

1  
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,580

2  
00:00:01,580 --> 00:00:04,750  
This is the United States  
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3  
00:00:04,750 --> 00:00:08,720  
interview with Alice  
Barzilay, conducted by Gail

4  
00:00:08,720 --> 00:00:14,360  
Schwartz on January 23, 2014.

5  
00:00:14,360 --> 00:00:17,330  
It is taking place over the  
telephone at the United States

6  
00:00:17,330 --> 00:00:21,470  
Holocaust Memorial Museum  
and in New York City.

7  
00:00:21,470 --> 00:00:24,410  
Please tell me your full name.

8  
00:00:24,410 --> 00:00:27,260  
Alice Schachter Barzilay.

9  
00:00:27,260 --> 00:00:30,590  
And where were you born,  
and when were you born?

10  
00:00:30,590 --> 00:00:36,020  
I was born in Vienna,  
Austria, November 3, 1926.

11  
00:00:36,020 --> 00:00:36,800  
Yes.

12  
00:00:36,800 --> 00:00:39,260  
And your parents-- please

call me their names

13  
00:00:39,260 --> 00:00:41,150  
and a little bit about them.

14  
00:00:41,150 --> 00:00:44,390  
My father's name was  
[? Hosea ?] Schachter.

15  
00:00:44,390 --> 00:00:50,330  
And he was born in what was then  
Poland, [? Brochow, ?] and was

16  
00:00:50,330 --> 00:00:53,480  
a textile merchant,  
imported and locally

17  
00:00:53,480 --> 00:00:56,420  
as well in the wholesale  
business and textile business.

18  
00:00:56,420 --> 00:01:01,970  
My mother's name was [? Niza ?]  
born Kramer, Schachter.

19  
00:01:01,970 --> 00:01:06,290  
And she was born near--

20  
00:01:06,290 --> 00:01:10,580  
in the same area as my  
father and married him,

21  
00:01:10,580 --> 00:01:13,730  
because he was living in Vienna  
at the time of their marriage.

22  
00:01:13,730 --> 00:01:17,960  
What brought your  
father to Vienna?

23  
00:01:17,960 --> 00:01:21,540  
All right, I don't know  
the post-war feeling,

24  
00:01:21,540 --> 00:01:23,500  
post World War I. I don't know.

25  
00:01:23,500 --> 00:01:25,000  
Wider horizons, I think.

26  
00:01:25,000 --> 00:01:26,430  
OK.

27  
00:01:26,430 --> 00:01:28,600  
And did you have any siblings?

28  
00:01:28,600 --> 00:01:32,460  
I have had a sister  
who died in 2006.

29  
00:01:32,460 --> 00:01:34,230  
And she was older or younger?

30  
00:01:34,230 --> 00:01:35,700  
She was four years younger.

31  
00:01:35,700 --> 00:01:37,050  
And her name?

32  
00:01:37,050 --> 00:01:41,730  
Her name was Ruth  
Schachter Morgenthal.

33  
00:01:41,730 --> 00:01:44,490  
She was married to  
Henry Morgenthal III,

34  
00:01:44,490 --> 00:01:49,380  
and she was living in Boston--

35  
00:01:49,380 --> 00:01:52,740  
in Cambridge, actually,  
and Rhode Island.

36

00:01:52,740 --> 00:01:56,070

And she was very  
active politically.

37

00:01:56,070 --> 00:01:59,670

And she was very  
highly educated.

38

00:01:59,670 --> 00:02:02,700

39

00:02:02,700 --> 00:02:06,390

Let's talk about your schooling.

40

00:02:06,390 --> 00:02:09,449

What kind of school  
did you start out at?

41

00:02:09,449 --> 00:02:12,000

I started in a public  
school in Vienna, which

42

00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:16,440

was an academic public school.

43

00:02:16,440 --> 00:02:18,310

And was it a coed school?

44

00:02:18,310 --> 00:02:19,650

No, girls only.

45

00:02:19,650 --> 00:02:20,920

Girls only.

46

00:02:20,920 --> 00:02:25,110

And any experience at that  
time of any anti-Semitism

47

00:02:25,110 --> 00:02:27,510

among the children  
or the teachers?

48

00:02:27,510 --> 00:02:30,050  
Not that I recall  
I was aware of yet.

49  
00:02:30,050 --> 00:02:32,670

50  
00:02:32,670 --> 00:02:34,710  
Was your neighborhood  
a mixed neighborhood

51  
00:02:34,710 --> 00:02:37,770  
of Jews and non-Jews?

52  
00:02:37,770 --> 00:02:41,030  
Many Jews and some non-Jews.

53  
00:02:41,030 --> 00:02:45,960  
It was a good neighborhood,  
overlooking a beautiful park

54  
00:02:45,960 --> 00:02:47,650  
and the Danube.

55  
00:02:47,650 --> 00:02:49,260  
Were you in a house  
or an apartment?

56  
00:02:49,260 --> 00:02:50,160  
In an apartment.

57  
00:02:50,160 --> 00:02:52,500  
In an apartment.

58  
00:02:52,500 --> 00:02:55,350  
And how would you describe  
your family's status?

59  
00:02:55,350 --> 00:02:58,410  
Was it middle-class,  
upper-middle?

60

00:02:58,410 --> 00:02:59,280  
Maybe upper-middle.

61  
00:02:59,280 --> 00:03:06,270  
I mean well well-off and growing  
quite well often comfortable

62  
00:03:06,270 --> 00:03:07,140  
Yes

63  
00:03:07,140 --> 00:03:11,630  
and what kind of sports did  
you take part in as a child

64  
00:03:11,630 --> 00:03:16,000  
I did ice skating regularly  
from the age of three on ice

65  
00:03:16,000 --> 00:03:18,910  
and my father left  
to go ice skating

66  
00:03:18,910 --> 00:03:21,390  
he did a lot of schooling  
and bicycling as well

67  
00:03:21,390 --> 00:03:25,860  
but I did skiing with  
the school once I

68  
00:03:25,860 --> 00:03:28,710  
was in the gymnasium, which  
was above the 5th grade we

69  
00:03:28,710 --> 00:03:31,350  
went with the school skiing.

70  
00:03:31,350 --> 00:03:35,460  
So I skied a bit until  
we left for Cuba.

71  
00:03:35,460 --> 00:03:37,920  
And what language did

you speak at home?

72

00:03:37,920 --> 00:03:39,120

At home, we spoke German.

73

00:03:39,120 --> 00:03:41,980

74

00:03:41,980 --> 00:03:46,470

Now you said you were  
interested in sports.

75

00:03:46,470 --> 00:03:49,620

Any other hobbies that you had?

76

00:03:49,620 --> 00:03:51,220

I can't recall.

77

00:03:51,220 --> 00:03:52,716

OK.

78

00:03:52,716 --> 00:03:56,770

And let's talk about how  
religious your family was.

79

00:03:56,770 --> 00:03:59,290

Quite religious,  
modern religious.

80

00:03:59,290 --> 00:04:04,090

Secular education was stressed  
rather than Jewish school.

81

00:04:04,090 --> 00:04:09,630

But we did have an education  
in Jewish Studies as well.

82

00:04:09,630 --> 00:04:12,570

This privately with  
a tutor at the house?

83

00:04:12,570 --> 00:04:14,380

Or did you go to  
a Hebrew school?

84  
00:04:14,380 --> 00:04:15,910  
Actually, no Hebrew school.

85  
00:04:15,910 --> 00:04:18,579  
Actually what was  
done in Vienna was

86  
00:04:18,579 --> 00:04:20,198  
several times a week or maybe--

87  
00:04:20,198 --> 00:04:20,740  
I don't know.

88  
00:04:20,740 --> 00:04:22,480  
May have been only once a week.

89  
00:04:22,480 --> 00:04:25,240  
The various kids and  
children in the class

90  
00:04:25,240 --> 00:04:28,420  
would go to their  
religious class.

91  
00:04:28,420 --> 00:04:31,505  
And so I would go to  
the religious education

92  
00:04:31,505 --> 00:04:34,090  
with the Jewish  
children and so forth.

93  
00:04:34,090 --> 00:04:38,180  
And at home, my father  
saw to it that we

94  
00:04:38,180 --> 00:04:42,400  
learned a lot through ritual.

95



00:04:42,400 --> 00:04:44,890

And later on, we  
had private lessons,

96

00:04:44,890 --> 00:04:46,730

but that was in this country.

97

00:04:46,730 --> 00:04:47,950

Yeah.

98

00:04:47,950 --> 00:04:49,840

And you observed  
the holidays and--

99

00:04:49,840 --> 00:04:50,770

Very much so.

100

00:04:50,770 --> 00:04:51,480

And Shabbat?

101

00:04:51,480 --> 00:04:52,500

Shabbat as well.

102

00:04:52,500 --> 00:04:54,550

OK.

103

00:04:54,550 --> 00:04:56,780

Yeah.

104

00:04:56,780 --> 00:05:02,650

And so at that point,  
you said you had not

105

00:05:02,650 --> 00:05:05,350

experienced any anti-Semitism.

106

00:05:05,350 --> 00:05:07,410

Well it was prior  
to the age of--

107

00:05:07,410 --> 00:05:09,290

Yes, right.

108  
00:05:09,290 --> 00:05:12,200  
What about in your extended  
family-- grandparents, aunts,

109  
00:05:12,200 --> 00:05:13,690  
uncles, cousins?

110  
00:05:13,690 --> 00:05:18,380  
My grandparents lived in Poland,  
which was 24 hours by train

111  
00:05:18,380 --> 00:05:19,730  
from Vienna.

112  
00:05:19,730 --> 00:05:21,520  
So I saw them once.

113  
00:05:21,520 --> 00:05:22,680  
We went there once.

114  
00:05:22,680 --> 00:05:25,150  
My mother took us  
to meet them once.

115  
00:05:25,150 --> 00:05:26,050  
That's all.

116  
00:05:26,050 --> 00:05:29,260  
I had no real contact  
with them because it

117  
00:05:29,260 --> 00:05:30,670  
was a tremendous distance.

118  
00:05:30,670 --> 00:05:32,800  
Yeah.

119  
00:05:32,800 --> 00:05:35,060  
But no aunts, uncles, cousins?

120

00:05:35,060 --> 00:05:35,620  
No.

121  
00:05:35,620 --> 00:05:37,330  
My father was the  
only one that came,

122  
00:05:37,330 --> 00:05:38,640  
and I had lots of friends.

123  
00:05:38,640 --> 00:05:39,140  
Yeah.

124  
00:05:39,140 --> 00:05:40,630  
And people came to visit us.

125  
00:05:40,630 --> 00:05:41,620  
Yeah.

126  
00:05:41,620 --> 00:05:43,990  
Were your parents  
Zionists at that time?

127  
00:05:43,990 --> 00:05:46,840

128  
00:05:46,840 --> 00:05:51,040  
My father was quite  
Zionistically inclined

129  
00:05:51,040 --> 00:05:53,860  
in his youth, from  
what I understand.

130  
00:05:53,860 --> 00:05:57,790  
He once decided he was  
going to walk to the ocean,

131  
00:05:57,790 --> 00:05:58,750  
and then go to Israel.

132  
00:05:58,750 --> 00:06:03,040

But we were not--

133  
00:06:03,040 --> 00:06:05,850  
I mean, not that I'm--

134  
00:06:05,850 --> 00:06:07,220  
and not in my life.

135  
00:06:07,220 --> 00:06:09,070  
Let's say I wasn't  
that much aware of.

136  
00:06:09,070 --> 00:06:12,910  
I knew there was a  
Palestine, and I was for it.

137  
00:06:12,910 --> 00:06:18,430  
But we weren't very much  
involved in the organizations.

138  
00:06:18,430 --> 00:06:20,860  
And you had Jewish and  
non-Jewish friends, you said.

139  
00:06:20,860 --> 00:06:21,560  
Definitely.

140  
00:06:21,560 --> 00:06:22,060  
Yeah.

141  
00:06:22,060 --> 00:06:25,170

142  
00:06:25,170 --> 00:06:29,400  
Now when did you start hearing  
about a man named Hitler?

143  
00:06:29,400 --> 00:06:36,080  
Do you remember your first  
time that you heard about him?

144  
00:06:36,080 --> 00:06:41,047

It was a sequence of various political upheavals in Austria.

145  
00:06:41,047 --> 00:06:42,630  
I don't remember the details too much.

146  
00:06:42,630 --> 00:06:46,590  
But I remember somebody being president called Dollfuss

147  
00:06:46,590 --> 00:06:48,030  
and then somebody being shot.

148  
00:06:48,030 --> 00:06:50,670  
And then somebody by the name of Schuschnigg and then--

149  
00:06:50,670 --> 00:06:53,180  
Right.

150  
00:06:53,180 --> 00:07:02,250  
But I do remember that in March, 1938, I think it was, the--

151  
00:07:02,250 --> 00:07:03,890  
Yeah, the Anschluss.

152  
00:07:03,890 --> 00:07:04,890  
The Anschluss was there.

153  
00:07:04,890 --> 00:07:08,250  
But I had the flu, and I was home.

154  
00:07:08,250 --> 00:07:12,360  
And so when I returned to the school a week later,

155  
00:07:12,360 --> 00:07:14,760  
everything had changed.

156

00:07:14,760 --> 00:07:15,930  
In what sense?

157  
00:07:15,930 --> 00:07:21,630  
Well, children-- we were  
seated in the back of the room.

158  
00:07:21,630 --> 00:07:23,890  
We were treated  
totally differently.

159  
00:07:23,890 --> 00:07:25,340  
These are the Jewish students?

160  
00:07:25,340 --> 00:07:29,340  
Yes, the Jewish children were  
moved to the back of the room.

161  
00:07:29,340 --> 00:07:33,390  
And everything outside  
was unsafe on the streets

162  
00:07:33,390 --> 00:07:34,120  
and otherwise.

163  
00:07:34,120 --> 00:07:37,560  
But I may have heard of--

164  
00:07:37,560 --> 00:07:40,020  
I mean, that over--

165  
00:07:40,020 --> 00:07:45,220  
the night that Hitler marched  
into Vienna, of course.

166  
00:07:45,220 --> 00:07:47,280  
My mother got sick  
and knew right away.

167  
00:07:47,280 --> 00:07:49,815  
And my father was--

168

00:07:49,815 --> 00:07:52,020  
they knew immediately  
that we had to get out.

169  
00:07:52,020 --> 00:07:56,940  
But I wasn't totally aware of  
it until I got back to school.

170  
00:07:56,940 --> 00:07:59,040  
And eventually, we were  
told that our school would

171  
00:07:59,040 --> 00:08:01,040  
have to close, and that  
the different system was

172  
00:08:01,040 --> 00:08:02,538  
going to be taking effect.

173  
00:08:02,538 --> 00:08:04,830  
What were your feelings at  
the beginning when you first

174  
00:08:04,830 --> 00:08:06,497  
came back to school,  
and you had to stay

175  
00:08:06,497 --> 00:08:07,890  
in the back of the classroom?

176  
00:08:07,890 --> 00:08:09,960  
I didn't understand.

177  
00:08:09,960 --> 00:08:11,070  
Were you frightened?

178  
00:08:11,070 --> 00:08:13,950  
Were you frightened?

179  
00:08:13,950 --> 00:08:15,540  
Do you remember  
being frightened?

180

00:08:15,540 --> 00:08:17,595

I-- just totally amazed.

181

00:08:17,595 --> 00:08:18,210

Amazed.

182

00:08:18,210 --> 00:08:19,560

Didn't quite understand it.

183

00:08:19,560 --> 00:08:21,780

Because up to that  
point, you had not

184

00:08:21,780 --> 00:08:23,070

experienced any anti-Semitism.

185

00:08:23,070 --> 00:08:23,740

Not terrible.

186

00:08:23,740 --> 00:08:25,407

I had many friends  
that were not Jewish.

187

00:08:25,407 --> 00:08:26,050

Jewish, yeah.

188

00:08:26,050 --> 00:08:26,370

Yeah.

189

00:08:26,370 --> 00:08:28,080

And you would go to  
their house and play,

190

00:08:28,080 --> 00:08:29,604

and they would  
come to your house?

191

00:08:29,604 --> 00:08:30,104

Yes.

192

00:08:30,104 --> 00:08:33,840



193  
00:08:33,840 --> 00:08:34,650  
What about the--

194  
00:08:34,650 --> 00:08:36,659  
We played more in the  
park than in the houses.

195  
00:08:36,659 --> 00:08:40,140  
It wasn't as many dates as  
there are in this country.

196  
00:08:40,140 --> 00:08:41,610  
Yeah.

197  
00:08:41,610 --> 00:08:43,590  
So there you are in the  
back of the classroom,

198  
00:08:43,590 --> 00:08:46,620  
with these other Jewish girls.

199  
00:08:46,620 --> 00:08:50,970  
Did you talk among yourselves  
about what was happening?

200  
00:08:50,970 --> 00:08:51,780  
Oh, I'm sure not.

201  
00:08:51,780 --> 00:08:54,990  
I'm sure we were frightened,  
now that you get to it.

202  
00:08:54,990 --> 00:08:58,620  
I'm afraid we did not talk.

203  
00:08:58,620 --> 00:09:01,590  
Because immediately,  
we realized that it

204  
00:09:01,590 --> 00:09:04,545

was dangerous to  
walk in the streets.

205  
00:09:04,545 --> 00:09:06,060  
How did you know this?

206  
00:09:06,060 --> 00:09:07,810  
You're 12 years old, right?

207  
00:09:07,810 --> 00:09:08,310  
Yeah.

208  
00:09:08,310 --> 00:09:10,890  
So when we went back  
from school or going

209  
00:09:10,890 --> 00:09:12,360  
to school, going  
back from school,

210  
00:09:12,360 --> 00:09:18,070  
there were hordes of  
other kids attacking us.

211  
00:09:18,070 --> 00:09:19,090  
Physically attacking?

212  
00:09:19,090 --> 00:09:19,860  
Yes.

213  
00:09:19,860 --> 00:09:22,270  
I mean, my sister, who  
was four years younger,

214  
00:09:22,270 --> 00:09:26,080  
they spat in her face and  
pulled her by the pigtails.

215  
00:09:26,080 --> 00:09:29,030  
And then there were big  
signs on the benches

216

00:09:29,030 --> 00:09:31,410  
saying, "No Jews allowed."

217  
00:09:31,410 --> 00:09:33,380  
And we were not allowed  
in the parks overnight.

218  
00:09:33,380 --> 00:09:35,320  
So this all happened  
really very quickly.

219  
00:09:35,320 --> 00:09:40,890  
And what is the reaction of  
a 12-year-old child to this?

220  
00:09:40,890 --> 00:09:44,190  
Is it something you talked  
about with your parents?

221  
00:09:44,190 --> 00:09:46,770  
We talked about it, but we  
just existed from day to day

222  
00:09:46,770 --> 00:09:48,622  
and watched what was going on.

223  
00:09:48,622 --> 00:09:50,580  
Our maid was leaving  
because she wasn't allowed

224  
00:09:50,580 --> 00:09:53,650  
to work for Jews anymore.

225  
00:09:53,650 --> 00:09:55,800  
And we got somebody  
who had already

226  
00:09:55,800 --> 00:09:58,980  
been a refugee from some  
other part of Austria.

227  
00:09:58,980 --> 00:10:01,570  
This was a relative who

came to your house you mean?

228

00:10:01,570 --> 00:10:02,070

No.

229

00:10:02,070 --> 00:10:09,780

This was a poor soul who  
had a sister and a father,

230

00:10:09,780 --> 00:10:11,550

and they were-- they  
came from Klagenfurt,

231

00:10:11,550 --> 00:10:12,840

which was the provinces.

232

00:10:12,840 --> 00:10:16,110

And they had been chased out the  
very day that Hitler arrived.

233

00:10:16,110 --> 00:10:18,150

And all she could do to  
get food on the table

234

00:10:18,150 --> 00:10:21,120

was to do domestic  
work, so she came to us.

235

00:10:21,120 --> 00:10:26,450

And a very sad soul whom  
I remember to this day.

236

00:10:26,450 --> 00:10:28,670

How did she know you all?

237

00:10:28,670 --> 00:10:31,280

Oh, she didn't know us.

238

00:10:31,280 --> 00:10:33,420

My mother sent out  
recommendations.

239

00:10:33,420 --> 00:10:36,210  
I don't know if anybody  
recommended a needy case.

240  
00:10:36,210 --> 00:10:39,550  
My mother was always  
ready for needy cases.

241  
00:10:39,550 --> 00:10:40,970  
And my father--

242  
00:10:40,970 --> 00:10:44,310  
Before the Anschluss,  
before '38,

243  
00:10:44,310 --> 00:10:48,390  
had you heard of a  
man named Hitler?

244  
00:10:48,390 --> 00:10:52,475  
Because he got into power in  
'33, and I was just wondering.

245  
00:10:52,475 --> 00:10:54,690  
I'd heard of it, but  
it didn't affect me.

246  
00:10:54,690 --> 00:10:56,940  
I mean it didn't hit home.

247  
00:10:56,940 --> 00:10:58,830  
Right.

248  
00:10:58,830 --> 00:11:02,520  
Had you ever heard him speak  
over the radio before '38,

249  
00:11:02,520 --> 00:11:03,420  
any of his speeches?

250  
00:11:03,420 --> 00:11:06,780  
I remember sitting in the living  
room and my parents listening

251  
00:11:06,780 --> 00:11:09,230  
to the radio.

252  
00:11:09,230 --> 00:11:12,840  
But I didn't take it seriously.

253  
00:11:12,840 --> 00:11:13,382  
But I was 11.

254  
00:11:13,382 --> 00:11:14,215  
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

255  
00:11:14,215 --> 00:11:15,870  
That was when you  
were a child, right.

256  
00:11:15,870 --> 00:11:17,970  
I was 11 when they marched in.

257  
00:11:17,970 --> 00:11:23,350  
And I was even younger  
before when it began.

258  
00:11:23,350 --> 00:11:26,310  
So that's when the big change  
happened, the Anschluss.

259  
00:11:26,310 --> 00:11:27,070  
Yeah.

260  
00:11:27,070 --> 00:11:29,400  
Did you see Hitler at that time?

261  
00:11:29,400 --> 00:11:30,210  
I never saw him.

262  
00:11:30,210 --> 00:11:31,140  
You never saw him?

263  
00:11:31,140 --> 00:11:35,400

No, but I saw the guy  
you know the SS and SR

264  
00:11:35,400 --> 00:11:37,770  
marching in front of my  
windows and screaming.

265  
00:11:37,770 --> 00:11:41,330  
And that was immediate, the  
night that he marched in.

266  
00:11:41,330 --> 00:11:44,435  
And we still had the Gentile  
woman working for us.

267  
00:11:44,435 --> 00:11:47,735  
And my parents happened to  
be at the theater that night.

268  
00:11:47,735 --> 00:11:48,780  
They weren't home.

269  
00:11:48,780 --> 00:11:51,968  
And actually, yeah, it  
was very frightening.

270  
00:11:51,968 --> 00:11:53,760  
Who was-- and who are  
those people marching

271  
00:11:53,760 --> 00:11:54,760  
in front of the windows.

272  
00:11:54,760 --> 00:11:56,163  
And my sister was even younger.

273  
00:11:56,163 --> 00:11:57,330  
I was 11, and she was seven.

274  
00:11:57,330 --> 00:12:03,620

275

00:12:03,620 --> 00:12:05,580  
And how did your  
nursemaid handle--

276  
00:12:05,580 --> 00:12:07,275  
your governess handle that?

277  
00:12:07,275 --> 00:12:08,400  
That was actually the maid.

278  
00:12:08,400 --> 00:12:10,140  
And the other one  
was our governess,

279  
00:12:10,140 --> 00:12:12,030  
and she didn't handle  
it all that well.

280  
00:12:12,030 --> 00:12:15,330  
And when my parents came home,  
they found that the gas was on.

281  
00:12:15,330 --> 00:12:17,280  
Oh, my goodness.

282  
00:12:17,280 --> 00:12:21,310  
Yeah, so she didn't stay  
with us much longer.

283  
00:12:21,310 --> 00:12:23,682  
But if they hadn't come  
home when they did come,

284  
00:12:23,682 --> 00:12:25,140  
God knows what  
would have happened.

285  
00:12:25,140 --> 00:12:27,300  
Right.

286  
00:12:27,300 --> 00:12:30,390  
What was it like to see these  
soldiers marching and hear--



287  
00:12:30,390 --> 00:12:31,110  
Frightening.

288  
00:12:31,110 --> 00:12:33,690  
--the sound of the boots  
and things like that?

289  
00:12:33,690 --> 00:12:35,190  
That was frightening.

290  
00:12:35,190 --> 00:12:37,410  
Yeah.

291  
00:12:37,410 --> 00:12:40,670  
Did the swastika have  
any meaning to you

292  
00:12:40,670 --> 00:12:42,060  
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

293  
00:12:42,060 --> 00:12:45,130  
At that time.

294  
00:12:45,130 --> 00:12:47,960  
It conveyed a lot of  
enthusiasm of the masses,

295  
00:12:47,960 --> 00:12:49,135  
from which I was excluded.

296  
00:12:49,135 --> 00:12:51,725

297  
00:12:51,725 --> 00:12:54,488  
It didn't quite hit me  
just what they were doing.

298  
00:12:54,488 --> 00:12:55,030  
At that time.

299

00:12:55,030 --> 00:12:56,540  
Yeah, that they were going  
to kill my grandparents

300  
00:12:56,540 --> 00:12:57,520  
and everybody else.

301  
00:12:57,520 --> 00:12:58,040  
Oh, god.

302  
00:12:58,040 --> 00:12:59,220  
Yeah.

303  
00:12:59,220 --> 00:12:59,720  
Yeah.

304  
00:12:59,720 --> 00:13:03,875  
OK, so the Anschluss happens,  
and then you go to school,

305  
00:13:03,875 --> 00:13:05,750  
and you have to stay in  
the back of the room.

306  
00:13:05,750 --> 00:13:06,050  
Right.

307  
00:13:06,050 --> 00:13:07,675  
And then what was  
the next development?

308  
00:13:07,675 --> 00:13:11,430  
The next development  
was we were told--

309  
00:13:11,430 --> 00:13:13,730  
at my school, that  
was a gymnasium,

310  
00:13:13,730 --> 00:13:15,160  
an academic gymnasium.

311

00:13:15,160 --> 00:13:16,910  
We could not continue  
there at the school.

312  
00:13:16,910 --> 00:13:18,320  
It was closed down.

313  
00:13:18,320 --> 00:13:20,690  
And that only the top  
students in the city

314  
00:13:20,690 --> 00:13:24,630  
would be allowed to enroll  
in the one Jewish gymnasium.

315  
00:13:24,630 --> 00:13:26,220  
That existed.

316  
00:13:26,220 --> 00:13:29,510  
But the gymnasium you  
were in was not a Jewish--

317  
00:13:29,510 --> 00:13:32,720  
No, it was a women's--

318  
00:13:32,720 --> 00:13:35,820  
not institution, but  
a women's school.

319  
00:13:35,820 --> 00:13:39,950  
So they had to qualify for that  
at the gymnasium with grades

320  
00:13:39,950 --> 00:13:40,510  
and so forth.

321  
00:13:40,510 --> 00:13:42,060  
And I did qualify.

322  
00:13:42,060 --> 00:13:43,300  
And I was accepted to it.

323

00:13:43,300 --> 00:13:47,500  
So I was happy that I could  
continue my academic education.

324  
00:13:47,500 --> 00:13:49,040  
And my sister was younger, so--

325  
00:13:49,040 --> 00:13:50,500  
She was in the earlier school.

326  
00:13:50,500 --> 00:13:52,580  
Yeah, and that could  
continue till 4th grade,

327  
00:13:52,580 --> 00:13:55,430  
so there was no issue.

328  
00:13:55,430 --> 00:13:58,410  
I went to that school  
in September, 1938.

329  
00:13:58,410 --> 00:14:01,970  
But it really didn't have the  
greatest effect on my life,

330  
00:14:01,970 --> 00:14:04,820  
except that I felt  
good about being there,

331  
00:14:04,820 --> 00:14:08,490  
because we left  
several months later--

332  
00:14:08,490 --> 00:14:11,220  
yeah, four months later.

333  
00:14:11,220 --> 00:14:13,340  
With your relationship  
with your parents,

334  
00:14:13,340 --> 00:14:15,760  
did they talk over things--

335

00:14:15,760 --> 00:14:18,500

They were generally  
supportive all the way,

336

00:14:18,500 --> 00:14:21,710

whether here or in  
Cuba or anywhere else.

337

00:14:21,710 --> 00:14:23,430

It was fantastic,  
when I think about it.

338

00:14:23,430 --> 00:14:25,260

No, but I meant when  
you were younger,

339

00:14:25,260 --> 00:14:26,920

before you left Austria.

340

00:14:26,920 --> 00:14:31,980

Were they open with you in  
discussing what was happening?

341

00:14:31,980 --> 00:14:33,230

They didn't hide it.

342

00:14:33,230 --> 00:14:36,110

I didn't feel that  
they were hiding that.

343

00:14:36,110 --> 00:14:38,420

It couldn't be hidden.

344

00:14:38,420 --> 00:14:39,460

It couldn't be.

345

00:14:39,460 --> 00:14:40,520

They were open, I think.

346

00:14:40,520 --> 00:14:43,260

Maybe not completely-- I  
mean, we were children.

347  
00:14:43,260 --> 00:14:45,680  
I just can't gauge that.

348  
00:14:45,680 --> 00:14:48,440  
But you weren't allowed to  
go out on the street then?

349  
00:14:48,440 --> 00:14:49,670  
By myself, anyway.

350  
00:14:49,670 --> 00:14:51,410  
Yeah.

351  
00:14:51,410 --> 00:14:54,430  
And we were-- I  
was afraid to be--

352  
00:14:54,430 --> 00:14:58,910  
and going away in the  
summer and went on this--

353  
00:14:58,910 --> 00:15:01,910  
the ski trip with the school.

354  
00:15:01,910 --> 00:15:05,420  
That was just the week  
before March or so.

355  
00:15:05,420 --> 00:15:07,190  
But you could--  
there, you could feel

356  
00:15:07,190 --> 00:15:09,050  
the Nazism in the mountains.

357  
00:15:09,050 --> 00:15:10,545  
It was completely so.

358  
00:15:10,545 --> 00:15:14,250  
How did you feel them?

359

00:15:14,250 --> 00:15:16,560

In what sense?

360

00:15:16,560 --> 00:15:19,910

You just felt it-- that we  
were surrounded by enemies.

361

00:15:19,910 --> 00:15:22,380

And the amazing thing is  
we were on the slopes.

362

00:15:22,380 --> 00:15:24,710

And it was a second  
year gymnasium,

363

00:15:24,710 --> 00:15:26,600

which is sixth-grade class.

364

00:15:26,600 --> 00:15:29,750

Skiing and on the slope with  
us was the Duke of Windsor.

365

00:15:29,750 --> 00:15:31,252

Oh, my goodness.

366

00:15:31,252 --> 00:15:33,940

Who had just abdicated,  
I think, or something.

367

00:15:33,940 --> 00:15:36,080

He was in the process  
of marrying her,

368

00:15:36,080 --> 00:15:37,370

the Duchess of Windsor.

369

00:15:37,370 --> 00:15:37,870

Right.

370

00:15:37,870 --> 00:15:40,490

371

00:15:40,490 --> 00:15:42,290

We felt it there,  
I mean, totally,

372

00:15:42,290 --> 00:15:44,660

because we stayed  
at the type of place

373

00:15:44,660 --> 00:15:50,270

that-- in the mountains  
where they were no Jews.

374

00:15:50,270 --> 00:15:52,430

And it was obvious  
that it was their time.

375

00:15:52,430 --> 00:15:55,080

376

00:15:55,080 --> 00:15:55,770

Yeah.

377

00:15:55,770 --> 00:15:58,910

But you yourself didn't  
experience any direct

378

00:15:58,910 --> 00:16:00,530

anti-Semitic--

379

00:16:00,530 --> 00:16:01,940

Well, it was coming pretty soon.

380

00:16:01,940 --> 00:16:04,740

I mean, in my  
father's business--

381

00:16:04,740 --> 00:16:06,490

What happened with that?

382

00:16:06,490 --> 00:16:09,410

A commissar was put  
in, which meant that he



383  
00:16:09,410 --> 00:16:10,820  
oversaw the whole business.

384  
00:16:10,820 --> 00:16:11,510  
Yeah.

385  
00:16:11,510 --> 00:16:14,060  
And eventually it  
was taken over.

386  
00:16:14,060 --> 00:16:18,820  
And he had a lot of good  
friends in among the Gentiles

387  
00:16:18,820 --> 00:16:23,270  
who suddenly became big  
shots in the Nazi parties.

388  
00:16:23,270 --> 00:16:27,980  
So I think that he was  
somewhat in better shape

389  
00:16:27,980 --> 00:16:32,620  
by some unseen  
protection, you know,

390  
00:16:32,620 --> 00:16:34,750  
so that the business was going.

391  
00:16:34,750 --> 00:16:36,470  
And what else?

392  
00:16:36,470 --> 00:16:37,670  
How did we--

393  
00:16:37,670 --> 00:16:41,180  
Do if they had any-- if your  
father or mother had any

394  
00:16:41,180 --> 00:16:46,160  
relation or communication with

their families in the other--

395

00:16:46,160 --> 00:16:47,380

you know, far away?

396

00:16:47,380 --> 00:16:52,250

Well, us-- they immediately  
tried to get us out.

397

00:16:52,250 --> 00:16:55,400

I mean, they knew  
we had to leave, so.

398

00:16:55,400 --> 00:16:57,190

To go into the  
countryside, you mean?

399

00:16:57,190 --> 00:16:58,880

No, no, no, to go abroad.

400

00:16:58,880 --> 00:16:59,540

Oh, OK.

401

00:16:59,540 --> 00:17:00,665

Is that what you're asking?

402

00:17:00,665 --> 00:17:01,970

No, I was asking--

403

00:17:01,970 --> 00:17:04,520

your relatives, you  
said, were not in Vienna.

404

00:17:04,520 --> 00:17:05,020

No.

405

00:17:05,020 --> 00:17:05,687

They were from--

406

00:17:05,687 --> 00:17:07,280

They offered to  
take us into Poland.

407  
00:17:07,280 --> 00:17:09,160  
My father didn't think  
that was a good move.

408  
00:17:09,160 --> 00:17:12,319  
Right, oh, OK.

409  
00:17:12,319 --> 00:17:13,260  
We didn't move.

410  
00:17:13,260 --> 00:17:17,250  
He wrote to relatives  
in other countries.

411  
00:17:17,250 --> 00:17:19,140  
So that's when he  
started to write to--

412  
00:17:19,140 --> 00:17:20,150  
Yeah, immediately.

413  
00:17:20,150 --> 00:17:24,140  
So they wrote to Palestine  
and to the United States.

414  
00:17:24,140 --> 00:17:28,069  
And I had some cousins in  
Palestine-- and his brothers.

415  
00:17:28,069 --> 00:17:33,140  
And the cousin didn't  
answer, and so.

416  
00:17:33,140 --> 00:17:35,600  
My sister, years later,  
said it's a good thing.

417  
00:17:35,600 --> 00:17:38,735

418  
00:17:38,735 --> 00:17:41,090

Yeah, but anyway,  
they didn't answer.

419  
00:17:41,090 --> 00:17:44,040  
But I had cousins in  
New York who did answer.

420  
00:17:44,040 --> 00:17:45,100  
Who did answer.

421  
00:17:45,100 --> 00:17:48,290  
They did answer-- who  
gave us an affidavit

422  
00:17:48,290 --> 00:17:52,850  
and helped us then elaborate  
the roads through Cuba

423  
00:17:52,850 --> 00:17:53,540  
and all that.

424  
00:17:53,540 --> 00:17:54,290  
Yeah.

425  
00:17:54,290 --> 00:18:00,590  
At that point, what did America  
mean to you as a 12-year-old?

426  
00:18:00,590 --> 00:18:02,220  
An unknown promised land.

427  
00:18:02,220 --> 00:18:03,440  
Yeah.

428  
00:18:03,440 --> 00:18:05,180  
But something very positive?

429  
00:18:05,180 --> 00:18:05,870  
Yes.

430  
00:18:05,870 --> 00:18:08,990  
Yes, I had met,

actually, those relatives

431  
00:18:08,990 --> 00:18:11,510  
who were on their  
honeymoon in Vienna

432  
00:18:11,510 --> 00:18:13,370  
a couple of years before.

433  
00:18:13,370 --> 00:18:16,340  
And other people, too, whom--

434  
00:18:16,340 --> 00:18:22,060  
it sounded like it  
unknown, wonderful place.

435  
00:18:22,060 --> 00:18:24,830

436  
00:18:24,830 --> 00:18:30,170  
So your father got papers, got  
the affidavits, from New York?

437  
00:18:30,170 --> 00:18:31,940  
From the family in--

438  
00:18:31,940 --> 00:18:33,050  
In New York.

439  
00:18:33,050 --> 00:18:34,020  
In New York.

440  
00:18:34,020 --> 00:18:36,980  
And then there was  
another issue that--

441  
00:18:36,980 --> 00:18:39,380  
you know the  
Kristallnacht in the--

442  
00:18:39,380 --> 00:18:40,480  
you know that, don't you?

443  
00:18:40,480 --> 00:18:41,420  
Yes.

444  
00:18:41,420 --> 00:18:44,420  
So do you want the--

445  
00:18:44,420 --> 00:18:46,700  
the sequence was that  
they came to our house,

446  
00:18:46,700 --> 00:18:50,150  
and they went from door to  
door and took out all the men

447  
00:18:50,150 --> 00:18:51,150  
from the whole building.

448  
00:18:51,150 --> 00:18:53,380  
And when they came to our  
door, they read the name.

449  
00:18:53,380 --> 00:18:54,890  
The name was Schacter.

450  
00:18:54,890 --> 00:18:58,790  
And somebody gave the  
order, skip that door.

451  
00:18:58,790 --> 00:18:59,540  
Oh?

452  
00:18:59,540 --> 00:19:01,427  
So they skipped our  
door and went on.

453  
00:19:01,427 --> 00:19:03,260  
And we could hear the  
screams in the streets

454  
00:19:03,260 --> 00:19:05,400  
and the glass breaking

and everything else.

455

00:19:05,400 --> 00:19:08,480

But we were saved for the night.

456

00:19:08,480 --> 00:19:10,340

Do you know how that happened?

457

00:19:10,340 --> 00:19:11,420

No, I never found out.

458

00:19:11,420 --> 00:19:11,920

You never--

459

00:19:11,920 --> 00:19:17,420

We were sitting in the ante  
room, the large ante room,

460

00:19:17,420 --> 00:19:19,610

actually waiting to be invaded.

461

00:19:19,610 --> 00:19:22,430

And my father said, would  
you like me to go out,

462

00:19:22,430 --> 00:19:23,750

so that we get it over with?

463

00:19:23,750 --> 00:19:24,470

Oh, my.

464

00:19:24,470 --> 00:19:25,940

And so we said, no.

465

00:19:25,940 --> 00:19:28,850

And that's when they  
skipped us, then.

466

00:19:28,850 --> 00:19:30,500

And but we could  
hear everything,

467

00:19:30,500 --> 00:19:33,890

and I've never forgotten it  
in the streets and otherwise.

468

00:19:33,890 --> 00:19:37,850

And then after  
Kristallnacht, when

469

00:19:37,850 --> 00:19:42,770

the others were transported to  
God knows what destinations.

470

00:19:42,770 --> 00:19:46,220

My father was contacted by  
some Aryan friend of his,

471

00:19:46,220 --> 00:19:50,780

or formerly friends, and now  
Aryan, but still friendly,

472

00:19:50,780 --> 00:19:53,870

and was told that he had to  
leave the country by December

473

00:19:53,870 --> 00:19:55,010

31, '38.

474

00:19:55,010 --> 00:19:58,570

Or otherwise, then nobody  
could vouch for anything.

475

00:19:58,570 --> 00:19:59,070

Yeah, yeah.

476

00:19:59,070 --> 00:20:00,950

It wasn't likely to leave.

477

00:20:00,950 --> 00:20:03,050

Anyway, so they  
intensified their efforts

478

00:20:03,050 --> 00:20:07,310



to get exit possibilities.

479

00:20:07,310 --> 00:20:09,410

And so America was--

480

00:20:09,410 --> 00:20:12,110

I mean, the United

States was a possibility.

481

00:20:12,110 --> 00:20:16,460

But we also needed a document  
called an Unbedenklichkeit

482

00:20:16,460 --> 00:20:18,200

to get out of the  
country, which had

483

00:20:18,200 --> 00:20:21,260

to be gotten from  
the Nazis, and which

484

00:20:21,260 --> 00:20:23,720

wasn't available so quickly.

485

00:20:23,720 --> 00:20:26,250

And he might not have  
it by December 31.

486

00:20:26,250 --> 00:20:29,480

So we decided, my  
parents decided,

487

00:20:29,480 --> 00:20:33,350

to split the family up so that  
my father and my little sister,

488

00:20:33,350 --> 00:20:35,810

who was adorable, would  
go on New Year's Eve

489

00:20:35,810 --> 00:20:39,650

and try and cross the  
border, because the guards

490  
00:20:39,650 --> 00:20:42,410  
would be drunk, they thought.

491  
00:20:42,410 --> 00:20:45,050  
And we would stay and  
wait for the paper

492  
00:20:45,050 --> 00:20:47,900  
and then see if we  
could exit properly

493  
00:20:47,900 --> 00:20:51,530  
and perhaps ship some  
of our stuff overseas--

494  
00:20:51,530 --> 00:20:52,180  
so later.

495  
00:20:52,180 --> 00:20:53,810  
That's later on.

496  
00:20:53,810 --> 00:20:57,030  
At any rate, they did  
proceed accordingly.

497  
00:20:57,030 --> 00:21:00,190  
In the meanwhile,  
the people from--

498  
00:21:00,190 --> 00:21:06,740  
the cousins--  
helped us get a visa

499  
00:21:06,740 --> 00:21:08,810  
into Cuba, which was  
obtainable at that point

500  
00:21:08,810 --> 00:21:13,790  
by depositing \$500 per  
person as a guarantee in Cuba

501

00:21:13,790 --> 00:21:17,690  
and sending us  
tickets to go to Cuba.

502  
00:21:17,690 --> 00:21:19,705  
This was your American  
cousin who told you this?

503  
00:21:19,705 --> 00:21:21,080  
Yeah, that there  
is no other way.

504  
00:21:21,080 --> 00:21:22,620  
What were their names?

505  
00:21:22,620 --> 00:21:26,340  
Their name was Max  
and Ida Rothschild.

506  
00:21:26,340 --> 00:21:29,780  
They lived in Great Neck.

507  
00:21:29,780 --> 00:21:34,470  
So they-- it was my  
father's first cousin.

508  
00:21:34,470 --> 00:21:39,290  
And anyway, they-- where was I?

509  
00:21:39,290 --> 00:21:42,380  
They arranged for Cuba.

510  
00:21:42,380 --> 00:21:45,210  
So my sister and my  
father got through.

511  
00:21:45,210 --> 00:21:46,760  
They were drunk.

512  
00:21:46,760 --> 00:21:50,730  
And they went-- it was really  
amazing-- to Switzerland,

513

00:21:50,730 --> 00:21:57,410  
and then went on to England  
very soon after with the idea

514

00:21:57,410 --> 00:22:00,690  
that we would join  
them in England,

515

00:22:00,690 --> 00:22:02,510  
where we had very good friends.

516

00:22:02,510 --> 00:22:06,440  
How did he stay in  
contact with your mother?

517

00:22:06,440 --> 00:22:07,490  
Well, we didn't stay in--

518

00:22:07,490 --> 00:22:10,100  
I mean, there wasn't  
much time involved.

519

00:22:10,100 --> 00:22:12,030  
And we left two weeks  
later, it so happens.

520

00:22:12,030 --> 00:22:15,440  
No, but when he got--

521

00:22:15,440 --> 00:22:18,492  
once he left your  
house and got over,

522

00:22:18,492 --> 00:22:20,450  
do you know how you stayed  
in contact with him?

523

00:22:20,450 --> 00:22:21,420  
I don't know.

524

00:22:21,420 --> 00:22:22,710  
I don't know.

525  
00:22:22,710 --> 00:22:24,790  
I don't know.

526  
00:22:24,790 --> 00:22:27,140  
Oh, and when they got to  
England, they call us for sure.

527  
00:22:27,140 --> 00:22:28,660  
But I don't know.

528  
00:22:28,660 --> 00:22:30,010  
I just don't know.

529  
00:22:30,010 --> 00:22:33,193  
Anyway, we stayed behind, and  
we did not have the paper.

530  
00:22:33,193 --> 00:22:34,610  
I can't imagine  
how my mother felt

531  
00:22:34,610 --> 00:22:35,902  
when they said goodbye to each.

532  
00:22:35,902 --> 00:22:36,440  
Oh, my God.

533  
00:22:36,440 --> 00:22:36,940  
Yeah.

534  
00:22:36,940 --> 00:22:37,440  
Yeah.

535  
00:22:37,440 --> 00:22:41,410  
At any rate, eventually,  
the paper came.

536  
00:22:41,410 --> 00:22:46,670  
And they packed a lift  
van with our belongings,

537

00:22:46,670 --> 00:22:49,022  
with an SS watching  
every bit of the way what

538

00:22:49,022 --> 00:22:50,230  
we're taking, what we're not.

539

00:22:50,230 --> 00:22:52,270  
And my mother was very smart.

540

00:22:52,270 --> 00:22:53,860  
And she'd give some away.

541

00:22:53,860 --> 00:22:55,600  
You know, she'd bribe  
them all the way.

542

00:22:55,600 --> 00:22:58,785  
So we got some things  
together and they

543

00:22:58,785 --> 00:23:00,160  
were shipped to  
the United States

544

00:23:00,160 --> 00:23:02,100  
to await our eventual arrival.

545

00:23:02,100 --> 00:23:05,230  
What did your mother  
take with her?

546

00:23:05,230 --> 00:23:06,400  
With her to the--

547

00:23:06,400 --> 00:23:08,570  
Well, or send on?

548

00:23:08,570 --> 00:23:09,070  
Send on?

549

00:23:09,070 --> 00:23:12,340  
We had furniture and  
everything, everything.

550  
00:23:12,340 --> 00:23:14,380  
Rooms full of  
belonging-- you know.

551  
00:23:14,380 --> 00:23:16,150  
She was able to  
ship all that over?

552  
00:23:16,150 --> 00:23:18,130  
Yes.

553  
00:23:18,130 --> 00:23:18,990  
Quite a bit, yeah.

554  
00:23:18,990 --> 00:23:21,533  
So the first  
apartment that we had,

555  
00:23:21,533 --> 00:23:22,950  
which was Washington  
Heights here,

556  
00:23:22,950 --> 00:23:27,430  
was furnished with  
stuff from Vienna.

557  
00:23:27,430 --> 00:23:30,550  
Now what did you  
take as a child?

558  
00:23:30,550 --> 00:23:32,470  
What did you take with you?

559  
00:23:32,470 --> 00:23:34,550  
What I shipped was  
all my books and--

560  
00:23:34,550 --> 00:23:35,580  
Your books?

561  
00:23:35,580 --> 00:23:37,210  
It was ridiculous.

562  
00:23:37,210 --> 00:23:38,770  
And it was of no value to me.

563  
00:23:38,770 --> 00:23:41,080  
In the end, I gave it away.

564  
00:23:41,080 --> 00:23:42,740  
It was really--  
I loved my books.

565  
00:23:42,740 --> 00:23:45,432  
I didn't want to give them up.

566  
00:23:45,432 --> 00:23:47,890  
And did you take any  
personal-- besides books,

567  
00:23:47,890 --> 00:23:49,620  
anything very personal?

568  
00:23:49,620 --> 00:23:50,500  
Any--

569  
00:23:50,500 --> 00:23:52,350  
Well, I'm sure we did.

570  
00:23:52,350 --> 00:23:54,970  
--dolls or things like that?

571  
00:23:54,970 --> 00:23:57,250  
I'm sure I did, but I  
don't recall too much.

572  
00:23:57,250 --> 00:24:01,510  
We went with minimal  
luggage to England.

573



00:24:01,510 --> 00:24:03,820  
OK, let's back up for a minute.

574  
00:24:03,820 --> 00:24:05,950  
How did you feel  
about leaving Austria?

575  
00:24:05,950 --> 00:24:08,650  
Did you feel very Austrian?

576  
00:24:08,650 --> 00:24:12,250  
I felt this was home  
until that March.

577  
00:24:12,250 --> 00:24:13,370  
I felt this was it.

578  
00:24:13,370 --> 00:24:13,870  
You know--

579  
00:24:13,870 --> 00:24:16,360  
You were Austrian.

580  
00:24:16,360 --> 00:24:18,110  
Jewish-- always  
know we're Jewish.

581  
00:24:18,110 --> 00:24:21,550  
OK, and now you have to leave.

582  
00:24:21,550 --> 00:24:23,560  
What's that like for a child?

583  
00:24:23,560 --> 00:24:25,510  
It's rough.

584  
00:24:25,510 --> 00:24:29,770  
Will I have no shoes when I  
need them when my feet grow?

585  
00:24:29,770 --> 00:24:30,740  
All sorts of things.

586  
00:24:30,740 --> 00:24:31,740  
And we won't have money.

587  
00:24:31,740 --> 00:24:32,780  
We knew that, you know.

588  
00:24:32,780 --> 00:24:34,930  
Did you tell your  
friends you were leaving?

589  
00:24:34,930 --> 00:24:37,810

590  
00:24:37,810 --> 00:24:40,110  
Everybody was leaving.

591  
00:24:40,110 --> 00:24:41,230  
Everybody was leaving.

592  
00:24:41,230 --> 00:24:42,260  
Yeah.

593  
00:24:42,260 --> 00:24:45,920  
Was it something you talked  
over with your friends?

594  
00:24:45,920 --> 00:24:47,350  
We talked about it, I'm sure.

595  
00:24:47,350 --> 00:24:51,840  
But many of my friends  
had already left.

596  
00:24:51,840 --> 00:24:52,340  
Oh, OK.

597  
00:24:52,340 --> 00:24:54,100  
And others, and I  
made new friends

598

00:24:54,100 --> 00:24:55,480  
because I was in a new school.

599  
00:24:55,480 --> 00:24:57,280  
Yes, that's right.

600  
00:24:57,280 --> 00:25:02,425  
So there wasn't a continuous  
friendship that was possible,

601  
00:25:02,425 --> 00:25:04,090  
actually.

602  
00:25:04,090 --> 00:25:06,460  
I also meant to ask  
you with Kristallnacht,

603  
00:25:06,460 --> 00:25:10,180  
did you see any damage,  
any building damage?

604  
00:25:10,180 --> 00:25:13,810  
Oh, we saw a lot  
outside on the streets.

605  
00:25:13,810 --> 00:25:19,600  
They demolished the showcase,  
the windows on the stores

606  
00:25:19,600 --> 00:25:20,350  
and everything.

607  
00:25:20,350 --> 00:25:22,000  
And I heard screaming  
men in the back.

608  
00:25:22,000 --> 00:25:24,100  
We had balconies in the  
back and in the front.

609  
00:25:24,100 --> 00:25:28,660  
And you could hear them lugging  
the men away from their homes.

610  
00:25:28,660 --> 00:25:31,470  
Was your father's  
place damaged--

611  
00:25:31,470 --> 00:25:33,100  
business damaged?

612  
00:25:33,100 --> 00:25:34,680  
Not terribly that I'm aware of.

613  
00:25:34,680 --> 00:25:35,180  
No.

614  
00:25:35,180 --> 00:25:41,040  
I think that the commissar must  
have been in a high position.

615  
00:25:41,040 --> 00:25:42,000  
Oh, my.

616  
00:25:42,000 --> 00:25:42,840  
I don't know.

617  
00:25:42,840 --> 00:25:46,150

618  
00:25:46,150 --> 00:25:49,580  
So now you're leaving  
Vienna with your mother.

619  
00:25:49,580 --> 00:25:50,140  
Yes.

620  
00:25:50,140 --> 00:25:52,390  
And joining them in  
England, where they--

621  
00:25:52,390 --> 00:25:53,330  
How did you get there?

622

00:25:53,330 --> 00:25:54,090  
How did--

623  
00:25:54,090 --> 00:26:00,400  
We took from Vienna a  
train, and the channel.

624  
00:26:00,400 --> 00:26:03,460  
I think the train went  
over all the way to--

625  
00:26:03,460 --> 00:26:06,700  
I can't remember whether it  
was-- it was via Holland,

626  
00:26:06,700 --> 00:26:11,020  
and I think then a ship to  
England, and then on to London.

627  
00:26:11,020 --> 00:26:12,190  
I'm not quite sure.

628  
00:26:12,190 --> 00:26:14,710  
Did you know any  
English at that point?

629  
00:26:14,710 --> 00:26:20,980  
Well, yes, because when  
Hitler came to Vienna

630  
00:26:20,980 --> 00:26:23,230  
the French governess left.

631  
00:26:23,230 --> 00:26:26,840  
She went-- she disappeared  
almost immediately.

632  
00:26:26,840 --> 00:26:28,828  
And my mother decided  
to hire somebody else

633  
00:26:28,828 --> 00:26:30,870  
because she was working

part time with my father.

634  
00:26:30,870 --> 00:26:32,830  
And it was a large business.

635  
00:26:32,830 --> 00:26:36,230  
And the one she decided to  
hire was English-speaking.

636  
00:26:36,230 --> 00:26:39,930  
She thought it was better  
for the children, and it was.

637  
00:26:39,930 --> 00:26:41,213  
Oh, yes, I knew some English.

638  
00:26:41,213 --> 00:26:42,130  
You knew some English.

639  
00:26:42,130 --> 00:26:44,350  
Not perfectly, but I knew, yes.

640  
00:26:44,350 --> 00:26:45,730  
So now you're landing.

641  
00:26:45,730 --> 00:26:46,810  
You're in London.

642  
00:26:46,810 --> 00:26:47,370  
Yes.

643  
00:26:47,370 --> 00:26:49,930  
And we went to school, to  
a public school for about

644  
00:26:49,930 --> 00:26:51,670  
two months, and then we left.

645  
00:26:51,670 --> 00:26:52,510  
Yeah.

646

00:26:52,510 --> 00:26:55,370

What was it like  
living in London,

647

00:26:55,370 --> 00:26:56,800

and what were your  
memories of it?

648

00:26:56,800 --> 00:26:57,790

What are your memories?

649

00:26:57,790 --> 00:26:59,330

It was positive, I believe.

650

00:26:59,330 --> 00:27:03,610

We were living with an elderly  
lady in her 80s in her home.

651

00:27:03,610 --> 00:27:06,930

And there was nothing permanent  
about it, just she was--

652

00:27:06,930 --> 00:27:10,060

they were friends with  
both her sons and her.

653

00:27:10,060 --> 00:27:11,830

And they were very  
willing to keep us.

654

00:27:11,830 --> 00:27:16,510

But it wasn't-- and the  
people were very nice.

655

00:27:16,510 --> 00:27:18,010

These were people  
your parents knew?

656

00:27:18,010 --> 00:27:18,968

Yeah, knew from Vienna.

657

00:27:18,968 --> 00:27:20,060

They knew from Vienna?

658  
00:27:20,060 --> 00:27:22,370  
Yeah.

659  
00:27:22,370 --> 00:27:23,380  
Did you go to school?

660  
00:27:23,380 --> 00:27:24,020  
Or you just--

661  
00:27:24,020 --> 00:27:25,460  
Yeah, I went to school  
for the two months.

662  
00:27:25,460 --> 00:27:25,600  
Yeah.

663  
00:27:25,600 --> 00:27:27,360  
I didn't know how long we  
were staying because they were

664  
00:27:27,360 --> 00:27:29,035  
trying to convince us to stay.

665  
00:27:29,035 --> 00:27:31,760  
And my father said, no,  
we got to get out of here.

666  
00:27:31,760 --> 00:27:34,330  
And what were the British  
children's-- girls'-- reaction

667  
00:27:34,330 --> 00:27:37,047  
to you, or boys and  
girls' reaction to you?

668  
00:27:37,047 --> 00:27:37,880  
They were all right.

669  
00:27:37,880 --> 00:27:39,940  
They sort of ridiculed  
the English a little bit,



670  
00:27:39,940 --> 00:27:40,600  
but that's OK.

671  
00:27:40,600 --> 00:27:44,610

672  
00:27:44,610 --> 00:27:47,680  
There wasn't enough time to  
form great relationships in--

673  
00:27:47,680 --> 00:27:49,930  
Right.

674  
00:27:49,930 --> 00:27:55,840  
And so then the  
next steps is what?

675  
00:27:55,840 --> 00:28:03,520  
The next step-- we sailed on  
March 9, 1939 from Liverpool

676  
00:28:03,520 --> 00:28:05,500  
to Havana.

677  
00:28:05,500 --> 00:28:08,050  
We went from London  
by plane, actually,

678  
00:28:08,050 --> 00:28:10,450  
which was a foolish thing,  
because my father wanted

679  
00:28:10,450 --> 00:28:14,120  
the children to  
experience an airplane.

680  
00:28:14,120 --> 00:28:15,550  
And it was a very bad flight.

681  
00:28:15,550 --> 00:28:18,650  
But at any rate, we did

experience the airplane.

682  
00:28:18,650 --> 00:28:20,830  
And then we took the boat.

683  
00:28:20,830 --> 00:28:23,230  
And it was a 17-day  
trip to Havana.

684  
00:28:23,230 --> 00:28:23,770  
Oh, my.

685  
00:28:23,770 --> 00:28:25,550  
Do remember the  
name of the boat?

686  
00:28:25,550 --> 00:28:26,050  
Yes.

687  
00:28:26,050 --> 00:28:30,670  
It's Oropesa-- O-R-O-P-E-S-A.

688  
00:28:30,670 --> 00:28:31,255  
On what line?

689  
00:28:31,255 --> 00:28:33,850

690  
00:28:33,850 --> 00:28:35,210  
A specific line?

691  
00:28:35,210 --> 00:28:37,720  
I don't know.

692  
00:28:37,720 --> 00:28:39,940  
I did know, but.

693  
00:28:39,940 --> 00:28:42,760  
Again, what were your  
thoughts about leaving Europe?

694

00:28:42,760 --> 00:28:43,970  
Here, you're going--

695  
00:28:43,970 --> 00:28:44,470  
None.

696  
00:28:44,470 --> 00:28:46,840  
At that point, one was  
in motion for the best--

697  
00:28:46,840 --> 00:28:48,850  
getting to the best  
possible destination.

698  
00:28:48,850 --> 00:28:52,710

699  
00:28:52,710 --> 00:28:54,613  
I mean, it was an  
interesting crossing.

700  
00:28:54,613 --> 00:28:56,530  
And there were others  
going to different parts

701  
00:28:56,530 --> 00:29:00,820  
of Latin America, different  
ports, and similar families,

702  
00:29:00,820 --> 00:29:02,020  
similar situations.

703  
00:29:02,020 --> 00:29:09,070  
And when we landed  
in Havana, men

704  
00:29:09,070 --> 00:29:14,620  
came up to inspect the boat  
and the papers and everything,

705  
00:29:14,620 --> 00:29:18,970  
and then transported us into  
small boats in the harbor

706  
00:29:18,970 --> 00:29:21,002  
and told us all to  
go into small boats.

707  
00:29:21,002 --> 00:29:22,210  
And we went into these boats.

708  
00:29:22,210 --> 00:29:24,820  
And we thought we were going  
into Havana, but we weren't.

709  
00:29:24,820 --> 00:29:29,530  
They shipped us to a small  
island off the coast,

710  
00:29:29,530 --> 00:29:31,750  
where they had an orphanage  
for Cuban children.

711  
00:29:31,750 --> 00:29:34,600  
And they separated  
the men and the women.

712  
00:29:34,600 --> 00:29:39,250  
And they wanted us  
to buy our way out.

713  
00:29:39,250 --> 00:29:41,940  
So were you with your mother--

714  
00:29:41,940 --> 00:29:44,440  
We left with my mother, and  
my father was in the other--

715  
00:29:44,440 --> 00:29:45,020  
Yeah.

716  
00:29:45,020 --> 00:29:47,287  
They were bunk beds,  
double-deckers.

717

00:29:47,287 --> 00:29:49,120  
We weren't the only  
ones taken off the boat.

718  
00:29:49,120 --> 00:29:51,140  
There were other  
people landing there.

719  
00:29:51,140 --> 00:29:55,210  
And so we stayed there.

720  
00:29:55,210 --> 00:29:57,890  
And none of the  
people that were there

721  
00:29:57,890 --> 00:30:00,340  
had money, really,  
to buy their way out.

722  
00:30:00,340 --> 00:30:05,800  
But the Joint Distribution  
Committee in Havana did it.

723  
00:30:05,800 --> 00:30:09,100  
They helped, and we  
eventually got out.

724  
00:30:09,100 --> 00:30:16,480  
And we went into Havana  
Harbor a number of days later.

725  
00:30:16,480 --> 00:30:20,050  
Now you said there were many  
refugee families and children.

726  
00:30:20,050 --> 00:30:22,288  
Did the children stick together?

727  
00:30:22,288 --> 00:30:24,080  
Yeah, so we made friends  
on board the ship.

728  
00:30:24,080 --> 00:30:27,625

A total of 17 days-- you  
do under those conditions.

729  
00:30:27,625 --> 00:30:28,870  
Right, and did you--

730  
00:30:28,870 --> 00:30:31,580  
It was a nice,  
pleasant experience.

731  
00:30:31,580 --> 00:30:33,430  
As kids, did you  
talk about Hitler?

732  
00:30:33,430 --> 00:30:34,690  
Did you talk about Germany?

733  
00:30:34,690 --> 00:30:35,910  
Did you talk about those--

734  
00:30:35,910 --> 00:30:36,700  
I'm not sure.

735  
00:30:36,700 --> 00:30:37,926  
I'm not sure.

736  
00:30:37,926 --> 00:30:39,730  
I can't be sure.

737  
00:30:39,730 --> 00:30:41,590  
Probably did, but I don't know.

738  
00:30:41,590 --> 00:30:42,940  
Yeah.

739  
00:30:42,940 --> 00:30:46,240  
OK, so now you're in Havana.

740  
00:30:46,240 --> 00:30:47,320  
In Havana, we went--

741

00:30:47,320 --> 00:30:52,320  
the first step was a  
hotel called the Muralla--

742  
00:30:52,320 --> 00:30:54,730  
in the Calle Muralla,  
in the street.

743  
00:30:54,730 --> 00:31:00,760  
Each family got moved into  
one room, the four of us.

744  
00:31:00,760 --> 00:31:03,140  
How old were your  
parents at this point?

745  
00:31:03,140 --> 00:31:06,100  
My mother was 33.

746  
00:31:06,100 --> 00:31:08,560  
She was young, so 33, and my--

747  
00:31:08,560 --> 00:31:09,880  
she was young.

748  
00:31:09,880 --> 00:31:13,960  
And my father was, I guess,  
44 or something like that--

749  
00:31:13,960 --> 00:31:15,670  
32, 33.

750  
00:31:15,670 --> 00:31:17,150  
Yeah.

751  
00:31:17,150 --> 00:31:23,920  
My mother was born in  
'05, and my father in '94.

752  
00:31:23,920 --> 00:31:26,410  
But they were young.

753

00:31:26,410 --> 00:31:27,855  
She was particularly young.

754  
00:31:27,855 --> 00:31:30,010  
Yes.

755  
00:31:30,010 --> 00:31:32,560  
Was she a strong woman?

756  
00:31:32,560 --> 00:31:35,855  
She was a terrific woman,  
and was loved by everybody,

757  
00:31:35,855 --> 00:31:37,480  
whether they spoke  
her language or not.

758  
00:31:37,480 --> 00:31:41,050  
She was absolutely wonderful  
in relating to people.

759  
00:31:41,050 --> 00:31:43,960  
And in handling crises that  
you were going through?

760  
00:31:43,960 --> 00:31:45,640  
Terrific, terrific.

761  
00:31:45,640 --> 00:31:48,590  
Yeah, absolutely terrific.

762  
00:31:48,590 --> 00:31:51,010  
And my father was able  
in his fashion, too--

763  
00:31:51,010 --> 00:31:55,360  
very business-like, and  
not as broad a horizon.

764  
00:31:55,360 --> 00:32:00,560  
But my mother was absolutely  
an unbelievable woman.



765

00:32:00,560 --> 00:32:01,510

And my father was--

766

00:32:01,510 --> 00:32:03,940

I mean, he made all  
the right decisions.

767

00:32:03,940 --> 00:32:06,340

So they were both  
terrific in their way.

768

00:32:06,340 --> 00:32:07,245

I don't know.

769

00:32:07,245 --> 00:32:10,363

770

00:32:10,363 --> 00:32:12,280

Otherwise, we wouldn't  
be here, I don't think.

771

00:32:12,280 --> 00:32:12,780

Right.

772

00:32:12,780 --> 00:32:15,460

773

00:32:15,460 --> 00:32:19,840

Did any of your extended family  
who were far out from Vienna

774

00:32:19,840 --> 00:32:21,130

get out when you did?

775

00:32:21,130 --> 00:32:26,440

Just one sister of my mother's,  
eventually, many years later.

776

00:32:26,440 --> 00:32:30,370

And her husband was actually  
at the World's Fair buying

777

00:32:30,370 --> 00:32:34,903

machinery when war  
broke out in Poland.

778

00:32:34,903 --> 00:32:36,070

They were living in Poland--

779

00:32:36,070 --> 00:32:37,565

and couldn't get back.

780

00:32:37,565 --> 00:32:40,560

It's a whole story in itself.

781

00:32:40,560 --> 00:32:44,110

So yeah, so that one  
came to this country.

782

00:32:44,110 --> 00:32:48,550

And that sister only just  
died at the age about 104.

783

00:32:48,550 --> 00:32:50,310

And her husband, the same--

784

00:32:50,310 --> 00:32:52,810

103, 104.

785

00:32:52,810 --> 00:32:55,940

But others-- none  
of them got out.

786

00:32:55,940 --> 00:32:58,370

None of them got out.

787

00:32:58,370 --> 00:33:00,870

So now you're-- to  
get back to Havana.

788

00:33:00,870 --> 00:33:01,860

Yeah, we're in Havana.

789

00:33:01,860 --> 00:33:05,540  
And we were in this one-room  
arrangement which has

790  
00:33:05,540 --> 00:33:08,700  
semi-walls, like  
in offices, where--

791  
00:33:08,700 --> 00:33:10,230  
Yeah, halfway up?

792  
00:33:10,230 --> 00:33:12,960  
That's correct, with  
family next to each other.

793  
00:33:12,960 --> 00:33:15,030  
Anyway, we got to  
know some families.

794  
00:33:15,030 --> 00:33:17,160  
And three families  
moved together

795  
00:33:17,160 --> 00:33:19,380  
to a lovely section  
in the suburbs,

796  
00:33:19,380 --> 00:33:22,270  
splitting the cost that way.

797  
00:33:22,270 --> 00:33:25,620  
So each family got two bedrooms.

798  
00:33:25,620 --> 00:33:29,040  
So it was a beautiful house,  
and a huge kitchen, which

799  
00:33:29,040 --> 00:33:33,740  
was shared, with a coal stove.

800  
00:33:33,740 --> 00:33:35,880  
My mother had to  
light the stove.

801  
00:33:35,880 --> 00:33:36,702  
Oh, my.

802  
00:33:36,702 --> 00:33:38,660  
A big change from what  
she was brought up with.

803  
00:33:38,660 --> 00:33:39,600  
But she was terrific.

804  
00:33:39,600 --> 00:33:43,620  
She used to wash the marble  
floors and everything.

805  
00:33:43,620 --> 00:33:47,580  
And my father went into town  
and tried to establish relations

806  
00:33:47,580 --> 00:33:49,890  
with the textile trade.

807  
00:33:49,890 --> 00:33:53,040  
I don't know how because  
he didn't speak Spanish.

808  
00:33:53,040 --> 00:33:54,900  
And the first day  
that he went to town,

809  
00:33:54,900 --> 00:33:59,070  
he was robbed of his good  
watch, gold watch, which

810  
00:33:59,070 --> 00:34:00,630  
was inherited from his father.

811  
00:34:00,630 --> 00:34:02,220  
But anyway, he managed.

812  
00:34:02,220 --> 00:34:05,910  
He did establish friendships

and relationships and imported

813

00:34:05,910 --> 00:34:08,048  
textiles for the trade there.

814

00:34:08,048 --> 00:34:09,090  
I don't know how he man--

815

00:34:09,090 --> 00:34:10,860  
I mean, really I don't know.

816

00:34:10,860 --> 00:34:12,531  
And they arranged for us.

817

00:34:12,531 --> 00:34:13,739  
They didn't like the schools.

818

00:34:13,739 --> 00:34:15,197  
The public schools  
were impossible.

819

00:34:15,197 --> 00:34:17,600  
So they arranged for us  
to go to private school.

820

00:34:17,600 --> 00:34:21,179  
And they found a very good  
private school which--

821

00:34:21,179 --> 00:34:25,980  
without money-- called the  
English School at the time.

822

00:34:25,980 --> 00:34:30,480  
And my father used to pay it  
with fabrics, and suit links,

823

00:34:30,480 --> 00:34:32,250  
and this woman, Miss--

824

00:34:32,250 --> 00:34:33,270  
she took us in.

825  
00:34:33,270 --> 00:34:37,620  
And we were very  
fortunate, I mean.

826  
00:34:37,620 --> 00:34:42,989  
So we went to school with all  
upper-class Latin children.

827  
00:34:42,989 --> 00:34:45,989  
Now you were learning  
the language?

828  
00:34:45,989 --> 00:34:46,813  
Yes.

829  
00:34:46,813 --> 00:34:48,480  
Did you pick up easily?

830  
00:34:48,480 --> 00:34:49,159  
Very easily.

831  
00:34:49,159 --> 00:34:52,110  
I had Latin in Vienna, and  
I had French in Vienna,

832  
00:34:52,110 --> 00:34:53,260  
and I spoke German.

833  
00:34:53,260 --> 00:34:54,780  
And I had Hebrew lessons.

834  
00:34:54,780 --> 00:34:57,630  
I mean, languages  
are not my problem.

835  
00:34:57,630 --> 00:34:58,720  
OK, wonderful.

836  
00:34:58,720 --> 00:35:00,960  
Yeah.

837

00:35:00,960 --> 00:35:03,660

And were you with a lot  
of other Jewish children?

838

00:35:03,660 --> 00:35:06,880

No, no, there were  
not in the school.

839

00:35:06,880 --> 00:35:08,070

No.

840

00:35:08,070 --> 00:35:10,710

But in the community,  
yes, a lot of--

841

00:35:10,710 --> 00:35:11,460

Refugees?

842

00:35:11,460 --> 00:35:13,700

Transit refugees  
waiting for visas.

843

00:35:13,700 --> 00:35:14,200

Right.

844

00:35:14,200 --> 00:35:16,770

845

00:35:16,770 --> 00:35:20,680

What did you know at that  
point that was happening?

846

00:35:20,680 --> 00:35:23,760

Well, I knew that, for  
instance, we came in March.

847

00:35:23,760 --> 00:35:27,300

And in June, another  
boat came with refugees

848

00:35:27,300 --> 00:35:28,470

called the St. Louis.

849  
00:35:28,470 --> 00:35:29,250  
Yes.

850  
00:35:29,250 --> 00:35:30,780  
And I saw it in the harbor.

851  
00:35:30,780 --> 00:35:31,280  
And I saw--

852  
00:35:31,280 --> 00:35:31,780  
You did?

853  
00:35:31,780 --> 00:35:32,730  
Oh, my.

854  
00:35:32,730 --> 00:35:33,277  
Yes, it was.

855  
00:35:33,277 --> 00:35:35,610  
We used to go down to the  
harbor and watch it every day.

856  
00:35:35,610 --> 00:35:39,900  
And then one day, we  
went, and they left.

857  
00:35:39,900 --> 00:35:41,070  
What were your thoughts?

858  
00:35:41,070 --> 00:35:43,530  
That was very stressful.

859  
00:35:43,530 --> 00:35:46,930  
Did you see the people on the  
railings and things like that?

860  
00:35:46,930 --> 00:35:49,000  
But in the distance.

861  
00:35:49,000 --> 00:35:50,070



It wasn't that close.

862  
00:35:50,070 --> 00:35:53,550  
But yeah, we could  
see forms, but not--

863  
00:35:53,550 --> 00:35:54,750  
it was really bad.

864  
00:35:54,750 --> 00:35:55,390  
Oh, my.

865  
00:35:55,390 --> 00:35:55,890  
Yeah.

866  
00:35:55,890 --> 00:35:56,390  
Yeah.

867  
00:35:56,390 --> 00:36:00,450

868  
00:36:00,450 --> 00:36:03,718  
Again, did you talk this  
over with your parents?

869  
00:36:03,718 --> 00:36:04,260  
Oh, I'm sure.

870  
00:36:04,260 --> 00:36:05,820  
My parents took  
us down to see it.

871  
00:36:05,820 --> 00:36:08,560  
I see, yeah.

872  
00:36:08,560 --> 00:36:10,260  
Were they noticeably affected?

873  
00:36:10,260 --> 00:36:12,660  
Because they obviously  
knew what was happening.

874

00:36:12,660 --> 00:36:16,833

Well, there's  
nothing you can do.

875

00:36:16,833 --> 00:36:18,000

I'm sure they were affected.

876

00:36:18,000 --> 00:36:21,230

I can't judge that  
this late in the game.

877

00:36:21,230 --> 00:36:22,410

Yeah.

878

00:36:22,410 --> 00:36:24,480

How was your younger  
sister doing?

879

00:36:24,480 --> 00:36:27,510

She was so much  
younger at this point.

880

00:36:27,510 --> 00:36:28,410

She was OK?

881

00:36:28,410 --> 00:36:29,250

She was OK.

882

00:36:29,250 --> 00:36:31,140

She was OK.

883

00:36:31,140 --> 00:36:35,430

She was an exceedingly able  
person, and she was doing--

884

00:36:35,430 --> 00:36:36,830

Even as a young child?

885

00:36:36,830 --> 00:36:38,090

Well, yeah.

886

00:36:38,090 --> 00:36:41,100  
It wasn't as obvious as  
later, but she certainly

887  
00:36:41,100 --> 00:36:42,520  
did exceedingly well.

888  
00:36:42,520 --> 00:36:43,020  
Yeah.

889  
00:36:43,020 --> 00:36:48,030

890  
00:36:48,030 --> 00:36:50,010  
So the life just continued on?

891  
00:36:50,010 --> 00:36:51,510  
You were going to school.

892  
00:36:51,510 --> 00:36:54,150  
Yeah, but my sister, she  
was always a leader, I mean,

893  
00:36:54,150 --> 00:36:57,300  
like the president of the high  
school at Hunter College High

894  
00:36:57,300 --> 00:36:59,430  
School and all that type of--

895  
00:36:59,430 --> 00:37:02,430  
so this was-- she was always--

896  
00:37:02,430 --> 00:37:04,260  
The seeds were there  
when she was younger.

897  
00:37:04,260 --> 00:37:05,160  
Yes, definitely.

898  
00:37:05,160 --> 00:37:06,690  
Maybe this instigated

it, you know?

899

00:37:06,690 --> 00:37:10,960

She says-- it said so in  
her obituary in The Times.

900

00:37:10,960 --> 00:37:13,530

But anyway.

901

00:37:13,530 --> 00:37:15,510

Did you do anything  
besides go to school?

902

00:37:15,510 --> 00:37:18,365

What else did you do  
in Cuba, in Havana?

903

00:37:18,365 --> 00:37:24,480

Well, the community was  
many factions of Judaism,

904

00:37:24,480 --> 00:37:25,380

so it was funny.

905

00:37:25,380 --> 00:37:29,700

There was a large  
contingent from Frankfurt.

906

00:37:29,700 --> 00:37:32,790

They had services in  
each other's homes.

907

00:37:32,790 --> 00:37:35,280

I mean, that wasn't  
the children.

908

00:37:35,280 --> 00:37:37,330

But you're asking the  
children, or the community?

909

00:37:37,330 --> 00:37:38,590

Both.

910  
00:37:38,590 --> 00:37:39,720  
OK.

911  
00:37:39,720 --> 00:37:42,715  
So they were different people.

912  
00:37:42,715 --> 00:37:44,340  
Some were religious,  
and some were not.

913  
00:37:44,340 --> 00:37:49,170  
Of the three families where  
we lived, the ones came from--

914  
00:37:49,170 --> 00:37:51,260  
they had lived in  
Italy, the one family,

915  
00:37:51,260 --> 00:37:53,460  
and had two teenage boys.

916  
00:37:53,460 --> 00:37:57,530  
And the second family were  
Germans and were totally--

917  
00:37:57,530 --> 00:37:59,940  
were not educated  
and didn't have

918  
00:37:59,940 --> 00:38:02,100  
the same vision of  
wanting the kids to be

919  
00:38:02,100 --> 00:38:03,540  
that well educated, either.

920  
00:38:03,540 --> 00:38:06,180  
So then you got used of  
various types of people.

921  
00:38:06,180 --> 00:38:10,830

922  
00:38:10,830 --> 00:38:11,670  
What else did we do?

923  
00:38:11,670 --> 00:38:13,140  
The school day was long enough.

924  
00:38:13,140 --> 00:38:15,855  
And the community was friendly.

925  
00:38:15,855 --> 00:38:18,380

926  
00:38:18,380 --> 00:38:22,160  
But we mixed mostly  
with our own.

927  
00:38:22,160 --> 00:38:22,710  
Yeah.

928  
00:38:22,710 --> 00:38:24,870  
My father mixed with the trade.

929  
00:38:24,870 --> 00:38:25,720  
I'm sure.

930  
00:38:25,720 --> 00:38:26,280  
Yeah.

931  
00:38:26,280 --> 00:38:29,310  
And we stayed friends with  
those Cubans for years later.

932  
00:38:29,310 --> 00:38:29,980  
Really?

933  
00:38:29,980 --> 00:38:30,480  
Yeah.

934  
00:38:30,480 --> 00:38:31,490  
Wonderful.

935  
00:38:31,490 --> 00:38:33,090  
Yeah.

936  
00:38:33,090 --> 00:38:37,020  
Again, any communication with  
the people back in Europe?

937  
00:38:37,020 --> 00:38:41,020  
A letter and a card came once  
from my mother's parents.

938  
00:38:41,020 --> 00:38:42,900  
And that was it.

939  
00:38:42,900 --> 00:38:44,410  
That was it.

940  
00:38:44,410 --> 00:38:46,590  
Yeah, and I know she  
lost her grandfather.

941  
00:38:46,590 --> 00:38:51,130  
This was-- anyway,  
they all perished,

942  
00:38:51,130 --> 00:38:56,520  
except for this one sister who  
lived underground in Poland

943  
00:38:56,520 --> 00:39:02,970  
whose husband was here, and  
who eventually got out and then

944  
00:39:02,970 --> 00:39:05,490  
moved in with--

945  
00:39:05,490 --> 00:39:09,120  
moved to Lakewood, New Jersey.

946  
00:39:09,120 --> 00:39:11,580  
So life just went on in Cuba?

947  
00:39:11,580 --> 00:39:12,680  
Yes.

948  
00:39:12,680 --> 00:39:15,360  
And we waited for the visa.

949  
00:39:15,360 --> 00:39:18,417  
Some people went sooner,  
and some went later.

950  
00:39:18,417 --> 00:39:20,250  
It depended on where  
your parents were born.

951  
00:39:20,250 --> 00:39:23,328  
And some people had nervous  
breakdowns in the process.

952  
00:39:23,328 --> 00:39:24,120  
I remember several.

953  
00:39:24,120 --> 00:39:24,940  
Really?

954  
00:39:24,940 --> 00:39:26,160  
Yeah.

955  
00:39:26,160 --> 00:39:28,530  
That must have been very  
frightening to a young--

956  
00:39:28,530 --> 00:39:31,725  
Yeah, I do remember that  
the mother of one child

957  
00:39:31,725 --> 00:39:34,650  
went berserk and never was  
allowed into the country

958  
00:39:34,650 --> 00:39:35,420  
and in the end.



959  
00:39:35,420 --> 00:39:36,290  
Had to stay in Cuba.

960  
00:39:36,290 --> 00:39:38,070  
And the father and  
the child went.

961  
00:39:38,070 --> 00:39:39,490  
Oh, my.

962  
00:39:39,490 --> 00:39:40,720  
It's very terrible.

963  
00:39:40,720 --> 00:39:41,220  
Yes.

964  
00:39:41,220 --> 00:39:45,540

965  
00:39:45,540 --> 00:39:48,510  
So you stayed there  
in Cuba for how long?

966  
00:39:48,510 --> 00:39:49,500  
18 months.

967  
00:39:49,500 --> 00:39:50,302  
18 months.

968  
00:39:50,302 --> 00:39:52,260  
And I'm sure you were  
very fluent by that time.

969  
00:39:52,260 --> 00:39:52,860  
I was.

970  
00:39:52,860 --> 00:39:56,630  
I eventually worked in  
using my Spanish, yeah.

971

00:39:56,630 --> 00:39:57,660  
Yeah.

972  
00:39:57,660 --> 00:39:59,880  
And then the papers  
came through?

973  
00:39:59,880 --> 00:40:01,960  
Yes.

974  
00:40:01,960 --> 00:40:05,550  
And we came-- and we went--

975  
00:40:05,550 --> 00:40:07,290  
I'm just trying to  
say ho that went--

976  
00:40:07,290 --> 00:40:13,410  
from Havana to Key West by boat,  
and from Key West to New York

977  
00:40:13,410 --> 00:40:15,130  
by Greyhound Bus.

978  
00:40:15,130 --> 00:40:16,620  
Anyway.

979  
00:40:16,620 --> 00:40:20,670  
Well, how did you  
feel leaving Cuba?

980  
00:40:20,670 --> 00:40:22,000  
I wanted to go on.

981  
00:40:22,000 --> 00:40:22,500  
You did?

982  
00:40:22,500 --> 00:40:24,140  
I mean, I liked it, you know?

983  
00:40:24,140 --> 00:40:25,470  
But it was time to go.

984  
00:40:25,470 --> 00:40:26,860  
It wasn't a permanent thing.

985  
00:40:26,860 --> 00:40:29,040  
Yeah.

986  
00:40:29,040 --> 00:40:30,030  
And so you left.

987  
00:40:30,030 --> 00:40:32,020  
What month did you leave?

988  
00:40:32,020 --> 00:40:34,490  
We left in September, 1940.

989  
00:40:34,490 --> 00:40:35,450  
1940.

990  
00:40:35,450 --> 00:40:39,670  
OK, let's back up, and  
September 1939, and--

991  
00:40:39,670 --> 00:40:41,120  
Oh, wait a minute.

992  
00:40:41,120 --> 00:40:42,420  
Yeah, September '39--

993  
00:40:42,420 --> 00:40:44,720  
I was in Cuba during the war.

994  
00:40:44,720 --> 00:40:45,630  
War, yeah.

995  
00:40:45,630 --> 00:40:48,197  
So you heard about  
this, obviously?

996  
00:40:48,197 --> 00:40:48,780  
About the war?

997  
00:40:48,780 --> 00:40:49,280  
Yes.

998  
00:40:49,280 --> 00:40:54,150  
And it was followed very  
thoroughly in the newspapers

999  
00:40:54,150 --> 00:40:55,620  
and discussion groups.

1000  
00:40:55,620 --> 00:40:57,210  
And I kept a diary.

1001  
00:40:57,210 --> 00:40:58,050  
I have a diary.

1002  
00:40:58,050 --> 00:40:58,710  
You did?

1003  
00:40:58,710 --> 00:40:59,880  
In school, yes.

1004  
00:40:59,880 --> 00:41:02,338  
In school, they made me keep  
it-- a rather than nice diary.

1005  
00:41:02,338 --> 00:41:04,088  
I'm glad to have it  
for the grandchildren.

1006  
00:41:04,088 --> 00:41:04,690  
Absolutely.

1007  
00:41:04,690 --> 00:41:06,930  
So what kind-- do you  
remember some of the things

1008  
00:41:06,930 --> 00:41:09,390  
you wrote in the  
diary generally?

1009

00:41:09,390 --> 00:41:12,570

The diary is actually a  
strictly political one

1010

00:41:12,570 --> 00:41:14,430

because it was an assignment.

1011

00:41:14,430 --> 00:41:16,590

You know, they progressed  
from the Maginot Line

1012

00:41:16,590 --> 00:41:17,470

to this or that.

1013

00:41:17,470 --> 00:41:18,480

That's the type--

1014

00:41:18,480 --> 00:41:19,960

So it was a description?

1015

00:41:19,960 --> 00:41:22,650

Descriptions with some maps  
from the newspapers and--

1016

00:41:22,650 --> 00:41:23,790

Oh, I see.

1017

00:41:23,790 --> 00:41:24,950

It wasn't your thoughts?

1018

00:41:24,950 --> 00:41:26,740

No.

1019

00:41:26,740 --> 00:41:29,310

But my thoughts-- I did what  
I could and wrote some things

1020

00:41:29,310 --> 00:41:31,770

for the children down--  
for my grandchildren.

1021

00:41:31,770 --> 00:41:32,657  
Oh, later on.

1022  
00:41:32,657 --> 00:41:33,720  
You mean later on?

1023  
00:41:33,720 --> 00:41:34,260  
Yeah.

1024  
00:41:34,260 --> 00:41:38,640  
But at the time,  
war has what kind

1025  
00:41:38,640 --> 00:41:41,110  
of meaning to a young teenager?

1026  
00:41:41,110 --> 00:41:43,075  
What?

1027  
00:41:43,075 --> 00:41:43,575  
Terrible.

1028  
00:41:43,575 --> 00:41:46,662

1029  
00:41:46,662 --> 00:41:49,805  
At the time-- but  
you mean in Havana?

1030  
00:41:49,805 --> 00:41:52,820

1031  
00:41:52,820 --> 00:41:56,910  
I didn't feel it that--

1032  
00:41:56,910 --> 00:41:58,260  
I mean, it was frightening.

1033  
00:41:58,260 --> 00:41:59,930  
That's all I can say.

1034

00:41:59,930 --> 00:42:00,860  
Yeah.

1035  
00:42:00,860 --> 00:42:02,390  
Yeah.

1036  
00:42:02,390 --> 00:42:04,530  
And how did your  
parents get the news?

1037  
00:42:04,530 --> 00:42:05,250  
From the radio?

1038  
00:42:05,250 --> 00:42:06,210  
From newspapers?

1039  
00:42:06,210 --> 00:42:08,760  
Yes, radios and newspapers  
and discussions.

1040  
00:42:08,760 --> 00:42:14,740  
There was multiple people  
living there and meeting,

1041  
00:42:14,740 --> 00:42:17,700  
getting together, and  
following it very eagerly

1042  
00:42:17,700 --> 00:42:18,850  
and hoping for the best.

1043  
00:42:18,850 --> 00:42:20,685  
Oh, yes.

1044  
00:42:20,685 --> 00:42:22,560  
You know, you can't get  
frightened every day.

1045  
00:42:22,560 --> 00:42:25,250  
You live from day  
to day as a child.

1046

00:42:25,250 --> 00:42:27,210

So you're just  
hoping for the best--

1047

00:42:27,210 --> 00:42:29,550

that the right people would win.

1048

00:42:29,550 --> 00:42:31,740

Your health was good and  
your parents' health?

1049

00:42:31,740 --> 00:42:32,990

Yes, knock wood.

1050

00:42:32,990 --> 00:42:33,710

Yeah.

1051

00:42:33,710 --> 00:42:35,280

And you had enough food?

1052

00:42:35,280 --> 00:42:38,310

Yes, never felt deprived,  
even though God knows,

1053

00:42:38,310 --> 00:42:40,390

we didn't have much money.

1054

00:42:40,390 --> 00:42:42,630

Never felt it.

1055

00:42:42,630 --> 00:42:46,410

That I must compliment my  
parents for always making us

1056

00:42:46,410 --> 00:42:49,600

feel positive.

1057

00:42:49,600 --> 00:42:50,100

Yeah.

1058

00:42:50,100 --> 00:42:54,055

And so then you get out, and



as you said, went to Florida?

1059

00:42:54,055 --> 00:42:56,310

Well, no, only to get the bus.

1060

00:42:56,310 --> 00:42:57,400

Yeah, right.

1061

00:42:57,400 --> 00:42:58,920

And then you got on the bus?

1062

00:42:58,920 --> 00:43:00,990

Yeah, and got to New York.

1063

00:43:00,990 --> 00:43:02,170

Got to New York.

1064

00:43:02,170 --> 00:43:07,240

And again, your thoughts,  
or were you just exhausted?

1065

00:43:07,240 --> 00:43:10,990

I guess we were eager  
to see what's going on

1066

00:43:10,990 --> 00:43:18,200

and what's the next step and  
positive, hoping for the best.

1067

00:43:18,200 --> 00:43:20,030

I can't really recall exactly.

1068

00:43:20,030 --> 00:43:20,660

Right.

1069

00:43:20,660 --> 00:43:23,202

But you were saying that your  
parents always had a positive--

1070

00:43:23,202 --> 00:43:24,310

Yeah, precisely.

1071  
00:43:24,310 --> 00:43:25,790  
Wonderful.

1072  
00:43:25,790 --> 00:43:28,000  
Were you met by your  
relatives when you arrived?

1073  
00:43:28,000 --> 00:43:31,580  
--an elderly aunt who was--

1074  
00:43:31,580 --> 00:43:34,140  
actually, she and her husband--

1075  
00:43:34,140 --> 00:43:36,500  
they were the parents  
of the Rothschild--

1076  
00:43:36,500 --> 00:43:39,450  
Mrs. Rothschild--  
Ida Rothschild.

1077  
00:43:39,450 --> 00:43:42,920  
And she wanted us  
to stay with her.

1078  
00:43:42,920 --> 00:43:46,700  
She actually had a grocery  
store and a small apartment

1079  
00:43:46,700 --> 00:43:47,962  
in Brooklyn.

1080  
00:43:47,962 --> 00:43:49,670  
I don't know if she  
thought my mother was

1081  
00:43:49,670 --> 00:43:51,128  
going to work in  
the grocery store,

1082  
00:43:51,128 --> 00:43:54,290  
but we stayed very briefly.

1083  
00:43:54,290 --> 00:43:57,650  
And my brother-in-law,  
the one that

1084  
00:43:57,650 --> 00:44:01,520  
had come from Poland  
and to the World's Fair

1085  
00:44:01,520 --> 00:44:05,970  
to buy some machinery, had  
by then lived in Lakewood

1086  
00:44:05,970 --> 00:44:08,000  
and purchased a farm.

1087  
00:44:08,000 --> 00:44:11,440

1088  
00:44:11,440 --> 00:44:14,030  
They thought that the  
most intelligent thing

1089  
00:44:14,030 --> 00:44:17,372  
in the way of moving was that  
my mother and the two children

1090  
00:44:17,372 --> 00:44:18,830  
would go to Lakewood,  
and my father

1091  
00:44:18,830 --> 00:44:23,190  
would try to establish  
himself in New York

1092  
00:44:23,190 --> 00:44:25,370  
and make connections  
during the week,

1093  
00:44:25,370 --> 00:44:27,080  
and come just on the weekends.

1094

00:44:27,080 --> 00:44:29,210  
Anyway, we moved the whole  
furniture, everything,

1095  
00:44:29,210 --> 00:44:31,190  
to Lakewood.

1096  
00:44:31,190 --> 00:44:34,010  
And we stayed there.

1097  
00:44:34,010 --> 00:44:36,950  
And about five days  
after we arrived,

1098  
00:44:36,950 --> 00:44:40,550  
we had an episode at night,  
where somebody was climbing up

1099  
00:44:40,550 --> 00:44:41,900  
the ladder.

1100  
00:44:41,900 --> 00:44:45,440  
And my brother-in-law took  
a shotgun that he used to--

1101  
00:44:45,440 --> 00:44:47,450  
and looked out the window.

1102  
00:44:47,450 --> 00:44:50,150  
And it was my father--

1103  
00:44:50,150 --> 00:44:51,890  
and he didn't shoot--

1104  
00:44:51,890 --> 00:44:54,865  
who had come to say that the  
family has to stay together,

1105  
00:44:54,865 --> 00:44:55,490  
no matter what.

1106  
00:44:55,490 --> 00:44:57,710

This is not good.

1107  
00:44:57,710 --> 00:44:59,960  
And that's a good thing  
because my brother-in-law

1108  
00:44:59,960 --> 00:45:01,407  
was ultra-orthodox.

1109  
00:45:01,407 --> 00:45:03,240  
And it would have turned  
out much different.

1110  
00:45:03,240 --> 00:45:05,340  
But at any rate--

1111  
00:45:05,340 --> 00:45:08,360  
in general, too, I mean, this  
is a very Orthodox community

1112  
00:45:08,360 --> 00:45:10,230  
in Lakewood.

1113  
00:45:10,230 --> 00:45:13,890  
And anyway, my father got us.

1114  
00:45:13,890 --> 00:45:15,898  
Now my father and  
mother went to New York

1115  
00:45:15,898 --> 00:45:17,690  
and got an apartment  
in Washington Heights.

1116  
00:45:17,690 --> 00:45:19,630  
And we moved to  
Washington Heights

1117  
00:45:19,630 --> 00:45:23,600  
and have been in New York  
ever since and had this--

1118

00:45:23,600 --> 00:45:25,400  
with the whole furniture  
and everything.

1119  
00:45:25,400 --> 00:45:25,900  
Right.

1120  
00:45:25,900 --> 00:45:28,370  
So you had all the  
Viennese furniture?

1121  
00:45:28,370 --> 00:45:32,130  
Yeah, not all of it,  
but a good part, yeah.

1122  
00:45:32,130 --> 00:45:32,630  
Right.

1123  
00:45:32,630 --> 00:45:36,380  
And so now you're a  
teenager, and you're

1124  
00:45:36,380 --> 00:45:37,400  
in Washington Heights.

1125  
00:45:37,400 --> 00:45:38,990  
And your English is good?

1126  
00:45:38,990 --> 00:45:41,380  
Yeah, good enough.

1127  
00:45:41,380 --> 00:45:43,370  
I was valedictorian of  
the graduating class.

1128  
00:45:43,370 --> 00:45:45,470  
Oh, my.

1129  
00:45:45,470 --> 00:45:46,460  
So then you went to--

1130  
00:45:46,460 --> 00:45:47,690

That's junior high school.

1131  
00:45:47,690 --> 00:45:50,210  
Yeah.

1132  
00:45:50,210 --> 00:45:55,310  
And did you live in a  
community of other refugees?

1133  
00:45:55,310 --> 00:45:55,990  
Yes.

1134  
00:45:55,990 --> 00:45:58,820  
Washington Heights  
was such a community.

1135  
00:45:58,820 --> 00:46:01,040  
Right.

1136  
00:46:01,040 --> 00:46:08,750  
And did you think a lot  
about Vienna at the time?

1137  
00:46:08,750 --> 00:46:09,820  
Did you miss it?

1138  
00:46:09,820 --> 00:46:11,690  
I don't think so.

1139  
00:46:11,690 --> 00:46:12,980  
No, that wasn't an option.

1140  
00:46:12,980 --> 00:46:14,420  
I mean, that's over.

1141  
00:46:14,420 --> 00:46:16,470  
That was over.

1142  
00:46:16,470 --> 00:46:17,510  
Onwards.

1143

00:46:17,510 --> 00:46:18,470  
Yeah.

1144  
00:46:18,470 --> 00:46:22,880  
What was your mother very  
protective of you girls?

1145  
00:46:22,880 --> 00:46:25,850  
No, she was always  
encouraging us to--

1146  
00:46:25,850 --> 00:46:26,860  
To be independent?

1147  
00:46:26,860 --> 00:46:28,530  
Independent and-- yeah.

1148  
00:46:28,530 --> 00:46:31,210

1149  
00:46:31,210 --> 00:46:31,840  
Yeah.

1150  
00:46:31,840 --> 00:46:34,270  
So then you started high school?

1151  
00:46:34,270 --> 00:46:36,160  
Yes, I went to Hunter  
College High School,

1152  
00:46:36,160 --> 00:46:38,680  
which is one that you have  
to qualify for and test

1153  
00:46:38,680 --> 00:46:39,530  
and so forth--

1154  
00:46:39,530 --> 00:46:42,930  
a rather competitive school.

1155  
00:46:42,930 --> 00:46:45,977  
And what was the reaction



of the other girls

1156  
00:46:45,977 --> 00:46:46,810  
there at the school?

1157  
00:46:46,810 --> 00:46:48,760  
Did they ask you  
about your background?

1158  
00:46:48,760 --> 00:46:49,630  
No, no.

1159  
00:46:49,630 --> 00:46:50,710  
They did not?

1160  
00:46:50,710 --> 00:46:51,508  
No.

1161  
00:46:51,508 --> 00:46:52,800  
There were others also like it.

1162  
00:46:52,800 --> 00:46:58,300  
By that time, it wasn't  
that relevant, I think.

1163  
00:46:58,300 --> 00:47:00,010  
I mean, it was  
relevant, but I guess

1164  
00:47:00,010 --> 00:47:02,790  
I just didn't make the  
cut of the upper crust.

1165  
00:47:02,790 --> 00:47:03,310  
So whatever.

1166  
00:47:03,310 --> 00:47:06,430  
It was just a question  
of performance.

1167  
00:47:06,430 --> 00:47:07,300  
I don't think so.

1168  
00:47:07,300 --> 00:47:08,360  
I mean, I don't--

1169  
00:47:08,360 --> 00:47:10,660  
No, but they didn't ask you  
what your experience was?

1170  
00:47:10,660 --> 00:47:11,230  
That's what I meant.

1171  
00:47:11,230 --> 00:47:12,970  
Did they ask you  
what your experiences

1172  
00:47:12,970 --> 00:47:14,860  
were in Europe and Vienna?

1173  
00:47:14,860 --> 00:47:18,100  
They weren't that  
eager to talk about it

1174  
00:47:18,100 --> 00:47:20,530  
as they are now,  
this generation.

1175  
00:47:20,530 --> 00:47:21,213  
Right.

1176  
00:47:21,213 --> 00:47:22,630  
We didn't talk  
about it that much.

1177  
00:47:22,630 --> 00:47:23,770  
What about the teachers?

1178  
00:47:23,770 --> 00:47:26,020  
Did the teachers ask  
you anything about--

1179  
00:47:26,020 --> 00:47:28,120  
Not that I recall.

1180  
00:47:28,120 --> 00:47:29,050  
Not that I recall.

1181  
00:47:29,050 --> 00:47:32,580  
It was just a question  
of achieving there.

1182  
00:47:32,580 --> 00:47:33,150  
And I--

1183  
00:47:33,150 --> 00:47:35,100  
And you made-- yeah, go on.

1184  
00:47:35,100 --> 00:47:40,870  
I had lost a year by  
the system in Cuba,

1185  
00:47:40,870 --> 00:47:43,010  
so that I was eager  
to accelerate,

1186  
00:47:43,010 --> 00:47:44,025  
which is what I did.

1187  
00:47:44,025 --> 00:47:46,150  
And I only stayed at the  
high school for two years,

1188  
00:47:46,150 --> 00:47:47,230  
and then graduated.

1189  
00:47:47,230 --> 00:47:48,610  
Oh, I see.

1190  
00:47:48,610 --> 00:47:52,600  
So I didn't really take  
full advantage of it

1191  
00:47:52,600 --> 00:47:56,490  
because I think you need  
the full three years or so.

1192  
00:47:56,490 --> 00:47:58,180  
Anyway, so.

1193  
00:47:58,180 --> 00:48:00,190  
And you traveled by  
yourself to school?

1194  
00:48:00,190 --> 00:48:01,130  
Oh, definitely.

1195  
00:48:01,130 --> 00:48:01,630  
Yeah.

1196  
00:48:01,630 --> 00:48:02,780  
And what about your sister?

1197  
00:48:02,780 --> 00:48:03,280  
Everybody.

1198  
00:48:03,280 --> 00:48:08,050  
Oh, yeah, I traveled by myself  
on the double-decker bus.

1199  
00:48:08,050 --> 00:48:09,680  
And what about your sister--

1200  
00:48:09,680 --> 00:48:12,090  
your younger sister?

1201  
00:48:12,090 --> 00:48:14,152  
Well, she was in  
public school first.

1202  
00:48:14,152 --> 00:48:15,610  
And then four years  
later, she went

1203  
00:48:15,610 --> 00:48:17,260  
to the same selective school.

1204

00:48:17,260 --> 00:48:17,830  
Oh, she did?

1205  
00:48:17,830 --> 00:48:18,330  
Yeah.

1206  
00:48:18,330 --> 00:48:21,750

1207  
00:48:21,750 --> 00:48:26,610  
And are you still following  
what's happening in the war?

1208  
00:48:26,610 --> 00:48:28,680  
Oh, I'm sure.

1209  
00:48:28,680 --> 00:48:29,730  
Yes, I'm sure.

1210  
00:48:29,730 --> 00:48:30,420  
I'm sure.

1211  
00:48:30,420 --> 00:48:31,130  
Yeah.

1212  
00:48:31,130 --> 00:48:37,170  
And again, no more communication  
for your folks from relatives--

1213  
00:48:37,170 --> 00:48:38,500  
No, no, no.

1214  
00:48:38,500 --> 00:48:43,000  
No, I had that one  
cousin in Israel, but no.

1215  
00:48:43,000 --> 00:48:45,120  
No communication.

1216  
00:48:45,120 --> 00:48:48,000  
Did your parents know what  
was happening to the Jews

1217  
00:48:48,000 --> 00:48:50,110  
in the 1940s in Europe?

1218  
00:48:50,110 --> 00:48:50,610  
In Europe?

1219  
00:48:50,610 --> 00:48:51,450  
Of course, yes.

1220  
00:48:51,450 --> 00:48:53,010  
No, while it was happening?

1221  
00:48:53,010 --> 00:48:54,570  
Yes, yes, they knew.

1222  
00:48:54,570 --> 00:48:59,690  
They tried whatever channels,  
but it wasn't that easy.

1223  
00:48:59,690 --> 00:49:02,880  
Right, yeah.

1224  
00:49:02,880 --> 00:49:06,178  
And did they share this  
information with you

1225  
00:49:06,178 --> 00:49:07,220  
about what was happening?

1226  
00:49:07,220 --> 00:49:08,590  
Yes, yes.

1227  
00:49:08,590 --> 00:49:10,100  
yes.

1228  
00:49:10,100 --> 00:49:10,740  
Yes.

1229  
00:49:10,740 --> 00:49:11,660  
Yeah.

1230  
00:49:11,660 --> 00:49:14,960  
But you don't remember  
being frightened

1231  
00:49:14,960 --> 00:49:16,250  
in the United States?

1232  
00:49:16,250 --> 00:49:17,810  
No, I felt good.

1233  
00:49:17,810 --> 00:49:18,780  
You felt good?

1234  
00:49:18,780 --> 00:49:19,520  
Yes.

1235  
00:49:19,520 --> 00:49:21,390  
So now you finished high school.

1236  
00:49:21,390 --> 00:49:21,890  
Yeah.

1237  
00:49:21,890 --> 00:49:22,910  
And then what?

1238  
00:49:22,910 --> 00:49:23,870  
I went on to college.

1239  
00:49:23,870 --> 00:49:26,790

1240  
00:49:26,790 --> 00:49:29,720  
I wanted to go to a coed school.

1241  
00:49:29,720 --> 00:49:31,350  
Because this one  
was all girls, yeah.

1242  
00:49:31,350 --> 00:49:32,330  
It was all girls.

1243  
00:49:32,330 --> 00:49:36,210  
So I applied to NYU,  
and I got a scholarship.

1244  
00:49:36,210 --> 00:49:38,150  
And I went.

1245  
00:49:38,150 --> 00:49:41,100  
I mean, a partial,  
but anyway, I went.

1246  
00:49:41,100 --> 00:49:44,200  
It was so cheap anyway.

1247  
00:49:44,200 --> 00:49:46,940  
Anyway, and so I went there,  
and I made Phi Beta Kappa.

1248  
00:49:46,940 --> 00:49:52,470  
And I did well,  
and then I was out.

1249  
00:49:52,470 --> 00:49:53,970  
You went for four years?

1250  
00:49:53,970 --> 00:49:55,410  
I went so four years, yes.

1251  
00:49:55,410 --> 00:49:57,110  
And I loved going to college.

1252  
00:49:57,110 --> 00:49:59,320  
And I loved school in  
general, all the way.

1253  
00:49:59,320 --> 00:50:01,910

1254  
00:50:01,910 --> 00:50:02,960  
What did you study there?



1255  
00:50:02,960 --> 00:50:03,877  
What did you major in?

1256  
00:50:03,877 --> 00:50:05,790  
Languages, actually.

1257  
00:50:05,790 --> 00:50:06,710  
Yeah.

1258  
00:50:06,710 --> 00:50:10,340  
So for a while,  
when I graduated,

1259  
00:50:10,340 --> 00:50:11,780  
my father wanted me to help him.

1260  
00:50:11,780 --> 00:50:12,320  
And I did.

1261  
00:50:12,320 --> 00:50:16,820  
But eventually, I went and  
worked for the Israeli Mission

1262  
00:50:16,820 --> 00:50:18,860  
to the United Nations  
in the Latin American

1263  
00:50:18,860 --> 00:50:22,130  
Department, which was  
people that spoke Spanish.

1264  
00:50:22,130 --> 00:50:23,000  
Oh, my.

1265  
00:50:23,000 --> 00:50:25,770  
Now what year did you graduate?

1266  
00:50:25,770 --> 00:50:28,460  
I graduated in '48.

1267  
00:50:28,460 --> 00:50:33,470

So it was just the interesting  
part of Israel was coming.

1268  
00:50:33,470 --> 00:50:36,193  
The state hadn't been  
declared-- wasn't made?

1269  
00:50:36,193 --> 00:50:37,610  
I was working at  
my father's then.

1270  
00:50:37,610 --> 00:50:40,030  
And then in '50, I  
started to work--

1271  
00:50:40,030 --> 00:50:40,630  
Oh, I see.

1272  
00:50:40,630 --> 00:50:42,030  
So there was a State of Israel.

1273  
00:50:42,030 --> 00:50:42,530  
Yeah.

1274  
00:50:42,530 --> 00:50:43,870  
Yeah.

1275  
00:50:43,870 --> 00:50:45,320  
I think in '48, it was.

1276  
00:50:45,320 --> 00:50:46,230  
Yes, May '48.

1277  
00:50:46,230 --> 00:50:49,650  
So it was about the  
same time, yeah.

1278  
00:50:49,650 --> 00:50:51,100  
Did I graduate in '44?

1279  
00:50:51,100 --> 00:50:51,710  
'48?

1280  
00:50:51,710 --> 00:50:54,380  
I can't even remember anymore.  
'48 it must have been.

1281  
00:50:54,380 --> 00:50:55,988  
Yeah, '48.

1282  
00:50:55,988 --> 00:50:58,850  
Yeah.

1283  
00:50:58,850 --> 00:51:00,912  
What was your  
father's business when

1284  
00:51:00,912 --> 00:51:02,120  
he came to the United States?

1285  
00:51:02,120 --> 00:51:07,000  
Well, he, again, started  
with the fabrics.

1286  
00:51:07,000 --> 00:51:09,860  
At the beginning, he went back  
to Cuba to continue with it,

1287  
00:51:09,860 --> 00:51:11,180  
because he had nothing.

1288  
00:51:11,180 --> 00:51:15,500  
So he'd go for six or eight  
weeks, and we'd stay alone.

1289  
00:51:15,500 --> 00:51:18,450  
And then eventually, he came  
back, and he established--

1290  
00:51:18,450 --> 00:51:22,520  
and he got a job with  
a very good textile

1291  
00:51:22,520 --> 00:51:26,480

firm, A. Steinem and Company.

1292

00:51:26,480 --> 00:51:30,120

But he was the kind that  
wanted to be independent.

1293

00:51:30,120 --> 00:51:34,130

And so he didn't continue  
there, but opened his own office

1294

00:51:34,130 --> 00:51:38,200

and did his own  
selling here, too,

1295

00:51:38,200 --> 00:51:42,590

in the fabric market and  
textiles and so forth.

1296

00:51:42,590 --> 00:51:44,330

I mean, he always--

1297

00:51:44,330 --> 00:51:48,413

he was super careful about  
not making too much money

1298

00:51:48,413 --> 00:51:49,310

on his customers.

1299

00:51:49,310 --> 00:51:51,860

He didn't want to  
charge too much.

1300

00:51:51,860 --> 00:51:57,980

And he didn't make a  
fortune, but he managed.

1301

00:51:57,980 --> 00:52:01,180

And it was all--  
we were all right.

1302

00:52:01,180 --> 00:52:05,555

1303

00:52:05,555 --> 00:52:06,680

Both of us went to college.

1304

00:52:06,680 --> 00:52:11,685

My system went to Barnard, and  
then to Oxford, and, as I said,

1305

00:52:11,685 --> 00:52:13,220

the Sorbonne.

1306

00:52:13,220 --> 00:52:15,440

And then she went on to  
Africa to become a specialist

1307

00:52:15,440 --> 00:52:17,540

on African affairs.

1308

00:52:17,540 --> 00:52:19,010

Yeah.

1309

00:52:19,010 --> 00:52:21,690

So far from the  
Anschluss beginning.

1310

00:52:21,690 --> 00:52:23,660

Yes.

1311

00:52:23,660 --> 00:52:26,060

But when the war  
was over, and it all

1312

00:52:26,060 --> 00:52:31,310

came out what happened to the  
Jews and the camps and stuff,

1313

00:52:31,310 --> 00:52:36,980

you were beginning to be a  
young adult at that time.

1314

00:52:36,980 --> 00:52:39,736

Any memories of what you--

1315

00:52:39,736 --> 00:52:41,750

I didn't have people in  
the camps that I knew.

1316

00:52:41,750 --> 00:52:42,370

No, I know.

1317

00:52:42,370 --> 00:52:44,745

But just when it came out,  
generally, what was happening?

1318

00:52:44,745 --> 00:52:46,670

Well, thank god for this one.

1319

00:52:46,670 --> 00:52:47,820

Yeah.

1320

00:52:47,820 --> 00:52:49,730

Yeah, but I did not have--

1321

00:52:49,730 --> 00:52:53,870

you know, it's not immediate  
that I was aware of,

1322

00:52:53,870 --> 00:52:56,630

because the relatives that I had  
didn't live in the same country

1323

00:52:56,630 --> 00:52:57,840

as I did.

1324

00:52:57,840 --> 00:52:58,340

Right.

1325

00:52:58,340 --> 00:53:01,940

1326

00:53:01,940 --> 00:53:05,180

So now you're working for that  
Israeli mission, you said?

1327

00:53:05,180 --> 00:53:06,990

Yes.

1328

00:53:06,990 --> 00:53:07,840

And then?

1329

00:53:07,840 --> 00:53:10,500

I don't know if it was

'50, '51, whenever.

1330

00:53:10,500 --> 00:53:11,630

Yeah.

1331

00:53:11,630 --> 00:53:15,200

And I worked there

for a number of years.

1332

00:53:15,200 --> 00:53:17,660

And I got married

in-- when did I get--

1333

00:53:17,660 --> 00:53:18,160

'55.

1334

00:53:18,160 --> 00:53:21,150

1335

00:53:21,150 --> 00:53:23,815

Is your husband

from Europe also?

1336

00:53:23,815 --> 00:53:25,020

No, far from it.

1337

00:53:25,020 --> 00:53:26,810

His great-grandparents

were born here.

1338

00:53:26,810 --> 00:53:29,000

He has a Sephardic

background from Holland.

1339

00:53:29,000 --> 00:53:30,320  
Oh, interesting.

1340  
00:53:30,320 --> 00:53:31,790  
Yeah.

1341  
00:53:31,790 --> 00:53:34,040  
How did you meet?

1342  
00:53:34,040 --> 00:53:38,843  
At Park Avenue  
Synagogue at a meeting.

1343  
00:53:38,843 --> 00:53:40,010  
A friend of mine brought me.

1344  
00:53:40,010 --> 00:53:42,343  
She was going out with him,  
and I wound up marrying him.

1345  
00:53:42,343 --> 00:53:45,370

1346  
00:53:45,370 --> 00:53:46,930  
And you got married when?

1347  
00:53:46,930 --> 00:53:49,010  
In '55.

1348  
00:53:49,010 --> 00:53:54,000  
And he was working for  
The New York Times.

1349  
00:53:54,000 --> 00:53:55,170  
As a journalist?

1350  
00:53:55,170 --> 00:53:55,670  
Yes.

1351  
00:53:55,670 --> 00:53:57,960  
So he worked for The New  
York Times all the way.



1352  
00:53:57,960 --> 00:54:01,980  
I mean, he'd been  
in the war, but he

1353  
00:54:01,980 --> 00:54:03,710  
worked for The New York Times.

1354  
00:54:03,710 --> 00:54:05,110  
And his name is?

1355  
00:54:05,110 --> 00:54:05,780  
Robert.

1356  
00:54:05,780 --> 00:54:06,490  
Robert Barzilay.

1357  
00:54:06,490 --> 00:54:09,750  
Robert A. Barzilay.

1358  
00:54:09,750 --> 00:54:10,970  
And did you work?

1359  
00:54:10,970 --> 00:54:12,300  
You had children, you said.

1360  
00:54:12,300 --> 00:54:16,710  
Yeah, we have two children  
and five grandchildren.

1361  
00:54:16,710 --> 00:54:17,380  
Wonderful.

1362  
00:54:17,380 --> 00:54:20,040  
And did you work?

1363  
00:54:20,040 --> 00:54:21,590  
I worked in the Israeli mission.

1364  
00:54:21,590 --> 00:54:24,925  
And then eventually,

when I had my son,

1365

00:54:24,925 --> 00:54:26,905

I didn't work full time.

1366

00:54:26,905 --> 00:54:28,280

And then I worked  
somewhat again.

1367

00:54:28,280 --> 00:54:32,840

And then I started to work in  
admissions at the Rodeph Sholom

1368

00:54:32,840 --> 00:54:36,220

School eventually, once  
I had the children.

1369

00:54:36,220 --> 00:54:40,040

And so I worked  
there from 1970 on.

1370

00:54:40,040 --> 00:54:40,990

Wonderful.

1371

00:54:40,990 --> 00:54:44,390

Yeah, wonderful.

1372

00:54:44,390 --> 00:54:46,760

Can we talk just now a little  
bit about your thoughts

1373

00:54:46,760 --> 00:54:49,370

and your feelings about  
what you went through?

1374

00:54:49,370 --> 00:54:52,580

At this point in your life, do  
you feel Austrian or Viennese

1375

00:54:52,580 --> 00:54:53,280

in any way?

1376

00:54:53,280 --> 00:54:55,574  
No.

1377  
00:54:55,574 --> 00:54:57,350  
I feel American.

1378  
00:54:57,350 --> 00:55:00,260  
Yeah.

1379  
00:55:00,260 --> 00:55:02,600  
What are your thoughts  
about Austria and Germany

1380  
00:55:02,600 --> 00:55:05,480  
now in today's world?

1381  
00:55:05,480 --> 00:55:07,040  
I don't quite trust it.

1382  
00:55:07,040 --> 00:55:10,490

1383  
00:55:10,490 --> 00:55:12,250  
I'll always like  
a Viennese waltz.

1384  
00:55:12,250 --> 00:55:16,220

1385  
00:55:16,220 --> 00:55:20,570  
We were there briefly  
about 10, 15 years ago.

1386  
00:55:20,570 --> 00:55:23,280  
And I remember sitting  
in a restaurant, where

1387  
00:55:23,280 --> 00:55:25,670  
they had big tables.

1388  
00:55:25,670 --> 00:55:28,910  
And we sat-- because

everybody ate jointly.

1389

00:55:28,910 --> 00:55:30,238

It was a pub of some sort.

1390

00:55:30,238 --> 00:55:32,030

And they were talking  
German, and then they

1391

00:55:32,030 --> 00:55:32,900

were talking to us.

1392

00:55:32,900 --> 00:55:34,820

And I answered in German.

1393

00:55:34,820 --> 00:55:37,410

And they asked me how  
come I knew German.

1394

00:55:37,410 --> 00:55:39,850

And I said, I was born here.

1395

00:55:39,850 --> 00:55:41,350

And after that,  
nobody talked to me.

1396

00:55:41,350 --> 00:55:44,660

1397

00:55:44,660 --> 00:55:45,980

So they figured it out.

1398

00:55:45,980 --> 00:55:48,110

Yeah.

1399

00:55:48,110 --> 00:55:49,680

Do you mind speaking German?

1400

00:55:49,680 --> 00:55:50,210

Is it--

1401

00:55:50,210 --> 00:55:52,255  
No, I don't speak it  
well, but I haven't--

1402  
00:55:52,255 --> 00:55:53,630  
But you don't have  
any negative--

1403  
00:55:53,630 --> 00:55:54,338  
I don't speak it.

1404  
00:55:54,338 --> 00:55:55,958  
I have no need, no  
need for it at all.

1405  
00:55:55,958 --> 00:55:57,750  
That was the only time  
I had a need for it.

1406  
00:55:57,750 --> 00:55:58,190  
Yeah.

1407  
00:55:58,190 --> 00:55:59,780  
But do you have any  
negative feelings

1408  
00:55:59,780 --> 00:56:02,010  
towards speaking German?

1409  
00:56:02,010 --> 00:56:02,660  
I haven't.

1410  
00:56:02,660 --> 00:56:04,020  
I haven't done it.

1411  
00:56:04,020 --> 00:56:05,266  
I haven't done it.

1412  
00:56:05,266 --> 00:56:05,940  
Yeah.

1413  
00:56:05,940 --> 00:56:09,420

Yeah, I wouldn't do it.

1414  
00:56:09,420 --> 00:56:11,320  
I mean, I just--  
if I had the need,

1415  
00:56:11,320 --> 00:56:12,870  
then I would  
communicate using that,

1416  
00:56:12,870 --> 00:56:15,612  
if that's the thing to do.

1417  
00:56:15,612 --> 00:56:20,220  
But I have had many more  
positive experiences

1418  
00:56:20,220 --> 00:56:21,700  
with the Spanish-speaking world.

1419  
00:56:21,700 --> 00:56:22,805  
Oh, OK.

1420  
00:56:22,805 --> 00:56:25,860

1421  
00:56:25,860 --> 00:56:28,920  
When your children  
were your age,

1422  
00:56:28,920 --> 00:56:32,190  
and when you had  
to leave Vienna--

1423  
00:56:32,190 --> 00:56:33,940  
you know, it was  
a time of your age

1424  
00:56:33,940 --> 00:56:36,270  
during Kristallnacht  
and all that.

1425

00:56:36,270 --> 00:56:38,580  
Did that bring back  
memories for you

1426  
00:56:38,580 --> 00:56:43,870  
about the frightening sounds  
and sights that you saw then?

1427  
00:56:43,870 --> 00:56:48,120  
Did you connect your  
children's age to that time?

1428  
00:56:48,120 --> 00:56:49,030  
My children's age?

1429  
00:56:49,030 --> 00:56:51,290  
I sort of blocked it, I think.

1430  
00:56:51,290 --> 00:56:53,785  
I didn't think  
about it too much.

1431  
00:56:53,785 --> 00:56:55,160  
I didn't think  
about it too much.

1432  
00:56:55,160 --> 00:56:58,030

1433  
00:56:58,030 --> 00:56:59,870  
I mean, I do occasionally  
think about it.

1434  
00:56:59,870 --> 00:57:01,540  
But my granddaughter,  
for instance,

1435  
00:57:01,540 --> 00:57:03,620  
is now the age  
that I was exactly.

1436  
00:57:03,620 --> 00:57:04,120  
You know?

1437  
00:57:04,120 --> 00:57:06,040  
And I think, how  
different it is what

1438  
00:57:06,040 --> 00:57:08,360  
she's into living,  
you know, television,

1439  
00:57:08,360 --> 00:57:11,560  
it's just a  
fantastic difference.

1440  
00:57:11,560 --> 00:57:14,050  
How much did you talk  
about your experience

1441  
00:57:14,050 --> 00:57:16,820  
when your children-- to your  
children when they were young?

1442  
00:57:16,820 --> 00:57:18,880  
Less than I do know--

1443  
00:57:18,880 --> 00:57:20,170  
not so much.

1444  
00:57:20,170 --> 00:57:22,510  
When they were growing up?

1445  
00:57:22,510 --> 00:57:26,560  
Somewhat, but not tremendously--  
more so now that I'm older.

1446  
00:57:26,560 --> 00:57:27,608  
Because?

1447  
00:57:27,608 --> 00:57:28,150  
I don't know.

1448  
00:57:28,150 --> 00:57:30,160  
It's somehow removed,



different, and also

1449  
00:57:30,160 --> 00:57:32,320  
because I'm the only one  
surviving at the moment.

1450  
00:57:32,320 --> 00:57:34,990  
I see, yeah.

1451  
00:57:34,990 --> 00:57:38,368  
Now, in your relationship  
with your sister, of course,

1452  
00:57:38,368 --> 00:57:39,910  
you both went through  
the same thing,

1453  
00:57:39,910 --> 00:57:41,660  
though you were at a  
different stage life.

1454  
00:57:41,660 --> 00:57:42,190  
Yes.

1455  
00:57:42,190 --> 00:57:44,320  
Was that something  
you two "girls,"

1456  
00:57:44,320 --> 00:57:46,840  
quote, spoke about a lot--

1457  
00:57:46,840 --> 00:57:48,960  
about life in Vienna and--

1458  
00:57:48,960 --> 00:57:50,140  
I did not.

1459  
00:57:50,140 --> 00:57:51,100  
I did not that much.

1460  
00:57:51,100 --> 00:57:53,070  
She talked about

it more, I think.

1461  
00:57:53,070 --> 00:57:53,970  
She did?

1462  
00:57:53,970 --> 00:57:54,470  
Yeah.

1463  
00:57:54,470 --> 00:57:55,580  
Yeah.

1464  
00:57:55,580 --> 00:57:56,800  
How did it affect her?

1465  
00:57:56,800 --> 00:57:58,785  
She was younger--  
four years younger.

1466  
00:57:58,785 --> 00:58:00,160  
I don't know how  
it affected her.

1467  
00:58:00,160 --> 00:58:05,072  
But she devoted herself  
to helping the hungry.

1468  
00:58:05,072 --> 00:58:07,330  
And she did a lot for the--

1469  
00:58:07,330 --> 00:58:10,150

1470  
00:58:10,150 --> 00:58:12,520  
I'm sure it affected her.

1471  
00:58:12,520 --> 00:58:14,180  
She had a big  
write-up in The Times,

1472  
00:58:14,180 --> 00:58:18,970  
and it affected her and  
what she did in life.

1473  
00:58:18,970 --> 00:58:20,430  
Yeah, what she chose to do.

1474  
00:58:20,430 --> 00:58:20,930  
Yeah.

1475  
00:58:20,930 --> 00:58:25,700  
Yeah, doing-- working  
with people that need help

1476  
00:58:25,700 --> 00:58:28,340  
and so forth and  
education and hunger and--

1477  
00:58:28,340 --> 00:58:29,440  
Wonderful.

1478  
00:58:29,440 --> 00:58:31,840  
In a government  
capacity or private?

1479  
00:58:31,840 --> 00:58:41,340  
No, no, no, in the government  
capacity she worked, yes.

1480  
00:58:41,340 --> 00:58:42,650  
In what sense?

1481  
00:58:42,650 --> 00:58:45,820  
Well, she was a--

1482  
00:58:45,820 --> 00:58:47,760  
you don't really want  
me to take out the--

1483  
00:58:47,760 --> 00:58:49,990  
should I take it out  
and read it to you?

1484  
00:58:49,990 --> 00:58:51,796  
No, but just generally.

1485  
00:58:51,796 --> 00:58:55,130  
Generally, well, she worked  
for the United Nations,

1486  
00:58:55,130 --> 00:58:56,620  
one of the committees.

1487  
00:58:56,620 --> 00:58:59,110  
She worked in the World Bank.

1488  
00:58:59,110 --> 00:59:00,550  
Wonderful.

1489  
00:59:00,550 --> 00:59:04,420  
She worked on the  
hunger in Mexico.

1490  
00:59:04,420 --> 00:59:09,640  
She devoted a lot of time to  
that and various other things

1491  
00:59:09,640 --> 00:59:13,700  
of that nature, and  
Africa, particularly.

1492  
00:59:13,700 --> 00:59:19,210  
Her interest in Africa was her  
specialty, and just everywhere.

1493  
00:59:19,210 --> 00:59:22,200

1494  
00:59:22,200 --> 00:59:25,480  
That, I would say, to a great  
extent-- so she individually.

1495  
00:59:25,480 --> 00:59:27,010  
As a family, they  
also do things.

1496  
00:59:27,010 --> 00:59:28,720

But that's a different story.

1497  
00:59:28,720 --> 00:59:32,020

1498  
00:59:32,020 --> 00:59:34,810  
When she was alive, did you  
speak to her in English?

1499  
00:59:34,810 --> 00:59:35,470  
Oh, yes.

1500  
00:59:35,470 --> 00:59:37,720  
We spoke English from the  
day we came here, and didn't

1501  
00:59:37,720 --> 00:59:38,605  
speak anything else.

1502  
00:59:38,605 --> 00:59:39,160  
Really?

1503  
00:59:39,160 --> 00:59:40,380  
Yes.

1504  
00:59:40,380 --> 00:59:43,090  
Even our parents--  
nobody spoke German, yes.

1505  
00:59:43,090 --> 00:59:44,078  
Because?

1506  
00:59:44,078 --> 00:59:44,620  
I don't know.

1507  
00:59:44,620 --> 00:59:45,910  
We just did.

1508  
00:59:45,910 --> 00:59:47,420  
We wanted it, and  
then we did it.

1509

00:59:47,420 --> 00:59:47,920

That's how--

1510

00:59:47,920 --> 00:59:50,980

How did your parents  
learn English?

1511

00:59:50,980 --> 00:59:53,390

They spoke at home  
only English also.

1512

00:59:53,390 --> 00:59:55,350

No, but how did they learn it?

1513

00:59:55,350 --> 00:59:56,493

By speaking it, I guess.

1514

00:59:56,493 --> 00:59:58,160

I don't know why  
people don't do it now.

1515

00:59:58,160 --> 01:00:04,090

1516

01:00:04,090 --> 01:00:08,350

Do you think that you lost  
a part of your childhood

1517

01:00:08,350 --> 01:00:13,405

because you were exposed to  
such terrible times in Vienna?

1518

01:00:13,405 --> 01:00:15,990

1519

01:00:15,990 --> 01:00:17,620

Did you grow up more quickly?

1520

01:00:17,620 --> 01:00:19,532

Did something change?

1521

01:00:19,532 --> 01:00:22,115  
I'm sure it had an effect, but  
it would take some professional

1522  
01:00:22,115 --> 01:00:23,860  
to determine that.

1523  
01:00:23,860 --> 01:00:27,230  
I can't judge, but I  
feel I had a good youth.

1524  
01:00:27,230 --> 01:00:29,980  
And I was lucky to  
maintain my parents.

1525  
01:00:29,980 --> 01:00:32,150  
And I was lucky to be  
able to do what I--

1526  
01:00:32,150 --> 01:00:39,550  
I now have terrific  
grandchildren and children.

1527  
01:00:39,550 --> 01:00:45,910  
Are you angry that you had to  
be uprooted and leave your home?

1528  
01:00:45,910 --> 01:00:47,290  
No.

1529  
01:00:47,290 --> 01:00:49,630  
I mean, I'm angry at the  
events that took place.

1530  
01:00:49,630 --> 01:00:52,480

1531  
01:00:52,480 --> 01:00:54,650  
It's just part of life.

1532  
01:00:54,650 --> 01:00:55,682  
No, I can't say--

1533

01:00:55,682 --> 01:00:57,640

Well, then you had to do  
that, and other people

1534

01:00:57,640 --> 01:01:00,290

who lived here in the United  
States didn't have to--

1535

01:01:00,290 --> 01:01:02,890

Well, a lot of people have to  
do it in various generations.

1536

01:01:02,890 --> 01:01:04,340

I don't give it  
too much thought.

1537

01:01:04,340 --> 01:01:05,440

It's all right.

1538

01:01:05,440 --> 01:01:07,870

At this point, it's  
even interesting

1539

01:01:07,870 --> 01:01:08,970

to be born elsewhere.

1540

01:01:08,970 --> 01:01:10,930

At some point, I thought  
you were a refugee.

1541

01:01:10,930 --> 01:01:14,360

But at this point, I  
don't feel that way.

1542

01:01:14,360 --> 01:01:19,750

Yeah, I mean, it's added an  
extra dimension to my life.

1543

01:01:19,750 --> 01:01:24,205

I mean, you know, it wasn't easy  
for my parents, particularly.

1544



01:01:24,205 --> 01:01:29,340  
But I don't think the effect  
is all negative fortunately,

1545  
01:01:29,340 --> 01:01:32,620  
in many experiences.

1546  
01:01:32,620 --> 01:01:34,930  
What about your political views?

1547  
01:01:34,930 --> 01:01:37,180  
Did it affect your  
political views

1548  
01:01:37,180 --> 01:01:42,380  
or influence your  
political views at all?

1549  
01:01:42,380 --> 01:01:43,120  
I imagine so.

1550  
01:01:43,120 --> 01:01:43,990  
Yeah.

1551  
01:01:43,990 --> 01:01:47,170  
I mean, here you all were  
deprived of your civil rights.

1552  
01:01:47,170 --> 01:01:49,630  
You couldn't sit on  
the benches as a child.

1553  
01:01:49,630 --> 01:01:52,140  
You couldn't go to the--

1554  
01:01:52,140 --> 01:01:53,260  
It was briefly, though.

1555  
01:01:53,260 --> 01:01:55,160  
You know, it wasn't--

1556  
01:01:55,160 --> 01:01:56,320

it was briefly.

1557

01:01:56,320 --> 01:02:00,660  
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1558

01:02:00,660 --> 01:02:03,470  
You were deprived of your  
Civil Rights for a time.

1559

01:02:03,470 --> 01:02:06,180  
I certainly feel that it's  
very important not to be.

1560

01:02:06,180 --> 01:02:06,910  
Yeah.

1561

01:02:06,910 --> 01:02:09,420  
So were you active in  
the Civil Rights movement

1562

01:02:09,420 --> 01:02:11,320  
here in the United  
States in the '60s?

1563

01:02:11,320 --> 01:02:11,870  
Yeah, OK.

1564

01:02:11,870 --> 01:02:12,370  
No.

1565

01:02:12,370 --> 01:02:15,810

1566

01:02:15,810 --> 01:02:18,010  
I think I was afraid  
of joining things

1567

01:02:18,010 --> 01:02:19,260  
to a great extent in my youth.

1568

01:02:19,260 --> 01:02:19,740  
You know that?

1569  
01:02:19,740 --> 01:02:21,032  
Now that I'm thinking about it.

1570  
01:02:21,032 --> 01:02:21,990  
That's interesting.

1571  
01:02:21,990 --> 01:02:23,020  
Yeah, I wouldn't  
have joined that.

1572  
01:02:23,020 --> 01:02:24,700  
I remember being in  
college, and people

1573  
01:02:24,700 --> 01:02:27,000  
were being in the  
Communist Party, and this.

1574  
01:02:27,000 --> 01:02:29,290  
All sorts of things  
were going on then.

1575  
01:02:29,290 --> 01:02:31,650  
And I wouldn't have  
joined anything

1576  
01:02:31,650 --> 01:02:36,120  
after I saw the mass  
eruptions all over the place.

1577  
01:02:36,120 --> 01:02:41,430  
Yeah, I think I was  
not eager to join.

1578  
01:02:41,430 --> 01:02:43,050  
I think that persists.

1579  
01:02:43,050 --> 01:02:44,840  
Because it had a  
negative connotation.

1580

01:02:44,840 --> 01:02:46,260  
I guess it must have, yes.

1581  
01:02:46,260 --> 01:02:51,780  
Yes, yes, marching en masse  
and all that business.

1582  
01:02:51,780 --> 01:02:55,230  
Could the Holocaust  
happen again?

1583  
01:02:55,230 --> 01:02:56,970  
Hopefully, not, but, yes.

1584  
01:02:56,970 --> 01:03:00,300  
I don't want to predict  
such a terrible thing.

1585  
01:03:00,300 --> 01:03:02,610  
The hatred is gathering.

1586  
01:03:02,610 --> 01:03:05,530  
But hopefully, it will not.

1587  
01:03:05,530 --> 01:03:06,660  
Yeah.

1588  
01:03:06,660 --> 01:03:15,820  
So traveling back to Europe,  
did you do it frequently?

1589  
01:03:15,820 --> 01:03:20,040  
We traveled, but not back  
to where I came from.

1590  
01:03:20,040 --> 01:03:20,930  
Yeah.

1591  
01:03:20,930 --> 01:03:22,360  
So you never--

1592  
01:03:22,360 --> 01:03:25,250

I went back once or  
so when we won a trip.

1593  
01:03:25,250 --> 01:03:27,190  
But I didn't want to go back.

1594  
01:03:27,190 --> 01:03:28,550  
But I did go back.

1595  
01:03:28,550 --> 01:03:32,100  
Why did you not want to go back?

1596  
01:03:32,100 --> 01:03:33,790  
I had no nobody to see.

1597  
01:03:33,790 --> 01:03:38,355  
And I was more interested  
in seeing other countries

1598  
01:03:38,355 --> 01:03:39,980  
where I didn't have  
all those memories.

1599  
01:03:39,980 --> 01:03:40,810  
But I did go.

1600  
01:03:40,810 --> 01:03:42,950  
Yeah.

1601  
01:03:42,950 --> 01:03:44,707  
What was that like?

1602  
01:03:44,707 --> 01:03:45,540  
[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1603  
01:03:45,540 --> 01:03:47,210  
In other words, you saw the  
house where you grew up?

1604  
01:03:47,210 --> 01:03:47,752  
That's right.

1605

01:03:47,752 --> 01:03:50,210

I saw the house, and  
I saw the school.

1606

01:03:50,210 --> 01:03:56,690

And I saw the frame of  
mind in the restaurant.

1607

01:03:56,690 --> 01:03:58,820

Yes, in the restaurant, right.

1608

01:03:58,820 --> 01:04:03,320

Yeah, so it is a beautiful  
city, and that's it.

1609

01:04:03,320 --> 01:04:05,400

So you've just been back once?

1610

01:04:05,400 --> 01:04:07,910

Once, and then on a  
cruise for one day

1611

01:04:07,910 --> 01:04:09,250

as well, but really once--

1612

01:04:09,250 --> 01:04:13,625

once for five days  
when we won a trip.

1613

01:04:13,625 --> 01:04:16,100

Not to Austria, but we won a  
trip through the United Way

1614

01:04:16,100 --> 01:04:17,360

and went to several countries.

1615

01:04:17,360 --> 01:04:19,290

And then we went  
to Vienna as well.

1616

01:04:19,290 --> 01:04:20,540

Yeah.

1617  
01:04:20,540 --> 01:04:23,310  
What are your  
thoughts about Israel?

1618  
01:04:23,310 --> 01:04:26,060  
Oh, I'm very  
enthusiastic about it.

1619  
01:04:26,060 --> 01:04:30,260  
But I wouldn't emigrate.

1620  
01:04:30,260 --> 01:04:31,430  
Have you been there?

1621  
01:04:31,430 --> 01:04:34,670  
Yes, several times, yeah--

1622  
01:04:34,670 --> 01:04:37,640  
when I was younger, and  
then once with my husband.

1623  
01:04:37,640 --> 01:04:38,780  
Yeah.

1624  
01:04:38,780 --> 01:04:40,710  
Do you remember  
the Eichmann Trial?

1625  
01:04:40,710 --> 01:04:43,040  
And if so, what  
were your reactions?

1626  
01:04:43,040 --> 01:04:46,870  
I don't remember  
too much, but I--

1627  
01:04:46,870 --> 01:04:47,535  
well--

1628  
01:04:47,535 --> 01:04:50,360  
Of what your reactions were?

1629  
01:04:50,360 --> 01:04:51,950  
No, I don't remember.

1630  
01:04:51,950 --> 01:04:53,950  
And I can imagine what  
they were, but I--

1631  
01:04:53,950 --> 01:04:54,450  
no.

1632  
01:04:54,450 --> 01:05:00,440  
I can't give you too  
much of a recall on that.

1633  
01:05:00,440 --> 01:05:01,730  
He deserved it.

1634  
01:05:01,730 --> 01:05:02,834  
Yeah.

1635  
01:05:02,834 --> 01:05:05,120  
Yeah, that's it.

1636  
01:05:05,120 --> 01:05:08,390  
And I assume or do you  
feel totally assimilated

1637  
01:05:08,390 --> 01:05:10,200  
into American life?

1638  
01:05:10,200 --> 01:05:11,840  
I really do, yeah.

1639  
01:05:11,840 --> 01:05:16,040  
I have no other possible roots.

1640  
01:05:16,040 --> 01:05:17,210  
You are American.

1641  
01:05:17,210 --> 01:05:18,307



You are not Austrian.

1642  
01:05:18,307 --> 01:05:19,140  
You're not Viennese.

1643  
01:05:19,140 --> 01:05:19,640  
No.

1644  
01:05:19,640 --> 01:05:20,190  
No way.

1645  
01:05:20,190 --> 01:05:21,570  
No way.

1646  
01:05:21,570 --> 01:05:22,070  
No.

1647  
01:05:22,070 --> 01:05:24,140  
I mean, I'm Jewish, but that's--

1648  
01:05:24,140 --> 01:05:25,190  
you know that.

1649  
01:05:25,190 --> 01:05:27,200  
Yeah.

1650  
01:05:27,200 --> 01:05:31,400  
Do you get or did your  
family get any reparations?

1651  
01:05:31,400 --> 01:05:35,720  
I get \$400 a month or  
something like that-- \$500--

1652  
01:05:35,720 --> 01:05:36,320  
\$400.

1653  
01:05:36,320 --> 01:05:38,390  
It depends on the rates.

1654  
01:05:38,390 --> 01:05:40,400

And what about your parents?

1655

01:05:40,400 --> 01:05:42,260

Did they get reparations?

1656

01:05:42,260 --> 01:05:44,390

Nothing great--  
and also something

1657

01:05:44,390 --> 01:05:49,740

like that, and then only  
briefly, because they died.

1658

01:05:49,740 --> 01:05:53,000

And you know, it wasn't  
settled that early in the--

1659

01:05:53,000 --> 01:05:54,950

Right.

1660

01:05:54,950 --> 01:05:57,450

Yeah.

1661

01:05:57,450 --> 01:05:59,910

But no major reparations,  
no-- nothing.

1662

01:05:59,910 --> 01:06:03,320

We have nothing there.

1663

01:06:03,320 --> 01:06:09,440

So in what way are you who  
you are today because of what

1664

01:06:09,440 --> 01:06:11,500

you went through as a young--

1665

01:06:11,500 --> 01:06:15,200

Well, in many ways, the  
experiences have formed me.

1666

01:06:15,200 --> 01:06:16,310

In what sense?

1667  
01:06:16,310 --> 01:06:17,250  
Has made you what?

1668  
01:06:17,250 --> 01:06:20,720

1669  
01:06:20,720 --> 01:06:22,190  
It's not for me  
to judge, but it's

1670  
01:06:22,190 --> 01:06:29,400  
made me more a citizen  
of the world, I think.

1671  
01:06:29,400 --> 01:06:32,410  
And I feel at home in--  
you know, I love travel.

1672  
01:06:32,410 --> 01:06:34,860  
And I just can't do it now.

1673  
01:06:34,860 --> 01:06:44,070  
And I think perhaps  
it's made me more

1674  
01:06:44,070 --> 01:06:47,460  
accessible to different kinds  
of people and vice versa.

1675  
01:06:47,460 --> 01:06:50,610

1676  
01:06:50,610 --> 01:06:52,890  
But I really totally  
feel American, so.

1677  
01:06:52,890 --> 01:06:53,640  
Yeah.

1678  
01:06:53,640 --> 01:06:57,060

But you are comfortable around  
people from other countries?

1679  
01:06:57,060 --> 01:07:01,300  
Very, very-- and I enjoyed  
it, and to the citizens

1680  
01:07:01,300 --> 01:07:02,770  
of everywhere.

1681  
01:07:02,770 --> 01:07:05,410  
And I relate well to  
people from many countries.

1682  
01:07:05,410 --> 01:07:05,910  
Yeah.

1683  
01:07:05,910 --> 01:07:09,010

1684  
01:07:09,010 --> 01:07:11,080  
And you are fluent, of  
course, in so many--

1685  
01:07:11,080 --> 01:07:13,620  
In a number of languages, a  
few languages, and that helps.

1686  
01:07:13,620 --> 01:07:14,120  
Yeah.

1687  
01:07:14,120 --> 01:07:19,630

1688  
01:07:19,630 --> 01:07:22,690  
So you do feel that  
lessons have been

1689  
01:07:22,690 --> 01:07:25,810  
learned from the Holocaust?

1690  
01:07:25,810 --> 01:07:28,030

What type of lessons?

1691

01:07:28,030 --> 01:07:30,700

Well, what happened.

1692

01:07:30,700 --> 01:07:33,370

As you said, you think it  
could happen again, but.

1693

01:07:33,370 --> 01:07:35,320

It might happen again.

1694

01:07:35,320 --> 01:07:37,480

I don't know that  
lessons are learned.

1695

01:07:37,480 --> 01:07:39,640

It's a new generation--  
has no hatred.

1696

01:07:39,640 --> 01:07:41,120

Yeah.

1697

01:07:41,120 --> 01:07:44,680

These-- different ones,  
but it needn't always

1698

01:07:44,680 --> 01:07:45,970

be directed at us.

1699

01:07:45,970 --> 01:07:46,580

Right.

1700

01:07:46,580 --> 01:07:50,130

But it's terrible.

1701

01:07:50,130 --> 01:07:51,820

And it's more dangerous  
now than ever.

1702

01:07:51,820 --> 01:07:55,900

1703  
01:07:55,900 --> 01:07:59,620  
Did you raise your  
children very Jewishly?

1704  
01:07:59,620 --> 01:08:00,590  
Not very.

1705  
01:08:00,590 --> 01:08:01,310  
No, not very.

1706  
01:08:01,310 --> 01:08:04,250  
We're Reform.

1707  
01:08:04,250 --> 01:08:07,528  
But they should  
know who they are

1708  
01:08:07,528 --> 01:08:08,570  
and where they come from.

1709  
01:08:08,570 --> 01:08:11,090  
And I'm part of that.

1710  
01:08:11,090 --> 01:08:13,630  
That, they're aware  
of, and very much so.

1711  
01:08:13,630 --> 01:08:17,240

1712  
01:08:17,240 --> 01:08:20,470  
Well, is there anything  
else you wanted

1713  
01:08:20,470 --> 01:08:23,410  
to talk about or any  
message you wanted

1714  
01:08:23,410 --> 01:08:26,850  
to leave to your grandchildren?

1715

01:08:26,850 --> 01:08:28,630

Anything that we  
haven't covered that--

1716

01:08:28,630 --> 01:08:31,300

I think we've covered--

1717

01:08:31,300 --> 01:08:32,850

I love my grandchildren.

1718

01:08:32,850 --> 01:08:34,660

They're interested in  
their roots as well.

1719

01:08:34,660 --> 01:08:35,160

Oh, good.

1720

01:08:35,160 --> 01:08:36,310

Very interested.

1721

01:08:36,310 --> 01:08:37,270

Are they?

1722

01:08:37,270 --> 01:08:42,229

Yes, in their fashion, you know.

1723

01:08:42,229 --> 01:08:43,240

In what sense?

1724

01:08:43,240 --> 01:08:46,850

Well, I mean, not an  
Orthodox upbringing.

1725

01:08:46,850 --> 01:08:49,950

But they wanted  
to be bar mitzvah.

1726

01:08:49,950 --> 01:08:54,340

And their parents left  
it totally up to them.

1727

01:08:54,340 --> 01:08:58,460  
And they're very warm and  
receptive, great human beings.

1728  
01:08:58,460 --> 01:09:01,390  
And I have two granddaughters,  
one at Harvard,

1729  
01:09:01,390 --> 01:09:03,880  
and one that graduated  
from Harvard in the summer

1730  
01:09:03,880 --> 01:09:06,069  
and is now at  
Cambridge in England.

1731  
01:09:06,069 --> 01:09:07,260  
Wonderful.

1732  
01:09:07,260 --> 01:09:12,100  
And then I have three  
here, three littler ones.

1733  
01:09:12,100 --> 01:09:12,819  
Wonderful.

1734  
01:09:12,819 --> 01:09:19,090  
And they're from eight to  
16 in school in New York.

1735  
01:09:19,090 --> 01:09:23,470  
And all are very loving  
and caring human beings.

1736  
01:09:23,470 --> 01:09:26,439  
So I couldn't have wished  
for better-- and willing

1737  
01:09:26,439 --> 01:09:29,529  
to do good and  
wanting to do good.

1738  
01:09:29,529 --> 01:09:35,500



And that's, I feel, is the  
achievement of the long life

1739  
01:09:35,500 --> 01:09:37,420  
that I've been  
fortunate to have.

1740  
01:09:37,420 --> 01:09:39,399  
Well, do you feel  
that part of that

1741  
01:09:39,399 --> 01:09:41,529  
was a byproduct of  
what you went through

1742  
01:09:41,529 --> 01:09:46,029  
and how you imparted your  
message to your children?

1743  
01:09:46,029 --> 01:09:46,840  
It may be so.

1744  
01:09:46,840 --> 01:09:48,295  
It probably is.

1745  
01:09:48,295 --> 01:09:51,430  
I don't want to take  
total credit for that.

1746  
01:09:51,430 --> 01:09:54,233  
I think a lot of  
things enter it--

1747  
01:09:54,233 --> 01:09:56,330  
their parents and so forth.

1748  
01:09:56,330 --> 01:09:56,830  
Right.

1749  
01:09:56,830 --> 01:10:00,960  
But I think that  
did have an effect

1750

01:10:00,960 --> 01:10:04,300

and made them also more  
receptive to people

1751

01:10:04,300 --> 01:10:06,490

from other nations, I think.

1752

01:10:06,490 --> 01:10:10,420

1753

01:10:10,420 --> 01:10:13,620

Did your sister write down  
any of her experiences?

1754

01:10:13,620 --> 01:10:15,370

I don't know if she  
wrote the experiences,

1755

01:10:15,370 --> 01:10:16,480

but she wrote several books.

1756

01:10:16,480 --> 01:10:17,313

But I don't know it.

1757

01:10:17,313 --> 01:10:18,280

You'll have to ask her.

1758

01:10:18,280 --> 01:10:20,260

Her husband is 97 and--

1759

01:10:20,260 --> 01:10:21,370

Oh, my.

1760

01:10:21,370 --> 01:10:22,960

--in Washington.

1761

01:10:22,960 --> 01:10:24,460

And I told you that, I think.

1762

01:10:24,460 --> 01:10:28,225

Yeah, he lives in

Washington in that--

1763

01:10:28,225 --> 01:10:30,710  
you knew the name of the place.

1764

01:10:30,710 --> 01:10:33,690  
[INAUDIBLE] Military Road.

1765

01:10:33,690 --> 01:10:35,030  
Right.

1766

01:10:35,030 --> 01:10:37,180  
Yeah.

1767

01:10:37,180 --> 01:10:41,320  
So I don't think--

1768

01:10:41,320 --> 01:10:44,590  
I'm sure she's written  
something, yeah.

1769

01:10:44,590 --> 01:10:49,270  
But it sounds like you two  
girls, close, you two sisters,

1770

01:10:49,270 --> 01:10:54,475  
shared in some kind of  
very special, terrible time

1771

01:10:54,475 --> 01:10:55,670  
in history.

1772

01:10:55,670 --> 01:10:57,130  
But we were fortunate because--

1773

01:10:57,130 --> 01:10:57,910  
Quite fortunate.

1774

01:10:57,910 --> 01:11:00,910  
--our parents and  
immediate family alive.

1775

01:11:00,910 --> 01:11:04,780

And the ones that sacrificed,  
I didn't really know that well.

1776

01:11:04,780 --> 01:11:08,035

It doesn't affect  
you the same way.

1777

01:11:08,035 --> 01:11:11,160

You would've wanted to have  
grandparents and relatives,

1778

01:11:11,160 --> 01:11:13,210

but you didn't really know them.

1779

01:11:13,210 --> 01:11:14,550

It's not quite as--

1780

01:11:14,550 --> 01:11:16,530

Yeah.

1781

01:11:16,530 --> 01:11:18,700

And your relations with--

1782

01:11:18,700 --> 01:11:22,950

your connections with  
your relations in Israel?

1783

01:11:22,950 --> 01:11:25,810

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

1784

01:11:25,810 --> 01:11:27,860

We don't have very close  
relations at this point.

1785

01:11:27,860 --> 01:11:28,360

Yeah.

1786

01:11:28,360 --> 01:11:32,680

1787

01:11:32,680 --> 01:11:35,090  
My sister's children and  
my children are very close.

1788  
01:11:35,090 --> 01:11:35,590  
Are they?

1789  
01:11:35,590 --> 01:11:36,090  
Wonderful.

1790  
01:11:36,090 --> 01:11:37,760  
They're very close, yeah.

1791  
01:11:37,760 --> 01:11:41,390  
They are like siblings--

1792  
01:11:41,390 --> 01:11:41,890  
Wonderful.

1793  
01:11:41,890 --> 01:11:43,050  
They are very close.

1794  
01:11:43,050 --> 01:11:46,330  
Wonderful.

1795  
01:11:46,330 --> 01:11:48,580  
Well, that's a nice  
note to end on,

1796  
01:11:48,580 --> 01:11:50,120  
unless there's something that--

1797  
01:11:50,120 --> 01:11:50,940  
I don't know.

1798  
01:11:50,940 --> 01:11:51,940  
--else that you wanted--

1799  
01:11:51,940 --> 01:11:54,360  
Thank you very much.

1800

01:11:54,360 --> 01:12:01,450  
And I wish everyone, and  
certainly my children

1801  
01:12:01,450 --> 01:12:03,860  
and grandchildren, all the best.

1802  
01:12:03,860 --> 01:12:06,470  
And I want to thank you  
for making this possible.

1803  
01:12:06,470 --> 01:12:08,250  
Well, thank you for doing that.

1804  
01:12:08,250 --> 01:12:10,230  
Thank you for doing that.

1805  
01:12:10,230 --> 01:12:14,250  
And let me just close off by  
saying that this concludes

1806  
01:12:14,250 --> 01:12:16,490  
the United States  
Holocaust Memorial Museum

1807  
01:12:16,490 --> 01:12:21,440  
interview with Alice Barzilay.

1808  
01:12:21,440 --> 01:12:23,160  
Thank you.

1809  
01:12:23,160 --> 01:12:23,660  
Thank you.

1810  
01:12:23,660 --> 01:12:25,390  
You're welcome.

1811  
01:12:25,390 --> 01:12:27,000