,240

456

00:19:19,240 --> 00:19:23,320

The interesting thing

was that in Germany,

457

00:19:23,320 --> 00:19:26,110

people who looked

slightly Jewish

458

00:19:26,110 --> 00:19:27,530

or were dark complexion--

459

00:19:27,530 --> 00:19:28,030

Mm-hmm.

460

00:19:28,030 --> 00:19:34,450

--would generally wear a

swastika button in their suits.

461

00:19:34,450 --> 00:19:36,010
That's to make
sure that nobody--

462
00:19:36,010 --> 00:19:38,738
Oh, would misunder--
[LAUGHS] misconstrue

463
00:19:38,738 --> 00:19:39,655
that they were Jewish.

464
00:19:39,655 --> 00:19:41,210
Yep.

465
00:19:41,210 --> 00:19:44,350
Oh my, yeah, yeah.

466
00:19:44,350 --> 00:19:46,540
Did you ever see Hitler?

467
00:19:46,540 --> 00:19:47,690
No.

468
00:19:47,690 --> 00:19:50,260
OK, mm-hmm.

469
00:19:50,260 --> 00:19:53,080
But you saw, as you say,
the parades you saw.

470
00:19:53,080 --> 00:19:54,726
Yes, the parades,
the constant parades.

471
00:19:54,726 --> 00:19:55,720
Yeah, yeah.

472
00:19:55,720 --> 00:19:59,240
And always at night and
always with their torches lit.

473
00:19:59,240 --> 00:20:00,970

Yeah, yeah.

474

00:20:00,970 --> 00:20:04,810

So, then you're traveling
by yourself to school.

475

00:20:04,810 --> 00:20:07,960

And then the next
change was what?

476

00:20:07,960 --> 00:20:12,760

The next change was
my grandfather dying.

477

00:20:12,760 --> 00:20:13,260

Yeah.

478

00:20:13,260 --> 00:20:16,120

He had been in the hospital
and was supposed to come home

479

00:20:16,120 --> 00:20:19,390

the following day, and died.

480

00:20:19,390 --> 00:20:24,820

Now, what I remember
was, it's supposedly

481

00:20:24,820 --> 00:20:26,710

was some bladder problem.

482

00:20:26,710 --> 00:20:29,200

I assume it was prostate cancer.

483

00:20:29,200 --> 00:20:29,920

Oh, my.

484

00:20:29,920 --> 00:20:30,860

Mm-hmm.

485

00:20:30,860 --> 00:20:33,720

But in those days, I didn't even

know they existed, a prostate,

486
00:20:33,720 --> 00:20:34,220
[LAUGHS]

487
00:20:34,220 --> 00:20:36,560
Yeah, right, of course, mm-hmm.

488
00:20:36,560 --> 00:20:39,070
And, as I say, I
was always shielded.

489
00:20:39,070 --> 00:20:41,090
And I was not at home.

490
00:20:41,090 --> 00:20:43,100
My father belonged
to a rowing club.

491
00:20:43,100 --> 00:20:43,600
Mm-hmm.

492
00:20:43,600 --> 00:20:49,630
And I was spending the
summer there, I suppose,

493
00:20:49,630 --> 00:20:51,730
because we had one room there.

494
00:20:51,730 --> 00:20:59,770
And I never was brought back
to the city for the funeral.

495
00:20:59,770 --> 00:21:04,200
Again, you know, they shielded
children from such things.

496
00:21:04,200 --> 00:21:05,620
Right, right.

497
00:21:05,620 --> 00:21:08,230
What was your

grandfather's name?

498
00:21:08,230 --> 00:21:09,070
Julius.

499
00:21:09,070 --> 00:21:11,480
Julius Friedlander, right?

500
00:21:11,480 --> 00:21:11,980
Yes.

501
00:21:11,980 --> 00:21:14,704
Mm-hmm.

502
00:21:14,704 --> 00:21:16,270
Do you know I don't--

503
00:21:16,270 --> 00:21:17,830
come to think of
it, I don't even

504
00:21:17,830 --> 00:21:22,610
remember my maternal
grandfather's name.

505
00:21:22,610 --> 00:21:23,110
Uh-huh.

506
00:21:23,110 --> 00:21:23,320
[CHUCKLES]

507
00:21:23,320 --> 00:21:24,140
Isn't that strange?

508
00:21:24,140 --> 00:21:25,490
Yeah, it'll come to you.

509
00:21:25,490 --> 00:21:26,450
It'll come to you.

510
00:21:26,450 --> 00:21:29,510

Probably not because he
was just Opi, you know?

511
00:21:29,510 --> 00:21:30,010
[LAUGHS]

512
00:21:30,010 --> 00:21:31,660
Yeah, yeah, yeah.

513
00:21:31,660 --> 00:21:37,630
So now when you were in Berlin
itself, besides the parades,

514
00:21:37,630 --> 00:21:41,970
did you experience any
anti-Semitic incidents?

515
00:21:41,970 --> 00:21:42,930
You know--

516
00:21:42,930 --> 00:21:45,340
And seeing the
flags, you know, and.

517
00:21:45,340 --> 00:21:49,630
You know, Berlin
was the capital.

518
00:21:49,630 --> 00:21:58,680
And it had definite
advantages for us Jews.

519
00:21:58,680 --> 00:22:02,460
In smaller towns everybody
knew exactly who the Jew was.

520
00:22:02,460 --> 00:22:05,220
Mm-hmm.

521
00:22:05,220 --> 00:22:10,920
There was-- well,
until Kristallnacht.

522
00:22:10,920 --> 00:22:12,910
Yeah, yeah.

523
00:22:12,910 --> 00:22:14,945
There wasn't that much overt--

524
00:22:14,945 --> 00:22:17,700
Mm-hmm.

525
00:22:17,700 --> 00:22:18,870
--stuff going on.

526
00:22:18,870 --> 00:22:19,740
Mm-hmm.

527
00:22:19,740 --> 00:22:21,150
Don't forget we had the--

528
00:22:21,150 --> 00:22:23,370
Berlin had the
Olympic games too.

529
00:22:23,370 --> 00:22:24,400
Right, do you remember--

530
00:22:24,400 --> 00:22:24,755
I can remember wat--

531
00:22:24,755 --> 00:22:25,588
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

532
00:22:25,588 --> 00:22:27,080
Do you remember that, those?

533
00:22:27,080 --> 00:22:29,100
Yes, I do you
remember it because I

534
00:22:29,100 --> 00:22:32,370
know one evening my mother
and father took me there.

535
00:22:32,370 --> 00:22:35,890
This was before the
games started to at it.

536
00:22:35,890 --> 00:22:36,390
Mm-hmm.

537
00:22:36,390 --> 00:22:37,480
To look at the,the--

538
00:22:37,480 --> 00:22:38,880
The stadium?

539
00:22:38,880 --> 00:22:39,435
The stadium.

540
00:22:39,435 --> 00:22:39,935
Mm-hmm.

541
00:22:39,935 --> 00:22:43,170

542
00:22:43,170 --> 00:22:46,680
But actually, that's
all I remember.

543
00:22:46,680 --> 00:22:48,490
I mean I've read a
lot about it since.

544
00:22:48,490 --> 00:22:48,990
[LAUGHS]

545
00:22:48,990 --> 00:22:50,250
Well, yeah, yeah, mm-hmm.

546
00:22:50,250 --> 00:22:53,190
At the time I
didn't remember it.

547

00:22:53,190 --> 00:22:53,760
Mm-hmm.

548
00:22:53,760 --> 00:22:58,980
But as I said, there was
quite a bit of anonymity

549
00:22:58,980 --> 00:23:03,420
living in Berlin compared
to living in a smaller town.

550
00:23:03,420 --> 00:23:04,177
Mm-hmm.

551
00:23:04,177 --> 00:23:05,010
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

552
00:23:05,010 --> 00:23:07,170
What about the book burning?

553
00:23:07,170 --> 00:23:08,250
Were you aware of that?

554
00:23:08,250 --> 00:23:12,560

555
00:23:12,560 --> 00:23:13,380
No.

556
00:23:13,380 --> 00:23:17,330
No, what about restrictions,
sitting on benches and parks,

557
00:23:17,330 --> 00:23:19,010
and things like that?

558
00:23:19,010 --> 00:23:20,030
No.

559
00:23:20,030 --> 00:23:21,560
OK.

560

00:23:21,560 --> 00:23:26,690

So you went-- you just continued
your childhood, in a sense,

561

00:23:26,690 --> 00:23:28,010

commuting to school.

562

00:23:28,010 --> 00:23:29,480

And then you'd
come home and what

563

00:23:29,480 --> 00:23:31,670

play with non-Jewish children?

564

00:23:31,670 --> 00:23:33,980

Or was that a new neighborhood
a Jewish neighborhood?

565

00:23:33,980 --> 00:23:35,000

You knew--

566

00:23:35,000 --> 00:23:36,570

No, it wasn't.

567

00:23:36,570 --> 00:23:40,040

And, oh, I didn't
really finish what I was

568

00:23:40,040 --> 00:23:41,420

saying about my grandfather.

569

00:23:41,420 --> 00:23:42,725

When my grandfather died--

570

00:23:42,725 --> 00:23:43,910

Mm-hmm.

571

00:23:43,910 --> 00:23:49,235

--my grandmother [CLEARS THROAT]
had been in this apartment--

572

00:23:49,235 --> 00:23:51,050
Mm-hmm.

573
00:23:51,050 --> 00:23:52,475
--from the day she was married.

574
00:23:52,475 --> 00:23:53,450
Mm-hmm.

575
00:23:53,450 --> 00:23:56,180
And it was considered
that poor old me

576
00:23:56,180 --> 00:23:58,970
couldn't be expected to move.

577
00:23:58,970 --> 00:24:00,500
So we moved in--

578
00:24:00,500 --> 00:24:01,130
Ah.

579
00:24:01,130 --> 00:24:02,690
--to her place.

580
00:24:02,690 --> 00:24:04,370
And that was in central Berlin.

581
00:24:04,370 --> 00:24:05,900
I see.

582
00:24:05,900 --> 00:24:10,310
And after I was through
with the elementary school,

583
00:24:10,310 --> 00:24:12,872
I went to Jewish
secondary school.

584
00:24:12,872 --> 00:24:14,580
Oh, you went to a
Jewish school you said?

585
00:24:14,580 --> 00:24:15,080
Yeah.

586
00:24:15,080 --> 00:24:18,240
And how old were you then?

587
00:24:18,240 --> 00:24:19,380
Must have been 10.

588
00:24:19,380 --> 00:24:20,460
OK.

589
00:24:20,460 --> 00:24:25,110
Because we didn't start a
school until the age of six.

590
00:24:25,110 --> 00:24:25,930
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

591
00:24:25,930 --> 00:24:26,780

592
00:24:26,780 --> 00:24:28,280
Four years there
it must have been--

593
00:24:28,280 --> 00:24:29,190
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

594
00:24:29,190 --> 00:24:31,500
Right, right.

595
00:24:31,500 --> 00:24:34,620
And so, that continued on.

596
00:24:34,620 --> 00:24:36,600
And you, would you
say your childhood

597
00:24:36,600 --> 00:24:41,550

was kind of a contented
one up to that point?

598
00:24:41,550 --> 00:24:42,720
Or-- [LAUGHS]

599
00:24:42,720 --> 00:24:47,356
Well, we were very, very
aware of what was going on.

600
00:24:47,356 --> 00:24:49,050
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

601
00:24:49,050 --> 00:24:51,490
My uncle was arrested twice.

602
00:24:51,490 --> 00:24:53,610
Oh, oh.

603
00:24:53,610 --> 00:24:55,500
Your father's brother you mean?

604
00:24:55,500 --> 00:24:57,385
My father's brother,
the doctor--

605
00:24:57,385 --> 00:24:57,885
The doctor--

606
00:24:57,885 --> 00:24:58,200
--who helped us, too.

607
00:24:58,200 --> 00:24:58,742
Yeah, mm-hmm.

608
00:24:58,742 --> 00:25:04,470
Yeah, he was accused of,
I know the German word

609
00:25:04,470 --> 00:25:08,910
for it, which I think
meant that he had relations

610
00:25:08,910 --> 00:25:10,320
with gentile patients.

611
00:25:10,320 --> 00:25:11,490
Yeah, yeah.

612
00:25:11,490 --> 00:25:13,865
What was his first name?

613
00:25:13,865 --> 00:25:14,865
Your uncle's first name?

614
00:25:14,865 --> 00:25:15,920
Rudolph, Rudy.

615
00:25:15,920 --> 00:25:19,200
Rudy, OK, mm-hmm.

616
00:25:19,200 --> 00:25:20,850
So now you're in
the Jewish school.

617
00:25:20,850 --> 00:25:23,190
Do you remember
what name it had?

618
00:25:23,190 --> 00:25:24,865
Yeah, it was a
Hamburger Strasse.

619
00:25:24,865 --> 00:25:25,365
Mm-hmm.

620
00:25:25,365 --> 00:25:26,670
Grosse Hamburger Strasse.

621
00:25:26,670 --> 00:25:27,930
Hmm.

622
00:25:27,930 --> 00:25:31,123

That's where one of the
beautiful temples were.

623
00:25:31,123 --> 00:25:33,390
Hmm, hmm, mm-hmm.

624
00:25:33,390 --> 00:25:36,640
And what street did
you live on in Berlin?

625
00:25:36,640 --> 00:25:37,860
Dirksen Strasse.

626
00:25:37,860 --> 00:25:41,455
That's D-I-R-C-K-S-E-N.

627
00:25:41,455 --> 00:25:42,840
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

628
00:25:42,840 --> 00:25:46,185
Big old apartment house.

629
00:25:46,185 --> 00:25:47,820
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

630
00:25:47,820 --> 00:25:50,570
Back entrance for trades people.

631
00:25:50,570 --> 00:25:51,535
Mm-hmm.

632
00:25:51,535 --> 00:25:52,035
The number?

633
00:25:52,035 --> 00:25:54,340
Do you remember the number?

634
00:25:54,340 --> 00:25:56,100
Yes, hold on a minute.

635
00:25:56,100 --> 00:25:56,725

That's OK.

636
00:25:56,725 --> 00:25:58,120
[LAUGHS]

637
00:25:58,120 --> 00:25:59,080
Oh, number five.

638
00:25:59,080 --> 00:26:02,080
Number five, OK.

639
00:26:02,080 --> 00:26:05,920
So, you are now in
the Jewish school.

640
00:26:05,920 --> 00:26:09,855
And were your parents the
type to talk things over

641
00:26:09,855 --> 00:26:11,230
with you about
what was happening

642
00:26:11,230 --> 00:26:13,460
in Germany to the Jews and--

643
00:26:13,460 --> 00:26:13,960
No.

644
00:26:13,960 --> 00:26:14,590
--Hitler?

645
00:26:14,590 --> 00:26:17,110
So, did you talk about
it with your friends

646
00:26:17,110 --> 00:26:19,690
in the Jewish school?

647
00:26:19,690 --> 00:26:24,460
Yes, and this was the beginning
of the Great Exodus too,

648
00:26:24,460 --> 00:26:27,820
people leaving, or Jews
leaving Germany in droves.

649
00:26:27,820 --> 00:26:30,160
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

650
00:26:30,160 --> 00:26:36,910
I do remember, I
guess I must been 11.

651
00:26:36,910 --> 00:26:41,080
I and three of my friends
went to the Jewish board

652
00:26:41,080 --> 00:26:48,200
of education because
[CHUCKLES] we

653
00:26:48,200 --> 00:26:57,540
objected to so many young
teachers being dismissed.

654
00:26:57,540 --> 00:26:58,770
Oh.

655
00:26:58,770 --> 00:27:01,050
The young ones were
the favorite ones.

656
00:27:01,050 --> 00:27:06,960
And we were told, and it
made absolute sense to us.

657
00:27:06,960 --> 00:27:11,280
We were told that the younger
teachers would have a better

658
00:27:11,280 --> 00:27:13,330
chance to emigrate--

659

00:27:13,330 --> 00:27:13,830
Oh--

660
00:27:13,830 --> 00:27:14,970
--than the older ones.

661
00:27:14,970 --> 00:27:16,110
Yeah, yeah.

662
00:27:16,110 --> 00:27:17,230
And we accepted it.

663
00:27:17,230 --> 00:27:17,730
Mm-hmm.

664
00:27:17,730 --> 00:27:18,430
And that was it.

665
00:27:18,430 --> 00:27:19,560
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

666
00:27:19,560 --> 00:27:21,618
And first of all, the
nerve to go [LAUGHS]

667
00:27:21,618 --> 00:27:22,701
to the board of education.

668
00:27:22,701 --> 00:27:23,201
[LAUGHS]

669
00:27:23,201 --> 00:27:27,060
Right, right, right.

670
00:27:27,060 --> 00:27:29,580
Do you remember being fearful?

671
00:27:29,580 --> 00:27:33,090
Or were you relaxed on the
street when you were outside?

672

00:27:33,090 --> 00:27:37,000

673

00:27:37,000 --> 00:27:40,711

More relaxed than
fearful, fearful when

674

00:27:40,711 --> 00:27:41,836

there were demonstrations--

675

00:27:41,836 --> 00:27:42,610

Mm-hmm.

676

00:27:42,610 --> 00:27:46,930

--that I happened
to be close to.

677

00:27:46,930 --> 00:27:51,920

678

00:27:51,920 --> 00:27:55,790

But, now I know,
for instance, I had

679

00:27:55,790 --> 00:27:59,630

a friend, my very
closest friend,

680

00:27:59,630 --> 00:28:05,570

who lived a distance away.

681

00:28:05,570 --> 00:28:08,590

And I had to go by subway.

682

00:28:08,590 --> 00:28:13,120

And I was very much
aware of the fact

683

00:28:13,120 --> 00:28:16,120

that I had to be home
at a certain time

684

00:28:16,120 --> 00:28:20,830
because my parents would
be worried that something

685
00:28:20,830 --> 00:28:21,940
had happened to me.

686
00:28:21,940 --> 00:28:23,800
Sure, yeah, yeah.

687
00:28:23,800 --> 00:28:27,206
I remember being in the subway
and almost wanting to push it,

688
00:28:27,206 --> 00:28:27,706
you know?

689
00:28:27,706 --> 00:28:28,206
[LAUGHS]

690
00:28:28,206 --> 00:28:29,530
Mm-hmm.

691
00:28:29,530 --> 00:28:33,220
If I was on the late side.

692
00:28:33,220 --> 00:28:36,220
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

693
00:28:36,220 --> 00:28:41,320
But you went to school, and
you played with friends?

694
00:28:41,320 --> 00:28:42,370
And sports?

695
00:28:42,370 --> 00:28:44,810
Well, then, of course, it
was all my Jewish friends

696
00:28:44,810 --> 00:28:45,310
from school.

697
00:28:45,310 --> 00:28:46,330
Right, right.

698
00:28:46,330 --> 00:28:48,340
And one lived very close to me.

699
00:28:48,340 --> 00:28:49,400
Uh-huh, uh-huh.

700
00:28:49,400 --> 00:28:54,820
And we would go back and
forth to school together.

701
00:28:54,820 --> 00:28:58,140
Yeah, so that continued
what, till Kristallnacht?

702
00:28:58,140 --> 00:29:01,440
Or anything else between
then and Kristallnacht

703
00:29:01,440 --> 00:29:02,810
that you can remember?

704
00:29:02,810 --> 00:29:05,800
Well, it really continued
until until I left.

705
00:29:05,800 --> 00:29:06,390
No, I know.

706
00:29:06,390 --> 00:29:08,880
But I was going to then
talk about Kristallnacht

707
00:29:08,880 --> 00:29:09,580
with you and--

708
00:29:09,580 --> 00:29:10,530
Kristallnacht.

709

00:29:10,530 --> 00:29:11,330

Yeah.

710

00:29:11,330 --> 00:29:13,790

[CLEARS THROAT]

711

00:29:13,790 --> 00:29:19,670

I knew my mother was on the telephone to this girlfriend's

712

00:29:19,670 --> 00:29:22,070

mother in the morning.

713

00:29:22,070 --> 00:29:26,270

And it was decided that I was going to go to school.

714

00:29:26,270 --> 00:29:35,930

And I really didn't immediately realize what was happening.

715

00:29:35,930 --> 00:29:37,730

But I must have during the course

716

00:29:37,730 --> 00:29:41,690

of the day because my cousin, actually

717

00:29:41,690 --> 00:29:42,890

was my father's cousin.

718

00:29:42,890 --> 00:29:46,670

But she was closer to my age, and I loved her.

719

00:29:46,670 --> 00:29:49,850

She worked in the Office of a department store, which

720

00:29:49,850 --> 00:29:54,830

was actually just across the

street from our business.

721

00:29:54,830 --> 00:30:00,800

And we heard stories about what
they did they're, throwing.

722

00:30:00,800 --> 00:30:04,700

She was in the office on
the top floor's throwing,

723

00:30:04,700 --> 00:30:05,820

throwing typewriters--

724

00:30:05,820 --> 00:30:06,320

Mmm.

725

00:30:06,320 --> 00:30:08,360

--and whatnot out of the window.

726

00:30:08,360 --> 00:30:12,770

And it so happened
that the store

727

00:30:12,770 --> 00:30:16,430

was owned by a British Jew.

728

00:30:16,430 --> 00:30:18,500

And they had to pay reparations.

729

00:30:18,500 --> 00:30:20,180

I remember that as--

730

00:30:20,180 --> 00:30:25,220

[CHUCKLES] You know, we were
kind of thrilled with that.

731

00:30:25,220 --> 00:30:26,640

Mm-hmm.

732

00:30:26,640 --> 00:30:32,580

But, and I also know that
the streetcar going along

733
00:30:32,580 --> 00:30:37,200
the streets where our business
was and this department store,

734
00:30:37,200 --> 00:30:45,010
the streetcars could not
go because of the shattered

735
00:30:45,010 --> 00:30:45,510
glass--

736
00:30:45,510 --> 00:30:47,063
Mmm, mm-hmm.

737
00:30:47,063 --> 00:30:47,730
--and the rails.

738
00:30:47,730 --> 00:30:51,820

739
00:30:51,820 --> 00:30:59,080
It was-- oh, and my
girlfriend's father,

740
00:30:59,080 --> 00:31:00,940
they were Polish originally.

741
00:31:00,940 --> 00:31:04,650
My girlfriend's
father was picked up.

742
00:31:04,650 --> 00:31:05,470
Oh, yeah.

743
00:31:05,470 --> 00:31:07,200
And that's when
they picked up all--

744
00:31:07,200 --> 00:31:07,700
Yeah.

745

00:31:07,700 --> 00:31:10,750

--men and boys, I
think over 16 or 18.

746

00:31:10,750 --> 00:31:15,330

747

00:31:15,330 --> 00:31:22,340

Yes, I mean that was a time
when I became very, very, very

748

00:31:22,340 --> 00:31:23,420

aware of--

749

00:31:23,420 --> 00:31:24,320

Yeah.

750

00:31:24,320 --> 00:31:25,360

--what was going on--

751

00:31:25,360 --> 00:31:25,985

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

752

00:31:25,985 --> 00:31:26,690

--and fearful.

753

00:31:26,690 --> 00:31:28,370

Yes.

754

00:31:28,370 --> 00:31:31,710

Now, what about your father,
was he picked up at all?

755

00:31:31,710 --> 00:31:32,660

No, he wasn't.

756

00:31:32,660 --> 00:31:34,010

Uh-huh..

757

00:31:34,010 --> 00:31:37,610

Now, my father, of

course, was German born.

758

00:31:37,610 --> 00:31:39,665

And they picked up the--

759

00:31:39,665 --> 00:31:40,590

The Polish?

760

00:31:40,590 --> 00:31:41,090

--Polis.

761

00:31:41,090 --> 00:31:44,510

Polish born, yeah, yeah, yeah.

762

00:31:44,510 --> 00:31:46,160

So you were n--

so you in a sense

763

00:31:46,160 --> 00:31:48,200

slept through Kristallnacht?

764

00:31:48,200 --> 00:31:49,190

Did you-- [CHUCKLES]

765

00:31:49,190 --> 00:31:50,275

Oh, yes, absolutely.

766

00:31:50,275 --> 00:31:51,177

[LAUGHTER]

767

00:31:51,177 --> 00:31:57,150

OK, yeah, so, yeah, OK.

768

00:31:57,150 --> 00:32:00,560

And what did you,

again, what do parents

769

00:32:00,560 --> 00:32:04,460

say to a young child, a

12-year-old when that happened?

770

00:32:04,460 --> 00:32:05,510
What did they say to you?

771
00:32:05,510 --> 00:32:05,800
You know--

772
00:32:05,800 --> 00:32:06,800
How did they explain it?

773
00:32:06,800 --> 00:32:10,100
--I don't even recall actual
conversations with them

774
00:32:10,100 --> 00:32:13,908
other than hearing
what was said.

775
00:32:13,908 --> 00:32:15,575
As I said, we lived
with my grandmother.

776
00:32:15,575 --> 00:32:16,130
Mm-hmm.

777
00:32:16,130 --> 00:32:17,720
We had moved into her apartment.

778
00:32:17,720 --> 00:32:18,380
Right.

779
00:32:18,380 --> 00:32:26,915
And, [CLEARS THROAT]
we later had an old--

780
00:32:26,915 --> 00:32:27,540
[CLEARS THROAT]

781
00:32:27,540 --> 00:32:34,800
--aunt of my father's move in,
whose two sons had emigrated

782
00:32:34,800 --> 00:32:39,060

to what was then Palestien.

783
00:32:39,060 --> 00:32:41,580
She was over 80.

784
00:32:41,580 --> 00:32:50,070
And all I remember was she would
sit and crochet continuously.

785
00:32:50,070 --> 00:32:52,090
She covered all our hangers.

786
00:32:52,090 --> 00:32:55,380
[LAUGHTER]

787
00:32:55,380 --> 00:32:58,920
Very sweet, very
unassuming, very quiet.

788
00:32:58,920 --> 00:32:59,940
Mm-hmm.

789
00:32:59,940 --> 00:33:03,000
Although, I do
remember visiting her

790
00:33:03,000 --> 00:33:07,710
as a younger child
when she had a parrot.

791
00:33:07,710 --> 00:33:09,660
And I was fascinated
with a parrot

792
00:33:09,660 --> 00:33:12,390
because the parrot
would be talking.

793
00:33:12,390 --> 00:33:14,140
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

794
00:33:14,140 --> 00:33:20,010

[CHUCKLES] Did your parents ever
talk about trying to emigrate?

795
00:33:20,010 --> 00:33:22,320
Oh, yes, of course.

796
00:33:22,320 --> 00:33:23,220
Oh, of course.

797
00:33:23,220 --> 00:33:26,090
I was very, very
much aware that.

798
00:33:26,090 --> 00:33:37,450
[CLEARS THROAT] My father was
very much as a law abiding,

799
00:33:37,450 --> 00:33:42,150
straight, honorable--

800
00:33:42,150 --> 00:33:43,660
and look where it got him.

801
00:33:43,660 --> 00:33:48,960
[CHUCKLES] But
there were all sorts

802
00:33:48,960 --> 00:33:57,840
of things tried at
various consulates.

803
00:33:57,840 --> 00:34:02,430
And I do remember finally,
at the 11th hour practically,

804
00:34:02,430 --> 00:34:07,290
him joining a few families.

805
00:34:07,290 --> 00:34:20,659
I guess, it was bribing
some consulat to get a visa.

806

00:34:20,659 --> 00:34:22,650
And it fell through.

807
00:34:22,650 --> 00:34:26,449
But aside from anything
else, my mother

808
00:34:26,449 --> 00:34:28,630
had kidney disease very early.

809
00:34:28,630 --> 00:34:29,460
Oh.

810
00:34:29,460 --> 00:34:34,280
And, [COUGHS] excuse me.

811
00:34:34,280 --> 00:34:38,874
And because of that,
very, high-blood pressure.

812
00:34:38,874 --> 00:34:40,060
Mm-hmm.

813
00:34:40,060 --> 00:34:43,750
And those days they couldn't
control it sufficiently.

814
00:34:43,750 --> 00:34:52,420
So any of the tropical
countries wouldn't give a visa--

815
00:34:52,420 --> 00:34:52,929
Mm-hmm.

816
00:34:52,929 --> 00:34:53,429
--of it.

817
00:34:53,429 --> 00:34:55,480
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

818
00:34:55,480 --> 00:35:01,210
So, that fell through too.

819
00:35:01,210 --> 00:35:02,440
But I was--

820
00:35:02,440 --> 00:35:12,100
I mean everybody was aware of
people haunting the consulate.

821
00:35:12,100 --> 00:35:14,290
Was your father a Zionist?

822
00:35:14,290 --> 00:35:16,780
Did he want to go to Palestine?

823
00:35:16,780 --> 00:35:17,680
Who, my f--

824
00:35:17,680 --> 00:35:21,250
Your father, did he suggest
trying to go to Palestine?

825
00:35:21,250 --> 00:35:23,416
No, but I was.

826
00:35:23,416 --> 00:35:26,060
I was brought up
in that atmosphere.

827
00:35:26,060 --> 00:35:26,560
Mm-hmm.

828
00:35:26,560 --> 00:35:31,050

829
00:35:31,050 --> 00:35:34,260
I guess my friends
also, we all--

830
00:35:34,260 --> 00:35:38,240
all we could think of
was getting to Palestine.

831

00:35:38,240 --> 00:35:40,100

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

832

00:35:40,100 --> 00:35:42,770

These were your friends at the Jewish school that you went to?

833

00:35:42,770 --> 00:35:43,470

Yes, yes.

834

00:35:43,470 --> 00:35:44,540

Yeah.

835

00:35:44,540 --> 00:35:46,970

And what did your father say about that, or your parents

836

00:35:46,970 --> 00:35:48,410

say?

837

00:35:48,410 --> 00:35:52,220

What were their thoughts about that?

838

00:35:52,220 --> 00:35:53,210

I have no idea.

839

00:35:53,210 --> 00:35:53,910

Yeah, OK.

840

00:35:53,910 --> 00:35:54,540

[LAUGHTER]

841

00:35:54,540 --> 00:35:55,265

OK.

842

00:35:55,265 --> 00:36:02,830

[LAUGHS] So, Kristallnacht is over, and then what happens?

843

00:36:02,830 --> 00:36:07,510

What other changes can
you remember from that?

844
00:36:07,510 --> 00:36:13,810
Well, then of course, we heard
about the Kindertransport.

845
00:36:13,810 --> 00:36:16,000
Yes, mm-hmm.

846
00:36:16,000 --> 00:36:17,800
Because the British
government did

847
00:36:17,800 --> 00:36:19,795
this within days
after Kristallnacht.

848
00:36:19,795 --> 00:36:21,730
Mm-hmm.

849
00:36:21,730 --> 00:36:27,750
And my grandmother
had wrote to a cousin

850
00:36:27,750 --> 00:36:31,020
of hers, a second cousin
of hers in London.

851
00:36:31,020 --> 00:36:35,940
Now the story is, that he was
in love with my grandmother.

852
00:36:35,940 --> 00:36:37,740
And she wouldn't marry him.

853
00:36:37,740 --> 00:36:40,050
And he went to England.

854
00:36:40,050 --> 00:36:42,000
Mm-hmm.

855

00:36:42,000 --> 00:36:44,190
With a broken heart, ha, ha.

856
00:36:44,190 --> 00:36:46,710
And she contacted him.

857
00:36:46,710 --> 00:36:50,610
And he had one
daughter, who was very

858
00:36:50,610 --> 00:36:55,230
active in trying to
find families in England

859
00:36:55,230 --> 00:37:00,250
to sponsor German children--

860
00:37:00,250 --> 00:37:00,750
Mm-hmm.

861
00:37:00,750 --> 00:37:01,500
--Jewish children.

862
00:37:01,500 --> 00:37:02,730
Right.

863
00:37:02,730 --> 00:37:11,520
And she actually made contact
with a woman, who eventually

864
00:37:11,520 --> 00:37:15,730
offered to sponsor me.

865
00:37:15,730 --> 00:37:20,490
And what was the woman's name?

866
00:37:20,490 --> 00:37:24,070
Mrs. Kingham,
K-I-N-G-H-A-M, Mrs. Kingham.

867
00:37:24,070 --> 00:37:24,570
Mm-hmm.

868
00:37:24,570 --> 00:37:27,180
Alice Kingham.

869
00:37:27,180 --> 00:37:29,820
I'm sorry what was
her first name?

870
00:37:29,820 --> 00:37:31,290
Alice.

871
00:37:31,290 --> 00:37:33,120
How do you spell that?

872
00:37:33,120 --> 00:37:35,280
Alice, like Alice in Wonderland.

873
00:37:35,280 --> 00:37:36,720
Oh, Alice, I'm sorry.

874
00:37:36,720 --> 00:37:38,310
I didn't that.

875
00:37:38,310 --> 00:37:39,590
Oh, my accent probably--

876
00:37:39,590 --> 00:37:42,630
No, that's fine, [LAUGHS] yeah.

877
00:37:42,630 --> 00:37:46,660
So, so your father
got in touch with her.

878
00:37:46,660 --> 00:37:47,520
My grandmother.

879
00:37:47,520 --> 00:37:48,940
I'm sorry, your grandmother.

880
00:37:48,940 --> 00:37:49,740
Yes.

881
00:37:49,740 --> 00:37:53,442
And she offered to sponsor you?

882
00:37:53,442 --> 00:37:54,900
No, she, [CLEARS THROAT]
excuse me.

883
00:37:54,900 --> 00:37:57,690
She found somebody
who would sponsor me.

884
00:37:57,690 --> 00:37:59,160
Oh, I see, I see.

885
00:37:59,160 --> 00:38:00,380
Mrs. Kingham.

886
00:38:00,380 --> 00:38:03,510
Mm-hm, mm-hmm.

887
00:38:03,510 --> 00:38:09,240
And we got that news
the last day of 1938.

888
00:38:09,240 --> 00:38:10,260
Oh my, mm-hmm.

889
00:38:10,260 --> 00:38:18,460
And the Kindertransport,
mine, left on June 5th.

890
00:38:18,460 --> 00:38:19,250
Right.

891
00:38:19,250 --> 00:38:20,440
It took that long.

892
00:38:20,440 --> 00:38:22,420
OK, now let's talk
a little bit about

893
00:38:22,420 --> 00:38:25,450
before you got on the transport.

894
00:38:25,450 --> 00:38:29,140
What were your thoughts
about doing this, your 12--

895
00:38:29,140 --> 00:38:31,255
Excitement.

896
00:38:31,255 --> 00:38:32,380
Oh, but they were positive?

897
00:38:32,380 --> 00:38:33,880
Like a big adventure.

898
00:38:33,880 --> 00:38:34,900
Really?

899
00:38:34,900 --> 00:38:38,440
Nobody would tell
me when I had to--

900
00:38:38,440 --> 00:38:40,810
But you were leaving
your parents.

901
00:38:40,810 --> 00:38:41,320
I know.

902
00:38:41,320 --> 00:38:46,330
But that didn't-- that
wasn't the ultimate thought

903
00:38:46,330 --> 00:38:46,960
in my mind.

904
00:38:46,960 --> 00:38:49,330
[CHUCKLES] OK.

905
00:38:49,330 --> 00:38:51,610

The idea being really,
that my parents

906
00:38:51,610 --> 00:38:57,800
would be able to get a domestic
grievance somewhere and get

907
00:38:57,800 --> 00:38:58,300
out.

908
00:38:58,300 --> 00:38:58,490
I see.

909
00:38:58,490 --> 00:39:00,440
I never occurred to
me that they would not

910
00:39:00,440 --> 00:39:01,690
be able to get out of Germany.

911
00:39:01,690 --> 00:39:04,330
I see, OK, mm-hmm.

912
00:39:04,330 --> 00:39:07,580
So it really was [CLEARS THROAT]
like a big adventure for me.

913
00:39:07,580 --> 00:39:08,080
OK.

914
00:39:08,080 --> 00:39:10,860

915
00:39:10,860 --> 00:39:13,110
I could wear socks
as long as I wanted.

916
00:39:13,110 --> 00:39:13,920
[LAUGHS]

917
00:39:13,920 --> 00:39:17,270
I didn't have to wear

woolen stockings--

918
00:39:17,270 --> 00:39:18,360
[CHUCKLES]

919
00:39:18,360 --> 00:39:21,630
--during the winter.

920
00:39:21,630 --> 00:39:26,790
With all the so-called
sophistication,

921
00:39:26,790 --> 00:39:27,840
I was still a kid.

922
00:39:27,840 --> 00:39:30,390
Yeah, well, you were
only 12 years old.

923
00:39:30,390 --> 00:39:30,890
Yeah.

924
00:39:30,890 --> 00:39:32,650
You were just 12.

925
00:39:32,650 --> 00:39:34,740
So you hear about
this, and you have

926
00:39:34,740 --> 00:39:39,270
several months between the
time that you hear about--

927
00:39:39,270 --> 00:39:39,840
Yes.

928
00:39:39,840 --> 00:39:41,920
--leaving and the time
you actually left.

929
00:39:41,920 --> 00:39:43,080
So how did you--

930
00:39:43,080 --> 00:39:45,172
Private English lessons.

931
00:39:45,172 --> 00:39:47,130
I was going to say how
did you prepare yourself

932
00:39:47,130 --> 00:39:48,300
for this new adventure?

933
00:39:48,300 --> 00:39:50,070
You took English
lessons, mm-hmm?

934
00:39:50,070 --> 00:39:54,065
Yes, I didn't have to
practice the piano anymore.

935
00:39:54,065 --> 00:39:54,565
OK.

936
00:39:54,565 --> 00:39:55,065
[CHUCKLES]

937
00:39:55,065 --> 00:39:58,980
I [CLEARS THROAT] had
private English lessons.

938
00:39:58,980 --> 00:40:01,670
Mm-hmm.

939
00:40:01,670 --> 00:40:04,340
Anything else that you did
to prepare for the trip?

940
00:40:04,340 --> 00:40:07,130

941
00:40:07,130 --> 00:40:08,240
I'm thinking.

942

00:40:08,240 --> 00:40:11,502

A lot of talk, of course,
to my friends about it.

943

00:40:11,502 --> 00:40:12,680

Mm-hmm.

944

00:40:12,680 --> 00:40:15,110

Jenny, this close
friend of mine,

945

00:40:15,110 --> 00:40:18,270

whose father had been
deported back to Poland--

946

00:40:18,270 --> 00:40:18,770

Mm-hmm.

947

00:40:18,770 --> 00:40:22,490

--managed to get to London.

948

00:40:22,490 --> 00:40:31,210

And she thought correctly
that her mother and sister

949

00:40:31,210 --> 00:40:32,450

would be able to follow--

950

00:40:32,450 --> 00:40:32,950

Mm-hmm.

951

00:40:32,950 --> 00:40:33,820

--which they did.

952

00:40:33,820 --> 00:40:34,703

Good, mm-hmm.

953

00:40:34,703 --> 00:40:39,310

954

00:40:39,310 --> 00:40:42,820

It never occurred to me
that my parents would not

955
00:40:42,820 --> 00:40:43,745
get out of Germany.

956
00:40:43,745 --> 00:40:49,119
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

957
00:40:49,119 --> 00:40:51,140
Now, how many of
your friends were

958
00:40:51,140 --> 00:40:52,850
able to get on the
Kindertransport?

959
00:40:52,850 --> 00:40:56,620

960
00:40:56,620 --> 00:40:58,030
I don't even know.

961
00:40:58,030 --> 00:41:00,460
I know one girl and
tried to trace her

962
00:41:00,460 --> 00:41:03,610
here, but unsuccessfully.

963
00:41:03,610 --> 00:41:10,810
One girl came to one of the
few transports to this country.

964
00:41:10,810 --> 00:41:13,030
Mmm.

965
00:41:13,030 --> 00:41:13,750
I don't know.

966
00:41:13,750 --> 00:41:16,810
Are you aware of

it that there were

967

00:41:16,810 --> 00:41:19,230
efforts made to get kids out?

968

00:41:19,230 --> 00:41:20,710
Yeah, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

969

00:41:20,710 --> 00:41:22,760
Only that it was kept--

970

00:41:22,760 --> 00:41:24,820
Yeah, right, there
were a few, yeah, yeah.

971

00:41:24,820 --> 00:41:25,653
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

972

00:41:25,653 --> 00:41:27,790
--because of the antisemitism.

973

00:41:27,790 --> 00:41:29,770
He had, as a safe deposit.

974

00:41:29,770 --> 00:41:32,380
There was some there
were a few, yeah.

975

00:41:32,380 --> 00:41:34,990
And people are now
looking into that, yeah.

976

00:41:34,990 --> 00:41:35,670
Oh they are?

977

00:41:35,670 --> 00:41:36,170
Good.

978

00:41:36,170 --> 00:41:37,450
Yeah.

979

00:41:37,450 --> 00:41:41,310
So now, you're getting
ready to leave.

980
00:41:41,310 --> 00:41:43,900
So let's talk about
the actual leaving,

981
00:41:43,900 --> 00:41:46,120
and saying goodbye to your
parents, and so forth.

982
00:41:46,120 --> 00:41:50,080
All right, the actual
leaving, the worst part

983
00:41:50,080 --> 00:41:52,410
is leaving my
maternal grandmother.

984
00:41:52,410 --> 00:41:55,410
[CLEARS THROAT] Excuse me.

985
00:41:55,410 --> 00:42:00,390
Because I felt that I
would never see her again.

986
00:42:00,390 --> 00:42:01,750
Yeah, yeah, yeah.

987
00:42:01,750 --> 00:42:06,520
And I was very,
very close to her.

988
00:42:06,520 --> 00:42:08,620
Mm-hmm.

989
00:42:08,620 --> 00:42:17,120
Thinking that my paternal
grandmother would probably

990
00:42:17,120 --> 00:42:18,240
be able to get out.

991
00:42:18,240 --> 00:42:18,740
Mm-hmm.

992
00:42:18,740 --> 00:42:20,070
I don't know why I thought that.

993
00:42:20,070 --> 00:42:20,570
Mm-hmm.

994
00:42:20,570 --> 00:42:21,080
But I did.

995
00:42:21,080 --> 00:42:23,440
Mm-hmm.

996
00:42:23,440 --> 00:42:26,530
But saying goodbye to
my paternal grandmother

997
00:42:26,530 --> 00:42:29,400
was the worst thing of all.

998
00:42:29,400 --> 00:42:31,140
Maternal, you mean maternal.

999
00:42:31,140 --> 00:42:31,800
My maternal--

1000
00:42:31,800 --> 00:42:32,400
Yeah, yeah.

1001
00:42:32,400 --> 00:42:33,780
Yeah, yeah, that's mother.

1002
00:42:33,780 --> 00:42:37,740
And what was her name,
your maternal grandmother?

1003
00:42:37,740 --> 00:42:46,130
Martha, Martha Hilse, H-I-L-S-E

because she had remarried.

1004
00:42:46,130 --> 00:42:46,630
Mm-hmm.

1005
00:42:46,630 --> 00:42:50,530

1006
00:42:50,530 --> 00:42:53,350
So, you said, do you
remember what you said to her

1007
00:42:53,350 --> 00:42:55,140
or what she said to you?

1008
00:42:55,140 --> 00:42:55,640
No.

1009
00:42:55,640 --> 00:42:56,492
OK.

1010
00:42:56,492 --> 00:42:58,197
No, not at all.

1011
00:42:58,197 --> 00:42:58,780
Tell me what--

1012
00:42:58,780 --> 00:43:00,370
Maybe I just blanked
it out because--

1013
00:43:00,370 --> 00:43:01,570
Yeah, sure, it was so painful.

1014
00:43:01,570 --> 00:43:02,403
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1015
00:43:02,403 --> 00:43:03,340
Yeah.

1016
00:43:03,340 --> 00:43:06,220

Tell me what you took with you.

1017
00:43:06,220 --> 00:43:08,200
What did you take with
you when you left?

1018
00:43:08,200 --> 00:43:15,130
Oh, well, we were limited on
what we could take with us.

1019
00:43:15,130 --> 00:43:16,390
Uh-huh.

1020
00:43:16,390 --> 00:43:18,040
I know I took a s--

1021
00:43:18,040 --> 00:43:19,990
I wonder where,
what happened to it.

1022
00:43:19,990 --> 00:43:23,440
I took a silver egg cup with me.

1023
00:43:23,440 --> 00:43:24,130
[CHUCKLES]

1024
00:43:24,130 --> 00:43:27,010
That was, that's the light
weight that they permitted,

1025
00:43:27,010 --> 00:43:27,550
I guess.

1026
00:43:27,550 --> 00:43:28,120
Mm-hmm.

1027
00:43:28,120 --> 00:43:35,770
And I had one suitcase with
everything listed on it.

1028
00:43:35,770 --> 00:43:39,700
As a matter of fact, I

think I still have the list.

1029
00:43:39,700 --> 00:43:47,600
And my mother outfitted
me with clothes,

1030
00:43:47,600 --> 00:43:51,360
taking into consideration
that I would still be growing.

1031
00:43:51,360 --> 00:43:51,860
Mm-hmm.

1032
00:43:51,860 --> 00:43:55,580
Although, I was very tall
for my age at that point.

1033
00:43:55,580 --> 00:43:56,524
Oh, mm-hmm.

1034
00:43:56,524 --> 00:44:00,300

1035
00:44:00,300 --> 00:44:05,940
I don't remember
taking anything.

1036
00:44:05,940 --> 00:44:08,020
I had a large
collection of books.

1037
00:44:08,020 --> 00:44:09,420
Mm-hmm.

1038
00:44:09,420 --> 00:44:11,385
I don't recall taking anything--

1039
00:44:11,385 --> 00:44:13,170
Mm-hmm.

1040
00:44:13,170 --> 00:44:14,340
--with me at all.

1041
00:44:14,340 --> 00:44:15,700
Mm-hmm.

1042
00:44:15,700 --> 00:44:16,860
That kind of thing.

1043
00:44:16,860 --> 00:44:22,270

1044
00:44:22,270 --> 00:44:24,820
You had said about how
this woman found someone

1045
00:44:24,820 --> 00:44:25,660
to sponsor you.

1046
00:44:25,660 --> 00:44:29,440
But how did your parents
get you on the train itself,

1047
00:44:29,440 --> 00:44:31,380
make arrangements
and get the tickets?

1048
00:44:31,380 --> 00:44:31,900
Do you know?

1049
00:44:31,900 --> 00:44:33,100
Did they ever tell you, or?

1050
00:44:33,100 --> 00:44:36,570

1051
00:44:36,570 --> 00:44:37,800
Well, as the m--

1052
00:44:37,800 --> 00:44:39,871
The mechanics, mechanics
of it in other words

1053

00:44:39,871 --> 00:44:40,240
is what I want to know.

1054
00:44:40,240 --> 00:44:41,940
Yes, as a matter
of fact, they had

1055
00:44:41,940 --> 00:44:45,990
corresponded with the woman
in England, Mrs. Kingham.

1056
00:44:45,990 --> 00:44:47,160
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1057
00:44:47,160 --> 00:44:51,840
And-- [DRINKING SOUND]

1058
00:44:51,840 --> 00:44:56,280
In a sense how did your parents
get you a ticket on the train?

1059
00:44:56,280 --> 00:44:57,540
[CHUCKLES]

1060
00:44:57,540 --> 00:44:58,840
Oh, I don't-- I have no idea.

1061
00:44:58,840 --> 00:45:00,540
You don't, OK, OK.

1062
00:45:00,540 --> 00:45:07,290
I know I got a beautiful,
leather, large suitcase.

1063
00:45:07,290 --> 00:45:08,254
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1064
00:45:08,254 --> 00:45:11,160

1065
00:45:11,160 --> 00:45:19,200
And I don't even know how

that suitcase got to England.

1066
00:45:19,200 --> 00:45:21,650
Hmm, mm-hmm.

1067
00:45:21,650 --> 00:45:23,115
But it did, obviously.

1068
00:45:23,115 --> 00:45:25,880
Mm-hmm.

1069
00:45:25,880 --> 00:45:30,240
And as far as tickets goes, my
parents took me to the train.

1070
00:45:30,240 --> 00:45:31,050
Yeah.

1071
00:45:31,050 --> 00:45:35,370
And then rushed home
because from the balcony

1072
00:45:35,370 --> 00:45:39,970
of my grandmother's apartment
we could see the train.

1073
00:45:39,970 --> 00:45:41,430
Oh.

1074
00:45:41,430 --> 00:45:44,035
So they were going to
wave to me as well.

1075
00:45:44,035 --> 00:45:45,700
Oh, yeah.

1076
00:45:45,700 --> 00:45:46,200
Um, I do--

1077
00:45:46,200 --> 00:45:47,117
What did you parents--

1078

00:45:47,117 --> 00:45:51,210

--remember a cab taking
me to the station--

1079

00:45:51,210 --> 00:45:51,870

Mm-hmm.

1080

00:45:51,870 --> 00:45:55,800

--and having to turn
back halfway there

1081

00:45:55,800 --> 00:45:58,410

because, [CHUCKLES]
believe it or not,

1082

00:45:58,410 --> 00:46:00,870

I had forgotten to
take my umbrella.

1083

00:46:00,870 --> 00:46:01,380

Oh, ah.

1084

00:46:01,380 --> 00:46:01,880

Mm-hm.

1085

00:46:01,880 --> 00:46:02,220

[LAUGHS]

1086

00:46:02,220 --> 00:46:02,720

Ah, OK.

1087

00:46:02,720 --> 00:46:03,220

[LAUGHTER]

1088

00:46:03,220 --> 00:46:04,170

You know--

1089

00:46:04,170 --> 00:46:05,157

[LAUGHTER]

1090

00:46:05,157 --> 00:46:06,240

--when you think about it.

1091
00:46:06,240 --> 00:46:06,980
It's laughable.

1092
00:46:06,980 --> 00:46:07,480
But, uh--

1093
00:46:07,480 --> 00:46:09,480
Uh, yeah, yeah.

1094
00:46:09,480 --> 00:46:12,330
What did your parents say to you
when they put you on the train?

1095
00:46:12,330 --> 00:46:13,540
I also don't know.

1096
00:46:13,540 --> 00:46:15,495
OK, mm-hmm.

1097
00:46:15,495 --> 00:46:17,870

1098
00:46:17,870 --> 00:46:18,980
Complete blank.

1099
00:46:18,980 --> 00:46:20,630
OK.

1100
00:46:20,630 --> 00:46:21,500
And did you know--

1101
00:46:21,500 --> 00:46:24,800
And it was again, it was
like a temporary thing.

1102
00:46:24,800 --> 00:46:25,760
Right, right.

1103
00:46:25,760 --> 00:46:30,560

As a matter of fact, my
mother told me after the war

1104
00:46:30,560 --> 00:46:33,950
that if she'd realized
that the separation would

1105
00:46:33,950 --> 00:46:36,520
have been that long, she
would never have let me go.

1106
00:46:36,520 --> 00:46:37,020
Aw, yeah.

1107
00:46:37,020 --> 00:46:40,410
And I remember saying to her,
"How could you say that?"

1108
00:46:40,410 --> 00:46:40,910
Mm-hmm.

1109
00:46:40,910 --> 00:46:46,390
It was the most
unselfish thing--

1110
00:46:46,390 --> 00:46:47,110
Mmm.

1111
00:46:47,110 --> 00:46:49,975
--for you to do to let me go.

1112
00:46:49,975 --> 00:46:52,150
Yeah, right, right, right.

1113
00:46:52,150 --> 00:46:56,020
But my mother suffered
terribly from that separation.

1114
00:46:56,020 --> 00:46:59,695
Oh, yeah, yeah.

1115
00:46:59,695 --> 00:47:00,820

Did you know anybody else--

1116
00:47:00,820 --> 00:47:02,278
She never got her
little girl back.

1117
00:47:02,278 --> 00:47:05,680
I know, right, right.

1118
00:47:05,680 --> 00:47:09,275
Did you know anybody
else on the train?

1119
00:47:09,275 --> 00:47:09,775
No.

1120
00:47:09,775 --> 00:47:12,840
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1121
00:47:12,840 --> 00:47:17,650
I do remember a couple of
nuns bringing infants--

1122
00:47:17,650 --> 00:47:18,880
Mmm.

1123
00:47:18,880 --> 00:47:19,810
--onto the train.

1124
00:47:19,810 --> 00:47:24,100
Mmm, mm-hmm.

1125
00:47:24,100 --> 00:47:25,540
And staying with them you mean?

1126
00:47:25,540 --> 00:47:26,450
Taking them on to--

1127
00:47:26,450 --> 00:47:28,150
No, no, they didn't
stay with them.

1128
00:47:28,150 --> 00:47:28,960
Yeah.

1129
00:47:28,960 --> 00:47:31,730
They handed them to
somebody on the train.

1130
00:47:31,730 --> 00:47:32,230
Mm-hmm.

1131
00:47:32,230 --> 00:47:34,630
It wasn't, you know
it was further down

1132
00:47:34,630 --> 00:47:36,460
to where my compartment was.

1133
00:47:36,460 --> 00:47:37,570
Yeah, yeah.

1134
00:47:37,570 --> 00:47:39,610
So tell me about the
journey to England,

1135
00:47:39,610 --> 00:47:42,460
the actual journey,
what you remember of it.

1136
00:47:42,460 --> 00:47:50,870
Well, the big thing was we
knew that before we crossed

1137
00:47:50,870 --> 00:47:56,640
the border into Holland, the
Germans would come and inspect

1138
00:47:56,640 --> 00:47:57,675
our baggage.

1139
00:47:57,675 --> 00:47:59,040
Mm-hmm.

1140

00:47:59,040 --> 00:48:03,580

And we were very
worried about that.

1141

00:48:03,580 --> 00:48:06,510

Mmm.

1142

00:48:06,510 --> 00:48:10,710

They did come, and they
did open my small suitcase.

1143

00:48:10,710 --> 00:48:13,630

But nothing--

1144

00:48:13,630 --> 00:48:14,130

Mm-hmm.

1145

00:48:14,130 --> 00:48:15,325

--nothing further happened.

1146

00:48:15,325 --> 00:48:15,960

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1147

00:48:15,960 --> 00:48:20,130

And it's tremendous
relief when we realized

1148

00:48:20,130 --> 00:48:21,255

we had crossed the border.

1149

00:48:21,255 --> 00:48:22,020

Ah.

1150

00:48:22,020 --> 00:48:24,450

And when we stopped in Holland--

1151

00:48:24,450 --> 00:48:25,140

Mm-hmm.

1152

00:48:25,140 --> 00:48:29,250

--there were people on the

platform giving us apples--

1153
00:48:29,250 --> 00:48:30,090
Mmm.

1154
00:48:30,090 --> 00:48:34,080
--candy, snf it was very--

1155
00:48:34,080 --> 00:48:35,370
it was very heartwarming.

1156
00:48:35,370 --> 00:48:36,810
Mm-hmm.

1157
00:48:36,810 --> 00:48:38,730
We felt wonderful.

1158
00:48:38,730 --> 00:48:41,160
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1159
00:48:41,160 --> 00:48:46,540
Did you wear a number around
your neck, you know a pr--

1160
00:48:46,540 --> 00:48:47,410
I must have.

1161
00:48:47,410 --> 00:48:49,600
A string, you know, with
a card, with a number?

1162
00:48:49,600 --> 00:48:50,530
I'm sure I did.

1163
00:48:50,530 --> 00:48:51,340
I don't recall.

1164
00:48:51,340 --> 00:48:51,840
OK.

1165
00:48:51,840 --> 00:48:53,290

But I've seen pictures.

1166
00:48:53,290 --> 00:48:53,790
[LAUGHS]

1167
00:48:53,790 --> 00:48:54,290
Right.

1168
00:48:54,290 --> 00:48:55,840
Everybody had them.

1169
00:48:55,840 --> 00:48:58,570
Right.

1170
00:48:58,570 --> 00:49:04,070
And then, OK, so how long
did you stay in Holland?

1171
00:49:04,070 --> 00:49:06,720
Oh, we went directly
to the boat.

1172
00:49:06,720 --> 00:49:09,350
Uh, oh, OK, OK.

1173
00:49:09,350 --> 00:49:10,940
And we crossed at night.

1174
00:49:10,940 --> 00:49:14,380
You did? huh, uh-huh.

1175
00:49:14,380 --> 00:49:16,740
And we arrived in Harwich.

1176
00:49:16,740 --> 00:49:17,240
Mm-hmm.

1177
00:49:17,240 --> 00:49:20,370

1178
00:49:20,370 --> 00:49:23,520

And I know we were
taken, it must have been

1179
00:49:23,520 --> 00:49:25,020
a playing field of a school.

1180
00:49:25,020 --> 00:49:25,800
Mm-hmm.

1181
00:49:25,800 --> 00:49:30,750
And we each got a bar
of Cadbury's chocolate.

1182
00:49:30,750 --> 00:49:33,010
[CHUCKLES]

1183
00:49:33,010 --> 00:49:35,800
And then we went to London.

1184
00:49:35,800 --> 00:49:41,725
And we're waiting to be
picked up by our sponsors.

1185
00:49:41,725 --> 00:49:43,590
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1186
00:49:43,590 --> 00:49:49,910
And I remember a boy next to
me asking me why I was crying.

1187
00:49:49,910 --> 00:49:51,110
I said I'm not crying.

1188
00:49:51,110 --> 00:49:56,780
But apparently I must have
been, very, very, very tense.

1189
00:49:56,780 --> 00:49:58,490
Aww, mm-hmm.

1190
00:49:58,490 --> 00:49:59,530
At that point.

1191
00:49:59,530 --> 00:50:08,090
Yeah, yeah, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1192
00:50:08,090 --> 00:50:14,750
And so, then how long did it
take for your sponsor to come?

1193
00:50:14,750 --> 00:50:16,280
Oh, I'm sure it wasn't long.

1194
00:50:16,280 --> 00:50:17,840
But it seemed like ages.

1195
00:50:17,840 --> 00:50:18,470
Yeah.

1196
00:50:18,470 --> 00:50:22,030
I would imagine
probably half way

1197
00:50:22,030 --> 00:50:26,330
of everybody being picked up.

1198
00:50:26,330 --> 00:50:27,470
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1199
00:50:27,470 --> 00:50:31,940
And she took me to her
home in St. Albans,

1200
00:50:31,940 --> 00:50:37,665
which was sort upscale
suburb of London.

1201
00:50:37,665 --> 00:50:38,540
Mm-hmm, and her name?

1202
00:50:38,540 --> 00:50:39,650
Very, very nice.

1203

00:50:39,650 --> 00:50:41,840
Your sponsor's name was?

1204
00:50:41,840 --> 00:50:43,040
Kingham.

1205
00:50:43,040 --> 00:50:45,620
Oh, oh, I thought
she was the one who

1206
00:50:45,620 --> 00:50:48,170
offered to find someone.

1207
00:50:48,170 --> 00:50:55,580
No, that was my grandmother's,
cousin's, daughter.

1208
00:50:55,580 --> 00:50:59,060
Oh, but Alice Kingham
was your actual sponsor?

1209
00:50:59,060 --> 00:50:59,760
That's right.

1210
00:50:59,760 --> 00:51:00,590
I see.

1211
00:51:00,590 --> 00:51:03,450
I see, mm-hmm, OK.

1212
00:51:03,450 --> 00:51:05,150
And tell me a little
bit about her.

1213
00:51:05,150 --> 00:51:07,250
How old a woman was she?

1214
00:51:07,250 --> 00:51:08,420
She was in her 50s--

1215
00:51:08,420 --> 00:51:09,710
Mm-hmm.

1216
00:51:09,710 --> 00:51:10,640
--never married.

1217
00:51:10,640 --> 00:51:11,480
Mm-hmm.

1218
00:51:11,480 --> 00:51:17,480
She inherited from her father
two tobacconist's shops

1219
00:51:17,480 --> 00:51:18,630
in St. Albans.

1220
00:51:18,630 --> 00:51:19,130
Mmm.

1221
00:51:19,130 --> 00:51:21,540
She had a very nice house
with a housekeeper--

1222
00:51:21,540 --> 00:51:23,030
Hmm.

1223
00:51:23,030 --> 00:51:23,750
--named Helen.

1224
00:51:23,750 --> 00:51:27,510

1225
00:51:27,510 --> 00:51:31,500
I remember getting
there and having tea.

1226
00:51:31,500 --> 00:51:33,870
Mm-hmm.

1227
00:51:33,870 --> 00:51:35,940
And I was not a tea drinker.

1228
00:51:35,940 --> 00:51:40,560

Tea to me was something
you had when you were sick.

1229
00:51:40,560 --> 00:51:41,400
[LAUGHS]

1230
00:51:41,400 --> 00:51:46,440
So being a kid, I finished it to
quickly get it out of the way.

1231
00:51:46,440 --> 00:51:47,260
Mm-hmm.

1232
00:51:47,260 --> 00:51:51,350
And I was asked do I
want another cup of tea?

1233
00:51:51,350 --> 00:51:53,540
And I said, thank you, think--

1234
00:51:53,540 --> 00:51:54,830
meaning no, thank you.

1235
00:51:54,830 --> 00:51:55,580
No, thank you.

1236
00:51:55,580 --> 00:51:56,590
And to my horror--

1237
00:51:56,590 --> 00:51:57,434
[LAUGHTER]

1238
00:51:57,434 --> 00:51:58,867
--they brought
another cup of tea.

1239
00:51:58,867 --> 00:51:59,775
Right.

1240
00:51:59,775 --> 00:52:01,400
And then with the
third cup I realized,

1241
00:52:01,400 --> 00:52:02,420
I said, no, thank you.

1242
00:52:02,420 --> 00:52:03,590
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1243
00:52:03,590 --> 00:52:12,470
And I remember being out in that
very pretty garden of theirs,

1244
00:52:12,470 --> 00:52:16,870
sitting on one of
those slide things.

1245
00:52:16,870 --> 00:52:17,370
Mm-hmm.

1246
00:52:17,370 --> 00:52:19,930

1247
00:52:19,930 --> 00:52:24,290
I'm not even sure whether I
laid down and slept for a while.

1248
00:52:24,290 --> 00:52:32,320
But then a neighbor came
over, and she had two girls,

1249
00:52:32,320 --> 00:52:34,910
I believe.

1250
00:52:34,910 --> 00:52:38,515
And she was asking me
whether I could ride a bike.

1251
00:52:38,515 --> 00:52:39,520
Mm-hmm.

1252
00:52:39,520 --> 00:52:41,530
And I didn't understand her.

1253

00:52:41,530 --> 00:52:43,960

So she motioned with
her hands, and I

1254

00:52:43,960 --> 00:52:47,060

thought she was talking
about somebody boxing.

1255

00:52:47,060 --> 00:52:49,670

Oh, oh, oh, mm-hmm.

1256

00:52:49,670 --> 00:52:51,430

Funny how certain things--

1257

00:52:51,430 --> 00:52:52,240

Mm-hmm.

1258

00:52:52,240 --> 00:52:53,380

--stick in your mind.

1259

00:52:53,380 --> 00:52:55,540

Mm-hmm.

1260

00:52:55,540 --> 00:52:58,360

And then, going to
bed and seeing--

1261

00:52:58,360 --> 00:53:00,820

you know, I was used
to feather beds.

1262

00:53:00,820 --> 00:53:04,010

And seeing this flat thing and
not knowing what to do with it.

1263

00:53:04,010 --> 00:53:04,510

Oh.

1264

00:53:04,510 --> 00:53:08,170

[LAUGHTER] Yeah.

1265

00:53:08,170 --> 00:53:11,860

Were you able to
contact your parents?

1266

00:53:11,860 --> 00:53:15,430

I must have, by mail.

1267

00:53:15,430 --> 00:53:17,350

OK, yeah, mm-hmm.

1268

00:53:17,350 --> 00:53:23,740

I received mail from them
and packages every day.

1269

00:53:23,740 --> 00:53:25,220

Mm-hmm.

1270

00:53:25,220 --> 00:53:29,900

And when war broke out,
I thought the world

1271

00:53:29,900 --> 00:53:31,220

had come to an end for me.

1272

00:53:31,220 --> 00:53:31,970

Yeah.

1273

00:53:31,970 --> 00:53:34,640

You're talking about now,
September '39, right?

1274

00:53:34,640 --> 00:53:35,330

Yes.

1275

00:53:35,330 --> 00:53:39,927

Yeah, yeah, and so you had
been there two, three months.

1276

00:53:39,927 --> 00:53:40,760

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1277

00:53:40,760 --> 00:53:44,330

June 6th, through September 3rd.

1278

00:53:44,330 --> 00:53:46,402

September 3rd, yeah, yeah.

1279

00:53:46,402 --> 00:53:47,450

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1280

00:53:47,450 --> 00:53:49,340

What did-- just to
back up a little bit,

1281

00:53:49,340 --> 00:53:52,670

what did you do over that
summer before war broke out?

1282

00:53:52,670 --> 00:53:55,280

1283

00:53:55,280 --> 00:53:59,750

OK, let's backtrack
a little bit.

1284

00:53:59,750 --> 00:54:04,400

Mrs. Kingham was
about to get married.

1285

00:54:04,400 --> 00:54:05,810

Oh.

1286

00:54:05,810 --> 00:54:13,310

To a friend, a widower, who
had a 20-year-old daughter, who

1287

00:54:13,310 --> 00:54:19,170

had been expelled from college
and did not talk to the father.

1288

00:54:19,170 --> 00:54:20,770

Or the father
wouldn't talk to her.

1289

00:54:20,770 --> 00:54:21,480
[CHUCKLES]

1290
00:54:21,480 --> 00:54:25,170
He had no idea that
I was on the horizon.

1291
00:54:25,170 --> 00:54:29,700
So when he came for the weekend,
he was confronted with me.

1292
00:54:29,700 --> 00:54:30,480
Mm-hmm.

1293
00:54:30,480 --> 00:54:32,050
Not a very happy situation.

1294
00:54:32,050 --> 00:54:33,840
Hmm, mm-hmm.

1295
00:54:33,840 --> 00:54:39,690
And his daughter Susan then
stayed in St. Albans with me.

1296
00:54:39,690 --> 00:54:44,140

1297
00:54:44,140 --> 00:54:50,900
The marriage took
place, I think,

1298
00:54:50,900 --> 00:54:52,590
10 days after I got there.

1299
00:54:52,590 --> 00:54:54,340
Oh, oh, mm-hmm.

1300
00:54:54,340 --> 00:55:01,190
And he was, what I consider,
a typical Englishman, polite.

1301
00:55:01,190 --> 00:55:02,770

I called her aunt--

1302
00:55:02,770 --> 00:55:03,270
Mmm.

1303
00:55:03,270 --> 00:55:04,305
--and him uncle.

1304
00:55:04,305 --> 00:55:05,790
Mm-hmm.

1305
00:55:05,790 --> 00:55:15,090
And when war broke out, he
asked me-- it was a Sunday.

1306
00:55:15,090 --> 00:55:18,770
He asked me, who did
I want to win the war.

1307
00:55:18,770 --> 00:55:20,310
Mmm.

1308
00:55:20,310 --> 00:55:25,920
And his wife said, you know,
that's a ridiculous question

1309
00:55:25,920 --> 00:55:26,910
to ask.

1310
00:55:26,910 --> 00:55:28,770
And I said, yes, it is.

1311
00:55:28,770 --> 00:55:29,490
Mmm.

1312
00:55:29,490 --> 00:55:31,890
And then, he said, well
after all she is German.

1313
00:55:31,890 --> 00:55:34,380
[LIP SMAKING SOUND] Oh.

1314
00:55:34,380 --> 00:55:36,705
So, you get an idea of what--

1315
00:55:36,705 --> 00:55:38,880
Mm-hmm.

1316
00:55:38,880 --> 00:55:40,165
--the climate was then.

1317
00:55:40,165 --> 00:55:41,370
Yeah, yeah, yeah.

1318
00:55:41,370 --> 00:55:46,890
And then shortly after
that we moved to Ipswitch

1319
00:55:46,890 --> 00:55:48,090
on the East Coast.

1320
00:55:48,090 --> 00:55:49,320
Mmm.

1321
00:55:49,320 --> 00:55:53,155
He was head postmaster of
there and about six or seven

1322
00:55:53,155 --> 00:55:53,655
smaller--

1323
00:55:53,655 --> 00:55:55,710
Mm-hmm.

1324
00:55:55,710 --> 00:55:57,090
--towns around there.

1325
00:55:57,090 --> 00:56:00,050
Mm-hmm.

1326
00:56:00,050 --> 00:56:03,015
In a new, modern
home, very nice.

1327
00:56:03,015 --> 00:56:05,580
Mm-hmm.

1328
00:56:05,580 --> 00:56:07,740
How was your English then?

1329
00:56:07,740 --> 00:56:09,850
Well, it was getting better.

1330
00:56:09,850 --> 00:56:16,730
But I do remember waking
up at night searching

1331
00:56:16,730 --> 00:56:18,620
for a word in English.

1332
00:56:18,620 --> 00:56:19,820
Oh, yeah.

1333
00:56:19,820 --> 00:56:22,965
And, you know,
the brain was so--

1334
00:56:22,965 --> 00:56:24,710
Yeah.

1335
00:56:24,710 --> 00:56:25,960
I guess, overworked.

1336
00:56:25,960 --> 00:56:26,460
[LAUGHS]

1337
00:56:26,460 --> 00:56:30,450
I know, yeah, yeah.

1338
00:56:30,450 --> 00:56:35,820
The school was
about a mile away.

1339
00:56:35,820 --> 00:56:40,110

And I had to walk it, of course.

1340
00:56:40,110 --> 00:56:46,620
They had a maid named,
Joan, who finally taught me

1341
00:56:46,620 --> 00:56:47,760
how to ride a bike.

1342
00:56:47,760 --> 00:56:50,360
Mm-hmm.

1343
00:56:50,360 --> 00:56:55,040
And, but for a good
couple of months

1344
00:56:55,040 --> 00:56:57,300
I walked back and
forth to school.

1345
00:56:57,300 --> 00:56:57,800
Mm-hmm.

1346
00:56:57,800 --> 00:57:00,780
And one or the other
teachers would pick me up

1347
00:57:00,780 --> 00:57:02,240
when they saw me.

1348
00:57:02,240 --> 00:57:03,500
Mm-hmm.

1349
00:57:03,500 --> 00:57:07,810
And later on, I found out
that they were so impressed

1350
00:57:07,810 --> 00:57:12,300
about me being able to
converse about the weather--

1351
00:57:12,300 --> 00:57:12,800

[CHUCKLES]

1352
00:57:12,800 --> 00:57:14,660
--you know, that small talk.

1353
00:57:14,660 --> 00:57:15,320
Mm-hmm.

1354
00:57:15,320 --> 00:57:18,260
So mind was obviously,
had improved.

1355
00:57:18,260 --> 00:57:19,040
Mm-hmm.

1356
00:57:19,040 --> 00:57:19,880
It had to.

1357
00:57:19,880 --> 00:57:21,970
Mm-hmm.

1358
00:57:21,970 --> 00:57:29,780
The thing of my experience
with a new language

1359
00:57:29,780 --> 00:57:33,440
is that the ear actually
has to accustom itself--

1360
00:57:33,440 --> 00:57:34,700
Mm-hmm.

1361
00:57:34,700 --> 00:57:35,380
--to the sound.

1362
00:57:35,380 --> 00:57:37,040
Mm-hmm.

1363
00:57:37,040 --> 00:57:41,650
And once that happens,
you are on your way.

1364

00:57:41,650 --> 00:57:46,470

But, the school was
a lifesaver for me.

1365

00:57:46,470 --> 00:57:47,740

Now, you're in Ipswich, right?

1366

00:57:47,740 --> 00:57:49,000

In Ipswich, yes.

1367

00:57:49,000 --> 00:57:50,230

Yeah, mm-hmm.

1368

00:57:50,230 --> 00:57:52,580

It was an all skirts,
school for girls.

1369

00:57:52,580 --> 00:57:53,080

Mm-hmm.

1370

00:57:53,080 --> 00:57:59,150

1371

00:57:59,150 --> 00:58:00,830

It was fantastic for me.

1372

00:58:00,830 --> 00:58:05,130

1373

00:58:05,130 --> 00:58:09,770

Incidentally, I stayed with
that first family just a year.

1374

00:58:09,770 --> 00:58:14,210

Because during the war,
being head postmaster,

1375

00:58:14,210 --> 00:58:19,970

he would receive advance
notices of air raids.

1376

00:58:19,970 --> 00:58:21,350
Oh, mm-hmm.

1377
00:58:21,350 --> 00:58:26,690
And he made that-- or they
made that as the reason

1378
00:58:26,690 --> 00:58:29,030
that they could not
have me stay there.

1379
00:58:29,030 --> 00:58:30,290
Mm-hmm.

1380
00:58:30,290 --> 00:58:32,020
I was an enemy alien.

1381
00:58:32,020 --> 00:58:34,310
Oh, oh, mm-hmm.

1382
00:58:34,310 --> 00:58:35,930
Which was the term used.

1383
00:58:35,930 --> 00:58:38,390
Yes, yes.

1384
00:58:38,390 --> 00:58:42,830
So, there was one other
Jewish family in Ipswich.

1385
00:58:42,830 --> 00:58:46,430
And they invited me to tea.

1386
00:58:46,430 --> 00:58:48,020
They had an eight-year-old boy.

1387
00:58:48,020 --> 00:58:51,850

1388
00:58:51,850 --> 00:58:59,680
And I realized immediately,
they were afterwards

1389
00:58:59,680 --> 00:59:00,915
a mother's helper.

1390
00:59:00,915 --> 00:59:03,360
Mm-hmm. mm-hmm.

1391
00:59:03,360 --> 00:59:04,900
I wasn't thrilled about it.

1392
00:59:04,900 --> 00:59:05,400
Mm-hmm.

1393
00:59:05,400 --> 00:59:10,005
And then, lo and behold, Ipswich
had its first air raid sirens.

1394
00:59:10,005 --> 00:59:10,890
Mm-hmm.

1395
00:59:10,890 --> 00:59:12,670
That's the siren, no, no--

1396
00:59:12,670 --> 00:59:13,170
Mm-hmm.

1397
00:59:13,170 --> 00:59:14,670
--no raid.

1398
00:59:14,670 --> 00:59:19,590
And the family packed
up one, two, three,

1399
00:59:19,590 --> 00:59:22,140
and moved to the
midlands to a sister.

1400
00:59:22,140 --> 00:59:23,200
And I was off the hook.

1401
00:59:23,200 --> 00:59:23,700

[CHUCKLES]

1402
00:59:23,700 --> 00:59:24,990
Oh, OK.

1403
00:59:24,990 --> 00:59:30,750
So the school was very
instrumental to find

1404
00:59:30,750 --> 00:59:31,830
a place for me.

1405
00:59:31,830 --> 00:59:32,850
Mm-hmm.

1406
00:59:32,850 --> 00:59:36,210
And it was one of the teachers--

1407
00:59:36,210 --> 00:59:36,742
Oh.

1408
00:59:36,742 --> 00:59:37,950
--who said she would take me.

1409
00:59:37,950 --> 00:59:38,850
Mm-hmm.

1410
00:59:38,850 --> 00:59:43,395
And she lived with another
woman, who had a girl--

1411
00:59:43,395 --> 00:59:44,490
Mm-hmm.

1412
00:59:44,490 --> 00:59:46,350
--two years younger than I--

1413
00:59:46,350 --> 00:59:46,980
Mm-hmm..

1414
00:59:46,980 --> 00:59:50,370

--also the Jewish
refugee, Doris.

1415
00:59:50,370 --> 00:59:54,610
And, I moved to them--

1416
00:59:54,610 --> 00:59:55,110
Mm-hmm.

1417
00:59:55,110 --> 00:59:55,735
--very happily.

1418
00:59:55,735 --> 00:59:56,520
Mm-hmm.

1419
00:59:56,520 --> 00:59:58,880
And then the two
women headed out.

1420
00:59:58,880 --> 01:00:00,300
Oh.

1421
01:00:00,300 --> 01:00:10,960
Well, actually, Joan Bailey
invited an Air Force man,

1422
01:00:10,960 --> 01:00:12,910
I guess m--

1423
01:00:12,910 --> 01:00:18,330
he must have been
British, into the house,

1424
01:00:18,330 --> 01:00:19,770
you know special occasions--

1425
01:00:19,770 --> 01:00:20,270
Mm-hmm.

1426
01:00:20,270 --> 01:00:21,430
--or what have you?

1427

01:00:21,430 --> 01:00:24,190

And the teacher,
Miss Mobey, felt

1428

01:00:24,190 --> 01:00:28,480

this was, this was
not appropriate.

1429

01:00:28,480 --> 01:00:29,320

Mm-hmm.

1430

01:00:29,320 --> 01:00:30,300

So she moved out.

1431

01:00:30,300 --> 01:00:32,080

And I had the choice
to go with her--

1432

01:00:32,080 --> 01:00:32,580

Mm-hmm.

1433

01:00:32,580 --> 01:00:34,420

--or to stay with Miss Bailey.

1434

01:00:34,420 --> 01:00:36,845

And I opted to stay
with Miss Bailey.

1435

01:00:36,845 --> 01:00:37,470

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1436

01:00:37,470 --> 01:00:39,070

First of all, there was Doris.

1437

01:00:39,070 --> 01:00:39,570

Mm-hmm.

1438

01:00:39,570 --> 01:00:40,380

Another girl.

1439

01:00:40,380 --> 01:00:44,730

And it was a nice--

1440
01:00:44,730 --> 01:00:45,230
Mm-hmm.

1441
01:00:45,230 --> 01:00:46,522
--house and so on and so forth.

1442
01:00:46,522 --> 01:00:47,810
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1443
01:00:47,810 --> 01:00:51,100
But I stayed on very good
terms with the other teacher.

1444
01:00:51,100 --> 01:00:51,600
Mm-hmm.

1445
01:00:51,600 --> 01:00:55,910
Like I went with
her to her folks.

1446
01:00:55,910 --> 01:00:57,980
Her father was a minister.

1447
01:00:57,980 --> 01:00:59,390
Mm-hmm.

1448
01:00:59,390 --> 01:01:04,240
Who absolutely adored me.

1449
01:01:04,240 --> 01:01:05,860
Mm-hmm.

1450
01:01:05,860 --> 01:01:13,920
They lived in a very,
old house in Shropshire.

1451
01:01:13,920 --> 01:01:14,420
Mm-hmm.

1452

01:01:14,420 --> 01:01:16,590
I can't even remember
the name of the town

1453
01:01:16,590 --> 01:01:20,600
right now, right in right
in the center of the town.

1454
01:01:20,600 --> 01:01:24,200
The house was in
all the guidebooks.

1455
01:01:24,200 --> 01:01:25,550
Mm-hmm.

1456
01:01:25,550 --> 01:01:27,140
It was fascinating.

1457
01:01:27,140 --> 01:01:30,470
And I remember sitting at
the desk writing letters

1458
01:01:30,470 --> 01:01:35,490
when somebody waved to me
from outside the window.

1459
01:01:35,490 --> 01:01:36,657
It was an American tourist--

1460
01:01:36,657 --> 01:01:37,157
Oh.

1461
01:01:37,157 --> 01:01:39,230
--who asked if they could
come and see the house.

1462
01:01:39,230 --> 01:01:39,730
[LAUGHS]

1463
01:01:39,730 --> 01:01:42,350
Uh-huh, uh-huh.

1464

01:01:42,350 --> 01:01:48,940

It's that man, that
minister told me

1465

01:01:48,940 --> 01:01:51,790

that he was going to pray for
the safety of my parents--

1466

01:01:51,790 --> 01:01:52,570

Oh.

1467

01:01:52,570 --> 01:01:53,270

--every day.

1468

01:01:53,270 --> 01:01:53,770

Mm-hmm.

1469

01:01:53,770 --> 01:01:57,380

And I would have sworn my
life on the fact that he did.

1470

01:01:57,380 --> 01:01:57,880

Oh, oh.

1471

01:01:57,880 --> 01:02:05,220

He had a-- in those days,
he had to learn Hebrew.

1472

01:02:05,220 --> 01:02:07,680

Oh.

1473

01:02:07,680 --> 01:02:14,080

And he had great respect,
almost a little bit

1474

01:02:14,080 --> 01:02:16,585

of env great respect for Jews.

1475

01:02:16,585 --> 01:02:17,440

Mm-hmm.

1476

01:02:17,440 --> 01:02:25,183

And I am sure he did
exactly what he promised,

1477
01:02:25,183 --> 01:02:26,100
he would pray for my--

1478
01:02:26,100 --> 01:02:27,160
[CHUCKLES]

1479
01:02:27,160 --> 01:02:28,110
--parents.

1480
01:02:28,110 --> 01:02:32,370
Now you were hearing from
your parents by mail you said?

1481
01:02:32,370 --> 01:02:38,400
By that time, it was 25
word, Red Cross messages.

1482
01:02:38,400 --> 01:02:40,740
Oh, mm-hmm.

1483
01:02:40,740 --> 01:02:42,505
They cost me \$1.

1484
01:02:42,505 --> 01:02:43,350
Mm-hmm.

1485
01:02:43,350 --> 01:02:45,748
My French teacher paid for that.

1486
01:02:45,748 --> 01:02:46,248
Mm-hmm.

1487
01:02:46,248 --> 01:02:48,880

1488
01:02:48,880 --> 01:02:51,820
You would write your
text on one side--

1489

01:02:51,820 --> 01:02:52,480

Mm-hmm.

1490

01:02:52,480 --> 01:02:53,320

--and mail it.

1491

01:02:53,320 --> 01:02:57,350

And then my parents would
answer on the other side.

1492

01:02:57,350 --> 01:02:57,850

Oh.

1493

01:02:57,850 --> 01:03:00,910

Which, the round trip would
take a couple of months or so.

1494

01:03:00,910 --> 01:03:02,580

Oh my, oh my.

1495

01:03:02,580 --> 01:03:03,860

Maybe six weeks.

1496

01:03:03,860 --> 01:03:06,070

But at least we knew that--

1497

01:03:06,070 --> 01:03:08,860

1498

01:03:08,860 --> 01:03:11,460

we knew that we were both well.

1499

01:03:11,460 --> 01:03:14,940

Yeah, yeah, mm-hmm.

1500

01:03:14,940 --> 01:03:18,120

And did you know what was
happening on the continent?

1501

01:03:18,120 --> 01:03:18,750

Did you--

1502
01:03:18,750 --> 01:03:19,910
Of course not.

1503
01:03:19,910 --> 01:03:21,980
We didn't know the extent of--

1504
01:03:21,980 --> 01:03:23,750
Yeah, yeah.

1505
01:03:23,750 --> 01:03:27,690
At that early time, nobody did.

1506
01:03:27,690 --> 01:03:28,650
Nobody, yeah.

1507
01:03:28,650 --> 01:03:30,980
They didn't and discuss it.

1508
01:03:30,980 --> 01:03:31,480
[LAUGHS]

1509
01:03:31,480 --> 01:03:33,420
Yeah, yeah.

1510
01:03:33,420 --> 01:03:35,760
So you're going to
school, you're living,

1511
01:03:35,760 --> 01:03:39,310
and anything else?

1512
01:03:39,310 --> 01:03:42,770
And, as you said communicating
with your parents.

1513
01:03:42,770 --> 01:03:43,460
Yes.

1514
01:03:43,460 --> 01:03:45,330
Yeah, and what about

the other students

1515
01:03:45,330 --> 01:03:46,650
in the classes and everything?

1516
01:03:46,650 --> 01:03:48,990
Were people very
accepting of you?

1517
01:03:48,990 --> 01:03:50,940
And how.

1518
01:03:50,940 --> 01:03:53,550
I started there in September--

1519
01:03:53,550 --> 01:03:54,360
Mm-hmm.

1520
01:03:54,360 --> 01:03:56,310
--and came Christmas.

1521
01:03:56,310 --> 01:03:58,710
Mm-hmm.

1522
01:03:58,710 --> 01:04:05,290
Somebody from my class came
with a big package of gifts--

1523
01:04:05,290 --> 01:04:05,790
Mm-hmm.

1524
01:04:05,790 --> 01:04:08,695
--including a jigsaw
puzzle, my first one.

1525
01:04:08,695 --> 01:04:09,195
[LAUGHS]

1526
01:04:09,195 --> 01:04:09,695
Mm-hmm.

1527

01:04:09,695 --> 01:04:13,590
And school girls
stories, and you name it.

1528
01:04:13,590 --> 01:04:14,530
Mm-hmm.

1529
01:04:14,530 --> 01:04:17,880
And I had invitations
for every day.

1530
01:04:17,880 --> 01:04:18,380
Mm-hmm.

1531
01:04:18,380 --> 01:04:22,700

1532
01:04:22,700 --> 01:04:26,700
And at that time I was staying
with the original family--

1533
01:04:26,700 --> 01:04:27,200
Mm-hmm.

1534
01:04:27,200 --> 01:04:30,400

1535
01:04:30,400 --> 01:04:35,890
--who knew about all the
invitations and just asked me,

1536
01:04:35,890 --> 01:04:39,590
or told me, not to
go on Christmas Day--

1537
01:04:39,590 --> 01:04:40,090
Mm-hmm.

1538
01:04:40,090 --> 01:04:41,510
--to with them, which I did.

1539
01:04:41,510 --> 01:04:42,010

Yeah.

1540
01:04:42,010 --> 01:04:52,090
But by that time I was
completely ensconced

1541
01:04:52,090 --> 01:04:53,365
in school activities--

1542
01:04:53,365 --> 01:04:54,370
Yeah, yeah, yeah.

1543
01:04:54,370 --> 01:04:56,420
--with loads of friends.

1544
01:04:56,420 --> 01:05:02,425
I couldn't-- the school
for me was a safe haven.

1545
01:05:02,425 --> 01:05:03,760
Mm-hmm.

1546
01:05:03,760 --> 01:05:04,720
Years later--

1547
01:05:04,720 --> 01:05:10,838

1548
01:05:10,838 --> 01:05:11,338
Hmm.

1549
01:05:11,338 --> 01:05:21,570

1550
01:05:21,570 --> 01:05:25,000
I was listening to you, and
all of a sudden it stopped.

1551
01:05:25,000 --> 01:05:25,500
Yes.

1552

01:05:25,500 --> 01:05:26,000
Yeah.

1553
01:05:26,000 --> 01:05:26,760
Me too.

1554
01:05:26,760 --> 01:05:27,260
[LAUGHS]

1555
01:05:27,260 --> 01:05:28,080
Oh, OK.

1556
01:05:28,080 --> 01:05:30,930
You were talking about how
the school was wonderful

1557
01:05:30,930 --> 01:05:31,880
for you, yeah.

1558
01:05:31,880 --> 01:05:34,640
Oh, yes, I know exactly
what I was going to say.

1559
01:05:34,640 --> 01:05:35,160
Yeah.

1560
01:05:35,160 --> 01:05:45,640
At crisis times, for many years,
I would dream about the school.

1561
01:05:45,640 --> 01:05:48,170
You're talking about afterwards,
after the war, you mean?

1562
01:05:48,170 --> 01:05:48,670

1563
01:05:48,670 --> 01:05:51,530
Yeah, oh, yes, I mean
after being married.

1564
01:05:51,530 --> 01:05:53,180

Oh, oh, uh-huh.

1565

01:05:53,180 --> 01:05:56,420

And the school was
just let's say, a--

1566

01:05:56,420 --> 01:05:56,920

Mm-hmm.

1567

01:05:56,920 --> 01:05:57,753

--safe haven for me.

1568

01:05:57,753 --> 01:05:59,830

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1569

01:05:59,830 --> 01:06:00,970

I had a ball.

1570

01:06:00,970 --> 01:06:02,515

I got away with murder.

1571

01:06:02,515 --> 01:06:04,540

Mm-hmm.

1572

01:06:04,540 --> 01:06:06,702

Was it a coed
school or all girls?

1573

01:06:06,702 --> 01:06:07,660

Oh no, no girls school.

1574

01:06:07,660 --> 01:06:10,660

All girls, mm-hmm.

1575

01:06:10,660 --> 01:06:11,350

Nice school.

1576

01:06:11,350 --> 01:06:12,670

Mm-hmm.

1577

01:06:12,670 --> 01:06:14,265

Built around two quadrangles.

1578
01:06:14,265 --> 01:06:16,030
Mm-hmm.

1579
01:06:16,030 --> 01:06:20,570
Open school, the doors would
open directly outdoors.

1580
01:06:20,570 --> 01:06:21,070
Mm-hmm.

1581
01:06:21,070 --> 01:06:23,690

1582
01:06:23,690 --> 01:06:24,530
Cold in the winter.

1583
01:06:24,530 --> 01:06:25,030
Mm-hmm.

1584
01:06:25,030 --> 01:06:27,920

1585
01:06:27,920 --> 01:06:32,360
But we had a--

1586
01:06:32,360 --> 01:06:35,400
we had a swimming pool,
outdoor swimming pool.

1587
01:06:35,400 --> 01:06:36,870
Mmm, mmm, mm-hmm.

1588
01:06:36,870 --> 01:06:38,380

1589
01:06:38,380 --> 01:06:40,118
It was a very nice school.

1590
01:06:40,118 --> 01:06:42,750

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1591
01:06:42,750 --> 01:06:48,430
And as I say, I
had a ball there.

1592
01:06:48,430 --> 01:06:50,230
[CHUCKLES]

1593
01:06:50,230 --> 01:06:54,760
And now Doris, the other girl
that lived with, Joan Bailey,

1594
01:06:54,760 --> 01:06:56,500
came to that school afterwards.

1595
01:06:56,500 --> 01:06:57,970
But she was two years younger.

1596
01:06:57,970 --> 01:06:59,600
She had no trace of accent.

1597
01:06:59,600 --> 01:07:06,080
And she had been in a private
preschool, private school,

1598
01:07:06,080 --> 01:07:07,390
I guess before.

1599
01:07:07,390 --> 01:07:14,350
And she didn't-- she was just
accepted like everybody else--

1600
01:07:14,350 --> 01:07:14,850
Mm-hmm.

1601
01:07:14,850 --> 01:07:21,860
--where for me, they
treated me differently.

1602
01:07:21,860 --> 01:07:22,360
I remember--

1603
01:07:22,360 --> 01:07:24,320
How so did they treat
you differently?

1604
01:07:24,320 --> 01:07:27,610

1605
01:07:27,610 --> 01:07:31,940
Oh, this kindness, I guess.

1606
01:07:31,940 --> 01:07:33,100
Oh.

1607
01:07:33,100 --> 01:07:38,180
I remember having to
write an essay on my--

1608
01:07:38,180 --> 01:07:40,580
ah, the word fails me.

1609
01:07:40,580 --> 01:07:46,310

1610
01:07:46,310 --> 01:07:51,550
My pet, something
that you really hate.

1611
01:07:51,550 --> 01:07:52,690
My pet peeve?

1612
01:07:52,690 --> 01:07:53,980
My pet peeve?

1613
01:07:53,980 --> 01:07:55,510
Pet peeves.

1614
01:07:55,510 --> 01:07:58,030
it wasn't that, but
it could be pet peeve.

1615

01:07:58,030 --> 01:07:58,530
Mm-hmm.

1616
01:07:58,530 --> 01:07:59,930
Let's say it was a pet peeve.

1617
01:07:59,930 --> 01:08:00,430
Mm-hmm.

1618
01:08:00,430 --> 01:08:06,540
And I wrote about Nazism,
and my English teacher

1619
01:08:06,540 --> 01:08:07,850
asked permission--

1620
01:08:07,850 --> 01:08:09,380
Mmm.

1621
01:08:09,380 --> 01:08:14,780
--for her to read the
essay in the staff room

1622
01:08:14,780 --> 01:08:16,055
to the rest of the staff.

1623
01:08:16,055 --> 01:08:17,600
Oh, oh my, mm-hmm.

1624
01:08:17,600 --> 01:08:18,439
Oh yeah.

1625
01:08:18,439 --> 01:08:19,647
Do you remember what it said?

1626
01:08:19,647 --> 01:08:20,814
Some of the things you said?

1627
01:08:20,814 --> 01:08:21,620
Oh, yes, I do.

1628

01:08:21,620 --> 01:08:23,590
What, tell me some of
the things you said.

1629
01:08:23,590 --> 01:08:26,189

1630
01:08:26,189 --> 01:08:32,810
Well, I think I talked
about at the beginning

1631
01:08:32,810 --> 01:08:37,220
being a result of
the First World

1632
01:08:37,220 --> 01:08:43,880
War and the economic conditions
and in Germany afterwards.

1633
01:08:43,880 --> 01:08:46,430
Mm-hmm.

1634
01:08:46,430 --> 01:08:56,971
Hitler's appearance and building
up the ego of the German again.

1635
01:08:56,971 --> 01:08:58,859
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1636
01:08:58,859 --> 01:09:12,859
And the rise of the Nazi party
without the people necessarily

1637
01:09:12,859 --> 01:09:14,930
quite realizing
what was happening

1638
01:09:14,930 --> 01:09:19,970
until it was too late, the
idea of children betraying

1639
01:09:19,970 --> 01:09:23,440
parents, and things like that.

1640
01:09:23,440 --> 01:09:25,279
Let's see, that was
about the gist of it.

1641
01:09:25,279 --> 01:09:29,590
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1642
01:09:29,590 --> 01:09:31,750
Was it very personal for you?

1643
01:09:31,750 --> 01:09:35,220
Did you talk about
your personal feelings?

1644
01:09:35,220 --> 01:09:36,040
No, not really.

1645
01:09:36,040 --> 01:09:36,540
Yeah.

1646
01:09:36,540 --> 01:09:42,142
I treated it very much
like a subject to discuss.

1647
01:09:42,142 --> 01:09:42,850
Yeah, yeah, yeah.

1648
01:09:42,850 --> 01:09:43,808
You know, rather than--

1649
01:09:43,808 --> 01:09:45,510
Objective, an objective.

1650
01:09:45,510 --> 01:09:46,279
Objective, yeah.

1651
01:09:46,279 --> 01:09:48,180
Yeah, yeah.

1652
01:09:48,180 --> 01:09:49,830

So now you're there.

1653

01:09:49,830 --> 01:09:51,510

And you said you're
at the school.

1654

01:09:51,510 --> 01:09:56,580

Any other experiences
there that you

1655

01:09:56,580 --> 01:10:00,350

would like to talk about while
you were at school in England?

1656

01:10:00,350 --> 01:10:03,030

1657

01:10:03,030 --> 01:10:15,740

Well, it so happens
that after school exam,

1658

01:10:15,740 --> 01:10:19,900

which was after the 10th
grade or 12th grade.

1659

01:10:19,900 --> 01:10:23,080

I don't even remember.

1660

01:10:23,080 --> 01:10:26,200

Because the grade system
there was different.

1661

01:10:26,200 --> 01:10:29,860

Almost everybody
graduated and left school,

1662

01:10:29,860 --> 01:10:33,430

except those who were
slated to go to university.

1663

01:10:33,430 --> 01:10:38,050

Now that wasn't anything
like it is here.

1664
01:10:38,050 --> 01:10:44,920
Out of three
classes, six students

1665
01:10:44,920 --> 01:10:48,565
went on to what they
called the sixth grade.

1666
01:10:48,565 --> 01:10:51,290
Mm-hmm.

1667
01:10:51,290 --> 01:10:53,720
And I don't know.

1668
01:10:53,720 --> 01:10:57,040
I must have been because
of Joan Bailey to give me

1669
01:10:57,040 --> 01:10:59,360
a little breathing space.

1670
01:10:59,360 --> 01:11:04,720
She had me stay on for
another term there.

1671
01:11:04,720 --> 01:11:06,880
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1672
01:11:06,880 --> 01:11:10,750
To give me an opportunity
to figure out what

1673
01:11:10,750 --> 01:11:12,490
to do with my life after that.

1674
01:11:12,490 --> 01:11:13,060
Mm-hmm.

1675
01:11:13,060 --> 01:11:16,500
And-- [CLEARS THROAT]

1676

01:11:16,500 --> 01:11:22,302

Can I just ask you, but that
part of England, where you af--

1677

01:11:22,302 --> 01:11:24,720

was your life in d-- were
people's life danger there?

1678

01:11:24,720 --> 01:11:25,770

Was there any bombings?

1679

01:11:25,770 --> 01:11:27,600

Or was it a very safe location?

1680

01:11:27,600 --> 01:11:30,150

Oh, no, no, it was
definitely not safe.

1681

01:11:30,150 --> 01:11:33,840

We had the planes come
and go across us--

1682

01:11:33,840 --> 01:11:34,410

Uh-huh.

1683

01:11:34,410 --> 01:11:36,750

--and dogfights.

1684

01:11:36,750 --> 01:11:37,770

Oh, OK.

1685

01:11:37,770 --> 01:11:38,490

We--

1686

01:11:38,490 --> 01:11:40,650

Were there bomb shelters
and things like that?

1687

01:11:40,650 --> 01:11:44,260

Yes, we had a bomb shelter
in the back of the yard--

1688

01:11:44,260 --> 01:11:45,000

Oh, OK.

1689

01:11:45,000 --> 01:11:47,070

--in our garden.

1690

01:11:47,070 --> 01:11:50,490

And the beginning we
would go into the cupboard

1691

01:11:50,490 --> 01:11:53,340

under the stairs, which
was considered the--

1692

01:11:53,340 --> 01:11:55,770

which was the safest
place in the house.

1693

01:11:55,770 --> 01:11:57,300

Mm-hmm.

1694

01:11:57,300 --> 01:12:03,225

But after that, we put a
mattress into the shelter.

1695

01:12:03,225 --> 01:12:04,050

Mm-hmm.

1696

01:12:04,050 --> 01:12:05,535

And we would go to the shelters.

1697

01:12:05,535 --> 01:12:06,390

Mm-hmm.

1698

01:12:06,390 --> 01:12:13,400

And being kids, we wanted the
right to last until after--

1699

01:12:13,400 --> 01:12:16,410

I think it was 2:30
because then school would

1700

01:12:16,410 --> 01:12:17,430
start an hour later.

1701

01:12:17,430 --> 01:12:19,590
Mm-hmm.

1702

01:12:19,590 --> 01:12:22,320
When we had raids
we, first of all,

1703

01:12:22,320 --> 01:12:24,880
had lots of practice
at school to--

1704

01:12:24,880 --> 01:12:25,380
Mm-hmm.

1705

01:12:25,380 --> 01:12:26,440
--get into the shelters.

1706

01:12:26,440 --> 01:12:26,940
Mm-hmm.

1707

01:12:26,940 --> 01:12:29,910

1708

01:12:29,910 --> 01:12:32,220
In the shortest time possible.

1709

01:12:32,220 --> 01:12:34,615
We had to go across
two hockey fields.

1710

01:12:34,615 --> 01:12:36,510
Mm-hmm.

1711

01:12:36,510 --> 01:12:42,660
And when we did
have raids, we would

1712

01:12:42,660 --> 01:12:49,720

sit in those horrible,
damp, cold shelters watching

1713
01:12:49,720 --> 01:12:50,760
the time.

1714
01:12:50,760 --> 01:12:52,300
Hopefully, we would miss mass.

1715
01:12:52,300 --> 01:12:52,800
[LAUGHS]

1716
01:12:52,800 --> 01:12:55,710
You know, things like
that, typically kids stuff.

1717
01:12:55,710 --> 01:12:57,180
Right.

1718
01:12:57,180 --> 01:13:05,530
The only one time that
stands out in my mind

1719
01:13:05,530 --> 01:13:09,330
was when the gasworks
in Ipswich were bombed.

1720
01:13:09,330 --> 01:13:09,830
Mmm.

1721
01:13:09,830 --> 01:13:12,385
And kids from the
other side of town--

1722
01:13:12,385 --> 01:13:13,480
Mm-hmm.

1723
01:13:13,480 --> 01:13:19,300
--everybody, commuted on
bikes, on their way to school

1724
01:13:19,300 --> 01:13:24,490

would see human
remains in the street.

1725
01:13:24,490 --> 01:13:25,690
Oh.

1726
01:13:25,690 --> 01:13:29,690
And came for class
and talked about it.

1727
01:13:29,690 --> 01:13:30,190
Yeah.

1728
01:13:30,190 --> 01:13:37,790
That was the only time that I
remember as kids really being

1729
01:13:37,790 --> 01:13:38,660
badly affected.

1730
01:13:38,660 --> 01:13:39,830
Yeah.

1731
01:13:39,830 --> 01:13:41,570
Because it was so close to home.

1732
01:13:41,570 --> 01:13:45,390
It was one of our
own kids that saw it.

1733
01:13:45,390 --> 01:13:48,620
Yes, yes, mm-hmm.

1734
01:13:48,620 --> 01:13:50,360
On the whole, of
course, children

1735
01:13:50,360 --> 01:13:53,150
are much more resilient
than we give them credit to.

1736
01:13:53,150 --> 01:13:55,280

Yeah, yeah.

1737

01:13:55,280 --> 01:13:58,910

Were there other Jewish
Kindertransport children

1738

01:13:58,910 --> 01:13:59,555

in the area?

1739

01:13:59,555 --> 01:14:01,520

No, no.

1740

01:14:01,520 --> 01:14:05,770

No, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1741

01:14:05,770 --> 01:14:06,400

Except Doris.

1742

01:14:06,400 --> 01:14:06,660

Doris--

1743

01:14:06,660 --> 01:14:07,440

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1744

01:14:07,440 --> 01:14:08,232

--in the transport.

1745

01:14:08,232 --> 01:14:08,860

Yeah.

1746

01:14:08,860 --> 01:14:11,525

And as I say, she was
two years younger than I.

1747

01:14:11,525 --> 01:14:12,400

Two years, yes, yeah.

1748

01:14:12,400 --> 01:14:13,140

She was.

1749

01:14:13,140 --> 01:14:16,130

But in Manchester, the Jewish family was very unhappy there.

1750
01:14:16,130 --> 01:14:16,630
Mm-hmm.

1751
01:14:16,630 --> 01:14:19,780
And her father,
who was non-Jewish

1752
01:14:19,780 --> 01:14:23,080
got out, and was in
London, and saw to it

1753
01:14:23,080 --> 01:14:25,840
that she was moved from there.

1754
01:14:25,840 --> 01:14:28,510
Yeah, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1755
01:14:28,510 --> 01:14:35,050
So you're-- anything else
that you can talk about,

1756
01:14:35,050 --> 01:14:39,670
about knowing, again, what
was happening in the other

1757
01:14:39,670 --> 01:14:41,104
countries?

1758
01:14:41,104 --> 01:14:44,500
[CLEARS THROAT] Did you
read the newspapers,

1759
01:14:44,500 --> 01:14:47,010
or listen to the radio, or?

1760
01:14:47,010 --> 01:14:49,910
Oh, I read the papers and
listened to the radio.

1761

01:14:49,910 --> 01:14:50,650
Yeah.

1762
01:14:50,650 --> 01:14:54,500
And we followed the war--

1763
01:14:54,500 --> 01:14:55,000
Yeah.

1764
01:14:55,000 --> 01:14:56,380
--very closely.

1765
01:14:56,380 --> 01:14:59,020
Yeah.

1766
01:14:59,020 --> 01:15:01,230
Now what about your
parents experience?

1767
01:15:01,230 --> 01:15:03,840

1768
01:15:03,840 --> 01:15:06,460
That's very interesting.

1769
01:15:06,460 --> 01:15:11,350
My parents survived in Berlin.

1770
01:15:11,350 --> 01:15:16,420
And what happened was
my father was used--

1771
01:15:16,420 --> 01:15:21,990
no, my mother originally
had to work in the factory

1772
01:15:21,990 --> 01:15:23,440
making uniforms.

1773
01:15:23,440 --> 01:15:25,170
And my mother-- I
think I told you.

1774
01:15:25,170 --> 01:15:30,600
My mother was not well, and
got sick, and that was that.

1775
01:15:30,600 --> 01:15:35,190
My father was used
to clear the railroad

1776
01:15:35,190 --> 01:15:37,145
tracks after air raids.

1777
01:15:37,145 --> 01:15:38,080
Mmm, mmm.

1778
01:15:38,080 --> 01:15:41,890
So that the trains
could continue.

1779
01:15:41,890 --> 01:15:42,390
Mm-hmm.

1780
01:15:42,390 --> 01:15:45,240

1781
01:15:45,240 --> 01:15:47,580
My mother told me
that there were

1782
01:15:47,580 --> 01:15:51,400
times when he would be gone for
two or three consecutive days.

1783
01:15:51,400 --> 01:15:51,900
Mmm.

1784
01:15:51,900 --> 01:15:54,550
And she never knew whether
he was put on one--

1785
01:15:54,550 --> 01:15:55,050
Right.

1786
01:15:55,050 --> 01:15:55,560
--of the transports--

1787
01:15:55,560 --> 01:15:56,060
Right.

1788
01:15:56,060 --> 01:15:57,990
--or not.

1789
01:15:57,990 --> 01:16:01,660
Did they wear the yellow stars?

1790
01:16:01,660 --> 01:16:04,180
You know, I'm not sure
whatever my mother did or not.

1791
01:16:04,180 --> 01:16:05,330
My father of course did.

1792
01:16:05,330 --> 01:16:05,830
Mm-hmm.

1793
01:16:05,830 --> 01:16:08,590
I don't think my mother
did because I remember

1794
01:16:08,590 --> 01:16:13,330
her telling me that she went
to a birthday party of this one

1795
01:16:13,330 --> 01:16:15,910
uncle.

1796
01:16:15,910 --> 01:16:19,792
And so, she could
travel on the subways.

1797
01:16:19,792 --> 01:16:20,750
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1798

01:16:20,750 --> 01:16:22,480
And my father couldn't.

1799
01:16:22,480 --> 01:16:23,260
Yeah, yeah.

1800
01:16:23,260 --> 01:16:26,470
And I remember she was so upset
that they didn't send any food

1801
01:16:26,470 --> 01:16:27,395
home for my father.

1802
01:16:27,395 --> 01:16:30,980
Oh, mm-hmm.

1803
01:16:30,980 --> 01:16:34,730
So they stayed in Berlin
during the whole war?

1804
01:16:34,730 --> 01:16:38,090
Yes, and what happened
was my father came down

1805
01:16:38,090 --> 01:16:39,185
with double pneumonia--

1806
01:16:39,185 --> 01:16:40,220
Oh.

1807
01:16:40,220 --> 01:16:43,310
--and went to the Jewish
hospital, which was bombed out.

1808
01:16:43,310 --> 01:16:48,800
But they were in the
basement, in the cellar.

1809
01:16:48,800 --> 01:16:51,770
No electricity, no
running water, no doctors,

1810

01:16:51,770 --> 01:16:52,365
no medication.

1811
01:16:52,365 --> 01:16:53,600
Mm-hmm.

1812
01:16:53,600 --> 01:16:57,560
And my mother was there
day and night nursing him.

1813
01:16:57,560 --> 01:16:58,730
Mm-hmm.

1814
01:16:58,730 --> 01:17:02,510
Now, very interestingly, maybe--

1815
01:17:02,510 --> 01:17:04,130
was it you Gail, who told--

1816
01:17:04,130 --> 01:17:04,730
Yes.

1817
01:17:04,730 --> 01:17:05,855
--my daughter about the b--

1818
01:17:05,855 --> 01:17:06,760
Yes, yes.

1819
01:17:06,760 --> 01:17:08,540
Yes.

1820
01:17:08,540 --> 01:17:15,050
That was so interesting, and
I'm dying to see that book.

1821
01:17:15,050 --> 01:17:20,450
So that confirms at
least that part of what

1822
01:17:20,450 --> 01:17:21,617
I had heard from my parents.

1823
01:17:21,617 --> 01:17:22,117
Yeah.

1824
01:17:22,117 --> 01:17:23,105
But what had happened--

1825
01:17:23,105 --> 01:17:24,980
Just to clarify, we're
talking about the book

1826
01:17:24,980 --> 01:17:28,040
about the Jewish hospital
in Berlin by Daniel Silver?

1827
01:17:28,040 --> 01:17:29,210
Is what we're talking about.

1828
01:17:29,210 --> 01:17:31,180
Oh, that was by Daniel Silver?

1829
01:17:31,180 --> 01:17:32,146
Yeah, mm-hmm.

1830
01:17:32,146 --> 01:17:34,350
Oh.

1831
01:17:34,350 --> 01:17:35,103
That's the book.

1832
01:17:35,103 --> 01:17:36,770
Was that a part of
the bookshelves here?

1833
01:17:36,770 --> 01:17:39,170
Because I just read
his latest book.

1834
01:17:39,170 --> 01:17:40,850
Oh.

1835
01:17:40,850 --> 01:17:43,820

Silver, Daniel Silver.

1836
01:17:43,820 --> 01:17:45,680
Yeah, S-I-L-V-A.

1837
01:17:45,680 --> 01:17:48,060
No, S-I-L-V-E-R.

1838
01:17:48,060 --> 01:17:48,860
Oh, it's Silver.

1839
01:17:48,860 --> 01:17:50,040
I was say-- no,
that's a different--

1840
01:17:50,040 --> 01:17:50,350
Yeah.

1841
01:17:50,350 --> 01:17:51,142
--different author.

1842
01:17:51,142 --> 01:17:52,580
Mm-hmm.

1843
01:17:52,580 --> 01:17:55,157
Yeah, he wrote about the
Jewish hospital in Berlin

1844
01:17:55,157 --> 01:17:56,240
that you're talking about.

1845
01:17:56,240 --> 01:17:57,198
That is so interesting.

1846
01:17:57,198 --> 01:17:58,550
Mm-hmm.

1847
01:17:58,550 --> 01:18:00,150
And I had no idea
that there were

1848

01:18:00,150 --> 01:18:02,000
that many patients in there.

1849
01:18:02,000 --> 01:18:03,420
Mm-hmm.

1850
01:18:03,420 --> 01:18:05,940
And I guess it was
one of the places that

1851
01:18:05,940 --> 01:18:07,680
was just overlooked at the--

1852
01:18:07,680 --> 01:18:10,140
Mm-hmm.

1853
01:18:10,140 --> 01:18:11,490
--you know, last hour.

1854
01:18:11,490 --> 01:18:17,220
Because I understand when the
Russians were shelling Berlin,

1855
01:18:17,220 --> 01:18:19,560
that the Germans
made every effort

1856
01:18:19,560 --> 01:18:22,000
to round up the rest of
the Jews they could find.

1857
01:18:22,000 --> 01:18:23,250
Right.

1858
01:18:23,250 --> 01:18:25,330
So your father was
in the hospital,

1859
01:18:25,330 --> 01:18:26,700
and your mother nursed him?

1860
01:18:26,700 --> 01:18:27,840

Yeah.

1861
01:18:27,840 --> 01:18:29,970
And for how long was that?

1862
01:18:29,970 --> 01:18:30,750
I don't know.

1863
01:18:30,750 --> 01:18:31,980
Uh-huh.

1864
01:18:31,980 --> 01:18:34,210
I have no idea.

1865
01:18:34,210 --> 01:18:36,810
Obviously, until at
the end of the war.

1866
01:18:36,810 --> 01:18:39,120
Until now to the war, oh, OK.

1867
01:18:39,120 --> 01:18:46,630
Now my, a distant cousin of mine
was in the British army, one

1868
01:18:46,630 --> 01:18:55,130
of the first to head to Berlin,
and found my mother standing

1869
01:18:55,130 --> 01:18:58,310
in line at a fire
hydrant for water--

1870
01:18:58,310 --> 01:18:58,880
Mm-hmm.

1871
01:18:58,880 --> 01:19:03,270
--and recognized her,
and talked to Eddy,

1872
01:19:03,270 --> 01:19:07,760
and that's how I found out

that my parents had survived.

1873

01:19:07,760 --> 01:19:09,470

Oh.

1874

01:19:09,470 --> 01:19:13,370

Well when did you have your last contact with your parents?

1875

01:19:13,370 --> 01:19:16,070

1876

01:19:16,070 --> 01:19:19,530

Oh, you know, that was a long time--

1877

01:19:19,530 --> 01:19:20,030

Mm-hmm.

1878

01:19:20,030 --> 01:19:24,100

1879

01:19:24,100 --> 01:19:27,790

I mean, I would have to guess really.

1880

01:19:27,790 --> 01:19:34,715

It probably was a good nine months without any sign of--

1881

01:19:34,715 --> 01:19:35,340

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1882

01:19:35,340 --> 01:19:38,000

You're talking about the end of 44 beginning of 45?

1883

01:19:38,000 --> 01:19:38,500

45, yes.

1884

01:19:38,500 --> 01:19:39,399

Yeah, mm-hmm.

1885
01:19:39,399 --> 01:19:44,450

1886
01:19:44,450 --> 01:19:48,110
So, let's talk about
the end of the war.

1887
01:19:48,110 --> 01:19:53,720
And you're in Ipswich,
and what was that like?

1888
01:19:53,720 --> 01:19:59,340
Oh, no, I work by that time
in the North of England.

1889
01:19:59,340 --> 01:20:05,620
I had found out that the
Ministry of Supply in England

1890
01:20:05,620 --> 01:20:11,900
was testing 50% of all
materials used in the war.

1891
01:20:11,900 --> 01:20:19,210
And they had a crash course in
Cambridge, a training course,

1892
01:20:19,210 --> 01:20:24,440
and I applied for that.

1893
01:20:24,440 --> 01:20:26,840
In other words, you
finished school.

1894
01:20:26,840 --> 01:20:27,350
Yes.

1895
01:20:27,350 --> 01:20:30,320
Yeah, OK, and you're what,
18 years old or something?

1896

01:20:30,320 --> 01:20:32,190
How old are you?

1897
01:20:32,190 --> 01:20:33,680
I was--

1898
01:20:33,680 --> 01:20:34,500
Was this 44?

1899
01:20:34,500 --> 01:20:35,000
45.

1900
01:20:35,000 --> 01:20:38,150

1901
01:20:38,150 --> 01:20:41,480
So this is 1945, OK, mm-hmm.

1902
01:20:41,480 --> 01:20:43,990
But the war is still going on?

1903
01:20:43,990 --> 01:20:44,930
Oh, yes, yes.

1904
01:20:44,930 --> 01:20:47,800
OK Yes OK so it's early
45, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1905
01:20:47,800 --> 01:20:51,550
Yes, so in other words,
when I that three months

1906
01:20:51,550 --> 01:20:52,795
course in Cambridge--

1907
01:20:52,795 --> 01:20:54,010
Mm-hmm.

1908
01:20:54,010 --> 01:20:56,455
--because I was an enemy alien--

1909

01:20:56,455 --> 01:20:56,980
Mm-hmm.

1910
01:20:56,980 --> 01:20:58,270
--I was lucky.

1911
01:20:58,270 --> 01:21:02,650
Because most of the
people there would

1912
01:21:02,650 --> 01:21:10,340
be sent to places that
manufactured gunpowder.

1913
01:21:10,340 --> 01:21:14,840
And because I was an enemy
alien, I went to a place

1914
01:21:14,840 --> 01:21:18,140
that for ferrous and
non-ferrous metals.

1915
01:21:18,140 --> 01:21:19,370
Mm-hmm.

1916
01:21:19,370 --> 01:21:23,360
Which was great, first of
all, much more variety,

1917
01:21:23,360 --> 01:21:28,070
and more interesting.

1918
01:21:28,070 --> 01:21:31,340
And I worked there.

1919
01:21:31,340 --> 01:21:33,260
As a matter of fact,
I was working there

1920
01:21:33,260 --> 01:21:36,170
when I got the news that
my parents had survived.

1921

01:21:36,170 --> 01:21:37,250

Oh, mm-hmm.

1922

01:21:37,250 --> 01:21:41,420

And then my friend
in London, who

1923

01:21:41,420 --> 01:21:48,430

was part of the refugee
committee, community,

1924

01:21:48,430 --> 01:21:52,510

found an article in the paper
that the American government

1925

01:21:52,510 --> 01:21:58,480

was looking for
bilinguals for employment.

1926

01:21:58,480 --> 01:22:01,810

And she told me about
it, and I applied.

1927

01:22:01,810 --> 01:22:08,030

Now, I was two years
below their minimum age.

1928

01:22:08,030 --> 01:22:08,530

Mm-hmm.

1929

01:22:08,530 --> 01:22:10,670

1930

01:22:10,670 --> 01:22:13,300

After I found out that
my parents had survived,

1931

01:22:13,300 --> 01:22:17,290

I moved heaven and earth
to get over to Germany

1932

01:22:17,290 --> 01:22:18,523

to help them after the war.

1933

01:22:18,523 --> 01:22:19,430

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1934

01:22:19,430 --> 01:22:22,180

And I was too young everywhere.

1935

01:22:22,180 --> 01:22:27,070

I even wrote to the Russian
commissar something in Berlin.

1936

01:22:27,070 --> 01:22:27,820

[CHUCKLES] Mm-hmm.

1937

01:22:27,820 --> 01:22:29,088

I never heard from him though.

1938

01:22:29,088 --> 01:22:29,296

[LAUGHS]

1939

01:22:29,296 --> 01:22:29,796

Mmm, mmm.

1940

01:22:29,796 --> 01:22:30,296

1941

01:22:30,296 --> 01:22:35,200

And I applied to the
American government.

1942

01:22:35,200 --> 01:22:38,350

And what happened
was that they had,

1943

01:22:38,350 --> 01:22:47,140

had 200 bilinguals from
France, the Alsace area where

1944

01:22:47,140 --> 01:22:48,670

they have bilingual.

1945

01:22:48,670 --> 01:22:52,210

And at the last minute, the
French government nixed it.

1946

01:22:52,210 --> 01:22:55,880

They said they couldn't
spare the manpower.

1947

01:22:55,880 --> 01:23:02,260

So, the America War Department
was kind of desperate.

1948

01:23:02,260 --> 01:23:03,220

So they took me.

1949

01:23:03,220 --> 01:23:04,930

Mm-hmm.

1950

01:23:04,930 --> 01:23:09,130

Me and-- I and one other girl.

1951

01:23:09,130 --> 01:23:10,370

We were the same age.

1952

01:23:10,370 --> 01:23:14,560

We were two years
below the minimum age.

1953

01:23:14,560 --> 01:23:27,300

And, I was accepted by them
and went to Germany, to Munich,

1954

01:23:27,300 --> 01:23:28,830

for censorship.

1955

01:23:28,830 --> 01:23:34,350

We censored mail,
telephone, and telegraph.

1956

01:23:34,350 --> 01:23:42,010

And it was-- by the way it
was very traumatic for me that

1957
01:23:42,010 --> 01:23:48,080
train trip because I
saw children begging--

1958
01:23:48,080 --> 01:23:49,490
Mmm.

1959
01:23:49,490 --> 01:23:50,570
--along the way.

1960
01:23:50,570 --> 01:23:51,110
Mm-hmm.

1961
01:23:51,110 --> 01:23:55,250
And we would throw out
whatever K-rations we had.

1962
01:23:55,250 --> 01:23:56,870
Yeah, yeah.

1963
01:23:56,870 --> 01:24:01,160
And all of a sudden I realized
these we're not friends

1964
01:24:01,160 --> 01:24:01,940
anymore.

1965
01:24:01,940 --> 01:24:03,530
These were German children.

1966
01:24:03,530 --> 01:24:06,980
And it had a terrible
effect on me.

1967
01:24:06,980 --> 01:24:12,410
And an older man-- older,
he probably was in his 20s,

1968
01:24:12,410 --> 01:24:17,630
late 20s, saw my distress,
and we talked about it.

1969
01:24:17,630 --> 01:24:20,540
It was a terrible
thing for me to realize

1970
01:24:20,540 --> 01:24:25,790
that the kids look
just as bad in France

1971
01:24:25,790 --> 01:24:26,795
as they did in Germany.

1972
01:24:26,795 --> 01:24:27,295
Yeah.

1973
01:24:27,295 --> 01:24:29,520
But hey, these were
Germans after all.

1974
01:24:29,520 --> 01:24:32,060
Mmm.

1975
01:24:32,060 --> 01:24:38,400
Anyway, we got to Munich,
and I started working.

1976
01:24:38,400 --> 01:24:42,380
We actually posted
in a camp that

1977
01:24:42,380 --> 01:24:47,630
was owned by Martin
Berman, Martin Berman, yes,

1978
01:24:47,630 --> 01:24:48,515
who was never found.

1979
01:24:48,515 --> 01:24:49,015
Mmm.

1980
01:24:49,015 --> 01:24:54,160
It was a great camp,

very nice housing.

1981

01:24:54,160 --> 01:25:00,460

And we live there

but worked in Munich.

1982

01:25:00,460 --> 01:25:01,150

Mm-hmm.

1983

01:25:01,150 --> 01:25:03,850

We had the daily train

back and forth to take us--

1984

01:25:03,850 --> 01:25:05,080

Mm-hmm.

1985

01:25:05,080 --> 01:25:10,120

--to work, and what

was deadly boring.

1986

01:25:10,120 --> 01:25:18,045

First of all, the letters were

written poorly, on poor paper.

1987

01:25:18,045 --> 01:25:20,950

1988

01:25:20,950 --> 01:25:25,730

That was heart of the

eyes and terribly boring.

1989

01:25:25,730 --> 01:25:30,830

And then I found out that they

had the research lab on base.

1990

01:25:30,830 --> 01:25:36,560

And I checked into

that and met the guy

1991

01:25:36,560 --> 01:25:42,990

who was in charge of one

section of it, Robert.

1992

01:25:42,990 --> 01:25:44,520

I talked to him.

1993

01:25:44,520 --> 01:25:48,720

And he arranged for a
transfer so I didn't

1994

01:25:48,720 --> 01:25:50,680

have that train trip every day.

1995

01:25:50,680 --> 01:25:51,180

Mm-hmm.

1996

01:25:51,180 --> 01:25:55,100

I could go to the PX in
peace when most of the them

1997

01:25:55,100 --> 01:25:56,340

were still in Munich.

1998

01:25:56,340 --> 01:26:00,210

And I ended up marrying him.

1999

01:26:00,210 --> 01:26:01,710

[LAUGHTER]

2000

01:26:01,710 --> 01:26:02,655

That was my husband.

2001

01:26:02,655 --> 01:26:04,350

Uh-huh.

2002

01:26:04,350 --> 01:26:08,240

And we worked in
secret ink and code.

2003

01:26:08,240 --> 01:26:09,450

Oh, mm-hmm.

2004

01:26:09,450 --> 01:26:10,735

And his name?

2005
01:26:10,735 --> 01:26:11,235
Robert.

2006
01:26:11,235 --> 01:26:11,735
Mm-hmm.

2007
01:26:11,735 --> 01:26:15,780

2008
01:26:15,780 --> 01:26:17,910
He took his discharge overseas.

2009
01:26:17,910 --> 01:26:19,950
Mm-hmm.

2010
01:26:19,950 --> 01:26:24,910
And we were married
overseas by that time.

2011
01:26:24,910 --> 01:26:29,800
The States in Puloff,
in Munich was dissolved.

2012
01:26:29,800 --> 01:26:34,650
And we went to Esslingen,
which was near Stuttgart.

2013
01:26:34,650 --> 01:26:40,110
And we were married
there, fabulous reception.

2014
01:26:40,110 --> 01:26:42,015
Is that 1945 you're
talking about?

2015
01:26:42,015 --> 01:26:42,515
46.

2016
01:26:42,515 --> 01:26:44,430
Oh, 46, you got married, OK.

2017

01:26:44,430 --> 01:26:47,570

Yeah, December 46.

2018

01:26:47,570 --> 01:26:55,120

It so happened the day with
the longest night of the year.

2019

01:26:55,120 --> 01:26:55,620

Oh.

2020

01:26:55,620 --> 01:26:56,670

We hadn't planned that.

2021

01:26:56,670 --> 01:26:57,170

Mm-hmm.

2022

01:26:57,170 --> 01:26:59,355

But It was the first--

2023

01:26:59,355 --> 01:27:01,600

you know, it takes a while.

2024

01:27:01,600 --> 01:27:03,100

It took a while--

2025

01:27:03,100 --> 01:27:03,600

Mm-hmm.

2026

01:27:03,600 --> 01:27:05,320

--for paperwork to be OK'd.

2027

01:27:05,320 --> 01:27:05,820

Right.

2028

01:27:05,820 --> 01:27:06,360

2029

01:27:06,360 --> 01:27:07,660

And so on and so forth.

2030

01:27:07,660 --> 01:27:08,160
Mm-hmm.

2031
01:27:08,160 --> 01:27:12,510
I mean they wanted to be
sure the poor ex-GI didn't

2032
01:27:12,510 --> 01:27:13,195
make a mistake.

2033
01:27:13,195 --> 01:27:14,550
Right, right.

2034
01:27:14,550 --> 01:27:18,930
Now had you seen
your parents by then?

2035
01:27:18,930 --> 01:27:23,260
Yes, yes, I had.

2036
01:27:23,260 --> 01:27:27,300
There was a story too.

2037
01:27:27,300 --> 01:27:29,430
What was that reunion like?

2038
01:27:29,430 --> 01:27:35,820
I hitched a ride to Munich with
somebody from the motor pool.

2039
01:27:35,820 --> 01:27:36,860
And I was set--

2040
01:27:36,860 --> 01:27:39,090
I was sitting in
the Jeep waiting

2041
01:27:39,090 --> 01:27:42,160
for him, whatever he was doing.

2042
01:27:42,160 --> 01:27:45,540
But I decided I'd go in

and ask for a chaplain.

2043

01:27:45,540 --> 01:27:49,800

There was no Jewish chaplain,
so I got a Protestant chaplain

2044

01:27:49,800 --> 01:27:53,700

and told him my sad
story that I hadn't

2045

01:27:53,700 --> 01:27:55,800

been able to see my parents.

2046

01:27:55,800 --> 01:27:56,670

Mm-hmm.

2047

01:27:56,670 --> 01:28:00,705

And within three days, I
had orders to go to Berlin.

2048

01:28:00,705 --> 01:28:01,980

Mmm.

2049

01:28:01,980 --> 01:28:03,060

And see my parents.

2050

01:28:03,060 --> 01:28:05,340

Mmm, what was that reunion like?

2051

01:28:05,340 --> 01:28:09,660

2052

01:28:09,660 --> 01:28:17,660

[LAUGHS] Well, first of
all, I got there sick.

2053

01:28:17,660 --> 01:28:23,480

And Robert had made me promise
that if I didn't feel better

2054

01:28:23,480 --> 01:28:28,460

I would get off the train

in the British sector

2055

01:28:28,460 --> 01:28:29,480
and go to the hospital.

2056

01:28:29,480 --> 01:28:29,980
Mm-hmm.

2057

01:28:29,980 --> 01:28:31,590
But of course I
didn't listen to him.

2058

01:28:31,590 --> 01:28:32,370
Mm-hmm.

2059

01:28:32,370 --> 01:28:37,640
So when I got to my
parents, I went to bed.

2060

01:28:37,640 --> 01:28:38,540
[CHUCKLES]

2061

01:28:38,540 --> 01:28:42,740
My father at that time was
employed by the Russians.

2062

01:28:42,740 --> 01:28:50,370
And they heard that I
was coming home to them.

2063

01:28:50,370 --> 01:28:52,980
And they celebrated with vodka.

2064

01:28:52,980 --> 01:28:57,030
My father was, who
was not a big drinker,

2065

01:28:57,030 --> 01:28:59,170
was imbibed by the
time he got home.

2066

01:28:59,170 --> 01:28:59,670

Mm-hmm.

2067

01:28:59,670 --> 01:29:01,080
[CHUCKLES]

2068

01:29:01,080 --> 01:29:04,240
But it was-- and my
grandmother was alive.

2069

01:29:04,240 --> 01:29:04,740
Mmm.

2070

01:29:04,740 --> 01:29:05,470
That's the big thing.

2071

01:29:05,470 --> 01:29:06,010
Mmm.

2072

01:29:06,010 --> 01:29:07,320
My mother's mother was alive.

2073

01:29:07,320 --> 01:29:08,210
It was wonderful.

2074

01:29:08,210 --> 01:29:08,710
Mmm.

2075

01:29:08,710 --> 01:29:12,485
It was so unbelievably
wonderful.

2076

01:29:12,485 --> 01:29:14,520
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2077

01:29:14,520 --> 01:29:17,760
I carried a big bag
of provisions with me.

2078

01:29:17,760 --> 01:29:18,360
Mm-hmm.

2079

01:29:18,360 --> 01:29:20,805
That was a story in itself.

2080
01:29:20,805 --> 01:29:21,430
Mmm.

2081
01:29:21,430 --> 01:29:23,320
I could barely lift it.

2082
01:29:23,320 --> 01:29:26,400
And when I got off the train--

2083
01:29:26,400 --> 01:29:28,030
Mm-hmm.

2084
01:29:28,030 --> 01:29:32,890
--I had to make arrangements
for transportation

2085
01:29:32,890 --> 01:29:41,970
to get into this subdivision
in Berlin itself.

2086
01:29:41,970 --> 01:29:42,880
Mm-hmm.

2087
01:29:42,880 --> 01:29:46,940
And, I finally managed
that they gave me

2088
01:29:46,940 --> 01:29:49,530
a young kid with a Jeep.

2089
01:29:49,530 --> 01:29:55,640
And from there I got
another kid with a Jeep

2090
01:29:55,640 --> 01:29:56,635
to take me to Pankow.

2091
01:29:56,635 --> 01:29:57,560
Mm-hmm.

2092
01:29:57,560 --> 01:29:59,480
And he was scared
silly because it

2093
01:29:59,480 --> 01:30:00,860
was wasn't the Russian sector--

2094
01:30:00,860 --> 01:30:01,402
Yeah, mm-hmm.

2095
01:30:01,402 --> 01:30:04,800
--which in those days the
city was still divided.

2096
01:30:04,800 --> 01:30:05,480
Right.

2097
01:30:05,480 --> 01:30:08,210
And I had to guide him,
which was very difficult,

2098
01:30:08,210 --> 01:30:13,340
because landmarks and
streets that I recalled

2099
01:30:13,340 --> 01:30:14,480
were no longer there.

2100
01:30:14,480 --> 01:30:16,820
Everything was in ruins.

2101
01:30:16,820 --> 01:30:17,570
Right, right.

2102
01:30:17,570 --> 01:30:19,610
But I managed to
find my way home.

2103
01:30:19,610 --> 01:30:20,250
Mmm.

2104

01:30:20,250 --> 01:30:23,037

My mother was hanging out of
the window waiting for me.

2105

01:30:23,037 --> 01:30:24,410

Ah, ah, ah.

2106

01:30:24,410 --> 01:30:28,445

It was-- I was there
for seven days.

2107

01:30:28,445 --> 01:30:29,270

Mm-hmm.

2108

01:30:29,270 --> 01:30:31,500

I got back once--

2109

01:30:31,500 --> 01:30:32,000

Mm-hmm.

2110

01:30:32,000 --> 01:30:34,190

--into the American zone--

2111

01:30:34,190 --> 01:30:35,390

Mm-hmm.

2112

01:30:35,390 --> 01:30:37,010

--to get my PX rations--

2113

01:30:37,010 --> 01:30:38,240

Mmm, mmm.

2114

01:30:38,240 --> 01:30:39,300

--to take back to them.

2115

01:30:39,300 --> 01:30:39,800

Mmm.

2116

01:30:39,800 --> 01:30:48,970

Because cigarettes were
the main means of--

2117
01:30:48,970 --> 01:30:49,720
Paying for things.

2118
01:30:49,720 --> 01:30:50,890
[BACKGROUND VOICE]

2119
01:30:50,890 --> 01:30:52,030
--paying for things.

2120
01:30:52,030 --> 01:30:53,030
Mm-hmm.

2121
01:30:53,030 --> 01:30:55,060
Money wasn't worth anything.

2122
01:30:55,060 --> 01:30:58,525
That was before they had the
currency reform in Germany.

2123
01:30:58,525 --> 01:30:59,570
Mm-hmm.

2124
01:30:59,570 --> 01:31:04,910
So, I had lost quite
a bit of weight

2125
01:31:04,910 --> 01:31:13,140
because I could barely eat
anything in my parents' house.

2126
01:31:13,140 --> 01:31:17,660
Because, you know, it
was so short of food.

2127
01:31:17,660 --> 01:31:20,500
Right.

2128
01:31:20,500 --> 01:31:26,030
But it was a wonderful,
wonderful, wonderful time.

2129

01:31:26,030 --> 01:31:29,210

Right, yeah, yeah.

2130

01:31:29,210 --> 01:31:32,670

My poor mother never got
her little girl back.

2131

01:31:32,670 --> 01:31:33,990

Right, right.

2132

01:31:33,990 --> 01:31:36,200

Did she recognize you?

2133

01:31:36,200 --> 01:31:37,640

Oh, yes, of course.

2134

01:31:37,640 --> 01:31:40,190

She did, mm-hmm.

2135

01:31:40,190 --> 01:31:43,250

I mean you were gone
for almost six years.

2136

01:31:43,250 --> 01:31:44,140

Yes.

2137

01:31:44,140 --> 01:31:44,640

Yeah.

2138

01:31:44,640 --> 01:31:47,330

Mmm, yeah.

2139

01:31:47,330 --> 01:31:49,830

From 39 to 46, seven years.

2140

01:31:49,830 --> 01:31:51,040

Yeah, yeah.

2141

01:31:51,040 --> 01:31:52,730

2142

01:31:52,730 --> 01:31:56,830

Figured it out, I think, it was
two weeks sort of seven years.

2143

01:31:56,830 --> 01:31:57,330

[CHUCKLES]

2144

01:31:57,330 --> 01:32:00,380

Two weeks sort of
seven year, yeah.

2145

01:32:00,380 --> 01:32:01,520

A long, long time.

2146

01:32:01,520 --> 01:32:03,445

Yeah, so now you're married.

2147

01:32:03,445 --> 01:32:04,380

Yes.

2148

01:32:04,380 --> 01:32:06,350

And then what happened?

2149

01:32:06,350 --> 01:32:08,890

2150

01:32:08,890 --> 01:32:11,050

You stayed in Germany?

2151

01:32:11,050 --> 01:32:13,790

Well, Robert stayed
for one more year.

2152

01:32:13,790 --> 01:32:14,290

Mm-hmm.

2153

01:32:14,290 --> 01:32:15,040

2154

01:32:15,040 --> 01:32:15,710

Under contract.

2155
01:32:15,710 --> 01:32:16,210
Mmm.

2156
01:32:16,210 --> 01:32:22,760
And because he took
his discharge overseas,

2157
01:32:22,760 --> 01:32:28,430
he was entitled to two
months of leave to go home.

2158
01:32:28,430 --> 01:32:29,140
Mm-hmm.

2159
01:32:29,140 --> 01:32:34,280
And the only problem
was taking me with him--

2160
01:32:34,280 --> 01:32:35,200
Mm-hmm.

2161
01:32:35,200 --> 01:32:38,050
--he finally managed it--

2162
01:32:38,050 --> 01:32:49,140
well, actually, a young,
First Sergeant in Frankfurt

2163
01:32:49,140 --> 01:32:51,180
cut the orders for us.

2164
01:32:51,180 --> 01:32:59,100
Cause Robert went up, down the
scale from Lieutenant Generals,

2165
01:32:59,100 --> 01:33:00,090
down.

2166
01:33:00,090 --> 01:33:05,520
Nobody would sanction the order.

2167

01:33:05,520 --> 01:33:09,600

Because I was entitled,
or he was entitled,

2168

01:33:09,600 --> 01:33:12,600

to one trip for me,
but not three trips,

2169

01:33:12,600 --> 01:33:17,200

not going to New York,
and then coming back,

2170

01:33:17,200 --> 01:33:18,910

and going back the third time.

2171

01:33:18,910 --> 01:33:19,450

Mm-hmm.

2172

01:33:19,450 --> 01:33:25,410

And anyway, we managed it.

2173

01:33:25,410 --> 01:33:28,920

And the reception was
very, very awkward

2174

01:33:28,920 --> 01:33:38,410

because my mother-in-law
was terribly upset

2175

01:33:38,410 --> 01:33:42,186

that he married overseas.

2176

01:33:42,186 --> 01:33:44,120

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2177

01:33:44,120 --> 01:33:48,360

And we had no idea of what
kind of reception we would get.

2178

01:33:48,360 --> 01:33:48,860

Mm-hmm.

2179

01:33:48,860 --> 01:33:50,150

But it was all right.

2180

01:33:50,150 --> 01:33:50,990

Mm-hm, mm-hmm.

2181

01:33:50,990 --> 01:33:53,030

2182

01:33:53,030 --> 01:33:56,540

But my mother-in-law was a
very, very difficult person.

2183

01:33:56,540 --> 01:33:59,030

And, of course,
that's a lot of grief.

2184

01:33:59,030 --> 01:34:00,860

But we never had in--

2185

01:34:00,860 --> 01:34:04,040

it was never a question
of in-law problems.

2186

01:34:04,040 --> 01:34:05,660

It was mother problems.

2187

01:34:05,660 --> 01:34:06,690

She was that kind of--

2188

01:34:06,690 --> 01:34:07,190

Yeah.

2189

01:34:07,190 --> 01:34:07,773

--possessive--

2190

01:34:07,773 --> 01:34:09,080

Yeah, yeah.

2191

01:34:09,080 --> 01:34:10,070

--person.

2192
01:34:10,070 --> 01:34:12,350
So you came to United States in?

2193
01:34:12,350 --> 01:34:14,060
Came to the United States.

2194
01:34:14,060 --> 01:34:16,580
When was that?

2195
01:34:16,580 --> 01:34:19,880
Oh, for the furlough,
came to the United States

2196
01:34:19,880 --> 01:34:21,940
for the furlough.

2197
01:34:21,940 --> 01:34:24,750
Saw almost, probably
saw six Broadway shows--

2198
01:34:24,750 --> 01:34:25,250
[LAUGHTER]

2199
01:34:25,250 --> 01:34:31,370
--while we were here as a
gift from one of his uncles.

2200
01:34:31,370 --> 01:34:36,170
And both Robert and
his younger brother,

2201
01:34:36,170 --> 01:34:40,445
George, had a ball
showing me New York.

2202
01:34:40,445 --> 01:34:42,730
Mm-hmm.

2203
01:34:42,730 --> 01:34:46,230
And it was an exciting time.

2204
01:34:46,230 --> 01:34:47,790
Mm-hmm.

2205
01:34:47,790 --> 01:34:49,650
And then we went back
for another year--

2206
01:34:49,650 --> 01:34:51,000
Mm-hmm.

2207
01:34:51,000 --> 01:34:54,870
--to fulfill the contract
and then came home for good.

2208
01:34:54,870 --> 01:34:56,220
And--

2209
01:34:56,220 --> 01:34:59,842
When was that you came to
the United States for good?

2210
01:34:59,842 --> 01:35:01,770
In 48?

2211
01:35:01,770 --> 01:35:02,810
I'm sorry.

2212
01:35:02,810 --> 01:35:05,760
When did you come to the
United States for good, in 48?

2213
01:35:05,760 --> 01:35:06,390
48, yes.

2214
01:35:06,390 --> 01:35:07,710
Yeah, OK.

2215
01:35:07,710 --> 01:35:09,820
And where did you settle?

2216
01:35:09,820 --> 01:35:12,220

Well, we stayed with my
in-laws for by the year

2217
01:35:12,220 --> 01:35:15,430
because it was very, very hard
to find housing at that time.

2218
01:35:15,430 --> 01:35:16,240
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2219
01:35:16,240 --> 01:35:17,300
Everybody had--

2220
01:35:17,300 --> 01:35:17,380
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

2221
01:35:17,380 --> 01:35:18,267
And where was that?

2222
01:35:18,267 --> 01:35:18,850
Where was th--

2223
01:35:18,850 --> 01:35:19,510
In Brooklyn.

2224
01:35:19,510 --> 01:35:20,710
In Brooklyn, OK.

2225
01:35:20,710 --> 01:35:22,390
And then where did you move to?

2226
01:35:22,390 --> 01:35:23,810
Where did you go?

2227
01:35:23,810 --> 01:35:27,130
We found an apartment
in Brooklyn, too.

2228
01:35:27,130 --> 01:35:30,150
We stayed there for,
I think, eight years.

2229

01:35:30,150 --> 01:35:30,940

Mm-hmm.

2230

01:35:30,940 --> 01:35:35,800

And what kind of work
did he do, Robert do?

2231

01:35:35,800 --> 01:35:40,955

Robert, Robert went
back to school.

2232

01:35:40,955 --> 01:35:43,280

Mm-hmm.

2233

01:35:43,280 --> 01:35:47,960

Got very sick with
whatever flu-type--

2234

01:35:47,960 --> 01:35:51,710

I think was the Asian
flu at that time.

2235

01:35:51,710 --> 01:35:58,160

And then was a
detail man for one

2236

01:35:58,160 --> 01:35:59,465

of the pharmaceutical houses.

2237

01:35:59,465 --> 01:36:00,680

Mm-hmm.

2238

01:36:00,680 --> 01:36:03,860

And I worked at
Maimonides Hospital--

2239

01:36:03,860 --> 01:36:05,000

Mm-hmm.

2240

01:36:05,000 --> 01:36:06,230

--in the chemistry lab.

2241

01:36:06,230 --> 01:36:07,940

Mmm mm-hmm.

2242

01:36:07,940 --> 01:36:10,520

Again, because of my background,
although, it had nothing

2243

01:36:10,520 --> 01:36:13,400

to do with blood chemistry.

2244

01:36:13,400 --> 01:36:16,310

But it worked out fine for us.

2245

01:36:16,310 --> 01:36:18,420

Mm-hmm.

2246

01:36:18,420 --> 01:36:25,400

And then-- oh, what happened?

2247

01:36:25,400 --> 01:36:31,460

Robert-- I can't even
remember why at this moment.

2248

01:36:31,460 --> 01:36:38,840

Anyway, Robert switched
to a pharmaceutical house

2249

01:36:38,840 --> 01:36:39,900

in Dover, Delaware.

2250

01:36:39,900 --> 01:36:40,400

Mm-hmm.

2251

01:36:40,400 --> 01:36:44,410

2252

01:36:44,410 --> 01:36:48,175

And I was there also.

2253

01:36:48,175 --> 01:36:50,810

Mm-hmm.

2254
01:36:50,810 --> 01:36:53,260
We always say we--

2255
01:36:53,260 --> 01:36:58,060
to Delaware with nothing
and left three years later

2256
01:36:58,060 --> 01:36:59,560
with one dog and two children.

2257
01:36:59,560 --> 01:37:00,985
Oh, wonderful.

2258
01:37:00,985 --> 01:37:01,830
[LAUGHS]

2259
01:37:01,830 --> 01:37:05,380
We adopted my son.

2260
01:37:05,380 --> 01:37:09,550
And it was just great, too.

2261
01:37:09,550 --> 01:37:11,830
At that time Delaware
was considered

2262
01:37:11,830 --> 01:37:14,090
one of the three top
states for adoption.

2263
01:37:14,090 --> 01:37:14,860
Mm-hmm.

2264
01:37:14,860 --> 01:37:17,215
You know, it went very
smoothly and very pleasantly.

2265
01:37:17,215 --> 01:37:18,160
Mm-hmm.

2266

01:37:18,160 --> 01:37:21,160

And then after that
I had my daughter.

2267

01:37:21,160 --> 01:37:26,380

There was 21 months difference
in age between the two.

2268

01:37:26,380 --> 01:37:28,330

You adopted your daughter also?

2269

01:37:28,330 --> 01:37:28,830

No.

2270

01:37:28,830 --> 01:37:29,910

Oh, oh.

2271

01:37:29,910 --> 01:37:30,910

Daughter came naturally.

2272

01:37:30,910 --> 01:37:31,650

Oh, OK.

2273

01:37:31,650 --> 01:37:32,590

[LAUGHTER]

2274

01:37:32,590 --> 01:37:36,510

It was wonderful because
Dover celebrated with us.

2275

01:37:36,510 --> 01:37:37,660

Oh.

2276

01:37:37,660 --> 01:37:40,320

They were thrilled
about the adoption.

2277

01:37:40,320 --> 01:37:42,820

And then when Gail came along--

2278

01:37:42,820 --> 01:37:44,220

Uh-huh.

2279
01:37:44,220 --> 01:37:47,420
--it was the same
thing over again.

2280
01:37:47,420 --> 01:37:48,190
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2281
01:37:48,190 --> 01:37:51,100
I had baby gifts left
on stoop when I--

2282
01:37:51,100 --> 01:37:51,600
[LAUGHS]

2283
01:37:51,600 --> 01:37:54,010
--went home and like that.

2284
01:37:54,010 --> 01:37:57,400
It seemed like the whole
town was celebrating with us.

2285
01:37:57,400 --> 01:37:59,530
Wonderful, mm-hmm.

2286
01:37:59,530 --> 01:38:03,910
And then you left Del--
when did you leave Delaware?

2287
01:38:03,910 --> 01:38:04,945
Three years later.

2288
01:38:04,945 --> 01:38:05,720
Mm-hmm.

2289
01:38:05,720 --> 01:38:07,980
To get my--

2290
01:38:07,980 --> 01:38:13,763
Ira was-- Gail was born in 59.

2291

01:38:13,763 --> 01:38:15,000
Mm-hmm.

2292
01:38:15,000 --> 01:38:16,455
In 60 or 61.

2293
01:38:16,455 --> 01:38:17,490
Mm-hmm.

2294
01:38:17,490 --> 01:38:19,620
In 60 we went up
to North Jersey--

2295
01:38:19,620 --> 01:38:20,310
Mm-hmm.

2296
01:38:20,310 --> 01:38:24,480
--for a horrible, six
months and the worst snow

2297
01:38:24,480 --> 01:38:27,190
they had there in 50 years.

2298
01:38:27,190 --> 01:38:27,690
[CHUCKLES]

2299
01:38:27,690 --> 01:38:28,955
And then came--

2300
01:38:28,955 --> 01:38:29,702
Yeah.

2301
01:38:29,702 --> 01:38:30,535
--to East Brunswick.

2302
01:38:30,535 --> 01:38:31,860
Yeah.

2303
01:38:31,860 --> 01:38:34,650
Can we now talk a little
bit about your thoughts

2304

01:38:34,650 --> 01:38:38,640

and your feelings about
what you went through?

2305

01:38:38,640 --> 01:38:42,960

What are your thoughts
about Germany today?

2306

01:38:42,960 --> 01:38:47,340

Well, I went back as
a guest of Berlin--

2307

01:38:47,340 --> 01:38:49,770

Mm-hmm.

2308

01:38:49,770 --> 01:38:52,590

--and I was 70.

2309

01:38:52,590 --> 01:38:54,750

That would be six years ago.

2310

01:38:54,750 --> 01:39:02,070

And, I had never expected
to accept that invitation.

2311

01:39:02,070 --> 01:39:06,660

But through a co-worker
I got in touch

2312

01:39:06,660 --> 01:39:11,010

with a woman who'd felt the
same way I did, and did go,

2313

01:39:11,010 --> 01:39:13,290

and thought it was worthwhile.

2314

01:39:13,290 --> 01:39:17,730

And at age 60 I was--

2315

01:39:17,730 --> 01:39:20,670

2316

01:39:20,670 --> 01:39:25,410

Berlin paid everything
for me, and my husband,

2317

01:39:25,410 --> 01:39:28,140

and one other person.

2318

01:39:28,140 --> 01:39:31,155

I guess they figured
at that age we needed--

2319

01:39:31,155 --> 01:39:32,400

Yeah.

2320

01:39:32,400 --> 01:39:33,010

--some help.

2321

01:39:33,010 --> 01:39:35,000

So my daughter--

2322

01:39:35,000 --> 01:39:35,500

Mm-hmm.

2323

01:39:35,500 --> 01:39:37,050

--went with us--

2324

01:39:37,050 --> 01:39:41,630

And it was worthwhile.

2325

01:39:41,630 --> 01:39:43,910

There was no question about it.

2326

01:39:43,910 --> 01:39:51,760

I found the same apartment
house where I was

2327

01:39:51,760 --> 01:39:55,780

living as a child in Pankow.

2328

01:39:55,780 --> 01:39:59,405

I found the rowing club where

I had so many happy hours.

2329
01:39:59,405 --> 01:40:00,430
Mm-hmm.

2330
01:40:00,430 --> 01:40:05,560
I think that was one of
the most emotional things.

2331
01:40:05,560 --> 01:40:10,820

2332
01:40:10,820 --> 01:40:13,370
I found and went
to the synagogue

2333
01:40:13,370 --> 01:40:20,300
where we had gone a couple of
years for the high holidays.

2334
01:40:20,300 --> 01:40:22,220
It was closure.

2335
01:40:22,220 --> 01:40:26,170
And it was worth going.

2336
01:40:26,170 --> 01:40:26,980
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2337
01:40:26,980 --> 01:40:28,250
Why did I bring this up?

2338
01:40:28,250 --> 01:40:28,750
Oh, you--

2339
01:40:28,750 --> 01:40:29,326
Well I asked you
what your thought--

2340
01:40:29,326 --> 01:40:30,970
--wanted to know how
I felt about Germany.

2341
01:40:30,970 --> 01:40:32,887
--what your thoughts
about Germans in general.

2342
01:40:32,887 --> 01:40:34,780
Listen, I can't
begin to tell you--

2343
01:40:34,780 --> 01:40:44,200
Berlin wallowed in an apology.

2344
01:40:44,200 --> 01:40:44,700
Mm-hmm.

2345
01:40:44,700 --> 01:40:45,990

2346
01:40:45,990 --> 01:40:50,680
Wherever you went you had
memorials for what happened.

2347
01:40:50,680 --> 01:40:52,170
Mm-hmm.

2348
01:40:52,170 --> 01:40:54,644
There was one very art board.

2349
01:40:54,644 --> 01:40:58,080

2350
01:40:58,080 --> 01:41:00,750
It was like black
but stenciled out

2351
01:41:00,750 --> 01:41:04,080
with dates, and
numbers of people,

2352
01:41:04,080 --> 01:41:09,130
and destinations that were sent
to the concentration camps.

2353
01:41:09,130 --> 01:41:09,910
Mm-hmm.

2354
01:41:09,910 --> 01:41:15,220
And one of the mo--

2355
01:41:15,220 --> 01:41:16,810
almost like a Times Square--

2356
01:41:16,810 --> 01:41:17,320
Mm-hmm.

2357
01:41:17,320 --> 01:41:19,600
--kind of area.

2358
01:41:19,600 --> 01:41:21,940
I couldn't, I
couldn't believe it.

2359
01:41:21,940 --> 01:41:25,130

2360
01:41:25,130 --> 01:41:27,290
By that time, I
realized there was

2361
01:41:27,290 --> 01:41:29,905
a difference between
the young people I saw--

2362
01:41:29,905 --> 01:41:30,530
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2363
01:41:30,530 --> 01:41:31,970
--and people of my own age.

2364
01:41:31,970 --> 01:41:32,720
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2365
01:41:32,720 --> 01:41:34,220

If it was somebody
from my own age--

2366
01:41:34,220 --> 01:41:34,280
Right.

2367
01:41:34,280 --> 01:41:36,710
--I've always wanted to
ask them how many did you

2368
01:41:36,710 --> 01:41:37,740
shove into the oven?

2369
01:41:37,740 --> 01:41:38,240
Yeah.

2370
01:41:38,240 --> 01:41:41,720

2371
01:41:41,720 --> 01:41:48,770
My whole attitude about
Germany had been terrible--

2372
01:41:48,770 --> 01:41:49,550
Mm-hmm.

2373
01:41:49,550 --> 01:41:54,920
--before I knew that my parents
had survived when at the first

2374
01:41:54,920 --> 01:41:55,680
atom bomb--

2375
01:41:55,680 --> 01:41:56,180
Mm-hmm.

2376
01:41:56,180 --> 01:42:01,260
--go off, my reaction was
whether my parents are alive

2377
01:42:01,260 --> 01:42:01,760
or not.

2378
01:42:01,760 --> 01:42:04,730
They should have used
the atom bomb in Germany.

2379
01:42:04,730 --> 01:42:09,080
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2380
01:42:09,080 --> 01:42:18,400
If I met anybody German,
it was difficult for me

2381
01:42:18,400 --> 01:42:20,446
to disassociate--

2382
01:42:20,446 --> 01:42:23,000
Mm-hmm.

2383
01:42:23,000 --> 01:42:26,242
--them from my feeling
about the Germans.

2384
01:42:26,242 --> 01:42:26,742
Mm-hmm.

2385
01:42:26,742 --> 01:42:29,660

2386
01:42:29,660 --> 01:42:36,020
I had utter disdain for
the people as a whole.

2387
01:42:36,020 --> 01:42:38,700

2388
01:42:38,700 --> 01:42:45,290
When I went back to work for the
American government in Munich,

2389
01:42:45,290 --> 01:42:52,320
I saw daily this
business about, well,

2390
01:42:52,320 --> 01:42:53,760
I didn't know what was going--

2391
01:42:53,760 --> 01:42:54,260
Yes.

2392
01:42:54,260 --> 01:42:55,370
I went to Dachau.

2393
01:42:55,370 --> 01:42:56,070
Mm-hmm.

2394
01:42:56,070 --> 01:42:59,350
And people told me they
didn't know what was--

2395
01:42:59,350 --> 01:42:59,850
Mm-hmm.

2396
01:42:59,850 --> 01:43:03,940
--going on when the railroad
tracks led right into the--

2397
01:43:03,940 --> 01:43:04,440
Yeah.

2398
01:43:04,440 --> 01:43:05,220
--the concentration camp.

2399
01:43:05,220 --> 01:43:05,720
Yeah.

2400
01:43:05,720 --> 01:43:08,934

2401
01:43:08,934 --> 01:43:10,830
If somebody would
have said to me,

2402
01:43:10,830 --> 01:43:13,110

yes, I knew and too
bad Hitler didn't

2403
01:43:13,110 --> 01:43:16,800
manage to get the
last Jew, I might

2404
01:43:16,800 --> 01:43:18,830
have had some respect for him.

2405
01:43:18,830 --> 01:43:19,350
Uh-huh.

2406
01:43:19,350 --> 01:43:23,710
But this-- I'm a little person.

2407
01:43:23,710 --> 01:43:25,620
What could I have
done, kind of baloney.

2408
01:43:25,620 --> 01:43:26,430
Yeah, yeah.

2409
01:43:26,430 --> 01:43:28,980

2410
01:43:28,980 --> 01:43:30,270
It didn't sit well.

2411
01:43:30,270 --> 01:43:32,050
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2412
01:43:32,050 --> 01:43:39,660
However, when I did go to Berlin
later on, I realized that--

2413
01:43:39,660 --> 01:43:45,960
I mean, I was surprised
at all the signs of--

2414
01:43:45,960 --> 01:43:48,918

2415
01:43:48,918 --> 01:43:49,418
Regret.

2416
01:43:49,418 --> 01:43:49,650
[PERSON IN BACKGROUND]

2417
01:43:49,650 --> 01:43:50,150
Regret.

2418
01:43:50,150 --> 01:43:50,750
Mm-hmm.

2419
01:43:50,750 --> 01:43:54,720
And that's putting
it mildly, about what

2420
01:43:54,720 --> 01:43:55,665
happened to the Jews.

2421
01:43:55,665 --> 01:43:56,165
Mm-hmm.

2422
01:43:56,165 --> 01:43:58,080

2423
01:43:58,080 --> 01:44:00,765
Now I realize that Berlin,
that Northern Germany

2424
01:44:00,765 --> 01:44:06,180
[CLEARS THROAT] was very
different from Southern

2425
01:44:06,180 --> 01:44:08,160
Germany, the Munich area.

2426
01:44:08,160 --> 01:44:09,540
Mm-hmm.

2427
01:44:09,540 --> 01:44:13,750

And probably still is.

2428

01:44:13,750 --> 01:44:22,080

But it took me a long time to
get over this neurotic feeling

2429

01:44:22,080 --> 01:44:24,255

about Germany and the Germans.

2430

01:44:24,255 --> 01:44:26,930

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2431

01:44:26,930 --> 01:44:37,220

And I also felt that my
hate was like a comfort

2432

01:44:37,220 --> 01:44:40,748

blanket for my own--

2433

01:44:40,748 --> 01:44:41,290

Preservation.

2434

01:44:41,290 --> 01:44:42,207

[PERSON IN BACKGROUND]

2435

01:44:42,207 --> 01:44:43,287

Preservation.

2436

01:44:43,287 --> 01:44:47,030

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2437

01:44:47,030 --> 01:44:48,905

But, you know,
times have changed.

2438

01:44:48,905 --> 01:44:51,910

2439

01:44:51,910 --> 01:44:54,370

Yeah.

2440

01:44:54,370 --> 01:44:57,488
When your children were
the age that you were when

2441
01:44:57,488 --> 01:44:58,780
you had to leave your parents--

2442
01:44:58,780 --> 01:45:00,640
[LAUGHTER]

2443
01:45:00,640 --> 01:45:06,080
--did that bring up memories
of your wartime experience?

2444
01:45:06,080 --> 01:45:12,320
Not so much memories
as, [CLEARS THROAT] as,

2445
01:45:12,320 --> 01:45:18,620
well, I did realize hey, they're
at this age when I left home.

2446
01:45:18,620 --> 01:45:19,670
Mm-hmm.

2447
01:45:19,670 --> 01:45:25,420
It was hard to reconcile.

2448
01:45:25,420 --> 01:45:26,330
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2449
01:45:26,330 --> 01:45:29,090

2450
01:45:29,090 --> 01:45:35,410
I consider myself on the whole
as having been very fortunate.

2451
01:45:35,410 --> 01:45:37,610
Except for the first
year in England--

2452

01:45:37,610 --> 01:45:38,110
Mm-hmm.

2453
01:45:38,110 --> 01:45:40,650
--the rest was a very positive.

2454
01:45:40,650 --> 01:45:41,150
Mm-hmm.

2455
01:45:41,150 --> 01:45:44,330

2456
01:45:44,330 --> 01:45:45,440
--experience.

2457
01:45:45,440 --> 01:45:47,090
Mm-hmm.

2458
01:45:47,090 --> 01:45:57,260
I think I gained from it a
much broader outlook on things

2459
01:45:57,260 --> 01:45:57,760
than--

2460
01:45:57,760 --> 01:45:57,880
Mm-hmm.

2461
01:45:57,880 --> 01:45:59,755
--I would have had if
things had been normal.

2462
01:45:59,755 --> 01:46:01,390
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2463
01:46:01,390 --> 01:46:06,190

2464
01:46:06,190 --> 01:46:14,270
Yes, I was once called,
oh, here's the happy one.

2465

01:46:14,270 --> 01:46:20,375

We went to see one of the
Kindertransport movies--

2466

01:46:20,375 --> 01:46:22,040

Mm-hmm.

2467

01:46:22,040 --> 01:46:22,680

--in a theater.

2468

01:46:22,680 --> 01:46:24,630

I think it was in Philadelphia.

2469

01:46:24,630 --> 01:46:26,060

I'm not sure.

2470

01:46:26,060 --> 01:46:30,950

And afterwards they asked if any
of the Kindertransport people

2471

01:46:30,950 --> 01:46:32,000

were there.

2472

01:46:32,000 --> 01:46:33,460

And there were
about half a dozen.

2473

01:46:33,460 --> 01:46:34,720

And I stood up too.

2474

01:46:34,720 --> 01:46:37,340

And behind me, somebody said,
oh, here is the happy one.

2475

01:46:37,340 --> 01:46:40,810

[LAUGHTER]

2476

01:46:40,810 --> 01:46:44,770

However, it was much,
much later that I

2477

01:46:44,770 --> 01:46:49,760
realized there are some deep
scars left from the experience.

2478
01:46:49,760 --> 01:46:50,260
Yeah.

2479
01:46:50,260 --> 01:46:59,720
Because as much as I
enjoyed my stay in England,

2480
01:46:59,720 --> 01:47:01,730
I was always an outsider.

2481
01:47:01,730 --> 01:47:04,510

2482
01:47:04,510 --> 01:47:11,710
And being here is
the first time that I

2483
01:47:11,710 --> 01:47:14,200
didn't have that feeling.

2484
01:47:14,200 --> 01:47:15,250
I'm home now.

2485
01:47:15,250 --> 01:47:20,410

2486
01:47:20,410 --> 01:47:21,100
You mean w--

2487
01:47:21,100 --> 01:47:21,550
Can you understand that?

2488
01:47:21,550 --> 01:47:24,250
You mean w-- you mean when
you came to the United States?

2489
01:47:24,250 --> 01:47:26,830
Is that what you

meant by being here?

2490
01:47:26,830 --> 01:47:27,330
Yes.

2491
01:47:27,330 --> 01:47:27,830
Yeah.

2492
01:47:27,830 --> 01:47:29,050
Not necessarily when I came.

2493
01:47:29,050 --> 01:47:31,930
But now, you know, after
I've been here for a while.

2494
01:47:31,930 --> 01:47:33,190
Oh, I see, yeah.

2495
01:47:33,190 --> 01:47:37,780
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, yeah.

2496
01:47:37,780 --> 01:47:40,070
This is your true
home in other words.

2497
01:47:40,070 --> 01:47:40,570
Yes.

2498
01:47:40,570 --> 01:47:41,560
Yeah.

2499
01:47:41,560 --> 01:47:42,490
I belong.

2500
01:47:42,490 --> 01:47:43,780
Yeah, yeah.

2501
01:47:43,780 --> 01:47:46,490

2502
01:47:46,490 --> 01:47:47,600

I'm putting this--

2503

01:47:47,600 --> 01:47:48,472

Mm-hmm.

2504

01:47:48,472 --> 01:47:49,676

--concisely as I can.

2505

01:47:49,676 --> 01:47:50,900

Mm-hmm.

2506

01:47:50,900 --> 01:47:52,340

It's a feeling of belonging.

2507

01:47:52,340 --> 01:47:52,840

Yeah.

2508

01:47:52,840 --> 01:47:53,580

Being home.

2509

01:47:53,580 --> 01:47:55,380

This is where I belong.

2510

01:47:55,380 --> 01:47:59,130

Yeah, mm-hmm.

2511

01:47:59,130 --> 01:48:02,040

Because of your childhood
experiences in Germany

2512

01:48:02,040 --> 01:48:06,610

and in England, yeah, mm-hmm.

2513

01:48:06,610 --> 01:48:11,590

Are there any sights today,
or sounds, or smells that

2514

01:48:11,590 --> 01:48:16,330

bring back the
war years for you?

2515

01:48:16,330 --> 01:48:19,180
In today's world anything
that reminds you, or?

2516
01:48:19,180 --> 01:48:22,540

2517
01:48:22,540 --> 01:48:25,335
I don't believe so.

2518
01:48:25,335 --> 01:48:26,180
Mm-hmm.

2519
01:48:26,180 --> 01:48:31,750
I did have strange experiences
when I went back to Berlin.

2520
01:48:31,750 --> 01:48:37,630
The sound of the
wheels of the train.

2521
01:48:37,630 --> 01:48:38,800
Mmm, mm-hmm.

2522
01:48:38,800 --> 01:48:43,460
The smell of the river when
I found the rowing club.

2523
01:48:43,460 --> 01:48:44,670
It's amazing.

2524
01:48:44,670 --> 01:48:48,205
It is like no other smell.

2525
01:48:48,205 --> 01:48:49,911
Mm-hmm.

2526
01:48:49,911 --> 01:48:52,300
Hmm, mm-hmm.

2527
01:48:52,300 --> 01:49:00,580
But now, here that could

remind me of the war years,

2528
01:49:00,580 --> 01:49:02,270
I don't think so.

2529
01:49:02,270 --> 01:49:07,683
I sometimes marvel at how we
have and we keep our young.

2530
01:49:07,683 --> 01:49:08,433
[CHUCKLES] Mm-hmm.

2531
01:49:08,433 --> 01:49:15,540

2532
01:49:15,540 --> 01:49:16,281
And we do.

2533
01:49:16,281 --> 01:49:16,781
Mm-hmm.

2534
01:49:16,781 --> 01:49:19,550

2535
01:49:19,550 --> 01:49:21,445
Including I as a parent.

2536
01:49:21,445 --> 01:49:22,150
[CHUCKLES]

2537
01:49:22,150 --> 01:49:29,490
Right, right, mm-hmm, yeah.

2538
01:49:29,490 --> 01:49:42,030
But all in all, I can
describe my state of mind

2539
01:49:42,030 --> 01:49:44,475
at this point as content.

2540
01:49:44,475 --> 01:49:45,480

Mm-hmm.

2541

01:49:45,480 --> 01:49:46,860

I'm content.

2542

01:49:46,860 --> 01:49:48,840

I never expected to be this old.

2543

01:49:48,840 --> 01:49:50,070

[CHUCKLES]

2544

01:49:50,070 --> 01:49:56,140

I have-- I am basically healthy.

2545

01:49:56,140 --> 01:49:56,640

Mm-hmm.

2546

01:49:56,640 --> 01:49:58,450

Which is a blessing.

2547

01:49:58,450 --> 01:50:00,540

Mm-hmm.

2548

01:50:00,540 --> 01:50:02,060

I have terrible arthritis.

2549

01:50:02,060 --> 01:50:03,860

That started when I
was in high school.

2550

01:50:03,860 --> 01:50:04,760

Mmm.

2551

01:50:04,760 --> 01:50:10,180

But I could live my life.

2552

01:50:10,180 --> 01:50:10,680

Mm-hmm.

2553

01:50:10,680 --> 01:50:14,750

2554
01:50:14,750 --> 01:50:17,240
Do you, when you
think back sometimes

2555
01:50:17,240 --> 01:50:19,690
about what you had to go
through as a young child do

2556
01:50:19,690 --> 01:50:22,970
you have moments of
terrible anger or rage

2557
01:50:22,970 --> 01:50:27,020
about that you had
to go through that?

2558
01:50:27,020 --> 01:50:29,120
Not anger.

2559
01:50:29,120 --> 01:50:31,140
No, there was no room for anger.

2560
01:50:31,140 --> 01:50:35,770

2561
01:50:35,770 --> 01:50:37,810
I mean in today's world,
when you think back

2562
01:50:37,810 --> 01:50:40,400
of what you were forced to go
through, leaving your parents,

2563
01:50:40,400 --> 01:50:43,660
and so forth, and living
in a different country,

2564
01:50:43,660 --> 01:50:44,410
and, you know.

2565
01:50:44,410 --> 01:50:46,750

2566
01:50:46,750 --> 01:50:49,995
Well, if there was anger,
it was it's the political--

2567
01:50:49,995 --> 01:50:51,190
Yeah, yes,

2568
01:50:51,190 --> 01:50:52,130
--situation.

2569
01:50:52,130 --> 01:50:54,280
It wasn't until a
few years ago that it

2570
01:50:54,280 --> 01:50:58,750
dawned on me that all this
horror took only 12 years.

2571
01:50:58,750 --> 01:50:59,410
Mm-hmm.

2572
01:50:59,410 --> 01:51:00,610
12 years of nothing.

2573
01:51:00,610 --> 01:51:01,720
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2574
01:51:01,720 --> 01:51:05,750
And look what horror it created.

2575
01:51:05,750 --> 01:51:09,150
Yes, yes, yes.

2576
01:51:09,150 --> 01:51:12,870
Did you lose any
extended members

2577
01:51:12,870 --> 01:51:15,195
of your family, your
father's family?

2578
01:51:15,195 --> 01:51:17,850

2579
01:51:17,850 --> 01:51:20,745
You know we had
such a small family.

2580
01:51:20,745 --> 01:51:22,080
Mm-hmm.

2581
01:51:22,080 --> 01:51:26,625
I was fortunate that
my grandmother died--

2582
01:51:26,625 --> 01:51:27,480
Yeah.

2583
01:51:27,480 --> 01:51:28,260
--a natural--

2584
01:51:28,260 --> 01:51:28,870
Uh-huh.

2585
01:51:28,870 --> 01:51:29,370
--death.

2586
01:51:29,370 --> 01:51:29,870
Right.

2587
01:51:29,870 --> 01:51:33,150

2588
01:51:33,150 --> 01:51:36,930
My uncle incidentally, did
manage to get to England.

2589
01:51:36,930 --> 01:51:41,460

2590
01:51:41,460 --> 01:51:43,890

And his wife and
daughter followed.

2591
01:51:43,890 --> 01:51:45,450
Mm-hmm.

2592
01:51:45,450 --> 01:51:48,840
So there wasn't anybody
in the immediate family.

2593
01:51:48,840 --> 01:51:50,400
Family, yeah, mm-hmm.

2594
01:51:50,400 --> 01:51:52,565
I did see a book
but I was in Berlin.

2595
01:51:52,565 --> 01:51:59,120
[COUGHS] And we found the
same at the Holocaust Center,

2596
01:51:59,120 --> 01:52:07,060
a book of Berlin Jews
that lost their lives.

2597
01:52:07,060 --> 01:52:08,360
Mm-hmm.

2598
01:52:08,360 --> 01:52:14,200
And I only had time to glance
at it for a very, short time.

2599
01:52:14,200 --> 01:52:14,700
Uh-huh.

2600
01:52:14,700 --> 01:52:18,660
And I looked up the name of
one school friend of mine.

2601
01:52:18,660 --> 01:52:19,620
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2602

01:52:19,620 --> 01:52:21,090
And sure enough there it was.

2603
01:52:21,090 --> 01:52:24,752
Oh my, oh my, yeah, mm-hmm.

2604
01:52:24,752 --> 01:52:28,230

2605
01:52:28,230 --> 01:52:34,150
Do you think what you
went through affects

2606
01:52:34,150 --> 01:52:38,250
your political views today?

2607
01:52:38,250 --> 01:52:39,840
Yes, probably.

2608
01:52:39,840 --> 01:52:47,260
But also, what I
experienced in England

2609
01:52:47,260 --> 01:52:51,760
and political-- from the
political view, I mean,

2610
01:52:51,760 --> 01:52:59,680
I was first really introduced
to the liberals in England.

2611
01:52:59,680 --> 01:53:02,440
And although it's a dirty
word, I'm still liberal.

2612
01:53:02,440 --> 01:53:12,930
[CHUCKLES] I don'--

2613
01:53:12,930 --> 01:53:22,830
I'm not sufficiently active,
or knowledgeable, I should say,

2614

01:53:22,830 --> 01:53:23,435
in politics--

2615
01:53:23,435 --> 01:53:23,935
Mm-hmm.

2616
01:53:23,935 --> 01:53:24,750
--as I should be.

2617
01:53:24,750 --> 01:53:27,040
Mm-hmm.

2618
01:53:27,040 --> 01:53:29,080
Were you active in the
civil rights movement

2619
01:53:29,080 --> 01:53:32,200
at all in the 60s and 70s?

2620
01:53:32,200 --> 01:53:34,120
Or you were busy
raising children?

2621
01:53:34,120 --> 01:53:35,320
I was physically active.

2622
01:53:35,320 --> 01:53:38,830
I had two young children.

2623
01:53:38,830 --> 01:53:40,330
Right, right, right.

2624
01:53:40,330 --> 01:53:43,950
But absolute-- I
absolutely followed it.

2625
01:53:43,950 --> 01:53:49,090
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2626
01:53:49,090 --> 01:53:51,640
I mean here you lived in a
country that deprived people

2627
01:53:51,640 --> 01:53:54,190
of their civil
rights, of course you

2628
01:53:54,190 --> 01:53:56,350
were a young child at the time.

2629
01:53:56,350 --> 01:53:59,750
But still, you know--

2630
01:53:59,750 --> 01:54:00,250
Yeah.

2631
01:54:00,250 --> 01:54:04,960
--I bet it gave you a greater
sensitivity to that issue.

2632
01:54:04,960 --> 01:54:07,120
You know when we think
along those lines

2633
01:54:07,120 --> 01:54:09,530
it makes everybody think.

2634
01:54:09,530 --> 01:54:10,030
Mm-hmm.

2635
01:54:10,030 --> 01:54:14,320

2636
01:54:14,320 --> 01:54:20,080
I mean, we treat civil
rights throughout the world

2637
01:54:20,080 --> 01:54:22,890
and expect them to honor it.

2638
01:54:22,890 --> 01:54:25,090
Mm-hmm.

2639

01:54:25,090 --> 01:54:26,760
And look what we had here.

2640
01:54:26,760 --> 01:54:28,690
Yeah, right.

2641
01:54:28,690 --> 01:54:29,500
To this day.

2642
01:54:29,500 --> 01:54:30,780
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2643
01:54:30,780 --> 01:54:32,750
I mean look at the
justice systems.

2644
01:54:32,750 --> 01:54:38,110

2645
01:54:38,110 --> 01:54:42,422
But I'm a great one for spouting
forth and not doing anything.

2646
01:54:42,422 --> 01:54:44,660
[CHUCKLES] Yeah.

2647
01:54:44,660 --> 01:54:46,660
What are your thoughts--
what were your thoughts

2648
01:54:46,660 --> 01:54:49,720
during the Eichmann trial?

2649
01:54:49,720 --> 01:54:52,510
Anything special?

2650
01:54:52,510 --> 01:55:00,390
Just spellbound interest in it.

2651
01:55:00,390 --> 01:55:04,170
And it's so happy that I
always supported Wiesenthal.

2652
01:55:04,170 --> 01:55:06,438
[LAUGHTER]

2653
01:55:06,438 --> 01:55:09,930
Yeah, uh-huh.

2654
01:55:09,930 --> 01:55:18,960
You know, one trial, one
execution cannot undo

2655
01:55:18,960 --> 01:55:19,500
the horror--

2656
01:55:19,500 --> 01:55:21,270
Mm-hmm.

2657
01:55:21,270 --> 01:55:22,650
--the individual cost.

2658
01:55:22,650 --> 01:55:24,630
Mm-hmm.

2659
01:55:24,630 --> 01:55:30,690
You can't-- you
can't erase that.

2660
01:55:30,690 --> 01:55:31,190
Right.

2661
01:55:31,190 --> 01:55:34,050

2662
01:55:34,050 --> 01:55:37,530
And if you think the worst
way of killing somebody,

2663
01:55:37,530 --> 01:55:41,120
it's so wouldn't be enough.

2664
01:55:41,120 --> 01:55:42,215

I sound bloodthirsty.

2665

01:55:42,215 --> 01:55:46,820

[CHUCKLES] What are your thoughts about Israel?

2666

01:55:46,820 --> 01:55:51,780

2667

01:55:51,780 --> 01:55:57,390

I was as a youngster in Berlin, a Zionist.

2668

01:55:57,390 --> 01:56:04,595

I married a man who was American first.

2669

01:56:04,595 --> 01:56:08,600

2670

01:56:08,600 --> 01:56:19,326

But I'm very emotionally and--

2671

01:56:19,326 --> 01:56:22,940

and I can't say even say financially much.

2672

01:56:22,940 --> 01:56:25,920

But I am very much in support of Israel--

2673

01:56:25,920 --> 01:56:26,420

Mm-hmm, mmm.

2674

01:56:26,420 --> 01:56:27,792

--and very worried about--

2675

01:56:27,792 --> 01:56:30,560

2676

01:56:30,560 --> 01:56:33,672

about that situation there.

2677
01:56:33,672 --> 01:56:34,600
Mm-hmm.

2678
01:56:34,600 --> 01:56:38,510
I can't see an end
in the near future.

2679
01:56:38,510 --> 01:56:39,010
Mm-hmm.

2680
01:56:39,010 --> 01:56:40,960
I don't know how it's possible.

2681
01:56:40,960 --> 01:56:42,380
Yeah, yeah.

2682
01:56:42,380 --> 01:56:46,370
And I'm very disturbed
about today's attitude

2683
01:56:46,370 --> 01:56:47,290
towards Israel.

2684
01:56:47,290 --> 01:56:56,670
But many of our so-called
friendly nations.

2685
01:56:56,670 --> 01:56:59,660
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2686
01:56:59,660 --> 01:57:04,340
It always seems to be one sided.

2687
01:57:04,340 --> 01:57:05,134
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2688
01:57:05,134 --> 01:57:09,310

2689
01:57:09,310 --> 01:57:11,995

And let's face it,
this is a country.

2690
01:57:11,995 --> 01:57:15,070

2691
01:57:15,070 --> 01:57:20,300
The only democratic
country in the Middle East,

2692
01:57:20,300 --> 01:57:23,080
surrounded by nations--

2693
01:57:23,080 --> 01:57:23,580
Right.

2694
01:57:23,580 --> 01:57:26,620
--that want to annihilate them.

2695
01:57:26,620 --> 01:57:27,120
Mm-hmm.

2696
01:57:27,120 --> 01:57:30,960

2697
01:57:30,960 --> 01:57:34,770
Are you more comfortable
around people

2698
01:57:34,770 --> 01:57:36,870
who lived through
the war in Europe

2699
01:57:36,870 --> 01:57:41,340
than others who didn't
experience it firsthand

2700
01:57:41,340 --> 01:57:42,000
like you did?

2701
01:57:42,000 --> 01:57:46,410

2702
01:57:46,410 --> 01:57:48,270
I can't really say that I am.

2703
01:57:48,270 --> 01:57:49,380
But I don't--

2704
01:57:49,380 --> 01:57:50,700
I don't know many people.

2705
01:57:50,700 --> 01:57:52,230
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2706
01:57:52,230 --> 01:57:53,730
As far as friends, you know--

2707
01:57:53,730 --> 01:57:55,650
Yeah, mm-hmm.

2708
01:57:55,650 --> 01:57:58,690
--who would meet those criteria.

2709
01:57:58,690 --> 01:57:59,190
Mm-hmm.

2710
01:57:59,190 --> 01:58:01,800

2711
01:58:01,800 --> 01:58:03,060
Do you think--

2712
01:58:03,060 --> 01:58:08,100
I mean, I still think of the
Second World War as my war.

2713
01:58:08,100 --> 01:58:08,880
Mm-hmm.

2714
01:58:08,880 --> 01:58:10,410
It was my war.

2715

01:58:10,410 --> 01:58:11,910

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2716

01:58:11,910 --> 01:58:14,284

In every sense of the way.

2717

01:58:14,284 --> 01:58:14,784

Mm-hmm.

2718

01:58:14,784 --> 01:58:19,530

2719

01:58:19,530 --> 01:58:24,150

Do you think more about that
time in your life and that war

2720

01:58:24,150 --> 01:58:25,700

more as you've gotten older?

2721

01:58:25,700 --> 01:58:29,210

2722

01:58:29,210 --> 01:58:37,010

No, not really, but I did
realize, only as I got older,

2723

01:58:37,010 --> 01:58:41,150

that things that I
experienced at the time

2724

01:58:41,150 --> 01:58:43,055

felt like nothing very special--

2725

01:58:43,055 --> 01:58:43,670

Mm-hmm.

2726

01:58:43,670 --> 01:58:45,440

--I realize today, oh boy.

2727

01:58:45,440 --> 01:58:46,100

Mm-hmm.

2728
01:58:46,100 --> 01:58:47,655
They left deep scars.

2729
01:58:47,655 --> 01:58:52,140
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2730
01:58:52,140 --> 01:58:54,140
Did you ever need
professional counseling?

2731
01:58:54,140 --> 01:58:57,100

2732
01:58:57,100 --> 01:59:08,080
No, after Robert
died, I did see a--

2733
01:59:08,080 --> 01:59:12,700
A grief counselor, is
that what you mean?

2734
01:59:12,700 --> 01:59:13,555
No, a therapist.

2735
01:59:13,555 --> 01:59:14,830
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2736
01:59:14,830 --> 01:59:17,360
And--

2737
01:59:17,360 --> 01:59:18,050

2738
01:59:18,050 --> 01:59:19,370
When did he pass away?

2739
01:59:19,370 --> 01:59:23,550

2740
01:59:23,550 --> 01:59:26,380

Valentine's Day, it
will be 11 years ago.

2741
01:59:26,380 --> 01:59:27,480
Ah, yes, yeah.

2742
01:59:27,480 --> 01:59:31,460
He had the nerve to
die on Valentine's Day.

2743
01:59:31,460 --> 01:59:36,510
[LAUGHS] Yeah, mm-hmm.

2744
01:59:36,510 --> 01:59:38,040
But I did see a counselor.

2745
01:59:38,040 --> 01:59:44,350
And I still see her
as a very warm--

2746
01:59:44,350 --> 01:59:44,850
Hmm.

2747
01:59:44,850 --> 01:59:46,120
--friendly relationship.

2748
01:59:46,120 --> 01:59:46,620
Mm-hmm.

2749
01:59:46,620 --> 01:59:50,580

2750
01:59:50,580 --> 01:59:54,200
Do you receive
reparations from Germany?

2751
01:59:54,200 --> 01:59:56,580

2752
01:59:56,580 --> 01:59:57,080
No.

2753

01:59:57,080 --> 01:59:58,590

Mm-hmm.

2754

01:59:58,590 --> 02:00:00,290

Well I won't say that.

2755

02:00:00,290 --> 02:00:03,020

When we were still down
in Dover, I received--

2756

02:00:03,020 --> 02:00:04,050

I don't remember.

2757

02:00:04,050 --> 02:00:06,460

I think it was \$1,000.

2758

02:00:06,460 --> 02:00:12,787

It was a one deal
for missed education.

2759

02:00:12,787 --> 02:00:14,735

mm-hmm, yeah.

2760

02:00:14,735 --> 02:00:18,440

2761

02:00:18,440 --> 02:00:19,640

What about your parents?

2762

02:00:19,640 --> 02:00:21,620

Did they move to
the United States?

2763

02:00:21,620 --> 02:00:22,610

Yes.

2764

02:00:22,610 --> 02:00:25,875

When did they come?

2765

02:00:25,875 --> 02:00:27,055

Oh, let me think.

2766
02:00:27,055 --> 02:00:29,960

2767
02:00:29,960 --> 02:00:31,710
You know the memory
isn't what used to be.

2768
02:00:31,710 --> 02:00:34,770
No, I know, yeah, right.

2769
02:00:34,770 --> 02:00:39,810
In the 1950s or?

2770
02:00:39,810 --> 02:00:40,720
Ah, it's OK.

2771
02:00:40,720 --> 02:00:41,220
It's OK.

2772
02:00:41,220 --> 02:00:42,742
No, it was in the 60s.

2773
02:00:42,742 --> 02:00:43,950
So not till the the 60s, hmm.

2774
02:00:43,950 --> 02:00:45,000
It was early 60s.

2775
02:00:45,000 --> 02:00:47,870
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2776
02:00:47,870 --> 02:00:49,870
It has to be about 63 or four.

2777
02:00:49,870 --> 02:00:50,370
Yeah.

2778
02:00:50,370 --> 02:00:53,140

2779
02:00:53,140 --> 02:00:53,640
Mm-hmm.

2780
02:00:53,640 --> 02:00:54,508
Yeah.

2781
02:00:54,508 --> 02:00:55,810
Mm-hmm.

2782
02:00:55,810 --> 02:00:57,740
Had the children already.

2783
02:00:57,740 --> 02:00:58,240
Yeah.

2784
02:00:58,240 --> 02:01:02,130

2785
02:01:02,130 --> 02:01:04,950
Do you think the world
has learned any lessons

2786
02:01:04,950 --> 02:01:06,240
from the Holocaust?

2787
02:01:06,240 --> 02:01:06,740
No.

2788
02:01:06,740 --> 02:01:07,992

2789
02:01:07,992 --> 02:01:09,450
You thinking it
could happen again?

2790
02:01:09,450 --> 02:01:12,800

2791
02:01:12,800 --> 02:01:16,350
Well, to a lesser degree
it's happening all the time.

2792
02:01:16,350 --> 02:01:17,840
Mm-hmm, yeah.

2793
02:01:17,840 --> 02:01:20,730

2794
02:01:20,730 --> 02:01:25,680
That;s a very, very sad thing
when you think about it.

2795
02:01:25,680 --> 02:01:33,450
You would think it would have
been a one time horror, never

2796
02:01:33,450 --> 02:01:35,270
to see anything like it again.

2797
02:01:35,270 --> 02:01:45,190

2798
02:01:45,190 --> 02:01:46,855
I don't know what
it is about mankind.

2799
02:01:46,855 --> 02:01:54,565
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2800
02:01:54,565 --> 02:02:02,370

2801
02:02:02,370 --> 02:02:05,310
Well, is there anything
else you would like to add,

2802
02:02:05,310 --> 02:02:07,650
that you would like to say?

2803
02:02:07,650 --> 02:02:09,330
Can you hold on
one minute, please?

2804

02:02:09,330 --> 02:02:10,983

Yes.

2805

02:02:10,983 --> 02:02:12,900

The batteries running--

[PERSON IN BACKGROUND]

2806

02:02:12,900 --> 02:02:14,590

You know my batteries running.

2807

02:02:14,590 --> 02:02:16,260

Let me switch to
the other phone.

2808

02:02:16,260 --> 02:02:16,760

OK.

2809

02:02:16,760 --> 02:02:17,770

Would you hold on, please?

2810

02:02:17,770 --> 02:02:18,270

Yes.

2811

02:02:18,270 --> 02:02:32,120

2812

02:02:32,120 --> 02:02:34,370

Hello?

2813

02:02:34,370 --> 02:02:37,040

Yeah, are you on another line?

2814

02:02:37,040 --> 02:02:37,550

Hello?

2815

02:02:37,550 --> 02:02:38,810

Yes, can you hear me?

2816

02:02:38,810 --> 02:02:39,560

Oh, yes.

2817
02:02:39,560 --> 02:02:40,982
OK, I just--

2818
02:02:40,982 --> 02:02:41,690
Sorry about that.

2819
02:02:41,690 --> 02:02:42,200
That's OK.

2820
02:02:42,200 --> 02:02:48,080
I just wanted to know if there
was anything else you want

2821
02:02:48,080 --> 02:02:52,250
to say before we
conclude, whether how

2822
02:02:52,250 --> 02:03:01,160
much of this experience plays
a role in your daily life

2823
02:03:01,160 --> 02:03:05,320
at this point in time?

2824
02:03:05,320 --> 02:03:11,365
Well, I will say this.

2825
02:03:11,365 --> 02:03:14,080

2826
02:03:14,080 --> 02:03:18,300
When I first saw
my parents again--

2827
02:03:18,300 --> 02:03:19,700
Mm-hmm.

2828
02:03:19,700 --> 02:03:24,650
--I could not-- I did
not want to hear details

2829

02:03:24,650 --> 02:03:25,930
of what happened to them.

2830
02:03:25,930 --> 02:03:26,630
Mm-hmm.

2831
02:03:26,630 --> 02:03:29,570
By the time I was
ready, they didn't

2832
02:03:29,570 --> 02:03:30,870
want to talk about it anymore.

2833
02:03:30,870 --> 02:03:34,050
Ah, yeah, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2834
02:03:34,050 --> 02:03:39,030
My children, my
daughter in particular,

2835
02:03:39,030 --> 02:03:45,590
knows everything about
me, my experience.

2836
02:03:45,590 --> 02:03:51,930

2837
02:03:51,930 --> 02:03:57,000
She and her husband are
very active in the Second

2838
02:03:57,000 --> 02:03:58,310
Generation.

2839
02:03:58,310 --> 02:04:08,590
Her husband's-- her husband
is the son of two survivors.

2840
02:04:08,590 --> 02:04:12,570
Oh, uh-huh, mm-hmm.

2841
02:04:12,570 --> 02:04:15,990

Incidentally, I have an excellent relationship

2842
02:04:15,990 --> 02:04:16,980
with both my children.

2843
02:04:16,980 --> 02:04:17,480
Mm-hmm.

2844
02:04:17,480 --> 02:04:22,010

2845
02:04:22,010 --> 02:04:25,570
And Gail, her husband, and I, were

2846
02:04:25,570 --> 02:04:31,300
going to the 20th anniversary celebration.

2847
02:04:31,300 --> 02:04:37,160
I can't believe that is only 20 years that the Holocaust

2848
02:04:37,160 --> 02:04:38,534
Museum opened.

2849
02:04:38,534 --> 02:04:39,370
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2850
02:04:39,370 --> 02:04:42,260
Robert and I must have been there

2851
02:04:42,260 --> 02:04:43,495
quite early on in that case.

2852
02:04:43,495 --> 02:04:44,120
[CLEARS THROAT]

2853
02:04:44,120 --> 02:04:45,698
Mm-hmm.

2854
02:04:45,698 --> 02:04:47,990
You're talking about the 20th
anniversary of the United

2855
02:04:47,990 --> 02:04:49,080
States Holocaust Museum?

2856
02:04:49,080 --> 02:04:49,580
Yes.

2857
02:04:49,580 --> 02:04:51,290
Yes, OK, mm-hmm.

2858
02:04:51,290 --> 02:04:53,390
I can't believe
it's only 20 years.

2859
02:04:53,390 --> 02:04:56,330
Yes, 1993, mm-hmm.

2860
02:04:56,330 --> 02:04:57,560
That's amazing.

2861
02:04:57,560 --> 02:05:00,317
It's a wonderful place.

2862
02:05:00,317 --> 02:05:00,900
I wish there--

2863
02:05:00,900 --> 02:05:05,420
What are your feelings when
you walk into this building?

2864
02:05:05,420 --> 02:05:11,000
Oh, we went there a couple
of months ago, I believe.

2865
02:05:11,000 --> 02:05:12,300
Mm-hmm.

2866

02:05:12,300 --> 02:05:26,240
And there are things
now that I just pass by,

2867
02:05:26,240 --> 02:05:32,330
things that show what happened
in Germany, the pictures

2868
02:05:32,330 --> 02:05:36,330
of the signs in stores--

2869
02:05:36,330 --> 02:05:37,010
Mm-hmm.

2870
02:05:37,010 --> 02:05:38,880
You know, no Jews
and stuff like that.

2871
02:05:38,880 --> 02:05:39,380
Mm-hmm.

2872
02:05:39,380 --> 02:05:44,460
It-- can I say it
leaves me cold.

2873
02:05:44,460 --> 02:05:44,960
Hmm.

2874
02:05:44,960 --> 02:05:47,010
But, I mean, you know it
has no impact anymore.

2875
02:05:47,010 --> 02:05:47,510
Mm-hmm.

2876
02:05:47,510 --> 02:05:52,490
There are other things, of
course, that impact me greatly.

2877
02:05:52,490 --> 02:06:04,820
But when I went down to find
you people, that was wonderful.

2878

02:06:04,820 --> 02:06:09,320

When you could research
your family or friends.

2879

02:06:09,320 --> 02:06:10,710

I had never been there before.

2880

02:06:10,710 --> 02:06:11,210

Mm-hmm.

2881

02:06:11,210 --> 02:06:16,610

And we stayed until the
last, last minute, really.

2882

02:06:16,610 --> 02:06:17,430

Mm-hmm.

2883

02:06:17,430 --> 02:06:20,910

And that's where you
found out about me--

2884

02:06:20,910 --> 02:06:21,410

Mm-hmm.

2885

02:06:21,410 --> 02:06:21,760

--I suppose.

2886

02:06:21,760 --> 02:06:22,260

Mm-hmm.

2887

02:06:22,260 --> 02:06:26,010

2888

02:06:26,010 --> 02:06:27,630

I found that fascinating.

2889

02:06:27,630 --> 02:06:31,080

I met somebody else
there, who I didn't even

2890

02:06:31,080 --> 02:06:33,570

think he was Caucasian.

2891
02:06:33,570 --> 02:06:38,160
But he was Jewish, a
wonderful, wonderful man.

2892
02:06:38,160 --> 02:06:40,980
We had great conversations.

2893
02:06:40,980 --> 02:06:46,020

2894
02:06:46,020 --> 02:06:50,360
I think the museum is fabulous.

2895
02:06:50,360 --> 02:06:52,166
It's absolutely fabulous.

2896
02:06:52,166 --> 02:06:55,315

2897
02:06:55,315 --> 02:06:57,300
Mm-hmm.

2898
02:06:57,300 --> 02:07:00,120
And the fact that the
war was not here--

2899
02:07:00,120 --> 02:07:01,410
[CHUCKLES]

2900
02:07:01,410 --> 02:07:06,960
But that it's still wise
that the museum is here?

2901
02:07:06,960 --> 02:07:07,830
Oh, yes.

2902
02:07:07,830 --> 02:07:12,060
And I'm very, very
gratified that it

2903

02:07:12,060 --> 02:07:15,500
is drawing so many visitors.

2904

02:07:15,500 --> 02:07:16,000
Mm-hmm.

2905

02:07:16,000 --> 02:07:18,510

2906

02:07:18,510 --> 02:07:19,680
Not just Jewish.

2907

02:07:19,680 --> 02:07:21,720
Right, right.

2908

02:07:21,720 --> 02:07:22,570
That in itself--

2909

02:07:22,570 --> 02:07:23,070
Mm-hmm.

2910

02:07:23,070 --> 02:07:24,935
--is a small miracle.

2911

02:07:24,935 --> 02:07:27,680
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, yes.

2912

02:07:27,680 --> 02:07:31,970

2913

02:07:31,970 --> 02:07:35,000
Do you have any grandchildren?

2914

02:07:35,000 --> 02:07:35,640
No I don't.

2915

02:07:35,640 --> 02:07:36,140
Mm-hmm.

2916

02:07:36,140 --> 02:07:37,250

My daughter married late.

2917

02:07:37,250 --> 02:07:38,540

And my son is not married.

2918

02:07:38,540 --> 02:07:40,220

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2919

02:07:40,220 --> 02:07:43,802

One of the regrets.

2920

02:07:43,802 --> 02:07:44,690

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2921

02:07:44,690 --> 02:07:47,320

2922

02:07:47,320 --> 02:07:48,430

But I have--

2923

02:07:48,430 --> 02:07:51,950

2924

02:07:51,950 --> 02:07:53,840

I have made it my
business to look

2925

02:07:53,840 --> 02:07:55,550

at the positive things in life.

2926

02:07:55,550 --> 02:07:56,610

Mm-hmm.

2927

02:07:56,610 --> 02:08:02,060

And to kind of push
the others aside.

2928

02:08:02,060 --> 02:08:04,360

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2929

02:08:04,360 --> 02:08:06,500

It's a matter of
self-preservation.

2930
02:08:06,500 --> 02:08:09,840
Right, and you've certainly
had lessons in that.

2931
02:08:09,840 --> 02:08:10,350
That's--

2932
02:08:10,350 --> 02:08:11,000
Yeah.

2933
02:08:11,000 --> 02:08:13,530
That's very, very true.

2934
02:08:13,530 --> 02:08:17,620
What are your feelings
about being Jewish?

2935
02:08:17,620 --> 02:08:21,040
Do you think, again, you
were a child during the war.

2936
02:08:21,040 --> 02:08:24,165
But did it-- do you think
it made you more aware?

2937
02:08:24,165 --> 02:08:28,990

2938
02:08:28,990 --> 02:08:31,270
I happen to be proud
of being Jewish.

2939
02:08:31,270 --> 02:08:32,110
Mm-hmm.

2940
02:08:32,110 --> 02:08:33,640
I happen to be proud.

2941
02:08:33,640 --> 02:08:47,320

Do you realize we are the basis
of civil law, like the Ten

2942
02:08:47,320 --> 02:08:52,635
Commandments, of
the idea of one God.

2943
02:08:52,635 --> 02:08:56,360

2944
02:08:56,360 --> 02:08:59,080
I happen to be very
proud of being a Jew--

2945
02:08:59,080 --> 02:08:59,580
Mm-hmm.

2946
02:08:59,580 --> 02:09:01,310
--not that I've done much.

2947
02:09:01,310 --> 02:09:05,192
[LAUGHS] But as far
as our history goes?

2948
02:09:05,192 --> 02:09:05,692
Mm-hmm.

2949
02:09:05,692 --> 02:09:08,590

2950
02:09:08,590 --> 02:09:10,940
Yeah.

2951
02:09:10,940 --> 02:09:12,190
I flaunt being Jewish.

2952
02:09:12,190 --> 02:09:16,274
[LAUGHTER]

2953
02:09:16,274 --> 02:09:20,480
Yeah, do you have relations
with your mother's family

2954
02:09:20,480 --> 02:09:20,985
in Germany?

2955
02:09:20,985 --> 02:09:24,110

2956
02:09:24,110 --> 02:09:26,410
No, no more.

2957
02:09:26,410 --> 02:09:28,658
When my grandmother
died that was it.

2958
02:09:28,658 --> 02:09:29,450
Yeah, yeah, mm-hmm.

2959
02:09:29,450 --> 02:09:32,170

2960
02:09:32,170 --> 02:09:35,530
But again, there wasn't
any close family.

2961
02:09:35,530 --> 02:09:40,238
Yeah, right, right,
right, mm-hmm.

2962
02:09:40,238 --> 02:09:42,980

2963
02:09:42,980 --> 02:09:45,980
Well, is there again,
anything that you

2964
02:09:45,980 --> 02:09:50,090
wanted to add to this interview
that you haven't mentioned

2965
02:09:50,090 --> 02:09:51,510
that we haven't talked about?

2966

02:09:51,510 --> 02:10:00,640

Well, there is one subject
that didn't come up.

2967

02:10:00,640 --> 02:10:06,875

My parents went back to Germany.

2968

02:10:06,875 --> 02:10:10,510

2969

02:10:10,510 --> 02:10:12,650

Now, it was because--

2970

02:10:12,650 --> 02:10:14,990

You mean after they came
here, then they went back?

2971

02:10:14,990 --> 02:10:15,490

Yeah.

2972

02:10:15,490 --> 02:10:16,000

Yeah.

2973

02:10:16,000 --> 02:10:17,740

Yeah.

2974

02:10:17,740 --> 02:10:20,800

It was very difficult for me.

2975

02:10:20,800 --> 02:10:28,870

I went to look for
help to understand.

2976

02:10:28,870 --> 02:10:31,480

2977

02:10:31,480 --> 02:10:36,290

Part of it was my
mother's health condition.

2978

02:10:36,290 --> 02:10:37,390

Yeah.

2979

02:10:37,390 --> 02:10:41,450

And that she couldn't get
health insurance here for--

2980

02:10:41,450 --> 02:10:42,530

Mmm.

2981

02:10:42,530 --> 02:10:43,440

--previous--

2982

02:10:43,440 --> 02:10:43,940

Mmm.

2983

02:10:43,940 --> 02:10:44,440

--ailments.

2984

02:10:44,440 --> 02:10:44,942

Mmm, mm-hmm.

2985

02:10:44,942 --> 02:10:49,650

2986

02:10:49,650 --> 02:10:58,280

Which meant, the
economic effect of health

2987

02:10:58,280 --> 02:10:59,420

care when things happen.

2988

02:10:59,420 --> 02:11:05,540

2989

02:11:05,540 --> 02:11:17,580

I only know that my mother told
my husband at the last goodbye,

2990

02:11:17,580 --> 02:11:19,712

that if anything
happened to papa,

2991

02:11:19,712 --> 02:11:21,045

she would come back immediately.

2992

02:11:21,045 --> 02:11:22,830

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

2993

02:11:22,830 --> 02:11:25,830

It was my father
who wanted to go.

2994

02:11:25,830 --> 02:11:27,150

Ah, mm-hmm.

2995

02:11:27,150 --> 02:11:31,980

And I was told
that sometimes it's

2996

02:11:31,980 --> 02:11:37,460

like a person wanting to
go back to the cradle--

2997

02:11:37,460 --> 02:11:38,450

Yeah.

2998

02:11:38,450 --> 02:11:39,935

--of his childhood, or whatever.

2999

02:11:39,935 --> 02:11:41,150

Right.

3000

02:11:41,150 --> 02:11:43,550

It was very, very
difficult for me.

3001

02:11:43,550 --> 02:11:44,510

I'm sure.

3002

02:11:44,510 --> 02:11:45,800

I'm sure.

3003

02:11:45,800 --> 02:11:50,140

And I very rarely
even talk about it.

3004
02:11:50,140 --> 02:11:51,270
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

3005
02:11:51,270 --> 02:11:53,190
I mentioned it here because--

3006
02:11:53,190 --> 02:11:55,290
Mm-hmm.

3007
02:11:55,290 --> 02:11:56,610
--well--

3008
02:11:56,610 --> 02:11:58,500
It's part of, it's
part of your story.

3009
02:11:58,500 --> 02:11:59,500
It's part of your story.

3010
02:11:59,500 --> 02:12:00,870
And it is, yes.

3011
02:12:00,870 --> 02:12:02,460
Yes, mm-hmm.

3012
02:12:02,460 --> 02:12:05,530

3013
02:12:05,530 --> 02:12:08,240
And they were supposed to come
back for Ira's bar mitzvah.

3014
02:12:08,240 --> 02:12:09,850
Mm-hmm.

3015
02:12:09,850 --> 02:12:12,880
And my father got ill.

3016

02:12:12,880 --> 02:12:13,570
Mm-hmm.

3017
02:12:13,570 --> 02:12:14,350
And couldn't come.

3018
02:12:14,350 --> 02:12:14,850
Yeah.

3019
02:12:14,850 --> 02:12:18,460

3020
02:12:18,460 --> 02:12:20,410
Did they speak English?

3021
02:12:20,410 --> 02:12:21,340
Oh, yes.

3022
02:12:21,340 --> 02:12:22,210
They did, uh-huh.

3023
02:12:22,210 --> 02:12:23,600
Oh, of course.

3024
02:12:23,600 --> 02:12:24,100
OK.

3025
02:12:24,100 --> 02:12:26,710
My mother, dabbled along.

3026
02:12:26,710 --> 02:12:33,190
My father tried to express
himself, well, you know.

3027
02:12:33,190 --> 02:12:34,640
[CHUCKLES]

3028
02:12:34,640 --> 02:12:38,856
So I mean, but both of
them fluent in English.

3029

02:12:38,856 --> 02:12:40,720
Oh, OK.

3030
02:12:40,720 --> 02:12:43,170
In fact, we
corresponded in English.

3031
02:12:43,170 --> 02:12:44,870
They would write
me-- in our letters--

3032
02:12:44,870 --> 02:12:45,828
And that's interesting.

3033
02:12:45,828 --> 02:12:46,970
--was in English.

3034
02:12:46,970 --> 02:12:47,470
Mm-hmm.

3035
02:12:47,470 --> 02:12:52,430
[CHUCKLES] That's
interesting, yeah, yeah.

3036
02:12:52,430 --> 02:12:55,370

3037
02:12:55,370 --> 02:12:58,620
Well that is an important
part of your story.

3038
02:12:58,620 --> 02:13:03,750
I don't even know
whether I am what

3039
02:13:03,750 --> 02:13:05,462
ashamed that they went back.

3040
02:13:05,462 --> 02:13:05,962
Hmm.

3041
02:13:05,962 --> 02:13:12,358

3042
02:13:12,358 --> 02:13:13,350
Mm-hmm.

3043
02:13:13,350 --> 02:13:22,260
You have to realize that
even with this interview,

3044
02:13:22,260 --> 02:13:24,600
it wasn't that easy
for me to bring it up.

3045
02:13:24,600 --> 02:13:26,070
Yes, yes.

3046
02:13:26,070 --> 02:13:29,150

3047
02:13:29,150 --> 02:13:32,240
Well as I said, we appreciate
that you did because it

3048
02:13:32,240 --> 02:13:34,363
is a part of your story.

3049
02:13:34,363 --> 02:13:35,405
It's a part of your life.

3050
02:13:35,405 --> 02:13:38,610

3051
02:13:38,610 --> 02:13:39,770
A part of it--

3052
02:13:39,770 --> 02:13:40,865
It was so difficult--

3053
02:13:40,865 --> 02:13:41,660
Yeah.

3054

02:13:41,660 --> 02:13:43,190
--for me to accept that.

3055
02:13:43,190 --> 02:13:49,960
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

3056
02:13:49,960 --> 02:13:51,980
And both of them died there.

3057
02:13:51,980 --> 02:13:54,670
Yeah.

3058
02:13:54,670 --> 02:13:58,270
Were you able to go over
after, when they died?

3059
02:13:58,270 --> 02:14:05,490
No, I went over
before my mother died.

3060
02:14:05,490 --> 02:14:07,080
She had been in the hospital.

3061
02:14:07,080 --> 02:14:07,580
Mm-hmm.

3062
02:14:07,580 --> 02:14:11,010
And I asked my father
whether I should come.

3063
02:14:11,010 --> 02:14:11,970
And he said no.

3064
02:14:11,970 --> 02:14:13,080
Mm-hmm.

3065
02:14:13,080 --> 02:14:17,880
Because for one thing,
if she saw me, you know,

3066
02:14:17,880 --> 02:14:19,160
it would frighten her.

3067
02:14:19,160 --> 02:14:21,780
Oh.

3068
02:14:21,780 --> 02:14:25,150
And I waited until
she was home again.

3069
02:14:25,150 --> 02:14:25,650
Mm-hmm.

3070
02:14:25,650 --> 02:14:30,100

3071
02:14:30,100 --> 02:14:36,830
And I, she died like three
weeks after I saw her.

3072
02:14:36,830 --> 02:14:39,221
Yeah, yeah, mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

3073
02:14:39,221 --> 02:14:48,480

3074
02:14:48,480 --> 02:14:54,710
These are unfortunate and
unpleasant things in my life.

3075
02:14:54,710 --> 02:14:56,290
Yeah.

3076
02:14:56,290 --> 02:14:57,370
But I've accepted them--

3077
02:14:57,370 --> 02:14:59,430
Mm-hmm.

3078
02:14:59,430 --> 02:15:01,620
--and refuse to dwell on them.

3079
02:15:01,620 --> 02:15:02,980

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

3080
02:15:02,980 --> 02:15:05,010
I guess it is self-preservation.

3081
02:15:05,010 --> 02:15:06,150
Yes, yeah.

3082
02:15:06,150 --> 02:15:09,000

3083
02:15:09,000 --> 02:15:11,040
Well you've made a
wonderful contribution

3084
02:15:11,040 --> 02:15:15,120
to the knowledge of those years.

3085
02:15:15,120 --> 02:15:20,360
That's certainly true and the
effect it had on you, yeah.

3086
02:15:20,360 --> 02:15:23,810
And we do appreciate
that you did that.

3087
02:15:23,810 --> 02:15:26,340
Oh you're more than welcome.

3088
02:15:26,340 --> 02:15:28,050
It was interesting doing it.

3089
02:15:28,050 --> 02:15:31,520
OK, yeah.

3090
02:15:31,520 --> 02:15:35,000
Is there anything you wanted
to say before I close out

3091
02:15:35,000 --> 02:15:36,130
the interview?

3092

02:15:36,130 --> 02:15:38,480

Is there anything else?

3093

02:15:38,480 --> 02:15:39,650

I don't think so.

3094

02:15:39,650 --> 02:15:45,620

OK, well, I just again wanted to thank you for doing this.

3095

02:15:45,620 --> 02:15:47,060

Not at all.

3096

02:15:47,060 --> 02:15:51,170

I really appreciate the opportunity.

3097

02:15:51,170 --> 02:15:55,550

Because I hadn't done this before.

3098

02:15:55,550 --> 02:15:56,320

Uh-huh.

3099

02:15:56,320 --> 02:15:59,430

Not on that range, anyway.

3100

02:15:59,430 --> 02:16:01,120

Yeah, yeah.

3101

02:16:01,120 --> 02:16:04,750

So I thank you also.

3102

02:16:04,750 --> 02:16:09,715

And again, my admiration for the museum--

3103

02:16:09,715 --> 02:16:10,630

Wonderful.

3104

02:16:10,630 --> 02:16:15,130

--and all its stands for
and all it does for people.

3105
02:16:15,130 --> 02:16:17,440
Well, that is a
wonderful note to end on.

3106
02:16:17,440 --> 02:16:20,330
[LAUGHTER]

3107
02:16:20,330 --> 02:16:23,770
This concludes the United
States Holocaust Memorial Museum

3108
02:16:23,770 --> 02:16:27,630
interview with Vera Levine.

3109
02:16:27,630 --> 02:16:31,000