

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:01,920

2
00:00:01,920 --> 00:00:05,070
This is the United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum

3
00:00:05,070 --> 00:00:10,110
volunteer collection interview
with Wolfgang Price conducted

4
00:00:10,110 --> 00:00:17,380
by Gail Schwartz on May 2, 2014
over the telephone in Vienna,

5
00:00:17,380 --> 00:00:23,040
Austria and at the United States
Holocaust Memorial Museum.

6
00:00:23,040 --> 00:00:26,700
This is track number one.

7
00:00:26,700 --> 00:00:29,950
What is your full name?

8
00:00:29,950 --> 00:00:32,850
My name, Wolfgang Price.

9
00:00:32,850 --> 00:00:35,820
And is that the name
you were born with?

10
00:00:35,820 --> 00:00:36,540
Yes.

11
00:00:36,540 --> 00:00:38,640
I do have a middle name, Samuel.

12
00:00:38,640 --> 00:00:39,150
Samuel.

13
00:00:39,150 --> 00:00:39,940
OK.

14
00:00:39,940 --> 00:00:43,990
And where were you born
and when were you born?

15
00:00:43,990 --> 00:00:49,080
I was born in a part of
Berlin called Spandau,

16
00:00:49,080 --> 00:00:54,450
and it was on August 16, 1930.

17
00:00:54,450 --> 00:00:58,110
Let's talk a little bit about
your family, how far back

18
00:00:58,110 --> 00:01:02,130
your family goes in Germany.

19
00:01:02,130 --> 00:01:04,950
Can you tell me a little
bit about your parents

20
00:01:04,950 --> 00:01:06,930
and grandparents and so forth?

21
00:01:06,930 --> 00:01:08,100
Yes.

22
00:01:08,100 --> 00:01:13,710
My father was born in
Poland in a small community,

23
00:01:13,710 --> 00:01:17,790
farming community
called Wislica,

24
00:01:17,790 --> 00:01:26,020
which is near the larger
city of Kielce in Poland.

25
00:01:26,020 --> 00:01:28,455
My mother was born in Berlin.

26
00:01:28,455 --> 00:01:33,030

27
00:01:33,030 --> 00:01:37,050
My father lived in--

28
00:01:37,050 --> 00:01:40,710
as a child lived in Wislica.

29
00:01:40,710 --> 00:01:52,290
In 1914 or '15, he enlisted
in a Polish military unit,

30
00:01:52,290 --> 00:01:57,600
which was conscripted
eventually, and served

31
00:01:57,600 --> 00:02:00,750
as part of the German army.

32
00:02:00,750 --> 00:02:07,860
And so in essence, he became
a soldier fighting for Germany

33
00:02:07,860 --> 00:02:09,990
in World War I.

34
00:02:09,990 --> 00:02:10,860
Mm-hmm.

35
00:02:10,860 --> 00:02:12,930
Tell me your parents' names.

36
00:02:12,930 --> 00:02:14,500
Your father's name?

37
00:02:14,500 --> 00:02:22,320

My father's name, in
Polish, it was Simon Prejs,

38
00:02:22,320 --> 00:02:25,740
spelled the way the Polish
people would spell it,

39
00:02:25,740 --> 00:02:28,560
P-R-E-J-S.

40
00:02:28,560 --> 00:02:29,190
Mm-hmm.

41
00:02:29,190 --> 00:02:31,170
And your mother's name?

42
00:02:31,170 --> 00:02:36,930
My mother's name is Margaret,
and their maiden name was

43
00:02:36,930 --> 00:02:40,800
Loser, L-O-S-E-R.

44
00:02:40,800 --> 00:02:41,580
OK.

45
00:02:41,580 --> 00:02:46,740
And so then just following up on
your parents' lives, what kind

46
00:02:46,740 --> 00:02:49,020
of work did your father do?

47
00:02:49,020 --> 00:02:52,070
Well, I might go
back and explain.

48
00:02:52,070 --> 00:02:55,320

49
00:02:55,320 --> 00:03:01,050
My father served, as I

said, with the German army

50
00:03:01,050 --> 00:03:04,590
during the First World War.

51
00:03:04,590 --> 00:03:09,130
He was in several major
battles and survived.

52
00:03:09,130 --> 00:03:15,360
And he was awarded,
as many were, an Iron

53
00:03:15,360 --> 00:03:23,100
Cross and eventually for his
service in the German cause

54
00:03:23,100 --> 00:03:27,840
was given permission to
become a German citizen,

55
00:03:27,840 --> 00:03:32,100
actually became a
citizen of Berlin.

56
00:03:32,100 --> 00:03:34,270
That's what the papers say.

57
00:03:34,270 --> 00:03:40,680
And so in about 1919 or 1920--

58
00:03:40,680 --> 00:03:44,190
I don't have the
papers in front of me--

59
00:03:44,190 --> 00:03:50,020
he relocated and settled
in Spandau in Berlin.

60
00:03:50,020 --> 00:03:52,240
OK, OK.

61

00:03:52,240 --> 00:03:57,000
When he was in Berlin, he
undertook slowly a number

62
00:03:57,000 --> 00:04:00,960
of enterprising activities.

63
00:04:00,960 --> 00:04:06,990
By 1930 when I was
born, he had already

64
00:04:06,990 --> 00:04:12,330
several haberdashery stores,
several meaning two or three.

65
00:04:12,330 --> 00:04:16,320
He owned some property,
including an interest

66
00:04:16,320 --> 00:04:17,909
in a movie or cinema.

67
00:04:17,909 --> 00:04:20,430

68
00:04:20,430 --> 00:04:26,520
And on my mother's
side, Margaret,

69
00:04:26,520 --> 00:04:32,490
her family was in the egg
business, wholesale egg

70
00:04:32,490 --> 00:04:34,890
distribution business.

71
00:04:34,890 --> 00:04:39,690
And I once recalled
how they met.

72
00:04:39,690 --> 00:04:42,240
I can't remember
for the moment now.

73
00:04:42,240 --> 00:04:50,850
But somehow they met
and married in 1927

74
00:04:50,850 --> 00:04:53,370
I think it was, '26 or '27.

75
00:04:53,370 --> 00:04:54,900
Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

76
00:04:54,900 --> 00:04:57,510
And do you have--

77
00:04:57,510 --> 00:05:00,340
did you or do you
have any siblings?

78
00:05:00,340 --> 00:05:03,550
Yes, I have a brother, John.

79
00:05:03,550 --> 00:05:10,990
And John actually has, I
think, made some endowment

80
00:05:10,990 --> 00:05:13,040
for the Holocaust Museum.

81
00:05:13,040 --> 00:05:13,960
Oh, wonderful.

82
00:05:13,960 --> 00:05:14,740
Wonderful.

83
00:05:14,740 --> 00:05:17,560
Does he live here in
the United States?

84
00:05:17,560 --> 00:05:19,900
Yes, he lives in Salt Lake City.

85

00:05:19,900 --> 00:05:20,530
Oh.

86
00:05:20,530 --> 00:05:31,150
And I think he is somewhat well
known in the museum circles.

87
00:05:31,150 --> 00:05:33,900
He's certainly well known
in political circles.

88
00:05:33,900 --> 00:05:35,940
Wonderful, wonderful.

89
00:05:35,940 --> 00:05:40,500
OK, so let's talk again about
your family in general now.

90
00:05:40,500 --> 00:05:46,020
Were your parents religious
in any way, observant?

91
00:05:46,020 --> 00:05:48,870
Yes, they were observant.

92
00:05:48,870 --> 00:05:54,810
We observed, of course, the
Friday evening services.

93
00:05:54,810 --> 00:05:58,135
My father would say
a Shabbat with wine.

94
00:05:58,135 --> 00:06:00,690

95
00:06:00,690 --> 00:06:06,270
And there were, as I
recall, occasional--

96
00:06:06,270 --> 00:06:08,970
I don't know how frequent--

97

00:06:08,970 --> 00:06:12,760
visits to the synagogue.

98

00:06:12,760 --> 00:06:20,600
And I would say my
father was not--

99

00:06:20,600 --> 00:06:25,180
he certainly was not in
the conservative ranks.

100

00:06:25,180 --> 00:06:27,220
I would say today
you would say he

101

00:06:27,220 --> 00:06:37,190
was probably an observant,
an observant Jew.

102

00:06:37,190 --> 00:06:39,960
But I don't know how
else to characterize--

103

00:06:39,960 --> 00:06:41,030
Well, more liberal.

104

00:06:41,030 --> 00:06:43,010
Would you say a liberal Jew?

105

00:06:43,010 --> 00:06:44,000
Well, whatever--

106

00:06:44,000 --> 00:06:44,903
Well, I--

107

00:06:44,903 --> 00:06:45,789
That's OK.

108

00:06:45,789 --> 00:06:46,675
Yeah.

109

00:06:46,675 --> 00:06:49,100
I couldn't judge that
because at that time,

110
00:06:49,100 --> 00:06:52,310
I was only 10 years
old, and I would not

111
00:06:52,310 --> 00:06:55,522
know how liberal we were.

112
00:06:55,522 --> 00:06:57,230
Do you remember the
name of the synagogue

113
00:06:57,230 --> 00:06:58,520
your family belonged to?

114
00:06:58,520 --> 00:06:59,910
No, I don't.

115
00:06:59,910 --> 00:07:02,270
It would've been in Spandau.

116
00:07:02,270 --> 00:07:08,240
We resided in Spandau in a
house which was, by the way,

117
00:07:08,240 --> 00:07:16,820
right near an open area,
a park-like area, which

118
00:07:16,820 --> 00:07:21,440
encompassed what was then the
complex, a prison complex where

119
00:07:21,440 --> 00:07:27,890
later Hess would
spend his final years.

120
00:07:27,890 --> 00:07:29,840
Right.

121
00:07:29,840 --> 00:07:31,600
So you were born.

122
00:07:31,600 --> 00:07:32,690
Was your brother older?

123
00:07:32,690 --> 00:07:34,640
Is your brother older
or younger than you?

124
00:07:34,640 --> 00:07:35,840
Three years younger.

125
00:07:35,840 --> 00:07:37,280
Three years younger, OK.

126
00:07:37,280 --> 00:07:41,600
And so let's talk a little
bit about your childhood.

127
00:07:41,600 --> 00:07:43,640
What's your first memory?

128
00:07:43,640 --> 00:07:46,360
Can you go back that far?

129
00:07:46,360 --> 00:07:47,840
My first memory.

130
00:07:47,840 --> 00:07:48,620
Yeah.

131
00:07:48,620 --> 00:07:49,910
Yes.

132
00:07:49,910 --> 00:07:51,770
Yes.

133
00:07:51,770 --> 00:07:54,740
My first memory would take
me back to a time when

134
00:07:54,740 --> 00:07:59,120
my brother was about three.

135
00:07:59,120 --> 00:08:01,750
And I would have-- and
since I'm three years older,

136
00:08:01,750 --> 00:08:05,510
I would have been about six.

137
00:08:05,510 --> 00:08:08,495
And that was only because
it was very dramatic.

138
00:08:08,495 --> 00:08:11,660

139
00:08:11,660 --> 00:08:15,770
There was a sandbox
apparently where my brother

140
00:08:15,770 --> 00:08:18,230
and another child were playing.

141
00:08:18,230 --> 00:08:24,920
And the other child dug whatever
it is, a rather deep hole

142
00:08:24,920 --> 00:08:26,600
in the sandbox.

143
00:08:26,600 --> 00:08:29,450
And his head somehow
got trapped in it,

144
00:08:29,450 --> 00:08:32,309
and it was a tragic death.

145
00:08:32,309 --> 00:08:39,679
And so I always remember that
as sort of a story point of all

146
00:08:39,679 --> 00:08:40,590
my memories about--

147
00:08:40,590 --> 00:08:41,900
Oh my goodness.

148
00:08:41,900 --> 00:08:44,990
Oh my goodness.

149
00:08:44,990 --> 00:08:50,930
The other elements I do recall
quite vividly, of course.

150
00:08:50,930 --> 00:08:54,890
I was in school, and I was
transferred from school.

151
00:08:54,890 --> 00:08:58,040
That story is well known.

152
00:08:58,040 --> 00:09:03,320
And there was a period
when I wore a yellow star.

153
00:09:03,320 --> 00:09:06,490
All of the portion of
history is well documented.

154
00:09:06,490 --> 00:09:10,130

155
00:09:10,130 --> 00:09:11,390
I was--

156
00:09:11,390 --> 00:09:13,340
But before we get to that--

157
00:09:13,340 --> 00:09:16,730
we will certainly get to that.

158

00:09:16,730 --> 00:09:19,370
Was your neighborhood a
mixed Jewish, non-Jewish

159
00:09:19,370 --> 00:09:20,420
neighborhood?

160
00:09:20,420 --> 00:09:22,340
I can't answer that.

161
00:09:22,340 --> 00:09:23,640
I can't answer that.

162
00:09:23,640 --> 00:09:24,140
OK.

163
00:09:24,140 --> 00:09:26,430
And I assume you
spoke German at home.

164
00:09:26,430 --> 00:09:26,930
Yes.

165
00:09:26,930 --> 00:09:28,130
Yes, OK.

166
00:09:28,130 --> 00:09:31,640
When did you first hear
of a man named Hitler?

167
00:09:31,640 --> 00:09:35,480
Do you remember when you
first heard about him?

168
00:09:35,480 --> 00:09:36,320
Well, I don't--

169
00:09:36,320 --> 00:09:37,275
I know you were a--

170
00:09:37,275 --> 00:09:37,775
very young.

171
00:09:37,775 --> 00:09:41,450
I don't know when I
first heard Hitler.

172
00:09:41,450 --> 00:09:46,400
But I can recall very
early, meaning in school,

173
00:09:46,400 --> 00:09:48,410
singing [SINGING IN GERMAN].

174
00:09:48,410 --> 00:09:53,240

175
00:09:53,240 --> 00:09:56,365
That song I will always
remember because I learned it

176
00:09:56,365 --> 00:10:01,100
in school when I was about six
years old or seven years old.

177
00:10:01,100 --> 00:10:06,030
Did you have any non-Jewish
friends or were--

178
00:10:06,030 --> 00:10:09,350
Yes, and my father's
closest friend

179
00:10:09,350 --> 00:10:13,315
was a man named
[? Troutshold. ?] He was a--

180
00:10:13,315 --> 00:10:16,140
I don't know whether he
was a business associate.

181
00:10:16,140 --> 00:10:18,410
But he was certainly
a close friend.

182

00:10:18,410 --> 00:10:21,920

And that man was a non-Jew.

183

00:10:21,920 --> 00:10:24,830

And your neighborhood was mixed?

184

00:10:24,830 --> 00:10:26,660

Well, that I cannot--

185

00:10:26,660 --> 00:10:29,180

I cannot answer.

186

00:10:29,180 --> 00:10:30,140

I cannot answer.

187

00:10:30,140 --> 00:10:34,310

OK, so now you start school.

188

00:10:34,310 --> 00:10:38,270

And, again, was it
a public school?

189

00:10:38,270 --> 00:10:38,840

Yes.

190

00:10:38,840 --> 00:10:39,590

Yeah.

191

00:10:39,590 --> 00:10:40,280

OK.

192

00:10:40,280 --> 00:10:45,140

And when were the first
changes that you remember?

193

00:10:45,140 --> 00:10:47,300

Well, that's hard
because I would not

194

00:10:47,300 --> 00:10:49,135

be able to place them by year.

195
00:10:49,135 --> 00:10:49,980
That's OK.

196
00:10:49,980 --> 00:10:50,810
That's OK

197
00:10:50,810 --> 00:10:52,330
At that point, it just happens.

198
00:10:52,330 --> 00:10:54,650
Like, one day, we
were told that we

199
00:10:54,650 --> 00:10:58,550
were no longer going to go
to that particular school.

200
00:10:58,550 --> 00:11:02,990
And I can't remember
what the explanation

201
00:11:02,990 --> 00:11:06,380
was that was given for it.

202
00:11:06,380 --> 00:11:09,380
And I can't remember
the explanation

203
00:11:09,380 --> 00:11:19,310
for why we were identified
with a yellow star on our coat.

204
00:11:19,310 --> 00:11:20,157
What year was that?

205
00:11:20,157 --> 00:11:21,240
Do you remember what year?

206
00:11:21,240 --> 00:11:23,960
No, I would not remember.

207

00:11:23,960 --> 00:11:24,500

OK.

208

00:11:24,500 --> 00:11:29,090

I would say it was about '37.

209

00:11:29,090 --> 00:11:32,580

I would say it was at least
a year before Kristallnacht.

210

00:11:32,580 --> 00:11:33,990

Yeah, yeah.

211

00:11:33,990 --> 00:11:38,070

But up to that time, do you ever
remember being afraid or seeing

212

00:11:38,070 --> 00:11:43,020

anything that was frightening
to a young boy on the street

213

00:11:43,020 --> 00:11:46,080

or hearing anything that
was frightening, upsetting?

214

00:11:46,080 --> 00:11:49,620

Do you have any
memories of that?

215

00:11:49,620 --> 00:11:53,800

216

00:11:53,800 --> 00:11:56,446

No.

217

00:11:56,446 --> 00:11:59,260

The first alarming
memory goes back

218

00:11:59,260 --> 00:12:01,240

to the evening of Kristallnacht.

219
00:12:01,240 --> 00:12:02,400
OK.

220
00:12:02,400 --> 00:12:02,900
OK.

221
00:12:02,900 --> 00:12:04,275
But now, before
we get there-- so

222
00:12:04,275 --> 00:12:07,750
now you're asked to
leave the school.

223
00:12:07,750 --> 00:12:09,190
Was that very upsetting to you?

224
00:12:09,190 --> 00:12:13,130

225
00:12:13,130 --> 00:12:15,240
You don't remember.

226
00:12:15,240 --> 00:12:19,460
No, I-- no, I don't remember.

227
00:12:19,460 --> 00:12:20,990
I don't want to make a story up.

228
00:12:20,990 --> 00:12:21,615
I really don't.

229
00:12:21,615 --> 00:12:22,580
No, no, no, no, no.

230
00:12:22,580 --> 00:12:24,020
I'm just trying to tease out--

231
00:12:24,020 --> 00:12:26,120
No, I don't remember.

232

00:12:26,120 --> 00:12:37,816

I do remember that within the family, events were uneasy,

233

00:12:37,816 --> 00:12:43,070

and there was a lot of talk about what to do.

234

00:12:43,070 --> 00:12:47,030

But I just overheard that because I couldn't

235

00:12:47,030 --> 00:12:48,770

contribute to what to do.

236

00:12:48,770 --> 00:12:49,392

No, I know.

237

00:12:49,392 --> 00:12:50,850

And you were very young, of course.

238

00:12:50,850 --> 00:12:52,370

Right.

239

00:12:52,370 --> 00:12:55,170

I do think what is relevant here, though,

240

00:12:55,170 --> 00:13:04,850

is that my father as early as '36 and '37 had anticipated

241

00:13:04,850 --> 00:13:08,270

at least something might go--

242

00:13:08,270 --> 00:13:10,070

might turn bad.

243

00:13:10,070 --> 00:13:17,600

And he had financed the travel of two brothers to the United

244
00:13:17,600 --> 00:13:20,390
States who were--

245
00:13:20,390 --> 00:13:21,770
Two of his brothers?

246
00:13:21,770 --> 00:13:25,310
Yes, Willie and Herbert.

247
00:13:25,310 --> 00:13:30,260
Willie eventually
came to the US in '37

248
00:13:30,260 --> 00:13:33,390
and settled in New York,
Herbert in Houston.

249
00:13:33,390 --> 00:13:37,246

250
00:13:37,246 --> 00:13:39,710
And the talk was
that if we needed

251
00:13:39,710 --> 00:13:42,260
help and needed someplace
to go, that they

252
00:13:42,260 --> 00:13:44,555
would be in a position
to help the family.

253
00:13:44,555 --> 00:13:47,090
Yes, yes, yes.

254
00:13:47,090 --> 00:13:49,370
OK, so now you've
changed schools.

255
00:13:49,370 --> 00:13:52,680
And the next change

that you can recall?

256

00:13:52,680 --> 00:13:54,620

You said wearing a star.

257

00:13:54,620 --> 00:13:55,580

Yes.

258

00:13:55,580 --> 00:13:56,340

Well, yes.

259

00:13:56,340 --> 00:13:58,080

How did that feel

to a young boy?

260

00:13:58,080 --> 00:13:59,170

What does it mean to you?

261

00:13:59,170 --> 00:14:01,025

Do you have any recollection?

262

00:14:01,025 --> 00:14:05,390

263

00:14:05,390 --> 00:14:07,340

I don't know what it meant.

264

00:14:07,340 --> 00:14:13,640

I just-- I suppose I sensed
some degree of segregation.

265

00:14:13,640 --> 00:14:16,295

But I don't remember being--

266

00:14:16,295 --> 00:14:18,900

267

00:14:18,900 --> 00:14:26,130

I don't remember any
emotional trauma from that.

268

00:14:26,130 --> 00:14:33,310
My father was not a man
who easily got upset.

269
00:14:33,310 --> 00:14:42,340
And there was some
alarming talk.

270
00:14:42,340 --> 00:14:45,820
But I can't remember
that within the family,

271
00:14:45,820 --> 00:14:55,655
there was any great fear
about the events in progress.

272
00:14:55,655 --> 00:14:57,390
Mm-hmm.

273
00:14:57,390 --> 00:15:00,680
So as you said, the first
difficult time for you

274
00:15:00,680 --> 00:15:02,900
with Kristallnacht, right?

275
00:15:02,900 --> 00:15:03,447
Pardon me?

276
00:15:03,447 --> 00:15:04,280
You said the first--

277
00:15:04,280 --> 00:15:04,760
Yeah, Kristallnacht.

278
00:15:04,760 --> 00:15:05,260
Yes.

279
00:15:05,260 --> 00:15:14,180
That I remember clearly because
I was, so to speak, in on it.

280

00:15:14,180 --> 00:15:19,610
That is, this man
[? Troutshold, ?] my father's

281
00:15:19,610 --> 00:15:23,720
friend, was the one
who rapped on the door

282
00:15:23,720 --> 00:15:29,600
and informed Margaret and
Simon that something is up

283
00:15:29,600 --> 00:15:37,370
and that they were
destroying the stores.

284
00:15:37,370 --> 00:15:42,050
And my father and
my mother and I

285
00:15:42,050 --> 00:15:44,480
went down to the
store that was closest

286
00:15:44,480 --> 00:15:48,680
to where we were living,
and when we got there,

287
00:15:48,680 --> 00:15:50,960
the store had been,
in fact, destroyed.

288
00:15:50,960 --> 00:15:56,395
There were people
milling around,

289
00:15:56,395 --> 00:16:00,770
and we spent the next
hour salvaging things

290
00:16:00,770 --> 00:16:03,570
that the looters
had left behind.

291

00:16:03,570 --> 00:16:05,570

And those are the
things we ended up

292

00:16:05,570 --> 00:16:07,130

leaving the country with--

293

00:16:07,130 --> 00:16:09,890

shirts and some pants
and other things

294

00:16:09,890 --> 00:16:14,660

that were left behind from
the looting after the store

295

00:16:14,660 --> 00:16:17,555

had been ransacked.

296

00:16:17,555 --> 00:16:19,930

This is from the haberdashery
store that your father had?

297

00:16:19,930 --> 00:16:23,540

Yes, Yes.

298

00:16:23,540 --> 00:16:25,130

Again, I know you
were very young.

299

00:16:25,130 --> 00:16:28,940

Do you remember being terribly
frightened at this destruction?

300

00:16:28,940 --> 00:16:31,190

Well, I wasn't so
much frightened

301

00:16:31,190 --> 00:16:37,130

as I was confused that
we were picking clothing

302

00:16:37,130 --> 00:16:38,510

out of shattered glass.

303

00:16:38,510 --> 00:16:42,190

304

00:16:42,190 --> 00:16:44,870

And I did not know
really what had happened,

305

00:16:44,870 --> 00:16:48,490

except there were
people milling around,

306

00:16:48,490 --> 00:16:51,950

and the story
eventually was pieced

307

00:16:51,950 --> 00:16:59,330

together so that I had an
understanding that there were--

308

00:16:59,330 --> 00:17:04,730

that there were people
who hated Jews and were

309

00:17:04,730 --> 00:17:05,865

destroying their property.

310

00:17:05,865 --> 00:17:09,020

311

00:17:09,020 --> 00:17:13,220

It was a rather
simplistic explanation,

312

00:17:13,220 --> 00:17:17,300

but I was 10 years
old, and my father

313

00:17:17,300 --> 00:17:22,700

had no reason to detail the
nature of what was going on.

314

00:17:22,700 --> 00:17:24,680

Did you have any
emotional feelings when

315

00:17:24,680 --> 00:17:28,910

you saw a swastika, the symbol?

316

00:17:28,910 --> 00:17:31,130

Emotional reaction to the--

317

00:17:31,130 --> 00:17:35,420

no, except that I began--

318

00:17:35,420 --> 00:17:40,190

I clearly associated it with
the events of Kristallnacht.

319

00:17:40,190 --> 00:17:47,330

And between that time and the
period that we left eventually

320

00:17:47,330 --> 00:17:58,030

Germany, there was certainly
a lot of, what is it?

321

00:17:58,030 --> 00:18:01,040

I can't say angst, but
I can say that there

322

00:18:01,040 --> 00:18:08,630

was a lot of caution
going out and of course

323

00:18:08,630 --> 00:18:10,520

being identified as a Jew.

324

00:18:10,520 --> 00:18:12,590

Because when you
went out, you wore

325

00:18:12,590 --> 00:18:15,950

the coat that had the

star which identified you.

326

00:18:15,950 --> 00:18:20,150

Did your non-Jewish friends talk
to you once you wore a star?

327

00:18:20,150 --> 00:18:22,010

Did you--

328

00:18:22,010 --> 00:18:25,295

I can't remember whether that--

329

00:18:25,295 --> 00:18:28,230

But you played with once--

330

00:18:28,230 --> 00:18:30,880

No, I really--

331

00:18:30,880 --> 00:18:32,270

I really can't--

332

00:18:32,270 --> 00:18:33,780

No, granted, you
were quite young.

333

00:18:33,780 --> 00:18:34,280

Yes.

334

00:18:34,280 --> 00:18:35,120

Yeah.

335

00:18:35,120 --> 00:18:37,820

No, I can't remember.

336

00:18:37,820 --> 00:18:38,990

I can't remember that.

337

00:18:38,990 --> 00:18:43,580

338

00:18:43,580 --> 00:18:46,580

Did your little brother
have to wear a star?

339
00:18:46,580 --> 00:18:47,900
That I can't remember either.

340
00:18:47,900 --> 00:18:48,860
OK.

341
00:18:48,860 --> 00:18:51,200
I can't remember.

342
00:18:51,200 --> 00:18:57,500
By the time he would have been
old to go to school and go out,

343
00:18:57,500 --> 00:19:01,160
we were already fleeing.

344
00:19:01,160 --> 00:19:02,810
Right, right.

345
00:19:02,810 --> 00:19:05,480
OK, so now
Kristallnacht is over.

346
00:19:05,480 --> 00:19:07,520
And then what's the next--

347
00:19:07,520 --> 00:19:16,940
Well, the next, of course,
was the hurried efforts

348
00:19:16,940 --> 00:19:21,650
to put our lives in
order by figuring out

349
00:19:21,650 --> 00:19:23,060
what we're trying to do.

350
00:19:23,060 --> 00:19:28,100
I don't-- I was not in on the

decisions that led us flee.

351

00:19:28,100 --> 00:19:36,050

But I think it was in April,
just before the announcement

352

00:19:36,050 --> 00:19:41,750

that the German policy on
letting Jews out had changed.

353

00:19:41,750 --> 00:19:46,580

Up to, I think, some
period into '39,

354

00:19:46,580 --> 00:19:49,160

the German policy
still was to let

355

00:19:49,160 --> 00:19:52,020

Jews flee if they left
their property behind.

356

00:19:52,020 --> 00:19:55,180

Were your grandparents
alive at this time?

357

00:19:55,180 --> 00:19:57,480

Yes.

358

00:19:57,480 --> 00:20:00,330

Both grandmothers were alive.

359

00:20:00,330 --> 00:20:06,000

My mother's sister,
Hilda, was alive.

360

00:20:06,000 --> 00:20:11,980

My other father's brother,
Adolf, and his son were alive.

361

00:20:11,980 --> 00:20:13,770

And so I knew all those people--

362

00:20:13,770 --> 00:20:16,500

So they were all in--
they were all in Berlin?

363

00:20:16,500 --> 00:20:17,520

Yes.

364

00:20:17,520 --> 00:20:18,930

OK.

365

00:20:18,930 --> 00:20:21,615

Yes, they were all--

366

00:20:21,615 --> 00:20:27,450

in the family, we have not only
photographs of us all together,

367

00:20:27,450 --> 00:20:30,570

but there were a
number of occasions

368

00:20:30,570 --> 00:20:34,230

when I can recall two
grandmothers would

369

00:20:34,230 --> 00:20:38,800

be in our home and the
brothers would be there.

370

00:20:38,800 --> 00:20:39,780

Wonderful.

371

00:20:39,780 --> 00:20:41,160

Yeah.

372

00:20:41,160 --> 00:20:43,890

OK, so now you said that
your father and mother were

373

00:20:43,890 --> 00:20:45,790

trying to make arrangements.

374

00:20:45,790 --> 00:20:46,290

Yes.

375

00:20:46,290 --> 00:20:51,510

I don't know how they eventually made the arrangements.

376

00:20:51,510 --> 00:20:53,850

But there were arrangements made that

377

00:20:53,850 --> 00:20:57,120

enabled us to get to Hamburg.

378

00:20:57,120 --> 00:21:00,730

And there--

379

00:21:00,730 --> 00:21:03,690

What month of '39 was that?

380

00:21:03,690 --> 00:21:04,290

Pardon me?

381

00:21:04,290 --> 00:21:06,225

Do you know what month that was?

382

00:21:06,225 --> 00:21:07,830

It would have been--

383

00:21:07,830 --> 00:21:11,670

you can identify the month because it was just a month

384

00:21:11,670 --> 00:21:17,580

or so before the German policy closed and no longer let

385

00:21:17,580 --> 00:21:18,270

Germans flee.

386

00:21:18,270 --> 00:21:22,730

So we managed just to be one of those who at the last minute

387
00:21:22,730 --> 00:21:25,380
was able to still get out.

388
00:21:25,380 --> 00:21:27,705
I can't remember
what exactly month

389
00:21:27,705 --> 00:21:30,240
that German policy changed.

390
00:21:30,240 --> 00:21:33,250

391
00:21:33,250 --> 00:21:39,700
We left with whatever suitcases
we could fill with the things

392
00:21:39,700 --> 00:21:44,080
that we salvaged
either from the stores

393
00:21:44,080 --> 00:21:49,250
or from our own personal
home possessions.

394
00:21:49,250 --> 00:21:51,180
What did you take
as a young boy?

395
00:21:51,180 --> 00:21:53,055
Did you take anything
special that you loved?

396
00:21:53,055 --> 00:21:56,230
Oh, no, I don't remember
taking anything special.

397
00:21:56,230 --> 00:21:59,600
Books or-- books or toys
or things like that.

398
00:21:59,600 --> 00:22:05,050
No, I couldn't-- I can't
remember any of that.

399
00:22:05,050 --> 00:22:08,200
It was a hasty departure.

400
00:22:08,200 --> 00:22:16,240
And I have only a
vague recollection how

401
00:22:16,240 --> 00:22:19,930
we got actually to the port.

402
00:22:19,930 --> 00:22:22,960
But I do have a recollection
of being at the dock

403
00:22:22,960 --> 00:22:26,240
and looking at the ship,
which was called the Ulm.

404
00:22:26,240 --> 00:22:29,016
It's still in the
registry of ships.

405
00:22:29,016 --> 00:22:34,240
U-L-M. And it looked
very large to me.

406
00:22:34,240 --> 00:22:39,760
But in retrospect, it was
a rather small 12,000-ton

407
00:22:39,760 --> 00:22:40,390
freighter.

408
00:22:40,390 --> 00:22:42,940
Uh-huh, uh-huh.

409
00:22:42,940 --> 00:22:46,060

And did your
extended family come

410
00:22:46,060 --> 00:22:47,500
with you, your grandmother?

411
00:22:47,500 --> 00:22:49,150
No, no one came.

412
00:22:49,150 --> 00:22:50,080
It was just the four--

413
00:22:50,080 --> 00:22:54,940
And there was concern about
what would happen to the others.

414
00:22:54,940 --> 00:22:56,275
We talked about that.

415
00:22:56,275 --> 00:22:58,860

416
00:22:58,860 --> 00:23:02,410
And there was the notion
that somehow, if we got out,

417
00:23:02,410 --> 00:23:04,840
we might be able to
help the others get out.

418
00:23:04,840 --> 00:23:07,350
I see.

419
00:23:07,350 --> 00:23:09,160
Well, at that time,
of course, there

420
00:23:09,160 --> 00:23:11,660
was still the possibility
of getting out.

421
00:23:11,660 --> 00:23:16,360

But a month or two later, there was no longer that possibility.

422
00:23:16,360 --> 00:23:18,480
Right, right.

423
00:23:18,480 --> 00:23:22,060
So now you get on this ship.

424
00:23:22,060 --> 00:23:22,690
Yes.

425
00:23:22,690 --> 00:23:23,860
And where did--

426
00:23:23,860 --> 00:23:28,790
Well, the ship was headed into the Caribbean.

427
00:23:28,790 --> 00:23:33,470
And it was what's called a banana boat.

428
00:23:33,470 --> 00:23:37,060
It ideally went into the Caribbean

429
00:23:37,060 --> 00:23:43,660
and I think in the tropical areas of Central America,

430
00:23:43,660 --> 00:23:46,615
picked up bananas.

431
00:23:46,615 --> 00:23:53,320
And it had racks in the hold for holding bananas.

432
00:23:53,320 --> 00:23:58,050
And we lived in the hold of that vessel.

433

00:23:58,050 --> 00:23:58,730
Mm.

434
00:23:58,730 --> 00:24:00,150
Mm-hmm.

435
00:24:00,150 --> 00:24:01,540
Well, I say lived.

436
00:24:01,540 --> 00:24:04,180
Lived isn't the right word.

437
00:24:04,180 --> 00:24:06,802
We--

438
00:24:06,802 --> 00:24:08,080
Existed.

439
00:24:08,080 --> 00:24:10,460
Existed in the hold
of that vessel.

440
00:24:10,460 --> 00:24:10,960
Yeah.

441
00:24:10,960 --> 00:24:14,230
How long was the voyage?

442
00:24:14,230 --> 00:24:19,870
I can't again recall the exact,
but it was a longer period.

443
00:24:19,870 --> 00:24:21,562
That's all-- we were underway--

444
00:24:21,562 --> 00:24:22,270
Was there other--

445
00:24:22,270 --> 00:24:24,250
--I would think at least--

446

00:24:24,250 --> 00:24:28,100
no, there were-- to the
best of my knowledge,

447

00:24:28,100 --> 00:24:32,890
there were no others other than
the people who manned the ship.

448

00:24:32,890 --> 00:24:35,140
So there were no other refugees.

449

00:24:35,140 --> 00:24:37,930
To the best of my
knowledge, there were none.

450

00:24:37,930 --> 00:24:40,870
Did you ever find out
later how your father got

451

00:24:40,870 --> 00:24:43,060
these arrangements later on?

452

00:24:43,060 --> 00:24:43,960
No, no.

453

00:24:43,960 --> 00:24:46,450
My father died in 1949.

454

00:24:46,450 --> 00:24:48,250
Oh, oh, OK.

455

00:24:48,250 --> 00:24:54,850
And for a variety of
reasons, some of these things

456

00:24:54,850 --> 00:24:57,670
were never revealed exactly.

457

00:24:57,670 --> 00:25:00,010
Yeah, yeah.

458

00:25:00,010 --> 00:25:02,000

Yeah, yeah.

459
00:25:02,000 --> 00:25:03,880
OK, so now you're--

460
00:25:03,880 --> 00:25:07,595
can we just back up a little
bit before you left Germany?

461
00:25:07,595 --> 00:25:09,220
When you left the
first school, did you

462
00:25:09,220 --> 00:25:11,380
go to a second school or not?

463
00:25:11,380 --> 00:25:13,570
Yes, I went to a
second building.

464
00:25:13,570 --> 00:25:16,070
I don't know if it
was a school or not.

465
00:25:16,070 --> 00:25:18,910
And there, there was
a Hebrew teacher.

466
00:25:18,910 --> 00:25:20,707
So it was just for
the Jewish students.

467
00:25:20,707 --> 00:25:21,540
It was just Jewish--

468
00:25:21,540 --> 00:25:22,890
Just for Jewish students.

469
00:25:22,890 --> 00:25:27,130
And there was a Hebrew teacher.

470
00:25:27,130 --> 00:25:30,850

At the first school,
I would not have

471
00:25:30,850 --> 00:25:35,170
known what religious
denomination the teacher was.

472
00:25:35,170 --> 00:25:35,980
Uh-huh, uh-huh.

473
00:25:35,980 --> 00:25:37,327
OK.

474
00:25:37,327 --> 00:25:38,410
All right, let's get back.

475
00:25:38,410 --> 00:25:39,580
So you're on the boat.

476
00:25:39,580 --> 00:25:41,990
And did you get enough
food on the boat?

477
00:25:41,990 --> 00:25:42,490
Do you know?

478
00:25:42,490 --> 00:25:43,390
Do you remember?

479
00:25:43,390 --> 00:25:46,330
Well, I can't remember either.

480
00:25:46,330 --> 00:25:49,820
And I don't know how the
arrangements were made.

481
00:25:49,820 --> 00:25:58,280
But for my brother
and I, as I recall,

482
00:25:58,280 --> 00:26:01,030
it was an exciting period.

483
00:26:01,030 --> 00:26:06,840
We spent a lot of time on
deck watching the ship.

484
00:26:06,840 --> 00:26:09,505
My mother was very
seasick most of the time,

485
00:26:09,505 --> 00:26:12,490
and she spent most of
the time in the hold.

486
00:26:12,490 --> 00:26:16,550

487
00:26:16,550 --> 00:26:18,550
Was she the only woman on board?

488
00:26:18,550 --> 00:26:21,880
I can't tell you that,
but I would say so.

489
00:26:21,880 --> 00:26:26,540
I can't remember seeing among
the crew a woman, and so--

490
00:26:26,540 --> 00:26:27,040
Uh-huh.

491
00:26:27,040 --> 00:26:28,790
OK.

492
00:26:28,790 --> 00:26:36,370
But the-- all right.

493
00:26:36,370 --> 00:26:37,570
OK, so now the--

494
00:26:37,570 --> 00:26:38,260
and you dock.

495

00:26:38,260 --> 00:26:39,925

Where do you dock?

496

00:26:39,925 --> 00:26:42,220

We docked in--

497

00:26:42,220 --> 00:26:46,060

I believe it's in

Balboa, Panama is

498

00:26:46,060 --> 00:26:48,810

where we finally left the ship.

499

00:26:48,810 --> 00:26:49,983

OK.

500

00:26:49,983 --> 00:26:50,770

OK.

501

00:26:50,770 --> 00:26:53,446

And?

502

00:26:53,446 --> 00:26:55,810

And we--

503

00:26:55,810 --> 00:26:58,780

Did anybody meet

you at the pier?

504

00:26:58,780 --> 00:27:05,920

No, no one that I recall

met us at the pier.

505

00:27:05,920 --> 00:27:10,510

And I don't know how we

proceeded inland either any

506

00:27:10,510 --> 00:27:11,530

longer.

507

00:27:11,530 --> 00:27:14,530

But I do recall
that eventually, we

508
00:27:14,530 --> 00:27:20,830
were able to find inland
a place where we stayed,

509
00:27:20,830 --> 00:27:24,130
which is a very large room.

510
00:27:24,130 --> 00:27:26,740
And we lived in one room.

511
00:27:26,740 --> 00:27:31,870
There was a toilet outside.

512
00:27:31,870 --> 00:27:37,180
And we lived, slept,
and did whatever

513
00:27:37,180 --> 00:27:42,070
else we had to do in a
large room, which was part--

514
00:27:42,070 --> 00:27:47,440
which was the lower part of
a house, a private house.

515
00:27:47,440 --> 00:27:49,060
Oh, oh, OK.

516
00:27:49,060 --> 00:27:51,590
So there was a family
living in the private--

517
00:27:51,590 --> 00:27:54,610
Yes, there was some
family living there.

518
00:27:54,610 --> 00:27:58,120
And somehow-- I
don't know, again,

519

00:27:58,120 --> 00:28:00,890
exactly how that came to be.

520

00:28:00,890 --> 00:28:06,820
But my father was able to
get temporary employment

521

00:28:06,820 --> 00:28:13,690
in what was called
the Canal Zone, which

522

00:28:13,690 --> 00:28:15,610
is the area in which--

523

00:28:15,610 --> 00:28:17,950
controlled by the Americans.

524

00:28:17,950 --> 00:28:24,700
And I'm not sure exactly
what he did for the Americans

525

00:28:24,700 --> 00:28:26,560
in the Canal Zone.

526

00:28:26,560 --> 00:28:28,780
So he didn't open up a
store or anything like that?

527

00:28:28,780 --> 00:28:29,770
No, no, no.

528

00:28:29,770 --> 00:28:30,535
He was employed.

529

00:28:30,535 --> 00:28:34,240

530

00:28:34,240 --> 00:28:38,140
And we learned a
little bit of money.

531

00:28:38,140 --> 00:28:43,630
And the people that we
lived with were nice to us

532
00:28:43,630 --> 00:28:47,020
and helped us out.

533
00:28:47,020 --> 00:28:48,910
And for a period--

534
00:28:48,910 --> 00:28:50,800
Were there any other
Jewish refugees

535
00:28:50,800 --> 00:28:52,870
nearby that you knew of?

536
00:28:52,870 --> 00:28:53,875
Not that I recall.

537
00:28:53,875 --> 00:28:54,750
Not that you knew of.

538
00:28:54,750 --> 00:28:56,980
Not that I recall.

539
00:28:56,980 --> 00:29:03,550
And we did, at least I did,
for a brief period of time

540
00:29:03,550 --> 00:29:08,590
attend a school in
Panama, which was

541
00:29:08,590 --> 00:29:16,150
a Panamanian school, meaning
it was for local people.

542
00:29:16,150 --> 00:29:19,876
And it was a Catholic school.

543
00:29:19,876 --> 00:29:21,355

It was kind of--

544
00:29:21,355 --> 00:29:26,370
now that I have vivid
memories of because as a Jew,

545
00:29:26,370 --> 00:29:31,160
I was in a school where we
went through all the rituals

546
00:29:31,160 --> 00:29:35,660
that the Catholics go
through, including--

547
00:29:35,660 --> 00:29:36,160
OK.

548
00:29:36,160 --> 00:29:41,120
So that was a--

549
00:29:41,120 --> 00:29:43,900
what is it-- a
memorable experience.

550
00:29:43,900 --> 00:29:45,020
Mm-hmm.

551
00:29:45,020 --> 00:29:46,930
What were the other
children like to you?

552
00:29:46,930 --> 00:29:48,680
Were they accepting?

553
00:29:48,680 --> 00:29:52,120
Were you able to communicate?

554
00:29:52,120 --> 00:29:54,100
Yes.

555
00:29:54,100 --> 00:29:57,430
They, of course, were--

556
00:29:57,430 --> 00:30:01,570
as I recall, we looked kind
of odd because the clothing

557
00:30:01,570 --> 00:30:04,480
that we brought with
us is not the clothing

558
00:30:04,480 --> 00:30:08,140
that Panamanian
young children wear.

559
00:30:08,140 --> 00:30:12,085
So I went to school
wearing knickers, probably

560
00:30:12,085 --> 00:30:15,370
the period when young
boys still wore knickers,

561
00:30:15,370 --> 00:30:20,840
and nobody in Panama was
going to school wore knickers.

562
00:30:20,840 --> 00:30:24,740
So it was in that sense--

563
00:30:24,740 --> 00:30:27,760
And how could you communicate
to the other children?

564
00:30:27,760 --> 00:30:32,590
Well, that was difficult
also, except all I can say

565
00:30:32,590 --> 00:30:35,950
is by the time we left Panama--

566
00:30:35,950 --> 00:30:38,500
[COUGHS] pardon me--

567

00:30:38,500 --> 00:30:42,010
about a year or so later,
I could speak the language

568
00:30:42,010 --> 00:30:42,700
quite well.

569
00:30:42,700 --> 00:30:43,450
Really?

570
00:30:43,450 --> 00:30:44,440
Good for you.

571
00:30:44,440 --> 00:30:45,950
Good for you.

572
00:30:45,950 --> 00:30:46,780
Yeah.

573
00:30:46,780 --> 00:30:53,390
So what else did you do besides
go to school during that time?

574
00:30:53,390 --> 00:30:58,130
We lived-- most of the
life in Panama at this time

575
00:30:58,130 --> 00:31:00,070
was out of doors.

576
00:31:00,070 --> 00:31:03,130
So I remember most
of my activities

577
00:31:03,130 --> 00:31:10,150
took place not in the house
or in the room but outdoors.

578
00:31:10,150 --> 00:31:12,670
Some of the memorable
things that happened

579

00:31:12,670 --> 00:31:18,820
was Panama was subject to
terrible rainstorms, what

580
00:31:18,820 --> 00:31:24,640
we would call squalls or so,
which flooded the streets

581
00:31:24,640 --> 00:31:29,275
and flooded the streets,
meaning water up to your knees.

582
00:31:29,275 --> 00:31:33,720

583
00:31:33,720 --> 00:31:37,080
And of course, the water had
to go somewhere and often it

584
00:31:37,080 --> 00:31:42,420
would seep, not seep but
flow, right into the room

585
00:31:42,420 --> 00:31:45,870
where we were living
because it was, as I said,

586
00:31:45,870 --> 00:31:48,632
the ground floor.

587
00:31:48,632 --> 00:31:53,490
So I remember bailing and
cleaning out and trying--

588
00:31:53,490 --> 00:31:59,430
so other things--

589
00:31:59,430 --> 00:32:02,070
Did your parents
pick up the language?

590
00:32:02,070 --> 00:32:05,080
No, and there was

always a difficulty.

591

00:32:05,080 --> 00:32:10,530

I don't know how my father
communicated in the Canal Zone.

592

00:32:10,530 --> 00:32:13,110

To the best of my knowledge,
he spoke no English.

593

00:32:13,110 --> 00:32:14,760

That would have been
the language they

594

00:32:14,760 --> 00:32:16,290

would have used on the Zone.

595

00:32:16,290 --> 00:32:23,730

596

00:32:23,730 --> 00:32:25,980

Almost all of the--

597

00:32:25,980 --> 00:32:30,360

when we needed things, I
had learned the language

598

00:32:30,360 --> 00:32:32,910

rather quickly, and
so I served often

599

00:32:32,910 --> 00:32:34,960

as the person who
communicated for them--

600

00:32:34,960 --> 00:32:36,750

So you were the
interpreter, yeah.

601

00:32:36,750 --> 00:32:37,950

Yeah.

602

00:32:37,950 --> 00:32:39,570
--in Spanish.

603
00:32:39,570 --> 00:32:42,290
Did you say you knew what the
name of the village or town you

604
00:32:42,290 --> 00:32:42,790
were in?

605
00:32:42,790 --> 00:32:46,170

606
00:32:46,170 --> 00:32:46,980
Did you know--

607
00:32:46,980 --> 00:32:48,780
No, I can't remember that.

608
00:32:48,780 --> 00:32:50,040
I can't remember that.

609
00:32:50,040 --> 00:32:53,040
It wasn't far from the
Canal Zone because my father

610
00:32:53,040 --> 00:32:53,990
commuted.

611
00:32:53,990 --> 00:32:56,190
Right, right.

612
00:32:56,190 --> 00:32:58,590
And you played with
the other kids.

613
00:32:58,590 --> 00:33:02,460
And were your parents
able to get news of what

614
00:33:02,460 --> 00:33:03,720
was happening in Europe?

615
00:33:03,720 --> 00:33:04,650
Yes, yes.

616
00:33:04,650 --> 00:33:08,940
We did get-- and
there is in my--

617
00:33:08,940 --> 00:33:11,370
I put together some archives.

618
00:33:11,370 --> 00:33:15,240
And there is-- yes, we
have a rather extensive set

619
00:33:15,240 --> 00:33:20,190
of archives, two very
large books which

620
00:33:20,190 --> 00:33:24,220
are pictures of passports and
all the kind of documentation.

621
00:33:24,220 --> 00:33:24,900
Wonderful.

622
00:33:24,900 --> 00:33:27,880
And I put those together.

623
00:33:27,880 --> 00:33:31,730
My brother has them.

624
00:33:31,730 --> 00:33:35,805
I hope that he would
turn them over.

625
00:33:35,805 --> 00:33:38,340

626
00:33:38,340 --> 00:33:42,060
I was somewhat associated with
the American Jewish archives

627
00:33:42,060 --> 00:33:45,990
in Cincinnati, and so I
thought they might go there.

628
00:33:45,990 --> 00:33:52,710
But my brother, I believe that
he wanted to hold on to them.

629
00:33:52,710 --> 00:33:54,700
So I turned them over to him.

630
00:33:54,700 --> 00:33:58,980
I don't know what he
intends to do with these.

631
00:33:58,980 --> 00:34:03,180
I think he believes they
are family memorabilia,

632
00:34:03,180 --> 00:34:05,160
and he would like to hold them.

633
00:34:05,160 --> 00:34:13,100
But in any event, there
is a lot of documentation

634
00:34:13,100 --> 00:34:15,440
that goes with everything
that I'm telling you.

635
00:34:15,440 --> 00:34:16,820
Wonderful, wonderful.

636
00:34:16,820 --> 00:34:18,120
OK, so you're there.

637
00:34:18,120 --> 00:34:21,420
You're in Panama for a
year I think you said?

638
00:34:21,420 --> 00:34:22,880

A year, a year and a half.

639

00:34:22,880 --> 00:34:25,790

A year and a half.

640

00:34:25,790 --> 00:34:31,100

I think we arrived in
the US within a few weeks

641

00:34:31,100 --> 00:34:33,429

of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

642

00:34:33,429 --> 00:34:34,310

Oh my god.

643

00:34:34,310 --> 00:34:35,110

Oh my god.

644

00:34:35,110 --> 00:34:36,750

Oh my god.

645

00:34:36,750 --> 00:34:44,270

And that was possible partly
because my father's brother,

646

00:34:44,270 --> 00:34:48,440

Willie, to some extent, was
helpful, not nearly as helpful

647

00:34:48,440 --> 00:34:52,280

as my father anticipated,
and an organization

648

00:34:52,280 --> 00:34:56,909

called HIAS, which helped.

649

00:34:56,909 --> 00:35:02,660

And so through HIAS plus
some cooperation, assistance

650

00:35:02,660 --> 00:35:05,420

from Willie, we were able.

651
00:35:05,420 --> 00:35:06,920
On the note that
you gave me, you

652
00:35:06,920 --> 00:35:10,760
said you stayed in
Panama till 1940

653
00:35:10,760 --> 00:35:13,180
and then came the
United States in 1940.

654
00:35:13,180 --> 00:35:15,248
No, it's closer to '41.

655
00:35:15,248 --> 00:35:16,040
I was going to say.

656
00:35:16,040 --> 00:35:18,800
But Pearl Harbor
was December '41.

657
00:35:18,800 --> 00:35:20,600
Yes, it's closer to '41.

658
00:35:20,600 --> 00:35:23,910
So it's '41 you're
talking about.

659
00:35:23,910 --> 00:35:24,950
I think it's--

660
00:35:24,950 --> 00:35:30,860
I remember receiving
the news of Pearl Harbor

661
00:35:30,860 --> 00:35:32,960
while I was in
the United States.

662
00:35:32,960 --> 00:35:33,620

OK.

663
00:35:33,620 --> 00:35:35,690
OK.

664
00:35:35,690 --> 00:35:39,590
So anything else you want to
tell me about life in Panama?

665
00:35:39,590 --> 00:35:41,960
Did you see any other
Jewish families at all

666
00:35:41,960 --> 00:35:44,900
during that year and a half
or any other Jewish children?

667
00:35:44,900 --> 00:35:46,580
I don't remember.

668
00:35:46,580 --> 00:35:50,760
I don't remember any
aspect of Jewish life.

669
00:35:50,760 --> 00:35:55,700
I don't even remember that
we were at that period

670
00:35:55,700 --> 00:35:57,380
celebrating the Shabbat.

671
00:35:57,380 --> 00:35:58,350
Right, right.

672
00:35:58,350 --> 00:36:01,530

673
00:36:01,530 --> 00:36:04,220
What was your mother's
state of mind?

674
00:36:04,220 --> 00:36:06,770

Emotionally, was she strong?

675

00:36:06,770 --> 00:36:07,970

Yes, yes.

676

00:36:07,970 --> 00:36:09,650

Mm-hmm.

677

00:36:09,650 --> 00:36:13,490

My mother was-- yes.

678

00:36:13,490 --> 00:36:17,570

679

00:36:17,570 --> 00:36:24,440

Yes, I would say she
actively participated

680

00:36:24,440 --> 00:36:27,320

in the business
affairs of my father

681

00:36:27,320 --> 00:36:32,510

even when we were in Germany.

682

00:36:32,510 --> 00:36:42,020

That is, in Kristallnacht, she
was there along with my father

683

00:36:42,020 --> 00:36:43,180

sorting things out.

684

00:36:43,180 --> 00:36:45,950

It was not an easy thing to do.

685

00:36:45,950 --> 00:36:50,060

I'm not talking
emotionally easy.

686

00:36:50,060 --> 00:36:53,800

The store was totally destroyed,
and it was shattered glass.

687
00:36:53,800 --> 00:36:57,200

688
00:36:57,200 --> 00:36:58,820
And I think--

689
00:36:58,820 --> 00:37:02,000
Was your synagogue destroyed,
the synagogue you had gone to?

690
00:37:02,000 --> 00:37:03,530
Was that destroyed?

691
00:37:03,530 --> 00:37:05,330
I could not answer that.

692
00:37:05,330 --> 00:37:06,640
I cannot answer that.

693
00:37:06,640 --> 00:37:09,230

694
00:37:09,230 --> 00:37:13,430
But the point is, yes,
I think my mother was--

695
00:37:13,430 --> 00:37:17,240
even after my father
died, she somehow

696
00:37:17,240 --> 00:37:24,410
had the moxie to learn
how to become a--

697
00:37:24,410 --> 00:37:27,080
I forgot what you call it.

698
00:37:27,080 --> 00:37:30,720
She went to some trade
school in New York

699

00:37:30,720 --> 00:37:33,920

and learned to
operate a machine--

700

00:37:33,920 --> 00:37:36,020

I forgot what they
call the machine--

701

00:37:36,020 --> 00:37:42,290

and was able to get a job to
help with the family expenses.

702

00:37:42,290 --> 00:37:45,470

My father had died, and
I was in the Korean War,

703

00:37:45,470 --> 00:37:48,680

and she had to make her own way.

704

00:37:48,680 --> 00:37:51,680

So she was quite resourceful.

705

00:37:51,680 --> 00:37:56,390

So now, as I said,
you're in Panama,

706

00:37:56,390 --> 00:37:58,340

and you're going to school.

707

00:37:58,340 --> 00:38:00,890

And the other children
have accepted you,

708

00:38:00,890 --> 00:38:02,930

and so life goes on.

709

00:38:02,930 --> 00:38:08,350

And then how did you get
to do the next journey to--

710

00:38:08,350 --> 00:38:15,320

Well, again, HIAS arranged

for our departure.

711
00:38:15,320 --> 00:38:21,440
So I don't know what
arrangements my father

712
00:38:21,440 --> 00:38:25,550
was involved in, probably filing
papers and things of that sort.

713
00:38:25,550 --> 00:38:27,290
Right, right.

714
00:38:27,290 --> 00:38:35,480
But I would say on the
whole, the period in Panama

715
00:38:35,480 --> 00:38:39,500
for me was--

716
00:38:39,500 --> 00:38:43,020
while it was
somewhat Spartan, it

717
00:38:43,020 --> 00:38:45,270
was interesting as a young boy.

718
00:38:45,270 --> 00:38:48,350
I was now 11.

719
00:38:48,350 --> 00:38:55,640
I found-- the different
culture and the different foods

720
00:38:55,640 --> 00:39:02,355
I was eating and the
foods I found interesting,

721
00:39:02,355 --> 00:39:08,000
rafting in the city streets.

722
00:39:08,000 --> 00:39:13,730

And so the Panamanian
way of life

723
00:39:13,730 --> 00:39:19,430
was so different that I
must say that my impressions

724
00:39:19,430 --> 00:39:23,900
of those days in Panama was that
it was an interesting period--

725
00:39:23,900 --> 00:39:27,875
going to school with Catholics,
having nuns as instructed.

726
00:39:27,875 --> 00:39:29,670
I had never seen a nun.

727
00:39:29,670 --> 00:39:33,210

728
00:39:33,210 --> 00:39:36,740
And so all of it was simply--

729
00:39:36,740 --> 00:39:39,080
Did they try to convert you?

730
00:39:39,080 --> 00:39:41,990
I can't remember
whether they tried,

731
00:39:41,990 --> 00:39:44,895
but I certainly learned to
participate in their prayers,

732
00:39:44,895 --> 00:39:48,740
and I can still to
this day recall those.

733
00:39:48,740 --> 00:39:50,810
OK.

734

00:39:50,810 --> 00:39:53,180
So now you're getting
ready to leave.

735
00:39:53,180 --> 00:39:57,950
And was that exciting to a
young boy to think you would--

736
00:39:57,950 --> 00:39:59,060
Well, it was.

737
00:39:59,060 --> 00:40:00,350
We were on the ship again.

738
00:40:00,350 --> 00:40:02,940

739
00:40:02,940 --> 00:40:04,290
And we had no--

740
00:40:04,290 --> 00:40:08,240
I mean, I had no idea the
first time where we were going.

741
00:40:08,240 --> 00:40:11,270
The second time we were told
we were going to America.

742
00:40:11,270 --> 00:40:13,100
But I had no idea
what that meant.

743
00:40:13,100 --> 00:40:14,080
Oh, OK.

744
00:40:14,080 --> 00:40:16,340
Mm-hmm.

745
00:40:16,340 --> 00:40:23,180
Except that I did know that
Willie and Herbert were now

746

00:40:23,180 --> 00:40:24,090
in America.

747
00:40:24,090 --> 00:40:28,250

748
00:40:28,250 --> 00:40:31,620
So I can't tell
you much about it.

749
00:40:31,620 --> 00:40:35,480
It was not as long a
journey as it had been

750
00:40:35,480 --> 00:40:37,970
to cross the ocean to Panama.

751
00:40:37,970 --> 00:40:45,320
And I can say that I remember
as a young boy seeing

752
00:40:45,320 --> 00:40:51,110
the Statue of Liberty
as we entered into the--

753
00:40:51,110 --> 00:40:53,610
What did that mean to you?

754
00:40:53,610 --> 00:40:56,235
Well, it didn't mean
anything except a big statue.

755
00:40:56,235 --> 00:40:57,042
Oh, OK.

756
00:40:57,042 --> 00:40:58,970
[LAUGHS]

757
00:40:58,970 --> 00:41:05,090
In fact, America didn't
mean anything to me as such.

758

00:41:05,090 --> 00:41:07,700

759

00:41:07,700 --> 00:41:10,340

If we would have said
we're going to Africa,

760

00:41:10,340 --> 00:41:14,980

it probably wouldn't
have made any different.

761

00:41:14,980 --> 00:41:17,030

Do you remember if your
parents were emotional

762

00:41:17,030 --> 00:41:20,780

when they docked in New York?

763

00:41:20,780 --> 00:41:21,590

Well, they docked--

764

00:41:21,590 --> 00:41:26,100

765

00:41:26,100 --> 00:41:31,830

I can't recall the
exact docking location.

766

00:41:31,830 --> 00:41:36,450

But it was under the control
of the immigration service.

767

00:41:36,450 --> 00:41:41,190

And we stayed at the
dock only temporarily

768

00:41:41,190 --> 00:41:44,970

and then were removed
by some sort--

769

00:41:44,970 --> 00:41:48,850

I don't know whether you call it
a ferry or something-- to Ellis

770
00:41:48,850 --> 00:41:49,350
Island.

771
00:41:49,350 --> 00:41:50,322
Mm-hmm.

772
00:41:50,322 --> 00:41:53,160
Mm-hmm Mm-hmm.

773
00:41:53,160 --> 00:41:53,820
And as I said--

774
00:41:53,820 --> 00:41:55,770
So--

775
00:41:55,770 --> 00:41:58,320
Do you remember your parents
being emotional at that time?

776
00:41:58,320 --> 00:42:00,282
Because they knew what was--

777
00:42:00,282 --> 00:42:03,240
they really knew
what this meant.

778
00:42:03,240 --> 00:42:14,700
Well, I think-- at
least at the beginning,

779
00:42:14,700 --> 00:42:22,680
I think we were all more
uncertain than rejoiceful.

780
00:42:22,680 --> 00:42:25,800

781
00:42:25,800 --> 00:42:30,660
Because when we got
to Ellis Island,

782

00:42:30,660 --> 00:42:35,550

we realized we may be
in the United States,

783

00:42:35,550 --> 00:42:38,110

but we were not in
the United States.

784

00:42:38,110 --> 00:42:41,490

There were thousands of
people in Ellis Island,

785

00:42:41,490 --> 00:42:43,350

and they were all--

786

00:42:43,350 --> 00:42:50,130

they were all milling
and all hopeful

787

00:42:50,130 --> 00:42:51,990

that they could
leave the island.

788

00:42:51,990 --> 00:42:52,530

Yes.

789

00:42:52,530 --> 00:42:56,520

And we had no idea whether
we would leave the island

790

00:42:56,520 --> 00:43:00,210

or under what circumstances
we would leave the island.

791

00:43:00,210 --> 00:43:02,640

So there was a lot
of speculative talk

792

00:43:02,640 --> 00:43:05,225

about what would happen to us.

793

00:43:05,225 --> 00:43:12,790

And so it wasn't that we
felt like everything is rosy.

794
00:43:12,790 --> 00:43:18,050
I'm concerned about--
and I can't recall,

795
00:43:18,050 --> 00:43:20,600
but we were on the island
for quite some period.

796
00:43:20,600 --> 00:43:22,380
Oh, really?

797
00:43:22,380 --> 00:43:26,420
This was not an overnight stay.

798
00:43:26,420 --> 00:43:29,060
It was several weeks.

799
00:43:29,060 --> 00:43:34,502
And throughout,
there was concern

800
00:43:34,502 --> 00:43:40,310
about how secure we were
and how sure it was that we

801
00:43:40,310 --> 00:43:42,740
would get to the mainland.

802
00:43:42,740 --> 00:43:43,860
Can we back up again?

803
00:43:43,860 --> 00:43:48,890
I meant to ask you if
you have any recollection

804
00:43:48,890 --> 00:43:53,270
of your parents' response
when Germany invaded Poland

805

00:43:53,270 --> 00:43:54,740
in September '39.

806
00:43:54,740 --> 00:43:57,200
I'm sorry to go back in time.

807
00:43:57,200 --> 00:44:01,580
But does that have any--

808
00:44:01,580 --> 00:44:03,310
No.

809
00:44:03,310 --> 00:44:07,040
No, I can't remember.

810
00:44:07,040 --> 00:44:10,790
Again, in '39, I would
have been nine years old.

811
00:44:10,790 --> 00:44:11,582
You were only nine.

812
00:44:11,582 --> 00:44:12,100
Yeah, OK.

813
00:44:12,100 --> 00:44:15,170
So there's no special
memories you have.

814
00:44:15,170 --> 00:44:16,970
There is no special--

815
00:44:16,970 --> 00:44:23,390
I think the concern
in Panama was,

816
00:44:23,390 --> 00:44:28,070
what is happening to the
others who did not leave?

817
00:44:28,070 --> 00:44:29,870
We knew that-- we knew--

818
00:44:29,870 --> 00:44:33,290

819
00:44:33,290 --> 00:44:38,810
I have about a
dozen letters that

820
00:44:38,810 --> 00:44:46,160
did go between us
in Panama and Adolf,

821
00:44:46,160 --> 00:44:51,440
the brother of my brother
who could still write,

822
00:44:51,440 --> 00:44:55,520
although the letters show on the
back that they were censored.

823
00:44:55,520 --> 00:44:58,350
And I still have those letters.

824
00:44:58,350 --> 00:45:03,440
So for a period
into '39 and '40,

825
00:45:03,440 --> 00:45:06,080
there was some
correspondence still possible

826
00:45:06,080 --> 00:45:09,350
between relatives.

827
00:45:09,350 --> 00:45:18,680
After '40, '41, I
think there was already

828
00:45:18,680 --> 00:45:22,115
talk about concentration camps.

829
00:45:22,115 --> 00:45:27,300

830
00:45:27,300 --> 00:45:31,400
And then the letters
eventually ceased,

831
00:45:31,400 --> 00:45:33,125
and there was no
further contact.

832
00:45:33,125 --> 00:45:35,265
Yeah, yeah.

833
00:45:35,265 --> 00:45:36,890
All right, to get
back to Ellis Island.

834
00:45:36,890 --> 00:45:39,620
So you're there
for a bit of time.

835
00:45:39,620 --> 00:45:41,960
And then where did you go?

836
00:45:41,960 --> 00:45:47,510
Well, we went to
Manhattan where we

837
00:45:47,510 --> 00:45:54,050
were greeted by Uncle
Willie and his wife Ruth,

838
00:45:54,050 --> 00:45:57,200
my father's brother
and his wife.

839
00:45:57,200 --> 00:46:04,700
They had already established
themselves and were

840
00:46:04,700 --> 00:46:07,490
in fact doing quite well.

841

00:46:07,490 --> 00:46:13,700

They were living in upper
Manhattan on the west side.

842

00:46:13,700 --> 00:46:19,580

Ruth was a very talented
woman, and she was an artist.

843

00:46:19,580 --> 00:46:30,150

And she somehow managed
to open a business,

844

00:46:30,150 --> 00:46:37,760

creating papier-mache
kinds of figures

845

00:46:37,760 --> 00:46:45,890

and very interesting kinds of
things that were eventually

846

00:46:45,890 --> 00:46:49,640

bought by stores like
Macy's, Gimbel's, and others

847

00:46:49,640 --> 00:46:52,020

to put into their show windows.

848

00:46:52,020 --> 00:46:56,060

So when you had
Easter time, there

849

00:46:56,060 --> 00:47:00,710

were all kinds of Easter figures
that used to be fashioned.

850

00:47:00,710 --> 00:47:03,350

It's no longer fashionable
to do those things.

851

00:47:03,350 --> 00:47:04,950

Maybe it is still in New York.

852

00:47:04,950 --> 00:47:07,920

But you don't see
that much any longer.

853

00:47:07,920 --> 00:47:12,170

But in those years, store
windows were highly decorated.

854

00:47:12,170 --> 00:47:19,460

And she had the knack of using
chicken wire and old newspapers

855

00:47:19,460 --> 00:47:22,220

and painting the things.

856

00:47:22,220 --> 00:47:29,870

And when we moved
in with Willie,

857

00:47:29,870 --> 00:47:32,250

we lived with them
for about five weeks,

858

00:47:32,250 --> 00:47:34,970

six weeks in a room.

859

00:47:34,970 --> 00:47:38,930

They were already in business.

860

00:47:38,930 --> 00:47:41,630

I don't know how many
employees they had.

861

00:47:41,630 --> 00:47:44,300

And this business was under way.

862

00:47:44,300 --> 00:47:48,390

Later on, of course, it
became extremely successful.

863

00:47:48,390 --> 00:47:53,480

And in the '60s, by
the '60s, he was well

864
00:47:53,480 --> 00:47:55,710
into being a millionaire.

865
00:47:55,710 --> 00:47:57,800
What field-- what
area was he in?

866
00:47:57,800 --> 00:47:59,240
What kind of
business did he had?

867
00:47:59,240 --> 00:48:00,860
Well, that was his business.

868
00:48:00,860 --> 00:48:01,985
Oh, that was this business.

869
00:48:01,985 --> 00:48:05,380
They're making
these papier-mache.

870
00:48:05,380 --> 00:48:07,540
They were being made.

871
00:48:07,540 --> 00:48:10,280
He had about 30, 35 employees.

872
00:48:10,280 --> 00:48:12,305
For a while, I was an employee.

873
00:48:12,305 --> 00:48:14,810

874
00:48:14,810 --> 00:48:20,840
And these things were sold
all over the East Coast.

875
00:48:20,840 --> 00:48:25,040
And so he and Ruth
became quite wealthy.

876
00:48:25,040 --> 00:48:25,935
I see.

877
00:48:25,935 --> 00:48:27,140
So you moved out.

878
00:48:27,140 --> 00:48:29,780
Your family moved out
after five weeks, you said.

879
00:48:29,780 --> 00:48:30,380
Yes.

880
00:48:30,380 --> 00:48:36,020
And eventually, we were able
to find a small apartment

881
00:48:36,020 --> 00:48:41,990
in Queens, Queens,
Jackson Heights

882
00:48:41,990 --> 00:48:47,060
and near Roosevelt Avenue,
which is rather well known

883
00:48:47,060 --> 00:48:50,780
because it's a train stop.

884
00:48:50,780 --> 00:48:52,720
Oh, OK.

885
00:48:52,720 --> 00:48:55,390
And your English was good?

886
00:48:55,390 --> 00:48:57,360
No, my English would
not have been good.

887
00:48:57,360 --> 00:48:58,985
My Spanish was good.

888

00:48:58,985 --> 00:49:02,111
My English was zilch.

889
00:49:02,111 --> 00:49:03,560
I had no English.

890
00:49:03,560 --> 00:49:05,405
And so I had to start again--

891
00:49:05,405 --> 00:49:08,120

892
00:49:08,120 --> 00:49:10,490
I'm going to move from
one room to the other.

893
00:49:10,490 --> 00:49:13,650
I hope-- are you're
still hearing me?

894
00:49:13,650 --> 00:49:15,320
Yes, I can hear you fine.

895
00:49:15,320 --> 00:49:16,070
OK.

896
00:49:16,070 --> 00:49:16,590
Yeah.

897
00:49:16,590 --> 00:49:17,930
All right.

898
00:49:17,930 --> 00:49:19,800
Well, then we can
keep on talking.

899
00:49:19,800 --> 00:49:21,740
Yes.

900
00:49:21,740 --> 00:49:23,330
I'm going into the
necessity room.

901
00:49:23,330 --> 00:49:23,830
OK.

902
00:49:23,830 --> 00:49:25,350
[LAUGHS]

903
00:49:25,350 --> 00:49:26,480
OK.

904
00:49:26,480 --> 00:49:28,970
What else can-- so we stayed.

905
00:49:28,970 --> 00:49:33,260
We went to Jackson, lived in
a small apartment in Jackson

906
00:49:33,260 --> 00:49:34,040
Heights.

907
00:49:34,040 --> 00:49:38,530
And that's the first
time in all of the period

908
00:49:38,530 --> 00:49:41,630
that I remember a
resumption of what

909
00:49:41,630 --> 00:49:43,310
you would call normal living.

910
00:49:43,310 --> 00:49:45,990
I mean, we were
living by ourselves.

911
00:49:45,990 --> 00:49:48,050
We had our own space.

912
00:49:48,050 --> 00:49:53,100
And life began.

913

00:49:53,100 --> 00:49:56,660
And so then you went
obviously to school.

914
00:49:56,660 --> 00:50:00,740
I went PS 69 at
the public school.

915
00:50:00,740 --> 00:50:04,460
It wasn't far from
where the apartment was.

916
00:50:04,460 --> 00:50:07,970
And there was a temple
in Jackson Heights,

917
00:50:07,970 --> 00:50:11,750
Jewish community temple,
a center and temple.

918
00:50:11,750 --> 00:50:17,420
So life began to
be a little bit--

919
00:50:17,420 --> 00:50:19,175
I don't know if
I can say normal.

920
00:50:19,175 --> 00:50:23,820

921
00:50:23,820 --> 00:50:27,110
But at least there were Jewish
activities taking place,

922
00:50:27,110 --> 00:50:28,970
and there were regular
school activities.

923
00:50:28,970 --> 00:50:33,230
Were there other refugee
children besides you both?

924

00:50:33,230 --> 00:50:34,460
In the area?

925
00:50:34,460 --> 00:50:37,070
Yeah, in your school, in the
area, in the neighborhood.

926
00:50:37,070 --> 00:50:39,020
Yes, in the area,
there were some.

927
00:50:39,020 --> 00:50:44,105

928
00:50:44,105 --> 00:50:50,660
As I recall, there were at
least six other German families

929
00:50:50,660 --> 00:50:54,410
from Berlin living in the area.

930
00:50:54,410 --> 00:51:00,650
And my mother and these
other six women became part

931
00:51:00,650 --> 00:51:07,550
of a circle that met each other
regularly and on Sundays would

932
00:51:07,550 --> 00:51:12,620
meet sometimes at a restaurant
called Rumpelmayer's.

933
00:51:12,620 --> 00:51:13,820
Yes, yes.

934
00:51:13,820 --> 00:51:14,690
Mm-hmm.

935
00:51:14,690 --> 00:51:21,380
And on Sundays meet at
Rumpelmayer's and do whatever

936

00:51:21,380 --> 00:51:25,490
elderly ladies talk about, which
is how good their sons are,

937

00:51:25,490 --> 00:51:28,310
how bad their sons
are, what their sons

938

00:51:28,310 --> 00:51:30,200
have achieved or not achieved.

939

00:51:30,200 --> 00:51:32,510
[LAUGHS]

940

00:51:32,510 --> 00:51:36,140

941

00:51:36,140 --> 00:51:37,850
So you went to school.

942

00:51:37,850 --> 00:51:41,450
And tell me about
December 7, 1941

943

00:51:41,450 --> 00:51:44,660
when Pearl Harbor happened.

944

00:51:44,660 --> 00:51:46,190
What are your memories of that?

945

00:51:46,190 --> 00:51:48,230
You were 11 years old.

946

00:51:48,230 --> 00:51:54,140
All I remember that is there
was the newspaper that we used

947

00:51:54,140 --> 00:51:57,320
was called the Daily News.

948

00:51:57,320 --> 00:52:00,990

I don't know if that newspaper
still exists in New York.

949
00:52:00,990 --> 00:52:05,070
And the Daily News, it's
a tabloid type paper.

950
00:52:05,070 --> 00:52:09,520
And I remember
seeing on that paper

951
00:52:09,520 --> 00:52:14,510
the whole front page simply
in bold letters that said war.

952
00:52:14,510 --> 00:52:16,400
Oh, yeah.

953
00:52:16,400 --> 00:52:17,330
Yeah.

954
00:52:17,330 --> 00:52:18,573
Did it frighten you?

955
00:52:18,573 --> 00:52:20,240
Because you had left
to country already.

956
00:52:20,240 --> 00:52:23,120
Well, I don't know what--

957
00:52:23,120 --> 00:52:30,530
again, I might say
I had little idea.

958
00:52:30,530 --> 00:52:32,935
I had never thought
much about Japan.

959
00:52:32,935 --> 00:52:36,170
In fact, I can't
remember my family ever

960
00:52:36,170 --> 00:52:37,730
talking about Japan.

961
00:52:37,730 --> 00:52:40,820
We had no reason in Germany
to talk about Japan.

962
00:52:40,820 --> 00:52:41,320
Right.

963
00:52:41,320 --> 00:52:43,960

964
00:52:43,960 --> 00:52:46,730
And we had really no
reason to know why

965
00:52:46,730 --> 00:52:49,400
the Japanese would attack us.

966
00:52:49,400 --> 00:52:54,860
We had no knowledge of
American geopolitical history.

967
00:52:54,860 --> 00:53:02,430
So we just knew of course what
everybody else knew, that--

968
00:53:02,430 --> 00:53:04,700
Did you encounter
any antisemitism

969
00:53:04,700 --> 00:53:08,980
while you were living in
Queens as a youngster?

970
00:53:08,980 --> 00:53:09,480
No.

971
00:53:09,480 --> 00:53:10,700
No, I don't remember.

972
00:53:10,700 --> 00:53:13,850

973
00:53:13,850 --> 00:53:18,290
And my best friend at
that time was a young man

974
00:53:18,290 --> 00:53:20,510
my age, Bert Brunell.

975
00:53:20,510 --> 00:53:24,920
He was considerably more
orthodox than I was.

976
00:53:24,920 --> 00:53:27,440

977
00:53:27,440 --> 00:53:32,900
And we were very close
friends for many years.

978
00:53:32,900 --> 00:53:34,880
Was he a refugee child?

979
00:53:34,880 --> 00:53:36,320
Yes, also.

980
00:53:36,320 --> 00:53:40,340
So did you talk about that among
yourselves, the young boys,

981
00:53:40,340 --> 00:53:43,638
the young refugee boys,
about life in Berlin

982
00:53:43,638 --> 00:53:45,430
or what had happened
or what was happening?

983
00:53:45,430 --> 00:53:46,820
No, no, I don't think--

984
00:53:46,820 --> 00:53:50,570
I don't think--
I can't remember.

985
00:53:50,570 --> 00:53:52,965
You just talked about
typical boy stuff you mean.

986
00:53:52,965 --> 00:53:53,465
Yeah.

987
00:53:53,465 --> 00:53:56,400

988
00:53:56,400 --> 00:54:00,740
The thing that was most
difficult in the first year

989
00:54:00,740 --> 00:54:02,240
is what you would expect.

990
00:54:02,240 --> 00:54:06,630
It was a matter of getting
used to going to school,

991
00:54:06,630 --> 00:54:07,640
for instance.

992
00:54:07,640 --> 00:54:10,640
Because I did not
know the language,

993
00:54:10,640 --> 00:54:14,110
I could not get into
the corresponding grade

994
00:54:14,110 --> 00:54:16,410
that I should have
been for my age.

995
00:54:16,410 --> 00:54:19,130
By this time, I was 12.

996

00:54:19,130 --> 00:54:22,610

And by 12, I should have
been in the 10th grade.

997

00:54:22,610 --> 00:54:26,090

And because I did not
speak the language,

998

00:54:26,090 --> 00:54:30,350

I was put into
the seventh grade.

999

00:54:30,350 --> 00:54:33,800

I was the biggest child
in the seventh grade.

1000

00:54:33,800 --> 00:54:36,620

And so there was always
this amusing [INAUDIBLE],,

1001

00:54:36,620 --> 00:54:39,620

this tall child
sitting in a grade

1002

00:54:39,620 --> 00:54:42,440

with lots of little
children who are small.

1003

00:54:42,440 --> 00:54:49,250

So those were the things
that were on our mind.

1004

00:54:49,250 --> 00:54:50,630

Can you hold for one minute?

1005

00:54:50,630 --> 00:54:51,170

Sure.

1006

00:54:51,170 --> 00:54:51,770

One minute.

1007

00:54:51,770 --> 00:54:52,270
Sure.

1008
00:54:52,270 --> 00:55:02,860

1009
00:55:02,860 --> 00:55:04,900
All right, I'm back
on the telephone.

1010
00:55:04,900 --> 00:55:06,610
Yeah.

1011
00:55:06,610 --> 00:55:10,960
So you continue to go to school,
and your parents were obviously

1012
00:55:10,960 --> 00:55:12,480
following what was happening.

1013
00:55:12,480 --> 00:55:12,980
No.

1014
00:55:12,980 --> 00:55:21,080
Well, while Willie
was quite well to do,

1015
00:55:21,080 --> 00:55:23,180
he was not quite generous.

1016
00:55:23,180 --> 00:55:25,750
And so there was
soon, very soon,

1017
00:55:25,750 --> 00:55:30,010
the difficulty of
earning a livelihood.

1018
00:55:30,010 --> 00:55:33,080

1019
00:55:33,080 --> 00:55:38,740

We were spared because after
the declaration of war,

1020
00:55:38,740 --> 00:55:41,290
manpower was in short supply.

1021
00:55:41,290 --> 00:55:45,340
And in Long Island City, which
is not far away from Jackson

1022
00:55:45,340 --> 00:55:49,030
Heights, there were some
small manufacturing facilities

1023
00:55:49,030 --> 00:55:58,320
producing parts for, among other
things, tanks and submarines.

1024
00:55:58,320 --> 00:56:01,710
And my father landed
a job in a factory.

1025
00:56:01,710 --> 00:56:04,260
I don't know exactly
what parts he was making

1026
00:56:04,260 --> 00:56:07,160
and why he was
qualified for such work.

1027
00:56:07,160 --> 00:56:11,730
But anyway, he was employed,
and during the war period,

1028
00:56:11,730 --> 00:56:12,645
we had an income.

1029
00:56:12,645 --> 00:56:16,100

1030
00:56:16,100 --> 00:56:22,110
Meanwhile, of course, I
spent the war period getting

1031
00:56:22,110 --> 00:56:25,620
through public school 69.

1032
00:56:25,620 --> 00:56:33,660
And my brother was now
three years behind me.

1033
00:56:33,660 --> 00:56:37,320
And the interests
during this early period

1034
00:56:37,320 --> 00:56:42,780
was learning how to play
baseball, everybody.

1035
00:56:42,780 --> 00:56:53,220
And in my memoirs, I wrote
a little story about that.

1036
00:56:53,220 --> 00:56:56,100
I can't remember in
what year it was.

1037
00:56:56,100 --> 00:57:02,690
I think it was shortly
after my bar mitzvah.

1038
00:57:02,690 --> 00:57:05,750
I had my 14th birthday,
I guess it was.

1039
00:57:05,750 --> 00:57:09,500
That would have been in '44.

1040
00:57:09,500 --> 00:57:13,250
When I still had no--

1041
00:57:13,250 --> 00:57:15,410
I didn't have a baseball mitt.

1042
00:57:15,410 --> 00:57:18,140

1043
00:57:18,140 --> 00:57:20,720
When you play
baseball, you need one.

1044
00:57:20,720 --> 00:57:22,670
And I always had to borrow one.

1045
00:57:22,670 --> 00:57:26,600
And typically, the people
who came up for bat

1046
00:57:26,600 --> 00:57:28,250
didn't need a baseball mitt.

1047
00:57:28,250 --> 00:57:29,730
They left it in the field.

1048
00:57:29,730 --> 00:57:34,320
And so I was able to take
and use somebody else's mitt.

1049
00:57:34,320 --> 00:57:37,990
But for this
particular birthday,

1050
00:57:37,990 --> 00:57:40,730
Willie was willing
to be generous,

1051
00:57:40,730 --> 00:57:46,900
and he offered to buy
me a baseball mitt.

1052
00:57:46,900 --> 00:57:49,580
And so we went to a
place called Davega's.

1053
00:57:49,580 --> 00:57:51,480
I don't know if you
know what that is,

1054
00:57:51,480 --> 00:57:54,320
but it was a famous chain.

1055
00:57:54,320 --> 00:57:55,710
And we went to Davega's.

1056
00:57:55,710 --> 00:57:58,760
And in Davega's, they had
a hundred baseball mitts

1057
00:57:58,760 --> 00:58:01,190
all lined up on shelves.

1058
00:58:01,190 --> 00:58:05,630
And of course, I was 14,
and they all look good.

1059
00:58:05,630 --> 00:58:09,355
And I picked the biggest,
nicest looking mitt

1060
00:58:09,355 --> 00:58:11,930
and figured he would buy that.

1061
00:58:11,930 --> 00:58:15,860
And so I bought it,
or he bought it.

1062
00:58:15,860 --> 00:58:20,390
And I was, of course, eager
to use it on the field

1063
00:58:20,390 --> 00:58:22,640
and was somewhat
disappointed when

1064
00:58:22,640 --> 00:58:28,280
I realized that it
didn't much help me

1065
00:58:28,280 --> 00:58:31,910
because I had picked

a catcher's mitt.

1066
00:58:31,910 --> 00:58:34,460
And I picked a catcher's
mitt not because I

1067
00:58:34,460 --> 00:58:37,370
wanted to be a catcher.

1068
00:58:37,370 --> 00:58:39,435
I wanted just the
nicest looking mitt,

1069
00:58:39,435 --> 00:58:42,020
and this one's the biggest,
nicest looking mitt

1070
00:58:42,020 --> 00:58:42,740
on the shelf.

1071
00:58:42,740 --> 00:58:48,870
Nobody told me that every
position had its own mitt.

1072
00:58:48,870 --> 00:58:51,990
And so for years, I
had a catcher's mitt,

1073
00:58:51,990 --> 00:58:55,970
which I could never really use.

1074
00:58:55,970 --> 00:58:59,240
My mother-- when I went into
the Korean War, my mother

1075
00:58:59,240 --> 00:59:03,350
eventually got rid of
that catcher's mitt.

1076
00:59:03,350 --> 00:59:06,485
So then you went
on to high school.

1077

00:59:06,485 --> 00:59:11,630

Yes, in '49, I went
to high school and--

1078

00:59:11,630 --> 00:59:12,917

Well, let's back up.

1079

00:59:12,917 --> 00:59:13,500

Let's back up.

1080

00:59:13,500 --> 00:59:14,630

The end of the war--

1081

00:59:14,630 --> 00:59:16,640

do you remember the
end of the war in '45?

1082

00:59:16,640 --> 00:59:17,990

Yes.

1083

00:59:17,990 --> 00:59:19,820

Yes, I remember--

1084

00:59:19,820 --> 00:59:21,980

I remember at the
end of the war,

1085

00:59:21,980 --> 00:59:26,870

I remember the dropping
of the first atomic bomb.

1086

00:59:26,870 --> 00:59:28,040

Ah, yes.

1087

00:59:28,040 --> 00:59:28,580

Yeah.

1088

00:59:28,580 --> 00:59:30,560

That was more significant.

1089

00:59:30,560 --> 00:59:36,530

Because throughout the period, I was working.

1090
00:59:36,530 --> 00:59:39,350
I was going to school, public school.

1091
00:59:39,350 --> 00:59:43,220
But I always had to work because money was always tight.

1092
00:59:43,220 --> 00:59:45,480
And I worked delivering groceries

1093
00:59:45,480 --> 00:59:48,000
at Bohack's and all of those.

1094
00:59:48,000 --> 00:59:51,380
You know of a store called Bohack.

1095
00:59:51,380 --> 00:59:54,170
That shows you how old I am.

1096
00:59:54,170 --> 00:59:55,670
Delivering groceries.

1097
00:59:55,670 --> 01:00:04,380
And in summertime, I worked in distant locations.

1098
01:00:04,380 --> 01:00:10,640
In fact, for the first almost year or longer,

1099
01:00:10,640 --> 01:00:14,030
I did not live with the family in Jackson Heights.

1100
01:00:14,030 --> 01:00:19,310
I was sent to live with a family in Vermont

1101
01:00:19,310 --> 01:00:24,500
where I worked on a farm
for French Canadians,

1102
01:00:24,500 --> 01:00:26,750
with a French Canadian family.

1103
01:00:26,750 --> 01:00:28,700
They had a dairy farm.

1104
01:00:28,700 --> 01:00:31,370
The money I earned
was sent to my family.

1105
01:00:31,370 --> 01:00:36,680
And I was sort of an indentured
young man, indentured labor

1106
01:00:36,680 --> 01:00:41,120
earning money on a dairy farm.

1107
01:00:41,120 --> 01:00:45,020
And later, another year, I
worked on a chicken farm,

1108
01:00:45,020 --> 01:00:47,330
and I learned about how--

1109
01:00:47,330 --> 01:00:53,960
and still later, I
worked as a waiter

1110
01:00:53,960 --> 01:00:59,960
in what they call the Borscht
circuit in the Catskills.

1111
01:00:59,960 --> 01:01:02,570
And that's what I was
doing one day when

1112
01:01:02,570 --> 01:01:05,780

a friend of mine who was
working with me came in,

1113
01:01:05,780 --> 01:01:10,550
but who was older, came
in and told me that they

1114
01:01:10,550 --> 01:01:12,800
had dropped an atomic bomb.

1115
01:01:12,800 --> 01:01:15,800
And I remember saying,
what's an atomic bomb?

1116
01:01:15,800 --> 01:01:17,225
Right, right.

1117
01:01:17,225 --> 01:01:18,410
Mm-hmm.

1118
01:01:18,410 --> 01:01:22,310
How did your parents
when the war was over

1119
01:01:22,310 --> 01:01:26,270
find out what happened to the
relatives that did not leave?

1120
01:01:26,270 --> 01:01:34,010
Oh, well, I think we suspected
long before the end of the war

1121
01:01:34,010 --> 01:01:37,410
that they probably
had not survived.

1122
01:01:37,410 --> 01:01:41,780
And then there was
this effort to track

1123
01:01:41,780 --> 01:01:45,910
after the war to try to get
some additional information--

1124
01:01:45,910 --> 01:01:48,310
[COUGHS] pardon me--

1125
01:01:48,310 --> 01:01:50,840
to get some additional
information about what

1126
01:01:50,840 --> 01:01:51,950
had happened.

1127
01:01:51,950 --> 01:01:55,940
And I think there were
some additional information

1128
01:01:55,940 --> 01:02:02,390
because I think somewhere
we were able to identify

1129
01:02:02,390 --> 01:02:06,080
who went to which camp.

1130
01:02:06,080 --> 01:02:08,690
What about your
two grandmothers?

1131
01:02:08,690 --> 01:02:12,710
Well, I can't remember
exactly where they--

1132
01:02:12,710 --> 01:02:15,660
but, of course,
they didn't survive.

1133
01:02:15,660 --> 01:02:20,420
And I can't remember
exactly to which camp

1134
01:02:20,420 --> 01:02:24,200
they may have been sent.

1135
01:02:24,200 --> 01:02:26,780

All of them-- none
of them survived.

1136
01:02:26,780 --> 01:02:29,750
None survived.

1137
01:02:29,750 --> 01:02:32,780
All right, so now you've
graduated from high school.

1138
01:02:32,780 --> 01:02:35,042
And what did you do then?

1139
01:02:35,042 --> 01:02:36,500
Or where did you
go to high school?

1140
01:02:36,500 --> 01:02:37,960
Where did you go to high school?

1141
01:02:37,960 --> 01:02:40,850
There's a school in New York
called Stuyvesant High School.

1142
01:02:40,850 --> 01:02:42,320
I don't know if
you know of that.

1143
01:02:42,320 --> 01:02:43,150
Yes, yes.

1144
01:02:43,150 --> 01:02:45,230
Mm-hmm.

1145
01:02:45,230 --> 01:02:54,110
Actually, I really
didn't pick that school.

1146
01:02:54,110 --> 01:02:57,350
There's another school called
Bryant High School, which

1147

01:02:57,350 --> 01:03:00,320
is a very popular
school, which is where

1148
01:03:00,320 --> 01:03:04,370
most young graduates went to.

1149
01:03:04,370 --> 01:03:12,260
But my mother thought that I
should do something technical.

1150
01:03:12,260 --> 01:03:18,170
And somehow or other, she
and Ms. Oberbrenner which

1151
01:03:18,170 --> 01:03:21,770
was one of the many ladies--

1152
01:03:21,770 --> 01:03:30,650
one of the ladies in the circle,
they discussed this matter.

1153
01:03:30,650 --> 01:03:34,580
And somehow my mother got wind
of this school, Stuyvesant High

1154
01:03:34,580 --> 01:03:37,231
School.

1155
01:03:37,231 --> 01:03:39,920
And she had wanted me
to become a pharmacist.

1156
01:03:39,920 --> 01:03:42,630
[INAUDIBLE]

1157
01:03:42,630 --> 01:03:44,210
That was her ambition for me.

1158
01:03:44,210 --> 01:03:46,845
She thought pharmacists will
always earn a livelihood.

1159

01:03:46,845 --> 01:03:53,300

I don't know how mothers get these ideas for their sons.

1160

01:03:53,300 --> 01:03:55,370

Was your father still alive then?

1161

01:03:55,370 --> 01:03:58,430

No, he died in '49.

1162

01:03:58,430 --> 01:04:01,280

What did he die from?

1163

01:04:01,280 --> 01:04:02,160

Cancer.

1164

01:04:02,160 --> 01:04:07,250

Cancer of the lung, presumably from excess smoking.

1165

01:04:07,250 --> 01:04:09,080

Yeah.

1166

01:04:09,080 --> 01:04:11,180

So you went on to Stuyvesant.

1167

01:04:11,180 --> 01:04:11,780

Yes.

1168

01:04:11,780 --> 01:04:15,350

And then when you completed Stuyvesant, what did you do?

1169

01:04:15,350 --> 01:04:21,440

Well, I completed Stuyvesant.

1170

01:04:21,440 --> 01:04:27,220

Let me see if I've got my dates correct here.

1171

01:04:27,220 --> 01:04:31,190
I should've-- I completed
Stuyvesant in '49.

1172
01:04:31,190 --> 01:04:31,690
OK.

1173
01:04:31,690 --> 01:04:34,820

1174
01:04:34,820 --> 01:04:38,570
And, again, I was
working right along.

1175
01:04:38,570 --> 01:04:46,430
My father from '48 on was no
longer able really to work.

1176
01:04:46,430 --> 01:04:50,750
And it was a very interesting
period between '45

1177
01:04:50,750 --> 01:04:54,890
when the war ended and
'48 when he became ill.

1178
01:04:54,890 --> 01:04:58,585
Those three years
really, I think,

1179
01:04:58,585 --> 01:05:02,480
are interesting ones
for you to document it.

1180
01:05:02,480 --> 01:05:06,650
But anyway, in
'48, he became ill.

1181
01:05:06,650 --> 01:05:09,620
The illness lasted
for nine months.

1182
01:05:09,620 --> 01:05:16,910

And during the course of that,
I became the major source

1183
01:05:16,910 --> 01:05:18,770
of income for the family.

1184
01:05:18,770 --> 01:05:21,680
So I was going to
school and working.

1185
01:05:21,680 --> 01:05:26,960
And he died then in '49.

1186
01:05:26,960 --> 01:05:29,860
When did you all
become citizens?

1187
01:05:29,860 --> 01:05:35,620
In '40-- I think the
documents say '47 or '48.

1188
01:05:35,620 --> 01:05:37,360
I believe it's in '48.

1189
01:05:37,360 --> 01:05:40,150
Was that special for you to
become an American citizen?

1190
01:05:40,150 --> 01:05:43,010
I never became a citizen.

1191
01:05:43,010 --> 01:05:45,310
My father and mother
became citizen.

1192
01:05:45,310 --> 01:05:52,570
And because I was under 18, we
became naturalized citizens.

1193
01:05:52,570 --> 01:05:59,220
And my brother eventually
applied for his own citizenship

1194
01:05:59,220 --> 01:06:00,180
papers.

1195
01:06:00,180 --> 01:06:02,120
I never applied for them.

1196
01:06:02,120 --> 01:06:04,245
But I am fully an
American citizen.

1197
01:06:04,245 --> 01:06:07,710
I mean, I have a passport
and all the other things.

1198
01:06:07,710 --> 01:06:11,940
But I have no certificate.

1199
01:06:11,940 --> 01:06:14,250
But my father's and
mother's certificate

1200
01:06:14,250 --> 01:06:16,110
are in the archives.

1201
01:06:16,110 --> 01:06:18,180
Did you go on to college?

1202
01:06:18,180 --> 01:06:19,650
Of course.

1203
01:06:19,650 --> 01:06:27,790
In '49-- we have in
New York something

1204
01:06:27,790 --> 01:06:30,970
called City College,
which made it possible

1205
01:06:30,970 --> 01:06:37,070
for me to attend college because
the fees were relatively low.

1206

01:06:37,070 --> 01:06:40,720

And so I went to City College.

1207

01:06:40,720 --> 01:06:50,950

By 1950, however, the events
in Korea were taking place.

1208

01:06:50,950 --> 01:06:55,120

And they were starting what
they called the first training

1209

01:06:55,120 --> 01:06:56,770

corps.

1210

01:06:56,770 --> 01:07:02,320

We always start wars by first
standing training people.

1211

01:07:02,320 --> 01:07:09,190

And there was a
concern about whether--

1212

01:07:09,190 --> 01:07:12,670

there was talk about drafting
and such things and concern

1213

01:07:12,670 --> 01:07:16,000

about what would happen
if I were drafted

1214

01:07:16,000 --> 01:07:20,490

and how would Margaret
and my brother make it.

1215

01:07:20,490 --> 01:07:24,700

And so there was a proposal
made by some friend

1216

01:07:24,700 --> 01:07:28,090

that if I joined the Air
National Guard at Floyd Bennett

1217

01:07:28,090 --> 01:07:32,920
Field and became a weekend--

1218
01:07:32,920 --> 01:07:36,530
what they call a weekend soldier
or something of that sort,

1219
01:07:36,530 --> 01:07:38,590
I would be spared
from the draft.

1220
01:07:38,590 --> 01:07:42,040
And that would enable me
to continue to go to school

1221
01:07:42,040 --> 01:07:46,270
and continue to earn
money for the family.

1222
01:07:46,270 --> 01:07:50,650
And that is what I did.

1223
01:07:50,650 --> 01:07:56,440
But life has a way
of surprising you.

1224
01:07:56,440 --> 01:08:02,410
And it turns out Mr.
Truman, President Truman

1225
01:08:02,410 --> 01:08:07,420
decided that we had to escalate
our activities in Korea,

1226
01:08:07,420 --> 01:08:11,410
and for that, we needed
flight personnel,

1227
01:08:11,410 --> 01:08:14,770
people who fly B-29s.

1228
01:08:14,770 --> 01:08:24,550
And the Floyd Bennett Field air

unit was a B-29 air wing unit.

1229

01:08:24,550 --> 01:08:28,210

I was the very first
of all of my friends

1230

01:08:28,210 --> 01:08:32,090

to be called to active duty.

1231

01:08:32,090 --> 01:08:37,770

So in March of '51,
I became a soldier.

1232

01:08:37,770 --> 01:08:38,769

OK.

1233

01:08:38,769 --> 01:08:41,464

Mm-hmm.

1234

01:08:41,464 --> 01:08:46,689

And just generally during that
time, where were you sent?

1235

01:08:46,689 --> 01:08:52,910

Well, for training, I was sent
both to a place called Lakeland

1236

01:08:52,910 --> 01:09:00,231

in Texas and to a place
called Topeka in Kansas

1237

01:09:00,231 --> 01:09:05,860

and then eventually
was sent to--

1238

01:09:05,860 --> 01:09:08,410

1239

01:09:08,410 --> 01:09:19,300

I forgot the port from where
the ships, US naval ships

1240

01:09:19,300 --> 01:09:24,640
took soldiers and
transported them to Japan.

1241
01:09:24,640 --> 01:09:27,890
And it was a long,
long voyage to Japan.

1242
01:09:27,890 --> 01:09:31,939

1243
01:09:31,939 --> 01:09:36,340
And then were you
involved in combat?

1244
01:09:36,340 --> 01:09:38,760
I was involved
with a combat wing.

1245
01:09:38,760 --> 01:09:41,560
We were flying B-29s.

1246
01:09:41,560 --> 01:09:47,520
I was the medical corpsman
for the bomb wing.

1247
01:09:47,520 --> 01:09:52,890
And so I attended the people
who were involved with the war

1248
01:09:52,890 --> 01:09:59,640
activities that were flight
personnel, people who

1249
01:09:59,640 --> 01:10:05,700
were injured in the
course of battle,

1250
01:10:05,700 --> 01:10:08,650
usually in the course of
air crashes in battle.

1251
01:10:08,650 --> 01:10:11,560

So you are always on the ground, in other words.

1252
01:10:11,560 --> 01:10:13,590
Yes, most of the time on the ground.

1253
01:10:13,590 --> 01:10:16,050
Occasionally--

1254
01:10:16,050 --> 01:10:17,160
And where are you then?

1255
01:10:17,160 --> 01:10:18,160
Where are you stationed?

1256
01:10:18,160 --> 01:10:20,370
Well, I was in various places.

1257
01:10:20,370 --> 01:10:27,480
But there are two very famous air bases were in Japan

1258
01:10:27,480 --> 01:10:28,570
during this period.

1259
01:10:28,570 --> 01:10:30,240
One is called Tachikawa.

1260
01:10:30,240 --> 01:10:32,024
Oh, uh-huh.

1261
01:10:32,024 --> 01:10:33,810
Uh-huh.

1262
01:10:33,810 --> 01:10:35,565
And the other one was called--

1263
01:10:35,565 --> 01:10:38,820

1264

01:10:38,820 --> 01:10:39,480
That's OK.

1265
01:10:39,480 --> 01:10:40,320
That's OK.

1266
01:10:40,320 --> 01:10:44,370
And those were the
two major places

1267
01:10:44,370 --> 01:10:50,130
where the B-29s landed and
took off for their bomb runs.

1268
01:10:50,130 --> 01:10:54,990
And then how long
did you stay in that?

1269
01:10:54,990 --> 01:10:56,580
Did you get discharged then?

1270
01:10:56,580 --> 01:11:00,030

1271
01:11:00,030 --> 01:11:01,620
I was able to--

1272
01:11:01,620 --> 01:11:04,890
I had a choice.

1273
01:11:04,890 --> 01:11:10,260
After two years, I
could extend or return.

1274
01:11:10,260 --> 01:11:13,560
And I decided I would return.

1275
01:11:13,560 --> 01:11:24,120
And so in '53, end of '52, early
'53, whatever two years is,

1276
01:11:24,120 --> 01:11:26,545

I was sent back.

1277

01:11:26,545 --> 01:11:31,700

And eventually, I spent some time at the Topeka air base

1278

01:11:31,700 --> 01:11:34,210

after that and eventually returned to New York.

1279

01:11:34,210 --> 01:11:34,710

OK.

1280

01:11:34,710 --> 01:11:37,500

And then did you go back to school?

1281

01:11:37,500 --> 01:11:40,530

Yes, yes.

1282

01:11:40,530 --> 01:11:41,610

And did you graduate?

1283

01:11:41,610 --> 01:11:42,780

Did you graduate?

1284

01:11:42,780 --> 01:11:44,230

Yes.

1285

01:11:44,230 --> 01:11:50,840

I went back, but then things were difficult. My mother was--

1286

01:11:50,840 --> 01:11:54,260

my brother had left.

1287

01:11:54,260 --> 01:11:55,985

He had gone west.

1288

01:11:55,985 --> 01:11:59,900

1289

01:11:59,900 --> 01:12:05,180

He was interested in--

1290

01:12:05,180 --> 01:12:08,300

he was interested in geology.

1291

01:12:08,300 --> 01:12:11,120

And in his third
year of geology,

1292

01:12:11,120 --> 01:12:14,330

which is just about the
time that I came back,

1293

01:12:14,330 --> 01:12:16,610

he had decided to take a job--

1294

01:12:16,610 --> 01:12:19,715

1295

01:12:19,715 --> 01:12:25,220

not a job, but a project
to look for uranium.

1296

01:12:25,220 --> 01:12:27,620

It was the uranium boom period.

1297

01:12:27,620 --> 01:12:31,190

I don't know if
you remember that.

1298

01:12:31,190 --> 01:12:35,960

And everybody was looking
for this new material.

1299

01:12:35,960 --> 01:12:41,180

And he had gone west to
Utah where there were--

1300

01:12:41,180 --> 01:12:45,440

and to New Mexico where there
were sources of this material.

1301
01:12:45,440 --> 01:12:49,920
And he worked as
an explorer, and he

1302
01:12:49,920 --> 01:12:51,500
bought some Geiger counters.

1303
01:12:51,500 --> 01:12:56,100
And that started his
career as a businessman.

1304
01:12:56,100 --> 01:13:00,245
He did what was called
a surface exploration.

1305
01:13:00,245 --> 01:13:04,850
You just cover large
areas of land by walking,

1306
01:13:04,850 --> 01:13:06,740
and later on, when
he had money, he

1307
01:13:06,740 --> 01:13:10,250
bought a Jeep so he
didn't have to walk,

1308
01:13:10,250 --> 01:13:15,440
searching for uranium, certain
clues for uranium deposits.

1309
01:13:15,440 --> 01:13:17,300
But he'd left Margaret alone.

1310
01:13:17,300 --> 01:13:24,920
And when I got back, things were
difficult. So I needed a job

1311
01:13:24,920 --> 01:13:30,380
and eventually landed a job
with a firm called EF Drew.

1312

01:13:30,380 --> 01:13:33,530

They still exist, and I think
they're listed on the New York

1313

01:13:33,530 --> 01:13:39,680

Stock Exchange Mr.
Drew was an immigrant,

1314

01:13:39,680 --> 01:13:47,330

a chemist who created
a company that

1315

01:13:47,330 --> 01:13:53,210

sold a particular
type of product that

1316

01:13:53,210 --> 01:13:57,980

is needed in the early
phases of water treatment.

1317

01:13:57,980 --> 01:14:00,210

I don't want to get too
technical about what

1318

01:14:00,210 --> 01:14:01,580

that work is.

1319

01:14:01,580 --> 01:14:05,540

But in any event, it
got me into the field

1320

01:14:05,540 --> 01:14:10,460

of chemistry, which is not too
distant from my mother's wish

1321

01:14:10,460 --> 01:14:12,846

to be a pharmacist.

1322

01:14:12,846 --> 01:14:16,130

I really wasn't keen
about being a pharmacist.

1323

01:14:16,130 --> 01:14:19,160
So I landed a job
selling chemicals.

1324
01:14:19,160 --> 01:14:26,282
I thought that was probably
closer to what I wanted to do.

1325
01:14:26,282 --> 01:14:33,980
And that was my first real full
time quasi-professional job.

1326
01:14:33,980 --> 01:14:36,960
I still, of course, had
not finished college.

1327
01:14:36,960 --> 01:14:41,270
I was just into my
first or second year.

1328
01:14:41,270 --> 01:14:46,000
But then I was sent from
New York to Milwaukee

1329
01:14:46,000 --> 01:14:48,600
and started a new
phase of my life.

1330
01:14:48,600 --> 01:14:53,300
I [INAUDIBLE] seven
years in Milwaukee.

1331
01:14:53,300 --> 01:14:59,480
And it enabled me to get married
because now I had an income.

1332
01:14:59,480 --> 01:15:03,215
And so in '52, I married.

1333
01:15:03,215 --> 01:15:05,730

1334
01:15:05,730 --> 01:15:06,660

Yeah.

1335
01:15:06,660 --> 01:15:09,048
And--

1336
01:15:09,048 --> 01:15:10,830
No, I guess it was '53.

1337
01:15:10,830 --> 01:15:12,240
It doesn't matter.

1338
01:15:12,240 --> 01:15:15,300
And then what happened?

1339
01:15:15,300 --> 01:15:17,160
Keep going on.

1340
01:15:17,160 --> 01:15:27,540
Well, Milwaukee was, of course--

1341
01:15:27,540 --> 01:15:30,750
I was sent to Milwaukee
partly because I spoke German.

1342
01:15:30,750 --> 01:15:31,860
Oh, right.

1343
01:15:31,860 --> 01:15:36,210
And the notion was that it was
one of the German communities

1344
01:15:36,210 --> 01:15:38,280
in the United States.

1345
01:15:38,280 --> 01:15:39,720
Well, it might have been.

1346
01:15:39,720 --> 01:15:41,550
But by the time I
got there, it was

1347

01:15:41,550 --> 01:15:44,610
one of the Polish communities
of the United States,

1348
01:15:44,610 --> 01:15:50,550
and my German was
really unhelpful there.

1349
01:15:50,550 --> 01:15:54,450
I might say I was not
well prepared for selling

1350
01:15:54,450 --> 01:15:56,920
industrial chemicals.

1351
01:15:56,920 --> 01:16:01,650
And after I had been on the
job for about three months,

1352
01:16:01,650 --> 01:16:05,910
I was taken off the payroll
because after three months,

1353
01:16:05,910 --> 01:16:09,060
I was supposed to earn
my way on commissions.

1354
01:16:09,060 --> 01:16:12,370
And there were no
commissions because I

1355
01:16:12,370 --> 01:16:13,370
wasn't selling anything.

1356
01:16:13,370 --> 01:16:15,980

1357
01:16:15,980 --> 01:16:19,440
And let me ask you
before I go much further.

1358
01:16:19,440 --> 01:16:22,930
Are these things that I'm

telling you of interest?

1359

01:16:22,930 --> 01:16:24,720

They get to be
somewhat personal,

1360

01:16:24,720 --> 01:16:27,310

and I don't know how deeply
to go into some of these.

1361

01:16:27,310 --> 01:16:28,020

No, no, no.

1362

01:16:28,020 --> 01:16:31,440

I just generally want to
know the track of your life

1363

01:16:31,440 --> 01:16:32,250

from then on.

1364

01:16:32,250 --> 01:16:33,990

I don't need-- I don't need--

1365

01:16:33,990 --> 01:16:34,800

yeah, go ahead.

1366

01:16:34,800 --> 01:16:36,090

OK.

1367

01:16:36,090 --> 01:16:44,070

So I enrolled at
Marquette University,

1368

01:16:44,070 --> 01:16:47,400

which is a Jesuit school.

1369

01:16:47,400 --> 01:16:56,700

And there, I was again back
with my Catholic associates.

1370

01:16:56,700 --> 01:17:07,335

And I revisited all my prayers,

went through all of my studies

1371

01:17:07,335 --> 01:17:10,530
on the historicities
of the Gospels

1372

01:17:10,530 --> 01:17:15,660
and went through all of
the Gospel teachings,

1373

01:17:15,660 --> 01:17:21,000
which gave me some insight into
the nature of that religion

1374

01:17:21,000 --> 01:17:24,330
and also was in some ways
amusing because I was

1375

01:17:24,330 --> 01:17:26,250
a member of a
temple by this time,

1376

01:17:26,250 --> 01:17:30,600
and I was teaching a
class in Sunday school.

1377

01:17:30,600 --> 01:17:36,330
And in fact, I
taught a class called

1378

01:17:36,330 --> 01:17:37,940
The Ethics of the Fathers.

1379

01:17:37,940 --> 01:17:40,260
I don't know if you
know Pirkei Avot.

1380

01:17:40,260 --> 01:17:41,820
Yes, yes.

1381

01:17:41,820 --> 01:17:47,150
And then during
the days, I worked,

1382
01:17:47,150 --> 01:17:51,060
and at nights, I was back in
Marquette studying the Gospels.

1383
01:17:51,060 --> 01:17:54,060

1384
01:17:54,060 --> 01:17:56,400
It was sort of an
unusual period.

1385
01:17:56,400 --> 01:17:59,280
And how long did you
stay there in that part--

1386
01:17:59,280 --> 01:18:03,020
Well, I stayed there to finish.

1387
01:18:03,020 --> 01:18:08,220
I finished my work,
graduated in '59.

1388
01:18:08,220 --> 01:18:09,057
OK.

1389
01:18:09,057 --> 01:18:10,140
And then where did you go?

1390
01:18:10,140 --> 01:18:13,860
It was a long period because
I went to school at night.

1391
01:18:13,860 --> 01:18:18,630
But anyway, I finished
in '59 and decided

1392
01:18:18,630 --> 01:18:23,640
that I would not continue to
sell industrial chemicals.

1393
01:18:23,640 --> 01:18:27,090

I didn't think that's
the future for me,

1394
01:18:27,090 --> 01:18:29,832
although I was earning very--

1395
01:18:29,832 --> 01:18:30,780
earning good money.

1396
01:18:30,780 --> 01:18:40,020
By that time, I had three
children, and I had a car.

1397
01:18:40,020 --> 01:18:43,500
I was certainly
considerably better off

1398
01:18:43,500 --> 01:18:45,480
than I ever imagined.

1399
01:18:45,480 --> 01:18:47,820
But following
industrial chemicals

1400
01:18:47,820 --> 01:18:51,120
didn't seem to be a
fitting occupation.

1401
01:18:51,120 --> 01:18:52,170
So then what did you do?

1402
01:18:52,170 --> 01:18:54,300
Where did you go?

1403
01:18:54,300 --> 01:19:00,000
Oh, I decided that I wanted
to become a consultant.

1404
01:19:00,000 --> 01:19:03,300
I can't remember exactly why I
wanted to become a consultant.

1405

01:19:03,300 --> 01:19:04,470
But I thought--

1406
01:19:04,470 --> 01:19:06,960
I was reading a lot
about consulting work,

1407
01:19:06,960 --> 01:19:09,270
and I had gone to Chicago.

1408
01:19:09,270 --> 01:19:12,132
I had heard of firms like
McKinsey and Booz Allen

1409
01:19:12,132 --> 01:19:13,980
Hamilton.

1410
01:19:13,980 --> 01:19:18,033
And I visited these firms.

1411
01:19:18,033 --> 01:19:25,030
And the man at McKinsey was
particularly nice to me.

1412
01:19:25,030 --> 01:19:28,050
He advised me to get an MBA.

1413
01:19:28,050 --> 01:19:29,850
And he thought that--

1414
01:19:29,850 --> 01:19:32,190
and he thought
that McKinsey might

1415
01:19:32,190 --> 01:19:36,270
be interested in a young man
who ambitious who had an MBA.

1416
01:19:36,270 --> 01:19:39,690
And so I applied for
Harvard and, of course,

1417

01:19:39,690 --> 01:19:45,370
several other schools
for my graduate work.

1418
01:19:45,370 --> 01:19:49,090
Well, again, as
things turned out,

1419
01:19:49,090 --> 01:19:52,470
I was accepted at three
very fine schools--

1420
01:19:52,470 --> 01:19:57,960
Columbia, Princeton, and MIT.

1421
01:19:57,960 --> 01:19:59,580
But Harvard rejected me.

1422
01:19:59,580 --> 01:20:01,472
[LAUGHS]

1423
01:20:01,472 --> 01:20:02,891

1424
01:20:02,891 --> 01:20:06,840
So I eventually chose Cornell.

1425
01:20:06,840 --> 01:20:09,210
I had been accepted
at Cornell also.

1426
01:20:09,210 --> 01:20:14,040
I chose Cornell and became a
labor economist, or at least

1427
01:20:14,040 --> 01:20:16,710
the beginning of
a labor economist.

1428
01:20:16,710 --> 01:20:23,880
And after I had finished my
work, I went back to McKinsey

1429

01:20:23,880 --> 01:20:27,180

and told them proudly how
I had finished Cornell,

1430

01:20:27,180 --> 01:20:30,090

and the man reminded me
that he thought that you

1431

01:20:30,090 --> 01:20:31,215

should've gone to Harvard.

1432

01:20:31,215 --> 01:20:33,296

Mm-hmm, mm-hmm.

1433

01:20:33,296 --> 01:20:38,400

And so I never did get
to work for McKinsey.

1434

01:20:38,400 --> 01:20:40,830

And then you stayed
in that field?

1435

01:20:40,830 --> 01:20:46,710

Well, I needed work.

1436

01:20:46,710 --> 01:20:55,170

And as it happens, I saw
something about a position open

1437

01:20:55,170 --> 01:20:58,140

with the US Atomic
Energy Commission.

1438

01:20:58,140 --> 01:21:00,930

I had no idea what they were.

1439

01:21:00,930 --> 01:21:02,820

But I applied.

1440

01:21:02,820 --> 01:21:08,632

And I was flown to
Albuquerque, New Mexico

1441
01:21:08,632 --> 01:21:11,370
at the main operations office.

1442
01:21:11,370 --> 01:21:17,400
And I had interviews and
was selected for a job

1443
01:21:17,400 --> 01:21:22,710
with what was called the
AEC, the US Atomic Energy

1444
01:21:22,710 --> 01:21:23,820
Commission.

1445
01:21:23,820 --> 01:21:28,170
And so I started
what I would say

1446
01:21:28,170 --> 01:21:33,190
my second full working career.

1447
01:21:33,190 --> 01:21:35,850
So you lived in New Mexico then?

1448
01:21:35,850 --> 01:21:38,220
Relocated to New Mexico.

1449
01:21:38,220 --> 01:21:42,570
And there, of course,
I worked closely

1450
01:21:42,570 --> 01:21:44,805
with the laboratories
at Los Alamos

1451
01:21:44,805 --> 01:21:49,590
and with Sandia
Corporation and met

1452
01:21:49,590 --> 01:21:55,735
many of the prominent people

who were still in the US weapons

1453

01:21:55,735 --> 01:21:56,235

program.

1454

01:21:56,235 --> 01:21:58,980

1455

01:21:58,980 --> 01:22:03,705

And that was also somewhat
interesting, somewhat exciting.

1456

01:22:03,705 --> 01:22:07,800

1457

01:22:07,800 --> 01:22:12,330

Eventually, eventually,
I was responsible,

1458

01:22:12,330 --> 01:22:15,960

along with some other
people, for what they called

1459

01:22:15,960 --> 01:22:20,340

strategic planning for
the weapons production

1460

01:22:20,340 --> 01:22:25,605

system, which is quite
intricate because you have to--

1461

01:22:25,605 --> 01:22:31,290

the weapons that we build are
not built in any one location.

1462

01:22:31,290 --> 01:22:36,180

The components and assemblies
spread out so that you cannot

1463

01:22:36,180 --> 01:22:40,500

easily destroy the entire
weapons infrastructure.

1464

01:22:40,500 --> 01:22:43,260

1465

01:22:43,260 --> 01:22:47,330

Did you come across any
of the German scientists?

1466

01:22:47,330 --> 01:22:50,510

No, I didn't come across
any German scientists.

1467

01:22:50,510 --> 01:22:56,390

But I did come across a number
of different nationalities

1468

01:22:56,390 --> 01:23:02,570

in Los Alamos and at
Sandia Corporation.

1469

01:23:02,570 --> 01:23:05,930

1470

01:23:05,930 --> 01:23:11,240

Most of my work
was involved in how

1471

01:23:11,240 --> 01:23:16,550

we plan and integrate
the manufacturing

1472

01:23:16,550 --> 01:23:19,670

of the nuclear weapons.

1473

01:23:19,670 --> 01:23:21,800

And how long did
you stay out there?

1474

01:23:21,800 --> 01:23:29,735

I stayed there from
'60 to '67, '68.

1475

01:23:29,735 --> 01:23:31,640

And then where did you go?

1476

01:23:31,640 --> 01:23:36,380

Oh, I was offered a job
with a firm then called

1477

01:23:36,380 --> 01:23:38,900

Peat Marwick Mitchell.

1478

01:23:38,900 --> 01:23:40,640

I don't know if
you know that firm.

1479

01:23:40,640 --> 01:23:44,280

But it now goes
under the name KPMG.

1480

01:23:44,280 --> 01:23:47,960

It's one of the they
call the big eight

1481

01:23:47,960 --> 01:23:53,170

in the field of
accounting, international.

1482

01:23:53,170 --> 01:23:55,760

The other firms
that are well known

1483

01:23:55,760 --> 01:24:01,410

are Price Waterhouse and Ernst
and Ernst firms of that sort.

1484

01:24:01,410 --> 01:24:04,760

And then you stayed in the
United States until when?

1485

01:24:04,760 --> 01:24:11,870

Well, then I worked, and those
were very interesting years

1486

01:24:11,870 --> 01:24:13,760

also.

1487

01:24:13,760 --> 01:24:20,570

We were involved what was called
in public sector consulting.

1488

01:24:20,570 --> 01:24:23,330

So to give you an
idea of what that

1489

01:24:23,330 --> 01:24:26,250

meant, do you know what a
community mental health center

1490

01:24:26,250 --> 01:24:26,750

is?

1491

01:24:26,750 --> 01:24:27,710

Yes, mm-hmm.

1492

01:24:27,710 --> 01:24:35,030

I established-- when I say
after the Kennedy legislation,

1493

01:24:35,030 --> 01:24:40,445

which created and later
financed community mental health

1494

01:24:40,445 --> 01:24:45,320

centers, my job
at Peat Marwick--

1495

01:24:45,320 --> 01:24:46,970

we landed a contract--

1496

01:24:46,970 --> 01:24:50,630

was to implement that law.

1497

01:24:50,630 --> 01:24:55,070

And I had a hand in creating
most of the community

1498

01:24:55,070 --> 01:25:00,140

mental health centers that
were established at that time.

1499
01:25:00,140 --> 01:25:03,260
There were also
legislation for what

1500
01:25:03,260 --> 01:25:05,300
were called family
planning clinics,

1501
01:25:05,300 --> 01:25:10,190
and I headed up most of the
development and implementation

1502
01:25:10,190 --> 01:25:11,940
of those things.

1503
01:25:11,940 --> 01:25:17,750
And so there are numerous--
at least six major public

1504
01:25:17,750 --> 01:25:23,600
initiatives which I was able to
direct during that period that

1505
01:25:23,600 --> 01:25:26,810
I was with KPMG--

1506
01:25:26,810 --> 01:25:30,140
Peat Marwick, later became KPMG.

1507
01:25:30,140 --> 01:25:33,618
And then where--
and then after that?

1508
01:25:33,618 --> 01:25:34,160
Moving along.

1509
01:25:34,160 --> 01:25:36,500
After that, I was
ambitious, and so I

1510

01:25:36,500 --> 01:25:40,150

thought I'd open up my
own consulting business.

1511

01:25:40,150 --> 01:25:45,800

And for five years,
up to 1980, I

1512

01:25:45,800 --> 01:25:49,710

had an office in
Silver Spring, Maryland

1513

01:25:49,710 --> 01:25:53,090

and had my name on the door.

1514

01:25:53,090 --> 01:25:56,298

There's an interesting
story that goes with that.

1515

01:25:56,298 --> 01:26:01,820

But if you don't want to
get too deep into stories,

1516

01:26:01,820 --> 01:26:02,990

maybe I can skip it.

1517

01:26:02,990 --> 01:26:05,100

Yeah, move along a little bit.

1518

01:26:05,100 --> 01:26:05,600

Yeah.

1519

01:26:05,600 --> 01:26:06,500

OK.

1520

01:26:06,500 --> 01:26:10,940

So then-- and I continued
to do consulting.

1521

01:26:10,940 --> 01:26:15,735

I implemented the
urban renewal program

1522
01:26:15,735 --> 01:26:19,190
in Cleveland, Ohio
as an assistant

1523
01:26:19,190 --> 01:26:23,030
to the mayor for Cleveland.

1524
01:26:23,030 --> 01:26:29,300
I implemented the urban
renewal in Houston, Texas.

1525
01:26:29,300 --> 01:26:33,785
These were contracts that I
now landed for my own firm.

1526
01:26:33,785 --> 01:26:37,250

1527
01:26:37,250 --> 01:26:39,350
What was the name of your firm?

1528
01:26:39,350 --> 01:26:40,135
Price Associates.

1529
01:26:40,135 --> 01:26:41,630
Oh, OK.

1530
01:26:41,630 --> 01:26:48,830
Not very original,
but Price Associates.

1531
01:26:48,830 --> 01:26:51,710
But in 1980, things shifted.

1532
01:26:51,710 --> 01:26:54,770
Mr. Reagan was
elected to office,

1533
01:26:54,770 --> 01:27:00,500
and Mr. Reagan's interest was
not in what I'd been doing.

1534
01:27:00,500 --> 01:27:05,040
The new interest was on
something called Star Wars.

1535
01:27:05,040 --> 01:27:10,910
And I realized that
my career was over.

1536
01:27:10,910 --> 01:27:15,260
And so I decided to
close the business

1537
01:27:15,260 --> 01:27:18,290
and relocate back to New Mexico.

1538
01:27:18,290 --> 01:27:20,900
I had learned to
like New Mexico.

1539
01:27:20,900 --> 01:27:26,270
And I found an adobe,
a small hacienda--

1540
01:27:26,270 --> 01:27:29,780
I think you know what that
is-- and a cottonwood tree.

1541
01:27:29,780 --> 01:27:34,850
And I resigned
myself to living out

1542
01:27:34,850 --> 01:27:42,050
my closing years of my
life in this rather very

1543
01:27:42,050 --> 01:27:44,780
nice little casita.

1544
01:27:44,780 --> 01:27:47,400
It really is more of a
casita than a hacienda.

1545

01:27:47,400 --> 01:27:50,770

1546

01:27:50,770 --> 01:27:53,640

And did what I've
never done before.

1547

01:27:53,640 --> 01:27:55,320

I learned how to play the flute.

1548

01:27:55,320 --> 01:27:59,310

I actually had my own library.

1549

01:27:59,310 --> 01:28:01,770

I collected Native American art.

1550

01:28:01,770 --> 01:28:02,430

Wonderful.

1551

01:28:02,430 --> 01:28:05,255

1552

01:28:05,255 --> 01:28:09,090

And then you stayed-- and then
you stayed there for how long?

1553

01:28:09,090 --> 01:28:14,820

Until one day I got
a letter asking me

1554

01:28:14,820 --> 01:28:17,400

whether I would like
to be interviewed

1555

01:28:17,400 --> 01:28:22,620

for a position with the
International Atomic Energy

1556

01:28:22,620 --> 01:28:24,170

Agency in Vienna.

1557

01:28:24,170 --> 01:28:25,760
Oh, oh, OK.

1558
01:28:25,760 --> 01:28:28,020
Mm-hmm.

1559
01:28:28,020 --> 01:28:31,020
So, again, there
were interviews.

1560
01:28:31,020 --> 01:28:36,000
They needed someone with
my earlier background

1561
01:28:36,000 --> 01:28:39,960
in the weapons
business to be part

1562
01:28:39,960 --> 01:28:43,920
of the team for negotiating
the extension of the Nuclear

1563
01:28:43,920 --> 01:28:47,400
Non-Proliferation Treaty.

1564
01:28:47,400 --> 01:28:52,290
And that took place
in Austria, Vienna.

1565
01:28:52,290 --> 01:28:59,130
And so in 1989, I was
on my way to Vienna.

1566
01:28:59,130 --> 01:29:01,260
So you and your wife
moved to Vienna?

1567
01:29:01,260 --> 01:29:05,490
Well, by that time,
the first wife was--

1568
01:29:05,490 --> 01:29:09,930
I was divorced, and I was in

the midst of a second wife.

1569
01:29:09,930 --> 01:29:11,640
I see.

1570
01:29:11,640 --> 01:29:12,750
Yeah.

1571
01:29:12,750 --> 01:29:15,635
So you moved to Vienna,
where you still are.

1572
01:29:15,635 --> 01:29:19,140
I moved to Vienna, yes.

1573
01:29:19,140 --> 01:29:23,660
And for almost three
years, 3 and 1/2 years,

1574
01:29:23,660 --> 01:29:27,470
I was involved in
various activities here.

1575
01:29:27,470 --> 01:29:29,590
I had the status of a diplomat.

1576
01:29:29,590 --> 01:29:38,130
So I was engaged in
negotiations on various issues

1577
01:29:38,130 --> 01:29:43,650
which have to do with what
they called inspection regimes.

1578
01:29:43,650 --> 01:29:52,020
These are the regimes which
enable us to send inspectors

1579
01:29:52,020 --> 01:29:55,941
into foreign
countries to look for

1580

01:29:55,941 --> 01:29:58,975
or to account for the
use of nuclear material.

1581
01:29:58,975 --> 01:30:00,550
Right, right.

1582
01:30:00,550 --> 01:30:02,540
So are you working now?

1583
01:30:02,540 --> 01:30:04,800
Are you still
actively doing that?

1584
01:30:04,800 --> 01:30:06,120
No.

1585
01:30:06,120 --> 01:30:06,900
Ready to retire?

1586
01:30:06,900 --> 01:30:11,230

1587
01:30:11,230 --> 01:30:14,830
After finishing my
diplomatic work,

1588
01:30:14,830 --> 01:30:21,040
I had met a lady
here in Vienna who

1589
01:30:21,040 --> 01:30:27,550
was of Polish origin of all
things and who by chance--

1590
01:30:27,550 --> 01:30:33,730
whose father by chance,
although he came from a location

1591
01:30:33,730 --> 01:30:38,080
only 10 kilometers from
where my father was born.

1592
01:30:38,080 --> 01:30:39,460
Oh my goodness.

1593
01:30:39,460 --> 01:30:40,085
Oh my goodness.

1594
01:30:40,085 --> 01:30:40,960
Isn't that something?

1595
01:30:40,960 --> 01:30:41,590
That's amazing.

1596
01:30:41,590 --> 01:30:42,215
That's amazing.

1597
01:30:42,215 --> 01:30:42,980
It's amazing.

1598
01:30:42,980 --> 01:30:45,280
It really is amazing.

1599
01:30:45,280 --> 01:30:50,230
Of course, there's a big
difference in age between that.

1600
01:30:50,230 --> 01:30:54,730
But the locations were
only 10 kilometers apart.

1601
01:30:54,730 --> 01:30:59,470
And so I decided not to
return to that nice casita

1602
01:30:59,470 --> 01:31:02,470
with the cottonwood tree
and all the chickens

1603
01:31:02,470 --> 01:31:08,080
running around and all
that Native American art

1604

01:31:08,080 --> 01:31:10,850
and settled in Austria.

1605
01:31:10,850 --> 01:31:16,060
And here, I resumed my
practice as an economist

1606
01:31:16,060 --> 01:31:18,340
and as a consultant.

1607
01:31:18,340 --> 01:31:20,110
Are you still doing that?

1608
01:31:20,110 --> 01:31:20,680
Yes.

1609
01:31:20,680 --> 01:31:21,520
Wonderful.

1610
01:31:21,520 --> 01:31:22,150
Wonderful.

1611
01:31:22,150 --> 01:31:24,880
I've just written a
book, which might--

1612
01:31:24,880 --> 01:31:28,300
I don't know whether you're
interested in economics.

1613
01:31:28,300 --> 01:31:29,980
It's about to be published.

1614
01:31:29,980 --> 01:31:31,900
It's called Beyond Jobs.

1615
01:31:31,900 --> 01:31:41,020
I'm writing about-- writing
about the Western economies--

1616
01:31:41,020 --> 01:31:44,770
that includes Europe

and the US and Russia--

1617
01:31:44,770 --> 01:31:50,390
and the future for employment
or what we call jobs.

1618
01:31:50,390 --> 01:31:55,490
And despite the
recent news today

1619
01:31:55,490 --> 01:31:58,660
that the unemployment
again has declined,

1620
01:31:58,660 --> 01:32:02,350
I'm saying that's all
very, very temporary.

1621
01:32:02,350 --> 01:32:07,900
In the long run, the
economy will change.

1622
01:32:07,900 --> 01:32:12,040
And so do you read blogs?

1623
01:32:12,040 --> 01:32:13,570
Do you know what
I mean by a blog?

1624
01:32:13,570 --> 01:32:15,100
Yes, yes, yes.

1625
01:32:15,100 --> 01:32:16,955
I can give you my blog address.

1626
01:32:16,955 --> 01:32:18,510
Yeah, I think I have it.

1627
01:32:18,510 --> 01:32:20,060
I think you had told me.

1628
01:32:20,060 --> 01:32:21,430

Yeah.

1629
01:32:21,430 --> 01:32:23,655
Are you still involved with
the nuclear inspection,

1630
01:32:23,655 --> 01:32:25,780
like, for instance, with
Iran and things like that?

1631
01:32:25,780 --> 01:32:26,860
No, no, no.

1632
01:32:26,860 --> 01:32:27,940
I don't do that any--

1633
01:32:27,940 --> 01:32:29,023
You don't do that anymore.

1634
01:32:29,023 --> 01:32:31,414
No, I don't.

1635
01:32:31,414 --> 01:32:33,370
I still know the people
who are involved,

1636
01:32:33,370 --> 01:32:36,865
although most of those
people have also retired.

1637
01:32:36,865 --> 01:32:40,390
There are new people
in those regimes.

1638
01:32:40,390 --> 01:32:44,830
But the issues remain
very much the same.

1639
01:32:44,830 --> 01:32:51,430
The difficulty is how
open the lines are.

1640

01:32:51,430 --> 01:32:54,700
We can make inspections
in Australia and Canada

1641
01:32:54,700 --> 01:32:58,960
very easily because they
have nothing to hide.

1642
01:32:58,960 --> 01:33:03,280
But to make inspections
in countries like Israel

1643
01:33:03,280 --> 01:33:08,560
or to make them in Pakistan
or those countries--

1644
01:33:08,560 --> 01:33:12,040
as you saw, in Iraq,
we missed a call.

1645
01:33:12,040 --> 01:33:14,650
The president said
there's nuclear material.

1646
01:33:14,650 --> 01:33:18,130
We never found any
nuclear material in Iraq.

1647
01:33:18,130 --> 01:33:20,860
So these things get
to be quite difficult.

1648
01:33:20,860 --> 01:33:26,500
Can we now talk about some of
your thoughts before we finish?

1649
01:33:26,500 --> 01:33:30,400
What do your thoughts
about Germany today?

1650
01:33:30,400 --> 01:33:34,010
Do you feel-- do you
feel very German yourself

1651
01:33:34,010 --> 01:33:36,450
having been born in Germany?

1652
01:33:36,450 --> 01:33:37,990
I can answer that.

1653
01:33:37,990 --> 01:33:42,190
That's not too
difficult. In 1989

1654
01:33:42,190 --> 01:33:45,220
when I had the chance
to come here, at first

1655
01:33:45,220 --> 01:33:48,130
I was going to reject the offer.

1656
01:33:48,130 --> 01:33:54,400
I really had no reason
to come back to Europe.

1657
01:33:54,400 --> 01:33:58,360
I knew of Austria's
complicity in the war,

1658
01:33:58,360 --> 01:34:05,680
even though they say
they were a victim.

1659
01:34:05,680 --> 01:34:10,240
And so at first, I was
going to reject coming here.

1660
01:34:10,240 --> 01:34:13,900
But I thought it might open
up a new chapter of my life,

1661
01:34:13,900 --> 01:34:16,720
and I might actually learn
something about the past

1662
01:34:16,720 --> 01:34:17,830

by coming here.

1663
01:34:17,830 --> 01:34:19,570
So I did come here.

1664
01:34:19,570 --> 01:34:23,470
After I'd been here about
a year, year and a half,

1665
01:34:23,470 --> 01:34:29,920
I was actually invited to
Berlin by the mayor of Berlin,

1666
01:34:29,920 --> 01:34:34,635
whose name I've
forgotten for the moment.

1667
01:34:34,635 --> 01:34:37,130
And I met with the
mayor of Berlin.

1668
01:34:37,130 --> 01:34:41,740
He gave me more than
an hour of his time.

1669
01:34:41,740 --> 01:34:44,890
And we talked about
that period and that I

1670
01:34:44,890 --> 01:34:50,360
remembered Kristallnacht
and things of that sort.

1671
01:34:50,360 --> 01:34:55,510
And I found--

1672
01:34:55,510 --> 01:34:57,460
I wish I could
remember his name.

1673
01:34:57,460 --> 01:34:59,830
But he's quite well
known, and we can easily--

1674
01:34:59,830 --> 01:35:02,278
I can easily identify
him because of the--

1675
01:35:02,278 --> 01:35:03,820
I'm more interested
in your thoughts.

1676
01:35:03,820 --> 01:35:05,050
[LAUGHS]

1677
01:35:05,050 --> 01:35:09,970
But I was impressed by
this man's willingness

1678
01:35:09,970 --> 01:35:15,580
to talk about the conditions
that existed at the time.

1679
01:35:15,580 --> 01:35:18,070
And I had the sense
that he wasn't--

1680
01:35:18,070 --> 01:35:22,285
there were no alibis and
that there was no way--

1681
01:35:22,285 --> 01:35:25,150
and it wasn't a
conversation where

1682
01:35:25,150 --> 01:35:28,870
he expressed particular pity
either, which I don't need.

1683
01:35:28,870 --> 01:35:32,510
It was simply a rather
straightforward,

1684
01:35:32,510 --> 01:35:40,270
very professional discussion
about a period of history,

1685
01:35:40,270 --> 01:35:44,770
which the damaged lives--
he mentioned people

1686
01:35:44,770 --> 01:35:48,280
in his own family,
not Jews, but people

1687
01:35:48,280 --> 01:35:54,100
in his own family who lost
lives in the course of the war.

1688
01:35:54,100 --> 01:36:01,000
And it changed my attitude
toward the situation.

1689
01:36:01,000 --> 01:36:04,672

1690
01:36:04,672 --> 01:36:08,500
There's this question about
for how many generations

1691
01:36:08,500 --> 01:36:10,990
we should hold our--

1692
01:36:10,990 --> 01:36:14,260
past generations we
should hold our people--

1693
01:36:14,260 --> 01:36:17,740
or future generations we
should hold accountable

1694
01:36:17,740 --> 01:36:20,110
for the things that
happened in the past.

1695
01:36:20,110 --> 01:36:23,420
I don't know if you know
that in the Jewish tradition,

1696

01:36:23,420 --> 01:36:24,610
we try the same.

1697

01:36:24,610 --> 01:36:27,130

1698

01:36:27,130 --> 01:36:34,860
But I'm inclined
to think now that I

1699

01:36:34,860 --> 01:36:37,590
don't know whether Germany
has come fully to terms.

1700

01:36:37,590 --> 01:36:39,450
I don't know what
fully to terms means.

1701

01:36:39,450 --> 01:36:41,130
I think they're more the terms--

1702

01:36:41,130 --> 01:36:44,670
have come to terms with
the events of that period

1703

01:36:44,670 --> 01:36:48,060
than the Austrians have.

1704

01:36:48,060 --> 01:36:51,360
The Austrians still
haggle over what paintings

1705

01:36:51,360 --> 01:36:56,550
to return to Jews
and whether Jews

1706

01:36:56,550 --> 01:36:58,320
can prove enough
so that they will

1707

01:36:58,320 --> 01:37:02,890
return a painting that

they're particularly fond of.

1708
01:37:02,890 --> 01:37:04,906
I don't know if you
follow that kind of news.

1709
01:37:04,906 --> 01:37:10,350

1710
01:37:10,350 --> 01:37:15,300
But I do find that when I
disclose to the Austrians

1711
01:37:15,300 --> 01:37:20,220
that I am Jewish--
because I'm on a circuit.

1712
01:37:20,220 --> 01:37:22,170
I make lectures.

1713
01:37:22,170 --> 01:37:24,660
People ask about me.

1714
01:37:24,660 --> 01:37:27,420
I don't particularly have to--

1715
01:37:27,420 --> 01:37:29,820
I don't hide what I am.

1716
01:37:29,820 --> 01:37:33,330
And often, I will
actually disclose it

1717
01:37:33,330 --> 01:37:36,550
when I think it's
appropriate to do so.

1718
01:37:36,550 --> 01:37:38,760
And when I do do
so, most people are

1719
01:37:38,760 --> 01:37:41,610

interested in a
rather sincere way

1720
01:37:41,610 --> 01:37:46,280
about what my experiences were,
almost like the way you were.

1721
01:37:46,280 --> 01:37:47,380
They ask questions.

1722
01:37:47,380 --> 01:37:49,170
What do I remember?

1723
01:37:49,170 --> 01:37:50,175
What were my feelings?

1724
01:37:50,175 --> 01:37:53,310

1725
01:37:53,310 --> 01:37:57,210
And I'm a bit of what you
would call an anachronism,

1726
01:37:57,210 --> 01:38:00,600
or maybe that's not the
right word, that there

1727
01:38:00,600 --> 01:38:03,390
aren't too many people
who can talk firsthand

1728
01:38:03,390 --> 01:38:06,120
about Kristallnacht.

1729
01:38:06,120 --> 01:38:12,600
And when I-- for instance, I
will meet on May 13 I guess

1730
01:38:12,600 --> 01:38:17,370
in a few days with the director,
the president of the National

1731

01:38:17,370 --> 01:38:21,570
Bank of Austria, Claude Raidl--

1732
01:38:21,570 --> 01:38:23,550
Claus Raidl.

1733
01:38:23,550 --> 01:38:29,310
And whenever I meet with
him, he's really interested

1734
01:38:29,310 --> 01:38:34,020
in what my recollections
are and what

1735
01:38:34,020 --> 01:38:38,640
my feelings were about the
events that took place.

1736
01:38:38,640 --> 01:38:40,680
So I sort of--

1737
01:38:40,680 --> 01:38:44,560

1738
01:38:44,560 --> 01:38:48,570
I don't think I ever was
bitter, but I am certainly--

1739
01:38:48,570 --> 01:38:51,090
I certainly don't have
a chip on my shoulder

1740
01:38:51,090 --> 01:38:55,420
about those events of the past.

1741
01:38:55,420 --> 01:38:58,800
So you're comfortable when
you're in Germany, when

1742
01:38:58,800 --> 01:39:00,000
you're visiting in Germany?

1743

01:39:00,000 --> 01:39:00,770
Yeah.

1744
01:39:00,770 --> 01:39:06,240
And for instance, I talked
to Dr. Zimmerman, a professor

1745
01:39:06,240 --> 01:39:08,970
of economics at
Heidelberg, and he's

1746
01:39:08,970 --> 01:39:12,750
interested in what I'm writing
about, labor economics.

1747
01:39:12,750 --> 01:39:15,930

1748
01:39:15,930 --> 01:39:17,580
No, but I meant just
when you walk down

1749
01:39:17,580 --> 01:39:20,400
the street in the German
city or in Berlin.

1750
01:39:20,400 --> 01:39:22,610
Yeah.

1751
01:39:22,610 --> 01:39:23,110
Yes.

1752
01:39:23,110 --> 01:39:26,622

1753
01:39:26,622 --> 01:39:27,470
Does it bring back--

1754
01:39:27,470 --> 01:39:30,820
But it's not just
the German city.

1755

01:39:30,820 --> 01:39:32,700

It is right here
in Austria, too.

1756

01:39:32,700 --> 01:39:37,050

Although when I walk down
some of the streets here--

1757

01:39:37,050 --> 01:39:39,790

have you been in
Austria, in Vienna?

1758

01:39:39,790 --> 01:39:42,330

Yes, a long time ago.

1759

01:39:42,330 --> 01:39:46,380

It's not unusual
for me to walk down

1760

01:39:46,380 --> 01:39:51,810

on some of these streets that
have walls where somebody

1761

01:39:51,810 --> 01:39:55,710

with graffiti has
put a star of David

1762

01:39:55,710 --> 01:40:01,680

and some sort of
a derisive remark.

1763

01:40:01,680 --> 01:40:05,985

So it's not like you
don't see that in Austria.

1764

01:40:05,985 --> 01:40:08,760

And how does that make you
feel when you see that?

1765

01:40:08,760 --> 01:40:15,000

Well, I don't know how to
express how I feel, I guess.

1766

01:40:15,000 --> 01:40:20,070
And most of it is I'm dismayed
that we can't get over it.

1767
01:40:20,070 --> 01:40:23,340
But then I've read enough
about our tradition

1768
01:40:23,340 --> 01:40:27,130
to say that maybe that's
the way it is with Jews.

1769
01:40:27,130 --> 01:40:28,740
We're just going to--

1770
01:40:28,740 --> 01:40:33,840

1771
01:40:33,840 --> 01:40:44,270
that the attitudes toward
the Jew among certain people

1772
01:40:44,270 --> 01:40:47,315
just isn't going them--

1773
01:40:47,315 --> 01:40:49,575
isn't going to change.

1774
01:40:49,575 --> 01:40:54,080
I don't know where these sort
of antisemitic feelings start.

1775
01:40:54,080 --> 01:40:56,840
But then I don't know where
any of the things that we

1776
01:40:56,840 --> 01:40:59,230
call prejudices start.

1777
01:40:59,230 --> 01:41:02,210
You've seen what
happened to this man

1778
01:41:02,210 --> 01:41:05,690
with his baseball team--

1779
01:41:05,690 --> 01:41:06,830
basketball team.

1780
01:41:06,830 --> 01:41:09,680
I forgot his name for
the moment, [INAUDIBLE]..

1781
01:41:09,680 --> 01:41:10,220
Sperling.

1782
01:41:10,220 --> 01:41:12,080
Sperling.

1783
01:41:12,080 --> 01:41:14,090
I don't know what
makes Mr. Sperling say

1784
01:41:14,090 --> 01:41:16,400
the things he does.

1785
01:41:16,400 --> 01:41:18,830
Do you get reparations?

1786
01:41:18,830 --> 01:41:20,180
No, I didn't get any.

1787
01:41:20,180 --> 01:41:23,030

1788
01:41:23,030 --> 01:41:26,270
Willie got some, and
Herbert got some.

1789
01:41:26,270 --> 01:41:30,485
My mother delayed too long in
filing the necessary papers.

1790
01:41:30,485 --> 01:41:34,610

1791

01:41:34,610 --> 01:41:37,910

We did to hire someone to help us with the matter,

1792

01:41:37,910 --> 01:41:40,370

but we never received any.

1793

01:41:40,370 --> 01:41:45,530

I think we could have received some from what others told me,

1794

01:41:45,530 --> 01:41:47,630

probably some rather nice--

1795

01:41:47,630 --> 01:41:53,520

because we lost a considerable amount of property.

1796

01:41:53,520 --> 01:41:55,280

Oh, yeah, right.

1797

01:41:55,280 --> 01:41:58,520

But, no, we never received--

1798

01:41:58,520 --> 01:42:01,370

my mother never received any reparations.

1799

01:42:01,370 --> 01:42:04,940

Were you active in the civil rights movement at all?

1800

01:42:04,940 --> 01:42:07,370

I mean, here, Hitler took away the civil rights

1801

01:42:07,370 --> 01:42:10,910

of German Jews.

1802

01:42:10,910 --> 01:42:12,530

Did that inspire you to--

1803
01:42:12,530 --> 01:42:27,150
Well, let me just say
that I somehow never had--

1804
01:42:27,150 --> 01:42:30,120
and I don't know how to say it.

1805
01:42:30,120 --> 01:42:37,916
I've always felt comfortable
with Blacks or with--

1806
01:42:37,916 --> 01:42:41,540
in Korea or in Japan,
wherever I was.

1807
01:42:41,540 --> 01:42:42,740
I don't know.

1808
01:42:42,740 --> 01:42:45,860
And I'm kind of--

1809
01:42:45,860 --> 01:42:50,630
so the Black civil
rights movement for me

1810
01:42:50,630 --> 01:42:54,140
meant that I supported
it by where I could.

1811
01:42:54,140 --> 01:43:01,220

1812
01:43:01,220 --> 01:43:06,050
For instance, in our temple
that we had in Washington, DC--

1813
01:43:06,050 --> 01:43:07,490
I forgot the name of the temple.

1814
01:43:07,490 --> 01:43:12,110

1815
01:43:12,110 --> 01:43:16,430
It was a period when there
was a lot of bad feeling

1816
01:43:16,430 --> 01:43:18,950
between Blacks and Jews.

1817
01:43:18,950 --> 01:43:19,700
I don't know if--

1818
01:43:19,700 --> 01:43:22,340

1819
01:43:22,340 --> 01:43:25,070
this was during
the '70s when there

1820
01:43:25,070 --> 01:43:30,260
were people in the
Black community who

1821
01:43:30,260 --> 01:43:34,310
were somewhat vehement about
their attitudes towards Jews.

1822
01:43:34,310 --> 01:43:40,970
And to deal with that,
the rabbi at the temple

1823
01:43:40,970 --> 01:43:45,860
sought to establish connections
with the Black community.

1824
01:43:45,860 --> 01:43:48,650
And I was involved in
some of those activities

1825
01:43:48,650 --> 01:43:55,460
to try to see if we can
minimize these feelings.

1826

01:43:55,460 --> 01:44:03,687

But as you know, there is a
segment of the Black community

1827

01:44:03,687 --> 01:44:05,315

that has been hostile.

1828

01:44:05,315 --> 01:44:08,690

1829

01:44:08,690 --> 01:44:10,570

And now you hear less of it.

1830

01:44:10,570 --> 01:44:12,460

But I don't think
it's gone away.

1831

01:44:12,460 --> 01:44:13,560

What is your impression?

1832

01:44:13,560 --> 01:44:16,420

Well, we can talk
about that later.

1833

01:44:16,420 --> 01:44:20,640

What about your thoughts
during the Eichmann trial?

1834

01:44:20,640 --> 01:44:27,630

Well, there, I was interested
in what Ms. Tuchman had

1835

01:44:27,630 --> 01:44:29,280

to write about Mr. Eichmann.

1836

01:44:29,280 --> 01:44:33,520

I don't know if you are familiar
with that, Barbara Tuchman.

1837

01:44:33,520 --> 01:44:36,450

No.

1838

01:44:36,450 --> 01:44:41,010

She was able to find some
excuse for Mr. Eichmann.

1839

01:44:41,010 --> 01:44:45,240

I don't know if she
intended to do that or not.

1840

01:44:45,240 --> 01:44:48,330

I don't think we have
to excuse Mr. Eichmann.

1841

01:44:48,330 --> 01:44:53,010

If we start the process of
saying that only the very, very

1842

01:44:53,010 --> 01:44:56,940

top man is ultimately
responsible,

1843

01:44:56,940 --> 01:45:02,670

then I think we will leave
an awful lot of people

1844

01:45:02,670 --> 01:45:05,160

who have a hand in this.

1845

01:45:05,160 --> 01:45:09,000

I think we all have a
responsibility at each level.

1846

01:45:09,000 --> 01:45:10,980

Now the degree may change.

1847

01:45:10,980 --> 01:45:13,830

1848

01:45:13,830 --> 01:45:18,090

But at the Nuremberg
trials, I think

1849

01:45:18,090 --> 01:45:22,380

it was pretty clear that people
can't plead that they were just

1850
01:45:22,380 --> 01:45:24,270
carrying out orders.

1851
01:45:24,270 --> 01:45:28,820
In Mr. Eichmann's
case, the notion

1852
01:45:28,820 --> 01:45:31,860
that he was a bit too
detached and perhaps he

1853
01:45:31,860 --> 01:45:39,410
didn't know every train that
left all, those things to me

1854
01:45:39,410 --> 01:45:40,650
were irrelevant--

1855
01:45:40,650 --> 01:45:50,640
not irrelevant, but I guess my
feeling was he was party to it.

1856
01:45:50,640 --> 01:45:53,400
They enjoyed the good times.

1857
01:45:53,400 --> 01:45:56,580
And if it had worked
out their way,

1858
01:45:56,580 --> 01:45:59,610
they'd still be
enjoying the good times.

1859
01:45:59,610 --> 01:46:01,510
And those are the
risks you take.

1860
01:46:01,510 --> 01:46:02,310
And in this case--

1861

01:46:02,310 --> 01:46:05,630

1862

01:46:05,630 --> 01:46:07,490

Have you been to Israel?

1863

01:46:07,490 --> 01:46:10,190

Oh, yeah, several times.

1864

01:46:10,190 --> 01:46:13,520

Mordechai Gur-- I don't
know if you know of him.

1865

01:46:13,520 --> 01:46:20,270

He's dead now-- was
the chief of defense

1866

01:46:20,270 --> 01:46:24,080

forces for the Israeli
government in the '67 war,

1867

01:46:24,080 --> 01:46:27,260

was a personal friend of mine.

1868

01:46:27,260 --> 01:46:29,360

And there's an
interesting story how

1869

01:46:29,360 --> 01:46:31,040

he became a personal friend.

1870

01:46:31,040 --> 01:46:36,830

But, again, I have too many
stories, not enough time.

1871

01:46:36,830 --> 01:46:40,470

But General Gur was
a very close friend.

1872

01:46:40,470 --> 01:46:43,850

I even got a personal tour
of the Golan Heights from--

1873
01:46:43,850 --> 01:46:47,500

1874
01:46:47,500 --> 01:46:54,230
and so, yes, I've been in
Israel three, four times.

1875
01:46:54,230 --> 01:46:57,150
Have you been to the Holocaust
Museum in Washington?

1876
01:46:57,150 --> 01:46:59,000
Oh, of course.

1877
01:46:59,000 --> 01:47:04,330
That's, I presume, how this
telephone call originated.

1878
01:47:04,330 --> 01:47:06,080
How do you feel about
the Holocaust Museum

1879
01:47:06,080 --> 01:47:09,650
being in Washington,
DC considering the war

1880
01:47:09,650 --> 01:47:10,340
was in Europe?

1881
01:47:10,340 --> 01:47:13,000

1882
01:47:13,000 --> 01:47:16,090
First of all, my impression is
that there are other Holocaust

1883
01:47:16,090 --> 01:47:17,610
museums.

1884
01:47:17,610 --> 01:47:20,630
It isn't the only

Holocaust museum.

1885

01:47:20,630 --> 01:47:30,280

Second, I think that
the Holocaust is not

1886

01:47:30,280 --> 01:47:34,530

the equivalent of a tombstone.

1887

01:47:34,530 --> 01:47:39,160

The tombstone goes where
the person is buried.

1888

01:47:39,160 --> 01:47:46,240

And the Jews that are buried
as a result of Auschwitz

1889

01:47:46,240 --> 01:47:49,870

and other places
deserve their tombstones

1890

01:47:49,870 --> 01:47:52,060

or their commemorative things.

1891

01:47:52,060 --> 01:47:55,840

I think the Holocaust
Museum represents not

1892

01:47:55,840 --> 01:48:01,490

sort of a tombstone
or a memorial stone.

1893

01:48:01,490 --> 01:48:11,093

I think it's designed to
perpetuate a historic--

1894

01:48:11,093 --> 01:48:12,760

not to perpetuate,
but it's a memorial--

1895

01:48:12,760 --> 01:48:14,310

Educate.

1896

01:48:14,310 --> 01:48:23,350

Yes, a chapter in our
civilized or uncivilized life.

1897

01:48:23,350 --> 01:48:28,480

America has a large
Jewish community,

1898

01:48:28,480 --> 01:48:32,560

and this belongs to
where the Jews are,

1899

01:48:32,560 --> 01:48:34,750

and the Jews are in America.

1900

01:48:34,750 --> 01:48:37,800

[AUDIO OUT]

1901

01:48:37,800 --> 01:53:28,000